



## Investigating Linguistic Devices Used in English Translation to Convey Deontic Modality

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### Abstract

The functional-semantic category of modality's transfer properties are examined in this article in relation to language learning from English to other languages. This study aims to explore the deontic element in English-American narratives. Thus, the purpose of this paper is to compare the linguistic strategies employed in English to express deontic modality. The common modal structures are listed, examples of their use in the English language are provided, and the most universal language components that contribute to the formation of the modality of deontics are identified in the study's framework. This work is novel because it approaches the concept of deontic modality from a broader perspective and views it as a category that combines various linguistic tools, such as morphological, lexical, grammatical, and semantic ones, all within the context of two linguistic realities at once.

**Keywords:** English Translation; Deontic Modality; Linguistic Device.

### 1. Introduction

In English linguistics, the functional-semantic category of modality is regarded as having a lot of facets and is responsible for many changes to the category's definition. There are linguists who attribute the category of modality to the semantic field or even the functional-semantic field of language, while other researchers think that this phenomenon is solely grammatical and discuss the lexical-grammatical nature of modality. We can conclude, with some generalization of the information gleaned from different theoretical sources, that the modality language category is a particular characteristic of the English-speaking world, as recognized by many foreign linguists as well as domestic scientists. It views modality as a wide aspect of language and as a distinct linguistic category. Vinogradov (1975) states that there are several ways to express the aspect category and that "the internal differences in its syntactic-semantic essence are partly related to the differences in the ways of expressing this category." In contrast, Shakhmatov (2001) discusses sentence modality in greater detail and approaches the study of this category from the perspectives of exclamatory, wishful, directive, interrogative, and descriptive sentences. As it happens, modality is linked to a desire, an order, a query, a request, and occasionally just a description. Although there are differing perspectives on this matter among scientists who speak English, it is crucial to remember that modality is first viewed in a more systematic manner and gives rise to numerous subcategories that together provide a vast array of ways to express modal relations.

Studying the French language's modality, Sh. Bally refers to modality as the "soul of the sentence" and states that the expression of relations between different categories is what matters most in modal relations. This idea served as the foundation for additional research on the subject. "Any integral expression of a thought, feeling, impulse, reflecting reality in one form or another of an utterance, is clothed in one of the intonation schemes of sentences existing in a given language system and expressing one of those syntactic meanings which in their totality form the category of modality," stated Vinogradov (1950), who was studying modality and the spectrum of its distribution. G.A. The relationship between the subject of the action (the carrier of the sign) and the action (the predicative sign) is an intra-syntactic modality. Zolotova (1962) identified the types of relations themselves in the process of systematizing knowledge about modality. The relation of the statement's content to reality in terms of its reality/irreality from the speaker's point of view is an

objective modality. The speaker's attitude toward the statement's content in terms of its reliability/unreliability is a subjective modality.

## 2. Literature Review

It can be defined as the way the meaning of a clause is qualified to reflect the speaker's assessment of the likelihood that the proposition it expresses is true. It expresses various relationships between the utterance and reality as well as various subjective qualifications of what is communicated. Three categories of modality are identified in the linguistics literature (Halliday 1978): epistemic (modes of knowing), deontic (modes of obligation), and alethic (modes of truth). According to Lyons (1977), the alethic modality conveys the necessary truth of a proposition, the epistemic modality conveys knowledge of an entity or an event, and the deontic modality conveys consent or duty (Palmer, 2013). The Greek word *deus* is where the term deontic modality originates. According to Downing and Locke (1992), the deontic modality is when the speaker "intervene[s] in the speech event by laying obligations or giving permission"; it communicates the idea that something must be done (Depraetere and Langford 2020). According to Lyons (1977), "[w]hen we impose upon someone the obligation to perform or to refrain from performing a particular act," we are not so much describing the individual's performance of the act as we are describing "the state-of-affairs that will obtain if the act in question is performed." A collection of modal markers that form a modal system are the essential components of modality. The main components of this system in German, Slavic, and Romance languages are modal verbs. In order "to make an assessment, judgment or interpretation of what we are speaking or writing about, or express our attitude to this," these verbs are usually used in conjunction with other main verbs (Parrott, 2000). Other markers, known as lexical modals, can also convey modal meanings in addition to modal verbs.

## 3. Methodology

The distribution of lexical elements into distinct subgroups based on the types of relationships they characterize is the beginning of the history of the category of modality in the English language. When studying different Turkic languages, scientists like Zinnatullina gave the study of modality a great deal of attention. This was the first time that the modality of the English language was taken into consideration. In his study, Khangildin (1959) discusses modality and classifies words into eight groups that are referred to as modal.

