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## TEXTOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE TEXT STRUCTURE STUDYING IN TRANSLATION THEORY

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### **Abstract**

*The article presents a theoretical analysis of traditional and new approaches for studying the text from the standpoint of linguistic theory. The author considers the linguistic theory of translation in communicative and textological aspects. Text linguistics, as a part of linguistics, does not still have a clearly defined subject of study as it has become divided into narrower areas: text grammar, text syntax, text theory, speech communication theory. Despite this fact it allows to study and characterize the text in terms of content and structure. When analyzing the text, different approaches are used. However, if we consider texts created in different languages as a product of translation activities, the most perspective approach is the approach to the text analysis as a phenomenological fact.*

*At the same time, the author offers to examine the original text as the source language and speech material for creating a target text, i.e. it is necessary to begin the analysis of the source text not with individual elements (words, phrases, super-phrasal units), but with the whole text. Thus, the target text should take into account some general characteristics of the discourse. Understanding of the text is also based on the awareness of its integrity. In addition to integrity, an important aspect of the text in its analysis is subtext, presupposition, cohesion and completeness.*

*These main features of the text (cohesion, integrity and completeness) are the main text characteristics that should be included not only in the analysis of the source text when creating a new target text. Furthermore, they are the most important ones for the implementation of intercultural communication in the form of translation. The author concludes that the characteristics of the text integrity are mainly a basis for its*

*understanding as a semantic unity. It is integrity that mostly influences the creating of a target text, which is equivalent to the source one.*

**Keywords:** *text linguistics, translation theory, integrity, cohesion, completeness of the text.*

### **1. Introduction.**

Text linguistics (in the scientific literature this term is also referred to textual linguistics, text syntax, textology, grammar of the text) is one of the perspective directions of linguistics (e.g. psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, pragmalinguistics, cognitive linguistics, etc.) and belongs to linguistic disciplines, which are regarded to be not the youngest ones, but which the scientists' attention is constantly attracted to. While in the 40s and 50s of the 20th century preferences were given to text syntax, typology of texts, oral statements, only individual articles dealt with its communicative and pragmatic properties. Only in the 60s of the 20th century the works of interdisciplinary nature appeared. The most significant works in this field appeared in the 80s of the 20th century. Studies in the field of text linguistics in the last decades of the 20th century discovered a number of important properties of the text as a unit of speech, namely: logical integrity, structural composition, extralinguistic orientation, integrity and coherence of its individual components. The need for researching of the basic textual properties is especially evident within the analysis of the literary text.

The multidimensionality and complexity of the text content, its structural organization, forms of implementation and spheres of functioning of the literary text as a type of discourse requires the use of a range of scientific knowledge in its analysis, such as: linguistics, psycholinguistics, linguoculturology, literary criticism, sociolinguistics, communication theory, pragmatics. An important element of the research in the field of translation theory is the text linguistics. However, not many studies have been devoted to this aspect.

The main problem that still remains out of the field of linguists' and practical translators' view is the problem of establishing an equivalent relationship between the source text and the target text. In the process of translation, the formal creation of a new text is realized, as well as the communicative comparison of multilingual texts is realized. The implementation of this process and evaluation of its results involves the ability to compare the form and content of multilingual texts, taking into account the peculiarities of the structure, content and the way of these texts functioning in each language.

### **2. Aim and Objectives.**

The purpose of this study is to describe the main directions of text linguistics existing in the concepts of translation theory and to identify text characteristics as units of translation. To achieve the general goal of the research the following tasks are solved:

- to represent the results in the field of text linguistics for the studies in translation study;
- to define the concepts of "integrity" and "connectivity";
- to characterize the ways to implement the afore-mentioned concepts in terms of modern scientific paradigms.

### **3. Methodology.**

The methodological basis of this study is the interaction of discursive-cognitive and linguocultural paradigms. The study is used a comprehensive methodology where the leading place is given to theoretical analysis and descriptive-analytical method.

