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***GRAMMATICAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN TRANSLATING  
ADVERBIAL CLAUSES OF TIME (Based on the English Language) =  
ГРАММАТИЧЕСКИЕ ТРАНСФОРМАЦИИ ПРИ ПЕРЕВОДЕ  
ПРИДАТОЧНЫХ ОБСТОЯТЕЛЬСТВЕННЫХ ПРЕДЛОЖЕНИЙ  
ВРЕМЕНИ (на примере английского языка)***

Данное исследование подчеркивает необходимость достижения переводческой эквивалентности с помощью переводческих (межъязыковых) трансформаций и необходимость использования грамматических трансформаций ввиду значительных различий во внутренней структуре исходного языка и языка перевода; раскрывает типы грамматических трансформаций, сопровождаемые примерами придаточных обстоятельственных предложений времени из англоязычных источников и их перевода на русский язык. Цель работы – проанализировать специфику английских сложноподчиненных предложений с придаточным обстоятельственным предложением времени и выявить их общие принципы перевода. Теоретическая и практическая значимость статьи заключается в акцентуации отсутствия полной параллели между английским сложноподчиненным предложением с придаточным времени и его русским коррелятом и анализе грамматических трансформаций, используемых при переводе сложноподчиненных предложений с придаточным времени. Основными методами исследования выступили семантико-синтаксический, морфологический и сравнительно-сопоставительный анализ, метод контекстуального анализа. В результате проведенной работы автор пришел к выводу, что перевод сложноподчиненных предложений с придаточным времени сохраняет лишь часть оригинала, т. к. потери неизбежны. Грамматические видоизменения связаны в первую очередь с отсутствием эквивалентной части речи в языке перевода. Наиболее частым способом перевода английских сложноподчиненных предложений с придаточным времени является аналогичное сложноподчиненное предложение в русском языке, а также замена частей речи, перестановка членов предложения, изменение грамматической формы, объединение или членение предложений, замена модели синтаксических конструкций, залоговых форм. Проанализированные в настоящей статье приме-

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ры перевода сложноподчиненных предложений с придаточными обстоятельственными предложениями времени могут быть эффективны при переводе других художественных книг с английского языка на русский.

**Ключевые слова:** переводческая трансформация, переводческая эквивалентность, исходный язык, язык перевода, придаточное предложение, придаточное времени.

### Introduction

Achieving translation equivalence requires from the translator, first and foremost, the ability to make numerous and qualitatively different interlingual transformations, or translation transformations, – for the target text (TT) to transmit the information contained in the source text (ST) with the maximum possible completeness, in strict compliance with the norms of the target language (TL).

According to V.N. Komissarov, translation (interlingual) transformations are transformations by means of which it is possible to carry out a transition from the source units to the target units [1, p. 38]. As maintained by Z.G. Proshina, translation transformations are complete changes of the appearance of a translated word, phrase or sentence. In foreign translation theory, transformations are known as shifts of translation [2, p. 31]. In the opinion of R.K. Minyar-Beloruhev, transformation involves changing the formal (lexical and grammatical transformations) or semantic (semantic transformations) components of the ST while maintaining their formation intended for communication [3, p. 34]. According to Y.I. Retsker, transformations are methods of logical thinking, with which the translator reveals the meaning of a foreign word in a context and finds for it a Russian correspondence that does not coincide with the dictionary definition (lexical transformations) [4, p. 36]. As believed by L.S. Barkhudarov, translation transformations are those numerous and qualitatively diverse interlingual transformations that are carried out to achieve translation equivalence (“translation adequacy”) despite the differences in the formal and semantic systems of the two languages [5, p. 190].

However, the term *transformation* should not be understood literally, as the ST, or the original text, is neither converted nor transformed. The text itself remains unchanged; while on the basis of it, a new text in another language is created. Thus, translation can be considered as a certain type of transformation, namely, an interlingual transformation.

P. Newmark introduced two types of translation: *communicative translation*, which “attempts to produce on its receptors an effect as close as possible to that obtained on the readers of the original”, and *semantic translation*, which “attempts to render, as closely as the semantic and syntactic structures of the second language allow, the exact contextual meaning of the original” [6, p. 39]. *Communicative translation* tends to undertranslate, i.e. to use more generic, catch-all terms in difficult passages. *Semantic translation* tends to overtranslate, i.e. to be more detailed, more direct, and more awkward.

