International Journal of Applied Research

Dr. K Jayalakshmi
Assistant Professor (Sr),
Department of Languages,
School of Social Sciences and
Languages, VIT University,
Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India

On translation of grammar from Hindi -English – Hindi

Dr. K Jayalakshmi

Abstract
Language may be defined as an arbitrary system of vocal symbols by means of which we interact and communicate with each other either in oral or written form. To understand different languages translation is the best tool. Translation plays a pivotal role in expressing the ideas and bringing two or more languages together. Grammar is important in expressing the language in a meaningful, correct and definite structure. In other words we can say that it acts as a bridge to express language in its correct form. Pronunciation, the usage of words and their meaning, genders, sentence structure etc are the main points that are taken into context.

Keywords: Translation, Grammar, language structure

1. Introduction

Translation is a complex task, which aims at preserving the semantic and stylistic equivalents of the source language texts into the target language texts [1]. Translation takes its origin from the Latin word 'Translatio or Translatum' which means 'to carry across or bring across' and in Hindi it is generally 'anuvad'. Literally and etymologically, anuvad stands for the 'subsequent' or 'following' discourse (anu=following, vad=discourse). It means 'subsequent discourse' (target text) based on a vad (discourse, i.e. source text) [2].

Every language is the system of regular patterns which make up the grammatical system of that language. During translations the ideas are translated from one language to another- the source language (SL) and the target language (TL). Translation process is easy when the languages come from the same origin but it becomes difficult when the SL and the TL come from different origins. Hence

The origin of Hindi is from 'Devanagari' and English from 'Anglo-Frisian'. Hence the words, syntax, sentences, prepositions (called as postpositions in Hindi), genders, cases etc; differ in both the languages. Grammar and translation do not have direct connection but grammar is an important criterion in translation. Linguistic divergence makes translation process a bit difficult since different languages have different ways of expressing the same basic concepts.

1.1 Structural Difference
1.2 Word Order

The structural difference between Hindi and English are mostly attributed to the difference in their word orders. In all languages, sentences are organized by defining rules for 3 major constituents, namely subject, object and verb. Linguistics classifies Hindi as an SOV language and English as an SVO language.

Eg;

> Ladke football khelte hain ----- SOV (Hindi)
> Boys play football --------- SVO (English)

In this example we see that Hindi sentence is broken down using the tags of subject, object and verb. Sometimes the order in Hindi could also be object –subject – verb like:

Correspondence
Dr. K Jayalakshmi
Assistant Professor (Sr),
Department of Languages,
School of Social Sciences and
Languages, VIT University,
Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India

Sofe (Obj) par ladki (Sub) baithi (Verb) hai-------OSV

The English translation will be:

Girl (sub) is sitting (verb) on the sofa (obj). ----- SOV

When the translation is done into English it follows the same SVO rule and does not change as in Hindi. This proves that English uses position to code crucial information of the relations between the words in a sentence. The position immediately preceding a verb marks the subject and the one immediately following an object.

1.3 Verbs (kriya) & associations
1.3.1 Genders (ling)
Hindi is a verb final language. Verbs are inflected (its ending or form changes in order to show its grammatical function) for gender, number, person etc. starting with genders:
eg:

He /She is going (1)
vah jaata/jaathi hai
He/She stays in Delhi: (2)
vah Delhi mem rahata/rahati hai

In English examples 1 & 2 we see that the verbs do not change their form according to gender; they are indicated by the pronouns he/she accordingly whereas in Hindi pronoun 'vah' is used for 'he /she' and the verbs change according to the masculine and feminine genders as jaata/jaathi and rahata/rahati.

Another example is:
I bought a chair (1) ------- main ne kursi kharidi
I bought many book's (2) ------ main ne kai pustak kharidim
I bought a mango (3) ------- main ne Aam kharida
I bought many mangoes (4) ------ main ne kai Aam kharidem

In this example the verb is bought (kharid). In example 1 & 2 kursi (chair), paustak (book) is feminine word in Hindi. Hence the verb changes accordingly. In the same manner sentence 1 is in the singular form and sentence 2 in the plural form thus the verbs too change their form accordingly. Whereas in example 3 & 4 Aam (Mango) is a masculine gender hence the verb change to kharida (singular), kharidem (Plural) respectively. In English the verb bought remains the same in all the forms (vachan) where as in Hindi the changes occur in the place of object like book, books, mango & mangoes.

When translating in English – Hindi or vice versa one has to be careful with the grammatical genders for eg;

He/She is an intelligent man/lady.
Vah aadmi/ aurat buddhimaan/ buddhimati hai.

