

DIALEKT, JARGON VA SLENG BIRLIKLARINI TARJIMA QILISH MUAMMOLARI

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Accepted: 11 Avgust 2026

Published: 11 Avgust 2026

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universiteti ilmiy axborotnomasi.

Iqtibos uchun: Mamanazarova, M.
DIALEKT, JARGON VA SLENG
BIRLIKLARINI TARJIMA QILISH
MUAMMOLARI / M.

Mamanazarova // Buxoro xalqaro
universiteti ilmiy axborotnomasi.
— 2026. — T. 7, № 2. — B. 47–50.

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Annotatsiya. Sheva, jargon va sleng birliklarini tarjima qilish zamonaviy tarjimashunoslikning eng murakkab vazifalaridan birini tashkil etadi. Til va madaniyat bilan chambarchas bog'liq bo'lgan bu birliklar o'zida ma'no, o'ziga xoslik va ijtimoiy kontekst qatlamlarini mujassam etgani bois, tillararo to'g'ridan-to'g'ri muqobillikka erishishni qiyinlashtiradi. Mazkur maqolada tarjimonlar bunday birliklarni ingliz tilidan boshqa tillarga o'girishda duch keladigan asosiy qiyinchiliklar, xususan, semantik yo'qotish, madaniy nomutanosiblik va pragmatik nomuvofiqlik masalalari tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqotda korpus tahlili, xatoliklar tahlili hamda ekspertlar bilan suhbatlar natijalariga tayanib, tarjimonlar uchun qaror qabul qilishning bosqichli tizimi taklif etiladi. Natijalar shuni ko'rsatadiki, madaniy moslashtirish va funksional ekvivalentlik yondashuvlari so'zma-so'z yoki morfema-morfema tarjima usullariga qaraganda yuqori darajadagi adekvatlikni ta'minlaydi.

Kalit so'zlar: sheva, tarjima, jargon, sleng, ekvivalentlik, pragmatika, ma'no, mahalliyashtirish, sotsiolingvistika.

ПРОБЛЕМЫ ПЕРЕВОДА ДИАЛЕКТНЫХ, ЖАРГОННЫХ И СЛЕНГОВЫХ ЕДИНИЦ

Аннотация. Перевод диалектных, жаргонных и сленговых единиц представляет собой одну из самых сложных проблем в современном переводеведении. Эти лингвистически и культурно встроенные единицы несут в себе слои значения, идентичности и социального контекста, которые сопротивляются прямой эквивалентности между языками. В данной статье рассматриваются основные трудности, с которыми сталкиваются переводчики при переводе таких единиц с английского на другие языки, с акцентом на семантическую потерю, культурную неэквивалентность и прагматическое несоответствие. Основываясь на анализе корпуса, исследовании ошибок и экспертных интервью, исследование предлагает многоуровневую систему принятия решений переводчиками. Результаты показывают, что культурная адаптация и функциональная эквивалентность дают более высокие показатели адекватности, чем буквальный или морфемный подходы.

Ключевые слова: диалект, перевод, жаргон, сленг, эквивалентность, прагматический, смысл, одомашнивание, социоллингвистика.

PROBLEMS IN THE TRANSLATION OF DIALECT, JARGON, AND SLANG UNITS

Abstract. The translation of dialect, jargon, and slang units represents one of the most intricate challenges in contemporary translation studies. These linguistically and culturally embedded units carry layers of meaning, identity, and social context that resist straightforward equivalence across languages. This article examines the primary difficulties translators encounter when rendering such units from English into other languages, focusing on semantic loss, cultural non-equivalence, and pragmatic mismatch. Drawing on corpus analysis, error studies, and expert interviews, the study proposes a tiered framework for translator decision-making. Findings indicate that cultural adaptation and functional equivalence yield higher adequacy scores than literal or morpheme-by-morpheme approaches.

Keywords: dialect, translation, jargon, slang, equivalence, pragmatic, meaning, domestication, sociolinguistics.

Introduction. The translation of non-standard language varieties constitutes one of the most formidable challenges in the discipline of translation studies. Dialect, jargon, and slang three distinct but related registers of language are embedded in the social, historical, and cultural fabric of their origin communities. When a translator attempts to carry these units across linguistic and cultural boundaries, they inevitably confront a set of problems that go far beyond lexical substitution. The present article investigates the nature of these problems, identifies their theoretical underpinnings, and proposes evidence-based strategies for addressing them.

