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THE FALSE FRIENDS OF TRANSLATOR AND THE PICTURE OF UNIVERSE

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ЛОЖНЫЕ ДРУЗЬЯ ПЕРЕВОДЧИКА И КАРТИНА МИРА

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For the first time a new approach to such phenomena as "the false friends of translator" has been applied. This article points out the importance of background knowledge as well as the picture of universe in the field of "the false friends of translator" research. Moreover this article provides new examples of words that ones used to be "the false friends of translator" but at present have already changed their meaning and become the synonyms to their English equivalents. This article is useful and educative for everyone concerned.

Впервые был применен новый подход к такому явлению, как «ложные друзья переводчика». Эта статья показывает важность фоновых знаний также как и мировоззрения в области исследования «ложных друзей переводчика». Кроме этого статья дает новые примеры слов когда-то бывших «ложными друзьями переводчика», а сейчас поменявших свое значение и ставших синонимами своим английским эквивалентам. Эта статья полезна и познавательна для всех заинтересованных лиц.

No individual is free to describe nature with absolute impartiality but is constrained to certain models of interpretation even while he thinks himself most free. The person most nearly free in such respects would be a linguist familiar with many very widely different linguistic systems. As yet no linguist is in any such position. We are thus introduced to a new principle of relativity, which holds that all observers are not led by the same physical evidence to the same picture of the universe, unless their linguistic backgrounds are similar, or can in some way be calibrated.

This rather startling conclusion is not so apparent if we compare our modern European languages, with perhaps Latin and Greek thrown in for good measure. Among these tongues there is a unanimity of major pattern which at first seems to bear out natural logic. But this unanimity exists only because these tongues are all Indo-European dialects cut to the same basic plan, being historically transmitted from what was long ago one speech community; because the modern dialects have long shared in building up a common culture; and because much of this culture; on the more intellectual side, is derived from the linguistic backgrounds of Latin and Greek. From the conditions follows the unanimity of description of the world in the community of modern scientists. But it must be emphasized that "all modern Indo-European speaking observers" is not the same thing as "all observers". That modern Chinese or Turkish scientist describe the world in the same terms as western scientists means, of course, that they have taken over bodily the entire western system

of rationalization, not that they have collaborated that system from their native posts of observation.

Every language serves as a bearer of a culture. If you speak a language you take part, to some degree, in the way of living represented by that language. Each system of culture has its own way of looking at things and people and dealing with them. To the extent you learned to speak and understand a foreign language, to that extent you have learned to respond with a different selection and emphasis to the world around you, and gained a new system of sensibilities, considerations, and restraints.

The linguasociocultural method states the following rate: 52% percent of mistakes are done by mere associations with the native language and 45% are concealed in the foreign language itself.

Even where a culture is very close to our, as in Europe or even in Balkans or in Russia, the gain is no less, since the angle of approach, the shadings of response, still differ from what is native to us. But they differ more finely: the likenesses may deceive us into attempting a crude and superficial approach. The difference is subtle and extend to flavor and connotation. Unlike the native child, whose linguistic experience registers on a blank state, the learner of a foreign language errs constantly through the prepossessions to his own language.

This gives us vivid explanations of the appearance such layer of words that are commonly called "The false friends of translator". False friends are pair of words in two languages so that the words are written or pronounced identically or similarly but differ in meaning. They cause problems especially when you see or hear a word in foreign language and you assume that it has the same meaning as a similar word in you native language.

For example:

Accurate: точный, а не «аккуратный»

Angina: стенокардия, а не ангина.

Cabinet: шкаф, а не кабинет.

Compositor: наборщик, а не композитор (composer).

Conductor: проводник, провожатый, дирижер, но не кондуктор.

Director: режиссер, дирижер, но только не директор (руководитель компании)!

Gallant: храбрый, а не галантный.

Genial: добрый, а не гениальный.

Lunatic: сумасшедший. Лунатик по-английски – sleep-walker.

Mayor: мэр, а не майор.

Resin: смола, а не резина (rubber).

Satin: атлас, а не сатин.

Sympathy: сочувствие. То же самое с прилагательным: sympathetic – полный сочувствия; симпатичный – cute.
 Speculation: предположение, а не спекуляция.
 Urbane: учтивый (urban - урбанистический).
 Velvet: бархат.

During the last we witness some cases of “The false friends of translator” that practically provide not terminable but permanent language interference. Interference is a process of model changes under the influence of another language, we have lots examples of meaning changes, some of the changes haven't been recognized by dictionaries yet. For example:

Администрация (administration) – used to stand for –management, but now acquired a new meaning identical to English version – правительство.

Практически (practically) – used to stand for – from the point of practice, but now acquired a new meaning identical to English version – фактически, по сути.

Альтернатива (alternative) - used to stand for-necessity to choose between to variants, now acquired almost all English versions of this word – выбор, вариант, иной исход...что имеет зеброподобный окрас.

Компания (campaign) – harvesting campaign, sowing campaign, now – ряд действий, мероприятий проводимых с определенной целью.

Экзаменировать (examine) – to test, now – внимательно осматривать.

Шок (shock)– physiological disorder, now – сильное потрясение, шоковый эффект.

Принципиально (principally) – essentially, now – главным образом, преимущественно.

Респектабельный (respectable)– honest, - достойный уважения.

Код (code) – the system of signs, now – свод законов, правила распорядка.

Контрибуция (contribution) – money investment, now – вклад, участие.

Экстра (extra) – super quality, now – дополнительный.

Резервировать (reserve) - to save, now – заказывать, бронировать.

Кредит (credit) – allocation, grant, now – доверие.

The words that ones used to be “The false friends of translator” now they are synonyms to their English ones. The appearance of false friends was due to different background of Indo-European communities it means that now we are moving into direction of assimilation of our languages as well as to one background to one picture of universe. These are first signs of assimilation or interference later on we can witness the change in the sentence order and so on, and finally who knows we may come to a universally accepted language.

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