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LINGUISTIC PECULIARITIES OF CONTRACTS' TRANSLATION

The interest to the problem of contracts translation is not occasional. Nowadays more and more people in our country are getting involved in the world of international business relationships. As a result of it, business people in Ukraine need specialists possessing knowledge of the English language as the language of international cooperation used for writing documents. Moreover, there is an urgent need in qualified translation from Ukrainian into English in the sphere of business because English is also a language of business documents.

Any serious international deal should be struck with the help of translation of contracts and agreements into English. A skilled translation of agreements is a guarantee that different people, for example Buyers and Sellers, will understand each other and cooperate in accordance with a certain business strategy, and their interests will be taken into consideration by their partners.

A contract makes clear such things as quantity and quality of goods, their prices, delivery terms, order of payment, and other terms. Contract serves to make a business operation smooth and logic. It also proves seriousness of contracting parties and defines their responsibilities before each other. An honest word of a businessman, as well, should be reflected in a contract of a different kind. It is called an intentions agreement and is a manifestation of a wish to do business. That is, every step and stage of a business deal should be supported in a legal way, in an official form.

The chosen problem has appeared to be very urgent, because translation theory lacks its precise description. Every skilled translator should know that there is a clear-cut between formal and informal styles of English, but there is no strict difference between spoken and written business English. Obviously, businessmen do

not communicate with their companions using intricate phrases and bookish words. Still, they are obliged to use some formal cliches which may sound strange to non-business people, but are essential for conducting business.

Anyway, in the research we have been trying to investigate the theoretical problems of business procedure translation from Ukrainian into English and to analyse texts of contracts considering their specific peculiarities.

Another thing to be mentioned is that there are very few scientific researches devoted to the problem of drawing up business documents. As a result of it, theory of writing business papers, on the one hand, reflects highly subjective approaches. On the other hand, such approaches are not unified in accordance with existing rules of formal English which is also greatly influenced by informal English.

That is why people who translate contracts suffer quite understandable problems of how they should translate from Ukrainian to sound correct in the foreign language and to what degree they should be formal in the text of contract, because even English-speaking people meet difficulties of a special kind in drawing a line between formal and informal English.

The **object** of the research, thus, is a contract as a part of a business deal and a type of written business English. Its **subject** comprises investigation of linguistic peculiarities of contract translation from Ukrainian into English which make technique of its translation obligatory for people involved in drawing up business documents.

The **purpose** of the research is to investigate linguistic peculiarities in English texts of contracts. It is performed through comprehension, interpretation and analysis of contractual essential clauses, all of them illustrated by examples from texts of contracts. The solution of the aim claims for doing away with a number of certain **tasks**, such as:

- 1) to point out main features of formal English as the language of business correspondence;
- 2) to describe the structure of contract and to single out its main clauses which are characteristic of this type of documents;

3) to expose peculiarities of contract dividing them into three general groups of stylistic, grammatical and lexical peculiarities.

Knowledge of drawing up business correspondence is equal to communicating with people in a businesslike manner. A person should know rules of documents' writing to make one's business effective and profitable. All of them are united under the notion of style. A style of the language is a system of interrelated language means which serve a definite aim in communication.

English of business correspondence possesses some important qualities, common for formal style of English as well. The language of business correspondence is very bookish and is remarkable for the usage of larger and more exact vocabulary, in comparison with informal style of communication. Sentences in documents are longer and their clauses are grammatically fitted together more carefully, which means a lot of practise for a person who draws up a contract. It is generally considered and expected that real business people, experts in their field of activity, should enjoy the preciseness and careful grammatical construction. It does not mean, of course, that business people must communicate orally in formal business style.

Formal business correspondence should be more impersonal. It should not emphasise the individuality of the writer, and takes little account of the personal qualities of people who are going to make use of it. Thus, the speaker should not refer directly to himself or his readers, but avoid the pronouns *I*, *we*, *you*, and it may also be of a difficulty for a person. One more problem is that formal English lacks force and vividness. The fact that it is formal implies its great dependence on arbitrary conventions, rather than on natural speech habits.

That is why it is so hard for non-business people to keep concentrating their attention on contents of documents all the time, as their attention is diverted by intricate language use. Some of them will find their long and complicated sentences rather confusing. Words of formal English may sound nice, but their meaning is often hard to get through. Very often a person must read something all over again to make

sure what it means. It can be shown in the following extract from a standard form of contract for the sale of timber through broker in the U.K.:

This stipulation being of the essence of the contract, default by the buyers shall entitle the Sellers to load and ship the goods as convenient to themselves to any of the ports named in this contract and Buyers shall take delivery accordingly.

