

# The Loan Translation Adaptation of the Character Names in the Novel Гарри Поттер и Философский Камень (Garri Potter i Filosofskij Kamen') into the Russian Language

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**Abstract**—Loanwords are common in language processing. One example of language processing is translating foreign works to bring in new words that enter and enrich the recipient language (Baugh and Cable, 2002). Loanwords include proper nouns in translated novels, and the adaptation of proper nouns as character names in foreign literary works often occurs. This research investigates the adaptation of the character names in the novel *Гарри Поттер и Философский Камень* (Garri Potter i Filosofskij Kamen'), the Russian translation of the novel *Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone*, originally written in English using the descriptive-analytical method by Sugiono (2008). The theory of loanword writing on the general description of loanwords by Haugen (1950) and the theory of loan translation (Haugen, 1950; Kridalaksana, 2008; and Arnold, 2012) were used in this research. Loan translation is a loanword that preserves the lexical or grammatical meaning of the source word but replaces the morphemes and phonemes. For the Russian language, the theory of Russian nouns (Vinogradov, 2001; Savko, 2004; and Kuznecova, 2009) describing Russian proper nouns (three genders, six cases, singular and plural nouns, animate and inanimate nouns) was also applied. The results show that the character names are adapted according to their characteristics by translating the original names from English to Russian in order to maintain the same impact for the readers, and the names are adapted using morphosyntax in the sentences written in Russian.

**Keywords**— loanwords, adaptation, loan translation, morphosyntax, Russian nouns

## I. INTRODUCTION

Kridalaksana (in Kushartanti, Yuwono, and Lauder, 2009, p. 3) defines language as a system of sound symbols agreed to be used by members of communities to work together, communicate, and identify oneself. In communication involving a minimum of two language communities, loanwords are common in language processing to obtain new

words previously non-existent in a language (Baugh and Cable, 2002, p. 3).

Language as a symbol of prestige can be shown through the use of language in the media, including the translation of foreign works. The spread of arts and knowledge through the means of language strengthens the prestige of the language. Therefore, translated literature may bring new vocabulary that enriches the recipient language (Baugh and Cable, 2002, p. 3).

The new vocabulary can be in the form of loanwords due to several factors such as the need for writing names or titles and the need to give specific meanings for specific purposes (Krysin dalam Zemskaya, 2000, p. 146-147). The new words or loanwords undergo adaptation in the recipient language.

Foreign works include literature, and one of the renowned literary works that has been translated into many languages, including the Russian language, is Harry Potter novels. These novels were originally written in English and written in several series, one of which is *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, translated into *Гарри Поттер и Философский Камень* (Garri Potter i Filosofskij Kamen') in the Russian language. *Harry Potter* is a fictional story written by an English author J.K. Rowling and was first published in 1997. One of the official publishers of these books, *Scholastic*, states that this novel has been translated into 68 languages, including the Russian language. The popularity of the novel led to its reprinting in 2016 by a Russian publisher, *Machaon*, with Maria Spivak as the translator. The translation of this novel includes the translation of the character names.

Based on the aforementioned description, we are interested in investigating how the character names in the novel *Гарри Поттер и Философский Камень* (Garri Potter i Filosofskij

Kamen') are adapted into the Russian language. The focus of this research is the character names because all the names are not in the Russian language. In this research, we focus on the names that are written differently from those in the source language, the English language.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

One way for a language to acquire new vocabulary is by borrowing words from other languages. Haugen (1950) terms these words loanwords. In the Linguistics Dictionary 4th Edition, Kridalaksana (2008) categorizes means of word borrowing into: 1) phonetic and phonemic borrowing, 2) morphosyntax borrowing, and 3) semantic borrowing.

The focus of this research is loan translation. This term, which in French is known as *calque*, was proposed by Haugen (1950). Loan translation is word or phrase borrowing which preserves the original lexical or grammatical meaning but changes the morphemes and phonemes (Kridalaksana, 2008, p. 194-195). According to Arnold (2012, p. 229), loan translation is loanword in the form of literal translation that preserves the morphological structure and word class. Haugen (1950, p. 214) illustrates loan translation using the word 'skyscraper' from the English language that is adapted to *wolkenkratzer* in German, *gratte-ciel* in French, and *rascacielos* in Spanish. In a literary work, the purpose of loan translation is to preserve the effect created by the loanwords so that the readers in the recipient language would experience the same feeling as if they were reading in the source language. One impression that occurs among readers of a literary work is impression of the characters. In this research, the names studied are character names from a literary work. Each character in a literary work is clearly distinct and unique. Characterization is the way an author reveals the character of each character. It is a depiction of a story with the purpose of providing clear descriptions to the readers (Nurgiyantoro, 1988, p. 165).

