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INTERPRETING THE REALIA-WORDS FROM ION CREANGĂ'S WORK TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH

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CONCEPTUAL REFERENCE POINTS OF THE RESEARCH

Topicality and importance of research

The study of language, culture and translation represents a fundamental aspect of human research due to its vital importance in facilitating global communication. Given the diversity of languages and cultures, translation has become an effective tool in the process of communication, cultural exchange and knowledge transfer. Therefore, language and culture are intrinsically linked to each other, and translation serves as a bridge between different languages and cultures. The activity of translation, with deep roots in history, has always been a means of overcoming linguistic and cultural barriers that arise from the inevitable differences between linguistic and cultural systems. Thus, we can consider that translation is not just communication between two languages but also between two distinct cultures. Considering this close relationship between language and culture, it is impossible to analyse the phenomenon of translation without taking cultural aspects into account.

Initially, translation practices and theories were based on translating sacred texts and literary works. However, early considerations of translation ignored the role of culture in translation and mainly addressed linguistic differences and problems. It was not until the early decades of the 20th century that translation began to be recognized as a phenomenon that goes beyond purely linguistic transfer, constituting a means of intercultural communication.

In accordance with this shift in perspective in translation studies, the role of culture has become particularly important in translating literary texts that reflect the social and cultural aspects of a society. Therefore, literary translation is largely a means of intercultural communication, as it presents a certain culture to the recipients of other societies.

In the context of intercultural interaction, translators encounter information containing specific cultural references and suggestions, units called *realia-words*. Translating this type of words poses a serious and complex challenge, involving the accurate rendering of nuances and cultural peculiarities associated with them. This issue has concerned translators and linguists even before the formation of translation studies as a scientific discipline, highlighting the complexity of transferring cultural meanings between different languages and cultures.

In the field of translation studies, numerous linguists have conducted research on words specific to a culture, their characteristics, translation issues and strategies and have proposed various terms for designating the realia-words, as well as offering diverse definitions for them. The term *realia* is used by many authors, but there are also other terms, such as *culture-bound element*, *culture-specific concept* or *culture-specific item*. Some researchers even use multiple

terms in parallel, such as *realia-words* and *exoticisms* or *realia* and *culture-specific items*. Given that the most commonly used term is *realia-word* and that the dissertation is written in Romanian, we have opted for its Romanian equivalent *cuvânt-realitate*, which is more suitable in describing the concept of words conveying specific cultural information, as it emphasizes their connection to social, cultural and historical realities.

According to S. Vlahov and S. Florin's study, the term *realia* derives from the Latin adjective *realis*, meaning "real, true, valid", later evolving in Russian and Bulgarian into a feminine singular and plural noun. In the context of Romanian translation research, the term *realia* is used both in its Latin form (plural form) and in the form *realii* under the influence of Russian studies. However, in this dissertation, we prefer the term *cuvinte-realități*.

The translation of realia-words has been discussed by many researchers in the field of translation studies, such as R. Leppihalme, P. Newmark, M. Baker, L. Venuti, J.F. Aixelá, J. Pedersen, S. Vlahov, S. Florin, G. Tomahin, V. Vinogradov, I.K. Nagy, M.-T. Boboc, C. Popușoi, M.Ț. Andreici, D. Gheltofan, I. Condrea, G. Șaganean, L. Zbanț and others. The possible ways of translating a realia-word in the target-text vary depending on the predominant focus, that is, opting for a source-text-oriented translation or a target-text-oriented translation.

The topicality of this work lies in the need to rigorously address the process of interpreting realia-words from I. Creangă's memorialistic short prose *Amintiri din copilărie* for their translation into English. As I. Creangă's work stands as the patrimonial foundation of Romanian literature, translating it into other languages, such as English, serves as a means to bring it to the attention of a wider audience and to promote Romanian culture and literature worldwide. It is essential that these translations be carried out with accuracy and cultural sensitivity. A doctoral dissertation that addresses the interpretation of realia-words from the reference text makes a valuable contribution to the field of literary translation and to the understanding of the process of translating and culturally adapting Romanian literary works in an international context. Thus, theoretically, the dissertation contributes to interdisciplinary studies focused on defining, characterizing, addressing the issues and strategies of translating realia-words, while in its practical aspect, it promotes the development of advanced intercultural communication skills by sensitizing speakers to the linguistic and cultural differences between Romanian and English.

Purpose and objectives of research

In this paper, our **purpose** is to analyse translation strategies from Romanian into English for realia-words in I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie* from the perspective of semantic and functional aspects. In order to achieve the stated goal, the following **objectives** have been formulated:

1) conducting a diachronic study of the *realia-word* concept;

2) examining the defining aspects of the *realia-word*;

3) analysing the typology and criteria for classifying the realia-words based on existing research;

4) developing our own classification of realia-words following the thematic criterion;

5) researching the linguistic and cultural peculiarities of I. Creangă's speech;

6) identifying the realia-words in I. Creangă's work and classifying them according to the thematic criterion;

7) analysing the semantic and functional aspects of translating realia-words from the perspective of translation strategies;

8) identifying and comparing translation strategies for realia-words from I. Creangă's work.

The object of research within our study consists of realia-words and the issue of their translation.

Research hypothesis

Within the present research, the following hypotheses have been taken into consideration:

1) the process of translating realia-words from Romanian into English is influenced by the cultural, linguistic and pragmatic differences between the two languages, reflected in the specific linguistic and cultural picture of each language;

2) the translation strategies adopted in rendering these realia-words into English may vary depending on the cultural and linguistic context of the target-language, thus determining how these words are received and interpreted by the translator and, respectively, by the target-audience.

Corpus analysis

The analysis was conducted based on a significant corpus of 1057 examples selected from I. Creangă's memorialistic prose *Amintiri din copilărie*, including 357 examples of realia-words from the source-text (ST), 354 examples from target-text 1 (TT1) – translated by A. Cartianu and R.C. Johnston: *Memories of My Boyhood*, and 346 examples from target-text 2 (TT2) – translated by A.L. Lloyd: *Recollections from Childhood*. The smaller number of examples in the target-texts compared to the source-text is explained by the adoption of an *omission* strategy, whereby some realia-words from the source-text are not explicitly reflected in the translation.

The scientific research methodology adopted in this paper is based on studies in the field of linguistics, providing a solid and systematic theoretical framework for investigation. In the elaboration of this dissertation, a diversified spectrum of research methods, both quantitative and

qualitative, has been utilized to achieve a comprehensive and detailed understanding of the subject under investigation.

The scientific novelty and originality of the research stem from both the proposed aim and objectives, as well as from the methodology applied within this dissertation. Of particular significance is the fact that this paper explores, for the first time, the semantic and functional aspects of translating realia-words from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie* in two distinct translations: *Memories of My Boyhood* by A. Cartianu and R.C. Johnston, and *Recollections from Childhood* by A.L. Lloyd. This original approach makes a significant contribution to the field of translation and literary studies, offering a fresh perspective on the process of transposing and interpreting I. Creangă's work within the cultural milieu of the English language.

