1. Introduction

The translation of phraseological units found in the context differs a lot from the translation presented in the dictionaries. Mentioning that we can recollect the name of the famous Swiss linguist Ferdinand de Saussure who was the first to oppose what he named langue (the state of a language at a certain time) to parole (the speech of an individual). Dictionaries cannot present all possible variants of translation of this or that idiom in the context because in the context it can incorporate some additional meaning. Therefore sometimes translators try to find a different way of translation in spite of the fact that an idiom has an equivalent or an analogue in the dictionary because the context requires a special interpretation.

2. Main part

There are several classifications of interlanguage phraseological counterparts. Most of them are based on lexicographic material; for example, the classifications of Alexander Koonin and Elena Arsentyeva.

Elena Arsentyeva clearly recognizes four types of interlanguage phraseological counterparts: full equivalents, partial equivalents, full analogues and partial analogues [3].

**Full equivalents** in the target text coincide with the English expression in meaning, in imagery, stylistic colouring and grammatical structure:

the golden rule – золотое правило;
to play with fire – играть с огнем.

**Partial equivalents** coincide with the English expression in meaning, in imagery and stylistic colouring but have a lexical or grammatical difference:

the last card – последний козырь [lit. the last trump];
have smth in hand – держать что-л. в руках [lit. have smth in hands].

**Full analogues** are equal with the English expression in meaning but differ from it in lexicogrammatical form, imagery, sometimes in expressive and evaluative connotation:

wear one’s heart upon one’s sleeve – душа нараспашку [lit. smb’s soul is unbuttoned].
Partial analogues are characterized by incomplete similarity of meaning and complete difference in imagery, sometimes in expressive and evaluative connotation:

Honey is not for the ass’s mouth – разбираться в чем-то, как свинья в апельсинах [lit. know as much about smth as a pig about oranges].

Numerous English phraseological units do not have equivalents in the Russian language. The main reason for this phenomenon is that a phraseological unit may contain an obsolete component or a peculiar item which does not exist in the target language. In this instance various types of non-phraseological types of translation can be used:

**calque**, i.e. a word-by-word translation:

*the old lady of Threadneedle Street* – старая леди с Треднидл стрит;

**descriptive translation**, i.e. a translation with the help of a free word combination:

*cross the floor of the House* – перейти из одной партии в другую [lit. to go from one party to another];

**lexical translation**, i.e. a translation by means of one lexeme:

*as welcome as flowers in May* – долгожданный [lit. long-awaited];

**combined translation** which usually represents a combination of a loan translation followed by a descriptive translation introduced by the conjunction ‘то есть’ [lit. that is] and the Russian analogue (if there is any):

*many kiss the child for the nurse’s sake* – «многие целуют ребенка ради няни», то есть люди часто руководствуются корыстными побуждениями в своих поступках.

We can easily find all the above-mentioned types of interlanguage counterparts in an actual text. However, there is a slight difference between the combined translation presented in the dictionary and the one given in the context. In the contextual usage the combined translation stands for the **footnote translation** when we deal with a loan translation in the body of the text and the descriptive translation given as a footnote with special remarks or explanation.

In spite of the fact that both Alexander Koonin and Elena Arsentyeva focus on the counterparts given in the dictionaries they mention one more type of possible translation. In the introduction to *English-Russian Phraseological Dictionary* Alexander Koonin suggests the term ‘обертональный перевод’ which means **occasional, or situational translation**. It is the translation which can be used for translating a phraseological unit only in one particular context [7].

To illustrate this very type of translation we present a quote from the novel *The Haunted Hotel* by W. Collins:
It was reported on good authority that he was in receipt of one of the largest incomes derived from the practice of medicine [2].

The phraseological unit on good authority means that somebody believes that certain information is true because it came from a person or document you can trust. However the Russian translator decided that the ironic attitude of the author towards the matter is clearly cut in this very extract. From the translator’s point of view the author exposes bad habits of the society, to be more precise, its keen interest in the incomes of other people. As a result we can trace the translator’s sentiment (which can be subjective) in the Russian version of the context:

Надежная молва приписывала ему едва ли не богатейший доход, доставляемый в наши дни медицинской практикой [lit. Reliable rumours arrogate to him one of the largest incomes derived from the practice of medicine] [6].

The translation of the phraseological unit on good authority with the help of the free combination надежная молва [lit. reliable rumours] is a purely contextual translation because in the emotionally neutral context this idiom doesn’t have such a shade of meaning as ‘rumour has it’ or ‘it is common gossip that…’, on the contrary, this phraseological unit indicates that the information is true and authentic. It was the translator’s decision to create a humorous effect, therefore he chose this contextual translation combining the descriptive adjective надежная [reliable] with the noun молва [rumour]; it goes without saying that this word combination is not typical; moreover the translator uses the Russian verb приписывать [to arrogate smth to smb] instead of the English formal construction it was reported.

