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КУРСОВА РОБОТА

З ПЕРЕКЛАДУ

Труднощі перекладу ідіоматичних виразів в англоомовних художніх текстах на українську мову

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INRODUCTION

The intricate tapestry of language not only conveys literal meanings but also encapsulates a wealth of cultural nuances and historical depths through idiomatic expressions. These expressions, often bewildering in their literal interpretation, offer a rich vein of insight into the collective psyche and cultural ethos of a linguistic community. In English literary texts, idiomatic expressions serve as a powerful tool for authors, enabling them to add color, depth, and authenticity to their narrative voices. However, the very qualities that make idioms a potent literary device also render them among the most challenging elements to translate. This research paper aims to delve into the multifaceted role of idiomatic expressions in English literature, exploring their types, functions, and the complexities they introduce into the translation process.

The relevance of this study is underscored by the increasing globalization of literature and the consequent need for cross-cultural translation. In an age where literary works traverse linguistic boundaries with unprecedented frequency, understanding the intricacies of translating idiomatic expressions becomes paramount. This exploration is not merely academic but also practical, offering insights that can enhance the fidelity and cultural sensitivity of literary translations. By examining the interplay between idiomatic expressions and their translations, this paper seeks to contribute to the broader discourse on cross-cultural communication and literary scholarship.

The object of this research is idiomatic expressions within English literary texts.

The subject of this study delves into the translation of idiomatic expressions from English into other languages.

The aim of this research is to analyze the complexities involved in translating idiomatic expressions from English literary texts into other languages, with a focus on identifying effective translation strategies that maintain the original's integrity and cultural depth.

Research objectives:

1. To categorize idiomatic expressions found in English literary texts based on their types and functions within the narrative context.

2. To examine the challenges translators face due to linguistic and cultural disparities when translating idiomatic expressions.

3. To evaluate the impact of these challenges on the overall translation process, particularly regarding translation fidelity and cultural sensitivity.

4. To analyze specific examples of idiomatic expressions in literature and their translations to illustrate these challenges and the strategies used to overcome them.

In exploring the complexities of translating idiomatic expressions from English literary texts, this research employs a multifaceted methodology, integrating comparative literary analysis to compare idiomatic expressions in original texts and their translations, surveys and interviews with translators to gather qualitative insights on translation challenges and strategies, case studies for in-depth exploration of specific translation instances, content analysis for systematic review of literature on translation of idiomatic expressions, corpus linguistics to quantitatively analyze idiomatic expressions across a corpus of texts and their translations, ethnographic studies to understand the cultural contexts of idiomatic expressions, experimental methods to test reader comprehension of different translation strategies, and discourse analysis to examine idiomatic expressions within the broader literary discourse. This comprehensive approach ensures a rich, nuanced understanding of the translation of idiomatic expressions, combining theoretical insights with practical considerations.

This research contributes to the theoretical framework of translation studies by offering a comprehensive analysis of the complexities involved in translating idiomatic expressions from English literary texts. It enriches the academic discourse by categorizing idiomatic expressions, elucidating the nuanced interplay between language and culture, and identifying the theoretical underpinnings that challenge and guide the translation process. By exploring the intricate relationship between linguistic expressions and their cultural contexts, this study advances our understanding of cross-cultural communication and enhances the theoretical models of translation fidelity and adaptation.

Practically, this study provides valuable insights for translators, educators, and scholars by outlining effective strategies for translating idiomatic expressions while maintaining cultural sensitivity and linguistic integrity. The findings aim to improve translation practices, enhance literary translation quality, and facilitate better cross-cultural understanding and appreciation of literature. Furthermore, this research serves as a resource for translation training programs, offering case studies and analysis that can be used to develop skills in handling idiomatic expressions and other culturally bound linguistic elements.

Structure of the work: introduction, section 1, section 2, conclusion, references.

SECTION 1
CONCEPT OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS IN ENGLISH LITERARY TEXTS

1.1. Characteristics and functions of idiomatic expressions and their usage in English literature

Idiomatic expressions, or idioms, are phrases in which the meaning of the whole group of words is different from the individual meanings suggested by each word. These expressions are integral to the fabric of a language, serving not only as linguistic shortcuts but also as windows into the cultural and historical contexts from which they arise. Unlike literal expressions, where the meaning is direct and clear, idiomatic expressions require a shared cultural understanding to be interpreted correctly. [17]

Idioms are characterized by their fixed structure; alterations in wording often lead to a loss of the intended meaning. This rigidity makes them unique linguistic elements, easily recognizable to native speakers but potentially perplexing for language learners. The colorful nature of idioms adds vibrancy to communication, allowing speakers to convey complex or nuanced ideas succinctly and effectively. Through their metaphorical nature, idioms enrich the language, offering insights into the collective experiences, values, and attitudes of a linguistic community.[8]

The persistence of idiomatic expressions within a language showcases their importance in preserving cultural heritage. These expressions often encapsulate historical events, social customs, and collective wisdom, bridging past and present. As living components of language, idioms can evolve, with some falling out of use while others gain popularity, reflecting the dynamic nature of the societies that use them.[24]

Idiomatic expressions function as a powerful tool in language, enabling speakers to convey complex ideas and nuanced emotions with brevity and precision. These phrases pack a punch, delivering a wealth of meaning in just a few words, which makes them a favorite in both casual conversations and formal communications. By using

idioms, speakers can paint vivid pictures or suggest deep sentiments without lengthy explanations, making the language more dynamic and efficient.[22]

Beyond their role in enhancing linguistic efficiency, idioms also add a layer of cultural richness to communication. They are often steeped in cultural heritage, providing insights into the values, beliefs, and historical experiences of a community. This cultural dimension makes idioms essential for effective storytelling and rhetoric, as they can evoke shared feelings and images, fostering a sense of connection and understanding among speakers of the same language.[13]

Moreover, idiomatic expressions contribute to the expressive power of language, offering a way to articulate emotions and abstract concepts that might be difficult to express otherwise. They enable speakers to communicate feelings and ideas with subtlety and depth, often in a manner that resonates on an emotional level with others. This ability to convey abstract and complex concepts succinctly and powerfully makes idioms invaluable in literature, poetry, and everyday communication.[19]

In English literature, idioms serve as a crucial instrument for writers to establish the tone of their narratives, develop their characters' personalities, and evoke specific cultural or historical settings. These expressions are skillfully woven into the fabric of the text to bring out the uniqueness of different voices and to anchor the story in a particular time and place. By employing idioms, authors can subtly convey attitudes, values, and social norms, enriching the reader's understanding of the characters and the worlds they inhabit.[11]

Idioms also play a significant role in enriching the text, adding layers of meaning and enhancing the reader's engagement with the story. They contribute depth and flavor, transforming plain language into a more colorful and dynamic medium. This enrichment makes the narrative more relatable and vivid, allowing readers to connect with the text on a deeper level. Through idioms, writers can evoke emotions and paint pictures in the reader's mind, bridging the gap between mere words and a lived experience.[27]

Idioms are not static; they evolve over time, mirroring the shifts in culture, technology, and societal norms. This evolution highlights the adaptability of language

to changing contexts and environments. As societies progress and transform, their language naturally evolves to accommodate new realities and ideas. Idioms that were once common can become obsolete, while new ones arise to reflect contemporary experiences and technological advancements. [14]

The variability of idiomatic expressions is a testament to the dynamic nature of language. As new expressions emerge and old ones fade away, idioms serve as linguistic markers of the time, reflecting the ever-changing landscape of human thought and society. This fluidity ensures that language remains relevant and resonant with its speakers, capable of expressing the nuances of the modern experience. [6]

Understanding idioms poses significant challenges, especially for non-native speakers, due to their figurative meaning and cultural underpinnings. These expressions often rely on specific cultural knowledge or shared experiences that may not be immediately apparent to those outside the cultural group. The figurative nature of idioms means that their meanings cannot be deduced simply by translating the constituent words, leading to potential confusion and misinterpretation. [17]

Furthermore, idioms can be a source of misunderstandings in cross-cultural communication. What makes perfect sense in one cultural context might be completely nonsensical or even offensive in another. This complexity underscores the need for cultural sensitivity and awareness in language use, especially in diverse or international settings. Misinterpretations of idioms can lead to miscommunication, highlighting the importance of context and cultural background in understanding language fully. [4]

Effective teaching and learning of idiomatic expressions often involve context-based learning, storytelling, and cultural immersion. These strategies help learners grasp not just the literal meaning of the words, but also the figurative and cultural nuances that give the idiom its true meaning. Context-based learning, for example, situates idioms within real-life scenarios, enabling students to understand how and when they are used. Storytelling can bring idioms to life, weaving them into narratives that illustrate their meanings and uses vividly. [21]

Understanding idioms is not only crucial for achieving language proficiency but also for attaining cultural literacy. Idioms often encapsulate cultural values, beliefs,

and historical references, offering insights into the mindset and lifestyle of a community. Therefore, learning idioms is about more than just expanding vocabulary; it's about deepening one's understanding of and ability to interact with different cultures. Mastery of idiomatic expressions signifies a high level of language competence and cultural integration, enabling effective and nuanced communication. [8]

1.2. Types of idiomatic expressions in literary context

The initial assessment of idiomatic expressions in the source text constitutes a foundational step in the translation process, setting the stage for strategic decisions and methodologies that will be employed to tackle linguistic and cultural complexities. This phase involves a meticulous examination of the text to identify idiomatic expressions and evaluate their embedded cultural and linguistic nuances. The goal is to understand not only the literal meaning of these expressions but also their connotative, cultural, and contextual significances.

The first task in this assessment phase is to meticulously comb through the source text to pinpoint idiomatic expressions. This step requires a deep understanding of the source language and an awareness of the subtle nuances that distinguish idiomatic expressions from literal language. Idioms are often marked by their non-literal meanings, which can only be fully appreciated in the context of the cultural and linguistic frameworks within which they were coined. The identification process may involve the use of linguistic resources such as idiomatic dictionaries or databases, alongside the translator's own expertise and intuition [3].

Once identified, each idiomatic expression must be thoroughly understood in terms of its literal meaning, figurative implication, and usage context. This understanding is crucial for assessing the translatability of the expression and for exploring potential strategies for its translation. It involves research into the origins of the idiom, its frequency of use, and its variations, if any. This step may also require

consultation with cultural informants or experts in the source language's literature to grasp the nuances and underlying assumptions of the idiom fully.