Structure of the dissertation. The doctoral dissertation comprises: annotations in Romanian, English and Russian, a list of abbreviations, introduction, three chapters divided into subsections, general conclusions and recommendations (157 pages of main text), bibliography consisting of 199 titles, 6 appendices, declaration of assumption of liability and the author's CV.

Keywords: cuvânt-realitate, realia-word, culture-bound element, culture-specific concept, culture-specific item, translation, the Romanian language, the English language, linguaculture, linguistic picture of the world, typology, translation strategy, semantic and functional aspects, Ion Creangă, Amintiri din copilărie, Memories of My Boyhood, Recollections from Childhood.

CONTENT OF THE DISSERTATION

Chapter 1, titled *Evolutionary Approach and Definition of the Realia-Word Concept*, begins with an overview of the specialised literature in the field of linguistics, outlining theoretical aspects related to the interdependence between language and culture, followed by a diachronic study of the realia-word concept and an examination of its defining aspects.

In order to achieve this, interpretations of the notion of culture by various researchers are presented, such as: W.B. Gudykunst, Y.Y. Kim, C. Thriveni, L.A. Samovar, R.E. Porter. The issue regarding the relationship between language and culture has been within the sphere of interest of researchers such as: V. Maslova, W. von Humboldt, P. Sapir, P. Swiggers, K. Risager, N. Tolstoi, R. Jakobson, D. Ludden, N. Jinkin, A. Guțu. Additionally, the connection between language, culture and thought from the perspective of linguists such as W. von Humboldt, A. Potebnea, E. Sapir etc. is examined. There is a direct and inseparable connection between language and culture. Language is a fundamental component of culture. It serves as both a repository of a nation's cultural values and a tool for assimilating these values. The very existence of language as a phenomenon is impossible without culture, just as the existence of culture is inconceivable without language. It should also be emphasised that language constitutes both a tool and a condition for the existence of culture, while culture represents a historical memory, being a means of storing and disseminating various social and cultural information about human reality. Many characteristics of a people are reflected in the language of a society: way of life, traditions, beliefs, attitudes, technical, scientific, and artistic achievements, etc., all described using the language of the society, specifically realia-words. Realia-words reflect the aspects of life of a society and a people in whose language they have emerged, and due to this fact, these lexical units are exponents of cultural and national identity. It is precisely through these words that the close connection between language and culture can be observed. Realia-words are used by the bearers of a culture in all areas of life: social, economic, political, spiritual, and are often reflected in written and oral texts, which are then subjected to the translation process.

A distinct segment of the content of the chapter focuses on the discussion regarding the linguistic picture of the world as a reflection of national ethos, constituting an area of interest for researchers such as: W. von Humboldt, V. Maslova, R. Grzegorczykowa, E. Coșeriu, E. Lacusta etc. Exploring the concept of the *linguistic picture of the world* reveals a profound and essential connection between language and culture. This central concept in linguistic and anthropological research highlights how the language of a community not only conveys and shapes information but also the perceptions, values and cultural perspectives of its speakers. By analysing the subtleties reflected in vocabulary, grammatical structure and other linguistic features, researchers

gain a deeper understanding of how culture is embodied and transmitted through language. Thus, the linguistic picture of the world serves as an essential tool for understanding the complexity of the relationship between language and culture, highlighting how these two aspects intersect and mutually influence each other in the process of constructing and interpreting reality.

In this chapter, the concept of realia-word is also subjected to examination. The diachronic study demonstrates that over time researchers have attempted to find the most precise term to designate the concept of realia-word: *realia, realia-word, culture-bound element, culture-specific concept, culture-specific item, untranslatable term, cultural word, culture bump, culture-bound word, culturally marked word, unrooted loanword, extralinguistic cultural reference, extralinguistics cultural-bound reference, cultural reference, culture-related term* etc. The proposed terms share the characteristic of representing lexemes that do not have an exact equivalent in other languages and are characterised by national colouring, yet none of them fully reveals the content of the realia-word concept, except for the term *realia*, which is also the most commonly used in researchers' works. In this paper, we use the term **cuvinte-realități**.

The term *realia-words* is mentioned in the recent works of researchers such as I. Druță, in *Tehnici și strategii de traducere în versiunile românești ale romanului Maestrul și Margareta de Mihail Bulgakov* (2019) [7], L. Zbanț, in *Abordarea traducerii literare prin prisma tabloului lingval al lumii* (2019) [20], and V. Lifari, in *Traducerea ca mijloc de comunicare interculturală* (2023) [11].

Although this term is rarely encountered in Romanian academic literature, we consider it more suitable in describing words that convey cultural information, as it underscores their connection to social, cultural and historical realities. Moreover, the notion of *cuvânt-realitate* integrates more appropriately with the morphological and phonetic specificity of the Romanian language, without implying difficulties in inflection or adaptation.

In addition to employing various terms to designate realia-words, linguists also offer different definitions of them. Thus, by analysing the definitions formulated by various linguists for the term *realia-words*, we have managed to identify three essential characteristics that illustrate the nature and complexity of this term:

- *realia-words have a national and/or historical colouring*: this characteristic highlights the fact that realia-words carry significant cultural and historical connotations. They are closely linked to the specificity of a particular culture or nation and can reflect important aspects of its history or traditions. Thus, they become an integral part of cultural and national identity;

- *realia-words designate the realities of a nation's life*: this characteristic indicates that realia-words are not simple linguistic units, but words that name aspects or objects specific to the culture and life of a particular nation or community. They may be related to customs, traditions, historical events or distinctive aspects of the respective culture;

- *realia-words usually do not have an exact equivalent in other languages and present difficulties in the translation process*: this characteristic emphasizes a crucial aspect of realia-words – the fact that they are often challenging to translate into other languages without losing cultural nuances and profound meanings. They can pose real challenges for translators, as there are not always perfect equivalents in the target-language. This aspect highlights the importance of deep understanding of the culture and cultural context to achieve accurate and appropriate translations of these terms.

Through these characteristics, realia-words become significant elements in the study of language, culture and translation, contributing to the understanding of the complexity of the relationship between language and culture and to identifying the challenges encountered in the translation process of specific cultural elements.

Synthesising the definitions provided by numerous researchers, we consider that **realia-words** are words that carry cultural information, belonging to a specific culture, language, country, nation, locality, etc.; they designate the realities of a nation's life: daily life, culture, social and historical development. Given that they usually do not have an exact equivalent in other languages, these words tend to pose serious translation challenges, requiring a special approach in the process of rendering them from the source language into the target language.

Chapter 2, *Realia-words from a Translation Studies Perspective and Their Typology*, constitutes a comprehensive study addressing the essential aspects of literary translation and realia-words. In this regard, various perspectives on literary translation within translation studies are examined, highlighting the significant contributions and approaches of authors such as: E. Coșeriu, G. Lungu-Badea, P. Qvale, R. Alvarez, M. Carmen-Africa Vidal, V. Komissarov, A. Fiodorov, I. Condrea, I. Druță, A. Guțu, I. Krivoturov, D. Pascaru, G. Șaganean, L. Zbanț, and others.

