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e-mail: olena oleniuk@lnu.edu.ua

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6203-9344>

e-mail: maxoleniuk1320@gmail.com

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8849-4452>

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**Olena Oleniuk,**  
PhD in Philology, associate professor,  
Ivan Franko National University of L'viv  
**Maksym Oleniuk,**  
Master of Philology,  
Ivan Franko National University of L'viv

### TRANSLATION OF CABIN CREW VOCABULARY INTO GERMAN AS BASED ON ARTHUR HAILEY'S "AIRPORT"

Arthur Hailey's novel "Airport" is the demonstration of a general tendency that emerged in the middle of the 20th century and significantly influenced the subsequent literary process the merging of high and mass genres and going beyond the strict framework of what – was considered worthy of the writer's attention. It provides the insight into the inner world of a professional sphere being thus categorized as professional (occupational, workplace) novel. In order to reconstruct the workplace atmosphere, A. Hailey employs a variety of stylistic techniques with the abundant usage of professional vocabulary being the predominant one. Every profession has its own terminology which enables its members to interact effectively and express themselves. The core of communication in the professional aviation environment is aviation English, which reflects in its contents the results of scientific and professional knowledge. It is the system of terms which objectively includes not only basic aviation concepts but also general scientific notions and semi-technical vocabulary. Our research has concentrated on the investigation of the means of translation of professional vocabulary observed in A. Hailey's "Airport". The lexical items used by cabin crew members in the professional and private settings, which are further classified into realia, terms, professionalisms, jargonisms and slang, have come into the focus of our attention. The translations of the novel into German conducted by Wilm W. Elwenspoke in 1968 and published by the publishing house "Ulstein" has served as the material for the investigation. The following techniques were resorted to: literal translation, borrowing, transposition, calque, compression, generalization, adaptation, expansion, omission, reduction. The translation appears to be direct and equivalent, consequently, closer to the ST and few transformations have been applied. Nevertheless, it occasionally results in certain loss in translation.

**Keywords:** cabin crew vocabulary, translation strategies, adequacy of translation.

**Оленюк Олена Валеріївна,**  
кандидат філологічних наук, доцент,  
Львівський національний університет імені Івана Франка  
**Оленюк Максим Сергійович,**  
магістр філології,  
Львівський національний університет імені Івана Франка

### ВІДТВОРЕННЯ ЛЕКСИКИ КАБІННОГО ЕКІПАЖУ (НА МАТЕРІАЛІ НІМЕЦЬКОГО ПЕРЕКЛАДУ РОМАНУ АРТУРА ХЕЙЛІ «АЕРОПОРТ»)

Стаття має на меті проаналізувати адекватність перекладацьких стратегій, що застосовувалися для перекладу фахової лексики кабінного екіпажу німецькою мовою. Актуальність цієї наукової розвідки у тому, що проблема адекватного перекладу лексики бортпроводників потребує ретельного вивчення. Стрімкий технічний прогрес вплинув на всі аспекти нашого життя, включно з авіацією, породивши нові явища і, як наслідок, лексичні одиниці, що їх позначають. Таким чином, виникає необхідність дослідити, як вони передаються іншими мовами. У дослідженні детально проаналізовано перекладацькі стратегії, використані перекладачем В. Елвенспокем для відтворення лексики бортпроводників у романі Артура Хейлі «Аеропорт». Цей твір вважають одним з найяскравіших зразків професійного роману, особливістю якого є насиченість тексту фаховою лексикою, до якої зараховують терміни, реалії, професіоналізми, жаргонізми та сленгову лексику. Результати наукової розвідки показують, що для перекладу лексики бортпроводників німецькою мовою було застосовано такі прийоми: дослівний переклад, запозичення, транспозиція, калька, компресія, узагальнення, адаптація, розширення, опущення, скорочення. Таким чином, переважає використання прийомів прямого перекладу, запозичень і кальки, які традиційно використовуються для передачі технічної лексики. Переклад видається прямим і еквівалентним, отже, ближчим до вихідного тексту, кількість застосованих трансформацій є незначною. Однак подекуди це призводить до певних втрат у перекладі. Можна також зробити висновок, що успішне використання перекладацьких стратегій в поєднанні з глибоким розумінням вихідного тексту і різноманітних лінгвістичних і позамовних факторів може значно сприяти еквівалентності та адекватності перекладу.