The next step is to assess the level of cultural and linguistic specificity of each idiom, which directly impacts the complexity of the translation task. This assessment considers several factors:

•How deeply is the idiom rooted in specific cultural practices, historical events, or literary traditions? Idioms with high cultural embeddedness may require more nuanced translation strategies, such as cultural adaptation or explanatory notes.

•Does the idiom contain linguistic features unique to the source language, such as puns, wordplay, or syntactic structures that are difficult to replicate in the target language? The linguistic uniqueness of an idiom can significantly increase the translation challenge.

• How flexible is the idiom in terms of its usage across different contexts? Idioms that are highly context-specific may pose additional challenges, as their translation might need to be adapted to fit various contexts within the target text.

This initial assessment is not merely a preparatory step but a critical analysis that informs the entire translation process. By carefully identifying, understanding, and assessing idiomatic expressions at the outset, translators can better navigate the complexities ahead, choosing the most appropriate strategies to preserve the richness of the source text while ensuring that the translation is culturally and linguistically accessible to the target audience [6].

The decision-making process for translation strategies, particularly when it comes to idiomatic expressions, is a nuanced and complex phase where translators must weigh various considerations to choose the most appropriate method. This process is critical because it directly influences the fidelity, readability, and cultural sensitivity of the translated text. The primary strategies at a translator's disposal include literal translation, substitution, cultural adaptation, or omission. The selection among these options is influenced by a multitude of factors, including the target audience's cultural background and the context within the text.

Deciding to employ a literal translation involves translating the idiomatic expression word-for-word into the target language. This strategy is rarely used for idioms due to their figurative nature and cultural specificity. However, in cases where an idiom is universally known or has entered the global lexicon, a literal translation might preserve the original flavor and global recognition. The decision to use literal translation hinges on the translator's judgment that the target audience will readily understand the idiom without needing cultural or contextual adaptation.

Substitution involves replacing the original idiom with an equivalent in the target language that conveys a similar meaning, tone, and connotation. This strategy is often favored for its ability to maintain the idiomatic expression's impact while ensuring cultural and linguistic appropriateness. The decision to substitute is influenced by the availability of an equivalent expression in the target language and the degree to which it matches the original's nuances. The translator must consider the target audience's familiarity with the substituted idiom and its resonance within the cultural context of the translation [2].

Cultural adaptation entails modifying the idiom to better suit the cultural context of the target audience, potentially altering its imagery or content to make it more relatable. This strategy is chosen when both literal translation and direct substitution are insufficient to convey the idiomatic expression's nuances in a culturally meaningful way. The decision to adapt culturally requires a deep understanding of both the source and target cultures, ensuring that the adapted idiom is both accurate in meaning and engaging for the audience.

Omission, the decision to leave out the idiomatic expression altogether, is a last-resort strategy used when its inclusion would significantly hinder comprehension or when it adds little value to the translation. The choice to omit is influenced by the idiom's integral role in the text and its potential to confuse or alienate the target audience. The translator must weigh the loss of the original expression's flavor against the overall coherence and readability of the translation.

The decision-making process is guided by several key considerations:

- Understanding the cultural context and linguistic proficiency of the target audience is paramount. This knowledge guides the translator in choosing a strategy that will resonate culturally and linguistically.

- The role of the idiomatic expression within the narrative, its thematic significance, and its contribution to character development or mood setting are critical factors. The chosen strategy must preserve these narrative functions.

- Maintaining consistency in the treatment of idiomatic expressions throughout the text is essential for coherence and readability. The decision-making process involves ensuring that the chosen strategy aligns with the overall translation approach.

- Balancing the need for transparency (making the translation understandable) with fidelity (staying true to the original's intent and style) is a constant consideration, guiding the translator towards choices that best serve the text's integrity and the audience's engagement [4].

Through this intricate decision-making process, translators navigate the challenges of idiomatic expressions, employing a combination of linguistic skill, cultural insight, and creative problem-solving to produce translations that are both faithful to the original and accessible to the target audience.

The translation of idiomatic expressions is a delicate balancing act that involves not only conveying meaning but also preserving the author's tone, style, and overall intent. The choice of translation strategy for idioms can significantly impact these elements, presenting translators with a series of challenges that require thoughtful navigation. Below, we explore these challenges and outline strategies to preserve the original's nuances while ensuring that the translation resonates culturally with the target audience.

Idiomatic expressions often carry connotations that contribute to the tone of a text—be it humorous, sarcastic, solemn, or affectionate. Literal translation might fail to capture these connotations, leading to a tone that diverges from the author's intent. Similarly, substitution or cultural adaptation, while making the idiom understandable, might inadvertently alter the tone if the substitute lacks the same emotional or connotative weight in the target language [5].

The style of the original text, shaped in part by the use of idiomatic expressions, reflects the author's unique voice and narrative technique. Inaccurate or overly liberal translations can introduce stylistic discrepancies, distancing the translation from the author's original voice and possibly altering the narrative's pacing or flow.

The author's intent—what they wish to convey through idioms, both on the surface level and in underlying messages or themes—can be obscured if the translation strategy does not account for cultural and contextual nuances. The challenge lies in preserving these subtleties without sacrificing accessibility for the target audience.

A deep understanding of both the source and target cultures enables translators to choose or create idiomatic expressions that maintain the original's tone and style while being culturally relevant. This might involve extensive research or consultation with cultural experts to find parallels that resonate with the target audience without straying from the author's voice.

In instances where direct equivalents are not available, creative adaptation becomes a powerful tool. This strategy involves crafting new idiomatic expressions that mirror the original's intent and tone, leveraging imagery or concepts familiar to the target audience. Such adaptations require a careful balancing of creativity and fidelity to the source text [24].

For particularly complex idioms that carry significant weight in the text, translators may opt to include footnotes, endnotes, or glossaries. These supplements can provide the reader with cultural or historical context, explain the choice of translation strategy, or offer insights into the idiom's significance within the narrative. This approach allows for a more literal translation of the surrounding text while ensuring that the idiomatic expressions' nuances are not lost.

Engaging with native speakers of the target language, literary critics, or beta readers can provide valuable feedback on how well the translation captures the original's tone, style, and intent. This feedback loop can inform revisions that fine-tune the translation, ensuring it resonates with the intended audience while remaining faithful to the author's original expression.

By employing these strategies, translators can navigate the challenges of maintaining the authorial tone and intent in the translation of idiomatic expressions. This careful, nuanced approach ensures that the translation honors the original text's essence, providing the target audience with a reading experience that mirrors the impact and subtleties of the source material [4].

The translation of idiomatic expressions can significantly impact the consistency and cohesion of a text. Variations in the treatment of idioms across a translation can lead to inconsistencies that may confuse readers or disrupt the narrative flow. Furthermore, the insertion of culturally specific idioms that do not resonate with the target audience can impair the text's cohesion, making the narrative feel disjointed or less engaging [25].

Establishing a uniform approach to translating idioms at the outset can help maintain consistency throughout the text. Whether opting for literal translation, substitution, or cultural adaptation, applying the chosen strategy consistently ensures that the translation remains cohesive and accessible to the target audience. For idioms deeply rooted in specific cultural or historical contexts, customizing the translation to reflect the cultural knowledge and expectations of the target audience can enhance coherence. This might involve replacing an idiom with a culturally equivalent expression or adapting it to include imagery or concepts more familiar to the target readership.

Ensuring that the translated idioms fit seamlessly into the broader context of the narrative helps preserve the text's cohesion. This may require adjusting the surrounding text to better integrate the translated idiom, thereby maintaining the narrative's flow and ensuring a seamless reading experience.

The translation of idioms demands meticulous quality assurance and revision processes to ensure accuracy and cultural appropriateness. These processes are critical in refining the translation, eliminating inconsistencies, and enhancing the overall quality of the text [11].

The translation process should include multiple rounds of revisions, with each iteration focusing on refining the use of idioms to improve clarity, consistency, and

cultural relevance. This iterative approach allows translators to refine their choices and enhance the text's overall quality. Quality checks should assess the accuracy of the translated idioms and their cultural appropriateness for the target audience. This involves verifying that the translations accurately convey the original expressions' meanings and tones while being sensitive to cultural nuances.

Sharing the translation with beta readers from the target audience can provide valuable insights into how well the translated idioms resonate culturally and contextually. Feedback from beta readers can highlight areas where adjustments are needed to enhance clarity and engagement. Consulting with cultural experts or linguists can help ensure that the translated idioms are culturally appropriate and accurately convey the intended meanings. These consultants can offer expert insights into cultural nuances and preferences that might influence the translation strategy. Engaging peers in reviewing the translation can provide an additional layer of scrutiny, focusing on linguistic accuracy, consistency, and the overall effectiveness of idiom translation. Peer reviews can identify inconsistencies and suggest improvements, leveraging the collective expertise of fellow translators.

Through careful attention to consistency, cohesion, and rigorous quality assurance processes, translators can effectively navigate the challenges posed by idiomatic expressions. By employing strategic solutions and leveraging feedback mechanisms, it is possible to produce translations that are not only accurate and culturally appropriate but also provide a cohesive and engaging reading experience for the target audience [26].

In the realm of literature, idiomatic expressions are not just linguistic embellishments but pivotal elements that enrich narratives, characters, and themes. These expressions can be categorized based on their origin, usage, or thematic significance, offering a structured approach to understanding their multifaceted roles in literary works. Some idioms trace their origins to cultural folklore or historical events, embedding within them centuries of collective wisdom and experiences. Others arise from the creative genius of authors who, through their inventive use of language, give birth to new idioms that capture the imagination of their readers. Furthermore,

idioms in literature often carry thematic weight, encapsulating in a few words the underlying messages or moral quandaries explored in the narrative. This categorization not only aids in the analysis of literary texts but also highlights the dynamic interplay between language, culture, and literary creativity [26].

Idioms deeply rooted in specific cultural contexts serve as a bridge between the universal human experience and the particularities of individual cultures, offering readers a glimpse into the values, traditions, and historical consciousness of a community. Literature, with its capacity to traverse cultural boundaries, often employs these idioms to convey a sense of place, identity, and heritage. For example, in African literature, idiomatic expressions derived from indigenous languages and proverbs play a crucial role in connecting the narrative to the cultural and philosophical frameworks of the African continent. Chinua Achebe's "Things Fall Apart" masterfully integrates Igbo proverbs and idioms, such as "The lizard that jumped from the high iroko tree to the ground said he would praise himself if no one else did," to underscore the importance of self-worth and resilience, reflecting the communal values and oral traditions of the Igbo people [4].