#### **4. Results.**

The problem of the text studying has always been important for the linguistic theory of translation. Linguistic theory of translation differed in a focus on communicative and textual aspects. Translation is often seen as a means of communicative mediation, as such a means that provides communication between multilingual communicative groups. This mediation is promoted by reproducing the message from the source language into the target language. Linguistic translation theory studies the correlation between the units of two languages not in isolation, but in a certain interconnection, that is in both source texts and target ones. All the linguistic facts that this theory operates on are established by comparative study of such texts. Taking notice of the text is not an accidental phenomenon, it is the emphasizing of the whole language reality because linguistic elements express themselves fully only in a certain connection when they are actualized.

Achievements in the field of text linguistics (TL) at the present stage have taken a special place in general linguistics. The main issues and principles of the TL from different approaches and in different directions are considered in many humanitarian fields. Despite the fact that TL is only on the way to its definition as a part of general linguistics, the multidimensional studies of domestic and foreign scientists have already given certain results in developing the main aspects of TL. Their conclusions can be the basis for more detailed development of the basic characteristics of a general TL theory.

Researchers of different types of literary works in the 1920s of the 20th century paid attention to the text as a philological phenomenon that can possess a certain structure. This phenomenon also has certain features in its organization. Works by V. Propp (Пропп, 2022) and other scientists did not lose their significance. Although some representatives of the formal-structural approach sometimes ignored completely the content side of the work, without which the structuring of the text is impossible.

The representatives of the Prague Linguistic Circle made a significant contribution to the TL theory. Studies by V. Mathesius, O. Kade, B. Havranek, J. Vachek, and R. Jakobson outlined different approaches to the analysis of the text structure (Kade, 1966; Вахек, 1987; Николаева, 1977; Якобсон, 1975).

The works of French, German, Dutch, Polish, Czech and Russian theorists have recently expanded the range of issues related to the structure, ontology and options of the text. It is necessary to define among them the research works by P. Guiraud, Ts. Todorov, A. J. Greimas, W. Dressler, T. A. van Dijk, H. Weinrich, P. Sgall, I. Bellert, N. E. Enkvist, J. Dolnik, Ya. Gallo, T. M. Nikolaeva, I. R. Galperin, O. O. Leontiev, V. V. Ivanov, V. N. Komissarov, G. V. Kolshansky, Yu. M. Lotman (Jakobson, 1961; Enkvist, 1979; Dolnik, 2018; Беллерт, 1978; Вайнрих, 1978; Гальперин, 2004; Дресслер, 1978; Иванов, 2000; Колшанский, 2022; Леонтьев, 1979; Лотман, 2010; Николаева, 1977; Галло, 2020).

First of all, the development of TL as a special scientific discipline is connected with the accumulation of a sufficient number of facts that allow us to assess the nature and functional features of speech works completed in their content, compositional and structural respects.

It is important to note that the subject of TL does not have clear and science-based features. It is connected with the tendency recently appeared in TL researching. We are considering the stratification of this area into several directions, i.e. text grammar, text syntax, text theory in aspects of speech communication and others. Secondly, and this is the main thing, in our opinion, there is no consensus among linguists whether the text has the status of an ontologically structured unit (Тураева, 1994), or the text should be considered as a communicative-intentional unit of speech direction (Колшанский, 2022).

In determining the linguistic status of the text it is advisable to make a consistent distinction between the following concepts: “language and language system”, “speech activity”, “speech and language material”. L. V. Scherba pointed at the need for such a distinction (Щерба, 1981, pp. 39–43). Guided by this methodological premise some researchers hold the view that the text is a unit of language. Proponents of this view are searching formal and structural criteria for the text and a number of rules for its modelling (Дресслер, 1987).

Other researchers (Гальперин, 2004; Дридзе, 1984; Селиванова, 1999) considered the text as a product of speech and mental activity. Such understanding of the text is focused primarily on communication.

Finally, the text is recognized as a two-dimensional unit. Firstly, the text is the basic unit of speech, which is a complete statement. Secondly, the basis of specific speech works are the general principles of the text construction. Thus, they do not belong to the field of speech but to the system of language competence. We follow this approach in our paper.

Within the text study two main approaches to its analysis are distinguished. The first one is inductive when individual supra-phrasal units (SPU) are considered as components of the text. The second one is deductive when the text is analyzed by means of individual SPU examining from the point of the whole text (Гальперин, 2004, p. 95). The approach to the text analysis as a phenomenological formation has great potential. This approach involves taking into account the entire social reality of the language as a starting point. This postulate was formulated by L. Hjelmslev who began the text analysis not with individual elements of the language, but with the whole text (Гальперин, 2004, p. 95). The whole programme of linguistic research of the text was given in that postulate. Thus, the current stage of TL development is characterized by diverse approaches of researchers to determine the linguistic status of such a multifaceted phenomenon as the text.