Furthermore, the strategies used in translating realia-words are analysed, covering both global and local strategies. This analysis includes the important contributions of researchers such as: L. Venuti, R. Leppihalme, D.D. Mihalache, M.-T. Boboc, S. Vlahov, S. Florin, P. Newmark, Z. Proșina, G. Tomahin, V. Vinogradov, J. Diaz Cintas, A. Remael and L. Latâșev.

Reviewing all strategies for translating realia-words, we can assert that among the most significant, mentioned by the majority of researchers, are: *borrowing, calque, addition, descriptive translation* and *analogy*. The specialised literature does not hold a uniform position regarding the

number of translation strategies for realia-words or their naming. Inconsistency is observed as the same strategy is named differently by authors: *borrowing* (J. Diaz Cintas and A. Remael) may also be termed as *direct transfer* (R. Leppihalme) or even have four denominations: *transfer/borrowed word/transcription/transliteration* (P. Newmark); *calque* is also called *literal translation* (M.-T. Boboc; J. Diaz Cintas and A. Remael) etc.

Upon careful examination of ten taxonomies elaborated by linguists (R. Leppihalme, D.D. Mihalache, M.-T. Boboc, S. Vlahov/S. Florin, P. Newmark, Z. Proşina, G. Tomahin, V. Vinogradov, J. Diaz Cintas/A. Remael and L. Latâşev), we have decided to adopt the taxonomy proposed by the linguist R. Leppihalme for conducting the analysis of the selected example corpus (in Chapter 3). The choice of this taxonomy is justified by its clear and systematic structure, which facilitates the classification of translation strategies, thereby assisting in the efficient and rigorous analysis of the example corpus. Additionally, the taxonomy proposed by R. Leppihalme is supported by a solid theoretical foundation and is based on relevant research and studies in the field of translation studies.

Linguists approach the notion of *realia-words* from multiple perspectives, highlighting various aspects and providing diverse taxonomies. These taxonomies are developed according to specific criteria, such as space, time and theme. The majority of taxonomies have been developed based on the thematic criterion. Currently, there is not a single classification for realia-words in terms of theme, which is why linguists propose different classifications based on more or less similar principles. Analysing the classifications of several linguists, such as P. Newmark, S. Vlahov/S. Florin, B. Nedergaard-Larsen, J. Diaz Cintas/A. Remael, and E. Armellino, we have concluded that the most comprehensive classification, both in terms of complexity and the number of examples, is the one made by S. Vlahov and S. Florin.

Based on the study, we agreed to accept the following types of realia-words: 1) geographical realia-words; 2) ethnographic realia-words; 3) sociopolitical realia-words. These categories, in turn, are subdivided into subcategories.

Next, the linguistic and cultural particularities of the language used by I. Creangă in the context of literary translation are examined, providing examples of specific elements of Romanian culture, such as proverbs and sayings, fragments of folk songs and folk expressions, which the author used to give the text a deeply national character and an authentic folk style. Additionally, the difficulties that arise in the process of translating I. Creangă's work are identified.

In the final part of this chapter, the process of constructing the factual corpus is described. This section contains a detailed analysis of aspects related to realia-words and their translation in the context of I. Creangă's work, including information about the translators A. Cartianu, R.C.

Johnston, and A.L. Lloyd, their translations *Memories of My Boyhood* and *Recollections from Childhood*, the period in which these translations were made, the peculiarities of realia-words in terms of phonetic and graphic aspects, as well as their structure and grammatical form.

The realia-words composing the selected corpus are divided into two categories based on the criterion of formal complexity: 1) simple words (monomember); 2) syntagmatic units (also called phrases). The research conducted from a morphological perspective allowed us to observe that simple lexemes are predominantly nouns. This predominance can be explained by the essentially denominative function of realia-words. Among the productive word formation processes for realia-words, we enumerate *derivation* and *syntagmatic composition*. Based on the study conducted on the selected corpus (357 realia-words), we performed the structural classification of the realia-words identified in the work *Amintiri din copilărie*. The most frequent were found to be simple *lexemes* (numbering 239), followed by *syntagmatic units* (numbering 118). Syntagmatic units are grouped into four subcategories: *bimember phrases, trimember phrases, tetramember phrases* and *polymember phrases*. The most numerous group is represented by bimember syntagmatic units, followed by trimember and tetramember ones, and finally, by polymember ones, consisting of words belonging to different parts of speech. The pattern N1 + N2 constitutes the most productive bimember syntagmatic unit, while the structure N1 + N2 + N3 records the highest productivity among the studied polysynapses.

Chapter 3, entitled *Semantic and Functional Aspects of Translating Realia-Words from Romanian into English in Ion Creangă's Work*, addresses the phenomena of monosemy and polysemy concerning realia-words, their classification in the context of I. Creangă's work and the process of translating them into English from a semantic and functional perspective.

In order to achieve this, we identify examples of realia-words in I. Creangă's memorialistic prose *Amintiri din copilărie*, categorizing them into three essential categories: *geographical, ethnographic* and *sociopolitical*. Ethnographic realia-words emerged as the predominant category (249 examples), thus illustrating the author's emphasis on aspects related to daily life, professional activity, art, culture and ethnic characteristics. In contrast, geographical and sociopolitical realia-words were encountered in smaller proportions, with 78 and 30 examples, respectively. This distribution reflects the author's attention to daily and cultural details, while interest in geographical and sociopolitical aspects was more limited.

We then conduct a detailed analysis of the phenomena of *monosemy* and *polysemy*. Realia-words represent a fascinating aspect of language, where the meaning of a lexeme is deeply rooted in its cultural and social context. In some situations, these words can be **monosemantic**, meaning they have a single, specific, and well-defined sense within a cultural or social framework. Eloquent

examples can be found in I. Creangă's biographical prose *Amintiri din copilărie* [3] among toponyms (*Deleni*, *satul Topoliţa, mahalaua Condreni, podul Cărăgiţei*, etc.), anthroponyms (*bădiţa Vasile a Ilioaei, moş Bodrângă, Smărăndiţa popii, Nic-a lui Costache, Toader a Catincăi, părintele Ioan, vornicul Nic-a Petricăi, dascălul Iordache*, etc.), holidays (*Bobotează, Sfântul Foca, Miezul-Păresii, Buna Vestire, Florii, Vinerea Seacă, Sâmbăta Paştelui*, etc.) and so on. In these cases, the meaning of realia-words is often clear and univocal within the respective culture, contributing to the shaping of cultural identity and similarities.

However, realia-words are not always defined by a single meaning. Sometimes these lexemes can be characterised by polysemy, meaning they can have multiple senses or connotations depending on the context in which they are used. For example, a lexeme used to describe a traditional object might not be limited only to its physical aspect or functionality but could also acquire connotations related to cultural symbolism or specific social practices. Thus, the same word can embody multiple layers of meaning, extending beyond its simple designation and reflecting the diversity and complexity of the culture and society in which it is used.

It is important to highlight that in the realm of polysemous vocabulary, not every meaning attributed to a lexeme grants it the status of a realia-word. This observation underscores the complexity and subtleties encountered in the process of interpreting and using words that possess multiple meanings.

When a translator renders a text, especially within literature, they often face complex semantic dilemmas related to interpreting and accurately conveying the polysemous meanings of words. It is essential to consider the cultural, historical, and linguistic context of the source-text, as well as the author's intention and the semantic sensitivity of the final audience.