Similarly, in Irish literature, idioms and expressions imbued with Celtic mythology and the tumultuous history of Ireland enrich the narrative landscape, offering insights into the Irish psyche and the complex interplay of history, myth, and identity. James Joyce's "Ulysses," for instance, is peppered with Hiberno-English idioms that not only serve to authenticate the Dublin setting but also to weave the rich tapestry of Irish cultural references into the fabric of the narrative.

These culturally specific idioms, by anchoring the narrative in a particular cultural milieu, accomplish more than mere linguistic color; they imbue the text with a sense of authenticity and depth, allowing literature to act as a medium for cultural transmission and exploration. Through the careful use of idiomatic expressions, authors invite readers into the heart of the cultures they depict, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the diverse world we inhabit [18].

The landscape of literature is not only a repository for existing idiomatic expressions but also a fertile ground for the creation of new ones. Authors, through

their linguistic innovation and creativity, have contributed to the lexicon of idioms, enriching both the language and the literary worlds they create. These invented idioms range from those that encapsulate universal human experiences in novel ways to phrases that serve to construct the unique realities of fictional worlds.

For instance, Shakespeare, often hailed as the greatest English playwright, has bequeathed numerous idioms to the English language, such as "wild-goose chase" from "Romeo and Juliet" and "break the ice" from "The Taming of the Shrew." These expressions, originally crafted to serve the narrative and thematic needs of his plays, have transcended their literary origins to become part of everyday language, illustrating the enduring impact of literary idioms [3].

In the realm of fantasy and science fiction, authors like J.R.R. Tolkien and George Orwell have created idioms that, while fictional, resonate deeply with readers. Tolkien's "Middle-earth" vernacular includes phrases like "speak friend and enter," a magical password of sorts that reflects the camaraderie and linguistic richness of his created world. Orwell's "Newspeak" in "1984," with terms like "doublethink" and "thoughtcrime," provides a chilling lexicon for totalitarian control, illustrating how invented idioms can encapsulate and communicate complex political ideas and critiques.

The spectrum of idiomatic expressions in literature spans from those with universal themes or emotions to context-specific idioms that draw heavily from particular cultural, historical, or situational backgrounds. Universal idioms touch on experiences common to the human condition, such as love, loss, betrayal, and courage. These expressions resonate across cultures and time periods, allowing readers from diverse backgrounds to find common ground in the shared aspects of human experience. For example, the idiom "crossing the Rubicon," while historically specific, has taken on a universal meaning relating to making irreversible decisions, showcasing how some idioms can transcend their original contexts to express broadly relatable themes [18].

Among foreign researchers, the problem of defining idiomatic expressions was addressed by well-known scholars such as Charles Bally in his work "collocation" or

"set phrase" in "Traité de stylistique française" and Albert Seche. They also focused on close phraseological groups, similar to A.A. Shakhmatov, noting two popular types of phraseological groups and collocations: 1) individual combinations of words that are accidental and unstable, where the connection between the parts of the phrase disintegrates immediately after its formation, and the words composing it have complete freedom to recombine differently; 2) phraseological sentences or turns that are habitual, stable, where words, entering into a close connection to express a certain idea or image, lose their independence, become inseparable, and have meaning only in the inseparable unity of the collocation [8].

Charles Bally asserts that if in a group of words each graphical unit loses part of its individual meaning or does not retain any meaning at all, and if the combination of these elements presents a holistic semantic unity, then we are dealing with a complex sentence, a phraseological turn.

Between these two extremes, Bally sees a multitude of intermediate cases. However, Bally refrains from systematizing and classifying various phraseological groups. He proposes to distinguish only two main types of stable word combinations: the phraseological series (or habitual phraseological group), where the combination of words is relatively free and some variations are possible, and the phraseological unity, in which the individual meaning of the component words is lost.

In phraseological unity, the meaning of the whole never equals the sum of the meanings of the equivalents. It represents a qualitatively new meaning that arises from a certain combination of words [6].

As Charles Bally wrote, a phraseological unity has both external and internal characteristics. External characteristics are formal, deceptive, and unstable, playing no decisive role. They include a fixed word order and the impossibility of replacing any of the words with a synonym or another word not part of the phraseological unity.

Internal characteristics are not absolute but significant. They include the possibility of replacing the combination of words with one word equivalent in meaning; the forgetting of the sense of the phrase's components, semantic indecomposability of the expression into elements, homonymic distance from its existing free combinations;

the presence of archaisms; mismatch of the phrase's structure with the living forms of syntactic relations, ellipsis, pleonasms within the phrase; and sometimes a peculiar pronunciation.

Without touching on other phraseological types, Bally cautions: "Reading and observation will help find different categories. Here, it was essential to give a general characteristic of the phenomenon." [8].

Explaining the concept of phraseological unity and phraseological group, Bally also notes their differences in terms of the aesthetics of the word. He believes that the successful use of phraseological unities does not diminish the expressiveness of style, but rather, phraseological unities are homogeneous with simple words. Where the combination of words is already fixed, originality is inappropriate, as disrupting the composition of this unity is equivalent to breaking the morphological structure of an individual word. However, this does not apply to other less tightly bound phraseological groups, a variant of which are the so-called clichés. Clichés are ready-made, inherited expressions, "winged words." They are "fixed verbal formulas (apt expressions, speech turns, individual words), statements of outstanding persons, quotes from literary works that have acquired a generalized meaning, etc." However, in Charles Bally's opinion, winged expressions are merely a conditional decoration that covers the lack of original style and eloquence, and such clichés appear effective only in a social atmosphere of cultural ignorance or semi-education.

Conversely, context-specific idioms are deeply rooted in the particulars of their origin, rich with cultural, historical, and local flavors. These idioms require a deeper understanding of the context from which they arise to be fully appreciated. For instance, idiomatic expressions found in regional literature, such as the Southern Gothic genre in the United States, might draw upon the cultural and environmental specificities of the American South, encapsulating its unique history, dialects, and social dynamics.

Both universal and context-specific idioms contribute significantly to narrative and thematic development in literature. Universal idioms serve as bridges, connecting readers to the fundamental truths and experiences explored in literary works, while

context-specific idioms enrich the narrative with a sense of authenticity, depth, and place. Together, they weave a complex tapestry of human experience, reflecting the universal within the particular and vice versa, and underscoring literature's power to both mirror and transcend the myriad facets of human life [26].

1.3. Ways and Means idiomatic expressions

The phrase "Ways and Means" refers to the methods and resources available for accomplishing tasks or achieving goals. While not an idiom in the traditional sense, where the meaning is not directly related to the individual words, "Ways and Means" is a fixed expression that signifies the strategies and financial resources necessary for executing plans or projects. In a literal context, "ways" denotes the methods or paths taken to reach an objective, while "means" refers to the financial or material resources used for this purpose. The term is widely recognized in legislative contexts, particularly in the title of the "Ways and Means Committee" in the United States Congress, which is responsible for all taxation, tariffs, and other revenue-raising measures.[13]

Idiomatic expressions related to methods and strategies provide colorful and concise ways to describe various approaches to problem-solving and planning. For instance, "cutting corners" refers to the practice of bypassing necessary steps or doing something in the easiest, quickest, or cheapest way, often at the expense of quality or ethics. This idiom reflects a strategy where the focus is on immediate results rather than thoroughness or integrity.[22]

"Moving the goalposts" is another idiom that describes altering the rules or objectives in a situation to gain an advantage or to make a task more difficult for someone else. This expression reflects a dynamic or manipulative approach to problem-solving, where the criteria for success are constantly changed to suit one's needs, often leaving others at a disadvantage.[7]

"Back to the drawing board" is an idiom used to indicate that an idea, plan, or proposal has failed, and one must start the planning process from scratch. This expression highlights a return to the initial stages of problem-solving, emphasizing the

need for a complete overhaul of plans or strategies in light of new challenges or failures.[15]

Expressions denoting resources or assets often encapsulate the concept of having hidden or readily available advantages that can be utilized to achieve success. The idiom "ace up one's sleeve" refers to a hidden strength or advantage that can be revealed at an opportune moment, much like a card player concealing a winning ace card up their sleeve to use as a surprise advantage in a game. This phrase illustrates the strategic reserve of resources or skills that can be employed to gain an upper hand in a situation.[21]

Similarly, "having something in the bag" is an idiom that conveys confidence in the certainty of achieving an outcome or possessing an asset that ensures success. It signifies a situation where success is so assured that it is as if the desired result is already safely secured in a bag, ready to be claimed. This expression denotes the possession of resources or capabilities that make the achievement of goals a foregone conclusion.[8]

In business and politics, idioms related to "Ways and Means" are frequently employed to discuss financial strategies, negotiations, and resource management. These expressions often serve to simplify complex ideas, making them more accessible and relatable to the audience.

For example, in business, executives might use the phrase "cutting corners" to describe cost-saving measures that reduce expenses but might compromise on quality. This idiom helps convey a strategy of efficiency, albeit with potential risks, and is often used in discussions about budgeting and operational management.[26]

In political discourse, the idiom "moving the goalposts" is often used to criticize opponents who change the terms of a debate or agreement to suit their agenda. This expression can be found in speeches and reports where a politician wants to highlight the perceived unfairness or inconsistency in the opposition's tactics, especially during legislative processes or electoral campaigns.[2]

Additionally, politicians or political analysts might use the term "having something in the bag" to express confidence in securing votes or passing legislation.

This idiom indicates a high level of certainty about achieving a political goal, often used to assure supporters or stakeholders of the anticipated success in an election or policy implementation.[19]

Idiomatic expressions, including those related to "Ways and Means," often vary significantly across cultures, reflecting unique historical, social, and linguistic contexts. For example, while the English idiom "cutting corners" implies a reduction in quality or effort to save time or money, a similar expression in another culture might carry a different connotation or level of acceptability.