Taking these concepts into consideration, the sentence *Beware of the dog!* could be rendered as *Осторожно, злая собака!* (communicative translation) or *Опасайтесь собаку!* (semantic translation).

### Results

In most cases, the SL and the TL are significantly different in their internal structure. The differences in the systems of the two languages invariably necessitate grammatical transformations. These discrepancies are either complete or partial. A complete mismatch is observed in those cases where the Russian language lacks a grammatical form that exists in the English language. In some cases, the grammatical category of one language is broader than that of the other. It is also necessary to highlight the cases of partial coincidence,

when this grammatical category exists in both languages, but does not coincide in all its forms [5, p. 45]. According to Z.G. Proshina, grammatical transformations are morphological or syntactic changes in translated units [2, p. 41].

Let us dwell upon the basic types of grammatical transformations by comparing the original works of English and American writers and their Russian versions made by professional translators.

**Syntactic assimilation** (word-based translation) is a method of translation converting the syntactic structure of the SL into a similar structure of the TL. This type of translation is also called “zero” transformation. Syntactic assimilation can lead to a complete correspondence of the number of linguistic units and the order of their arrangement in the ST and the TT, e.g.: “*On Sunday morning while church bells rang in the villages along shore, the world and its mistress returned to Gatsby’s house and twinkled hilariously on his lawn*” [7, p. 66]. – “*По воскресеньям с утра, когда в церквах прибрежных поселков еще шел колокольный перезвон, весь большой и средний свет съезжался к Гэтсби и веселым роем заполнял его усадьбу*” [8, p. 84]. Here, the adverbial clause of time is translated by means of syntactic assimilation, preserving the meaning of the temporal conjunction *while*; in addition, the subject is changed from the singular in the SL to the plural in the TL.

The frequency of using this type of “zero” transformation is explained by the fact that English and Russian have the same – Indo-European – sentence structure: S–V–O (subject–verb–object). Certainly, syntactic assimilation is accompanied by some changes in the structural components of the sentence. In the process of translating from English into Russian, link-verbs and other functional elements can be omitted, the morphological forms can be changed and some lexical units can be replaced.

**Sentence partitioning** is the replacement of a simple sentence in the ST with a complex sentence (with some clauses), or a complex sentence with several independent sentences, in the TT for structural, semantic or stylistic reasons, e.g.: “*I was on my way to get roaring drunk from sheer*

*embarrassment when Jordan Baker came out of the house and stood at the head of the marble steps, leaning a little backward and looking with contemptuous interest down into the garden*” [7, p. 39]. – “*Вероятно, я бы напился вдребезги просто от смущения, но тут я увидел Джордан Бейкер. Она вышла из дома и остановилась на верхней ступеньке мраморной лестницы, слегка отклонив назад корпус и с презрительным любопытством поглядывая вниз*” [8, p. 63].

There are cases of complex transformations, when several transformations are used simultaneously, as in the following example: “*He was glad a little later when he noticed a change in the room, a blue quickening by the window, and realized that dawn wasn’t far off*” [7, p. 170]. – “*Немного спустя Михаэлис с облегчением заметил какую-то перемену в комнате. За окном посинело, и он понял, что утро уже близко*” [8, p. 214]. Here we see sentence partitioning, replacing subordination with coordination, substituting the personal pronoun *he* with the proper name *Michaelis*, adding the subject *he* in the second sentence, translating the indefinite article *a (change)* with the pronoun *какую-то (перемену)*, replacing the verbal noun (*a blue*) *quickenings* with the simple sentence in the past tense *За окном посинело*.