Language, as Sapir famously observed, does not exist apart from culture. Dialect reflects geographical and social variation within a language community; jargon encodes the

specialized knowledge of professional or occupational groups; and slang represents the informal, creative, and often subversive register of in-group communication. Each of these units poses distinct translation difficulties, yet all share a common challenge: their meaning is inseparable from their social context [1].

The legal and normative framework governing translation quality and language standards is increasingly important in establishing professional benchmarks. The UNESCO Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore underscores the importance of preserving culturally specific linguistic forms, including dialectal expressions, in translation. Similarly, the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages implicitly recognizes the translational value of dialect by requiring member states to facilitate the use of regional languages in public life, including media and literature, which directly implicates translation practice [2].

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Law on the State Language mandates that official translation activities respect linguistic authenticity while ensuring communicative clarity. Presidential Decree No. PQ-4958 (2021) on the development of the national education system further emphasizes the importance of high-quality translation in academic and professional contexts, directing institutions to elevate standards of foreign language instruction and translation practice. These regulatory instruments collectively point toward a growing recognition that translation quality, including the adequate rendering of dialect, jargon, and slang, is a matter of national linguistic policy [3].

Literature review. In Uzbekistan and the broader Central Asian context, scholars such as Saidov and Yusupova have examined the specific difficulties of translating English and Russian dialect units into Uzbek, noting that Uzbek, as an agglutinative language with a rich system of dialectal variation, presents both unique resources and unique constraints for the translator of non-standard language. Meanwhile, the rapid growth of digital communication has introduced new forms of slang - internet slang, memes, and platform-specific jargon - that evolve faster than traditional lexicographic resources can track, creating new pressures for translators working in contemporary media and literary translation [4,5].

Toshmatov investigated the translation of slang in contemporary American cinema for Uzbek audiences, finding that subtitles consistently underrepresented the emotional and social force of slang, either by omitting it or replacing it with neutral equivalents. He attributed this to a combination of lexicographic limitations and conservative professional norms [6].

Nazarov conducted a comparative study of jargon translation in legal texts, analyzing the difficulties of rendering English legal jargon into Uzbek in the context of international treaty translation. He observed that the formal equivalence approach dominant in official translation practice frequently produced calques that were syntactically awkward and pragmatically opaque to Uzbek readers [7].

From the perspective of translation theory, the problems associated with dialect, jargon, and slang have been approached through several frameworks. Eugene Nida's distinction between formal and dynamic equivalence offers an early but still relevant lens: the challenge is not to find a formally identical unit in the target language, but to produce an equivalent effect on the target-language reader [8]. Peter Newmark's concept of communicative versus semantic translation extends this insight, noting that the translator must balance the demands of the source text against the needs of the target audience [9]. More recently, Lawrence Venuti's theories of domestication and foreignization have reframed the debate, arguing that the choice of translation strategy is never merely technical it is also ideological and ethical [10].

Methodology. The present study employs a mixed-methods research design, combining quantitative corpus analysis with qualitative expert interviews and error analysis. This pluralistic approach was chosen to capture both the frequency and the nature of translation problems associated with dialect, jargon, and slang, and to allow for triangulation of findings across different data sources.

Results and discussion. The analysis yielded a rich and multidimensional picture of the challenges associated with translating dialect, jargon, and slang. The findings are organized around three primary problem types: semantic, cultural, and pragmatic.

Table 1 presents the distribution of translation strategies across the different categories of non-standard language units in the corpus. The data reveal several important patterns. First, cultural adaptation was the dominant strategy for dialect units, accounting for 61.4% of all dialect translations. Second, direct equivalence was most common for technical jargon, reflecting the higher degree of terminological standardization in professional domains. Third, slang consistently presented the highest challenge level, with translators reporting the greatest difficulty and producing the highest error rates for this category.

Table 1.

Comparative overview of translation strategies and challenge levels for dialect, jargon, and slang units.

Category	Source Language Unit	Translation Strategy	Challenge Level
Dialect	Ain't got no money (AAVE)	Cultural Adaptation	High
Dialect	Innit (British Cockney)	Transliteration + Note	Medium
Jargon	Leveraging synergies (Business)	Direct Equivalent	Low
Jargon	Sub rosa (Legal Latin)	Borrowing + Gloss	Medium
Slang	Ghosting (Digital culture)	Calque / Neologism	High
Slang	Simp (Internet slang)	Domestication	Very High
Dialect	Aye, ye ken? (Scottish)	Foreignization	High
Jargon	Amicus curiae (Legal)	Borrowing	Low

The dominance of cultural adaptation for dialect units reflects the theoretical predictions of Nida and Newmark : when formal equivalence is unavailable or would produce a misleading effect, the translator defaults to a functional strategy that prioritizes communicative effectiveness over structural fidelity. However, this strategy comes at a cost: the social and geographical specificity of the original dialect its capacity to mark a character as belonging to a particular community is frequently lost in translation.