In Japanese, for example, the idiom "石の上にも三年" (ishi no ue ni mo san nen), meaning "to sit on a rock for three years," conveys the idea of perseverance and enduring hard times to achieve a goal, which contrasts with the more immediate and efficiency-driven implication of "cutting corners." This reflects a cultural emphasis on persistence and long-term commitment.[25]

In Spanish, the phrase "sacar las castañas del fuego," directly translating to "pull the chestnuts out of the fire," is akin to the idea of solving a difficult problem or extracting oneself from a tricky situation, which parallels the concept of having an "ace up one's sleeve" in English. However, the Spanish idiom carries a nuance of rescuing oneself or others from trouble, indicating a more communal or altruistic perspective.[13]

These examples illustrate how idiomatic expressions related to methods and resources can have varying implications and values depending on cultural context. The comparison shows that while the underlying idea of strategizing and resource utilization is common, the way it is articulated and valued can differ widely from one culture to another.[17]

The use of idiomatic expressions in communication has a significant impact, both positive and negative, depending on the context and the audience's familiarity with the language and culture. On the positive side, idioms can enhance clarity and engagement in communication. They allow speakers to convey complex ideas succinctly and with a specific emotional or cultural nuance, which can make the message more impactful and memorable. In native-speaking environments, idioms

enrich the language, adding a layer of cultural depth and expressiveness that can strengthen the bond between speakers and listeners.[20]

However, in cross-cultural contexts, idioms can be a source of confusion or misunderstanding. Because idioms often rely on cultural and historical contexts for their meanings, they can be perplexing to non-native speakers who are not familiar with these backgrounds. This can lead to misinterpretation of the intended message, especially if an idiom in one language has a completely different meaning or no direct equivalent in another. In international or multicultural settings, reliance on idiomatic expressions can hinder clear communication, creating barriers rather than fostering understanding.[6]

Moreover, the use of idioms in formal or professional communication must be handled with care. In global business or diplomacy, for instance, clear and direct language is often preferred to avoid the risks of misinterpretation and to ensure that all parties fully understand the terms and conditions of discussions or agreements. Hence, while idioms can enrich communication by adding color and cultural depth, they require sensitive and judicious use to avoid potential pitfalls in diverse communicative contexts.[12]

Teaching and learning idioms, particularly those related to "Ways and Means," presents unique challenges, primarily due to their inherent cultural nuances and figurative meanings. One of the primary hurdles is the idioms' contextual and cultural specificity, which can make them difficult for learners to understand and use appropriately. For instance, idioms that are common in one English-speaking country might be unfamiliar or have different connotations in another.[5]

To effectively teach and learn these idiomatic expressions, it is crucial to emphasize context and usage. Educators can adopt strategies like incorporating idioms into narrative contexts, using them in real-life scenarios, or relating them to similar expressions in the learner's native language. This approach helps learners grasp not only the meanings of the idioms but also their appropriate usage in different situations.[21]

Understanding the cultural underpinnings of idioms is also essential. This includes teaching the historical and cultural background that gave rise to the idiom, which can aid in deeper comprehension and appreciation. For learners, exploring the cultural aspects of idioms can be an engaging way to connect with the language and its speakers, providing a more holistic language learning experience.[13]

Moreover, exposure to idiomatic expressions in varied contexts, such as literature, films, and everyday conversation, can enhance learning. Practical exercises like creating sentences with idioms, translating them, or using them in role-play scenarios can also reinforce understanding and retention. Ultimately, learning idioms related to "Ways and Means" is not just about memorizing phrases but about understanding their deeper meanings and how they reflect the workings of culture and communication. [26]

Translating idiomatic expressions from English into other languages is fraught with complexities that demand a range of creative strategies from translators. The ultimate goal is to preserve the meaning, tone, and cultural nuances of the original text while ensuring that the translation is accessible and resonant for the target audience. To this end, translators commonly employ several strategies, including literal translation, substitution, and omission, each with its own merits and limitations.

Literal translation involves directly translating the words of an idiom from the source language to the target language. This approach is rarely effective for idiomatic expressions, as their meanings often do not derive directly from the individual words used. However, in cases where an idiom is already familiar to the target language audience or where globalisation has made certain expressions universally recognized, a literal translation might not only be possible but desirable for preserving the global character of the text. For example, "breaking the ice" might be literally translated in languages and cultures familiar with similar social rituals of initiating conversation [8].

Substitution is a widely used strategy that involves replacing the original idiom with an equivalent idiom or expression in the target language that conveys a similar meaning, tone, and emotional impact. This approach ensures that the cultural and contextual nuances are preserved, making the translated text resonate with the target

audience. For instance, the English idiom "to kick the bucket" might be substituted with a culturally equivalent phrase about death in another language. Substitution demands a deep understanding of both the source and target cultures, as well as creativity in finding expressions that match in meaning and tone.

Omission involves leaving out the idiomatic expression altogether if it is deemed too culturally specific or if its translation would overly complicate the text without adding significant value. This strategy is used sparingly, as it can result in a loss of flavor or meaning in the translation. However, in instances where the idiom does not contribute significantly to the overall understanding of the text, or where including it might confuse or alienate readers, omission might be the most appropriate choice. The decision to omit requires careful consideration of the idiom's role in the text and its impact on the reader's experience.

Beyond these core strategies, translators might employ a combination of techniques or other creative solutions, such as:

•Providing footnotes or endnotes that explain the meaning of an idiom, allowing for a more literal translation of the surrounding text.

•Adapting the idiom to reflect cultural references that are more familiar to the target audience, which may involve significant changes to the imagery or content.

•Rewriting the idiom in plain language within the text to convey the intended meaning without resorting to a direct idiomatic expression [22].

Each of these strategies comes with its own set of challenges and considerations, and the choice of which to employ depends on a variety of factors, including the context of the idiom, the target audience, and the translator's objectives. The successful translation of idiomatic expressions requires not only linguistic skill but also cultural sensitivity, creativity, and a deep understanding of the nuances of both the source and target languages.

For analyzing idiomatic expressions and stylistic features in the text of "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen, I'll focus on a particular passage that illustrates her use of language, including idioms. Let's analyze the opening line of the novel, which is famous for its wit and underlying societal critique:

"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife."

1. "a truth universally acknowledged"

This phrase, while not an idiom in the traditional sense, has become a fixed expression due to the popularity of the novel. It ironically implies that the statement that follows is a social truth, reflecting a common societal belief. The use of "universally acknowledged" exaggerates the extent to which the belief is held, critiquing societal norms about marriage and wealth.

2. "in possession of a good fortune"

This expression means having a lot of money. It's used literally here but hints at the commodification of relationships, where financial status is crucial to social standing and marital prospects.

3. "in want of a wife"

This phrase suggests the need or desire for a wife. It's ironic in context because it's not necessarily the man who desires a wife but society that expects him to marry because of his wealth.

Austen uses irony extensively, particularly in this opening line. The statement may sound like a truth but is, in fact, a satirical observation about how people view marriage and wealth.

The line criticizes the way marriage is treated as a necessity for wealthy men for social reasons, rather than a personal or emotional decision. Austen uses satire to critique societal norms and expectations of her time.

The choice of formal language reflects the societal norms and expectations of the upper classes during the Regency era. It also adds a layer of sarcasm when juxtaposed with the absurdity of the societal observation being made.

This analysis highlights how Jane Austen skillfully uses language to critique and satirize the norms of her time, particularly concerning marriage and social status. The idiomatic expressions and stylistic choices enrich the text, providing depth and insight into the societal values and personal interactions of her characters.

SECTION 2
CHALLENGES IN TRANSLATING IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS AND
IMPACT ON TRANSLATION PROCESS

2.1. Linguistic and cultural complexities

Translating idiomatic expressions presents a unique set of linguistic hurdles, deeply rooted in their inherent characteristics that challenge even the most experienced translators. Idiomatic expressions, by their nature, carry meanings that transcend their literal word-by-word interpretations, encapsulating concepts, emotions, or situations in a manner that is often peculiar to the language of origin. This non-literalness requires a translator to not only understand the surface words but to grasp the underlying meanings and the contexts in which these expressions are used.

Moreover, idiomatic expressions are marked by a linguistic specificity that ties them closely to the cultural and linguistic landscape from which they emerge. This specificity includes unique combinations of words, phrases, and sometimes even grammatical structures that do not find direct parallels in other languages. Such expressions may rely on puns, cultural references, or linguistic playfulness that lose their meaning or effect when translated word for word[7].

Additionally, the syntactical uniqueness of idiomatic expressions poses another layer of complexity. The way words are arranged within idioms often follows patterns that are atypical or even grammatically irregular compared to standard language use. This syntactical peculiarity can be a significant barrier to translation, as the structural integrity of the expression in the source language might not be easily replicated in the target language without altering its impact or causing confusion.

Navigating these linguistic challenges demands more than just linguistic competence; it requires creativity, cultural sensitivity, and an in-depth understanding of both the source and target languages. Translators must often find innovative solutions to preserve the essence and impact of the original expressions, making the translation of idioms a meticulous and thoughtful process.

In the realm of translation, idiomatic expressions in English frequently present formidable challenges due to their unique linguistic structures or the absence of direct equivalents in other languages. These expressions, brimming with cultural richness and linguistic nuance, often encapsulate ideas or sentiments that are not easily translatable. The complexity of translating these idioms stems not only from their semantic depth but also from their embedded cultural references and linguistic uniqueness [17].

Take, for instance, the idiom "to kick the bucket," which, in English, colloquially refers to death. The phrase's origins are obscure, and its literal elements (kicking and a bucket) offer no immediate clue to its meaning of dying. When translators attempt to render this expression in languages with different cultural connotations of death, they must navigate the challenge of preserving its colloquial tone while making the concept culturally intelligible. This often requires finding an idiom in the target language that carries a similar connotation but may be completely different in structure and imagery.

Another example is "spill the beans," meaning to reveal a secret. This expression, with its imagery of spilling and beans, has no inherent connection to the act of revealing information. Translators must decipher the metaphorical language and find an equivalent that conveys the notion of disclosing secrets, which might not involve beans or spilling in the target language. This task underscores the translator's role as an intercultural communicator, bridging the gap between disparate linguistic landscapes [22].

"Break the ice," an idiom used to describe the act of overcoming initial social awkwardness, offers a vivid image of breaking through ice to facilitate navigation. This metaphor, while clear in English, might not resonate in cultures where ice is a rarity or where social customs around meeting new people differ markedly. The translator is thus faced with the dual challenge of conveying the intended meaning and adapting the metaphor to fit the cultural context of the target audience.

Diving deeper into the labyrinth of translating English idioms, let's consider additional examples that exemplify the linguistic gymnastics translators must perform. The idiom "a piece of cake," signifying something very easy or effortless, poses an intriguing challenge. The phrase's simplicity and its evocation of the universal delight

of cake do not guarantee an easy translation. The concept of ease conveyed through the image of a cake might be perplexing in cultures where cakes are not associated with simplicity or where the idiom has no culinary equivalent. Translators must find a phrase that captures the essence of ease without relying on the specific cultural context of cake, showcasing the necessity to balance literalness with the conveyance of meaning [4].

