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*Ковальчук Людмила, канд. філол. наук, доцент,
Волинський національний університет імені Лесі Українки,
м. Луцьк, Україна*

CHALLENGES OF ACADEMIC ARTICLE ABSTRACT TRANSLATION

In the modern world, scientific translation is an important precondition for the functioning of academic community and plays a crucial role in disseminating information on an international scale.

Academic article translation encompasses such obligatory stages as familiarizing with the subject matter, reading the entire paper, identifying key terms, theories, or concepts, considering the target audience, translating, checking of formatting and visual aids, careful proofreading and editing.

An abstract is an indispensable structural component of any academic article. It summarizes the complicated scientific information and presents the main findings and issues discussed in the paper, thus helping the reader to decide whether they are in his professional interest scope (Smalko & Vorobiova, 2022, p. 73). The main characteristic features of the adequate academic article abstract translation are content objectivity, logical sequence, and preciseness. Every scientific paper abstract translation must convey information and ideas accurately and efficiently to avoid ambiguity.

Depending on the specific requirements of an academic journal, an abstract has to follow a certain pattern that involves a succession of rhetorical moves arranged in a relevant order. This pattern reflects the structures of conventional knowledge and presents an abstract in a conventionalized format in order to make it an important marketing item and motivate potential readers to purchase the full text academic article (Kyrychuk, 2019).

A translator has to adopt a global translation strategy affected by the linguistic and extra-linguistic factors. It presupposes either rendering the source text precisely and symmetrically (literal translation) or making alterations in the translated abstract (modified literal translation). Free translation approach is applied by the author-translators linguistically and culturally knowledgeable in the subject matter of the translated abstract.

The prevalent strategic approaches to academic article abstract translation deal with structural, semantic or pragmatic equivalence. Word-for-word translation maintains structural equivalence and the formal features of the source text are accurately reproduced in the target text. Modified literal translation demonstrates a combination of formal and semantic equivalence, as the target language verbal means are rendered asymmetrically in the target language. Free translation predetermines pragmatic equivalence and results in a considerable amount of asymmetry between the source text and the translated abstract.

Considering academic article abstract translation the most common techniques are as follows:

- transformations (permutation, substitution, synonymic translation, integrating / partitioning);
- calquing or word-for-word translation;
- explicitation of the source text in the given context (external and internal factors).

A competent professional translator should also consider all possible lexical, grammatical and stylistic challenges that result in the quality of the final translation output.

One of the possible lexical challenges of the academic article abstract translation is complex terminology. A translator must be a highly qualified specialist and should possess compulsory knowledge of all the terms related to a particular scientific field to which the academic article belongs. It is strongly recommended to consult specialized dictionaries and use additional information resources or even collaborate with subject experts for a profound insight into the scientific research area. Besides, scientific paper abstract translation contains various linguistic clichés that migrate from abstract to abstract and are worth memorizing. These typical phrases greatly contribute to the clear perception of scientific information.

Grammatical challenges concern the grammatical structure of sentences in the academic article abstract translation. Scientific papers written in the Ukrainian language are characterized by complex constructions and prevalence of rather extended composite (compound and complex) sentences. Instead, while providing abstract translation into the English language a translator should take into account the relevant use of simple and short sentences where passive voice predominates over active voice (*be analyzed / identified / studied / established, etc.*).

Considering the stylistic norms of academic discourse some non-native English speaking scholars using the method of literal translation try to transfer the writing conventions of the source language into the target language that often results in a mixed genre (Terzi & Arslanturk, 2014). Consequently, the method of literal translation prevents from communicating information effectively as the translated abstract fails to keep up to the rhetorical structure of the academic discourse.

To conclude, academic article abstract translation is a multifaceted activity involving the choice of a definite strategic approach and the corresponding translation techniques. Lexical, grammatical and stylistic challenges have to be taken into account at every stage of the translation process thus providing formal, structural or pragmatic equivalence.

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