Thus, during the translation process, the translator must exercise subtle judgment in selecting nuances of meaning that preserve the coherence and authenticity of the original text. In some cases, certain nuances may be attenuated or adapted to better fit the cultural and linguistic framework of the target-language, while others may be expressed explicitly or interpreted in a way that reflects the original meanings and subtleties of the source-text.

Therefore, the process of translation is not merely a straightforward transfer of words from one language to another, but a complex and sophisticated activity involving interpretation, adaptation, and delicate choice of semantic nuances, especially when dealing with polysemous lexemes that possess multiple meanings and connotations.

Taking the word *ştiubei* as an example (**TS:** *Şi cu câtă carte ştiu, cu câtă nu ştiu, peste câţiva ani pot s-ajung dichiu la vrun mitoc şi să strâng un **ştiubei** plin de galbeni, ca părintele Chirilaş, de la jugărit, din Vânătorii Neamţului* [3, p. 231-232].), we can observe how the

polysemy of this lexeme offers multiple semantic dimensions, yet not all of them transform it into a realia-word. This lexeme has three distinct meanings: the first refers to a primitive beehive, the second to a vessel made from a hollowed trunk, used to store various household items, and the third denotes a hollowed trunk used as a spout at a small well. To illustrate this concept, we can examine how I. Creangă integrates this lexeme within his work *Amintiri din copilărie*. In this literary context, *știubei* acquires a secondary significance, suggesting an object intended for storing various goods in a domestic setting. Therefore, it becomes a realia-word, manifesting a specific functionality in portraying everyday objects and experiences.

Analysing the target-texts, we find that translators have adopted an appropriate approach in selecting equivalents for the realia-word *știubei*, employing the strategy of *cultural adaptation* in translation (**TT1:** *I very nearly told mother that I'd turn monk at Neamț or at Secu, and with the amount of learning I had, or had not, I might, in a few years' time, become superintendent in some small monastery and lay by **a tubful** of gold coins such as Father Kirilaș, of Vînătorii Neamțului, ammassed from carting wood* [4]. **TT2:** *With all the learning I've got and haven't got, a few years from now I'd be the head of a religious hostel, and making **pots** of money out of forestry and pasturage dues, like that Father Chirilas in Vânătorii Neamțului* [5, p. 118]). These linguistic choices reflect the translators' efforts to convey the meaning and connotations of *știubei* within a culturally and linguistically relevant framework for the target-audience. By applying the strategy of *cultural adaptation*, translators manage to preserve the integrity and semantic coherence of the original text, while ensuring a proper understanding of the message by the target-readers.

An important focus in the paper is on semantic and functional aspects, particularly the study of *translation strategies* employed by translators A. Cartianu, R.C. Johnston and A.L. Lloyd for translating realia-words from I. Creangă's biographical prose *Amintiri din copilărie*. In this regard, we opt for R. Leppihalme's classification, which proposes the following translation strategies: 1) direct transfer; 2) calque; 3) addition; 4) cultural adaptation; 5) superordinate term; 6) explicitation; 7) omission [10].

In order to analyse the translation of realia-words from this work (source-text), we have selected two translations by A. Cartianu and R.C. Johnston: *Memories of My Boyhood* – target-text 1 and A.L. Lloyd: *Recollections from Childhood* – target-text 2.

An example of **a geographical realia-word** is the lexeme ***dumbravă***.

TS: *Pentru fiecare fântână, pârâu, vâlcică, **dumbravă** și alte locuri drăgălașe ce*	**TT1:** *Every well, stream, valley, **glade** and other favourite place that we left*	**TT2:** *For each spring, each brook, each dear little valley and **wood** we*

lăsam în urmă-ne scoteam câte-un suspin adânc din piepturile noastre! [3, p. 233]	*behind drew a deep sigh from our breasts!* [4]	*left behind, we heaved a deep sigh.* [5, p. 121]

The strategy used by the translators in both target texts is *cultural adaptation*. In the ST, the word *dumbravă* is used to describe a "favourite" place that evokes a sense of beauty and nostalgia and can be interpreted as a "young and not very dense forest" [27]. In the English translation of the TT1, *dumbravă* is translated as *glade*, a lexeme that indicates an open area in the middle of a forest [29], often covered with grass or other types of lower vegetation. *Glade* can be a small clearing in the middle of a forest or an open area between trees [29], [26], [28], and it suggests an image of light and space in a generally shady and dense environment such as a forest. Therefore, we can say that *glade* is a constituent element of the broader concept of *dumbravă*, with these lexemes describing a relationship of inclusion.

In TT2, the translation of *dumbravă* is *wood*, which generally refers to an area with trees, usually smaller than a forest [29]. *Wood* can also refer to a young forest or an area of trees with a lower density. This lexeme represents a more general concept than *glade*. The additional context in TT2, which mentions the determiners *dear little*, adds a note of affection and intimacy, thus preserving a nuance of meaning similar to that in the ST.

In both translations, the idea of leaving behind pleasant places and evoking a certain emotional reaction, expressed in the ST as a "suspin adânc din piepturile noastre", is preserved. In conclusion, the correspondents of the lexeme *dumbravă* in the target-texts involve specific linguistic and stylistic choices that largely retain the general meaning of the source-word but also add nuances of meaning and expressiveness depending on the context and the translator's intention. However, the translators do not fully preserve the semantic specificity of the original lexeme nor its associated cultural connotations.

In our view, an appropriate translation solution would be the lexeme *grove*, which refers to a small area with young trees and shrubs [29]. In the context of the excerpted sentence, *grove* would be more suitable for conveying the idea of a small and charming area of young trees and shrubs. This lexeme also has a more specific connotation of a picturesque place, suggesting a pleasant and attractive visual image.

Therefore, considering the size and density of the vegetation, the visual and emotional characteristics, as well as usage in similar contexts, it can be argued that the English lexeme *grove* is a more suitable correspondent for the Romanian realia-word *dumbravă* in the mentioned sentence, thus preserving its semantic, emotional, and visual specificity.

An example of **an ethnographic realia-word** is the lexeme *covrig*.

TS: *Şi eu, neastâmpărat cum eram, ba ieşeam la pârlaz, când trecea cu mortul pe la poarta noastră şi-l boscorodeam cu cimilitura: [...] ba îl petreceam până la biserică şi apoi veneam acasă cu sânul încărcat de **covrigi**, mere turture, nuci poleite, roşcove şi smochine din pomul mortului, de se încruceau tata şi mama când mă vedeau cu dânsele.* [3, p. 169]

TT1: *Or again, I would walk in the procession to the church and return with my shirt stuffed full of **pretzels**, sour-sweetish apples, walnuts in tinsel, carobs and dried figs from the dead man's tree, so laden that my father and mother crossed themselves with wonder when they saw me with such goodies.* [4]

TT2: *Sometimes I followed the corpse to church, and came home again with my shirt full of **cracknels** and apples, gilded walnuts, locust beans and figs filched off the funeral tree that in our parts is hung with offerings in memory of the dead.* [5, p. 26]

According to the Explanatory Dictionary of the Romanian Language [27], the Romanian word *covrig* refers to a "ring-shaped pastry, sometimes twisted, made from wheat flour and sprinkled with salt, poppy seeds, sesame seeds, or cumin". *Covrig* is a traditional pastry snack with a rich history in Romania. There are various theories about its origin, but many historians believe it was invented in the Anatolia region of present-day Turkey before being brought to Europe by the Ottomans in the 15th century. Over time, the *covrig* became popular throughout Europe and was adapted in different ways according to local culture and tastes. In Romania, it is possible that this product was introduced during the Ottoman domination period in the 18th century [17], but this cannot be stated with certainty. According to another theory, the *covrig* first appeared in the city of Buzău in the 19th century, introduced by Greek merchants [8].