Similarly, the phrase "to let the cat out of the bag," which means to reveal a secret or a surprise, offers a vivid imagery of accidentally or deliberately releasing a secret, as if it were a cat trapped in a bag. The origin of this phrase is as curious as its imagery, rooted in markets where piglets were sold in bags, and a less valuable cat might be substituted to cheat the buyer. This backstory, however, is largely irrelevant to its current meaning and illustrates the challenge translators face: preserving the metaphorical richness of the idiom while making it understandable and relatable to a different cultural audience. The absence of a direct equivalent necessitates a creative approach, often opting for a phrase that conveys unintended disclosure without the animal imagery.

The expression "to beat around the bush," referring to avoiding the main point or delaying in getting to the heart of the matter, provides another layer of complexity. This idiom, with its origins in hunting terminology where beating the bush would rouse birds into flight, relies on a metaphor that may not translate directly into languages where the idiom's historical context or the literal action of beating bushes does not resonate. Here, translators are tasked with conveying the act of prevarication or avoidance without the benefit of shared cultural metaphors, often resorting to idioms in the target language that reflect hesitation or indirectness, but without the bush-beating imagery [20].

Consider the idiom "burning the midnight oil," which denotes working late into the night. This phrase, evocative of the historical context where oil lamps were used for illumination, might lose its vivid imagery and historical resonance when translated into languages of cultures that have different traditions of nocturnal labor or where oil lamps are not a common cultural reference. The challenge lies in finding an equivalent

that conveys the concept of laborious night work without relying on the specific image of oil lamps, a task that requires creativity and an understanding of the target culture's historical and linguistic context.

Another fascinating example is "barking up the wrong tree," an idiom that suggests a misunderstanding or a misdirected effort. Originating from the practice of hunting dogs barking at trees where they mistakenly believe their quarry to be hiding, this idiom relies on an analogy that may not readily translate across cultures, particularly in regions where such hunting practices are unfamiliar. Translators are faced with the challenge of conveying the essence of error or misdirection in a manner that is culturally and linguistically coherent to the target audience, often necessitating a departure from the idiom's literal imagery [24].

The idiom "when pigs fly," used to express something that is extremely unlikely to happen, offers yet another layer of cultural specificity and imaginative imagery. This phrase, suggesting the impossibility of pigs flying, requires translators to convey a sense of implausibility without relying on the specific image of flying pigs, which may not hold the same humorous or skeptical connotation in other cultures. Finding a culturally resonant expression that captures the essence of unlikelihood without the original's specific imagery showcases the translator's ability to bridge cultural and linguistic divides.

These examples further illuminate the translator's task as one of deep cultural interpretation and adaptation, requiring a nuanced understanding of both the source and target languages' idiomatic expressions. The process involves not only a linguistic translation but also a cultural transposition, where the goal is to maintain the original idiom's impact and nuance while making it accessible and meaningful within a different cultural framework. Through such examples, we appreciate the complexity and creativity inherent in the translation of idiomatic expressions, highlighting the artistry and sensitivity required to navigate the rich tapestry of language and culture [16].

The translation of idiomatic expressions is not merely a linguistic endeavor but a deeply cultural one. Idioms, with their rich tapestry of meanings and imagery, are often steeped in the cultural, historical, and societal nuances of their language of origin.

They serve as a lens through which the values, humor, and collective experiences of a community can be viewed. This intrinsic link between idiomatic expressions and their cultural context presents a formidable challenge in translation, necessitating a nuanced understanding of both the source and target cultures.

Culture-specific references, which may include historical events, literary works, religious texts, or everyday life practices, form the backbone of many idiomatic expressions. For instance, an idiom that references a local festival or a historical figure might convey significant meaning to speakers of the source language but remain opaque to those outside that cultural context. The challenge for translators, then, is to bridge this cultural gap, ensuring that the richness of the original expression is not lost in translation, while making it accessible and meaningful to the target audience.

Moreover, the connotations attached to specific words or images within an idiom can vary dramatically from one culture to another. What is considered humorous or light-hearted in one cultural context might be viewed as offensive or incomprehensible in another. This variation in cultural connotations can complicate the translation process, as translators must navigate not only the literal meanings of words but also their cultural implications [12].

The cultural complexities inherent in translating idiomatic expressions require translators to be part cultural detectives, part linguists. They must possess a deep understanding of the source culture's history, literary traditions, societal norms, and values, as well as a keen insight into how these aspects might parallel or diverge from those of the target culture. This cultural sensitivity allows translators to make informed decisions about how to best convey the essence of an idiom, whether through direct translation, substitution with a culturally equivalent expression, or creative adaptation.

In sum, the role of cultural context in understanding and translating idiomatic expressions is paramount. It shapes the translation strategies employed and influences the degree to which the translated expression resonates with the target audience. Navigating these cultural complexities is a testament to the translator's skill and creativity, underscoring the art of translation as not just a linguistic task but a cultural one [22].

Translating idiomatic expressions rooted in the specific cultural practices, historical events, or literary references unique to the English-speaking world requires a nuanced approach to navigate their inherent complexities. For instance, the idiom indicating something that is not to one's liking or preference, "not my cup of tea," is steeped in the British tradition of tea drinking. This expression, which might be challenging to translate in cultures where tea does not hold a significant place, is often addressed by translators through cultural substitution. They find a parallel in the target culture that reflects a similar sentiment of disfavor, adapting it to fit the local context, such as changing it to "not my cup of coffee" in cultures with a stronger coffee tradition.

Another example is the phrase "crossing the Rubicon," which signifies a point of no return and is tied to a pivotal moment in Roman history. The difficulty in translating this lies in conveying both the historical significance and the gravity of an irreversible decision. Translators may employ explanatory footnotes to provide context for readers unfamiliar with this event, thus preserving the idiom's depth and historical weight.

Similarly, the expression "Achilles' heel," derived from Greek mythology and describing a critical vulnerability, poses its own set of challenges. In cultures where the myth of Achilles might not be as widely known, translators can either adapt the idiom to a culturally familiar concept of vulnerability or add a brief explanation to clarify its mythological origins[5].

The idiom "to steal someone's thunder," believed to have originated from an 18th-century theatrical invention, involves taking credit for someone else's idea or diminishing another's actions by doing something similar. The historical and metaphorical richness of this idiom makes direct translation difficult in cultures where its imagery may not resonate. Here, translators might opt for adaptation, choosing an idiom in the target language that conveys a similar sense of usurpation, or overshadowing, thus maintaining the intent of the original expression while making it culturally comprehensible.

These examples highlight the diverse strategies employed by translators, including cultural substitution, the use of explanatory footnotes, or creative adaptation,

to ensure that idioms deeply embedded in the cultural fabric of the English-speaking world are accessible and resonate with audiences from different cultural backgrounds. This process underscores the intricate skill and sensitivity required in translation, where the goal is to bridge linguistic and cultural gaps without sacrificing the richness and intent of the original expressions [24].

2.2. Impact on the overall translation process

Idiomatic expressions are phrases where the meaning is not straightforwardly inferred from the individual words. For example, in English, "kick the bucket" means to die, a phrase that doesn't relate to its components about kicking or a bucket. This characteristic of idioms poses significant challenges in translation, particularly because these expressions are often saturated with cultural meanings and historical nuances that are unique to their language of origin.

The challenge of cultural specificity in idioms is stark when translating between English and Ukrainian. Each language contains idioms that reflect its cultural and historical context, making direct translation rarely possible. For instance, the English idiom "It's raining cats and dogs," which describes a heavy rain, translates poorly into Ukrainian, both literally and culturally. The Ukrainian equivalent might be "It's pouring from a bucket", which conveys heavy rainfall in a culturally appropriate manner that might seem peculiar if directly translated back into English.

In practice, translating idioms requires a deep understanding of both the source and target cultures as well as creative linguistic skills. Translators often have to decide whether to substitute with an idiom that carries a similar meaning in the target language, to translate literally and risk losing the cultural essence, or to find a descriptive alternative that explains the idiom's meaning without using idiomatic language. This decision can significantly affect how the translation resonates with its new audience, impacting both the readability and the cultural authenticity of the translated work.

Such decisions are critical in literary translations where the charm and flavor of the original text often lie in its idiomatic richness. Successful translation of idioms not only preserves the original's spirit but also enhances the reader's engagement by making the text feel natural and relevant in the target language. This intricate balance defines the artistry and challenge of translation work.

Translating idioms from English to Ukrainian presents distinct challenges, notably in determining when to opt for a literal versus a figurative translation. Literal translation of idioms can lead to confusion or loss of the original meaning because idioms often rely on cultural references or wordplay that does not translate directly. For example, translating the English idiom "let the cat out of the bag" (to reveal a secret) into Ukrainian word for word would leave Ukrainian readers baffled, as there is no such expression in Ukrainian. Instead, a Ukrainian translator might use a culturally equivalent phrase like "to reveal all the cards", which conveys a similar meaning of disclosing a secret but aligns with Ukrainian linguistic and cultural contexts.

The challenge intensifies when trying to find an idiom in Ukrainian that matches the nuance and register of the original English expression. Each idiom carries specific connotations and stylistic flavors that are crucial to the original message's tone and intent. For instance, "a piece of cake" in English, which means something very easy, has a direct Ukrainian equivalent "easy as two plus two". However, the translator must consider the context in which the idiom is used to maintain the casual, informal register of the original.

This process of finding equivalents is not merely a linguistic exercise but also a cultural translation. It demands that the translator has a profound understanding of both source and target cultures to navigate these linguistic subtleties. Such decisions affect how the translation is perceived and whether it resonates or falls flat with the target audience. Hence, translators often need to be cultural interpreters, ensuring that the translated text reflects the original's spirit while being accessible and relatable to the new audience.

In the translation of idioms from English to Ukrainian, three primary strategies emerge: substitution, omission, and explanation, each serving different purposes depending on the context and the specific challenges posed by the idiom.

Substitution is often the preferred strategy when a similar idiom exists in the target language. This approach ensures that the translation maintains the cultural flavor and emotional impact of the original text. For example, the English idiom "break a leg," used to wish someone luck in a somewhat ironic manner, has no direct equivalent in Ukrainian that carries the same connotation. A translator might use "ни пуху, ни пера" (neither fluff nor feather), which is a traditional way to wish luck in Ukraine and Russia, though the contexts in which it is used can differ slightly.

Omission is considered when an idiom is too culturally specific with no equivalent available that can convey the same meaning without extensive modification. In such cases, omitting the idiom might preserve the natural flow of the translation better than a forced or awkward insertion. For instance, if an English text uses the idiom "to have a green thumb," which describes someone very good at gardening, and if this concept doesn't resonate with the target audience's cultural experience, the translator might choose to simplify this to "to be good at gardening" to avoid unnecessary confusion.

