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REALIAS AND UNIVERSALIAS IN TRANSLATION OF ENGLISH SI-FI

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Abstract. This article is devoted to the usage of realia and universalia in translation of English si-fi. In addition, it is discussed that realia, universalia represent universal concepts and themes that transcend cultural boundaries. These are the fundamental human experiences—love, loss, power, identity, justice, and the search for meaning—that resonate across cultures and times.

Key words: realia, universalia, translator, translation, term, terminology, meaning, semasiological, transformation, transliteration.

Аннотация. Данная статья посвящена использованию реалий и универсалий в переводе английской научной фантастики. И обсуждается, что реалии, универсалии представляют собой универсальные концепции и темы, выходящие за пределы культурных границ. Это фундаментальные человеческие переживания — любовь, потеря, власть, идентичность, справедливость и поиск смысла — которые находят отклик в разных культурах и периодах времени.

Ключевые слова: реалии, универсалии, переводчик, перевод, термин, терминология, значение, семасиологическое, трансформация, транслитерация.

I. Introduction: Translating English science fiction (Sci-Fi) poses particular problems that go beyond the usual ones found in literary translation. The difficulties arise from the natural mix of creative world-building and depiction of modern social fears and technical progress in the genre. Alongside universalia — concepts and themes that resonate across cultures and time spans — sci-fi novels often feature realia, culture-specific elements deeply rooted in their original context. Successful Sci-Fi translation calls for a careful juggling act: maintaining the cultural authenticity of the realia while clearly transmitting the general human experiences embedded in the universalia. The sophisticated interplay will be investigated in this paper together with the tactics used by translators in English

Sci-Fi translations to negotiate realia and universalia complexity. We will investigate several translation techniques and their effect on how the target audience understands and receives the material. Last, we shall look at the effects of these translation decisions on the more general discipline of translation studies as well as the future of Sci-Fi translation. *Methodology.* In the field of translation studies, realia denotes source text cultural context closely tied to the culture of source text. From physical items and activities to theoretical ideas and social standards, these components can vary. Realia in Science fiction can present itself in several forms. For instance, technical jargon could show the particular technical scene of source society at writing time. Realia, which ground the narrative within a particular cultural context, can also operate in cultural references—that is, allusions to historical events, literary works, or popular culture. The social norms and actions shown in the Sci-Fi universe might also present realia, therefore reflecting the cultural values and attitudes of the society's origin. Managing these technological, cultural, and social realia poses a major difficulty for translators who must give considerable thought to the cultural background and knowledge of the intended audience. [1, 67]

Universalia stand for general ideas and themes that surpass cultural lines, as opposed to actuality. Love, loss, power, identity, justice, and the pursuit of meaning, which resonate across time and cultures, are the essential human experiences. Although the particular form of these ideas could differ from one culture to another, the core ideas typically stay the same. Universals often function as the emotional center of the story in science fiction, driving the plot and influencing the characters&' motivations. These universal ideas help sci-fi to appeal globally since they enable it to resonate with people all over different cultural and linguistic contexts. Still, even the translation of universalia calls for sensitivity to cultural differences since the ways in which these ideas are expressed and understood might vary greatly. The effective translator has to present these general messages in a way that both honestly reflects the source text and appeals to the audience of interest. Though practical, the difference between realia and universalia is sometimes fuzzy. Some components could have features of both, further complicating matters for translators. *Research.* Every approach has its positives and negatives among English Sci-Fi translators who deal with realia. Domestication, whereby the translator adjusts the realia to suit the context of the target culture, is one standard method. This could mean substituting culturally specific references with those from the target culture or changing technical vocabulary to harmonize the consumer's experience level. Though domestication might improve availability and understanding, it could also damage cultural

authenticity and change the initial author's intention. There is also considerable risk of cultural appropriation or misunderstanding. Another method is foreignization, in which the translator maintains the realia in their original form and offers notes or comments whether required. This approach maintains the cultural specificity of the source text and gives the audience a view of the particular qualities of the source culture. Foreignization, though, might distance the target audience if the realia are excessively unknown or esoteric. This could also result in a more difficult and less fluent writing. [3] The selection of domestication or foreignization frequently depends on the particular realia at issue, the cultural knowledge of the intended audience, and the translator's general approach to the material. Cultural transplantation, a third approach, endeavors to find a middle ground between domesticization and foreignization. Selecting based on the importance to the entire story, the translator might change some realia while leaving others intact, carefully choosing which to emphasize. It can be notably challenging to define certain parameters when discussing segments specifically related to technology. Due to the fact that technology advances at a light speed, the concepts and ideas that were thought of as sophisticated, become obsolete almost instantaneously. Understanding of the target audience's technology level necessitates the consideration of the audience's comprehension. Depending on the complexity of the narrative, less advanced or provided to the readers in some cases where the technology tools are not central to the story's point, specific technology could be omitted. Additionally, cultural phenomena references ought to be translated very carefully. For students that do not belong to the source culture, the references contain more subtle connotative meanings that are not straightforwardly interpretable. It is a question of how these references are used, what needs to be taken as is, what should be attempted for the target audience, or what needs extra explanation. The decision is often driven by how salient the reference is in relation to the context of that culture as well as whether the intended audience is presumed to be familiar with that reference. In short, translators have to deal with source texts that have identity specific issues while ensuring that the engaging components of the text appeal to the target audience.[4,78] Cultural differences may exist in how universalia are expressed, although the fundamental ideas are frequently the same. The difficulty for the translator is to communicate these universal elements in a way that appeals to the intended audience while remaining true to the original text. Along with a great awareness of the subtleties of language and expression, this calls for a thorough study of both the source and target cultures. The capacity of the translator to modify the language and style of the

