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COMPARATIVE TYPOLOGICAL AND TRANSLATION STUDIES ASPECTS OF SPORTS TERMINOLOGY RELATED TO SUMMER SPORTS IN ENGLISH AND UZBEK

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Abstract. This article examines the comparative-typological and translation-related features of terminology associated with summer sports in English and Uzbek. In particular, it analyzes the lexical-semantic composition, structural organization, etymological origins, and functional characteristics of terminological units denoting summer sports in both languages. Furthermore, the study explores linguistic and extralinguistic challenges arising in the process of translating sports terminology from one language into another, with particular emphasis on terminological correspondence, equivalence, and the application of various translation techniques, including calque translation, transliteration, and descriptive translation. Through a comparative analysis, the study identifies the common and distinctive characteristics of summer sports terminology in English and Uzbek, highlighting its national and cultural specificity as well as its role in international sports communication. The findings of the research may contribute to the systematization of sports terminology, the improvement of translation quality, and the further development of bilingual sports dictionaries.

Keywords: summer sports, sports terminology, English language, Uzbek language, comparative-typological analysis, translation studies, lexical-semantic features, terminological equivalence, translation transformations, international sports communication.

INTRODUCTION

In the contemporary world, sport has become an integral component of the lives of people across different age groups, including both young and elderly individuals. International sporting events, such as the Olympic Games, the FIFA World Cup, and Grand Slam tournaments, attract millions of spectators worldwide and contribute significantly to the growing importance of sports communication. Consequently, the translation of sports terminology has become an increasingly relevant issue in contemporary linguistics and translation studies.

From a linguistic perspective, the field of sport represents a continuously expanding source of specialized vocabulary. Its terminology develops dynamically under the influence of various linguistic, technological, cultural, and social factors.

These include the emergence of new sporting disciplines, the international dissemination of existing sports, modifications to competition rules and regulations, and advances in sports technologies and equipment. Such developments lead to the formation of new lexical units and the transformation of existing terminological systems. At the same time, the growing internationalization of sporting activities has increased the demand for accurate, consistent, and culturally appropriate translations of sports-related vocabulary.

Sports terminology constitutes a specialized lexical system whose translation serves several important communicative purposes. These include ensuring terminological consistency in the translation of sporting rules, regulations, instructions, and technical documentation, as well as providing international audiences with accessible information through sports journalism, television broadcasting, and digital media. Therefore, the translation of sports terminology requires not only linguistic competence but also a comprehensive understanding of the relevant sporting disciplines, their technical characteristics, and their cultural contexts.

MAIN PART

1. The linguistic characteristics of sports terminology and its role in translation

The translation of lexical units, particularly those functioning within specialized sports discourse, presents a range of linguistic challenges and methodological opportunities. Recent developments in translation technology have considerably influenced the professional translation process. Computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools, machine translation systems, and translation memory software enable translators to process large volumes of sports-related materials more efficiently while maintaining terminological consistency.

Nevertheless, technological assistance cannot entirely replace human linguistic expertise. This is especially relevant when translating culturally marked expressions, idiomatic constructions, and context-dependent sports terminology. Such lexical units frequently require an understanding of cultural references, communicative intentions, and the specific conventions of the sporting discipline concerned.

Summer sports, characterized by extensive terminological systems and considerable cultural diversity, require translators to take both linguistic and contextual factors into account. Sports vocabulary may generally be defined as a collection of words and expressions associated with various sporting activities, disciplines, techniques, equipment, institutions, competitions, and participants. Within this lexical system, specialized terms occupy a central position because they provide precise designations for sporting concepts and processes.

The semantic structure of sports vocabulary encompasses several interconnected categories, including:

- Names of sporting disciplines and competitions;
- Terms denoting sporting techniques and methods of performance;
- Names of sports equipment and facilities;
- Terminology associated with athletes, coaches, and officials;
- Terms describing competition rules, procedures, and scoring systems;
- Expressions related to sporting organizations and international events.

These categories demonstrate that sports terminology is not a homogeneous lexical group but a complex and continuously developing system characterized by semantic, structural, and functional diversity [4].

2. The significance of sports terminology in contemporary linguistics

Physical education and sport occupy an important position in contemporary society and contribute to the development of individuals and communities. Despite the widespread popularity of sporting activities, the linguistic characteristics of sports discourse have not received sufficient attention in certain areas of terminology research.

