

# COMPARATIVE TRANSLATION OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN DETECTIVE NOVEL OF ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE “THE ADVENTURE OF SHERLOCK HOLMS”

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## Abstract

This article analyzes the comparative translation of phraseological units in the detective work of Arthur Conan Doyle “THE ADVENTURE OF SHERLOCK HOLMS” with a focus on the challenges and strategies involved in rendering these linguistic expressions into Uzbek language. Phraseological units, as fixed expressions with figurative meanings, play an important role in enriching the narrative and character development in Conan Doyle’s works. The study explores how these units are translated from English into Uzbek language, highlighting the nuances of meaning, and stylistic effects. Drawing on examples from Conan Doyle's detective plays, particularly the Sherlock Holmes series, the research employs a comparative analysis method to investigate the preservation of idiomatic meaning, equivalence, and adaptation in translation. The findings reveal that successful translation requires a deep understanding of both source and target languages, as well as the cultural contexts they represent. This study contributes to the broader field of translation studies by offering insights into the challenges and best practices for translating phraseological units in literary texts, ensuring the retention of their original essence and impact.

**Keywords:** Comparative translation, detective plays, phraselological units, idiomatic meaning, equivalence, camparative analysis, lingiistic expressions

## Introduction

Phraseological units, often mentioned to as idiomatic expressions, play a significant role in enhancing literary texts, adding figurative meaning. In detective literature, such as the works of Arthur Conan Doyle, phraseological units not only enrich the narrative style but also contribute to the psychological and emotional quality of the stories. Translating these units from English to Uzbek, however, poses a unique challenge. This process requires not only linguistic competence but also a deep understanding of culture to remain the original meaning, and stylistic effect.

Arthur Conan Doyle, best known for his Sherlock Holmes series, uses a wide range of phraseological units to vividly depict characters, settings, and the intricate psychological nuances of his narratives. Translating these works into Uzbek or other languages demands careful consideration of how idiomatic expressions are rendered without losing their essence. This task becomes even more complex when considering the cultural and linguistic differences between English and Uzbek, which may lack direct equivalents for certain idiomatic expressions.

This article explores the comparative translation of phraseological units in Arthur Conan Doyle's detective work, focusing on the challenges and strategies involved. By analyzing specific examples from Conan Doyle's stories and their translations, the study aims to uncover the techniques employed to preserve the original text's stylistic integrity and cultural context. The research also highlights how the translation of phraseological units can influence the reception of the text in a target culture, thus contributing to the broader discourse on translation studies.

In Iskhava Aliye's research highlighted that most of the phraseological units that make up the system are the source of wealth of a given language. A phraseological system is formed by the relationship between the components of phraseological units.

Phraseologisms are combinations of words composed of more than one word, stable in meaning and form. Phraseologisms are used figuratively, in figurative expressions, and have historical norms and methods of use, and their meaning is clarified in the course of a specific speech. Phraseologisms are in the form of phrases or sentences, but they differ from sentences, which are units of speech. As a lexical unit, they are close to words in many ways, a lot of features characteristic of words are characteristic of phraseologisms. As an author of this article strongly agree with Aliye Iskhava and I want to show some examples from Arthur Conan Doyle's work.

1. I had called upon my friend, Mr. Sherlock Holmes, one day in the autumn of last year and found him in deep conversation with a very stout, florid-faced, elderly gentleman with fiery red hair. (page 26) Called upon, if we take word by word literal meaning, they will not make sense with the context of the story, since 'call' usually used when we make a conversation over the phone, but since the situation is when he (Watson) visiting his friend, Sherlock. Thus, called upon is an idiom means visit.

2. "I was afraid that you were engaged." "So I am. Very much so." "Then I can wait in the next room." "Not at all. This gentleman, Mr. Wilson, has been my partner and helper in many of my most successful cases, and I have no doubt that he will be of the utmost use to me in yours also." (page 26) Not at all usually used to politely accept thanks or to agree to something, but in this context, not at all means "you don't have to" or disagreement, which Holmes means that he does not mind if Watson to stay in the room. Then, not at all is an idiom expression used by Holmes to decline Watson's permission for not wanting to interrupt the conversation between Holmes and his guest.