source text to conform to the norms of the target culture while maintaining the emotional resonance and thematic effect of the original work is frequently crucial for the successful translation of universalia. For example, a topic of love may be conveyed in the source and target languages using distinct cultural traditions. The emotional heart of the story must not be compromised in order for the translator to modify the language and visuals to match the target culture's conception of love. Likewise, the concept of loss may be communicated through various cultural customs or grieving practices. These cultural variations must be taken into consideration by the translator, who must modify the text appropriately. [5]. In order to communicate universal ideas, the use of metaphors, similes, and other literary devices may be quite important. The cultural suitability and efficacy of these devices in the target language must be carefully considered by the translator. The reader's emotional reaction to the text can be greatly influenced by the translator's word choice and phrasing. A good translation will capture the text's emotional depth and thematic resonance in addition to its precise meaning.

Universalia translation is not without its difficulties. The fundamental ideas may be universal, but how they are expressed culturally might vary greatly. To prevent misunderstandings or cultural conflicts, the translator has to be conscious of these cultural variations and modify the text appropriately. It's also important for the translator to avoid introducing their own cultural prejudices into the text. Interpretation and adaptation, not imposing oneself, should be the goal of the translation process. [6] Making a target text that is both readable by the intended audience and true to the original material is the aim.

Analyses. To illustrate the complexities of translating realia and universalia in English Sci-Fi, we will now examine specific examples from translated Sci-Fi works. Unfortunately, due to the limitations of the provided text, detailed case studies are not possible. However, the following hypothetical examples demonstrate the type of analysis that would be undertaken in a more comprehensive study: In order to demonstrate the difficulties of translating realia and universalia in English science fiction, we will now look at particular instances from translated science fiction. Sadly, thorough case studies are not feasible because of the text's restrictions. However, the hypothetical examples that follow show the kind of analysis that would be done in a more thorough study:

Hypothetical Case Study 1: For example, the translation of a science fiction book that includes a baseball game or other particular American cultural allusion. In order to make the baseball contest more accessible to the intended audience, a domestication method can substitute a football match (soccer) in a European

translation. This replacement, meanwhile, would eliminate the nuanced cultural connotations that are connected to baseball in American society. In a foreignization method, the baseball game would be kept, maybe with a footnote outlining the rules and the sport's cultural significance. While maintaining cultural authenticity, this tactic could turn off readers who aren't familiar with baseball.

Considering a science fiction book that examines the universal topic of love in Hypothetical Case Study 2. The way love is expressed may be modified by the translator to conform to the customs and cultural norms of the target language. For example, in a translation intended for a more restrained culture, a more overt display of affection in the English original language could be diminished. Without sacrificing the relationship's cultural authenticity, the difficulty is in expressing its depth of feeling. In both the source and target languages, this calls for a thorough comprehension of the cultural subtleties surrounding the expression of love.

Hypothetical Case Study 3: Let's look at a science fiction story that uses sophisticated technical terms. It may not be suitable to translate directly if there are no corresponding terminology in the target language. For the translator to express the intended meaning, neologisms or descriptive language may be required. The translator aims to strike a balance between accuracy and audience understanding while maintaining faithfulness to the original text. This might entail carefully choosing pre-existing phrases or coming up with new ones that are both precise and visually appealing. The choices made by the translator will have an impact on the reader's comprehension of the technological aspects and

Discussion. These fictitious instances demonstrate how translators must use a sophisticated and culturally aware approach. The decision between domestication, foreignization, and cultural transplanting is not always simple and is influenced by a number of variables, such as the intended audience, the particular realia and universalia at play, and the stylistic preferences and experience of the translator. [3, 41] Comparing source and target texts, looking at particular translated works, and assessing the translator's decisions in light of the previously mentioned tactics would all be necessary for a more comprehensive examination. [4,15]

Conclusion: Balancing Realia and Universalia in Sci-Fi Translation Maintaining cultural distinctiveness while communicating universal themes requires a careful balance when translating English science fiction. Translators must carefully analyse how realia and universalia interact, using the right techniques to handle the difficulties each poses. While domestication, foreignization, and cultural transfer are all legitimate strategies, the best option will vary depending on the target audience and the particular situation. Along with

having a solid knowledge of both languages, a professional translator must have a thorough awareness of both the source and destination cultures. Additionally, they need to be acutely aware of the norms of the genre and what Sci-Fi consumers expect.

The significance of a nuanced approach to translating science fiction has been brought to light by this study. It is imperative that translators be cognisant of cultural differences and work to strike a balance between maintaining the cultural authenticity of the source text and making it understandable to the intended audience. More complex models for assessing the efficacy of various translation techniques that take into consideration linguistic and cultural aspects should be the main goal of future study. Additionally, more investigation is required to examine how translation decisions affect the reader's experience and comprehension of the material. This can entail carrying out reader reaction tests to evaluate the efficacy of various translation strategies. [1,104]

Lastly, the results of this study have consequences for education and training for translators. Specialised sections on Sci-Fi translation, highlighting the particular difficulties and approaches involved, have to be included in translator training programs. As a result, future translators would be better prepared to tackle the challenges of interpreting this dynamic and culturally rich genre.

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