In this regard, V. A. Tatarinov emphasizes that the insufficient theoretical investigation of sports language is somewhat surprising, considering that sport has long been an essential component of the cultural life of the international community. This observation highlights the necessity of conducting more comprehensive linguistic research into sports vocabulary, its semantic organization, and its communicative functions [6].

Similarly, L. S. Barkhudarov identifies several important dimensions of multilingual communication in the field of sport. These include:

1. The translation of international codes of practice, sporting calendars, regulations, instructions, and specialized publications.
2. Participation in international sporting associations and organizations.
3. Dissemination of information about international sporting results, competitions, and events through mass media.
4. Participation in international competitions and the provision of interpreting services during major sporting events [3].

One of the distinctive characteristics of sports terminology, compared with the terminological systems of many other professional fields, is its extensive dissemination through mass communication channels. Television broadcasts, newspapers, sports

magazines, online platforms, and social media have significantly contributed to the international circulation of sports-related vocabulary.

As a result, sports terminology provides valuable linguistic material for comparative and contrastive research. Its investigation makes it possible to identify similarities and differences between languages, examine processes of lexical borrowing, and determine the influence of international sports communication on national terminological systems [1].

3. The influence of English on international sports terminology

The influence of English on contemporary sports terminology is particularly significant. English has become one of the principal languages of international sporting communication, and its lexical units are frequently adopted, adapted, or translated into other languages, including Uzbek.

The terminology of any specialized field reflects the communicative needs and functional requirements of that particular domain. For example, medical language generally requires precision, conciseness, and standardized expressions, whereas legal terminology tends to preserve established formulations and conventional structures while allowing for interpretative flexibility.

Sports language also demonstrates functional differentiation. It is important to distinguish between specialized terminology used in technical sporting contexts and the vocabulary employed in journalistic, broadcasting, and entertainment-oriented communication. Technical sports discourse prioritizes accuracy, standardization, and unambiguous interpretation. In contrast, sports journalism and commentary frequently incorporate expressive vocabulary, metaphorical constructions, idiomatic expressions, and emotionally charged language.

These differences are also reflected in grammatical and stylistic structures. Official sporting regulations generally employ precise and standardized linguistic constructions, whereas live commentary and sports journalism tend to use shorter sentences, dynamic expressions, and evaluative language. Consequently, translators must identify the communicative purpose and intended audience of a particular text before selecting appropriate translation strategies [8].

4. Globalization and intercultural communication in sports translation

Globalization has intensified interaction among different linguistic and cultural communities, particularly within the international sports environment. As major sporting events, such as the Olympic Games, continue to attract increasingly diverse

audiences, the demand for effective multilingual communication has become more pronounced.

Sports translators are expected not only to convey the denotative meaning of linguistic units but also to reproduce the emotional, cultural, and communicative dimensions of sporting discourse. This is particularly important when translating promotional materials, sports commentaries, competition announcements, and information intended for international audiences.

For instance, the translation of Olympic marketing materials frequently requires creative adaptation to ensure that the original brand identity and communicative message are preserved while making the content culturally appropriate for the target audience [2].

The analysis of successful translation practices can reveal effective strategies and recurring difficulties in sports translation. Cooperation among professional translators, sports specialists, terminology researchers, and cultural consultants can considerably improve translation quality. Such interdisciplinary collaboration helps ensure that translated materials are terminologically accurate, culturally appropriate, and understandable to their intended recipients.

This collaborative approach is particularly valuable during the preparation and organization of major international sporting events, where timely and precise multilingual communication is essential.

5. Emerging trends in the translation of summer sports terminology

The field of sports translation is expected to undergo further development as new sporting disciplines gain international recognition and existing terminological systems continue to evolve. In this context, translators must remain informed about emerging sporting trends, changes in competition regulations, and the introduction of new technical expressions.

Continuous professional education and specialized training are therefore essential for translators working in the sports sector. Translation should not be regarded merely as the replacement of lexical units in one language with their equivalents in another. Rather, it is a complex communicative process requiring an understanding of the subject matter, linguistic conventions, cultural references, and situational context [7].

Terminology associated with summer sports may demonstrate considerable variation in meaning, structure, and usage across English and Uzbek. Although many international sports terms have established equivalents in both languages, certain expressions may require additional explanation or contextual adaptation.