Another chief problem to remember about business correspondence is that it will be read by busy people who usually have no interest in either one's personality or his or her problems. To be as clear and brief as possible without sacrificing clarity is a common trait of any business document:

The time of delivery of the Turbine Plant against the above contract expires on the 1st July. Please inform us by return of post of the progress of manufacture of the Turbine.

Anyway, in some important business correspondence we may find deviations from what is called official English of the business world. For example, if a person wants to get a job or to sign a contract, to make a sale or to ask somebody for special advice, he or she is likely to want to make a definite impression on the interlocutor, like in the example:

So I spent my green years first in East Germany that influenced on me greatly (they say I look like a German, joke), then we moved to live in Siberia where I played an ice hockey, entered the Secondary School and fell in love with British rock music.

This person was applying for a journalist and tried to show his writing skills. It does not mean, however, that a person in charge will be much concerned about one's personality without knowing a way of using it. If a person is starting business correspondence on an important matter, the first thing to do is to consider it all carefully from the other person's probable viewpoint, and to go on making business in the same way. These are some of the most frequent problems in the theory of business correspondence which can concern a person who is likely to get involved in a business undertaking.

Contract is a business document presenting an agreement for the delivery of goods, services, etc., approved and signed by both the Buyer (exporter) and the Seller (importer). By law contracts are made in writing. When striking a deal, standard contracts are widely used. Standard contracts are not a must. Some articles can be altered and supplemented. The following items are of the greatest importance in any contract:

- contract No.;
- place and date of signing;
- names of the Sides which signed the contract;
- subject of the contract;
- quality of goods;
- price (per unit and total price);
- destination;
- delivery time;
- requirements for packing and marking;
- payment terms;
- conditions of submission and acceptance of goods;
- transport conditions; warranty conditions and sanctions;
- arbitration conditions;
- force majeure;
- judicial addresses of the Sides;
- signatures of the seller and the buyer.

All appendices form an integral part of contract. Contract is drawn up in accordance with the established form, often on special printed forms filled in with basic information by one-time writing. Sometimes, when a transaction is small in volume, a contract may be concluded by telex.

In order to speed up the preparation of contract documents and to minimise possibility of errors in them, a unified standardised form of contract documents, the Master Pattern for Contract Documents, has been developed. It establishes principles and regulations for the construction of standardised forms of documents used in

foreign trade, like **Supplement to contract, Order and Order confirmation.** **Supplement to contract** is a business document which is an integral part of the contract, containing amendments or additions to the previously agreed contract conditions. The supplement should also be agreed on and signed by both the exporter and the importer.

Order is a business document presenting the importer's offer for dealing which contains specific conditions of a future transaction. **Order Confirmation** is a business document presenting the exporter's message containing unclausured acceptance of the order conditions. The Master pattern has also been accepted as a basis for standardised forms of enquiries and offers, used at pre-contract stages of dealing.

Different firms and organisations trading regularly, work out standardised forms of contracts for typical deals. Such standardised contracts are printed and include typical rights and duties of the contracting sides in selling and buying some goods and services. There are special columns for the names of the Buyer and Seller, names of goods, their quantity, prices and delivery terms. In case of declining or adding some terms, people use supplementary columns in a contract form.

Standardised forms of export and import deals differ greatly and it makes them two general types of contracts. Thus, there are export and import contracts. They reflect different positions of buyers and sellers in trading. Contracts in import trade are called orders, and their submission warranty, and delivery terms, as well as sanctions are much harder towards the sellers than those ones in export trade.

As textual varieties, contracts are divided into administrative-managerial, financial-economical, advertising, scientific-technical, and artistic-publicational contracts. Functional spheres of their circulation can be easily guessed from names of contract types in this classification, and are the subject of economic, rather than linguistic, study. Contracts may be differentiated by the subject of a deal. There are export contracts for the sale of oil products, machinery tools, grain, timber, the supply of goods, etc. Orders in import trade deal with ordering and purchasing goods. They

are often supported with requests, reminders, verifications of different terms, guarantee and waving inspection letters, and many others.