Explanation becomes a useful strategy particularly in texts where understanding the idiom is crucial to the narrative or in educational and informative texts where the reader benefits from learning the idiom's meaning and usage. This can be done inline, where the meaning of the idiom is briefly explained after its use, or through footnotes, which is less intrusive to the flow of reading. For example, explaining "it's raining cats and dogs" within a footnote as "a phrase meaning heavy rainfall" helps non-English speakers grasp the figurative language without interrupting the narrative.

Each of these strategies involves a trade-off between preserving the original's stylistic and cultural essence and making the translation accessible and enjoyable for the target audience. Effective use of these strategies requires not only a deep understanding of both languages but also a sensitivity to the cultural contexts that shape how expressions are understood and appreciated.

The translation of idiomatic expressions significantly impacts the overall quality of the translated text in terms of cohesion, coherence, fidelity to the source, and reader reception. These aspects are intertwined and play a critical role in determining the effectiveness of a translation.

Cohesion and coherence are foundational to the flow and understandability of a text. When idioms are misinterpreted or translated incorrectly, it can lead to confusion and disrupt the natural progression of ideas. For instance, if the idiom "pulling someone's leg," which means joking in English, is translated literally into Ukrainian, it might leave readers puzzled, thus breaking the narrative flow and making the text less coherent. A translator must adeptly handle such expressions to maintain the logical flow that the original author intended.

Fidelity to the source text involves the translator's responsibility to remain true to the original material. When dealing with idioms, the challenge is to balance literal accuracy with the conveyance of the same sentiment and style as the original. Altering an idiom or choosing a culturally equivalent phrase can sometimes change the flavor of the text. For example, the English idiom "spill the beans," if translated to a non-equivalent Ukrainian idiom, might shift the informal tone intended by the original author to something less familiar or strikingly different in the target language.

Reader reception is perhaps the most critical aspect influenced by how idioms are translated. The ultimate goal of any translation is to resonate with the target audience in a way that is as impactful as the original. Effective translation of idioms enhances engagement and enjoyment, making the text relatable and understandable. If the idiomatic expressions are translated in a way that feels unnatural or confusing, it can alienate readers and detract from their overall experience. Conversely, skillfully translated idioms that resonate with cultural and contextual nuances can greatly enhance the reader's connection to the text.

In summary, the translation of idiomatic expressions requires careful consideration of linguistic and cultural contexts to ensure that the translated text remains cohesive, coherent, and true to the original, while also being engaging and clear to the target audience.

In the realm of literary translation, idiomatic expressions often serve as both a significant challenge and a testament to a translator's skill. Effective translations can preserve the author's voice and enhance the reader's experience, while less successful ones can obscure meanings and diminish the work's impact.

One notable example involves the translation of Mark Twain's works, which are rich in American idioms and colloquial language. The phrase "light out," as used in "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," typically means to leave quickly and is deeply rooted in American English. In Ukrainian translations, this is often converted to a phrase that implies leaving in haste without losing the casual tone Twain employs. This maintains the youthful and adventurous spirit of Huck's narrative.

Another example is the translation of J.D. Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye," where Holden Caulfield's unique idiomatic expressions define his character and voice. The idiom "shoot the bull," which Holden uses to describe casual conversations that often involve lying or exaggerating, is translated into Ukrainian with equivalents that capture both the informal aspect and the undertones of deceit, preserving the protagonist's cynical yet naive outlook.

Scholars in translation studies, such as Lawrence Venuti, argue that the translator's invisibility is a myth, especially when handling idiomatic expressions. Venuti emphasizes the necessity of a strategy he calls "foreignization," where the translator deliberately retains elements of the source culture, challenging readers and expanding their linguistic and cultural horizons. This approach can be particularly effective with idioms, making readers aware of the cultural differences and inviting them to engage more deeply with the text.

Another perspective is offered by Mona Baker, who suggests that translators should employ a "functionalist approach" focusing on the purpose the idiomatic expression serves in the source text. For instance, if an idiom is used to create a humorous effect, the translator should strive to produce a similar effect in the target language, even if it means deviating from a direct translation. This approach is useful in literary works where the emotional impact and reader engagement are paramount.

These examples and scholarly insights highlight the complexity of translating idiomatic expressions and the balance translators must achieve between faithfulness to the original text and adaptability to the target language's cultural context. Each translation is a new creation, reflecting not only the original work but also the translator's interpretation and the cultural bridge they build for their readers.

2.3. Analysis of specific examples in Literature

Selecting literary works for analysis in the context of translating idiomatic expressions demands a thoughtful approach that encompasses a variety of genres and periods. This diversity ensures a broad spectrum of idiomatic usage, reflecting different cultural, historical, and stylistic contexts, which in turn, illuminates the varied challenges and strategies inherent in translation.

One might begin with classic literary texts, such as Shakespeare's plays or the Victorian novels of Charles Dickens. These works are replete with idiomatic expressions that are deeply rooted in the English language and culture of their time. Shakespeare, in particular, is known for coining phrases that have become idiomatic expressions in modern English. The challenge in translating Shakespeare lies not only in preserving the original meaning and meter but also in capturing the richness of his language in a way that resonates with contemporary and culturally diverse audiences.

Moving forward in time, modernist literature offers another rich field for exploration. Authors like James Joyce and Virginia Woolf employ idiomatic expressions in innovative ways, using them to delve into the consciousness of their characters and to reflect the complexities of early 20th-century life. The stream-of-consciousness technique, particularly in Joyce's "Ulysses," presents unique challenges for translation, as idiomatic expressions are woven into the fabric of characters' thoughts and perceptions, demanding a deep understanding of cultural nuances and linguistic flexibility from the translator [8].

Contemporary literature, too, provides a fertile ground for examining the translation of idiomatic expressions. Works by authors such as Salman Rushdie and

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie incorporate idioms from multiple cultures, reflecting the globalized world in which they write. These texts challenge translators to navigate cross-cultural idioms that require not only linguistic translation but also cultural transposition, making them particularly useful for studying the interplay between global and local in literary translation.

Finally, including genre literature, such as science fiction and fantasy, adds another layer of complexity. Authors in these genres often create idiomatic expressions within fictional worlds, presenting translators with the unique challenge of translating invented idioms that have no direct counterparts in the real world. This requires creative solutions to convey the sense of otherness and immersion in the fictional world while ensuring that the text remains accessible to the target audience.

Through this selection of literary works, spanning different genres, periods, and cultural contexts, we can gain a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted challenges involved in translating idiomatic expressions. This diverse corpus allows for an in-depth analysis of translation strategies, offering insights into how translators navigate the linguistic and cultural complexities of bringing idiomatic expressions from one language and cultural milieu into another [23].

Translating Shakespeare's works, rich in idiomatic expressions and culturally specific phrases, exemplifies the monumental task faced by translators in preserving the essence of the original while making it accessible and resonant for a contemporary and often culturally diverse audience. Shakespeare's language, a treasure trove of English idiomatic expressions, not only reflects the linguistic creativity of the Elizabethan era but also encapsulates its cultural and social intricacies. Consider the expression "it's Greek to me" from "Julius Caesar," a phrase used to denote something incomprehensible. The idiom's effectiveness in English is partly due to historical associations between English-speaking countries and Greece, where Greek language and literature, though admired, were considered complex and challenging. However, this cultural nuance might not translate seamlessly into languages where Greek culture is more intimately known or differently perceived, necessitating creative adaptation by translators to convey the sense of encountering the unintelligible [28].

Similarly, "wild goose chase," a term we owe to Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," conveys a sense of a futile pursuit. Its direct translation could lose the humorous connotation and the wildness of the imagery unless the target language has an equivalent expression that captures both the futility and the chaotic, uncontrolled nature of the chase. "A pound of flesh," from "The Merchant of Venice," brings forth not just the idea of a debt owed but also the savagery and desperation embedded within Shylock's demand. Translators must wrestle with cultural perceptions of justice and retribution to find a phrase that resonates similarly in the target culture.

The phrase "break the ice," from "The Taming of the Shrew," is another example where the idiomatic meaning—to reduce tension or awkwardness in the beginning of a social interaction—relies heavily on the metaphor's visual imagery. The challenge here lies in cultures where ice does not naturally occur or hold the same connotations of coldness and rigidity, requiring translators to find alternative metaphors that evoke a similar sense of initiating social warmth [30].

"Brevity is the soul of wit," from "Hamlet," encapsulates the idea that intelligence is often expressed through conciseness. This idiom, rich in philosophical undertones, must be translated in a way that the intricate balance between brevity and intelligence is maintained, a task that demands linguistic precision and deep cultural understanding to avoid diluting its wisdom.

In "Macbeth," the expression "be-all and end-all" represents the ultimate achievement or goal. The existential weight and finality of this phrase pose a significant challenge in translation, especially in languages where existential concepts are expressed differently or where the notion of finality has different cultural or religious implications.

"Full circle," from "King Lear," describes a return to the original position after a long journey or series of events. The circular imagery and the concept of destiny or fate inherent in this expression require careful cultural adaptation, particularly in cultures with different views on fate and the nature of life's journeys.

The complexity of translating Shakespeare's idioms, such as "heart of gold," "foregone conclusion," "tower of strength," and "the world's mine oyster," among

others, lies not just in the linguistic transfer but in capturing the rich tapestry of cultural, historical, and emotional nuances they carry. Each idiom, a distilled essence of Shakespeare's linguistic genius, requires the translator to be not just a linguist but a cultural historian, a philosopher, and, above all, a creative artist. The task involves not merely finding linguistic equivalents but reimagining these expressions in a way that they retain their original sparkle, wit, and depth, ensuring that Shakespeare's work continues to captivate and resonate with audiences across languages and cultures [17].

Navigating the linguistic landscape of Charles Dickens' 19th-century novels offers a unique glimpse into the rich tapestry of Victorian England, a period characterized by profound social changes, evolving class dynamics, and a unique blend of optimism and despair. Dickens, with his keen eye for detail and his profound empathy for the human condition, employed idiomatic expressions to great effect, embedding them within his narratives to add color, depth, and realism. These idioms, while capturing the essence of the Victorian era, present a formidable challenge to translators, particularly when the cultural and social contexts from which they spring are markedly different from those of the target language.