In English sentence the adjective intelligent has not changed according to the gender he/she whereas while translating in Hindi the translator has to keep in mind the adjectives as it changes according to the gender. In this example the masculine word is aadmi and the adjective is buddhimaan

and likewise aurat is feminine and the adjective changes to buddhimati.
In the same manner

ladka / ladki saundar hai.
Girl is beautiful / boy is handsome.

In this example the adjective saundar remains the same for both the genders in Hindi whereas it has changed accordingly to beautiful for the feminine and handsome for the masculine in English language.
In the case of Persons (purusha) in Hindi the verbs undergo changes.

For eg;

He said that he will go. Here He is a 2nd person.

While translating into Hindi it can be translated in two ways;

Usne kaha ki main jaaungaa (direct speech)…….1
Usne kaha ki vah jaaegaa (indirect speech)……2

In sentence 1 main ie; 'I' is a 1st person and 2nd sentence Vah is an IIIrd person. In both these sentences we can see that the verb have changed according to the persons in Hindi.

English has polysomic verbs whereas Hindi has different verbs for each sense. For eg;

He put on the dress …. Usne kapde pahanii -------- 1
She put on the makeup …. Usne makeup lagaayaa…….2
She put the book on the table….. Usne mez par kitaab rakhii….3

'Put on' is the verb used in all the three examples which gives the correct sense of the action done in English in ex.1 it means to wear, eg;2 means apply and ex.3 gives the meaning keep. When translating into Hindi the translator has to take care since the Hindi usage depicts different verbs in ex. 1 it should be kapde pahanii means to wear eg;2 makeup lagaayaa means to apply and in eg; 3 no phrase is used.

2. Pre-positions / Postpositions
In Hindi it is called postpositions since it proceeds after noun or the object. While translating in these languages on has to be careful to follow these rules. Eg;

He is washing his face with water. (1)
vah paani se muha dho raha hai
The boy jumped into the river. (2)
Ladka paani mein khud gaya.

Here in eg; 1 with is preposition and the Hindi equivalent for with is se. in the second eg; into theis used as a preposition and the equivalent is mein.

3. Articles
In English articles play an important part to define the definiteness and indefiniteness of a subject or an object

eg; Nehru was a good orator

The translation in Hindi is

Nehru aache vkta the

When we look into the English sentence and the Hindi translation of it we find that in the English sentence indefinite article 'a' is used to indicate one where as in Hindi no article is used. In the same manner article the in English is used to explain definiteness of an object for eg:

The letter has come
Citti aa gayi hai

In Hindi translation definiteness is explained with the help of auxiliary verb Aa gayi hai. In English article the gives the definite meaning on the particular letter and in Hindi we had to use the auxiliary verb to indicate the definiteness.

4. Cases known as karak (showing verb & noun group attachment) pose a major hindrance while translating.
Eg: Ram hit Shaam. ----1

It is translated to: Ram ne Shaam ko peeta.

: Rama killed Ravan with an arrow. ----2

It is translated to: Ram ne Ravan ko baan se maara.

Mohan dropped the melon and burst. ----- 3

mohana ne tarabuz giraaya aur tarabuz phuta.

In the Hindi sentence the addition of ne and ko is necessary to maintain the syntactic structure of translation. While translating the Hindi words need to be organized in the SVO form to get the complete translated sentence. Hence we need to involve the addition of cases in the right places to maintain correct syntactic structure. English and Hindi exhibit different behaviour in the sharing of karakas. This may lead to improper or misunderstanding of English sentence by Hindi native speakers.
In the conclusion we can point out that even though both Hindi and English are under the Indo – European language family they have a major difference. The paper is not basically on comparison of grammar and translation but it is a study of syntactical elements in Hindi and English sentences and suggests where the translator has to focus while translating taking into account the various grammatical forms in both the languages.

Reference
1. Akshar Bharati, Amba Kulkarni. English from Hindi view point A Paaninian perspective. Satyam computer services Ltd; (Presented at platinum Jubilee conference of linguistics society of India, held at CALTS, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, during 6th -8th December, 2005.
2. Narasimhan Bhuvana. Encoding complex events in Hindi and English, 978-1-4673-01263-8/11@. 2011 IEEE.
3. Catford JC. The Linguistic theory of translation, Oxford University Press.
4. Dash Niladri Sekhar. Linguistic Divergences in English to Bengali Translation, International Journal of English Linguistics. Published by Canadian center of Science & Education (ISSN 1923-869XE-ISSN 1923-84) 2013; 3(1).