

E.A. Kurpachenko, 1st year of studies
Scientific supervisor – Y.N. Rusina, Candidate of Science (Philology)
Polesky State University

Nowadays business has an increasing influence on the development of international relations. The problem of understanding is considered to be one of the most important issues in the process of cross-cultural communication. Differences between languages, due to the variety of cultures, are clearly evident in the lexical systems of languages, especially in phraseology. Proverbs can tell us a lot about the mentality of any nation.

The aim of this research is to identify the specific features of English proverbs and the peculiarities of their translation into Russian. According to A.V.Koonin, proverbs are kinds of communicative phraseological units. A proverb is usually a short saying in a rhythmically organized form [3, p. 339]. I.V.Arnold defines a proverb as “a short familiar saying expressing popular wisdom, a truth or a moral lesson in a concise and imaginative way” [1, p.161]. From the point of view of their grammatical structure, proverbs are always sentences. In the context a proverb can act as an independent sentence or as a part of a complex sentence.

The object of our study is 33 proverbs connected with the topic “Money and wealth” that we have selected from different sources [2, 4, 5, 6]. Selecting proverbs on this topic we paid attention to the presence of such lexical items as ‘money, wealth, penny’. The analysis has shown that from the point of view of their grammatical structure only 2 of the selected proverbs are imperative sentences (*Never spend your money before you have it; Lend your money and lose your friend*) and all the others are declarative sentences. 26 proverbs are simple sentences (*Money begets money, Money has no smell, Time is money*), 7 proverbs are complex sentences (*Money often unmakes the men who make it, Money calls but does not stay, it is round and rolls away*).

Scientists studying proverbs speak about different expressive means. The main lexical expressive means found in proverbs are repetitions and contrasts [3, p.351]. As a result of our research, we have found out the following lexical expressive means in the proverbs connected with the topic “Money and wealth”:

1. repetitions: *Money begets money*;
2. antonymous contrasts (the opposing items are real antonyms in the lexical system): *Money is a good servant but a bad master*. – *Умный человек – хозяин деньгам, а скупой – слуга*;

3. non-antonymous contrasts (the opposing items are not antonyms in the lexical system): *Muck and money go together.* – *Богатый совести не купит, а свою погубит.*

As for the peculiarities of the translation of English proverbs into Russian, they can be divided into those having full and partial equivalents. Our analysis has shown that only 4 English proverbs connected with the topic “Money and wealth” have full Russian equivalents. They have the same meaning, lexical composition and grammatical structure. For example:

Money begets money. – *Деньга деньгу наживает; Money has no smell.* – *Деньги не пахнут; Money often unmakes the men who make it.* – *Деньги часто губят тех, кто их наживает; Time is money.* – *Время – деньги.*

All the other selected proverbs have only partial equivalents. The examples are the following: *Wealth like want ruins many.* – *Залез в богатство, забыл и братство; Money doesn't grow on trees.* – *Деньги не щепки, на полу не подымеешь; He that has no money needs no purse.* – *Голому разбой не страшен; His money burns a hole in his pocket.* – *Деньги жгут ему карман; A fool and his money are soon parted.* – *У дурака в горсти дыра; Money is a good servant but a bad master.* – *Умный человек – хозяин деньгам, а скупой – слуга; Muck and money go together.* – *Богатый совести не купит, а свою погубит; Money spent on the brain is never spent in vain.* – *Знание лучше богатства; Money makes the world go round.* – *Деньги правят миром; He that has money in his purse cannot want a head for his shoulders.* – *Есть чем звякнуть, так можно и крикнуть; It is easy to spend someone else's money.* – *Из чужого кармана платить легко; Lack of money is the root of all evil.* – *Бедность не грех, а до греха доводит; Love of money is the root of all evil.* – *Деньги глаза слепят; Money calls but does not stay, it is round and rolls away.* – *Деньги, что вода; Money is round, and it rolls away.* – *Где прибыль, там и убыток; Money can't buy happiness.* – *И через золото слезы текут; Money saved is money earned.* – *Сбережешь – что найдешь; Never spend your money before you have it.* – *Цыплят по осени считают; You pay your money and you take your choice.* – *Кто платит музыканту, тот и заказывает музыку; Money to spare likes good care.* – *Деньги счет любят; Penny and penny laid up will be many.* – *Копейка рубль бережет; Lend your money and lose your friend.* – *В долг давать – дружбу терять; Abundance of money ruins youth.* – *Богатство родителей – порча детям.*

There are some synonymous proverbs: *Money is power.* – *Деньги все двери открывают; С деньгами на свете, так и дурак в карете; Money masters all things.* – *Деньги все двери открывают; Money runs the world.* – *Деньги все двери открывают; Золото не говорит, да много творит; Money speaks.* – *Деньги все двери открывают; Money talks.* – *Деньги все двери открывают; Money opens all doors.* – *Золотой ключик все двери отпирает.*

So, as our analysis has shown, English proverbs connected with the topic “Money and wealth” have mainly partial equivalents in Russian, and the item ‘money’ is represented in them more often than in their Russian variants.

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