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Specific patterns to transform holophrastic epithets while translating D. Tartt's novel "The Goldfinch" from English into Russian by A. Zavozova

Abstract

Effective translation methods of holophrastic constructions in a pair of typologically different languages is a challenging intellectual and creative task for an interpreter. The current study focuses upon the methods of translating holophrastic epithets in a literary text into Russian whose effectiveness depends on the interpreter's ability to relay the pragmatic potential of these expressive means taking into account its semantic idioethnicity, its polyfunctionality in a literary text and the author's writing style. Original holophrastic epithets are characterized by a complex morphological and syntactic structure as well as by a heuristic combination of components. This study aims to describe the strategies of translating the English-language holophrastic epithets into Russian. The paper analyses translation methods used by A. Zavozova to adapt holophrastic epithets of the novel "The Goldfinch" by D. Tartt to the Russian linguistic and cultural realities. The conducted translatological analysis of 73 holophrastic constructions showed the interpreter's appropriate use of lexical, grammatical and lexico-grammatical transformations in the search for effective translation solutions. A. Zavozova most often used modulation, grammatical replacement, compression, calquing and holistic transformation. Depending on the specific context, she could exploit a combination of techniques.

Keywords: expressive means, epithet, holophrastic construction, translation, transformation

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