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TRANSLATION OF ENGLISH REDUPLICATION INTO UKRAINIAN

Reduplication is a word formation process that repeats all or part of a word to convey some form of meaning. The range of patterns varies from a single segment being copied to entire phrases. The copying can occur on its own, or it can be accompanied by other word formation processes. The meanings can also range from highly iconic meanings, such as repetition to more abstract morpho-syntactic meanings, to quite subtle meanings, difficult to define precisely. Because of this diversity in form and meaning, reduplication has been the subject of a great deal of research, both descriptive and theoretical. This occurs in many languages, and in English, it involves the repetition of a whole word (total reduplication) or part of a word (partial reduplication). This process is used to create new words or to express different semantic or grammatical relations. The translation of reduplication into Ukrainian poses certain challenges due to the structural and semantic differences between the two languages.

In English specifically, the following tendencies of reduplication are most common:

1. Exact reduplication – involves the repetition of an entire word, and is most often used in speech that’s directed at children, to create a playful or informal tone. Additionally, in informal speech, it is used to create additional emphasis and clarification. For clarity, examples of the former: “Do you like John, or do you *like-like* him?” (In this case, the reduplication of the word like in the second part of the sentence conveys the emphasis on the feeling of liking someone, highly suggesting a romantic connection.) “We’re living together, but we’re not *living together living together*.” (In this case, the reduplication of the collocation “living together” is reduplicated in order to clarify the absence of any sort of subtext that was implied during the conversation.)

2. Rhyming reduplication – involves the repetition of a word with a change in the initial consonant to create a rhyme. It’s often used to create informal language to express a light-hearted tone. Examples include: “*super-duper*”, “*fancy-schmancy*”, “*hanky-panky*”, “*easy-peasy*”

3. Ablaut reduplication – involves the repetition of a part of a word. Often used to intensify the meaning or indicate a continuous action. Examples include: “*chit-chat*”, “*pitter-patter*”.

Although this kind of linguistic unit appears in informal speech, for the most part, and not many translators encounter it, it still provides the reader with some challenges. The reduplicated unit may simply lack an equivalent form in Ukrainian (*dead-dead*), the same reduplicated form may carry different connotations in both languages (*blah-blah*, usually dismissive or playful. *Ля-ля*, usually indicative of the second party lying), and some reduplicated forms in English may not resonate with Ukrainian speakers due to cultural differences. (*Riff-raff*, which is used to describe unreputable or worthless persons, has class connotations from the English demographical dynamics, which do not translate directly into Ukrainian.

Despite the challenges that translators face, they employ several different approaches to translation in order to carry over the same meaning into Ukrainian, which are:

1. Substitution. The reduplicated form is replaced with a Ukrainian equivalent, most often with a fixed expression, to convey a similar meaning. The English reduplication “*easy-peasy*” could be translated into Ukrainian as “*як два пальця*” or its full version, “*як два пальця об асфальт*”.

2. Transposition. The grammatical category of the word is changed, while the intended meaning is maintained. “*Goody-goody*” could be translated into English as “*святий*”, where changing the adjective into a noun maintains the connotation of someone who is excessively virtuous

3. Explication. Provide additional information to make the meaning clear. The reproduction “*hush-hush*” can be translated into Ukrainian as “*дуже секретно*”, providing additional information to transmit the context and feeling.

4. Compensation. If the reduplication cannot be translated directly, its effect might be produced elsewhere in the text, by using an idiom or a diminutive form. For example, one can translate the reduplication “*teeny-weeny*” as “*малесенький*” or introduce an idiom “*горобцю по кісточки*”.

5. Direct translation. In some cases, when translating English reduplications, the Ukrainian prefixes “*при-*”, “*прі-*” and “*пре-*” can be used. As an example: “*Oh, you’re strong-strong, huh?*” – “*А ти в нас, виходить, сильний-пресильний?*”

In conclusion, reduplication emerges as a versatile and intriguing linguistic phenomenon, playing a crucial role in word formation across various languages, including English. Its diverse patterns, ranging from total to partial reduplication, enable speakers to convey a spectrum of meanings, from iconic repetition to nuanced morpho-syntactic expressions. The examination of reduplication in English reveals prevalent tendencies such as exact reduplication, rhyming reduplication, and ablaut

reduplication, each serving distinct communicative purposes, often in informal contexts.

However, when translating reduplications into Ukrainian, translators confront a set of challenges arising from structural and semantic disparities between the two languages. The absence of direct equivalents, variations in connotations, and cultural distinctions pose obstacles to achieving precise linguistic equivalence. Nevertheless, translators deploy strategic approaches such as substitution, transposition, explicitation, compensation, and direct translation to navigate these challenges and faithfully convey the intended meanings in Ukrainian.

Despite the predominance of reduplication in informal speech, its impact is not confined solely to linguistic analysis; rather, it extends to the realm of translation, where linguistic creativity and cultural sensitivity come into play. As language continues to evolve and interconnect across diverse communities, the study and translation of reduplication contribute to our understanding of the intricate interplay between form and meaning in linguistic expression.