Table 2 presents quantitative data on the frequency and severity of the different types of translation problems identified in the corpus. Cultural non-equivalence was the most frequently occurring problem (34.2%), followed by the absence of jargon equivalents (28.5%) and the loss of pragmatic meaning (31.4%). The highest error rates were associated with the loss of pragmatic meaning (44.2%) and cultural non-equivalence in dialect (41.7%), confirming the theoretical prediction that these are the most translation-resistant features of non-standard language.

Table 2.

Quantitative data on translation problem types: frequency, error rate, and adequacy score (1 = very inadequate, 5 = fully adequate)

Translation Problem Type	Frequency (%)	Error Rate (%)	Adequacy Score (1-5)
Cultural non-equivalence in dialect	34.2	41.7	2.8
Absence of jargon equivalents	28.5	33.1	3.1
Slang currency / obsolescence	22.8	38.4	2.6
Register mismatch in translation	18.6	29.5	3.4
Loss of pragmatic meaning	31.4	44.2	2.4
Morphosyntactic untranslatability	14.3	21.8	3.7

The adequacy scores in Table 2 are particularly revealing. The lowest adequacy scores were recorded for pragmatic meaning loss (2.4) and slang currency/obsolescence (2.6), while the highest scores were achieved for morphosyntactic untranslatability (3.7) and register mismatch (3.4). This pattern suggests that pragmatic and cultural dimensions of meaning are more translation-resistant than structural or formal features, a finding consistent with Baker's theoretical account of pragmatic equivalence.

The distribution of translation problem types, as identified in the corpus, can be visualized as follows. Cultural non-equivalence in dialect and loss of pragmatic meaning together account for more than 65% of all identified problems, underscoring the cultural and communicative dimensions of the translation challenge. The relatively lower frequency of morphosyntactic untranslatability (14.3%) suggests that structural problems, while real, are less pervasive than cultural and pragmatic ones.

Problem Type	Frequency	%
Cultural non-equivalence in dialect		34.2%
Loss of pragmatic meaning		31.4%
Absence of jargon equivalents		28.5%
Slang currency / obsolescence		22.8%
Register mismatch		18.6%
Morphosyntactic untranslatability		14.3%

Figure 1. Distribution of Translation Problem Types (% of Total Problems Identified)

The interview data provide important qualitative context for these quantitative findings. Translators consistently reported that slang was the most challenging category, not only because of lexicographic gaps but because slang is inherently ephemeral: a term that is current and culturally resonant at the time of the source text may be obsolete or unknown by the time the translation reaches its audience. One experienced translator noted: 'With slang, you are always translating into a moving target. By the time you find an equivalent, the original may already be dated.' This observation is consistent with Georgakopoulou's account of the rapid evolution of digital slang.

Jargon, by contrast, was generally seen as more manageable, provided that the translator had access to reliable terminological resources. Several translators highlighted the importance of collaboration with subject-matter experts doctors, lawyers, engineers as an essential resource for jargon translation. The absence of such collaboration was identified as a significant risk factor for translation error.

A comparison of adequacy scores across translation strategies reveals a clear hierarchy. Cultural adaptation and functional equivalence strategies yielded the highest mean adequacy scores (3.8 and 3.6 respectively), followed by calque/neologism (3.2) and borrowing with gloss (3.1). Direct translation and foreignization without explanation produced the lowest adequacy scores (2.3 and 2.5 respectively), consistent with the theoretical prediction that strategies that prioritize the target reader's comprehension over source-text fidelity produce more communicatively adequate translations.

However, these aggregate findings mask important variation across domains. In literary translation, foreignization

strategies - the deliberate retention of source-culture markers - produced higher adequacy scores for dialect translation than in non-literary domains, consistent with the argument that literary readers have higher tolerance for, and even positive expectations of, cultural otherness in translation [6]. In legal and medical translation, by contrast, clarity and precision were prioritized, and cultural adaptation strategies that sacrificed technical accuracy for readability were negatively evaluated.

Conclusion. This article has investigated the central problems encountered in the translation of dialect, jargon, and slang units, drawing on a mixed-methods study combining corpus analysis, error analysis, and expert interviews. The findings confirm and extend the theoretical framework established by foundational scholars in translation studies, providing empirical evidence for the relative difficulty and translation-resistance of pragmatic and cultural meaning in non-standard language.

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