Romanian *covrigi* differ from German or Austrian pretzels in their round shape and often-used fillings, such as sesame seeds, poppy seeds, cheese, or chocolate. After 1989, the Romanian *covrig* began to take on other preparation forms, such as braided, unbraided, simple, etc. [9]. Today, the *covrig* is a popular and accessible snack, appreciated for its crunchy taste and variety of flavors and fillings available. Additionally, the *covrig* has become a symbol of traditional Romanian cuisine and is often associated with childhood memories and moments of relaxation and pleasure.

The action in the ST takes place in the 19th century. Therefore, we can deduce that the author is referring to the ring-shaped pretzel, which was a common snack in Romania during that

period. Additionally, it is worth noting that the lexeme *covrig* carries cultural and traditional significance, as well as a rich history and tradition in Romania.

In the target texts, the translators opted for *cultural adaptation* to render the Romanian realia-word. In TT1, the word *pretzel* is identified, which is commonly used in American English, carrying a specific cultural meaning in that language and corresponding to the Romanian *covrig împletit*, although there are some subtle differences in appearance and recipe. Semantically, *pretzel* is a hyponym of the word covrig. In TT2, *cracknel* is a lexeme typical of British culture, referring to a kind of crunchy, salty biscuit [29] and is less commonly used in contemporary English compared to the term in TT1. In this case, the translator chose to use a less specific word to describe the product mentioned in the ST, likely for reasons of clarity and conciseness. In both target texts, the lexeme *covrig* is associated with other foods and fruits, such as apples, walnuts, figs, and carob pods, which are offered as tributes in memory of the deceased. These foods have significant cultural importance in the specific context of the ST, often being associated with local traditions and customs related to funerals and the commemoration of the dead.

Based on a rigorous semantic analysis, we propose a more precise variant for translating the lexeme *covrig*, namely *ring-shaped pretzel*, specifying the specific shape of this pastry product.

An example of **a sociopolitical realia-word** is the lexeme ***vornic***.

| **TS:** *Cam pe înserate, ne luăm târâş, cu moş Bodrângă cu tot, şi ne băgăm într-o cinstită crâşmă, la fata **vornicului** de la Rădăşeni, unde mai multă lume se aduna de dragostea crâşmăriţei decât de dorul vinului; căci era şi frumoasă, bat-o hazul s-o bată!* [3, p. 218] | **TT1:** *About nightfall we all, not forgetting old Bodrîngă, betook ourselves to a respectable tavern belonging to the daughter of the **mayor** at Rădăşeni, where more people would come for love of the hostess than for any urge to drink wine; and lovely she was, too, a blessing upon her!* [4] | **TT2:** *Late that night, we all shuffled off, old Bodrângă and the rest of us, to a well-known tavern belonging to the daughter of the **mayor** of Rădăşeni, where a lot of people came rather for love of the landlady than the liquor, for by the living God, she was beautiful.* [5, p. 97] |

The realia-word *vornic* carries a specific significance within Romanian culture and has roots in the feudal period. In the historical past of Moldavia and Wallachia, the *vornic* was one of the most important servants of the ruler, with administrative, judicial, and military duties, as well as the responsibility for managing tax collection and organizing military troops. The word *vornic* is of Slavic origin, derived from the word *dvorĭnikŭ*, which means *court official* [27]. The lexeme *vornic* was first mentioned in documents from the reign of Mircea the Elder, dated 1389. At that

time, the *vornic* was a high-ranking dignitary at the royal court, with significant responsibilities in the administration of justice throughout the country [2, p. 37].

In the modern era, the realia-word *vornic* has largely lost its historical significance and has been replaced by the lexeme *primar*. However, in contemporary Romanian culture, the *vornic* remains a symbol of power and authority, often used in literature, art, and media as a reference to the feudal period and Romania's historical past.

Following the analysis of the target texts, it can be observed that the translators opted for the *adaptation* strategy, using the lexeme *mayor* – a word that designates the function of a local municipality's head [29]. Although both words refer to similar positions within local administration, there are semantic differences between them. Thus, *mayor* is more general than *vornic*, as it can be used to designate the position of a mayor in any country or region of the world, while *vornic* has a specific historical and cultural significance, being tied to Romanian tradition and culture.

In conclusion, while *mayor* can be considered a functional equivalent for *vornic* in the given context, its use may lead to a loss of cultural and historical significance. Therefore, it would be preferable to use a more specific equivalent, such as rendering the original lexeme through *direct transfer* and employing a footnote to provide a succinct explanation of its meaning, such as: a high-ranking official in the feudal administration of Wallachia and Moldavia, with administrative, military, and judicial functions, responsible for overseeing tax collection and the organisation and maintenance of military troops.

Additionally, we have identified the translation strategies most commonly used by translators to determine whether the translators opted for orientation towards the target-culture or for preserving the culture of the source-text. Analysing the translation of geographical realia-words from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie*, we obtained the following results: a total of 231 examples, of which 78 examples from the source-text, 77 examples from the target-text 1 and 76 examples from target-text 2, resulting in the following quantitative analysis of translation strategies:

a) target-text 1 (A. Cartianu, R.C. Johnston, *Memories of My Boyhood*, 1978): direct transfer – 53 examples (67.94%); calque – 2 examples (2.56%); cultural adaptation – 5 examples (6.41%); superordinate term – 4 examples (5.12%); omission – 1 example (1.28%); combination of strategies – 12 examples (15.38%); translation error – 1 example (1.28%);

b) target text 2 (A.L. Lloyd, *Recollections from Childhood*, 1956): direct transfer – 55 examples (70.51%); calque – 1 example (1.28%); cultural adaptation – 6 examples (7.69%);

superordinate term – 1 example (1.28%); omission – 2 examples (2.56%); combination of strategies – 11 examples (14.10%); translation error – 2 examples (2.56%).

Therefore, *direct transfer* is the most commonly used translation strategy in the translation process of geographical realia-words in both target-texts.

Analysing the translation of ethnographic realia-words from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie*, we obtained the following results: a total of 741 examples, of which 249 examples from the source-text, 248 examples from target-text 1 and 244 examples from target-text 2, resulting in the following quantitative analysis of translation strategies:

a) target-text 1 (A. Cartianu, R.C. Johnston, *Memories of My Boyhood*, 1978): direct transfer – 27 examples (10.84%); cultural adaptation – 91 examples (36.54%); superordinate term – 27 examples (10.84%); explicitation – 13 examples (5.22%); omission – 1 example (0.40%); combination of strategies – 82 examples (32.93%); translation error – 8 examples (3.21%);

b) target-text 2 (A.L. Lloyd, *Recollections from Childhood*, 1956): direct transfer – 44 examples (17.67%); calque – 1 example (0.40%); cultural adaptation – 81 examples (32.53%); superordinate term – 30 examples (12.04%); explicitation – 9 examples (3.61%); omission – 5 examples (2%); combination of strategies – 69 examples (27.71%); translation error – 10 examples (4.01%).