Goods in international trade are transported with the help of multimodal (door-to-door) shipment. In contracts delivery and acceptance terms are marked with the International Commercial Terms (Incoterms). So, contracts can be classified in accordance with the way of delivery. Most of Incoterms are represented as abbreviations. The usage of abbreviations, conventional symbols and contractions is typical of all kinds of documents. Abbreviations are abundant, and there are special dictionaries to decode them. They serve as signs of the code supposed to be known only to the “initiated”.

On the whole, there are 14 official Incoterms of deliverance. They denote:

1. The point of deliverance. EX Works means that the seller’s only responsibility is to make the goods available at his premises. EX Ship means that the seller shall make the goods available to the buyer on board the ship at the destination named in the sales contract. EX Quay means that the seller makes the goods available to the buyer on the quay at the destination named in the sales contract.

2. The way of deliverance. FOB means Free on Board. The goods are placed on board a ship by the seller at a port of shipment named in the sales contract. FAS means Free Alongside Ship. That means that goods should be placed alongside the ship to fulfil the seller’s obligations. FOR / FOT mean Free on Rail/ Free on Truck. Truck here relates to the railway wagons, and that makes these abbreviations synonymous. FOB Airport is based on the same main principle as the ordinary FOB term. The seller fulfils his obligations by delivering the goods to the air carrier at the airport of departure.

3. Payment terms. C & F means Cost and Fright. The seller must pay the costs and freight necessary to bring the goods to the named destination, but the risk of loss or damage to the goods is transferred from the seller to the buyer when the goods pass the ship’s rail in the port of shipment. CIF means Cost, Insurance and Fright. This term is basically the same as C & F but with the addition that the seller has

to procure marine insurance against the risk of loss or damage to the goods during the carriage.

From the linguistic point of view, a contract is a type of a document, because any agreement is a completed document fixing some information.

The main features of the style of contract are:

1. steady system of linguistic means in the text of contract;
2. lack of emotional colouring;
3. decoding character of language;
4. usage of a special symbolic system;
5. definite syntactic structure.

The English style of contract defines some peculiarities and techniques of its translation. Translating contracts is different in some points from translating business letters, such as an offer, an inquiry, a complaint, etc. Some considerations important for business letters are not important for contracts, and v.v. The main difference is that any contract is made up by two contracting parties and contains information about many subjects. So all points are to be approved by both parties. There are certain clearly definable requirements for how to translate contracts into English.

Generally, contracts should be formal, complete, clear, concrete, correct and concise. Actually, you are expected to explain what, how, and when you are going to deal with your partner. The next element, - clearness, - is one of the most important, because much depends on it. Clearness could be reached by the use of simple short words, phrases and paragraphs where the both parties of a contract explain their intentions and issues. Clearness of any arguments actually defines your striking a deal or not.

Concreteness of a contract or an agreement is a part and a parcel of any legal document. Besides that, the longer the document is, the more attractive and vivid its contents should be. The next two components are also significant. They are correctness and conciseness. Correctness involves proper grammar use (tense-aspect forms of the verb, verbals, articles, etc.), vocabulary use, punctuation and formal style. Grammar should be checked with a special care; otherwise it may produce a

poor impression of the document and non-seriousness of your interests. Conciseness is usually achieved by the use of minimum words to express maximum of information.

As it has been noted above, English language of any contract should be simple and clear, concise and brief. Commercial correspondence often suffers from an old-fashioned, pompous style of English which complicates the message and gives the reader the feeling that he is reading a language he does not understand. The style of English language, however, should not be too simple as it may become discourteous and sound rude: complex sentences joined with conjunctions are preferable, rather than short sentences; passive constructions rather than active; full forms rather than abbreviated forms, where necessary. The right tone should be neutral, devoid of a pompous language on one hand, and an informal or colloquial language on the other hand. Therefore, inappropriate vocabulary, idioms, phrasal verbs are not allowed at all.

Thus, while translating a contract from Ukrainian into English, active constructions of Ukrainian language should be replaced by passive constructions of English where possible; the tone of English language is more formal and neutral than in Ukrainian.

