

**WAYS OF THE TRANSLATION OF THE PASSIVE VOICE
(from English into Russian)**

I.S. Shkroba, A.A. Losyuk, 1–st year of studies
Scientific supervisor – Y.N. Rusina, Candidate of Sciences (Philology)
Polessky State University

There have already been many studies related to the peculiarities of the translation of gerund, infinitive, passive voice and other grammatical structures. As it is known, the passive voice is used more widely in English than in Russian, it has several ways of its translation into Russian and, as some scientists say, its translation can present some difficulties [1, p.173].

It is a well-known fact that the main methods of the translation of the passive voice from English into Russian are the following: 1) use of the verb ‘to be’ + a short form of participle: *The house was built.* – *Дом был построен*; 2) use of reflexive verbs: *The house was being built.* – *Дом строился*; 3) use of verbs in the active voice in the form of a third person plural, having an indefinite meaning: *The house will be built.* – *Дом построят* [1, p.173–174].

The aim of this study is to define the peculiarities of the translation of the passive voice from English into Russian used by different authors. The material for our study is taken from the English novel "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" [2] and two variants of its translation into Russian done by Maria Spivak [3] and Igor Oransky [4].

By the method of continuous sampling we have selected 89 examples with the use of the passive voice construction. As our analysis has shown, the translators use different ways of translation. Besides the above-mentioned methods, the following ways of translation have been found:

- use of participle or adverbial participle constructions;
- replacing the verb in the passive voice with other parts of speech;
- use of the active voice;
- omission of the verb in the passive voice.

Our analysis has shown that the most frequent way of translation by Igor Oransky is the use of the active voice (27 sentences, which is 30.3%): *He had been hugged by a complete stranger.* – Подумать только, его **обнял** абсолютно незнакомый человек! // *Uncle Vernon had to wrestle Dudley to the ground to get the letter from him, which was made difficult ...* . – Дяде Вернону пришлось повалить Дадли на землю, чтобы вырвать у него из рук письмо, а это **оказалось** непросто... .

The use of verbs in the active voice in the form of a third person plural with an indefinite meaning is observed in 22 sentences (24.7%): *He also thought he had been called a Muggle, whatever that was.* – Мало того, **его называли** каким-то маглom. // *He had been given a week in his cupboard for this... .* – За это ему **запретили** целую неделю выходить из чулана... .

The use of the verb 'to be' + a short form of participle is found in 18 sentences (20.4%), translated by Igor Oransky: *He was rattled.* – Что бы там ни означало это слово, мистер Дурсль **был потрясен**. // *Her black hair was drawn into a tight bun.* – Её черные волосы **были собраны** в тугой узел на затылке.

The other four ways of translation are less frequent.

The use of reflexive verbs is found in 8 sentences (8.9%): *Although owls normally hunt at night and are hardly ever seen in daylight, there have been hundreds of sightings of these birds flying in every direction since sunrise.* – Хотя совы обычно охотятся ночью и практически **никогда не показываются** днем, сегодня поступали сотни сообщений от людей, которые с самого рассвета в разных точках страны видели беспорядочно летающих сов. // *One small hand closed on the letter beside him and he slept on, not knowing he was special, not knowing he was famous, not knowing he would be woken in a few hours' time by Mrs. Dursley's scream.* – Маленькая ручка нащупала письмо и стиснула его. Он продолжал спать, не зная о том, что он особенный, о том, что стал знаменитостью. Не зная, что он **проснется** через несколько часов от крика миссис Дурсль.

Replacing the verb in the passive voice with other parts of speech can be seen in 7 sentences (7.9%): *Ahern – just a few more words now that we are all fed and watered.* – Теперь, когда все мы **сыты**, я хотел бы сказать еще несколько слов.

The use of participle and adverbial participle constructions is observed in 5 sentences (5.6%): *When he was dressed he went down the hall into the kitchen.* – **Одевшись**, он пошел на кухню. // *The only thing Harry liked about his own appearance was a very thin scar on his forehead that was shaped like a bolt of lightning.* – Единственное, что Гарри нравилось в собственной внешности – это тонкий шрам на лбу, **напоминавший** молнию.

The omission of the verb in the passive voice is only found in 2 sentences (2.2%): *The four houses are called Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw, and Slytherin.* – Факультетов в школе четыре – Гриффиндор, Пуффендуй, Когтевран и Слизерин // *Thief, you have been warned, beware of finding more than treasure there.* – Если пришел за чужим ты сюда, Отсюда тебе не уйти никогда.

