REVERSE NATURALIZATION IN TRANSLATION OF A CLOCKWORK ORANGE BY A. BURGESS

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Abstract

This paper examines the classification of translation techniques and presents a newly discovered sub-type of naturalization - reverse naturalization. The technique has been observed in the translation of the novel A Clockwork Orange into the Russian language by A. Gazov-Ginzberg. Instances of words which have been created through reverse naturalization have been collated, examined and contrasted with their original counterparts. The supporting theory is based on the classification of translation techniques by Vinay and Darbelnet. Newmark's division of translation methods and procedures, as well as techniques for translating culture-bound terms by Harvey have also been referenced.

Key words: Anthony Burgess, A Clockwork Orange, translation techniques, reverse naturalization.

Introduction

A Clockwork Orange, first published in 1962, is one of the best known works of Anthony Burgess. It is not only the controversy of its violent scenes and the question of free will which the author poses in his novel that make this book unique, it is also the language. Nadsat, a slang used by the main characters, is a combination of the two most powerful languages in the world at that time – English intertwined with Russianized vocabulary, which Burgess invented himself (Byers and Bourgoin 1998:137). The creation of a fabricated slang poses various demands on the translator and makes this dynamic use of language a very interesting phenonenon for research. The aim of this paper is to present a brief review of translation techniques and results of an analysis of the translation of *A Clockwork Orange* into Russian by A. Gazov-Ginzberg.

Overview of translation techniques

Approaches to classifying translation techniques within theory of translation vary. In their classic *Stylistique comparée du français et de l'anglais* (1995), pioneers Vinay and Darbelnet propose the first practical classification of translation techniques valuable to translators, which suggests seven basic procedures which are classified as direct (or literal) or oblique (or free). Following the authors' definitions, an exact structural, lexical and, in some cases, morphological equivalence between the two languages may be termed literal translation. This is only possible when the two languages in question are very approximate to each other. Three literal translation procedures are proposed (1995:31-35):

- Borrowing (a word is transferred directly from one language to another, because a gap in the target language (TL) lexicon appears and it does not contain a word equivalent to the source language (SL) word)

- Calque (foreign words or phrases are translated, unlike in borrowing, the foreigness of the borrowed words is minimized, and they are fully incorporated into TL)
- Literal translation (rendering of the SL segments into the TL; word-for-word translation Fawcett (1997:36) considers it to be rare, but appreciates when no changes, except in the TL grammar, occur when a word is transferred form one language to another)

Oblique translation is used word-for-word translation is impossible and it is used when the SL and the TL differ in syntactic structure. Oblique translation may according to Vinay and Darbelnet (1995) be classified into four categories:

- Transposition (involves a change of one part of the speech for another without a change in sense)
- Modulation (involves a change in the semantics and it involves a shift in point of view, it is used when a particular expression cannot be translated literally or when the translation would result in an unnatural TL word)
- Equivalence (is the different stylistic or structural description of the same situation by two languages and Munday (2001:75) points out its usefulness in translation of idioms and proverbs)
- Adaptation (which Fawcett (1997:49) labels as confusing and controversial, is a change in cultural reference, when a particular SL culture object or situation is not known to the TL culture and a close translation would not have been understood by the TL receivers)

The list of seven basic procedures is expanded by additional techniques, which are listed in the glossary of *Stylistique comparée du français et de l'anglais* (1995). They appear in opposing pairs, except for compensation and inversion.

- Compensation (involves compensation of the loss of meaning of the source text (ST) by recreating a similar effect somewhere else in the target text (TT); Hervey, Loughridge and Higgins (2006:41) consider it to be more applicable in non-technical rather than technical texts)
- Concentration vs. Dissolution (concentration involves fewer TL words as an equivalent to a bigger number of SL words and dissoluton expresses information of the ST by applying more words in the TT; these notions correspond with Newmarks's concepts of expansion and reduction (1988:90), which he considers to be rather imprecise and they should be applied intuitively)
- Amplification vs. Economy (similar to notions of concentration and dissolution amplification involves an application of a longer form in the TL in order to cover syntactic or lexical gaps; economy is considered to be its opposite)
- Reinforcement vs. Condensation (there are considered to be variations characteristic for French and English of the above mentioned amplification and economy)

