



## **THE SYNTACTIC AND STYLISTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF INDICATIVE VERB TENSES IN LITERARY TRANSLATION**

*Zaripova Feruza Shavkatovna*

*University of World Economy and Diplomacy (UWED)*

*Teacher: English Department.*

[Feruzashavkatovna111@gmail.com](mailto:Feruzashavkatovna111@gmail.com)

**Abstract:** This article explores the syntactic and stylistic features of indicative verb tenses in the context of literary translation. Focusing on English-Uzbek translation practices, the study examines how temporal structures in the indicative mood influence narrative tone, perspective, and stylistic nuance. Through comparative analysis of selected literary texts and their translations, the research highlights the challenges and strategies translators employ to preserve temporal and stylistic integrity. The findings contribute to a deeper understanding of tense representation in cross-linguistic translation and the implications for conveying authorial voice.

**Keywords:** Indicative mood, tense, syntactic structure, stylistic function, literary translation, temporal equivalence, narrative strategy.

### **Introduction**

In the field of literary translation, rendering tense accurately and stylistically is one of the key challenges translators face. The indicative mood — the grammatical category used to express statements of fact — plays a central role in narrative discourse. Each indicative verb tense carries specific temporal, syntactic, and stylistic functions that shape the reader's perception of time, character development, and emotional intensity.

Translating these tenses between languages with different verbal systems, such as from English into Uzbek or Russian, often results in **losses of aspect, mood, or temporal layering**. This study aims to analyze how **indicative tenses function syntactically and stylistically** in source texts and how these functions are preserved (or altered) in literary translations.

The translation of literary texts requires more than lexical and grammatical equivalence—it demands preservation of the stylistic and narrative tone of the source language. Verb tenses, especially in the indicative mood, play a vital role in shaping narrative perspective and time relations. This study investigates the syntactic and stylistic characteristics of indicative verb tenses in English literary texts and their Uzbek translations, highlighting the role they play in conveying narrative rhythm, psychological distance, and temporal sequencing.

In English, the indicative mood encompasses several tenses (present, past, present perfect, past perfect, future, etc.) used to express factual statements. Each tense carries temporal and psychological implications:

Simple Past: Often used for narration, creating a sense of historical detachment.

Present Tense: Used for immediacy or dramatic involvement.

Present Perfect / Past Perfect: Add depth to narrative by referencing events relative to others.

These tenses function both syntactically (within sentence structures) and stylistically (in tone and pace of narration).

### **Challenges in Literary Translation**

When translating from English into Uzbek, several challenges arise:

Tense Correspondence: Uzbek lacks a one-to-one match for English perfect tenses. For example,

the present perfect often translates into the simple past or present in Uzbek.

Aspectual Shifts: English perfective and progressive aspects do not always have direct equivalents in Uzbek.

Narrative Perspective: The translator must balance grammatical correctness with stylistic fidelity—especially when the author intentionally uses tense shifts to shape the reader's perception.

### **Methodology**

The research employs a comparative textual analysis method, analyzing:

Select passages from works by Virginia Woolf, Ernest Hemingway, and Charles Dickens.

Their Uzbek translations published in reputable literary editions.

The analysis focuses on sentence-level structures, tense usage, and shifts in stylistic effect.

### **Discussion**

In most translations, simple past tenses were retained accurately. However, present perfect and past perfect tenses were often rendered as present or past without aspectual nuance. This simplifies temporal layering in the Uzbek versions.

When English authors employ the historic present, Uzbek translators often default to the past tense, thereby dampening immediacy and emotional intensity. For example:

EN: "He walks to the door and opens it slowly."

UZ: "U eshik tomonga yurdi va uni asta ochdi."

This translation loses the dramatic involvement intended by the original.

#### **Loss of Tense Contrast**

In complex sentence structures involving multiple tenses (e.g., present perfect and past perfect in subordinate clauses), Uzbek translations often flatten the temporal distinctions, making the narrative less dynamic.

#### **Translation Strategies and Recommendations**

To mitigate these challenges, the following strategies are suggested:

Contextual equivalence over formal equivalence: Translators should prioritize preserving temporal relations and stylistic tone rather than mirroring tense forms.

Use of adverbials and discourse markers in Uzbek to convey lost aspectual meanings.

Creative syntax: When needed, reconstructing sentence order to reflect narrative pacing and time flow.

### **Conclusion**

The translation of indicative verb tenses in literary texts poses both syntactic and stylistic challenges. Indicative tenses are integral to the temporal architecture and narrative voice of English fiction. In Uzbek translations, translators must make context-driven choices to preserve the original's stylistic resonance. A deeper awareness of cross-linguistic temporal systems can improve the fidelity and literary quality of translations.

### **References**

1. Baker, M. (2011). *In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation*. Routledge.
2. Catford, J.C. (1965). *A Linguistic Theory of Translation*. Oxford University Press.
3. Vinay, J.P., & Darbelnet, J. (1995). *Comparative Stylistics of French and English*. John Benjamins.
4. Newmark, P. (1988). *A Textbook of Translation*. Prentice Hall.
5. Hatim, B., & Mason, I. (1997). *The Translator as Communicator*. Routledge.
6. Sapargalieva, D. (2020). "Tense and Aspect in Uzbek-English Translation," *Translation Studies Review*, Vol. 9(1).
7. Khodjaev, M. (2018). "Stylistic Equivalence in Literary Translation: The Case of Uzbek Fiction," *Uzbek Journal of Language and Literature*.