As for Maria Spivak, the most frequent way of translation is the use of the active voice (20 sentences, which is 22.4%): *A boy with dreadlocks was surrounded by a small crowd.* – Небольшая толпа **окружала** мальчика с дредами. // *Harry tried – but he had hardly raised the wand when it, too, was snatched back by Mr. Ollivander.* – Гарри взял и, чувствуя себя глупо, взмахнул, но мистер Олливандер почти сразу **отобрал** палочку и заменил на другую.

The use of verbs in the active voice in the form of a third person plural with an indefinite meaning is observed in 19 sentences (21.3%): *He also thought he had been called a Muggle, whatever that was.* – И ещё его, кажется, **обозвали** муглом – что бы это ни означало. // *Every year, Harry was left behind with Mrs. Figg, a mad old lady who lived two streets away.* – А Гарри на это время **сдавали** миссис Фигг, чокнутой бабке, которая жила через две улицы.

The use of the verb 'to be' + a short form of participle is found in 15 sentences (16.8%): *The table was almost **hidden** beneath all Dudley's birthday presents.* – Стола практически **не было видно** под коробками и свёртками. // *This specimen was **bred** in the zoo.* – Этот экземпляр **выведен** в зоопарке.

The result for the method of replacing the verb in the passive voice with other parts of speech is almost the same – 14 sentences (15.7%): *Yeh've been **singled out**, an' that's always hard.* – Хотя и нелёгкое это дело. Ты **особенный**, а таким всегда тяжело. // *The only thing Harry liked about his own appearance was a very thin scar on his forehead that was **shaped** like a bolt of lightning.* – В собственной внешности Гарри нравился один лишь тонкий шрам на лбу – **в виде** зигзага молнии.

The use of reflexive verbs is found in 12 sentences (13.4%): *True, Dudley was now so **scared** of Harry he wouldn't stay in the same room.* – Правда, Дудли теперь настолько **боялся** Гарри, что не решился оставаться с ним в одной комнате. // *Harry was strongly **reminded** of Dudley.* – Гарри отчётливо **припомнился** Дудли.

As for the other two ways of translation, they are much less frequently used by M.Spivak. So, the omission of the verb in the passive voice is found in 6 sentences (6.7%): *He reached over the back of the sofa, jerked the gun out of Uncle Vernon's hands, bent it into a knot as easily as if it **had been made** of rubber.* – Он перегнулся через спинку дивана, отобрал у дяди Вернона ружьё, с лёгкостью завязал его узлом. // *These tables were **laid** with glittering golden plates and goblets.* – На столах – золотые блюда и кубки.

The use of participle and adverbial participle constructions is observed in 3 sentences (3.3%): *Her black hair was **drawn** into a tight bun.* – Женщина – тоже в плаще, но изумрудном, и с чёрными волосами, **стянутыми** на затылке в строгий пучок, – была явно на взводе. // *Her eyes lingered for a moment on Neville's cloak, which was **fastened** under his left ear.* – Её взгляд задержался на плаще Невилла, **застёгнутом** под левым ухом.

As we can see, both translators use the same ways of translating the passive voice into Russian though the percentage is different. Our analysis has shown that despite the differences in the number of usage, the most frequent ways of translating for both authors are the same: the use of the active voice, the use of verbs in the active voice in the form of a third person plural with an indefinite meaning, the use of the verb 'to be' + a short form of participle. But M.Spivak also uses reflexive verbs and the way of replacing the verb in the passive voice with other parts of speech almost as often as the first three methods, while for I.Oransky only the first three methods are the leading ones.

References

1. Качалова, К.Н. Практическая грамматика английского языка / К.Н.Качалова, Е.Е.Израевич. – М.: Юнвес, 1995. – 555 с.
2. Rowling, J. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone [Электронный ресурс]. – Режим доступа: <http://www2.sdfi.edu.cn/netclass/jiaoan/englit/download/Harry%20Potter%20and%20the%20Sorcerer's%20Stone.pdf> – Дата доступа: 10.03.2019.
3. Гарри Поттер и философский камень (перевод И.Оранского) [Электронный ресурс]. – Режим доступа: http://loveread.ec/read_book.php?id=2317&p=1 – Дата доступа: 10.03.2019.
4. Гарри Поттер и Философский камень (перевод М.Спивак) [Электронный ресурс]. – Режим доступа: <http://lib.anwar.be/read/137444> – Дата доступа: 10.03.2019.