- Explicitation vs. Implication (the former indicates information that is implicit in the ST and makes it explicit in the TT and the latter introduces information implicit from the context or the situation from the source text)
- Generalization vs. Particulatization (generalization is the application of a more general term in order to translate a more specific term, which is also suggested by Baker (1992:26) as a strategy in dealing with non-equivalence at word level; particulatization is its opposite)
- Inversion (is the application of a particular word or phrase in a different place than in the ST in order to make the TT read more naturally)

Vinay and Darbelnet's list has been further expanded by Newmark, who in addition to their division of translation techniques proposes additional methods and procedures, which he proposes in his *A Textbook of Translation* (1988). As the author states, there is a distinct difference between translation methods and translation procedures. "While translation methods relate to whole texts, translation procedures are used for sentences and the smaller units of language" (1988:81).

The following translation methods are proposed (1988:45-47):

- Word-for-word translation (the SL word order is preserved and the words translated singly by their most common meanings, out of context)
- Literal translation (the SL grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest TL equivalents, but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context)
- Faithful translation (attempts to produce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the TL grammatical structures)
- Semantic translation (differs from faithful translation only in as far as it must take more account of the aesthetic value of the SL text)
- Adaptation (is the freest form of translation, it is used mainly for plays (comedies) and poetry; themes, characters, plots are usually preserved, the SL culture is converted to the TL culture and the text is rewritten)
- Free translation (produces TL text without the style, or content without the form of the original)
- Idiomatic translation (reproduces the message of the original but tends to distort nuances of meaning by preferring colloquialisms and idioms where these do not exist in the original)
- Communicative translation (means renderinng the exact contextual meaning of the original in a manner that both content and language are readily acceptable and easily comprehensible to the readership)

Newmark suggests the following translation procedures (1988:81-91):

- Transference (is the process of transferring an SL word to a TL text, which includes transliteration conversion of different alphabets into the TL, and it results in a loanword)
- Naturalization (adapts the SL word first to normal pronunciation, then to normal morphology of TL)
- Cultural equivalent (is the replacement of a cultural word in the SL with a TL one, which might not be accurate, therefore is mainly applied as a complement to another translation procedure to form a couplet)
- Functional equivalent (means the application of a culture-neutral word it involves deculturising a cultural word and Newmark considers it to be the most accurate way of translating)
- Descriptive equivalent (the meaning of a culture-bound term is explained in several words)
- Componential analysis (is carried out only when a word, which is signitifcant in the source text, does not have an adequate one-to-one equivalent an analysis of the SL and the TL words is carried out by demonstrating first their common and then their differing sense components. Normally the SL word has a more specific meaning than the TL word, and the translator has to add one or two TL sense components, which may be referential and/or pragmatic, to the corresponding TL word in order to produce a closer approximation of meaning. The SL word may differ from the TL word in its structure, its cultural nuances and connotations.)
- Synonymy (it is used where there is no clear one-to-one equivalent to the SL word in the TL, and the word is not important in the text, in particular for adjectives or adverbs of quality. A synonym is only appropriate where literal translation is not possible and because the word is not important enough for componential analysis)
- Through-translation (also called calque or loan translation; it is the literal translation of common collocations, names of organizations and components of compounds)
- Shifts or transpositions (involve a change in grammar from SL to TL, for instance, (1) change from singular to plural, (2) change required when a specific SL structure does not exist in the TL, (3) change of a SL verb to a TL word, change of an SL noun group to a TL noun and so forth)
- Modulation (or 'semantic development' for Komissarov (1990:174); occurs when translators reproduce message of the original text in the TL text in conformity with current norms of the TL, since the SL and the TL may appear dissimilar in terms of perspective)
- Recognized translation (occurs when translator uses the official or the generally accepted translation of any institutional term)
- Compensation (occurs when a loss of meaning in one part of a sentense is compensated in another part)