In a literary translation, this type of transformation is mainly caused by normative-stylistic reasons. In particular, English literary texts, unlike Russian, abound with complex sentences. As a result, subordinate clauses can be compressed into a participle (participial construction), an adverbial participle (adverbial participial construction) or a verbal noun with a preposition, e.g.: “*As they scattered among the scrolling iron desk-legs, their brainless heads and swishing glabellas brushed at the ankles of the girls*” [9, p. 49]. – “*Рассыпавшись меж гнутых железных ножек парт, они своими бестолковыми головами ударяли девочек по ногам*” [10, p. 57]. In this sentence, the adverbial clause of time used in the Past Indefinite Tense is replaced with the Perfect Participle I Active. “*We hadn’t reached West Egg village before Gatsby began leaving his elegant sentences unfinished and slapping himself indecisively on*

*the knee of his caramel-colored suit*” [7, p. 43]. – “Еще не доезжая Уэст-Эгга, Гэтсби стал вести себя как-то странно: не договаривал своих безупречно завершенных фраз, в замешательстве похлопывал себя по коленям, обтянутым брюками цвета жженого сахара” [8, p. 90]. Here, the adverbial clause of time used in the Past Perfect Tense is replaced with the Present Participle I in the negative form, the temporal conjunction *before* is omitted, while sentence parcelling is highlighted by a colon.

English sentences can be overloaded with information combining several relatively independent thoughts. According to I.V. Neshumaev, to preserve in translation the structure of such English sentences is inappropriate, as such overloading of the sentence with information violates the norms of the Russian language [11, p. 126], e.g.: “*The valley of ashes is bounded on one side by a small foul river, and, when the drawbridge is up to let barges through, the passengers on waiting trains can stare at the dismal scene for as long as half an hour*” [7, p. 27]. – “С одной стороны Долина Шлака упирается в сильно загаженную речонку. И, когда мост на ней **разведен** для пропуска барж, пассажирам местного поезда приходится иной раз битых полчаса лицезреть унылый пейзаж” [8, p. 40]. In this example, syntactic assimilation is used when translating the adverbial clause of time, preserving the meaning of the temporal conjunction *when*, but replacing the compound nominal predicate expressed by the verb *to be* in the Present Indefinite Tense with a preposition with the participle in the passive voice.

**Sentence integration** takes place when we make one sentence out of two or more, or convert a complex sentence into a simple one, e.g.: “*I’ve been lying on that sofa for as long as I can remember*” [7, p. 13]. – “Невозможно столько времени **валяться** на диване” [8, p. 18]. In this example, the main clause and the subordinate clause of time are integrated in the TL into one simple impersonal sentence, omitting the temporal conjunction *as long as*, replacing the predicate in the main clause used in the Present Perfect Continuous Tense *I’ve been lying* with the infinitive *валяться*, omitting the subject in

the clauses expressed by the personal pronoun *I* and replacing the compound verbal modal predicate in the subordinate clause *can remember* in the ST with the numeral *столько* and noun *времени* in the TT.

Sentence integration is most widely used in translating simple English sentences complicated by syntactic components: the infinitive, gerund, and absolute participial constructions. These English syntactic complexes have no Russian counterparts, which makes the use of transformations in translation inevitable. As a rule, when translating such complexes into Russian, the type of sentence changes: a simple sentence turns into a complex one, less often into a compound one, e.g.: “*He watched Ronnie take an oily rag and plunge it into a small bucket of black water standing under a far electric bulb*” [9, p. 15]. – “Он видел, как Ронни взял помасленную тряпку и окунул ее в ведро с черной водой, стоящее поодаль под второй лампой” [10, p. 23].

In the following example, we see decompression, expressed by replacing the Nominative Absolute Participial Construction and the subsequent infinitive with a simple sentence in the present tense and omitting the temporal conjunction *while*: “*Americans, while occasionally willing to be serfs, have always been obstinate about being peasantry*” [7, p. 95]. – “Американцы легко, даже охотно, соглашаются быть рабами, но упорно никогда не желали признать себя крестьянами” [8, p. 120].

The reduction and simplification of the complex syntactic structure eliminates its polysemy, establishing unambiguous relations between the components: “the translator analyses the original message, converts it into simpler and clearer forms, transposes them at this level into the system of the source language, and then reconstructs the messages at this level into the system of the source language and then reconstructs the messages into the translation language” [12, pp. 216–217].

