
WORDS DENOTING BEAUTY OF A PERSON AND PROBLEMS OF THEIR TRANSLATION

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Abstract

Keywords:

*Attractiveness,
charm, elegance,
handsomeness,
loveliness,
pulchritude,
belle, charmer,
cracker, goddess,
good-looker,
stunner*

This article describes the significance of words, opinions and approaches of various terms on beauty of person. Being the central element of any language system, the word is a sort of focus for the problems of phonology, lexicology, syntax, morphology and also for some other sciences that have to deal with language and speech, such as philosophy and psychology, and probably quite a few other branches of knowledge.

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Introduction

Prior to analyzing the words denoting beauty of a person we decided to distinguish and determine the word itself.

The term WORD denotes the basic unit of given language resulting from the association of a particular meaning with a particular group of sounds capable of a particular grammatical employment. A word therefore is simultaneously a semantic, grammatical and phonological unit.

Although the borderline between various linguistic units is not always sharp and clear, we have tried to define every new term on its first appearance at once simply and unambiguously, if not always very rigorously. The approximate definition of the term word has therefore already been given in the opening page of the book. The important point to remember about definitions is that they should indicate the most essential characteristic features of the notion expressed by the term under discussion, the features by which this notion is distinguished from other similar notions.

For instance, in defining the word one must distinguish it from other linguistic units, such as the phoneme, the morpheme, or the word - group. In contrast with a definition, description enumerates all the essential features of a notion. The definition of every basic notion is a very hard task; the definition of a word is one of the most difficult in linguistics because the simplest word has many different aspects. It has a sound form because it is a certain arrangement of morphemes; when used in actual speech, it may occur in different word- forms, and signal various meanings.

Discussions and analysis

Being the central element of any language system, the word is a sort of focus for the problems of phonology, lexicology, syntax, morphology and also for some other sciences that have to deal with language and speech, such as philosophy and psychology, and probably quite a few other branches of knowledge. All attempts to characterize the word are necessarily specific form each domain of science and are therefore considered one - sided by the representatives of all other domains and criticized for incompleteness. The variants of definitions were so numerous that some authors collecting them produced works of impressive scope and bulk.

The word **BEAUTY** has the following synonyms:

Group 1	Attractiveness, allure, handsomeness, grace, bloom, loveliness, charm, pulchritude, comeliness, seemliness, elegance, symmetry, exquisiteness, glamour, fairness
Group 2	Belle, goddess, lovely (slang), charmer, good-looker, stunner (informal), cracker (slang), humdinger (slang), Venus
Group 3	Advantage (informal), blessing asset, boon, attraction, excellence, benefit, good thing

The above shown all synonyms don't describe a person; some of them are used for things too. Taking into account all we said we do want to analyze the words. To describe a person we should choose the needed words which could be described in following way:

First, we select the words which we can describe a person's beauty:

Attractiveness, charm, elegance, exquisiteness, fairness, handsomeness, loveliness, pulchritude, seemliness, belle, charmer, cracker, goddess, good-looker, stunner.

Second, they should be used appropriately according to their descriptive features. For the purpose of defining their meaning we looked through NED (New English Dictionary, England, 2001):

The noun **beauty** gives the following meaning:

the combination of all the qualities of a person that delight the senses and please the mind and an adjective **beautiful** is usually used for women and girls. It is stronger than **pretty**, which is also used of women and girls only. Let's take some examples:

Famous English writer Jane Austen in her "Pride and Prejudice" (Penguin books, 1996) on page 6 brings the conversation between Mr. Bennet and his wife, when she answered angrily to her husband:

"My dear, you flatter me. I certainly have had my share of **beauty**, but I do not pretend to be anything extraordinary now. When a woman has five grown up daughters, she ought to give over thinking of her own **beauty**." Then Mr. Bennet said:

"In such cases, a woman has not often much **beauty** to think of."

