THESIS TITLE-LITERAL TRANSLATION: ADVANTAGES AND LIMITATIONS

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Introduction:

Literal translation refers to the direct, word-for-word translation of text from one language into another, keeping the original grammatical structure as much as possible. While it is often useful at the beginner level, it does not always produce meaningful or natural-sounding translations.

Main Body:

Advantages:

Helps learners build vocabulary.

Allows comparison of grammatical structures between languages.

Useful for translating scientific or technical texts with precise terminology.

Limitations:

Fails to convey the meaning of idioms or expressions accurately.

 Example: "It's raining cats and dogs" translated literally makes no sense.

Ignores cultural context and tone.

Can lead to confusion or misinterpretation for the reader.

Practical Examples:

English idiom "break a leg" literally means to injure someone, but actually means "good luck" in a theatrical context.

Russian phrase "ни пуха, ни пера!" literally means "neither fluff nor feather" but actually is a way to wish someone luck.

Conclusion: Literal translation can be a helpful learning tool at the early stages of language study, especially for understanding grammar and vocabulary. However, professional translators must move beyond literal meanings to focus on context, culture, and overall sense. In translation, preserving meaning is more important than translating every single word.