

DIFFICULTIES IN TRANSLATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

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Abstract. The paper discusses the differences in using abbreviations and acronyms in Uzbek and English scientific texts, as well as difficulties of their translation and optimal strategies of interlanguage adaptation. It is demonstrated that various standards for introducing spelling, and punctuating abbreviations and acronyms in British and American scientific journals pose additional difficulties in the work of a translator in the field of science and technology, provokes translation errors and requires the use of normalization and explication as the main strategies for their translation. The paper may be of interest for those who translate scientific texts for Uzbek and English readership.

Key words. Abbreviations, acronyms, translation, scientific texts, Uzbek and English, interlanguage adaptation, compound words, linguistic differences, lexical units, communication strategies, globalization, terminology.

Abbreviations are a fundamental part of both English and Uzbek, and they serve to simplify communication, particularly in contexts that demand brevity, such as in technical fields, business, law, and everyday communication. However, when translating abbreviations between these two languages, there are several challenges that translators face due to differences in linguistic structure, culture, and usage conventions.² Common Types of Abbreviations in English and Uzbek. Initialisms are abbreviations formed from the first letter of each word in a phrase, where each letter is pronounced separately.

Examples: **FBI** (Federal Bureau of Investigation), **CEO** (Chief Executive Officer), **ATM** (Automated Teller Machine), **USA** (United States of America) English, Uzbek also uses initialisms, although some may differ in terms of cultural or linguistic patterns.

Examples: **O'zDSt** (O'zbekiston Davlat Standartlari) – Uzbekistan State Standards, **BMT** (Birlashgan Millatlar Tashkiloti) – United Nations, **IxtSht** (Iqtisodiyot Shartnoma Tashkiloti) – Economic Contract Organization. Both languages use initialisms, but in Uzbek, it is more common for the abbreviation to reflect the first letters of each word in the phrase in the Uzbek alphabet. The order of the components can sometimes differ depending on linguistic patterns and grammatical structure. Acronyms are a type of abbreviation that are formed from the first letters of a phrase and are pronounced as a word. **NASA** (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) **UNESCO** (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), **NATO** (North Atlantic Treaty Organization). Uzbek: Similar to English, Uzbek uses acronyms, but some are unique to the local context. **TATU** (Toshkent Axborot Texnologiyalari Universiteti) – Tashkent University of Information Technologies, **YSHT** (Yagona Soliq Hisoboti Tizimi) – Unified Tax Reporting System Differences: Acronyms in Uzbek are usually formed in a similar way to English, but the pronunciation may differ due to phonetic rules. In some cases, full names are more commonly used, especially in formal or official contexts. Contractions are abbreviations where one or more letters are omitted, often with an apostrophe replacing the missing letters. Examples: **Dr.** (Doctor), **Mr.** (Mister), **can't** (cannot), **it's** (it is). In Uzbek, contractions are less common than in English, but certain forms, especially in colloquial speech, might omit certain sounds or words. Examples: **Yoq** (Yo'q) – No, **Kechirasiz** (Kechirasiz) – Sorry (often shortened in speech). Contractions are more prevalent and varied in English than in Uzbek. Uzbek tends to use full forms more frequently in formal contexts, although informal speech might feature shortened forms. These abbreviations are formed by truncating words. Examples: **TV** (Television), **photo** (photograph), **info** (information) Uzbek: Similar to English, Uzbek also uses shortened forms of words, but this is generally more common in informal contexts. Examples: **Tashkent** (Toshkent) – Often shortened to Tosh, **Univ** (Universitet) – University. In

Uzbek, shortened words are often used more informally and are typically found in spoken language or informal writing. Common abbreviations are represented by symbols.

Examples: \$ (dollar), **kg** (kilogram), **cm** (centimeter), **&** (and) Uzbek: The same symbols are used in Uzbek, particularly for measurements and currencies, though some symbols are culturally specific. Examples: **so'm** (Uzbek currency, "sum"), **km** (kilometer), **sm** (centimeter). Differences: The use of currency abbreviations in Uzbek is specific to the country, while in English, symbols like the dollar sign (\$) or pound sign (£) are used internationally. Between Uzbek and English When translating abbreviations between Uzbek and English, several challenges arise due to differences in language structure, culture, and conventions. Many abbreviations in English have no direct equivalent in Uzbek due to cultural or institutional differences. For instance, acronyms like "CEO" or "ATM" may not exist in Uzbek, or they may have different usage norms or terminology. While "CEO" is a standard abbreviation in English, in Uzbek the equivalent term might be "Direktor" (Director) or "Boshqaruvchi" (Manager), which are used more frequently in local contexts. Translators must research whether there are culturally specific terms or if the abbreviation needs to be fully translated.

Abbreviations in English often form acronyms that are easy to pronounce as words like **NASA** or **UNESCO**. However, in Uzbek, abbreviations tend to be pronounced as individual letters (like BMT for United Nations), which can cause differences in pronunciation and understanding. The abbreviation "UN" in English is pronounced as "U-N," whereas in Uzbek, it is usually pronounced as "BMT." Translators may need to adjust the abbreviation or clarify its pronunciation in the translated text to ensure that the target audience understands the term correctly. English abbreviations, especially those related to modern technology or specific industries, may not have a direct equivalent in Uzbek. For example, abbreviations like Wi-Fi or USB are universally recognized in many languages but may require an explanation in Uzbek for clarity. The abbreviation "USB" in English is universally understood, but a translator might need to explain it as "Universal Serial Bus" in Uzbek, especially in contexts where the abbreviation is not commonly used. Provide a detailed explanation of the abbreviation when there is no widely accepted equivalent in the

target language. In many professional and technical domains, abbreviations are often less standardized in Uzbek compared to English. English, especially in business, law, and technology, has a well-established set of abbreviations, whereas Uzbek might not have equally standardized forms. In English, **"USA"** is a standardized abbreviation for the **"United States of America,"** but in Uzbek, it might be referred to as AQSh (Amerika Qo'shma Shtatlari), and the abbreviation may vary by context. Translators must determine whether to use the localized abbreviation (e.g., AQSh) or maintain the international version (e.g., USA) depending on the audience. Abbreviations can have multiple meanings depending on the context, and translators must be careful to interpret them correctly. For example, the abbreviation **"IT"** in English can mean **"Information Technology"** or **"Intravenous Therapy"** in medical contexts. **"IT"** in English may refer to Information Technology, but in a medical context, it may refer to Intravenous Therapy. The same abbreviation might be used differently in Uzbek, requiring careful contextual interpretation.

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