It is clear that such kind of a counterpart can not be fixed in the English-Russian phraseological dictionary; this translation is contextual. Using the term ‘contextual’ we do not stress that it was given in the context. We oppose this contextual (occasional, situational) translation to usual (dictionary) translation.

Different researches have different opinion on the place of the contextual translation in the catalogue of the types of rendering phraseological units from one language to another.

Alexander Koonin sets it aside, while two Bulgarian researchers Sider Florin and Sergei Vlahov practically equate the contextual translation to the descriptive type of translation. They suggest that the descriptive translation cannot exist in the context since it automatically turns into a contextual one [5].

However in our work we differentiate the descriptive and contextual translation. As a proof we provide such an example.

The phraseological unit Benefit of Clergy is a law-term. In English law, the benefit of clergy was originally a provision by which clergymen could claim that they were outside the jurisdiction of the secular courts. The descriptive translation of this phraseological unit into Russian is неподсудность духовных лиц светскому суду [lit. immunity of clergymen to jurisdiction]. This kind of translation is very suitable because it conveys the meaning of the phraseological unit of terminological character with the maximum fullness.
It is the descriptive translation that we observe in the Russian translation of W. Foster’s work *The Negro People in American History*:

*A person “stealing a slave <…> shall suffer death without benefit of clergy”* [7].

Лицо, «совершившее кражу раба <…> должно подвергаться смертной казни. При этом не принимается во внимание неподсудность духовных лиц светскому суду». [lit. ‘A person “stealing a slave <…> shall suffer death. And one shouldn’t take into account the immunity of clergymen to jurisdiction’] [7].

This descriptive construction serves as the definition which completely conveys the meaning of the English expression in this context.

Though in the Russian translation of the novel *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte we find the contextual translation of the phraseological unit *Benefit of Clergy*. Translator N. Volpin had to adopt a creative approach towards the translation since the phraseological unit is found in the context which is highly emotional. The author describes a furious quarrel when the heroine defends her point of view and her speech is very emotive. Obviously the descriptive translation which lacks expressiveness would be inadequate in this fragment:

'Let him dare to force you,' I cried. 'There's law in the land, thank God! there is; though we are in an out-of-the-way place. I'd inform if he were my own son: and it's felony without benefit of clergy!' [1].

Пусть только попробует принудить вас, - закричала я. – У нас в стране есть правосудие – есть еще, слава Богу, хоть мы и живем в захолустье. Да за такое дело я на родного сына заявила бы властям. Это же разбой, за который и священника [lit. <…> It's felony for which even a clergyman can be dragged into the court] [4].

Also it seems necessary to mention the fact that in both extracts the translators touched upon the component without. In the first case the translator continues following the formal style and translates the component as не принимается во внимание [not to take into account]. In the second case the translator uses an antonymic construction with an emphatic particle и [even]. Also the translator uses the verb потянуть [drag] with the noun священник [clergyman] in order to maintain a highly emotional state.

Thus we have illustrated that, on the one hand, there are examples when the translation acquires the quality of a definition which can be found in numerous contexts belonging to the formal style and consequently we name it a dictionary descriptive translation, but, on the other hand, there are examples when the translation is suitable only for a specific context and it is not possible to use it in another one and we call it a contextual descriptive translation.

Also it is essential to mention the techniques that allow translators to achieve some specific contextual translation: differentiation (or concretization) and generalization of the meaning; antonymic substitutions; compensation (a substitution of omitted elements of the idiom with the help of other linguistic means, e.g. particles, word order, etc.) and modulation (a substitution based on cause-effect relations).
3. Concluding remarks

First, we can classify the types of translation of phraseological units according to different principles. (1) According to the existence of the phraseological counterpart we can distinguish phraseological and non-phraseological ways of translation. (2) According to the existence of some changes in the meaning of the phraseological units in the course of translation, we can distinguish usual (dictionary) translation and contextual (situational, occasional) translation.

Second, the variety of contextual translation in the target texts proves that the interrelations between the phraseological units and the context are very strong, that is why a translator should look at the phraseological unit not as at the isolated unit, but as at the component of the text with its own meaning and function in the context.

Third, to translate a phraseological unit doesn’t mean to find an equivalent, using a translation dictionary. A genuine translation demands a complete understanding of the whole text, of the definite episode, of the phraseological unit itself and its role in the context.

References

2. Collins, W. The Haunted Hotel <http://www.literature.org/authors/collins-wilkie/>

Short English abstract

The primary interest of the article is to show that the translation of phraseological units found in the context differs a lot from the translation presented in the dictionaries. This phenomenon proves that the interrelations between the phraseological units and the context are very strong, that is why a translator should look at the phraseological unit not as at the isolated unit, but as at the component of the text with its own meaning and function in the context.