The most dominant word class in word borrowing from a foreign language is nouns, as compared to adjectives and verbs (Millar and Trask, 2015, p. 20). This is because loanwords always follow the nouns they represent and they are introduced simultaneously with the nouns (Hudson, 1969, p. 482). Therefore, a better understanding of nouns in the Russian language is fundamental.

Character names are nouns belonging to one word class in the Russian language. All words in the Russian language have grammatical forms and morphological characters which signify certain syntactic functions in several grammatical levels, known as *части речи* (*časti reči*) 'word class'. Word class in the Russian language is commonly divided into independent word class or *самостоятельные части речи* (*samostojatel'nye časti reči*) and dependent word class or *служебные части речи* (*služebnye časti reči*). Independent word class is words that signify things, signs, characteristics, quantity or number, or those related to prepositions. Independent word class comprises nouns, adjectives, numbers, pronouns, verbs, and adverbs, while dependent word class

comprises prepositions, connectors, and particles (Savko, 2004, p. 174).

Nouns in the Russian language have several categories. The first category expresses objectivity and is represented in the forms of gender, number, and case (Vinogradov, 2001, p. 50; Kuznecova, 2009, p. 145-160). The second category further divides nouns into several sub-categories, namely common noun and proper noun category, animate and inanimate noun category, gender category, case category, and number category. The gender category is further divided into three, namely *мужской род* (*mužkoj rod*) 'masculine', *женский род* (*ženskij rod*) 'feminine', and *средний род* (*srednij rod*) 'neutral' (Savko, 2004, p. 180). The case category in the Russian language has six case types, *именительный падеж* (*imenitel'nyj padež*) 'nominative case', *родительный падеж* (*roditel'nyj padež*) 'genitive case', *дательный падеж* (*datel'nyj padež*) 'dative case', *винительный падеж* (*vinitel'nyj padež*) 'accusative case', *творительный падеж* (*tvoritel'nyj padež*) 'instrumental case', and *предложный падеж* (*predložnyj padež*) 'prepositional case' (Savko, 2004, p. 187). The number category is divided into two, *единственное число* (*edinstvennoe čislo*) 'singular' and *множественное число* ('plural' (Savko, 2004, p. 156).

## III. METHODS

Descriptive-analytical method was used in this research. This was done by collecting naturally occurring data and processing and analyzing the data in order to describe the phenomenon (Sugiyono, 2008, p. 105). The data comprise five character names in the novel *Гарри Поттер и Философский Камень* (Garri Potter i Filosofskij Kamen'), whose spellings are different from those in the English version of the novel, *Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone*. These names were then analyzed in terms of the etymology and the method of adaptation, and conclusion was drawn based on the analysis.

## IV. RESULTS

The source of data in is the novel *Гарри Поттер и Философский Камень* (Garri Potter i Filosofskij Kamen'). This is a translated version of *Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone*, which was translated into the Russian language by Maria Spivak and published by *Machaon* in 2016. The English version of the novel *Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone*, which was published by *Scholastic* in 1997 was also used to see the writing of the names in the original version. The English language dictionaries used were *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary 3rd Edition* (2008) and *Collins English Dictionary* digital version. The Russian language dictionary used was the one by Kuznecov (2000).