**Ключові слова:** лексика кабінного екіпажу, перекладацькі стратегії, адекватність перекладу.

**Introduction.** With the rapid technological advances in the fast developing modern world, its globalization and erasing the boundaries it is no wonder that aviation has occupied a significant place in modern life. Thus, like all other spheres of life it has developed its terminology or specialized language, which is also dubbed professional language (Crystal, 2003).

The peculiarities of aviation English have recently become the object of active linguistic research. The scholars' attention has been focused on issues of Aviation English translation, its basic units, their interconnection, peculiarities, the methods of teaching Aviation English (Mezhzherina, 2021; Borowska, 2017; Коpecька, 2017; Schaberg, 2012).

“Aviation English describes English used by pilots, air traffic controllers and other personnel associated with the aviation industry. ... The term may encompass a wide variety of language use situations including the language of airline mechanics, flight attendants or ground service personnel...” (Moder, 2012: 227).

Arthur Hailey’s novel “Airport” is the demonstration of a general tendency that emerged in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and significantly influenced the subsequent literary process – the merging of high and mass genres and going beyond the strict framework of what was considered worthy of the writer’s attention. It provides the insight into the inner world of a professional sphere being thus categorized as professional (occupational, workplace) novel.

In order to reconstruct the professional context where the setting, namely the airport, is one of the main characters, A. Hailey employs a variety of stylistic techniques with the abundant usage of professional vocabulary being the predominant one.

Nevertheless, the translations of the novel “Airport” into German have not been given a comparative analysis before. This research is based on the scholarly achievements of both Ukrainian and foreign translators and thus the translations are scrutinized in terms of their consistency with the translation tradition. The novel is abundant in professional vocabulary which presents challenges for a translator in terms of lexical, grammatical and pragmatic aspects, which have not been under study yet.

**Literature review.** The problems of translation have been widely researched in Ukrainian, English and German translation studies by such prominent scholars and poets as M. Rylskyi, M. Zerov, Hr. Kochur, M. Lukash, R. Zorivchak, E. Nida, H. P. Grice, M. Baker, E. Berger, F. Schleiermacher et al. The prestige of Translation Studies as a discipline increased rapidly in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, after the pioneering book by E. Nida *Towards the Science of Translating* (1964) was published, and still is growing at a global scale, as nowadays an unprecedented number of translators are employed in turning spoken and written texts from one language to another.

There undeniably exists a problem with the reception of A. Hailey’s prose. In the 1960s and 1980s, the writer’s novels did not cause controversy in the United States. Publishers, responding to the demand from the audience, published them; film producers filmed them; readers, being interested in their topicality, read them, because the main characters of the works were a hospital, a hotel, an airport, a car factory – the places which played a significant role in the life of every American. Conversely, the critics ignored the author with semi-contemptuous silence, because, in their opinion, A. Hailey was an ordinary fiction writer, one of the many in contemporary literature. The writer’s stories about the specifics of various industries, lives fate of people who work there, according to the majority of the reviewers, were typical, yet vivid examples of mass fiction (Danylchuk, 2013). In the English-language literary studies, the artistic works of A. Hailey were researched mostly sporadically. Articles by P. Andrews (Andrews, 1997), F. Cameron (Cameron, 1975), Dh. McLillan (McLillan, 1977) as well as the fictional story of the writer’s wife Sheila Hailey “I Married a Best Seller: My Life with Arthur Hailey” (Hamilton, Jones, 2010) are generally referential.

Certain neglect of research of the reception of Hailey’s literary work in German might have been caused by scarce amount of material for the investigation inasmuch as there exist only one translation of the novel into German. It was conducted by Wilm W. Elwenspoke in 1968 and published by the publishing house “Ulstein”. This translation is the object of research of the given article.

**The purpose of the article** is to investigate the techniques employed in translation of the cabin crew vocabulary into German and analyse the adequacy of the translation.