Thus, we could argue that in the translation process of ethnographic realia-words in both target-texts, the most commonly used translation strategies are *cultural adaptation* and *direct transfer*, as well as their use in combination with other strategies.

Analysing the translation of socio-political realia-words from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie*, we obtained the following results: a total of 85 examples, of which 30 examples from the source-text, 29 examples from target-text 1 and 26 examples from target-text 2, resulting in the following quantitative analysis of translation strategies:

a) target-text 1 (A. Cartianu, R.C. Johnston, *Memories of My Boyhood*, 1978): cultural adaptation – 14 examples (46.66%); superordinate term – 4 examples (13.33%); explicitation – 3 examples (10%); omission – 1 example (3.33%); combination of strategies – 7 examples (23.33%); translation error – 1 example (3.33%);

b) target-text 2 (A.L. Lloyd, *Recollections from Childhood*, 1956): cultural adaptation – 11 examples (36.66%); superordinate term – 3 examples (10%); explicitation – 1 example (3.33%); omission – 4 examples (13.33%); combination of strategies – 11 examples (36.66%).

Cultural adaptation proved to be the most commonly used translation strategy in the translation process of socio-political realia-words in both target-texts.

The analysis of 1057 examples excerpted from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie*, as well as from the two translations, reveals that the translators have adopted an orientation towards the target-culture, highlighted by the choice of the cultural adaptation strategy. Through this, they sought to ensure a correspondence between the translated text and the cultural expectations and norms of the foreign audience. At the same time, it is observed that the translators often used direct transfer, retaining diacritics and specific elements of the source-culture. This aspect can be interpreted as a strategy to preserve the culture of the source-text, with the translators aiming to convey the foreign character of the text and to generate interest among the audience in the source-culture. Although translating realia-words may involve difficulties, through creative and contextual approaches, the translators have managed to preserve the essence and specific atmosphere of I. Creangă's work.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The significant scientific problem addressed in this dissertation lies in elucidating terminological issues regarding the concept of realia-word and explaining the challenges in translating realia-words. As a result of achieving the objectives set forth in this doctoral dissertation regarding the semantic and functional aspects of translating realia-words from Romanian into English in the work of I. Creangă, the following conclusions have been formulated:

General Conclusions

1. In this research, we have highlighted the deep interdependence between *language* and *culture*, illustrating the complexity and mutual influence these two domains exert. By analysing various perspectives and interpretations of the concept of *culture* proposed by numerous researchers, we have concluded that the relationship between *language* and *culture* is essential and inseparable within linguistic and translation studies. Language serves not only as a means of communication but also as a carrier of values, traditions and cultural identity, reflecting and transmitting the specificity and originality of a particular linguistic and cultural community. At the same time, culture shapes the evolution and use of language, contributing to the formation of a close and complex connection between these two fundamental aspects of human existence. This research underscores the importance of realia-words as defining elements of the link between language and culture and highlights how these lexemes inscribe and transmit the cultural and national specificity of a community.

2. Exploring the concept of the *linguistic picture of the world* reveals the close relationship between language and culture. This central concept emphasizes the role of language in conveying and shaping cultural perceptions and values.

3. Translating words and phrases with certain cultural connotations and references poses an important and complicated challenge in conveying the colouring and cultural peculiarities, a problem with which translators and linguists have grappled since the formation of translation studies as a scientific discipline. The numerous studies and assertions cited in the dissertation reflect the problematic nature of defining these cultural words and their fundamental characteristics, demonstrating the relevance of the field and the researched topic.

4. Based on the conducted study, we have concluded that the term *realia* is the most appropriate to designate words carrying cultural information, belonging to a particular culture, language, country, nation, locality etc. However, considering that in Romanian translation studies the discussed notion is used both in its Latin form *realia* (plural form) and in the form *realii* under the influence of Russian studies, in this paper we have opted for the term *cuvinte-realități*. The

notion of *cuvânt-realitate* better suits the morphological and phonetic specifics of the Romanian language and does not pose inflection problems.

5. Studies in the field of translation studies have highlighted a wide range of perspectives and interpretations on the process of literary translation. This diversity of views reflects the complexity and subtleties involved in translating a literary work from one language to another.

6. Identifying and comparing translation strategies for realia-words has allowed us to observe that they can be divided into two categories: global and local.

7. Following a detailed examination of ten taxonomies developed by various linguists, we have chosen to adopt the taxonomy proposed by the linguist R. Leppihalme in our analysis presented in Chapter 3 of the dissertation. The choice of this taxonomy is due to its clear and systematic structure, which facilitates the classification of translation strategies and allows for an efficient analysis of the corpus of examples.

8. Synthesising the taxonomies developed by linguists regarding realia-words has allowed us to analyse them according to the following criteria: space, time and theme, and to conclude that the majority of classifications were made based on the thematic criterion.

9. In his work *Amintiri din copilărie*, I. Creangă employs numerous elements specific to Romanian linguaculture to depict the image of a traditional village, such as: proverbs and sayings, excerpts from folk songs, folk expressions, witticisms and realia-words. These endow the text with a profound national character and an authentic folk style. At the same time, these distinctive features of the work create difficulties in the process of translation into other languages.

10. The realia-words in the selected corpus were divided into two main categories: simple words and phrasal units. Morphological research has revealed that simple lexemes are predominantly nouns, given their essentially denominative nature. Regarding the formation of realia-words, productive processes such as derivation and compounding have been identified. Corpus analysis has unveiled that in the memorialistic prose *Amintiri din copilărie*, simple lexemes were the most frequent, followed by phrasal units.

11. By studying I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie*, we have identified 357 examples of realia-words: 1) geographical realia-words – 78 examples; 2) ethnographic realia-words – 249 examples; 3) sociopolitical realia-words – 30 examples. The selected corpus allowed us to create our own classification of realia-words.

12. Additionally, the chosen corpus has provided us with the opportunity to examine the translation of realia-words from a semantic and functional aspect, particularly from the perspective of translation strategies employed by translators A. Cartianu, R.C. Johnston and A.L. Lloyd for translating realia-words from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie*. In the analysis process, the

selected realia-words from the source-text were compared with their translated versions in *Memories of My Boyhood* by A. Cartianu and R.C. Johnston and in *Recollections from Childhood* by A.L. Lloyd. In total, 1057 examples were analysed, including 357 examples of realia-words from the source-text, 354 examples from target-text 1 and 346 examples from target-text 2.

