УДК 81'255.2

## O. V. Kohut, M. V. Shtohryn

## "Translator's false friends" in the oil and gas texts

У статті досліджено особливості та труднощі перекладу "фальшивих друзів перекладача" в науково-технічній літературі англійської мови, зокрема у текстах нафтогазової промисловості. Проаналізовано поняття "хибні друзі перекладача" та досліджено їх класифікацію і джерела виникнення. Розглянуто особливості перекладу текстів науково-технічного змісту загалом, а також труднощі перекладу "фальшивих друзів перекладача" зокрема. Здійснено аналіз перекладу слів, що належать до нафтогазової терміносистеми української та англійської мов, на основі статті "Effect of Gas Recycling on the enhancement of Condensate Recovery, Case Study: Hassi R'Mel South Field, Argentina" та перекладу цієї статті.

<u>Ключові слова</u>: науково-технічний текст, переклад, псевдоінтернаціоналізм.

В статье исследованы особенности и трудности перевода "ложных друзей переводчика" в научно-технической литературе английского языка, в частности в текстах нефтегазовой промышленности. Проанализировано понятие "ложные друзья переводчика" и исследована их классификация и источники возникновения. Рассмотрены особенности перевода текстов научно-технического содержания в целом, а также трудности перевода "ложных друзей переводчика" в частности. Осуществлен анализ перевода слов, относящихся к нефтегазовой терминосистеме украинского и английского языков на основе статьи "Effect of Gas Recycling on the enhancement of Condensate Recovery, Case Study: Hassi R'Mel South Field, Argentina" и перевода этой статьи.

<u>Ключевые слова:</u> научно-технический текст, перевод, псевдоин-тернационализм.

The article investigates peculiarities and difficulties of translating "translator's false friends" in the scientific literature of the English language, in particular in the texts of the oil and gas industry. The concept of "false friends of translator" is analyzed and their classification and sources of origin are studied. The peculiarities of translating texts of scientific and technical content in general, and the difficulty of translating "translator's false friends" in particular are considered. The analysis of the translation of the words relating to the oil and gas term system of Ukrainian and English languages on the basis of the article "Effect of Gas

Recycling on the enhancement of Condensate Recovery, Case Study: Hassi R'mel South Field, Argentina", and the translation of this article is carried out.

<u>Key words</u>: scientific and technical text, translation, pseudo-internationalisms.

With the development of science and technology, every day there appear terms to refer to fundamentally new objects, phenomena and processes. The performance of the optimal translation of such words is an important task for the translator. However, not only terms, but also common words that are often used in the texts of scientific and technological content, can be a source of serious errors. However, many English words coincide in form with the Ukrainian words, which does not always mean that their meaning is also the same. Moreover, sometimes they may have one common meaning, but apart from it, have several more that are different. These words are misleading for not only beginners but also experienced translators, thus they are called "translator's false friends".

The studies of the sources of origin, classification and problems of translation of "translator's false friends" were carried out by V. Karaban, T. Kyiak, A. ЯКоvalenko, V. Myroshnychenko, I. Mostovyi, L. Neliubyn, I. Onushkanych, S. Radetska, A. Sabitova, A. Tsyrkal, and others.

Despite the fact that new terms are created so that they all sound the same in different languages, and have the same meaning, it is impossible to completely avoid the use of "false friends". It is therefore important to explore what one should pay attention to when translating these words, and what to do in order to avoid errors, since even a single incorrectly transmitted word can distort the meaning of the whole text.

The aim of the study is to investigate the features of the concept of "translator's false friends" and their translation by means of the Ukrainian language.

Therefore, fulfillment of our objective involves accomplishment of the following tasks:

- to explore the features and causes of "translator's false friends";
- to identify translation problems related to the "translator's false friends" and their solutions;
- to consider the methods of translation of "translator's false friends" in the texts of the oil and gas industry.

The implementation of adequate study of the topic "Translator's false friends" when translating English texts of the oil and gas industry" is impossible without a deep understanding of the term "false friends".

Scientist T. Kyiak provides the causes of the "translator's false friends" in the field of scientific and technical terminology, referring to linguists E. Skorokhodko, and D. Lotte. According to the scientist E. Skorokhodko pseudointernationals occur due to:

- 1) use of dentical words in different languages in the formation of terms by transferring the name;
- 2) connection of the primary meaning with similar features of different objects-terms;
- 3) giving advantages in different languages to different aspects of the content of international terms [2, p. 18].

We agree with this position of the scientist, however, would like to add to it yet the reasoning of V. Miroshnychenko, who in addition to the above listed causes of "false friends", adds random creation of similar words in several different languages [3, p. 44].

