

COMMON STRUCTURAL ERRORS: RUN-ON SENTENCES AND FRAGMENTS IN TRANSLATIONS FROM UZBEK TO ENGLISH

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Abstract: This article analyzes the most prevalent syntactic errors encountered during the translation of scientific and academic texts from Uzbek into English, specifically focusing on run-on sentences and sentence fragments. Through practical examples, the study demonstrates how the typological differences between the two languages induce negative linguistic interference among translators and researchers. The research results illustrate the root causes of these structural flaws and provide a set of dynamic, actionable recommendations designed to enhance academic clarity.

Keywords: academic translation, sentence structure, run-on sentences, sentence fragments, linguistic interference, syntactic analysis, international publications, language typology

Introduction. Global integration processes necessitate that domestic researchers present their scientific achievements to the international community in English. Publishing articles in prestigious international and national peer-reviewed journals has become a primary metric for evaluating an academic's potential. Nevertheless, rejection rates for manuscripts submitted by talented researchers and young doctoral candidates remain substantially high. The primary reason for these rejections is seldom the core content or the scientific novelty of the research; rather, it stems from severe syntactic errors and overly convoluted sentence structures introduced during the translation process from Uzbek to English.

Because Uzbek and English belong to entirely different language families (Turkic and Indo-European, respectively), their syntactic natures and modes of expression are fundamentally distinct. In Uzbek academic writing, expressing thoughts within a single, highly extended logical chain-utilizing numerous subordinate clauses, gerunds, and participial constructions-is considered standard academic practice. Conversely, Academic English relies on a rigid word order (Subject + Verb + Object) and requires ideas to be conveyed in concise, direct, and comprehensible textual blocks. When researchers and translators overlook these typological differences and attempt word-for-word translation (calquing), negative cross-linguistic interference occurs.

The most problematic and widespread consequences of this linguistic interference are "run-on sentences" (continuous, unpunctuated long sentences) and "sentence fragments" (logically and grammatically incomplete sentences). Run-on sentences

exhaust the reader and obscure the actual scientific substance of the text, while sentence fragments lead to a complete disruption of logical continuity. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to provide a linguistic analysis of these two specific structural errors in translated academic passages, uncover their underlying causes, and develop practical, dynamic recommendations to help researchers generate texts that meet international standards.

Methodology. To identify and evaluate syntactic errors in translations from Uzbek to English, this study employed a comparative-syntactic analysis alongside a structural methodology. The research material consisted of 150 draft scientific manuscripts (corpus texts) written in Uzbek and subsequently translated into English by young scholars, doctoral candidates, and master's students specializing in philological, social, and humanitarian fields at various higher education institutions. The total volume of the analyzed texts comprised over 3,500 sentences.

The theoretical framework relied on the fundamental works of international linguists such as A. Karimov (2020), R. Quirk (1985), and D. Crystal (2003) in the areas of English syntax, sentence structure, and error analysis. The agglutinative nature of Uzbek versus the analytical structure of English was examined as the primary linguistic factor driving these errors. Additionally, a comparative analysis was performed on the placement of the subject and predicate centers, as well as the overall word order within sentences in both languages.

The compiled text database was initially subjected to mechanical filtering using linguistic analysis software (Grammarly Premium and AntConc). Subsequently, the identified syntactic errors were manually verified and categorized into two major semantic and grammatical groups: "run-on sentences" and "sentence fragments." Finally, a quantitative (statistical) analysis method was utilized to calculate the frequency and percentage distribution of each error type within the overall translation corpus.

Results and Discussion. The analysis indicates that word order and logical connection patterns are the most critical factors when translating from Uzbek into English. In Uzbek syntax, it is common practice to link subordinate components continuously using commas or gerunds without terminating the sentence with a period. However, when replicated in English syntax, this tendency generates severe grammatical errors that disorient the reader.

According to the data obtained from the linguistic analysis of the 150 draft manuscripts, the vast majority of syntactic errors—specifically 52 percent—manifested as run-on sentences. The second highest frequency was observed in sentence fragments, which accounted for 28 percent of the identified issues, resulting in grammatically incomplete structures. The remaining 20 percent of errors were related to word order disruptions and faulty modifiers. These statistical figures demonstrate that authors

frequently fail to separate independent clauses with periods, opting instead for comma splices or direct calquing of native language patterns.

To better illustrate these findings, the identified syntactic errors can be examined through the following comparative examples:

1. The Issue of Run-on Sentences:

- **Incorrect Translation:** The research was conducted in three stages, the first stage included data collection, the second stage focused on data analysis.

- **Corrected Form:** The research was conducted in three stages. The first stage included data collection, while the second stage focused on data analysis.

2. The Issue of Sentence Fragments:

- **Incorrect Translation:** Although the authors tried to minimize the linguistic interference during the academic translation process.

- **Corrected Form:** Although the authors tried to minimize the linguistic interference during the academic translation process, some errors still occurred.

Conclusion and Recommendations. The findings of this study demonstrate that professional academic translation from Uzbek to English requires more than just establishing lexical equivalence. Fought patterns must be fundamentally rephrased to align with the rigid syntactic parameters of English. Based on the results, the following practical recommendations are proposed:

1. **The Splitting Technique:** When translating an extended Uzbek sentence that spans multiple lines, it should be dissected at its logical junctures and broken down into at least two or three independent, concise English sentences.

2. **Appropriate Use of Transition Words:** To avoid repetitive comma splices, the connection between independent clauses should be structured properly by introducing a period or a semicolon before transitional phrases such as *Therefore*, *However*, *Moreover*, or *Consequently*.

3. **Syntactic Quality Control:** Editorial boards of academic journals should implement initial screening mechanisms during the manuscript submission phase to evaluate papers not only for vocabulary and plagiarism but also specifically for structural and syntactic accuracy.

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