- Paraphrase (an explanation of the meaning of a poorly written texts containing important implications and omissions)
- Couplets (occur when two different procedures are combined)
- Notes (which in form of footnotes are the additional notes of the translator)

In addition to these categories, other theorists have also proposed their models of translation procedures for specific purposes, like Harvey (2000), who proposes techniques for translating culture-bound terms, which "refer to concepts, institutions and personnel which are specific to the SL culture" (2000:2). Nida (1964:130) claims that "differences between cultures may cause more severe complications for the translation than do differences in language structure" and Baker (1992:253) supports Nida's claim by stating that complexity of translation is in fact due to many language- and culture-specific factors. Harvey (2000:2-6) therefore proposes the following techniques for solving culture-specific translation:

- Functional Equivalence (the process of applying referent in the TL culture with a function similar to the SL referent)
- Formal Equivalence (or 'linguistic equivalence' or 'word-for-word' translation)
- Transcription (or 'borrowing'; means reproducing or transliterating the SL term into the TL)
- Descriptive (self-explanatory) translation (which instead of culture-bound terms employs generic terms to convey the meaning)

The above mentioned classifications and detailed definitions may be considered to be the fundamental division of translation techniques. This, however, does not imply that they are complete. The list may still be expanded, as with the additional classification proposed in the following section.

Reverse naturalization

One of the main goals in the translation of A Clockwork Orange is a target text which has successfully retained the creative element of the original novel. Nadsat, the slang used by the main characters of the novel, is based on English creatively intertwined with Russianized vocabulary, which has mostly been transcribed and naturalized in the original novel. During the analysis of the translations several A Clockwork Orange, a translation process that has not been defined yet was observed. In various cases, the translation of the novel into Russian by A. Gazov-Ginzberg employs a process in which part of the translated word is a native Russian root. He subsequently applies a word formation process of the SL which is not native to the TL. Two cases appear – adoption of English morphemes '-er' and '-ing', transliterated as '-ep' [er] and '-une' [mg] respectively. For this procedure term reverse naturalization has been suggested. It may be considered as a sub-type of Newmark's naturalization in which a root or a stem of a TL equivalent is modified by a SL morpheme and it may be classified as a translation procedure within Newmark's model. The resulting TL word contains both features

of the SL and the TL, but SL emphasis prevails since native speakers can naturally sense the anomaly and an application of such word is highly dynamic.

The following three tables list cases of words which adopt English morphemes '-er' and '-ing', transliterated as '-ep' [er] and '-u μ e' [Ing] respectively, and four cases which may be considered as borderline. An example of each word in nominative case singular is provided in its context and is compared to the original text. If the word does not appear in nominative case singular, the sample word provided is in another grammatical case. A commentary containing the origin of the particular words and pronunciation is presented.

The majority of words adopting morpheme '-er' are nouns describing body parts, only three words do not, and two cases of adjectives appear. A total of five words in the translation adopt English morpheme '-ing'. Four additional Russian hybrid words with English morphemes appear, but when compared to words which they are the translations of, they are transliterated versions of them. Therefore it is not clear whether the word is only a transliterated version of its SL equivalent or whether it is adopting an English morpheme. Three such words comprise English morpheme '-ing' and one morpheme '-er'. All words which are a result of reverse naturalization in the translation are fully adapted to the TL and are further inflected according to rules of Russian language.