The results of research exactly in TL are of great importance for modern translation studies. In the process of translation communicative comparing of the texts in different languages is carried out. Implementation of this process and the evaluation of its results involve the ability to compare the form and content of different texts, to take into account the specific features of the structure and texts functioning in each language, to analyze its correlation as a whole entity with textual units and structures. V.N. Komissarov noted: “All this becomes possible on the basis of the principles and approaches to the text linguistics” (Комиссаров, 2002, p. 46).

The translation problems are mostly problems of analysis, comprehension and construction of the text. A lot of researchers of the translation theory and practice, V. N. Komissarov, O. Kade, O. D. Shveitser (Kade, 1966; Комиссаров, 2002; Швейцер, 2019, 2018) in particular, consider the text as the basic unit of translation. There are the following reasons for this:

- firstly, as the text is a single semantic unit, the meanings of all its elements are interconnected and subordinated to the whole. That’s why the understanding of some statements depends to a greater or lesser extent on the content of the whole text. Thus, the text is the unit within which the question of the contextual significance of all language means is resolved;

- secondly, in assessing of the significance of unavoidable losses in translation, the principle of the whole text predominance over its part applies. This makes it possible to disregard the loss of less important details for the successful transmission of global content;

- thirdly, the final goal of the translator is to create the text that would meet the requirements of integrity and coherence. All decisions about the choice of certain equivalents

or translation transformations are made by the translator taking into account these requirements.

Eu. Nida was one of the first researchers who noticed the connection between TL and translation theory. In his opinion, translation theory should focus on some common features of the discourse, which he called “universals of discourse”. They include:

- 1) different ways of marking the text beginning and ending;
- 2) ways of marking transitions between internal subdivisions of a coherent text;
- 3) temporal connections;
- 4) spatial connections;
- 5) logical relations (for example, cause and effect);
- 6) identification of discourse participants;
- 7) various means of highlighting certain elements to focus attention or emphasis;
- 8) the author’s attitude (author involvements), i.e. his/her position and point of view

(Halliday & Hasan, pp. 181–182).

One of the problems of TL, which is traditionally associated with the translation theory, is the actual structure of the sentence, or, in other terminology, the functional perspective of the sentence. A perspective for translation theory is also the idea of thematic progression, according to which themes reinforce the text, while rhymas are used to convey a new information.

The problem of the text is one of the central problems of translation theory. It is the text that is the subject of analysis at the first stage of translation related to the interpretation of the original, and it is the text that is the subject of synthesis at its final stage. That is why this problem is carefully considered by translation theorists. Thus, according to R. Stolze, theoretical understanding of the translation process should be based on close connection with hermeneutics and TL, because translation is the principle of organic combination of both *hermeneutic analysis* of the text as a whole unity and *systematic analysis* based on rational linguistic criteria. The basis of R. Stolze’s translation theory is the idea of the text form as an expression of the sender’s / addresser’s communicative intention that is realized by means of the text. Analyzing the text of the original work, the translator asks himself / herself the question: what is the purpose of the text sender / addresser and what means does one use to implement it? Understanding of the text should be based on the awareness of its integrity (emphasis added – S. K.), regarding necessarily the pragmatic rules of its construction. In this case, for the general content of the text it is important not only what is directly stated, but also what is meant. As the result, there is the need to consider the presuppositions, which should include not only a previously reported information, but also a well-known one, some certain background knowledge, a social status, etc. (Stolze, 1982, pp. 51–52).

Therefore, it is appropriate to mention I. R. Galperin’s words about the role of the subtext that coexists with the verbal utterance and accompanies it. It is known that the subtext is planned by the author of the text. I. R. Galperin suggested the content-subtextual information as an integral part of the text content (Гальперин, 2018; Гальперин, 2004). This assumption is also related directly to the translation of the text. Thus, we distinguish the subtext as the next part of the coherent text.