### 1. Клык (Klyk)

The name *Клык* (Klyk) comes from the name *Fang*. These two names are very different, but they actually have the same meaning, 'fang'. In the Russian language, *Клык* (Klyk) means 'fang' or 'a big tooth protruding from the mouth' (Kuznecov,

2000, p. 434). As in the Russian language, ‘fang’ in the English language also means “a long, sharp tooth”, “a long, sharp tooth of an animal such as a dog or a snake” (Cambridge, 2008, p. 511) . *Клык* (Klyk) or *Fang* is a dog with fangs, hence the name *Клык* (Klyk). This is shown in the following sentence:

*Гарри постучал. Внутри кто-то отчаянно зацарапался и гулко загавкал. Потом раздался голос Огрида, “Назад, Клык, назад.”* (p. 200)

(Garri postučal. Vnutri kto-to očajanno zacarapalsja i gulko zagavkal. Potom razdalsja golos Ogrida, “Nazad, Klyk, nazad”)

When Harry knocked, they heard a frantic scrabbling from inside and several booming barks. Then Hagrid’s voice rang out, saying, “Back, Fang—back.”

*Fang* → *Клык* (Klyk)

Example in a sentence:

*“А это его кошатина, миссис Норрис, - её бы с Клыком познакомить,”* (p. 201)

(A èto ego košatina, missis Norris, - eë by s Klykom poznaomit’)

“And for that cat, Mrs. Norris, I’d like to introduce her to Fang [Klyk],”

In the sentence above, *с Клыком* (s Klykom) is an object answering the question with whom or *с кем?* (s kem). It is a noun belonging to the proper, animate, masculine, singular noun category with instrumental case with a preposition *с* (s).

## 2. Злей (Zlej)

The name *Злей* (Zlej) comes from the name *Snape*. *Злей* (Zlej) is taken from a Russian word, *зло* (zlo) or the adjective form of *злой* (zloj), which means “evil” or “cunning” (Kuznecova, 2000, p. 366). According to the website *pottermore*, the name *Snape* comes from the Old Norse language *sneypa*, which means ‘disgrace’. In the English language, the word ‘snape’ is similar to the word *snap*, meaning “to say something suddenly in an angry way” or “to suddenly be unable to control a strong feeling, especially anger” (Cambridge, 2008, p. 1366). This is in line with the character *Злей* (Zlej) or ‘snape’, which is depicted as an evil character, which is shown in the the following sentence:

*“Я в состоянии распознать проклятие, Огрид, я про это читала! Для проклятия нужно не прерывать зрительный контакт, а Злей даже не моргал, я видела!”* (p. 271)

(Ja v sostojanii raspoznat’ prokljatie, Ogrid, ya pro èto čitala! Dlja prokljatija nužno ne preryvat’ zritel’nyj kontakt, a Zlej daže ne morgal, ja videla!)

“I know a jinx when I see one, Hagrid [Ogrid]. I’ve read all about them! You’ve got to keep eye contact and Snape [Zlej] was’s blinking at all, I saw him?”

*Snape* → *Злей* (Zlej)

Example in a sentence:

*“Злей у нас близко знаком с силами зла.”* (p. 181)

(Zlej u nas blisko znakom s silami zla)

“Snape [Zlej] knows a lot about wizardry.”

In the sentence above, *Злей* (Zlej) is a subject which answers the question who or *кто?* (kto). It is a noun belonging to the proper, animate, masculine, nominative, singular noun category

## 3. Спарж (Sparž)

The name *Спарж* (Sparž) comes from the name *Sprout*. *Спарж* (Sparž) comes from the word *Спаржа* (Sparža) in the Russian language, which means a plant similar to bean sprouts or asparagus (Kuznecov, 2000, p. 1245). ‘Sprout’ in the English language means “a newly grown shoot or bud” or “vegetables that look like tiny cabbages” (Collins, n.d.) just like bean sprouts. *Спарж* (Sparž) is a professor teaching Herbology or a subject about plants. This can be seen in the following sentence:

*Три раза в неделю они отправлялись в теплицы на заднем дворе изучать гербологию под руководством профессора Спарж...* (p. 190)

(Tri raza v nedelju oni otpravljalis’ v teplicy na zadnem dvore izučat’ gerbologiju pod rukovodstvom professora Sparž...)

Three times a week they went out to the greenhouses behind the castle to study Herbology, with a dumpy little witch called Professor Sparž...

*Sprout* → *Спарж* (Sparž)

Example in a sentence:

*Три раза в неделю они отправлялись в теплицы на заднем дворе изучать гербологию под руководством профессора Спарж...* (p. 190)

(Tri raza v nedelju oni otpravljalis’ v teplicy na zadnem dvore izučat’ gerbologiju pod rukovodstvom professora Sparž...)