A Clockwork Orange	Tab. 1 Morpheme '-er' Механический	Commetary
A Clockwork Oralige		Commetary
The r. Learner that this fatter	апельсин	and the state of t
Then I saw that this fatty	Потом я увидел, что этот	noga, ногер ['nog ^j er]
bruiseboy was turning to his	жирный вышибала	
millicent droogs to have a	поворачивается к своим	Origin: Russian noun <i>'нога'</i>
real horrorshow smeck at	другерам-ментам, чтоб	['nɐga] – <i>'a foot'</i>
what he'd done, so I raised	хор-рошенько посмеяться	
my right noga and before	над тем, что он сделал, и	
they could creech at him to	тут я поднял правый	
watch out I'd kicked him	ногер и прежде, чем они	
smart and lovely on the shin.	могли крикнуть ему и	
(p. 52)	предостеречь, я здорово	
	пнул его в голень. (р. 31)	
It was him that kept on at his	Это он зажимал ему	rot, poтер ['rot ^j er]
rot while Big Jew here had	ротер, когда Биг-Джу	
him up against the bars.	прижимал его к решетке.	Origin: Russian noun 'pot' ['rot],
(p. 68)	(p.40)	– 'a mouth'
Then, as if he was like	Потом, будто	ooko, yxep ['ux ^j er]
dancing, he stamped on my	пританцовывая, он	
nogas, left, right, then he	наступил на мои ногеры,	Origin: Russian noun 'yxo' ['uxə]
gave me a finger-nail flick	левый, правый, потом	– 'an ear'
on the nose that hurt like	ногтем щелкнул меня в	
bezoomny and brought the	нос, безумно больно, так	In the translation it loses vowel
old tears to my glazzies then	что слезы навернулись на	'o'. In the original [x] is replaced
he twisted at my left ooko	глазеры, потом стал	with [k].
like it was a radio dial.	крутить мой левый ухер,	
(p. 92)	будто ручку от радио.	
	(p. 56)	
I stood there in the horrible	Я стоял тут, в ужасно	morder, носером ['nos ^j erom]
bolshy bare hall and I got	большом голом зале, и	Ý L J

Tab. 1 Morpheme '-er'

now		Origin: Pussion nouns 'wonda'
new	ощущал все новые	Origin: Russian nouns ' <i>mopda</i> '
vons, sniffing away there	запахи, принюхиваясь	['morda], – 'a muzzle, a snout' and
with my like very sensitive morder or sniffer. (p. 72)	моим вэри	'нос' ['nos] – 'a nose'
morder of sinner. (p. 72)	чувствительным	
	носером, то есть	
But the slovos didn't come	сопаткой. (р. 43)	goobieg professory ['mubairi]
out horrorshow at all, it	Но слова получались	zoobies, зуберы ['zube ^j rɨ]
	очень плохо, мой ротер	Origin: Dussian noun /
being as though my rot was	будто весь окостенел, и,	Origin: Russian noun ' <i>3y6</i> ' ['zub] – 'a tooth'
all stiffened up, and I could	двигая йаззиком, я	-a tooth
feel with my yahzick that	чувствовал, что не все	
some of my zoobies were no	зуберы на месте. (р. 78)	
longer there. (p. 126)	н с	
Dim was our heavy strong	Дим был у нас	pletchoes, плэтшеры ['plɛtsʲeri]
malchick and Pete and	здоровенный малтшик, а	
Georgie like heaved me up	Пит и Джорджи подняли	Origin: Russian noun ' <i>nлечо</i> '
on to Dim's bolshy manly	меня на его большие	['plieteo] – 'a shoulder'
pletchoes. (p. 45)	мужские плэтшеры.	
And then a tax will'	(p. 27)	www.www.aw.fl.1.44j
And then a top millicent	Потом пришел главный	плоттерах ['plott ⁱ erax]
came in with like stars on his	мильтон со звездами на	Origina Dugging and I
pletchoes to show he was	плоттерах /чтоб было	Origin: Russian noun 'плоть'
high high high, and he	видно, как высоко он	['plot ^j] – 'a body, a flesh'
viddied me and said: (p. 51)	забрался/ увидел меня и	
	сказал: (р. 30)	x F (1) x x
I knocked nice and gentle and	Я постучал тихо и	glazz, глазер ['glazier]
nobody came, so I knocked a	вежливо, но никто не	
bit more and this time I could	подошел; я постучал еще,	Origin: Russian noun 'глаз' ['glaz]
slooshy some- body coming,	и в этот раз было слышно,	– 'an eye'
then a bolt drawn, then the door inched open an inch or	что кто-то идет, потом	
I door inched open an inch or	отодвинули засов, дверь	
1		
so, then I could viddy this one	открылась на дюйм, и я	
so, then I could viddy this one glazz looking out at me and	мог видеть чей-то глазер,	
so, then I could viddy this one glazz looking out at me and the door was on a chain.	мог видеть чей-то глазер, смотрящий на меня: дверь	
so, then I could viddy this one glazz looking out at me and the door was on a chain. (p. 17)	мог видеть чей-то глазер, смотрящий на меня: дверь была на цепочке. (р. 9)	nodooshka nomuuun
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		Root 'глуп-' adopts English
		morpheme '-er' and morpheme '-
		<i>ское'</i> to create an adjective.
Very long time no viddy,	Давно не виделись,	droog, другер ['drug ^j er]
droog . (p. 109)	д ругер . (р. 67)	
		Origin: Russian noun ' <i>dpyr</i> '
		['drug] – 'a friend, a mate'
He had a like gentleman's	У него был	droogy, другерской
goloss and spoke in a very	джентельменский голос, и	['drug ^j erskoj]
weary sort of a way, and he	говорил он очень устало.	
nodded with a like droogy	Он кивнул с другерской	Noun ' <i>dpyr</i> ' adopts English
smile at one very big fat	улыбкой одному вэри	morpheme '-er' and Russian
bastard. (p. 52)	большому и толстому	morpheme '- <i>ской'</i>
	ублюдку. (р. 31)	