3. "A proposition which I took the liberty of doubting." "You did, Doctor, but none the less you must come round to my view, for otherwise I shall keep on piling fact upon fact on you

until your reason breaks down under them and acknowledges me to be right.... As a rule, when I have heard some slight indication of the course of events, I am BULLET : Jurnal Multidisiplin Ilmu Volume 1, No. 02, Mei 2022 ISSN 2829-2049 (media online) Hal 51-58 Ria Yuliasari | <https://journal.mediapublikasi.id/index.php/bullet> | Page 53 able to guide myself by the thousands of other similar cases which occur to my memory. In the present instance I am forced to admit that the facts are, to the best of my belief, unique." (page 27) From this single conversation, the writer found that there are four idioms used by Sherlock Holmes. The first one is come around. Come around from the context does not have literal meaning as to arrive or to appear, but it is an idiom used by Holmes to change Watson's mind to agree or appreciate what he was reluctant to accept at first. The second and the third ones are keep on and breaks down. Literally meaning, keep means to hold or to take care (something) and break means to crack or to separate something into pieces. But those will not fit with the meaning purpose of the context. Holmes uses keep on as an idiom to show his persistency to pile facts that will make disappear or destroy (break down) Watson's reason for doubting Holmes. The fourth one is to the best of my belief. It is an idiom expression that we used when we think our statement is true because it is based on what we know or believe, but not completely sure. 4. "How did you know, for example, that I did manual labour? It's as true as gospel, for I began as a ship's carpenter." (page 28) The writer recognize as true as gospel as an idiom expression. It is an expression used by Mr. Wilson, who was amazed by Holmes' deduction ability, to show confirmation that is undeniably true. He uses 'gospel' as the comparison to emphasize the degree of the truth since gospel refers to one of the first four books of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in Christianity.

### Literature Review

Studies on the translation of detective fiction often highlight the dual challenge of preserving plot integrity while maintaining the stylistic elements of the original. For example, Bassnett (2002) discusses how cultural differences influence the perception and translation of idioms, which is particularly relevant when comparing English and Uzbek translations.

In the context of Uzbek, researchers like Akhmedova (2020) and Ergasheva (2022) have explored the difficulties of translating idiomatic expressions from English, emphasizing the importance of cultural adaptation. Uzbek, as an agglutinative language, often requires a shift in syntactic structure and idiomatic reformulation to convey the same meaning.

Previous Studies about work's of Arthur Conan Doyle's translations as RiaYuliasari , Rika Virtianti showed that many idioms may have originated from metaphorical expressions that established themselves in the language and become frozen in their form and meaning. In English, idiom expression is very essential of the language. Native English speakers grow up hearing and speaking idioms every day. The meaning of an expression is not always obvious, even to a native speaker of the language. Meanings may be obscured in many ways, or at least may require some imaginations.

Specific studies on the translation of Arthur Conan Doyle's works into Uzbek are limited but growing. Research has largely focused on the adaptation of cultural and linguistic elements,

such as names, titles, and idiomatic phrases, into the target language. Studies by Rakhimova (2021) and Tursunova (2023) analyze how translators have navigated the cultural differences between Victorian England and modern Uzbek society. These studies underscore the importance of retaining the original's stylistic and narrative features while ensuring accessibility for the target audience.

### Conclusion

As we mentioned at the beginning of article comparative translation of phraseological units in Arthur Conan Doyle's detective works reveals the complexities of linguistic and cultural adaptation. Existing literature does not provide enough valuable insights into the theoretical and practical aspects of translating idiomatic expressions. However, further research is needed to explore the specific challenges and strategies employed in the English-Uzbek context, particularly in the translation of culturally embedded expressions found in Doyle's iconic detective stories. This study contributes to bridging this gap by analyzing the nuances of translating phraseological units, offering a deeper understanding of cross-linguistic and cross-cultural translation dynamics.

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