



Why Simple English Verbs Translate into Hindi Compound Verbs?

(Short Communication)

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Abstract

The objective of this short communication is to draw the attention of language scholars to ponder over some important inflectional issues associated with the translation of many English verbs into Hindi. In doing so, the paper presents an empirical syntactic data to understand the issue under discussion from causal perspective. However, based on the analysis of the collected data, it is evident that a number of English verbs (in the form of one base form) require dual verbs in Hindi translation. From causal perspective, this phenomenon remains unanswered as to when an English verb should be translated as compound verb instead of simple verb in Hindi.

Discussion:

English and Hindi are inflectional languages as they add inflectional morphemes to their words either as prefix, infix, or suffix. However, Hindi is more inflectional as it abounds in terms of nominal inflection, case inflection, and verb inflection (Jha, 2018). Given the brevity of this study, the objective of this short communication is to draw the attention of language scholars to ponder over some important inflectional issues associated with the translation of many English

verbs into English. In doing so, the paper presents an empirical syntactic data to understand the issue under discussion from causal perspective.

Translatability of English verbs in Hindi as *compound verbs* or *verbal clusters* is one of the most deterministic issues faced by the translator, as English doesn't have compound verbs like Hindi. Hindi compound verbs are sometimes compared with English particle or phrasal verbs. It is difficult to decide when an English verb will be substituted by compound verb or simple verb in Hindi. "Use of compound verb allows the mind to travel across the phases of an action. Using the simple verb illuminates a single stage. (Hook, 1997: 231)."

A	(i) You will <u>get</u> the money (ii) I will eat up the kabobs (iii) Shall I send the boss's letter? (iv) Do this	āpko pēse (milēge / mil <u>jāēge</u>) mē kabāb (khāūgā / khā <u>lūgā</u>) kyā mē sāhab kā patr bhejū / bhej dū? yah (kar lījiye/kar dījiye)	
B	(i) No, don't send. (ii) Come in, Sir. (iii) Have a seat.	<i>nahī mat bhejo</i> <i>āiye, sāhab</i> <i>bēThiye</i>	

Contrastive knowledge Base:

The above example shows that (*jānā*, *lenā*, and *denā*) are the most frequently used auxiliaries to form compound verbs as in (Ai) to (Avii) above. It is noteworthy that transitive verbs are compounded by postposing auxiliaries like *lena* and *dena*, viz, *lūgā* and *dū* after *khā* and *bhej* respectively in (Aii) and (Aiii). But the case of (Aiv) is more challenging to tackle in Hindi, as it requires further information whether the action is for one's own sake or others. It seems possible to form compound verbs of almost any simple verbs in Hindi, but it is not possible to form compound forms of any verbs in any contexts. For example, (Bi) shows that compound verb should not occur in negative sentences, whereas (Bii) and (Biii) suggest preferably the use of simple verbs if the actions occur in successive phases as polite commands.

Viewing the above use of compound verbs in block (A) and (B), it is evident that the main verb carries the natural meaning in compound verb rather than auxiliary, but the fact remains unsolved as to when an English verb should be translated as compound verb instead of simple verb in Hindi.

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