Tab. 2 Morpheme '-ing'

A Clockwork Orange	Механический	Commetary
	апельсин	
So the he started on me, me	Тогда он начал с меня и	zasnoot, спатинг ['spat ^j ıng]
being the youngest there,	пытался говорить, что	
trying to say that as the	мне, как младшему,	Origin: Russian verbs 'заснуть'
youngest I ought to be the	больше подходит	$[zas'nut^j] - 'to fall asleep' and$
one to zasnoot on the floor	спатинг на полу, чем	'спать' ['spat ^j] which means 'to
and not him. (p. 65)	ему. (р. 38)	sleep'
His cravat was like	Его галстук, словно	tidied up, чистинг [te'ıst ^j ıng]
someone had trampled on it,	топтали, маска слетела, и	
his maskie had been pulled	на лице была грязь, так	Origin: Russian verb 'чистить'
off and he had floor-dirt on	что мы отвели его в	['t͡ɕisʲtʲɪtʲ] – 'to clean'
his litso, so we got him in	аллею и сделали ему	
an alleyway and tidied him	маленький чистинг,	
up a malenky bit, soaking	плюя на платки, чтобы	
our tashtooks in spit to	стереть грязь. (р. 6)	
cheest the dirt off. (p. 11)		
But there was no Andy there	Но теперь тут не было	creech, кричинг ['kriteing]
now, brothers, only a scream	Энди, братцы, а только	
and a creech of nadsat	визг и кричинг надцатов	Origin: Russian verb 'кричать'
(teenage, that is) malchicks	/то есть подростков/,	$[kr^{j_1}tcæt^{j_1}] - 'to scream, to shout'$
and ptitsas slooshying some	малтшиков и цыпок,	
new horrible popsong and	слушавших новые	
dancing to it as well, and the	жуткие поп-песенки и	
veck behind the count er not	танцевавших под них, да	
much more than a nadsat	и вэк за прилавком был	
himself, clicking his rooker-	не многим старше	
bones and smecking like	надцата, он прищелкивал	
bezoomny. (p. 103)	пальцами и смеялся, как	
	безуммен. (р. 63)	
"Come on, gentlemen, we	— Ну, джентельмены,	prestoopnick, преступнинг
don't want any trouble, do	зачем нам это	[pr ^j I'stupn ^j Ing]

