



Decoding the Semantic Inference of the Hindi verb *Chalna*

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Abstract

This study is an attempt to see varied uses of the Hindi verb *Chalna* in different contexts requires different syntactic structures in English. Interestingly, the findings of the study revealed 33 types of syntactic use of *chalna* in Hindi. More interestingly, the syntactic and semantic usage of *chalna* in Hindi cannot be substituted by one syntactic pattern or one word in English.

Keywords: *Chalna*, Semantic Equivalents

Introduction

The challenge of reflecting the full diversity of word and phraseological unit meanings in a dictionary, and the search for equivalence of language units in bilingual dictionaries, represent urgent tasks for theoretical and applied linguistics (Kononenko, 2016). Equivalence can be said to be the central issue in translation although its definition, relevance, and applicability within the field of translation theory have caused heated controversy, and many different theories of the concept of equivalence have been elaborated within this field in the past fifty years (Leonardi, 2000). The notion of semantic equivalence applies almost to all linguistic units be it word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or discourse. In this study, semantic equivalents are being explored especially at word (lexical) level. While talking of semantic equivalence, it is desirable to understand that a word does not have its meaning in isolation. A word without co-text and context is merely a *pretext* as a word does not have its meaning in isolation; rather, a word acquires its meaning in relation to its co-text and context (Jha, 2019). It is the context (use of a word in a sentence) that determines the meaning of a lexical item in the

source language. The same lexical item requires a context in other languages to find its semantic equivalent. To this end, this study has made an exhaustive list of 70 words below to show the usage of *Chalna* not only for 70 different purposes but also to show how their equivalents in English require permutation in the syntactic structure of English.

Findings

The following table illustrates the use of *Chalna* for 70 different purposes (see the index 1-70). It is noteworthy that English equivalents of Hindi *Chalna* have been given either as lexically or syntactically as follows:

	Hindi Sentence with <i>Chalna</i>	Semantic Inference in English
1.	Mera pankha ruk ruk kar chalta hai	My fan runs intermittently.
2.	Hava chalti hai	The air/wind is blowing.
3.	Mujhe der se pata chalta hai	I get to know very late.
4.	Meri Ghari ab nahi chalti hai	My watch doesn't work any more.
5.	Ye pen chalta hai kya?	Is this pen working?
6.	Pulis ki lathiyen chalne lagi	The police started doing lathi-charge.
7.	Yahan sab chalta hai	Here everything goes.
8.	Yaha sab not chalta hai	Here all types of currency works.
9.	Goli chalti hai	The bullet is fired.
10.	Sanstha chalti hai	The institution runs.
11.	Uski Chalakiya kabhi kabhi chalti hai	His trickery sometimes works.
12.	Gari chalti hai	The car runs.
13.	Yaha kai Bhashae chalti hain	Here many languages are spoken.
14.	Usaka dimag bahut chalta hai	His mind is very active.
15.	Uski dukan khoob chalti hai	His shop has good sales.
16.	Aap kitne baje chaloge?	What time will you start?
17.	Pav chalti hai	The feet move.
18.	Uski jubaan bahut chalti hai	He speaks too much.
19.	Shimla me abhi sardi chal rahi hai	Shimla has winter these days.
20.	Abhi bhi gaon me purane rivaj chalte hain	Old customs are still in practice in villages.
21.	Uska vyapaar achchha nahi chala	His business could not run well.
22.	Ab naya patthyakram chalta hai	Now, new curriculum is followed.
23.	Jivan eise hi chalta hai	Life goes on like this.
24.	Yahan kisi ki gunda gardi nahi chalti hai	Here, no hooliganism is tolerated.
25.	Ham to niyam ke antargat chalte hai	We go by the rules.
26.	Nek rah pe chalna chahiye	We should move on the right path.
27.	Mujhe uski likhawat nahi chalti	I cannot understand his handwriting.
28.	Yaha Internet nahi chalta hai	Here, internet doesn't work.
29.	Havai jahaj me meri sans thik se nahi chalti	I cannot breathe properly in Airplane.
30.	Riswatkhori nahi chalegi	Bribe is prohibited.
31.	Unhone koshish ki par unki kuchh nahi chali	He tried but he could do nothing.
32.	Milijuli sarkar jyada din nahi chalti hai.	Coalition government does not last long.
33.	PM ne kisano ke liye das yojnae chalai	The PM started ten projects for the farmers.
34.	Yaha love jihad nahi chalta.	Love jihad is not permitted here.
35.	Tumhara gussa mujhpe nahi chalega	I am not subject to meet your anger.
36.	uska jadu uspe chal gaya.	He managed to hypnotize her.