Another problem of TL, directly connected with translation theory, is the problem of text cohesion. In the field of translation studies, the text cohesion is considered as “translation operations aimed at preserving those connections that ensure the understanding of the text as a whole unity; as well as chains of co-referential names that combine anaphoric and cataphoric connections. The reason for the transformation in this case is the lack of mutual and unambiguous relations between the language means that these connections express, differences in the norms of the text creating” (Швейцер, 2019, p. 67).

During the creating of a new text and a target text, it is also necessary to pay attention to the presuppositions contained in the text basis. In turn their consideration requires involvement in a broad linguistic and situational context.

Most studies, especially at the beginning of the TL theory development, appealed to one essential feature of the text – cohesion, as well as to the second feature – integrity to a lesser extent. Although both qualities were formulated at the early stages of the text studying, especially from psycholinguistic positions (Николаева, 1977, p. 30).

I. R. Galperin emphasized another important feature of the text – completeness (Гальперин, 2004, p. 5). In turn this feature reveals a title of the text. It is impossible to build a model of the text without this feature. These main characteristics of the text – cohesion, integrity (coherence), completeness – will be the subject of our study. These special items of the text are the most important for the implementation of intercultural mediation in the form of translation.

### **5. Discussion.**

Of course, the definition of the text as the basic unit of translation does not solve the problems associated with the introducing of its individual elements. It gives the possibility to resolve the question of preserving the translation of the basic properties of the original text. Integrity and cohesion are the most important among them.

In the scientific literature on TL questions, there are some differences in the definition of “cohesion” notion based on the principles of cybernetics. Though this notion was a key one at the initial stage of this area development in linguistics. This position is explained by the fact that researchers approach the problem of textual cohesion guided by the principles and methods that are aimed at solving a variety of specific TL tasks. The difficulty in solving this issue is increasing due to the lack of unity in the defining of this term itself.

Terminological eclecticism – “connection” (Jakobson, 1961), “cohesion” (Звегинцев, 2008), “coherence”, “integration”, “integrativity” (Гальперин, 2004) – was a consequence of the fact that scientists understood different phenomena by this term. They emphasized different, most characteristic aspects in the same phenomenon that have received different terminological meanings. But so far, in both domestic and foreign literature, the distinction between the concepts of cohesion and integrity of the text has almost become established.

Textual cohesion will be understood as the interconnection of text elements, which can be traced at different levels of their correlation with the language system. So, we can talk about the phonetic, morphological, syntactic cohesion of the text. The signs of cohesion are not determined by the intention of the speaker but are manifested in the creation of the text as a result of integrity (Леонтьев, 1976, p. 64). Thus, integrity is the text programme, while cohesion is the means of its implementation. Cohesion is usually a condition of integrity, but integrity cannot be fully determined only by cohesion.

Cohesion is an integral feature of any text, a feature that is manifested in the content integrity, in the language means of this cohesion, i.e. in such linguistic mechanisms that combine the individual elements of the text and create a certain formal and semantic unity, which is the object of TL study. Cohesion is the ability of a text to hold the subject of discussion throughout the utterance by turning it in different directions and moving “smoothly” from one subject to another (Нелюбин, 2018, p. 318).

V. N. Komissarov drew attention to the fact that with the same sequence of preserving the components of the text in translation it is possible to preserve the integrity of the original text. Preservation of the general logical and structural scheme of the text is a necessary condition for achieving equivalence of translation but, as a rule, it is an insufficient condition

due to the fact that within one scheme the description can vary greatly (Комиссаров, 2002, р. 9).

I. R. Galperin pointed out that any piece of text demonstrated the unity of content and structure. This unity is expressed by the content of the text, lexical and grammatical means. From his point of view, linguistically, the text can be studied in two aspects: in terms of content, i.e. communicative distribution (composition, genre style, features of the author's manner of expression), and of form (Гальперин, 2004, р. 103). In our opinion, this approach connects two main categories of the text – cohesion and integrity – into one united whole. This whole is interdependent and interconnected. Both categories are dialectically connected.

Thus, integrity and cohesion are the main textual categories that must be reproduced in the source text along with the target one.

Integrity means the unity of the text, the ability to exist in communication as an internally and externally organized whole. Integrity is an essential systemic feature of the text. On the one hand, it means that everything in the text is subordinate to the text as a whole; on the other hand, the integrity of the text is expressed in its separation from the environment, other communicative activities and other texts. According to its content, integrity is communicative (Нелюбин, 2018, р. 247).