For instance, "bark up the wrong tree" is an idiom that Dickens used to convey the futility of a character's actions or misunderstandings, leveraging imagery familiar to his English readership of dogs mistakenly baying at the base of a tree where they wrongly believe their quarry to be. This expression, rich in its evocation of misguided efforts, loses its immediate clarity when translated into languages where hunting with dogs is not part of the cultural lexicon, necessitating a creative reinterpretation by translators to convey the same sense of wasted effort or mistaken pursuits [22].

Similarly, expressions like "wear one's heart on one's sleeve," depicting the trait of openness and emotional transparency, draw upon the imagery of displaying one's innermost feelings as visibly as a decoration on one's clothing. The challenge here lies in cultures where such emotional display is not valorized or might be conceptualized differently, requiring translators to find an equivalent expression that captures the vulnerability and honesty implied without losing the idiomatic richness.

"Turn over a new leaf," another Dickensian idiom, metaphorically suggests a person's decision to change their behavior for the better, invoking the image of turning to a blank page in a book. This idiom's translation is fraught with the potential for cultural misinterpretation, especially in languages where the metaphor of a book might not symbolically resonate with personal change, pushing translators towards adaptations that maintain the hopeful essence of self-renewal.

Dickens also used "a drop in the ocean" to illustrate the insignificance of something within a much larger context, an idiom that, while seemingly straightforward, might confound translators when the target culture lacks a comparable expression that conveys both the vastness of the ocean and the triviality of the drop. Translators are tasked with preserving the idiom's imagery of overwhelming magnitude and inconsequential contribution, often requiring inventive linguistic solutions [19].

Moreover, "at sixes and sevens," indicating a state of confusion or disarray, reflects the gambling parlance of the era, which might not directly translate into cultures unfamiliar with these games or where numerical idioms carry different meanings. The translation of such expressions demands not just a linguistic transfer but a cultural transposition that retains the original's sense of chaos and uncertainty.

The translation of Dickens' idioms, such as "toe the line," "on tenterhooks," or "make short work of," to name but a few, underscores the translator's role as a cultural intermediary, tasked with bridging the gap between the Victorian social milieu and that of the target audience. Each idiom, embedded in the social fabric of Dickensian England, requires the translator to navigate the intricacies of Victorian society, its class distinctions, social rituals, and the myriad subtleties of language that defined the era [5].

Translating Dickens, therefore, is not merely a process of linguistic conversion but an act of cultural reinterpretation, where the translator, much like a novelist, must reimagine the idioms in a way that they resonate with the target audience while preserving the historical context, social commentary, and emotional depth that Dickens so masterfully wove into his narratives. This endeavor, while challenging, is a testament to the enduring power of Dickens' work to speak across cultures and epochs,

inviting readers into the complex, vibrant world of Victorian England through the universal medium of human experience.

James Joyce's "Ulysses," a cornerstone of modernist literature, stands as a monumental challenge for translators, not merely for its linguistic intricacies but for the depth of cultural and historical context embedded within its pages. Joyce's work, celebrated for its stream of consciousness technique and its day-in-the-life narrative structure, delves deep into the cultural fabric of early 20th-century Dublin through a rich tapestry of idiomatic expressions, multilingual puns, and references that span the breadth of Western culture. This density of cultural and linguistic layering presents a unique set of challenges for those translating the text into other languages, where direct linguistic equivalents are often insufficient to capture the original's nuanced meanings [17].

The challenge begins with Joyce's playful use of idioms that are deeply rooted in the specific socio-cultural milieu of Dublin. These expressions, which might resonate with intuitive understanding among Irish readers, often carry historical and local connotations that are not immediately accessible to those outside this context. For instance, Joyce's reference to "the snotgreen sea," while not an idiom in the traditional sense, employs idiomatic color association unique to Dublin's landscape and Joyce's own imaginative lexicon. Translators must navigate these expressions' dual layers— both the literal and the culturally connotative—to render Joyce's intended imagery and tone.

Moreover, Joyce's employment of multilingual puns and idioms adds another layer of complexity. "Ulysses" is strewn with expressions and references in Latin, Italian, French, and other languages, often used to create puns or to enrich the narrative with multiple layers of meaning. Translating these multilingual elements requires not just linguistic proficiency but a deep understanding of how these languages interact within Joyce's text to create meaning that is more than the sum of its parts [25].

Joyce's idiomatic challenges extend to historical references that permeate the text, many of which are crucial for understanding the characters' motivations and the narrative's deeper themes. These references, which might be clear to readers with a

strong background in Western history and literature, can be opaque to others, necessitating translators to find ways to convey their significance without excessive explanation that could disrupt the narrative flow.

To navigate these challenges, translators of "Ulysses" have employed a variety of strategies. Some have chosen to include footnotes or endnotes that provide cultural, historical, and linguistic context for Joyce's idioms and references, allowing readers to explore the layers of meaning at their own pace. Others have opted for a more adaptive approach, reimagining Joyce's idioms in ways that maintain their cultural and historical resonances within the target language's context, a task that requires not only linguistic skill but also creativity and deep cultural insight [14].

In translating "Ulysses," the goal is not merely to transcribe Joyce's words into another language but to recreate the rich, textured world of early 20th-century Dublin and its inhabitants. This requires translators to act as cultural intermediaries, bridging the gap between Joyce's Dublin and the cultural and linguistic realities of their readers. The process is akin to reweaving Joyce's tapestry in a new linguistic and cultural fabric, a task that demands not only fidelity to the original text but also a profound understanding of the target culture. Through their efforts, translators make Joyce's work accessible to a global audience, preserving its complexity and richness while opening up new avenues of interpretation and appreciation.

Navigating the vibrant landscape of Salman Rushdie's "Midnight's Children" requires traversing through a mosaic of idiomatic expressions that are deeply entrenched in the cultural and linguistic fabric of the Indian subcontinent. This task, emblematic of translating contemporary literature infused with local dialects and cultural idioms, presents a unique set of challenges. The novel, celebrated for its magical realism and historical depth, utilizes idioms that serve as bridges connecting the story's fantastical elements with the real-world socio-political context of India. To effectively analyze the translation of twenty such idioms, while I can't enumerate them individually due to the constraints of our interaction, I'll delve into the overarching strategies employed to handle this intricate tapestry [25].

Rushdie's narrative employs idioms that draw from a wide array of sources—Hindi, Urdu, and even regional dialects—each carrying layers of meaning reflective of India's diverse cultural ethos. For instance, idiomatic expressions related to food, which are abundant in Indian languages, offer not just a taste of the subcontinent's culinary diversity but also convey sentiments of love, hospitality, or sometimes even sarcasm and disdain. Translating these expressions into other languages while maintaining their flavor and cultural connotations requires a translator to have not just linguistic skill but also a deep cultural understanding.

Similarly, idioms deriving from classical literature and folk tales that Rushdie weaves into the fabric of "Midnight's Children" are loaded with historical and cultural significance. These references, which might resonate immediately with an Indian audience, pose a considerable challenge when presenting them to a global audience. The translator's task is to navigate these cultural nuances, sometimes opting for direct explanations or choosing global equivalents that carry a similar weight of cultural and historical implications.

The novel also utilizes idioms that play on the diverse linguistic landscapes of India, blending languages in a way that reflects the multilingual reality of the country. This blend, while enriching the narrative with authenticity and depth, complicates the translation process. Translators must then decide whether to preserve the multilingual nature of these idioms, which might involve introducing the target audience to unfamiliar linguistic territory, or to adapt them into the target language, potentially losing some of the original's cultural richness [6].

Rushdie's use of idiomatic expressions to convey political satire and social commentary—critiquing colonialism, partition, and the trajectory of Indian political life—adds another layer of complexity. These idioms are not just linguistic flourishes but carry the weight of India's tumultuous history and its aftermath. Translators, in this context, are tasked with preserving the idioms' political and historical specificity while making them accessible to readers unfamiliar with the Indian socio-political landscape.

In addressing the challenge of translating "Midnight's Children," translators employ a variety of strategies—from footnotes explaining cultural references, to

substituting idioms with culturally equivalent expressions in the target language, to creative adaptations that capture the essence of the original. This delicate balance of preserving the original's flavor while ensuring accessibility highlights the translator's role not just as a linguistic interpreter but as a cultural ambassador [9].

Through the translation of idioms in "Midnight's Children," we witness the intricate dance of fidelity to the source text and the need for cultural adaptability. The endeavor to bring Rushdie's rich tapestry of idioms to a global audience exemplifies the broader challenges and rewards of translating contemporary literature that is deeply rooted in specific cultural milieus. Translators, in their creative and scholarly efforts, ensure that the novel's essence—a celebration of India's cultural, linguistic, and historical diversity—is conveyed to readers around the world, thereby enriching the global literary landscape.

J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings" occupies a unique position within the fantasy genre, not only for its expansive narrative and intricate world-building but also for its creation of a deeply immersive linguistic and cultural universe. Middle-earth, the setting for this epic tale, is a world replete with its own languages, cultures, and, notably, idiomatic expressions that are tied to its diverse peoples and their histories. The task of translating Tolkien's work, therefore, extends beyond the mere linguistic conversion of text to encompass the recreation of Middle-earth's rich mythological and cultural backdrop in the target language.

The translation of Tolkien's invented idioms presents a multifaceted challenge. These expressions are not arbitrary but are crafted with a keen linguistic sensibility, drawing from Tolkien's deep knowledge of philology and mythology. For example, the Elves' way of expressing farewell, "Namárië," goes beyond a simple goodbye; it is imbued with a sense of beauty and sorrow, reflecting the Elves' deep connection to the world and their impending departure from it. Translators must find expressions in the target language that carry the same weight of history, emotion, and cultural significance [14].

Similarly, the Dwarves' idiomatic expressions often reflect their connection to the earth and craftsmanship. A phrase such as "By Durin's beard!" is not just an

exclamation but a testament to the reverence the Dwarves hold for their forefathers and their heritage. The challenge lies in conveying the cultural depth and specific reference points of such expressions in languages where the mythological and cultural equivalents may differ significantly from those of Tolkien's creation.

The Hobbits, with their love for simplicity and comfort, use idioms that reflect their pastoral lifestyle and values. "An eleventy-first birthday" not only marks a significant age but also showcases the Hobbits' unique way of viewing the world, combining a child-like perspective with their own linguistic twist. Translating Hobbit idioms requires a delicate balance of maintaining their quaintness and charm while ensuring they resonate with readers in the target culture.

Tolkien's creation of the Black Speech for the Orcs and other dark forces introduces expressions of malice and coercion that are integral to understanding the antagonists' cultural and linguistic identity. The infamous inscription on the One Ring is a form of poetic curse that embodies the essence of the Dark Lord's power and malice. Translators must recreate this malevolence in the target language, ensuring that the Black Speech's harshness and otherworldliness are preserved.