Most scientists believe that "translator's false friends" are words which have similar expressions in different languages, but their meaning is completely or partially different. However, some linguists emphasize that the concepts of "translator's false friends" and "pseudointernationalisms" should not be equated.

Among the sources of the emergence of the phenomenon linguists name coincidence, interference of languages, the national peculiarities of vocabulary and terminology, particularly in different languages, different directions of development of the same lexical units, the impact of national culture that leads to adding new meanings to the initial ones and account for different shades of meaning when borrowing words.

According to A. Tsyrkal, scientific and technical literature is rich in stylistic means, which contribute to its expressiveness, flexibility, however, contains many internationalisms and "false friends of translator", which may pose a threat to the proper translation [5, p. 385].

- I. Onushkanych describes the techniques of translation of termsphrases suggested by A. Kulchytskyi:
- 1) descriptive translation transmission of the content of the phrase by its explanation;
  - 2) translation with the use of the genitive case;
- 3) calquing translation of words or phrases in parts with subsequent assembly of these parts;
- 4) transcription transferring the sounds of the words of the original language by the target language letters;
  - 5) the translation by the use of prepositions [4].

The modern scientist emphasizes that the main attention should be paid not to the meaning of narrow terms, but to the development of the common features of the language and style of scientific and technical literature, vocabulary, pronunciation and its grammatical structure. The linguist notes that the texts should not be translated mechanically or intuitively, but by identifying all features of the literature [4].

V. Karaban notes that, for successful translation of terms that belong to the category of "false friends of translator", it is primarily necessary to define whether the following words are used in a broad or narrow context. The scientist explains that if they are used in a broad context, they should be translated by the words denoting general concepts, if in narrow one – according to the area described in text [1, p. 55].

"Translator's false friends" represent a threat not only for beginners in learning the English language, but also for experienced professionals. The problem of translation of this category of words is that their meaning in the language of the translation is often very different from the meanings in the original language, but their shapes may be similar in different languages, which causes false associations for a translator. They try to solve this issue at the international level, by adopting the law on providing equal meanings to terms that have a similar sound in several languages.

In general, in the oil and gas industry there are many words which came from Greek, Latin or French, for example: abstract (Latin), accurate (Latin), actual (French), address (French), adequate (Latin), alternative (French), analysis (Greek), balance (Latin), barrier (French), block (French), center (Greek), component (Latin), composition (French), concentric (Latin), condensate (Latin), configuration (Latin), contact (Latin), critical (Latin), demonstrate (Latin), design (French), effect (French), extreme (Latin) factor (Latin), final (Latin), fluid (French), focus (Latin), formation (Latin), geometry (Greek), hydraulic (Greek), injection (Latin), isothermal (French), limit (French), maximum (Latin), mixture (Latin), mobile (French), normal (Latin), ordinate (Latin), original (Latin), practice (Latin), process (French), production (French), project (Latin), region (Latin), reservoir (French), retrograde (Latin), simulation (Latin), zone (Greek), system (Greek), technique (French), original (Latin), zone (Latin).

As you can see, among the "translator's false friends", which are found in the text, there are no such terms, the cause of which was a

borrowing into English from Ukrainian. However, you cannot argue that they are the result of imitation of English by Ukrainian. Many of these terms came to our language through direct borrowing from the languages in which they originated (Greek, Latin, and French). In addition, they could penetrate into the Ukrainian language, which, in turn, borrowed these words from source languages. Thus, the words *fluid*, *effect* came to the Ukrainian language from Latin, *technique* – from German, *operation*, *system* – from French.

To better understand the peculiarities and ways of translation of "translator's false friends" from English into Ukrainian, we have analyzed the scientific paper "Effect of Gas Recycling on the enhancement of Condensate Recovery, Case Study: Hassi R'Mel South Field, Argentina" and its translation. Below are some examples from the text.

The word *abstract* can be translated into Ukrainian as *non-figurative*, but in our article, this word is used as the scientific term, which often occurs in scientific articles, so the translator used a different equivalent, namely, the expression of the summary of the content. Moreover, it is obvious that the subtitle of the scientific article may not be represented by only an adjective, thus for its translation one should have chosen the equivalent that would have contained contain the noun.

In Ukrainian, they call tank in which liquid is stored "rezervuar". In the English language *reservoir* means rock that has hydrocarbons. Therefore, referring to the context of the article, the translator translated the word-combination *gas condensate reservoirs* into the Ukrainian language as "porody shcho mistiat hazovyi kondensat" i. e. rocks which contain gas condensate.