While translating from Ukrainian into English it is possible to use the symbol &, which means in English *and* : it is used in some terms like C&F (Cost and Freight), C&I (Cost and Insurance). But it is marked as # in contract texts. The symbol № is used instead of the word number. In American English the symbol # means number as well, but it is used in different tables and graphics, and not in the texts. It is never used, however, to denote numbers of houses. Very often in contracts Latin abbreviations are used, for example e.g. (for example), et al. (and others), etc. (and so on), v.v. (quite the opposite), i.e. (that means). Also they use English abbreviations ltd. (limited), Bros. (brothers), encl. (enclosed), dols. (dollars), etc.

Language of contracts is full of international words. This phenomenon is explained by the peculiarities of contracts functioning. Very often they (contracts) are made for several countries and are calculated for straightforward interpretation.

International words in contracts make translation from Ukrainian into English easier. But at the same time in the language of English contracts there is a wide group of foreign words which became elements of English language. Using the words of French and Latin origin is typical for business language and translators should know them and use appropriately:

a same – viz., videlicet (Latin)

аргументація проти (чогось) – casus contra (Latin)

без жодної підстави – nulla razione (Latin)

без належної підготовки – ex tempore (Latin)

буквально – verbatim, ad verbum (Latin)

в загальній сукупності – summa summarum (Latin)

в якості – qua (Latin), etc.

It is possible to give such general recommendations according to the use of foreign borrowings during the translation from Ukrainian into English: in the first place, every translator should take into consideration the fact that using such words and word-combinations gives translation the necessary style; in the second place, if the translator is not sure whether to use the foreign word in the translation or not, it is better to refuse from it using the appropriate English word or word-combination.

Spelling rules, punctuation and grammar use should all be checked over thoroughly. Still, there are some other ways in which inaccuracy may spoil the contract translation. A special attention should be paid to titles, names, addresses, references, prices, specifications, enclosures, etc., which are also of a great importance in texts of contracts.

The lexicon of contract in English has its own specific features. First of all, it is rather stable. As a rule, words have their only exact meaning. There are no words which are emotionally coloured. As a result of it, we can point out the words, which are present practically in every contract.

Preambles of Ukrainian contracts often begin with the words *беручи до уваги, оскільки*. They are translated into English as *whereas* which expresses every man's idea of how a contract begins. One must be careful about mixing up recitals of

history with what is actually being agreed on. It would be wrong to write “Whereas A admits owing B \$ 1000”, because the admission may later haunt one. Rather less damage would be caused by using of the proper word. *Whereas* means that the parties have been engaged in a series of transactions resulting in a dispute over accounting between them.

e.g. The surplus is to be paid for by the Buyers, whereas shortweight is to be refunded by the Sellers.

Ukrainian words *за допомогою чого, шляхом чого, через що* are translated as *whereby* (one more compound word with the adverb *where*), which means by which and refers to the present contract.

e.g. We have concluded the present contract whereby it is agreed as follows...

The usage of compound words with adverbs *here / there* and prepositions is also typical of written formal style of English. Their meaning is made up from meaning of their components. There is no principal difference, though, between meanings of *here-* / *there-* compounds.

e.g. If shipment of the whole or part is thereby rendered impossible... (thereby = by it; by that means; in that connection)

We are sending you herewith statement of your account. (herewith = with it / that)

All expenses connected therewith being born by... (therewith = with it)

The examination of the goods and objection thereto... (thereto = to it)

Subject to General Conditions on Sale endorsed hereon... (hereon = on this document)

As we have already mentioned, very few words are borrowed from French. The most widespread of them are *force majeure*, which is an essential clause of almost any contract and serves to describe some unpredictable events that may

happen to goods while being delivered or other reasons, and amicably, which means friendly.

e.g. Very often the parties amicably agree upon a settlement of the claim in question.

The Sellers and the Buyers shall take all measures to settle amicably any disputes.

So, in contracts a person can come across a definite number of words and word combinations which make up lexical peculiarities of their texts. They all are rather bookish and belong to formal style of written English, they are not being used in informal English and rarely used in spoken formal English.