**Transposition** is the change in the order of linguistic units in the process of translating. The main reason for using this transformation is the difference in the structure of sentences in English and Russian. The fixed word order of the English



sentence is usually hierarchical; the main parts of the sentence – subject and predicate – are, as a rule, placed at the beginning, followed by secondary parts. In the Russian language, the word order is free, but there is a tendency to place the main content of the statement (rheme) at the end of the sentence, expressing it by the subject. In the translation of the following sentence made by the author, we can see transposition of the sentence components, i.e. in the main clause the rheme *parentheses* is at the end of the clause both in the ST and in the TT, while in the subordinate clause the rheme expressed by the pronoun *which* is at the end of the clause in the ST and in the middle of the clause in the TT: “*These often need to integrate parentheses when you clarify to the search engine which keywords are supposed to be linked with which*” [13, p. 19]. – “*В этом случае, при возникновении необходимости пояснить поисковой системе, какое слово с **каким** связывается, необходимо взять некоторые части в круглые скобки*”.

The elements that can be rearranged are usually words, phrases, parts of a complex sentence, and independent sentences in the text structure. When translating complex sentences with subordinate adverbial clauses, transposition of the order of parts of a complex sentence is often used. The clauses are placed in the TT in the order in which the action takes place, as is vividly shown in the following example: “*I’ll rest now while he goes out on the circle and then stand up and work on him when he comes in*” [14, p. 70]. – “*Пока она кружит, я передохну, а потом встану и, когда она подойдет поближе, снова начну выбираться лесу*” [15, p. 24].

**Grammatical substitution** is the most common and varied type of transformations. Grammatical substitution happens when the grammatical category of the translated unit is changed. Substitution of parts of speech is usually caused by the absence of a particular structure in the Russian language or a mismatch in using the relevant forms and structures. Thus, a passive construction can be translated by an active-voice verb, e.g.: “*The lawn and drive had been crowded with the faces of those*

*who guessed at his corruption – and he had stood on those steps, concealing his incorruptible dream, as he waved them goodbye*” [7, p. 165]. – “*Сад и аллея кишмя кишели тогда людьми, не знавшими, какой бы ему приписать порок, – а он махал им рукой с этих самых ступеней, скрывая от всех свою непорочную мечту*” [8, p. 207]. Here, the subordinate clause of time with the conjunction *as* is replaced with a compound sentence; further, a noun in the singular is added in the translation of the predicate *waved* – *махал рукой*, and the predicate in the Past Perfect Passive is replaced with the active voice *had been crowded* – *кишмя кишели*.

Grammatical substitutions include several types. **Substitution of word forms**, e.g.: “*On Sunday morning while church bells rang in the villages along shore, the world and its mistress returned to Gatsby’s house and twinkled hilariously on his lawn*” [7, p. 66]. – “*По воскресеньям с утра, когда в церквах прибрежных поселков еще шел колокольный перезвон, весь большой и средний свет съезжался к Гэтсби и веселым роем заполнял его усадьбу*” [8, p. 84]. The noun *Sunday* is used in the singular in the ST but translated in the plural in the TT.

**Substitution of parts of speech**, e.g.: “*We stayed there two days and two nights, a hundred and thirty men with sixteen Lewis guns, and when the infantry came up at last they found the insignia of three German divisions among the piles of dead*” [7, p. 71]. – “*Мы там продержались два дня и две ночи, с шестнадцатью “лююсами” на сто тридцать человек, а когда наконец подошли наши, то среди убитых, валявшихся на каждом шагу, они опознали по петлицам солдат из трех немецких дивизий*” [8, p. 93]. In this sentence, the subject of the adverbial clause of time expressed by the noun in the singular *the infantry* is translated by a personal pronoun in the possessive case *наши*.

**Substitution of the type of syntactic relationship**. Both in English and in Russian, sentences can be connected with the help of coordination and subordination. However, in general, the Russian language is characterized by the predominance of coordination, while in the English language

subordination if not prevails, then, in any case, occurs more often than in Russian. Therefore, in the course of translating from English into Russian, subordination is often substituted with coordination [5, p. 46], e.g.: *"I didn't sleep too long, because I think it was only around ten o'clock when I woke up. I felt pretty hungry as soon as I had a cigarette"* [16, p. 95]. – *"Спал я недолго, кажется, было часов десять, когда я проснулся. Выкурил сигарету и сразу почувствовал, как я проголодался"* [17, p. 128].