Then pay attention to translation:

"Азизам, жаҳлимни чиқарма. Ҳа мен ҳақиқатдан ҳам чиройлиман, лекин ҳозир унчалик эмасман. Катта аёлнинг 5 бўйи етган қизи бўлгандан кейин ўзининг чиройи ҳақида ўйламаса ҳам бўлади."

«шундай экан чиройинг ҳақида қайғурма».

In these three cases the word BEAUTY is translated in its meaning as "чирой".

The noun **charm** is described in the New English Dictionary as follows:

1. the quality of pleasing, fascinating or attracting people
2. a pleasing or attractive feature

We would choose the first meaning which describes a person's beauty. If we use it as an adjective, i.e. a determiner before a noun it keeps the same meaning:

Everyone enjoyed talking to them because they are such a **charming** couple.

Another word describing the same meaning but with different usage – **charmer** (noun), it gives the meaning *an attractive person*.

*“Hey, John, look, a **charmer** came”, exclaimed George.*

(“Love of life”, selected stories by Australian writers)

The next is **elegance** which means dignified grace in appearance, movement or behavior. Let’s pay attention to the following example:

*She looked very **elegant** in her new dress.*

In this example this word pictures a person outlook appearance, despite the meaning brought from NED.

Exquisiteness is also a noun which means extremely beautiful and pleasing, and can be used for describing a person’s beauty:

*Elisabeth has an **exquisite** face.*

Here it was used as an adjective, but all the same it describes a person’s outlook appearance and may be translated as очаровательный, прекрасный, обаятельный. These all meanings were not given in dictionary, but according to a context a translator may translate and use the above-mentioned words.

Fairness means a person or thing that is beautiful or valuable, esp. a woman. This word is an archaic and is used very seldom in oral speech.

Handsome means good-looking, esp. in having regular, pleasing and well-defined features. This definition is only for man but for woman it may be used as fine-looking in a dignified way. The word **good-looker** by the same dictionary is described as a handsome or pretty person (a man). Thus these both words can be used equivalently. Let’s take again some examples from Jane Austin’s “Pride and Prejudice”:

Mrs. Bennet was complaining about Mr. Bennet's preference to Lizzy:

*"I desire you will do no such thing. Lizzy is not a bit better than the others; and I am sure she is not half so **handsome** as Jane, nor half so good humored as Lydia. But you are always giving her the preference."*

Pay attention how the author used the word according to text and we have to pay attention to the context, cause we should open its meaning. Thus we chose the following translation:

«Бундай қилмайсан деб ўйлайман. Лиза оналаридан ўзиб кета олмайди. У Джейндек чиройли, Лидиядек ҳазилкаш эмас. Лекин сен уни ҳамон эркалатасан».

(J. Austin "Pride and Prejudice", vol. I, chapter I)

Another example from the same book:

*Not all that Mrs. Bennet, however, with the assistance of her five daughters, could ask on the subject was sufficient to draw from her husband any satisfactory description of Mr. Bingley. They attacked him in various ways; with barefaced questions, ingenious suppositions, and distant surmises; but he eluded the skill of them all; and they were at last obliged to accept the second-hand intelligence of their neighbor Lady Lucas. Her report was highly favorable. Sir William had been delighted with him. He was quite young, wonderfully **handsome**, extremely agreeable, and to crown the whole, he meant to be at the next assembly with a large party.*

Беннет хоним қизлари билан жаноб Бинглининг ташиқи қиёфаси хақида ахборот ололмасаларда эрига саволлар бера бошлади. Шунинг учун қўшниси Лукас хонимнинг гапларига ишониб қўйди. Лукас хонимнинг тасвирлари етарли бўлсада, СэрУилямхаттоки хайратда қолди. У ёш, келишган, жуда хасис ва уни дўстлари билан базмга келади деб кутишиди.