Three times a week they went out to the greenhouses behind the castle to study Herbology, with a dumpy little witch called Professor Sprout [Professor Sparž] ...

In the sentence above, *Спарж* (Sparž) is a subject which answers the question who or *кто?* (kto). It is a noun belonging to the proper, animate, feminine, nominative, singular noun category.

#### 4. *Дрюзг* (Drjuzg)

The name *Дрюзг* (Drjuzg) comes from the name 'Peeves'. 'Peeve' in the English language means "to annoy someone" (Cambridge, 2008, p. 1049). This is in line with the name *Дрюзг* (Drjuzg) in the Russian language that comes from the word *Брюзга* (Brjuzga) (Kapkova, 2004, p. 77). This word means 'annoying', 'ranting' or 'someone who likes to cause annoyance' (Kuznecova, 2000, p. 99). *Дрюзг* (Drjuzg) is depicted as an annoying character who likes to annoy others. This can be seen from the following sentence:

*Дрюзг показал ему язык и исчез, высypав прости на голову Невиллу.* (p. 105)

(Drjuzg pokazal emu jazyk i ischez, vysypav prosti na golovu Nevillu.)

Peeves stuck out his tongue and vanished, dropping the walking sticks on Neville's head.

*Peeves* → *Дрюзг* (Drjuzg)

Example in a sentence:

*"С Дрюзгом не связывайтесь," предостерег Перси, когда они пошли дальше.* (p. 185)

("S Drjuzgom ne svjazyvajtes'," predostereg Persi, kogda oni pošli dal'se.)

"You have to watch out for Peeves [Drjuzg]," said Percy, as they set off again.

In the above sentence, *С Дрюзгом* (S Drjuzgom) is an object answering the question with whom or *с кем?* (s kem?). It is a noun belonging to the proper, animate, masculine, instrumental with a preposition *с* (s), singular noun category.

#### 5. *Оливер Древ* (Oliver Drev)

The name *Оливер Древ* (Oliver Drev) comes from the name *Oliver Wood*. The name *Оливер* (Oliver) is written as in the source language, *Oliver*, while the name *Wood* becomes *Древ* (Drev). *Древ* (Drev) in the Russian language comes from the word *дерево* (derevo) (Kuznecova, 2000, p. 283), meaning 'tree'. This is in line with the meaning of *Wood*, which is 'wood' or "a hard substance which forms the branches or trunks of trees" (Cambridge, 2008, p. 1676) in the English language. The character *Древ* (Drev) is a captain of a witch game, Quidditch played using flying wooden broomsticks. This can be seen in the following sentence:

*"Древ – капитан гриффиндорской команды," пояснила профессор Макгонаголл.* (p. 215)

("Drev – kapitan griffindorskoj komandy," pojasnila professor Makgonagoll.)

"Wood's captain of the Gryffindor team," Professor McGonagall explained.

*Oliver Wood* → *Оливер Древ* (Oliver Drev)

Example in a sentence:

*Поттер, это Оливер Древ. Древ, я нашла вам Ловчего.* (p. 214)

(Potter, èto Oliver Drev. Drev, ja našla vam Lovčego.)

"Potter, this is Oliver Drev. Drev—I've found you a Seeker."

In the above sentence, *Оливер Древ* (Oliver Drev) is a subject answering the question who or *кто?* (kto). It is a noun belonging to the proper, animate, masculine, nominative, singular noun category.

#### V. CONCLUSION

Word borrowing is a way of expanding vocabulary, and there are several ways to do so, one of which is through loan translation, which preserves the meaning of the loanwords in order to ensure a similar effect for the readers. Name adaptation is done by translating the names into words already existing in the Russian language, for example the name *Древ* (Drev) coming from the name *Wood*, which has the same meaning, 'wood'. Another finding of this research is that the loanwords come into the recipient language and are adapted in accordance with its grammatical rules. This is shown in this research data, which undergo grammatical adaptation as can be seen from the morphosyntax of the sentences. From the five names in this research, it can also be concluded that name adaptation from foreign literary works follows morphosyntax rules in the Russian language. Those names also undergo declension according to the cases, for example *С Дрюзгом* (S Drjuzgom), which undergoes this change due to its instrumental case.

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