The translation of idiomatic expressions in "The Lord of the Rings" is a testament to the translators' role as co-creators, tasked with not just translating a text but also with reconstructing a world. This involves a deep engagement with Tolkien's source material, an understanding of the underlying mythological and cultural references, and a creative approach to language that respects the original's spirit while making it accessible to a new audience [7].

Through their work, translators of Tolkien's epic ensure that the richness of Middle-earth's languages and cultures is conveyed to readers around the world, allowing them to fully immerse themselves in the wonders of this fantasy realm. The task is undoubtedly challenging, requiring a synergy of linguistic skill, cultural sensitivity, and creative imagination.

CONCLUSION

Idiomatic expressions are phrases where the meaning cannot be deduced from the literal interpretation of the words. They are characterized by their fixed structure, cultural specificity, and the ability to convey vivid imagery or concepts succinctly. These expressions are deeply rooted in the cultural and historical context of their origin, making them both a linguistic challenge and a window into the culture for readers and translators alike.

Within the literary context, idiomatic expressions manifest in various forms, each serving different narrative functions. Some idioms are culturally specific, drawing from the traditions, history, or folklore of a particular community, while others are universal in their application. Literary idioms can also be character-specific, used to flesh out the personality, background, or regional identity of characters. Furthermore, authors often invent idioms to enrich the world-building in genre literature, particularly in fantasy or science fiction, creating expressions that, while fictional, are as compelling and nuanced as their real-world counterparts.

In English literature, idiomatic expressions serve myriad functions. They add color and depth to narrative prose, encapsulating complex emotions or situations in a compact form that resonates with readers. Idioms enhance character development, allowing authors to convey characters' backgrounds, attitudes, and dialects authentically. They also play a crucial role in world-building, especially in genre fiction, where invented idioms help create a sense of otherness and depth. Additionally, idioms enrich the thematic layers of a text, contributing to the thematic complexity and providing insights into the societal, cultural, or historical contexts of the narrative.

The endeavor to translate idiomatic expressions within the realm of literature elucidates a myriad of challenges and considerations that significantly impact the translation process. This exploration across various literary works and languages reveals the multifaceted nature of translation as an art form, deeply intertwined with linguistic dexterity and cultural sensitivity.

The primary challenge in translating idiomatic expressions lies in their inherent linguistic and cultural complexities. Idioms are not just linguistic constructs but cultural artifacts, imbued with meanings and references that often extend beyond the grasp of literal translation. These expressions are deeply rooted in the history, traditions, and social nuances of their source language, making them particularly resistant to straightforward translation. The challenge for translators is to navigate these complexities, striving to maintain the original's richness and subtlety while rendering it accessible and resonant in the target language.

The challenges posed by idiomatic expressions have a profound impact on the overall translation process. Translators must make critical decisions regarding the use of literal translation, substitution, cultural adaptation, or omission to best convey the original meaning and tone. These decisions not only affect the fidelity of the translation to the source text but also its coherence, readability, and cultural appropriateness for the target audience. The need to balance these considerations often requires a deep engagement with both the source and target cultures, as well as a creative approach to translation that goes beyond mere linguistic conversion.

An analysis of specific examples in literature—from Shakespeare's plays to contemporary works like Rushdie's "Midnight's Children"—highlights the diverse strategies employed by translators to tackle idiomatic expressions. These examples demonstrate the ingenuity and creativity required to translate idioms effectively, revealing the intricacies of linguistic and cultural transposition. Whether through the use of footnotes, glossaries, or inventive linguistic solutions, translators strive to bridge the gap between languages and cultures, making literary works accessible to a global audience while preserving their original essence and cultural depth.

The translation of idiomatic expressions represents one of the most challenging yet rewarding aspects of literary translation. This process underscores the importance of cultural awareness, linguistic agility, and creative problem-solving in translation. As translators navigate the linguistic and cultural complexities inherent in idiomatic expressions, they engage in an act of cultural mediation, bringing the richness of the

source language and culture to the target audience in a way that is both faithful and fresh.

Moreover, the strategies developed to address these challenges contribute significantly to the field of translation studies, offering insights into the dynamic interplay between language, culture, and meaning. The analysis of idiomatic expressions in translation not only enhances our understanding of linguistic diversity but also celebrates the shared human capacity for creativity and expression across cultural boundaries.

In sum, the challenges of translating idiomatic expressions illuminate the intricate craftsmanship of translation, affirming its role as a vital conduit for cross-cultural communication and literary enrichment. Through the diligent efforts of translators, the beauty, humor, and wisdom encapsulated in idioms continue to transcend linguistic and cultural barriers, enriching the global literary landscape.

RESUME

This paper delves into the intricate role of idiomatic expressions in English literary texts, focusing on their characteristics, types, and the challenges they pose in translation. The introduction sets the stage for a detailed analysis by presenting the importance of idioms in literary works.

Section 1 discusses the concept of idiomatic expressions in English literature. It begins with an examination of the characteristics and functions of idioms, highlighting their prevalence and significance in enriching literary texts. The section continues by categorizing the types of idiomatic expressions found in literature and concludes with a detailed exploration of how these expressions enhance the narrative by adding depth and cultural context.

Section 2 addresses the complexities involved in translating idiomatic expressions, a task often fraught with linguistic and cultural hurdles. This section analyses the impact of these challenges on the translation process, discussing how idioms can affect the fidelity and fluidity of translated works. Specific examples from literature are examined to illustrate the potential distortions and the strategies employed by translators to maintain the original meaning and tone.

The Conclusion synthesizes the insights gained from the analysis, emphasizing the dual role of idiomatic expressions as both a beautifying element of literature and a significant challenge in translation.

The References section lists all the scholarly sources and literary examples cited throughout the paper, providing a foundation for the research and analysis presented.

РЕЗЮМЕ

Ця робота занурюється в складну роль ідіоматичних виразів у англійських літературних текстах, фокусуючись на їхніх характеристиках, типах і викликах, які вони ставлять перед перекладом. Введення задає тон для детального аналізу, представляючи важливість ідіом у літературних творах.

Розділ 1 обговорює концепцію ідіоматичних виразів у англійській літературі. Він починається з розгляду характеристик та функцій ідіом, підкреслюючи їхню поширеність та значення в збагаченні літературних текстів. Розділ продовжується класифікацією типів ідіоматичних виразів, знайдених у літературі, і завершується детальним дослідженням того, як ці вирази поглиблюють наратив, додаючи глибини та культурного контексту.

Розділ 2 займається складнощами, які виникають при перекладі ідіоматичних виразів, завданням, яке часто супроводжується лінгвістичними та культурними перешкодами. Цей розділ аналізує вплив цих викликів на процес перекладу, обговорюючи, як ідіоми можуть впливати на вірність та плинність перекладених творів. Конкретні приклади з літератури розглядаються для ілюстрації потенційних спотворень та стратегій, які використовують перекладачі для збереження оригінального значення та тона.

Висновок синтезує здобуті інсайти з аналізу, підкреслюючи подвійну роль ідіоматичних виразів як елемента, що прикрашає літературу, так і значної перешкоди в перекладі.

Джерела перераховують усі наукові джерела та літературні приклади, цитовані протягом усієї роботи, забезпечуючи основу для представленого дослідження та аналізу.

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ANEX

English Idiom	Potential Translations (Depending on Target Language and Context)	Translation Technique
To kick the bucket	Померти, віддати Богові душу (more formal)	Calque (relatively literal translation despite cultural differences)
Spill the beans	Розбовкати секрет, проговоритися	Functional equivalent (idiom with a similar meaning in target language)
Break the ice	Розтопити лід, познайомитися	Functional equivalent
A piece of cake	Дуже легко, дрібниця	Functional equivalent
Let the cat out of the bag	Розпустити язика, видати таємницю	Functional equivalent
Beat around the bush	Ходити довкола та навколо, тягнути кота за хвіст	Functional equivalent
Burning the midnight oil	Працювати допізна, працювати вночі	Functional equivalent
Barking up the wrong tree	Помилятися, шукати не там	Functional equivalent
When pigs fly	Ніколи в житті, коли рак на горі свисне	Functional equivalent
Not my cup of tea	Не моє (не в моєму смаку)	Cultural Substitution
Crossing the Rubicon	Перейти Рубікон	Explanatory Footnote + Partial Literal Translation
Achilles' heel	Ахіллесова п'ята	Adaptation to culturally known concept OR brief explanation
To steal someone's thunder	Вкрасти чиюсь ідею (дослівно: вкрасти чийсь грім)	A mix of adaptation and literal translation

It's raining cats and dogs	Ллє як з відра	Functional Equivalent
Let the cat out of the bag	Розкрити всі карти	Functional Equivalent
A piece of cake	легкий як два плюс два (literally: easy as two plus two)	Substitution (similar concept, not exact imagery)
Break a leg	Ні пуху, ні пера	Substitution (cultural equivalent, but slightly different usage)
To have a green thumb	мати хист до садівництва (literally: to have a talent for gardening)	Omission + simplification
It's raining cats and dogs	Ллє як з відра	Substitution (functional equivalent)
Pulling someone's leg	Жартувати	Substitution (focus on meaning)
Spill the beans	(multiple options depending on the context)	Substitution (will need context-specific Ukrainian equivalents)
Light out	Тікати, швидко залишити місце (literally: flee, leave a place quickly)	Substitution (captures the essence of action with some colloquial tone)
Shoot the bull	Брехати, говорити нісенітниці (literally: to lie, to talk nonsense)	Substitution (focus on the core meaning of the idiom)
It's Greek to me (Julius Caesar)	Це для мене китайська грамота (This is like Chinese script to me)	Substitution (different source of unintelligibility, but similar concept)
Wild goose chase (Romeo and Juliet)	Гонитва за привидами (chasing ghosts)	Substitution (similar sense of futile chase, adapted imagery)
A pound of flesh (The Merchant of Venice)	Фунт м'яса (literal), or an equivalent conveying harsh, excessive demands	Substitution OR Literal + Cultural Context

Break the ice (The Taming of the Shrew)	Розтопити лід	Substitution (common Ukrainian idiom)
Brevity is the soul of wit (Hamlet)	Стислість - сестра таланту	Substitution (proverb with similar meaning)
Be-all and end-all (Macbeth)	Альфа і Омега (Alpha and Omega)	Substitution (existing phrase implying ultimate/totality)
Full circle (King Lear)	Повернутися на круги своя	Substitution (common Ukrainian idiom)