For example, the English term *Olympic Games* corresponds to the established Uzbek expression *Olimpiya o'yinlari*. However, the historical and cultural associations of the Olympic movement may not be equally familiar to all audiences. Therefore, translators should consider not only terminological equivalence but also the background knowledge of the target readership.

6. Lexical categories of summer sports terminology

Lexical units associated with summer sports encompass a broad range of terminological categories. Their translation requires different approaches depending on their semantic content, structural organization, and degree of international standardization.

The principal categories include the following:

Names of sporting disciplines. Terms such as *basketball*, *gymnastics*, *athletics*, *swimming*, and *volleyball* generally have established equivalents in Uzbek. In most cases, they can be translated through conventional lexical equivalents, although phonetic and orthographic adaptation may occur.

Technical and specialized terms. Expressions such as *offside* in football, *freestyle* in swimming, and *dive* in aquatic sports have specific meanings determined by the rules and technical conventions of particular disciplines. Their translation requires terminological precision and consistency.

Competition-related terminology. Terms such as *qualifying round*, *final*, *semifinal*, *scoreboard*, and *record-breaking performance* refer to specific stages, procedures, and achievements within sporting competitions. Their translation should preserve the original conceptual meaning and functional significance.

Culturally marked expressions and idioms. Certain sports-related expressions contain metaphorical or culturally specific meanings. For example, *home run*, originating in baseball terminology, may require an explanatory or context-sensitive translation when used metaphorically. Similarly, the expression *taking a knee*, which acquired particular social and cultural associations in English-language sports discourse, requires careful interpretation to preserve its intended meaning.

These examples demonstrate that the translation of sports terminology involves more than the identification of direct lexical equivalents. It also requires consideration of semantic relationships, cultural associations, and communicative intentions.

7. Major challenges in translating summer sports terminology

The translation of sports-related lexical units involves several recurring linguistic and extralinguistic difficulties. The most significant challenges are discussed below.

1. Absence of direct lexical equivalents.

One of the principal problems in translating sports terminology is the lack of an exact equivalent in the target language. Although many international sports terms have become established in Uzbek, certain specialized expressions may not possess fully corresponding lexical forms.

For example, the term *marathon* is widely recognized and conventionally used in Uzbek as *marafon*. Nevertheless, its historical origin and cultural associations may require additional explanation in educational or intercultural contexts. This demonstrates the distinction between lexical equivalence and the complete transfer of cultural meaning.

2. Differences in technical and conceptual meanings.

Sports terminology frequently includes highly specialized expressions whose meanings are determined by the technical rules of a particular sporting discipline. For instance, *freestyle* in swimming refers to a competitive category in which swimmers may generally use any stroke, although front crawl is predominantly employed in practice.

When translating such terms into Uzbek, translators must ensure that the selected equivalent conveys the precise technical concept rather than merely reproducing the general dictionary meaning. In situations where a conventional equivalent is unavailable, an explanatory translation may be necessary.

3. Cultural and pragmatic differences.

Cultural distinctions significantly influence how sporting activities are perceived, discussed, and represented in different linguistic communities. English-language sports commentary frequently incorporates idiomatic expressions, metaphors, humor, and culturally specific references that cannot always be translated directly into Uzbek.

For example, the expression *taking a knee* has acquired particular symbolic significance in certain English-speaking sporting and sociopolitical contexts. A literal translation may fail to communicate its intended pragmatic meaning. Therefore, translators must consider the historical circumstances, cultural associations, and communicative purpose of the expression before selecting an appropriate equivalent [5].

4. Terminological inconsistency.

Another important challenge concerns the inconsistent translation of identical sports terms across different publications, media platforms, and educational materials. The use of several variants for the same concept may create confusion among readers and negatively affect the standardization of sports terminology.

The development of bilingual terminological databases and specialized sports dictionaries can help address this problem by establishing consistent equivalents and providing contextual definitions.

5. Context-dependent interpretation.

Some sports terms possess multiple meanings depending on the sporting discipline in which they are used. For example, *dive* may refer to a competitive aquatic discipline, a specific movement in swimming, or a technique in gymnastics. Consequently, translating such units without considering their immediate context may result in semantic inaccuracies.