Quite common is the substitution of the subordinate clause with participial and verbal participial constructions. This substitution indicates an additional action, specifies it and creates dynamics in the narrative, thus producing a more accurate and vivid representation of the actions and their sequence, e.g.: *"When his face was cleaned he washed his right hand in the water over the side and then let it stay in the salt water while he watched the first light come before the sunrise"* [14, p. 41]. *"Вымыл лицо, старик опустил за борт правую руку и подержал ее в соленой воде, глядя на светлеющее небо"* [15, p. 23].

Another type of substitution is the substitution of a complex sentence with a simple one. Complex sentences with adverbial clauses of time in both English and Russian are often complicated by additional meanings. Occasionally, English adverbial clauses of time express a simple sequence of actions without carrying any shades of meanings. In such a case, it would be correct to replace a complex sentence with a simple one. In addition, the important information is not pushed into the background, e.g.: *"It was pretty nice to get back to my room, after I left old Spencer..."* [16, p. 13]. – *"Приятно было от старика Спенсера попасть к себе в комнату..."* [17, p. 48].

The next type of grammatical transformations is **omission**, which supposes leaving out semantically redundant words whose meanings

are either insignificant or easily understood from the context, e.g.: *"So I don't know whether or not Gatsby went to Coney Island, for how many hours he "glanced into rooms" while his house blazed gaudily on"* [7, p. 89]. – *"Поэтому я так и не знаю, ездил ли Гэтсби на Кони-Айленд или, может быть, до рассвета "прохаживался по комнатам", озаряя округу праздничным сиянием огней"* [8, p. 115]. In this sentence, we see in the TT the omission of the temporal conjunction *while* and of the subject *his house* expressed by a possessive pronoun and a noun.

In English, repetitions are readily tolerated, a more detailed description of events is not considered excessive. However, in English complex sentences, adverbial clauses of time may contain information that is implicitly presented in the main clause. Thus, adverbial clauses of time can occasionally be omitted in the Russian translation without any harm to understanding the information due to linguistic redundancy [18, p. 41].

### Conclusion

To sum up, it is necessary to point out that the most frequent way of translating English complex sentences with an adverbial clause of time is by "zero" transformation, or syntactic assimilation, as well as by substituting parts of speech, sentence members, and changing grammatical forms.

It should be stressed that when translating, it is often necessary to add some phrases for pragmatic reasons, due to which the text increases in volume. Therefore, to balance this trend, one should strive, wherever possible within the linguistic and stylistic norms of the TL, to omit semantically redundant elements of the ST [5, p. 229]. There is no translation without changes and transformations. The information theory of translation confirms this statement. According to R.K. Minyar-Beloruichev, the translation retains only a part of the original, in communication with the non-use of two languages, as in any other communication, losses are inevitable [3, p. 158].

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### GRAMMATICAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN TRANSLATING ADVERBIAL CLAUSES OF TIME (Based on the English Language)

This study highlights the need to achieve translation equivalence through the use of interlingual transformations and emphasizes the necessity to use grammatical transformations in view of the significant differences in the internal structure of the source language (SL) and the target language (TL). Further, the paper dwells on the types of grammatical transformations, providing examples of adverbial clauses of time from English-language texts and their Russian translations. The article aimed to analyse the specifics of English complex sentences with an adverbial clause of time and identify the main principles of translating them. The theoretical and practical significance of the work lies in emphasizing the lack of a complete parallel between the English complex sentence with an adverbial clause of time and its Russian correlate, as well as in analysing grammatical transformations used to translate complex sentences with adverbial clauses of time. The following research methods were applied: semantic-syntactic, morphological, comparative, and contextual analysis. The author concludes that translations of complex sentences with adverbial clauses of time retain only part of the original, since certain losses are inevitable. Grammatical modifications are associated, first of all, with the lack of an equivalent part of speech in the TL. The most frequent way of translating English complex sentences with adverbial clauses of time is by constructing a similar complex sentence in Russian, as well as by substituting parts of speech, rearranging parts of the sentence, changing grammatical forms, integrating or partitioning sentences, replacing syntactic constructions and voice forms. The examples of translating complex sentences with adverbial clauses of time analysed in this paper can be an effective tool in translating other fiction books from English into Russian.

**Keywords:** *interlingual transformation, translation equivalence, source language, target language, subordinate clause, adverbial clause of time.*

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