we?" in his very high-class goloss, but this new prestoopnick was really asking for it. (p. 66)	беспокойство? — произнес Доктор своим шикарным голосом. Но этот новый преступнин г сам напрашивался. (р. 39)	Origin: Russian noun ' <i>npecmynнuκ</i> ' [pr ^j ɪ'stupn ^j ɪk] – 'an offender, a criminal' In the translation it loses ending '- uκ' [ɪk] and adopts English morpheme '-ing'
Then he flick- flickflicked with his bolshy horny nail at my nose again, and I could slooshy very loud smecks of like mirth coming from the dark audience. (p. 93)	Потом он опять стал щелкать меня в нос большим твердым ногтем, и я услышал из темной аудитории вэри громкий и вроде радостный смэхинг . (р. 57)	smecks, CMJXHHF ['SMEXING] Origin: Russian noun ' <i>CMEX</i> ' ['Sm ^j ex] – 'a laughter a laugh' The original regressive assimilation in noun ' <i>CMEX</i> ' ['Sm ^j ex], [m] \rightarrow [m ^j], which occurs due to soft 'e' [e] following consonant 'm' is lost in nouns ' <i>CMJXHHZ</i> ' and ' <i>CMJXXHHZ</i> ', because hard 'J' [E] is applied. Consonant 'x' [x] as ' <i>Ck</i> ' [k] in the original.

Tab. 3 Borderline cases

A Clockwork Orange	Механический	Commetary
	апельсин	
I didn't so much kopat the	Я не очень-то заглядывал	govoreeting, говоритинга
later part of the book, which	в последнюю часть	[geva'rɪt ^j ɪng]
is more like all preachy	книги, где больше	
govoreeting than fighting	благочестивого	Origin: Russian verb 'говорить'
and the old in-out. (p. 60)	говоритинга, чем драк и	[gəvʌˈrʲitʲ] – 'to talk, to speak'
	насчет сунуть-вынуть.	
	(p. 35)	
Of course he would not	Он, конечно, меня не	crasting, крастинги ['krast ^j ıngı]
remember me, for in those	помнил, потому что в те	
carefree days I and my so-	вольные дни я и мои так	Origin: Russian verb 'красть'
called droogs did all our	называемые другеры, все	[kras ^j t ^j] – 'to steal'
bolshy dratsing and fillying	наши большие дратсинги,	
and crasting in maskies	забавы и крастинги	
which were real horrorshow	совершали в масках.	
disguises. (p. 113)	(p. 70)	
You've proved to me that all	Вы уже доказали мне, что	dratsing, дратсинг ['drats ^j ıng]
this dratsing and ultra-	весь этот дратсинг, и	
violence and killing is wrong	насилие, и убийство —	Origin: Russian verb 'драться'
wrong and terribly wrong.	дурно, ужасно дурно.	['drat ^j sə] – 'to fight'
(p. 87)	(p. 53)	
		In the translation verb 'драться'
		loses its ending '-ься' and adopts

		English morpheme '-ing'. The original regressive assimilation in verb ' $\partial pambc\pi$ ' ['drat ⁱ sə], [t] \rightarrow [t ⁱ], which occurs due to soft sign 'b' [^j] following consonant 'm' [t] is lost in noun ' $\partial pamcune'$ because it is omitted and letter 'c' [s] follows consonant 'm' [t].
So I fisted up and went smack at this litso, but he pulled himself away real	Я сжал кулак и хотел дать ему по фасу, но он отскочил вэри скор-ро,	rooker, рукер ['rʊk ^j er] Origin: Russian noun ' <i>рука</i> '
skorry, grinning still, and my rooker just punched air.	все ухмыляясь, и мой	[rʊˈka] – 'a hand'
(p. 83)	рукер ударил в воздух. (р. 50)	

Conclusions

This paper has presented the concept and several examples of a new translation procedure dubbed reverse naturalization (Pavlušová 2013), which has been discovered during a comparative analysis of Slovak and Russian translations of *A Clockwork Orange*. Cases where words which have been created through reverse naturalization have been compiled, examined and contrasted with their original counterparts. This proves that translation theory arises from practice. Further research into the categorization of translation techniques may potentially uncover new areas which may require the attention of theorists and to widen current theoretical knowledge of translation. The discovery of a new translation procedure has proven that the analyses of translations of various works and also comparative analyses of different translations of the same work may be deemed fruitful for further research within the field of translation theory.

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