**Results.** A very notable thing about the German translation of the novel is the translation of the title itself. The translator resorts to the technique of borrowing as he does not translate the title as the equivalent German term *der Flughafen* but decides to preserve the original word *Airport*. It certainly causes loss in translation inasmuch as the target reader may not understand what is meant and may not even get interested in the book.

The method the translator applied to render the names of the airlines is that of borrowing as it often occurs when proper names are translated into German. Neither short nor more extended explication of the transcribed name is given in the following examples. However, the borrowed airline names are domesticized by introducing the articles, following the grammar rules of the TL.

*He stepped into the carpeted corridor and turned to the left familiarly, heading for the apartment which Gwen Meighen shared with a stewardess of **United Air Lines** (p. 61)*

*Er trat auf den mit Teppich aus gelegten Korridor hinaus und wandte sich zielsicher nach links, ging zu dem Apartment, das Gwen Meighen mit einer Stewardess der **United Air Lines** teilte. (s. 85 -86 )*

Inasmuch as the uniform and its elements belong to the terminological vocabulary, the traditional method to render them into German is that of literal translation.

*Gwen’s **uniform** might be standard, but beneath it she believed in expensive individuality (p. 61)*

*Gwens **Uniform** entsprach zwar den Normen, aber für das, was darunter kam, glaubte sie an kostspielige Individualität (s. 85-86).*

Nevertheless, when the term is the part of a two-component asyndetic substantival cluster it is often reproduced as a compound noun in German, which is the result of syntactic compression.

*She was in a trim **uniform skirt** and blouse which made her seem even younger than she was (p.129)*

*Sie trug den vorgeschriebenen **Uniformrock** mit Bluse, worin sie jünger aussah, als sie war. (s. 177)*

The following example illustrates the approach to the translation of a three component asyndetic substantival cluster preceded by an adjective. It is rendered in to the TL with the literal translation technique.

*...patting her hair into place where it flowed superbly from beneath **the smart Trans America stewardess cap**. (p. 253)*

*...brachte ihr Haar in Ordnung, das voll und glänzendunter **der schnittigen Trans-America Stewardessmütze** hervorquoll. (s. 343-344)*

The geographical realia *Stewardess Row* is not adequately translated into the TL. Having used the technique of borrowing the translator failed to convey the meaning. The application of literary translation technique would have been contributed to better perception by the audience. *Die Stewardess Nebenstrasse* could have been used instead.

*He was still in the kitchen of Gwen Meighen’s apartment on **Stewardess Row**. (p.128).*

*Er war immer noch in der Küche von Gwen Meighens Apartment **in der Stewardess Row** (s. 177)*

The use of literal translation technique in the next example affects the quality of translation. The English word *nest* is rendered as German *Nest*, thus the compound noun *stewardess nests* translated as *Stewardessennestern* sounds unnatural and artificial. The translator should have used the figurative meaning of the word and translate it as *Heim*. There is the similar case with the literal translation of a lexical unit *airline sources*. It would have been more efficient to use the technique of reduction and translate it as *Fluggesellschaften*.

*Vernon Demerest had been in stewardess nests where most items used in daily living seemed to have come from airline sources.* (p. 132)

*Vernon Demerest war in Stewardessennestern gewesen, in denen fast alle Dinge des täglichen Gebrauchs aus Beständen der Fluggesellschaften zu stammen schienen.* (s. 180)

The technique the translator chose to render the terminological unit is that of word-for-word translation. As a consequence, there is no loss in translation and the meaning of the term is adequately conveyed.

*Another thing stewardesses learned was that no inventory check of removable cabin equipment was ever made at the termination of a flight* (p. 132)

*Noch etwas anderes merkten die Stewardessen: und zwar die Tatsache, dass von der beweglichen Ausstattung der Kabinen am Anflugsort nie eine Inventarprüfung vorgenommen wurde.* (s. 180)

When translating the term *captain* into German, the translator refers to the calque translation. However, he expands the TT by adding culturally marked lexeme *Herr*, which denotes the conventional way of addressing a male with respect and is usually used before the rank or title. Thus, the technique of adaptation was applied.