37.	Aajkal shadiyon me DJ myujik jyada Chalta hai.	Mostly DJ music is played in marriages these days.
38.	Jivan me samasyaye chalti rahti hai	Problems are part of life.
39.	Ve to bas apni hi dhun me chalte hai	He is always in his elemnt.
40.	Jivan apne hi raag se chalti hai	Life moves on its own track.
41.	Aaj kal to IAS ki parikshaon me khub dhandhali chalti hai	These days, too much of scams are reported in the IAS exams.
42.	Dhara 370 ab Kashmir me nahi chalti hai	Article 370 has been abolished in Kashmir.
43.	Mai tash ka pahla patta chalna nahi chaahta.	I don't want to lead.
44.	Shatranj me usne eisi chal chali ki uske pratidwandi ko khel chhorna par gaya.	He made such a move in the chess that his opponent had to quit the game.
45.	Amity me bahut kaam kiya, ab chalne ka samay aa gaya hai.	I have worked a lot in Amity. Now, it is the time to leave.
46.	Parti me khoob daru chali.	Too much liquor was served in the party.
47.	Abhi uski shadi ki baat chal rahi hai.	A talk is on for his marriage.
48.	Nal nahi chal raha hai.	The tap is not running.
49.	Jaise hi mai station pahuncha, gari chal pari thii.	The moment I reached station, the train had left.
50.	Abhi mai non-veg nahi khaunga kyoki Navratra chal raha hai.	I will not have non-veg food, as Navratra is going on.
51.	Abhi uska kisi larki se affair chal raha hai.	He is having an affair with a girl.
52.	Bharat Pakistan ke bich lambi larai chal rahi hai.	A long war is going on between India and Pakistan.
53.	Ye fashion aaj kal khoob chalta hai	This fashion is in vogue.
54.	Ramayan dharavahik khoob chali.	Ramaya serial was liked a lot.
55.	Miting chal rahi hai.	The meeting is going on.
56.	Koi pairvi nahi chalegi.	No reference will be entertained.
57.	Ye manyata hai ki Corona ke marij ek mahine se jyda nahi chalte.	It is believed that Corona patient does not survive for more than one month.
58.	Un dono ke bich khoob aankh michauli chal rahi hai	They are having goo-goo-eyes.
59.	Unki dosti jyada din nahi chal.	Their friendship could not last long.
60.	This time, his jugar nahi chala	Everything
61.	Ye chalega kya?	Will this do?
62.	kya chal raha hai?	a. What's up? b. Are you coming? c. What was going on?
63.	Kya mera khata chal raha hai?	Is my account active?
64.	pariksha chal rahi hai.	The Examination is going on.
65.	High society me sab chalta hai.	High society accepts everything.
66.	Ek bar pani chala do.	Serve water, one more time.
67.	Abhi mera bura waqt chal raha hai	I am having bad time now.
68.	Meri to is ghar me kuchh bhi nahi chalti.	I have no say in this house.
69.	Paise pe duniya chalti hai.	Money is everything in life.
70.	Wo ab jyad din nahi chalne wala hai.	He is not going to survive for long.
71.	Lu chalti hai	Heatwave is blowing.
72.	Uska ghar kisi tarah se chalta hai	He is managing his house somehow.
73.	Uski to chal pari hai.	He is on success path.

The table above shows many striking facts. Firstly, Hindi shows how a single verb *Chalna* (whose denotative and default meaning in English is ‘to move physically’) acquires 32 connotative meanings for different purposes in Hindi. Secondly, we find that Hindi *Chalna* has been differently translated in English by using different lexical substitutes such as ‘run’ in . Thirdly, English sometimes cannot provide semantic equivalents of Hindi words lexically; rather English has to undergo change in its syntactic patterns. For example, *Chalna* in 19, 24, 30 has required different sentence patterns in English as their equivalents. On the other hand, English

Conclusion

The study concludes that Hindi *chalna* can be used for different purposes as opposed to their English equivalents. The findings also show that English requires skewed structures to provide semantic equivalents of *Chalna*.

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