13. The comparative study focusing on the translation of examples of realia-words excerpted from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie* illustrates that translators tended to orient themselves towards the target culture, adapting the translated text to the cultural expectations and norms of foreign recipients (*acclimatization*). At the same time, direct transfer was used to preserve the specific elements of the source-culture and to emphasise the foreign nature of the translated text (*alienation*). Through the use of these strategies, translators managed to strike a balance between preserving the authenticity of the original text and facilitating its understanding and appreciation in the context of the new culture and society.

According to the results obtained in the research, the initial **hypothesis**, which posits that the process of translating realia-words from Romanian into English is influenced by linguistic, cultural and contextual differences between the two languages, is confirmed. The analysis has demonstrated that the linguistic and cultural picture specific to each language plays an essential role in determining how these words are interpreted and conveyed in the target-language. Additionally, the research has highlighted that the translation strategies adopted in the process of rendering realia-words into English can vary significantly depending on the cultural and linguistic context of the target-language. This variability in the selection of translation strategies influences how realia-words are interpreted and received by the target-audience. Thus, the research results confirm that the translation process is not simply a transfer of words from one language to another but is strongly influenced by cultural, linguistic, and contextual factors specific to each language involved in the process.

The research findings have allowed us to formulate the following **recommendations** for future approaches and investigations:

1) for further studies, we consider it opportune to conduct a detailed analysis of the translation of anthroponyms extracted from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie*. This approach would provide a better understanding of the specific strategies used in the proper transposition of proper names into the target-language;

2) the material presented in this doctoral dissertation can find broader implementation in university academic courses, being applied in courses on translation theory and practice, as well as serving as support for future research on the same subject, for other works that would further develop and examine the corresponding issues;

3) the analysis model presented in this doctoral dissertation can be expanded and applied to other texts from Romanian or world literature;

4) conducting comparative studies between translations of I. Creangă's works into different foreign languages.

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7. IORDAN, Corina. *Linguistic and Cultural Characteristics of Creangă's Speech*. In: „Science, Education, Innovation: Topical Issues and Modern Aspects": Scientific Collection „InterConf": with the Proceedings of the 1st International and Practical Conference. Tallinn, Estonia: Uhingu Teadus juhatus, No. 2 (38), 16-18 December 2020, pp. 520-525. ISBN 978-5-7983-4322-5.

8. IORDAN, Corina. *Translation of the Realia Words (Monetary and Measurement Units) in Ion Creangă's Text from Romanian into English*. In: „Science and Practice: Implementation to Modern Society": Scientific Collection „InterConf": with the Proceedings of the 8th International and

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9. IORDAN, Corina. *Definition of Translation, Translation Strategy, Translation Procedure, Translation Method, Translation Technique, Translation Transformation*. In: „Theory and Practice of Science: Key Aspects": Scientific Collection „InterConf": with the Proceedings of the 1st International and Practical Conference. Rome, Italy: Dana, No. 42, 19-20 February 2021, pp. 473-485. ISBN 978-88-32012-34-7.

Articles in the proceedings of the international scientific conferences (published in the Republic of Moldova):

10. IORDAN, Corina. *Interdependența dintre limbă și cultură*. În: „Eugen Coșeriu": Colocviul internațional de științe ale limbajului. Chișinău, 13-14 octombrie 2018, pp. 258-265. ISBN 978-9975-142-05-2.

Articles in the proceedings of the national scientific conferences with international participation:

11. IORDAN, Corina. *Rolul cuvintelor-realități în diseminarea informației culturale*. În: „Integrare prin cercetare și inovare": Conferința științifică națională cu participare internațională. Chișinău, 28-29 septembrie 2016, pp. 163-167. ISBN 978-9975-71-813-4.

12. IORDAN, Corina. *Clasificarea cuvintelor-realități în baza cercetărilor actuale*. În: „Norma limbii literare între tradiție și inovație": Materialele Simpozionului științific cu participare internațională. Chișinău, 19 mai 2017, pp. 177-185. ISBN 978-9975-71-906-3.

13. IORDAN, Corina. *Conceptul de „cultură": definiții și sensuri*. În: „Integrare prin cercetare și inovare": Conferința științifică națională cu participare internațională. Chișinău, 9-10 noiembrie 2017, pp. 246-249. ISBN 978-9975-71-568-3.

14. IORDAN, Corina. *Clasificarea cuvintelor-realități din romanul lui Ion Creangă Amintiri din copilărie*. În: „De la monem la text: parametri lexico-semantici și discursivi": Colocviul științific cu participare internațională. Chișinău, 1 decembrie 2018, pp. 215-221. ISBN 978-9975-71-986-5.

Articles in the proceedings of the national scientific conferences:

15. IORDAN, Corina. *Conceptul de cuvânt-realitate*. În: „Interconexiunea paradigmelor didactice și metodologice în predarea limbilor străine": Acta didactica. Materialele seminarului metodologic, ediția a 7-a. Chișinău, 19-20 ianuarie 2017, pp. 64-69. ISBN 978-9975-3168-3-5.

ADNOTARE

Autor: Iordan Corina

Tema: Interpretarea cuvintelor-realități din opera lui Ion Creangă tradusă în limba engleză. Teză de doctor în filologie, specialitatea 621.04. Lexicologie și lexicografie; terminologie și limbaje specializate; traductologie. Chișinău, 2024.

Structura tezei. Prezenta cercetare cuprinde adnotări în limbile română, engleză, rusă; lista abrevierilor; introducere; trei capitole; concluzii generale și recomandări; bibliografie din 199 de titluri; 6 anexe; declarația privind asumarea răspunderii; CV-ul autorului. Textul de bază cuprinde 157 de pagini. Rezultatele obținute au fost publicate în 15 lucrări științifice.

Cuvinte-cheie: cuvânt-realitate, cuvânt-realia, element legat de cultură, concept specific culturii, item specific culturii, traducere, limba română, limba engleză, lingvocultură, tabloul lingvistic al lumii, tipologie, strategie de traducere, aspecte semantico-funcționale, Ion Creangă, Amintiri din copilărie, Memories of My Boyhood, Recollections from Childhood.

Domeniul de studiu: semantica lexicală, pragmatica, lexicografia, culturologia și traductologia.

Scopul cercetării: analiza strategiilor de traducere din română în engleză a cuvintelor-realități din opera lui I. Creangă *Amintiri din copilărie* prin prisma aspectelor semantico-funcționale.

Obiectivele cercetării:

1) realizarea unui studiu diacronic al conceptului de *cuvânt-realitate*;

2) examinarea aspectelor definitorii ale *cuvântului-realitate*;

3) analiza tipologiei și a criteriilor de clasificare a cuvintelor-realități în baza cercetărilor existente;

4) elaborarea propriei clasificări a cuvintelor-realități urmând criteriul tematic;

5) cercetarea specificităților lingvoculturale ale limbajului crengian;

6) identificarea cuvintelor-realități în opera lui I. Creangă și clasificarea acestora conform criteriului tematic;

7) analiza aspectelor semantico-funcționale ale traducerii cuvintelor-realități din perspectiva strategiilor de traducere;

8) identificarea și compararea strategiilor de traducere a cuvintelor-realități din opera lui I. Creangă.