*The five stewardesses for Flight Two were already in the bus, and there was a chorus of "Good evening, Captain . . . good evening, Captain," as Demerest and Anson Harris clambered in, followed by Jordan...* (p. 226).

*Die fünf Stewardessen für Flug zwei saßen bereits in dem Kleinbus und grüßten im Chor: „Guten Abend, Herr Kapitän – guten Abend, Herr Kapitän“, als Demerest und Harris, gefolgt von Jordan, einstiegen ...* (s. 307)

One more example demonstrates the literary translation, in combination with syntactic compression, of the term which is the two-component asyndetic substantival cluster and is reproduced as a compound noun in German.

*With her soft English voice, she did the best she could with the treacly, insincere paragraph from her stewardess manual, which the company insisted must be read on every flight.* (p. 299)

*Mit ihrem weichen englischen Akzent entledigte sie sich, so gut es ging, des salbungsvollen, unaufrichtigen Textes aus ihrem Stewardessenleitfaden, der auf jedem Flug vorgelesen werden musste.* (s. 404)

The following example demonstrates the certain inadequacy in translation inasmuch as the translator substitutes the adjective *senior*, which means *having a higher position, level, or rank*, with *erfahrene*, which means *possessing skills or knowledge because you have done something often or for a long time*. Thus, the semantic meaning of an attribute is changed influencing the general idea of the sentence.

*A good many overseas flights had male stewards directing cabin service, but Trans America encouraged senior women staffers like Gwen to take charge when they proved themselves capable.* (p. 301)

*Eine ganze Reihe der Überseeflüge hatte Stewards für die Leitung des Kabinendienstes, aber Trans America ermutigte erfahrene weibliche Angestellte, wie Gwen, den Posten zu übernehmen, wenn sie sich dazu fähig erwiesen.* (s. 406)

The term *insubordination* is faithfully translated into the TL with the equivalent term *die Insubordination* using the calque technique which is justified in the case since in both languages it denotes the act of wilfully disobeying a lawful order of one's superior.

*In case you hadn't noticed, we happen to have a few passengers aboard. – I'll deal with the insubordination later.* (p. 396).

*Falls Sie es noch nicht wissen sollten: Wir haben nämlich ein paar Passagiere an Bord. Auf die Insubordination komme ich später zurück* (s. 533)

The following example contains several terminological units which are structurally viewed as noun clusters, thus the translation is predetermined by the structural form of the cluster. In a two-component asyndetic substantival cluster *round-trip ticket* the translator starts with a head noun and then proceeds with an adjunct which functions as an adjective. However, the three-component cluster *a return flight coupon* is directly translated into the TL as a conventional in the German language compound noun. Thus, the technique of syntactic compression was employed. The other sentence from the ST is omitted by the translator. Nevertheless, the use of omission technique in this case results in certain loss in translation inasmuch as the reader is not informed about the existence of a ticket stub and a boarding folder.

*If it was a round-trip ticket, you'd be holding a return flight coupon. And if it was one-way, you'd still have the ticket stub and boarding folder.* (p. 400)

*Wenn es ein Schein für hin und zurück war, müssten Sie ja den Rückflugabschnitt haben* (s. 540-541)

A number of terminological units related to the job responsibilities of the cabin crew are structurally noun clusters consisting of an adjunct and a head noun. The two-component asyndetic noun cluster is adequately translated into the TL beginning with the head noun after which adjunct noun is translated.

*The stewardesses went off to complete their own preflight procedures while the three pilots beaded for the Trans America international dispatch office.* (p. 226)

*Die Stewardessen gingen voraus, um ihre eigenen Vorbereitungen für den Start zu beenden, während die drei Piloten die interkontinentale Einsatzzentrale der Trans America aufsuchten.* (308)

The next compound is the demonstration of an adequate choice of lexical units in the TL. The two-component asyndetic substantival cluster is well translated both structurally and semantically with some expansion of the lexeme *ritual* into *üblichen Hantierungen*, thus the meaning of *something that is done regularly and always in the same way* is faithfully conveyed into the TL.

*Gwen Meighen, occupied with pre-takeoff rituals, had no time for such analysis* (p. 299) .