Data is translated as "dani" (information), because, despite its similarity with the Ukrainian word data which means day and month, in English this word is used in the meaning chosen by the translator as the equivalent.

Simulation does not belong to words that can be used in scientific and technical literature, that is why simulation study is translated as "doslidzennia na osnovi imitatsiinykh eksperymentiv" i. e. studies based on the simulation experiments.

Address is not usually translated into Ukrainian as to solve, but in the context of a sentence it is obvious that this word is used in this meaning, because it is used in the following expression: to address this problem. As you know, we cannot normally address the problem in the direct sense therefore, the verb consonant with the English version cannot be used.

The word *production* in scientific and technical literature has Ukrainian analogue *vydobutok* and the translator, given the content of the text, has used this equivalent. The word *produktsiia* would be inappropriate, since *production* concerns the production of condensates, but they are not called products.

Factor quite often is translated into Ukrainian as factor, but in the article, this word is used in combination with another word. This combination constitutes a term. According to this fact, the units of the phrase recovery factor can not be translated separately. They are united by a common meaning inherent in them only when they are used together, so this term is translated by the phrase koefitsiient viddachi "coefficient of performance".

The word *figure*, which often occurs in the scientific texts sounds like Ukrainian *fihura*. However, one of the first meanings of the word provided in the dictionary, is *drawing / sketch* and, actually, it fits within the context of the article.

One of the equivalents of the word *proportion* in Ukrainian is "proportsiia" i. e. ratio. However, in our language this word is used to denote the ratio of body measurements or a certain type of mathematical calculations. In the sentence "Due to the composition and proportion of the individual components in the reservoir, a gascondensate is in a single gaseous phase at the reservoir pressure and temperature conditions", proportion means ratio (of elements), that is why this equivalent was used when translating the article.

The word *individual*, which we can find in the same sentence, is rendered by the equivalent "*okremyi*" i. e. *separate*, not "*indyvidualnyi*", as these two Ukrainian words have slightly different meanings. *Individual* – is not simply *separate*, but intended for, or something that concerns a particular person.

In the sentence "The primary focus of this study was TGS formation in HRS field" we find the word focus, which reminds of the Ukrainian fokus. But in the Ukrainian language, the word fokus is often used only in two cases — when talking about the art of photography or about magic tricks as a form of entertainment. Although in this sentence focus plays the role of a noun, the interpreter renders the meaning by the Ukrainian verb "zoseredzhene" i. e. concentrated, changing the sentence structure.

In order to perform the correct translation of the above words it is necessary to check their meanings in dictionaries, and try to better understand the meaning of the whole sentence, because it helps to choose the correct Ukrainian equivalent and to determine which part of speech the word belongs to, as in English forms of writing nouns and verbs, nouns and adjectives can be the same.

## References

- 1. Karaban I. V. Pereklad anhliiskoi naukovoi i tekhnichnoi literatury chastyna II / I. V. Karaban Vinnytsia : Nova Knyha, 2001 303 p.
- 2. Kyiak T. R. "Falshyvi druzi perekladacha" iak problema mizhkulturnoi komunikatsii / T. Kyiak // Naukovi zapysky. Seriia "Filolohichni nauky". Vypusk 89 (1). Kirovohrad, 2010.
- 3. Myroshnychenko V. M. Problemy perekladu "khybnykh druziv perekladacha" z anhliiskoi movy na ukrainsku / V. M. Myroshnychenko // Vostochno-Yevropeiskyi zhurnal peredovykh tekhnolohii. Vypusk 2/10 (50). 2011.
- 4. Onushkanych I. V. Zakonomirnosti perekladu naukovo-tekhnichnoi literatury [Електронний ресурс] / I. V. Onushkanych. Режим доступу:

http://naub.oa.edu.ua/2013/zakonomirnosti-perekladu-naukovo-tehnich noji-literatury/. – Назва з екрана.

- 5. Tsyrkal A. Problema perekladu internatsionalizmiv ta "falshyvykh druziv perekladacha" v naukovo-tekhnichnii literaturi / A. Tsyrkal // Fakhovyi ta khudozhnii pereklad: teoriia, metodolohiia, praktyka: materialy dopovidei V Mizhnarodnoi naukovo-praktychnoi konferentsii 6–7 kvitnia 2012 r. / za zah. red. A. H. Hudmaniana, S. I. Sydorenka. K.: Ahrar Media Hrup, 2013. S. 385–369.
- 6. Adel H., Effect of Gas Recycling on the Enhancement of Condensate Recovery, Case Study: Hassi R'Mel South Field, Algeria / H. Adel, T. Zhu // Journal of Petroleum Technology. 2006.