Cohesion is the content and formal connection of the text parts. In turn, the integrity of the text is determined by the communicative and cognitive guidance of the addressee (the author of the text, his “co-authors” – the recipient, the translator). Cohesion can function at three levels:

- 1) cohesion at the content/semantic level;
- 2) cohesion at the content and language level;
- 3) cohesion at the content and compositional level (Анисимова, 2013, р. 17).

Thus, cohesion at the content and language level can be observed both in terms of semantics and linguistic expression. The semantic dependencies of one component on another are “supported” by the corresponding language markers in the verbal part of the text. These markers can correlate the verbal part of the text with the figurative and explicit expression of cohesion directly or can do it indirectly.

Modern linguistics has a wide experience in studying textual cohesion. The identified means of communication are quite diverse and suggest a variety of bases for their classification. The tradition of their research began with the identification of cohesion mechanisms in the middle of a simple phrasal unity based on the analysis of inter-phrasal semantic connections. A whole hierarchy of semantic connections in a simple phrasal unity was established, which were classified by orientation into progressive / regressive (Гаспаров, 1975), perspective and retrospective; by structural correlation into chain, parallel (Солганик, 2022), radial / situational, diffusive (Jakobson, 1961), neutral / redistributive, intensifying / comparing; by the nature of the distance into contact / distant (Гальперин, 2004); by graduation into gradient / interrupted; by the degree of expression – explicit / implicit (Турмачева, 1970) etc. In total, various authors have about a hundred types of intersegmental semantic connection (Бородаченко, 1972). They are presented through various grammatical, lexical and semantic, stylistic and syntactic linguistic means that form textual integrity.

Nevertheless, in our opinion, numerical indicators of textual cohesion are presented rather as a simple mechanical accumulation, which cannot be taken as a starting point of research in the diachronic aspect.

Based on the analysis of research by various authors and our own conclusions, we determine the following main characteristics of the cohesion features, namely:

1. Linguistic ones:

a) syntactic and grammatical ones, which include the order of words in connection with the actual structure of the sentence: conjunctions, connective words, connective participles, non-independent elements of the utterance (elliptical structures), forms of grammatical tense of verbs, syntactic repetitions;

b) lexical and grammatical ones: determinators (pronouns, articles);

c) lexical and thematic vocabulary, co-reference (different meanings of the same object – synonyms, antonyms, hyperonyms);

d) stylistic ones: gradation, ellipses, repetitions of the same technique (similes, allusions, metaphors);

e) associative ones, which are based on the peculiarities of the structure of the text, such as retrospection, connotation, subjective-evaluation modality.

2. Systematicism, which consists of certain rules for the use of personal pronouns, other words that function as substitution.

3. Connections at the level of actual sentence structure, which is expressed in the mutual distribution of theme and rhema, thematic lexical field.

4. Semantic relationship of components (for example, question – answer).

5. Linguistic indices of cohesion: proper names, personal, demonstrative, relative pronouns, nouns, nominative groups with demonstrative pronouns, article form, use of tense verb forms. Such language indexes are markers of an extralinguistic situation or object that must be identified with a particular situational context.

6. The correlation of external quantitative characteristics.

7. Non-linguistic “background characteristics”. For example, cohesion arises from the message in a discourse of a pre-known text. This feature is directly related to the concept of “presupposition”.

However, none of these features are compulsory, although there are features that result from the typology of the language or stylistic features of the literary work. In this regard, it should be emphasized that Semitic languages have more archaic features, the degree of connection can be explained purely in the grammatical features. For example, there is the higher frequency of syntactic repetitions relatively to the total length of sentences, the structure of the text built on partial repetitions. In addition, the translator from Hebrew is faced with the task of finding such forms of communication in the language of translation that are both characteristic of it and equivalent to the language of the original. It should also be noted that the repetition of not only a lexical unit, but also the whole judgments or segments of the text is characteristic of a coherent text.

There is no degree of cohesion, it can either exist or cannot. Cohesion can be one-dimensional or multidimensional, i.e. it can be determined within two adjacent sentences, several sentences that are not necessarily adjacent (Леонтьев, 1979, p. 11). These features do not function as a communicative intention of the speaker, they are manifested in the process of the text developing as a consequence of its *integrity*.