*Gwen Meighen war mit den üblichen Vor-Start-Hantierungen beschäftigt und hatte für derlei Betrachtungen keine Zeit.* (404)

One more example illustrates faithful translation of a terminological unit into the TL with the application of word-for-word translation technique.

*While four of the five stewardesses busied themselves with **housekeeping chores around the airplane**, Gwen used the p.a. system to welcome passengers aboard. (p. 299)*

*Während die anderen vier Stewardessen sich mit **Haushaltsarbeiten im Flugzeug** befassen, hieß Gwen über die Lautsprecheranlage die Gäste an Bord willkommen. (s. 404)*

One-componental term *manifest*, which denotes a list of passengers carried on a plane, is translated as *die Liste* in the TL. However, the meaning of this lexeme in German is *a series e.g. of names, numbers, prices etc. written down or said one after the other*, which is too general and lacks specification. Thus, the use of generalization technique in this case proves to be insufficient for adequate translation. The translator should have used a more conventional term *die Passagierliste*.

*The tourist passenger count won't tally. We've made it twice; we still can't agree with the **manifest** and tickets. (p. 296)*

*Die Zählung in der Touristenklasse will nicht stimmen. Wir haben sie schon zweimal gemacht, aber wir können mit der **Liste** und den Flugscheinen nicht klarkommen. (s. 398)*

Another example with the use of generalization technique, which results in the loss in translation, can be observed in the following sentence. The monolexical substantival term *ditching* denotes *landing an aircraft in a controlled crash into water*, whereas *Notlandung* stands for *emergency landing*, which is too general and lacks the semantic component of control. Thus, the meaning is distorted.

*More essential were the announcements about emergency exits, oxygen masks, and **ditching**. (p. 299)*

*Wichtiger waren die Ansagen über Notausgänge, Sauerstoffmasken und **Notlandung**. (s. 404)*

The following example presented certain difficulty for the translator, which he failed to overcome. The jargonism *layover* is an example of a pun where two different meanings of the word are exploited to create a humorous effect. The first one is a short stay somewhere between two parts of a journey, the second one is a slang word for having sex with somebody. However, the translator applied the technique of borrowing which resulted in loss in translation inasmuch as intended pun was not conveyed. He could have used footnotes to provide the explanation.

*The word "**layover**" had long ago been adopted officially by airlines and was used deadpan. (p. 55)*

*Der Ausdruck "**Layover**" war schon vor langer Zeit von den Fluggesellschaften übernommen worden und wurde ohne Wimpernzucken gebraucht (s. 77)*

One more example of inadequate transformation can be observed in the case of translation of the jargonism "perks". It means *something that you get legally from your work in addition to your wages, such as goods, meals, or a car*, however, used in inverted comas, it expresses certain irony as it is used by the cabin crew to denote the goods they obtain illegally. The translator does not render this nuance when using the word *Schmu*, which indicates *cheating*, thus, the stylistic meaning is distorted.

*He supposed he should not have been stuffy about the airline liquor bottles; after all, stewardess "**perks**" were nothing new (p. 130).*

*Er sagte sich, dass er wegen der Portionsflaschen nicht so spießig hätte sein sollen; schließlich war es doch nichts Neues, dass Stewardessen "**Schmu**" machten. (s. 180)*

**Conclusions.** Inasmuch as the author's main objective is to recreate the atmosphere of the professional environment he provides as much factual detail as possible resorting to the use of technical vocabulary. Therefore, the text is abundant in realia, terms, professionalisms, jargonisms, slang. Translating this type of lexical units requires accurate and correct understanding of them as well as the knowledge of functioning, structure and organization of an airport and its environment. It can be concluded that inasmuch as English and German belong to the same group of Germanic languages, their morphological and syntactic structures possess certain similarities. Thus, the use of the techniques of literal translation, borrowing and calque prevails, which are conventionally employed to render technical vocabulary. The translation appears to be direct and equivalent, consequently, closer to the ST and few transformations have been applied. However, it occasionally results in certain loss in translation. It may also be concluded that successful use of translation techniques combined with the deep understanding of the ST and various linguistic and extra linguistic factors can significantly contribute to equivalence and adequacy in translation.

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