Noutatea și originalitatea științifică: această cercetare aduce o contribuție semnificativă în domeniul studiilor literare și traductologice prin analiza aspectelor semantico-funcționale ale traducerii cuvintelor-realități din opera lui I. Creangă *Amintiri din copilărie* în două traduceri distincte: *Memories of My Boyhood* de A. Cartianu și R.C. Johnston și *Recollections from Childhood* de A.L. Lloyd.

Problema științifică soluționată: cercetarea noastră a contribuit la elucidarea problemelor terminologice în ceea ce privește conceptul de cuvânt-realitate și a explicat caracterul dificultăților de traducere a cuvintelor-realități.

Semnificația teoretică și valoarea aplicativă a cercetării: sub aspect teoretic, lucrarea de față prezintă interes datorită analizei și sintetizării concepțiilor noi în lingvistică cu privire la cuvintele-realități. Sub aspect practic, rezultatele cercetării pot fi utilizate în cadrul unor proiecte de cercetare interdisciplinară, pot înlesni apariția de noi cercetări și pot constitui o platformă pentru potențialele teze de licență, de masterat și de doctorat.

Implementarea rezultatelor științifice: rezultatele tezei au fost diseminate în articole și comunicări științifice elaborate de autor, care au fost prezentate în cadrul unor conferințe naționale și internaționale.

ANNOTATION

Author: Iordan Corina

Title: Interpreting the Realia-Words from Ion Creangă's Work Translated into English. Doctoral Dissertation in Philology, Specialty 621.04 Lexicology and Lexicography; Terminology and Specialized Languages; Translation Studies. Chișinău, 2024.

Structure of the dissertation. This research includes annotations in Romanian, English and Russian; the list of abbreviations; introduction; three chapters; general conclusions and recommendations; bibliography (199 sources); 6 appendices; declaration of assumption of liability; the author's CV. The main text contains 157 pages. The obtained results were published in 15 scientific articles.

Keywords: cuvânt-realitate, realia-word, culture-bound element, culture-specific concept, culture-specific item, translation, the Romanian language, the English language, linguaculture, linguistic picture of the world, typology, translation strategy, semantic and functional aspects, Ion Creangă, Amintiri din copilărie, Memories of My Boyhood, Recollections from Childhood.

Field of study: lexical semantics, pragmatics, lexicography, culturology and translation studies.

Purpose of study: analysing the translation strategies from Romanian to English of realia-words from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie* through the prism of semantic and functional aspects.

Objectives of the paper:

1) conducting a diachronic study of the *realia-word* concept;

2) examining the defining aspects of the *realia-word*;

3) analysing the typology and criteria for classifying the realia-words based on existing research;

4) developing our own classification of realia-words following the thematic criterion;

5) researching the linguistic and cultural peculiarities of I. Creangă's speech;

6) identifying the realia-words in I. Creangă's work and classifying them according to the thematic criterion;

7) analysing the semantic and functional aspects of translating realia-words from the perspective of translation strategies;

8) identifying and comparing translation strategies for realia-words from I. Creangă's work.

Scientific novelty and originality: this research makes a significant contribution to the field of literary and translation studies by analysing the semantic and functional aspects of translating realia-words from I. Creangă's work *Amintiri din copilărie*, in two distinct translations: *Memories of My Boyhood* by A. Cartianu and R.C. Johnston, and *Recollections from Childhood* by A.L. Lloyd.

The solved scientific problem: our research contributed to clarifying terminological issues regarding the concept of realia-word and explained the nature of the translation challenges associated with realia-words.

Theoretical significance and practical value of this research: this paper is theoretically significant due to the analysis and synthesis of new linguistic concepts related to realia-words. From a practical perspective, the research results can be used in interdisciplinary research projects, facilitate the emergence of new studies and serve as a foundation for potential bachelor's, master's and doctoral theses.

Implementation of scientific results: The results of the dissertation were disseminated through articles and scientific presentations prepared by the author, which were presented at national and international conferences.

АННОТАЦИЯ

Автор: Иордан Корина

Тема: Интерпретация слов-реалий в переводе произведения Иона Крянгэ на английский язык. Диссертация на соискание учёной степени кандидата филологических наук, специальность 621.04 Лексикология и лексикография; специализированные языки и терминология; переводоведение. Кишинев, 2024.

Структура диссертации. Данное исследование включает аннотации на румынском, английском и русском языках; список сокращений; введение; три главы; общие выводы и рекомендации; библиографию из 199 наименований; 6 приложений; декларацию об ответственности; резюме автора. Основной текст – 157 страниц. Полученные результаты опубликованы в 15 научных работах.

Ключевые слова: cuvânt-realitate, слово-реалия, культурно связанный элемент, специфический культурный концепт, специфический культурный элемент, перевод, румынский язык, английский язык, лингвокультура, языковая картина мира, типология, стратегия перевода, семантико-функциональные аспекты, Ион Крянгэ, Amintiri din copilărie, Memories of My Boyhood, Recollections from Childhood.

Область исследования: лексическая семантика, прагматика, лексикография, культурология и переводоведение.

Цель исследования: анализ стратегий перевода слов-реалий в произведении И. Крянгэ *Amintiri din copilărie* с румынского на английский язык с точки зрения семантико-функциональных аспектов.

Задачи исследования:

1) проведение диахронического исследования понятия *слова-реалии*;

2) изучение определяющих аспектов *слов-реалий*;

3) анализ типологии и критериев классификации слов-реалий на основе существующих исследований;

4) разработка собственной классификации слов-реалий, следуя тематическому критерию;

5) исследование лингвистических и культурных особенностей языка И. Крянгэ;

6) выявление слов-реалий в произведении И. Крянгэ и их классификация в соответствии с тематическим критерием;

7) анализ семантико-функциональных аспектов перевода слов-реалий с точки зрения стратегий перевода;

8) выявление и сравнение стратегий перевода слов-реалий в произведении И. Крянгэ.

Научная новизна и оригинальность: данное исследование вносит значительный вклад в область литературоведения и переводоведения путём анализа семантико-функциональных аспектов перевода слов-реалий в произведении И. Крянгэ *Amintiri din copilărie* на основе двух различных переводах: *Memories of My Boyhood* А. Картяну и Р.К. Джонстона, и *Recollections from Childhood* А.Л. Ллойда.

Решённая научная проблема: наше исследование способствовало прояснению терминологических проблем, связанных с понятием слова-реалии и объяснило характер специфики их перевода.

Теоретическая и прикладная значимость работы: в теоретическом аспекте, данное исследование представляет интерес в связи с анализом и синтезом новых концепций в лингвистике относительно слов-реалий. С практической точки зрения, результаты исследования могут быть использованы в междисциплинарных исследовательских проектах, способствовать появлению новых изысканий и быть основой для дальнейших дипломных, магистерских и докторских работ.

Внедрение научных результатов: результаты исследования были представлены на национальных и международных конференциях и опубликованы в сборниках статей по итогам данных конференций, а также в специализированных журналах.

IORDAN CORINA

INTERPRETING THE REALIA-WORDS FROM
ION CREANGĂ'S WORK TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH

621.04. LEXICOLOGY AND LEXICOGRAPHY, TERMINOLOGY AND SPECIALISED LANGUAGES, TRANSLATION STUDIES

Summary of the Doctoral Dissertation in Philology