This implies that integrity is a characteristic of the text as a content unity, as a united structure. It is determined on the whole text, not on its individual components. Integrity cannot be correlated only with linguistic categories and units; it has a psycholinguistic nature. The integrity of the text is not an absolute category, but a relative one. It appears in the interaction of the speaker and the listener (recipient), in the process of communication (Леонтьев, 1979, p. 12).

In our opinion, it is expedient to divide the features of the text integrity, found in different languages, into three groups:

1) features set by the communicative intention and realized in the text as a semantic unity;



2) features that characterize the whole text as a repetitive structure that is not correlated with its semantic structure;

3) markers of the whole text boundaries.

The features of the text integrity are a basis for understanding of the text as a semantic unity. Accordingly, the features of the first type determine the semantic structure, while those of the second type define the presence / absence of transition from semantic components of the first level to semantic components of the second level (identification function), of the third level to the external framework of the text as a semantic unity (delimitation function).

## 6. Conclusions.

To sum it up, we define that during the translation the equivalent replacement of all semantic unities (not separate sentences) of the original takes place. Sometimes replacements in the middle of one semantic unity lead to changes in its information structure. Such changes occur due to the fact that a new text, the text of the translation, is directed onto another recipient, the recipient of the translation. Because of this, there is a need not only to change the language and speech codes, sometimes there is a need to reveal the meanings of unknown realities, clarify, explain new concepts. All this results in expanding of the information text structure.

In turn, the information structure of the text is a consequence of the unity of its content and structure. Such unity is possible only in the commonality of two basic textual properties – integrity and cohesion. These concepts are interdependent and interconnected, because cohesion is one of the conditions of integrity, due to which the text exists and it is understood as a whole unity.

If we consider texts created in different languages as a product of translation activities, the leading approach presupposes to analyze the text as a phenomenological fact. It means to examine the original text as the source language and speech material for creating a target text. One should begin the analysis of the source text not with individual elements (words, phrases, super-phrasal units), but with the text unity. Thus, a target text takes into account some general characteristics of the discourse. Understanding of the text is also based on the awareness of its integrity. Besides, an important aspect of the text in its analysis is subtext, presupposition, cohesion and completeness.

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### **Бібліографічний опис:**

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### **Анотація**

У статті представлено теоретичний аналіз традиційних і нових підходів вивчення тексту з позиції лінгвістичної теорії. Лінгвістична теорія перекладу розглядається автором у комунікативному та текстологічному аспектах. Незважаючи на те, що лінгвістика тексту (як частина мовознавства) все ще не має чітко позначеного предмета дослідження, оскільки вона почала розділятися на більш вузькі напрямки: граматику тексту, синтаксис тексту, теорію тексту, теорію мовної комунікації; вона дозволяє вивчити та оцінити текст у змістовному та структурному аспектах. При аналізі тексту використовуються різні підходи, але якщо розглядати тексти, які створені різними мовами, як продукт перекладознавчої діяльності, найбільш перспективним є підхід до аналізу тексту як до феноменологічного явища. Автор пропонує розглядати текст-оригінал як вихідний мовний і мовленнєвий матеріал до створення тексту-перекладу, тобто необхідно розпочинати аналіз тексту-оригіналу не з окремих елементів – слів, фраз, надфразових єдностей, а з цілого тексту. Таким чином, переклад має враховувати деякі загальні характеристики дискурсу. Розуміння тексту має будуватися на усвідомленні цілісності. Крім цілісності важливим аспектом тексту при його аналізі є підтекст, пресупозиція, зв'язність та завершеність. Ці головні ознаки тексту – зв'язність, цілісність та завершеність – є провідними тестовими характеристиками, які мають бути включені не тільки до аналізу тексту-оригіналу під час створення нового тексту-перекладу. Саме ці особливості тексту є найважливішими для реалізації міжкультурної комунікації при перекладі. Авторка робить висновок, що ознаки цілісності тексту – це, передусім, опора щодо його розуміння як смислового цілого. Саме цілісність найбільшою мірою впливає на створення еквівалентного оригіналу тексту-перекладу.

**Ключові слова:** лінгвістика тексту, теорія перекладу, цілісність, зв'язність, завершеність тексту.