All levels of language where modality can appear are very fully described by Zakiev (2002): studying intonation and its types (phrasal, logical, and modal emphasis is being considered), studying sentence types for the purpose of the statement, studying verbs (special phrases of the verb and the noun are considered), and studying predicate as a special element. In the study of circumstances and particles (address and introductory words), the author also assumes of modality. Tumasheva (1986) observes that the proper classification of modal words into a distinct language group and acknowledges them as independent parts of speech while researching the morphology of the English language. Khafizova's work analyzes how the category of modality is represented in political media discourse.

## 4. Results

It is also possible to identify additional existential (related to the mode of existence) and alethic (associated with the mode of truth and manifests truth or falsity) modalities through more thorough studies. The spectrum of deontic modality in English is defined by the mode of obligation and comprises the following types of relations: obligation, permission or allowance, intention or desire, detachment or indifference, and prohibition (Palmer, 2013). The formation of deontic modal relations involves: Central modal auxiliary verbs: "No movement is discernible elsewhere on the plain, either bird or quadruped" (Mayne, 1988). These verbs express possibility and necessity. Other than that, there isn't a single moving thing on the plain—not a bird flying, not a beast sprinting. The definite verb "can" is lost during the translation process when translating from English to other languages, and the sentence starts to read like a straightforward story. Considering that other languages' translations are used in place of English when translating.

The direct transfer of modality from English to other languages is demonstrated in the example below. I have adversaries nearby (Mayne, 1888). I can't stay here much longer, though. My foes are not far away" (Reid, 2004). The following example includes multiple definite verbs that have been translated into different languages, with the verb "can" serving as the primary form of the facet.

Formative verbs that convey necessity: "Well, that's a different story. It hurts and alienates everyone, and I don't think it should be printed the way it is. Furthermore, there won't be any profit. The present tense, which signifies "of necessity," is utilized by translators when translating into other languages. It typically follows infinitive forms. Semi-modal verbs "need" and "dare" are weaker versions of central modal verbs. One could mention, for instance, the following sentences: "No smuggler can deceive him, if he dares to try, and no smuggler dares to deceive him, even if he wants to." "Any smuggler who attempts to deceive the reverse will fail; not even if he dares."

This translation example is noteworthy for its case transfer since the idiomatic phrase "to dare," which completely expresses the author's meaning, transfers the case represented by the semi-faceted verb "dare" in other languages. That's right.

Verbs like "want" that fall under the category of "boltic modal forms" or simpler words—forms that convey preferences and desires—are examples of contextual forms that can establish modal relations (sometimes called hidden modal forms). Certain nouns or adjectives in the English language, such as possibility, necessity, definite, possible, etc., can also denote modality (Palmer, 2013). Transferring from one language to another may reveal differences when modal relations are expressed with parts of speech other than verbs. The word "possibility," which expresses possibility, should appear like "possible" or "possibile" in other languages in the example below. The translator modifies the sentence structure and takes a different tack. Beyond all possibility of disbelief, he witnessed the horse moving along the line at a slow but steady pace. The horse had no legs and made no sound, so rather than walking, he was gliding, eerily reminiscent of a scene from the Transfiguration (Mayne, 1988). "He was certain. He observed the horse ambling along the edge of the rock with a steady, slow gait, but he could not hear his footsteps—rather, they sounded like a ghost in a theater." "Incredible. The hunter noticed the elderly horse ambling along the coast, sounding like a bird in a dark hall as he did so. However, he was not heard to stop.

## 5. Discussions

When a modal verb is absent from the source text during literary translation, there may occasionally be a different image visible because the translator chose to employ word combinations that suggest modal relationships. The word "need" appears in the translation that follows, but the author conveys the necessary elements in the original sentence by using the appropriate lexical combination and context (Fakhrudinova and associates, 2022). "His knees trembled strangely, and his heart leaped greatly, leaving him feeling weak and sinking. He hurried to his room and took a seat on the bed..." (London, 1953).

## 6. Conclusion

Even though it results in some systematization, the comparative analysis of the deontic modality's manifestation characteristics in the English language considers a number of variable elements, including the original work's lexical style and language characteristics of English modal relations as well as the translator's personal word choices. The deontic approach primarily relies on lexical and grammatical elements rather than context to convey meaning. Oral speech can also employ prosodic language elements to express modal meanings.

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