On the whole, grammar of any contract may be characterised as rather simple and formal. Simple here means lack of diversity of variants which occurs in every document which is not legal. As for the grammar tenses which are used in agreements, the most widespread are the Indefinite and the Perfect tenses, both in the Active and Passive Voices. As we have already mentioned above, Passive Voice is more preferable in English contracts, though in many points the usage of Active and Passive Voices is already part and parcel. For example:

- 1. Sellers have sold and Buyers have bought... (Present Perfect)*
- 2. The Agents shall bear all transport expenses from... (Future Indefinite)*
- 3. Our firm informed the Suppliers that the general conditions were not contained in the order. (Past Indefinite Active / Passive)*

The following example translation of a Ukrainian contract into English fully illustrates the grammar tenses used in English agreements:

Ukrainian variant

Наступним Гравець заявляє і гарантує, що Гравець:

(a) добровільно укладає цей Контракт і зобов'язується добровільно виконувати обов'язки Гравця, викладені у наданому Контракті;

(b) є одноосібним володарем прав на рекламу та матеріали, що сприяють просуванню Продукції, а також ліцензійних прав, котрі має Гравець згідно дійсного Контракту і котрі Гравець не передав, Гравець зобов'язується не надавати права, ліцензії, привілеї або інші переважні права, що стосуються цього Контракту, на протязі Терміну дії Контракту або його продовження стосовно прав на матеріали, що сприяють просуванню Продукції, рекламу за участі Гравця або консалтингових прав та послуг будь-якому Конкуренту Компанії;

(c) не вступав і не вступить ні в які договірні обов'язки, котрі будуть перешкоджати або значно погіршать виконання своїх обов'язків Гравцем згідно з цим Контрактом;

(d) не знає ні про які наявні проблеми зі здоров'ям або медичні свідчення, котрі можуть значно вплинути на можливості Гравця як гравця. Гравець зобов'язується

English variant

The Player hereby represents and warrants that the Player:

(a) is free to enter into this Contract and to fulfill and perform the Player's obligations contemplated herein;

(b) is the sole owner of the promotional, endorsement and licensing rights granted hereunder and that the Player has not granted, and agrees that the Player shall not grant any right, license or privilege, or any option relating thereto during the Contract Period or any extension thereof with respect to the Player's promotional, endorsement or consulting rights and services to any Competitor of the Company;

(c) has not entered and will not enter into any other contractual commitment that will prevent or substantially impair the performance of the Player's obligations under this Contract;

(d) does not know of any existing health problem or medical condition which may significantly affect the Player's ability as a player and the

<p>повідомити Компанію, якщо йому стане відомо про будь-які проблеми зі здоров'ям або медичні свідчення, котрі виникнуть згодом на протязі Терміну дії Контракту, і котрі можуть значно вплинути на можливості Гравця як гравця;</p> <p>(e) у даний час і на протязі року, що передував виконанню цього Контракту, а також у майбутньому на протязі Терміну дії Контракту або його продовження, Гравець не вживає і не утримує наркотики або інші речовини, використання або утримання яких заборонено дійсним законодавством або іншими дійсними правилами та розпорядженнями будь-якого спортивного об'єднання, національними та міжнародними спортивними організаціями, у віданні котрих знаходиться Гравець.</p>	<p>Player shall notify the Company if the Player becomes aware of any health problem or medical condition which subsequently arises during the Contract Period and which may significantly affect the Player's ability as a Player;</p> <p>(e) the Player does not know, and did not during the year prior to the date of execution of this Contract, and shall not during the Contract Period or any extension thereof, use or possess any drugs or other substances, the use or possession of which is prohibited by applicable law or any applicable rules or regulations of any sports federation or national or international sports organization with jurisdiction over the Player.</p>
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Complex analytical forms of the verb, such as the Continuous and Perfect Continuous Tenses, are absolutely not used in any way. The specific character of any contract provides rare usage of the past tenses. One of specific features of contract is usage of the verb *shall*. Though it is not used in Modern English, in business correspondence and documents it keeps being used. It can be seen in the following examples:

1. *The result shall be considered.* = *The result is to be considered / will be considered.*
2. *Buyers can pay for the goods from the first person or from the third one, both in the plural and singular number.*

3. *Each party shall have the right to refuse any further fulfilment of the obligations. (3d person, sing)*

4. *The Buyers shall obtain the import licence. (3d person, pl.)*

5. *We shall have the right to assign to you... (1st person, pl.)*

The combination of the verb *should* and the infinitive also shows a future action, but with a less degree of probability. This construction usually occurs in subordinate clauses. For example:

1. *...if a delay in the delivery should exceed 3 months.*

2. *In many cases shall and should are equal in meaning.*

One of the most frequently used verbals in business letters is the infinitive. It may serve as an adjunct to verbs, nouns and adjectives. The groups of the infinitive as an adjunct to an active verb, the infinitive as an adjunct to a passive verb and the infinitive as a complex adjunct to an active verb are used in commercial correspondence and in contracts in particular. The infinitive as an adjunct to an active verb always follows a head-verb. In business correspondence it is lexically dependent and commonly found after the following verbs: to agree, to appear, to arrange, to continue, to decide, to expect, to fail, to hesitate, to hope, to intend, to like, to manage, to need, to offer, to omit, to plan, to prefer, to prepare, to propose, to regret, to secure, to try, to want, to wish. For example:

1. *They have arranged to produce the equipment.*

2. *We won't fail to provide full particulars as soon as possible.*

Generally in contracts and agreements the infinitive adjunct to an active verb is a simple infinitive. Sometimes, however, it may be followed by the perfect infinitive, indicating an action which precedes that one of the predicate verb. As for the continuous infinitive in this function the analysis of contracts has proved that it is hardly ever used. It can be shown in the following examples:

1. *Property in goods, to have passed to Buyers when goods have been put a board.*

2. *You don't appear to have taken into account the annual summer works' shut-down.*

It should also be noted that in commercial correspondence the subject of the infinitive adjunct is a person (e.g. we, they) or a thing denoted by the subject of the sentence (e.g. our firm). For example:

1. *We look forward to your early reply.*
2. *The Suppliers inform the Buyers that there had been a fire.*

The infinitive in business correspondence may also serve as an adjunct to a passive verb. In this case it always follows its head-verb and is lexically restricted. The infinitive in this function follows the following verbs: to consider, to expect, to instruct, to prepare, to repute, and to require, as in the examples:

1. *The delivery date is understood to be the date on which the*
2. *Suppliers apply to the Buyers' Shipping Agents.*

The infinitive may serve as an adjunct to an active verb followed by a noun or a pronoun which stands to the infinitive in the relation of a subject. The combination is lexically restricted, because in business correspondence it may be found only after the definite verbs from the following list: to advise, to allow, to ask, to enable, to expert, to help, to prefer, to urge, to want, to wish. For example:

1. *We would advise you to take an all-rich insurance policy.*
2. *If the period of guarantee has not expired we will ask you to replace the machine by another one.*

The complex infinitive adjunct to an active verb is not restricted stylistically and is in extensive use in scientific and fiction literature and also in commercial and business correspondence. The Indefinite Infinitive occurs in contracts in the function of the predicate, expressing obligation and a future action. It can be clearly seen in the following examples:

1. *Delivery to commence in six to eight months and to be completed in twelve to sixteen months (to commence = will commence).*
2. *Date of shipment to be determined by date of Bill of Lading (to be determined = will be determined).*

It is allowed only in texts of contracts and other business documents. Each contract also has constructions with participles. For example:

The letter of credit is to be valid for 90 days, all bank charges being at the expense of the Buyers.

Some participles which have no explanatory words in contracts can either precede or follow a noun. Mostly they are constructions with Participle II:

*e.g. the required specification vs. specification required;
the enclosed letter vs. the letter enclosed.*

The Past Participle Passive always follows a noun if it has explanatory words: *a telegram received from London, the cheque attached to the letter.*

If a participle shows only an action which is made upon the subject, it follows a noun: *The sellers are to inform us of the quantity of the goods loaded.*

The participle showing the quality, if there is one, precedes the noun: e.g. *illustrated catalogue; damaged goods.*

The definite article *the* in contract has its own peculiarities. In every contract there are Buyers and Sellers and these words can be used either with the definite article or without it. Nevertheless, they are always capitalised: Buyers, Sellers. Although in Ukrainian it is always singular, in English it can be either singular or plural. That is why all variants are possible: the Buyers – the Sellers; the Buyer – the Seller; Buyer – Seller. The most common is the first variant though the others are also possible.

Also the definite article is rarely used after prepositions of the Latin origin *per* and *ex*: *The goods were shipped per S.S. Svir.* The definite article is never used with nouns which are followed by a number in sizes, codes, etc.: *under Contract № 25; Order № 1015.*

From the above-written we can conclude that contract has its own grammatical and stylistic peculiarities which have much in common with the ones of business correspondence. However, they are unique enough to consider contract a specific type of business correspondence. The research revealed a specific character of the translation of contract as a type of business correspondence. Linguistic peculiarities of contract as a kind of written business English have been studied as groups of stylistic, grammatical and lexical peculiarities.

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