(J. Austin "Pride and Prejudice", vol. I, chapter III)

Now we want to draw your attention to the next passage:

*"Mr. Bingley was **good looking** and gentlemanlike; he had a pleasant countenance, and easy, unaffected manners. His sisters were **fine** women,*

*with an air of decided fashion. His brother-in-law, Mr. Hurst, merely looked the gentleman; but his friend Mr. Darcy soon drew the attention of the room by his fine, tall person, **handsome** features, noble mein; and the report which was in general circulation within five minutes after his entrance, of his having ten thousand a year.”*

In this example the author used synonymic words like **good looking** and **fine** to describe a person how is beautiful, i.e. his outlook appearance. But in the third case - **handsome** – determined **feature**, which is also connected with a person’s manners. We tried to give the translation of the passage as follows:

*“Мистер Бингли выглядел **красивым**, настоящая мужчина, с хорошим выражением лица и хорошими манерами. Его сестры были **обаятельно** модными женщинами, а его зять – мистер Херст – просто был джентельменом. Но его друг господин Дарси привлек себе всех со своими хорошими, **замечательными** манерами и он был высоким, благородным человеком.”*

Loveliness (noun) means attractiveness, beauty. It may also be used to describe a person’s beauty. Noun **lovely** is used towards a lovely woman in slang. **Lovely** is used often than **Loveliness**.

Pulchritude is used for physical beauty of a person; it may be used either in formal or literary way.

Seemliness means pleasing or handsome in appearance. But it is used very seldom. It is rather literal than colloquial.

Belle has two meanings:

1. a beautiful girl or woman
2. the most attractive or admired girl or woman at a place, function, etc. (esp. in the phrase the belle of the ball.)

Cracker means a thing or a person of notable qualities or abilities. This word is considered as British slang which is common to all British Isles.

Goddess is such a word with descriptive, highly appreciated and “divine” definition. It has two meanings:

1. a female divinity
2. a woman who is adored or idealized, esp. by a men

Stunner is used in informal way and is a person or thing of great beauty, quality, size, etc. It may either be used for a man or a woman. For instance:

When Gregory was walking he saw a **stunning** woman who stood at the corner of the street.

Pretty is a synonymous word to beauty and is used to describe a woman or girl’s beauty. For instance,

*“I would not be so fastidious as you are,” cried Bingley, “for a kingdom! Upon my honor, I never met with so many **pleasant girls** in my life, as I have this evening; and there are several of them you see uncommonly **pretty**.”*

*“You are dancing with the only **handsome girl** in the room,” said Mr. Darcy, looking at the eldest Miss Bennet.*

*“Oh! She is the most **beautiful creature** I ever beheld! But there is one of her sisters sitting down just behind you, who is **very pretty**, and I dare say, very agreeable. Do let me ask my partner to introduce you.”*

If you pay attention thoroughly the author used firstly the words **pleasant girls** then **pretty**. Both are taken to describe outlook appearance of girls, they used synonymously. **Handsome girl, beautiful creature, very pretty** are the words which deeply depict whole entity, a human being, esp. a girl or a woman. Thus all of them color stylistically. Now here it follows the translation:

«Я не был бы таким привередливым как ты», сказал Бингли, «не за что! Клянусь, я никогда не встречал в моей жизни таких очаровательных девушек как сегодня. Посмотри на них, они с необычайной красотой.»

«Ты танцуешь с самой очаровательной девушкой в зале», сказал мистер Дарси посмотрев на мисс Беннет старшую.

«О! Она самая красивая, созданная богом - девушка, которого я раньше не встречал. Но за тобою, чуть подальше сидит ее одна из сестер, которая, кстати, тоже очень красивая, очень даже. Давайка, я попрошумоего партнера познакомить тебя сней».

Thus drawing all said above we came to conclusion that these are only some tens of words which we used in our paper. Sometimes these words may cause difficulty for a translator, sometimes don't. In those case when it is too difficult to reveal their meaning a translator should find their meaning according to a context.

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