8. Effective translation strategies for sports terminology

Several translation techniques can be employed to overcome the linguistic and cultural difficulties associated with sports terminology. The choice of a particular method depends on the nature of the term, its degree of international recognition, and the communicative purpose of the source text.

1. Dynamic equivalence.

Dynamic equivalence focuses on reproducing the meaning, communicative intention, and functional effect of the original expression rather than adhering strictly to its formal structure.

For instance, when translating the term *sprint*, the translator should select an established Uzbek equivalent that conveys the concept of short-distance running performed at maximum speed. Depending on the context, the term *qisqa masofaga yugurish* may be appropriate.

This approach is particularly useful when literal translation would produce an unnatural or misleading expression in the target language.

2. Direct or established lexical equivalence.

This method involves using an accepted equivalent that already exists in the target language.

Examples include:

- Basketball — basketbol;
- Volleyball — voleybol;
- Tennis — tennis;
- Gymnastics — gimnastika;

- Marathon — marafon.

Direct equivalence is particularly effective when translating internationally standardized sports terminology.

3. Transliteration and phonetic adaptation.

Transliteration involves transferring the written form of a term from one language into another writing system, whereas phonetic adaptation adjusts its pronunciation and spelling to the phonological conventions of the target language.

Examples include *basketball – basketbol* and *volleyball – voleybol*. These forms demonstrate how internationally recognized sporting concepts become integrated into the Uzbek lexical system.

4. Calque translation.

Calque translation involves reproducing the component structure of a source-language expression through corresponding lexical elements in the target language.

This technique can be applied when the semantic structure of a sports term allows its components to be translated naturally and accurately.

5. Descriptive or explanatory translation.

Descriptive translation is particularly useful when a direct equivalent is unavailable or when a specialized term requires clarification.

For example, an unfamiliar technical expression may be translated through a short definition explaining the sporting action, equipment, or competition procedure it represents.

This strategy is especially relevant in educational materials, sports regulations, and publications intended for non-specialist audiences.

6. Contextual adaptation.

Contextual adaptation involves selecting a translation that reflects the communicative situation, target audience, and cultural background of the intended readers.

This method is particularly effective in sports journalism, television commentary, promotional materials, and intercultural communication, where the preservation of pragmatic meaning is as important as terminological accuracy.

9. The role of translation technologies in sports terminology

The development of digital technologies has introduced new opportunities for the translation and systematization of sports terminology. Machine translation, terminology management systems, bilingual electronic dictionaries, and translation memory tools can facilitate the processing of large volumes of specialized texts.

However, automated translation systems may encounter difficulties when dealing with polysemous terms, idiomatic expressions, culturally specific references, and discipline-dependent terminology. For this reason, human revision and specialized linguistic expertise remain essential components of professional sports translation.

An effective translation process should therefore combine technological resources with terminological research, contextual analysis, and subject-specific knowledge. Such an integrated approach can improve consistency, accuracy, and the overall communicative effectiveness of translated sports materials.

CONCLUSION

The comparative investigation of summer sports terminology in English and Uzbek demonstrates that sports vocabulary represents a complex linguistic system shaped by international communication, cultural interaction, technological development, and the evolution of sporting disciplines.

The analysis indicates that English has a substantial influence on the international circulation and standardization of sports terminology. Many English-origin terms enter the Uzbek language through direct borrowing, phonetic adaptation, transliteration, or semantic transformation. At the same time, their successful integration into Uzbek requires consideration of the structural and semantic characteristics of the receiving language.

The translation of summer sports terminology involves several interconnected challenges, including the absence of direct lexical equivalents, differences in technical meanings, cultural and pragmatic distinctions, and terminological inconsistency. These difficulties demonstrate the importance of selecting translation strategies according to the linguistic characteristics and communicative functions of individual terms.

The application of direct equivalence, dynamic equivalence, transliteration, phonetic adaptation, calque translation, descriptive translation, and contextual adaptation can contribute to more accurate and effective translation outcomes. Furthermore, the development of bilingual sports dictionaries, specialized terminology databases, and standardized translation guidelines may facilitate the systematic organization of sports vocabulary in both languages.

In conclusion, the translation of summer sports terminology should be approached as an interdisciplinary process involving linguistics, translation studies, sports science, and intercultural communication. Further comparative research in this field may contribute to the improvement of specialized translation practices, the preservation of terminological consistency, and the development of international sports communication between English- and Uzbek-speaking communities.

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