

SCIENTIFIC TERMS TRANSLATED IN BANGLA: Possibilities and Drawbacks

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Among this year's HSC examinees, more than 150,000 were from the Science group. A vast majority of these students belong to the Bangla version of the national curriculum. Many of them will choose fields such as medicine, engineering, and applied science for undergraduate studies; fields that will require them to encounter a huge amount of scientific terms.

Many students will not recognise terms they have come across during college.

The reason for this is that Bangla medium science education contains a lot of translated scientific terms. Through both the SSC and HSC levels, Bangla medium science students study using these translated words. Though the English terms are generally provided within the book, the teaching of the subjects is done mostly through the Bangla terms.

What purpose does it serve?

The primary purpose for the usage of Bangla terms is making it easy for the students to understand. All science students do not possess a similar amount of English proficiency. For some, the Bangla terms lead to better understanding of subject matters.

The effort to translate these terms into Bangla also has the effect of enriching the Bangla language itself. A vast number of loanwords related to technical and technological concepts entered the language due to the lack of proper Bangla words. The emergence of Bangla terms can help to slow this trend.

The emergence of Bangla scientific terms can also make it possible to conduct proper scientific research in Bangla. Therefore, some scientists who might have been hindered due to a simple linguistic barrier can be empowered to carry out research due to this factor.

But using Bangla terms has many drawbacks as well.

Firstly, as mentioned above, students have to re-learn concepts they studied again, in English. Not only is this inefficient, this can also result in Bangla medium students facing an unfair competitive disadvantage against other students.

Also, the terms can often be just as alien as their English counterparts, negating their primary purpose. For example, *jaron-bijaron* does not make much more sense to an average Bangla speaker than oxidation-reduction.

Having to memorise many of the difficult terms in two languages simultaneously can be a great strain on a young student's brain.

Furthermore, as nearly all the research materials available on the Internet and journals are in English; they can be hard to access for those who are accustomed to using the Bangla terms.

Finally, not knowing the proper scientific nomenclature can lead to increased difficulties in carrying out scientific research.

Mahroos Murtaza Choudhury, a student of DU with a Bangla medium Science background, stated, "A lot scientific terms just didn't make sense when translated to Bangla. Also, some terms weren't translatable and were left in English, so the textbooks were just inconsistent. To add to that, since most of the higher education in our country is still conducted in English, the learning curve can be steep for some of the students because they have to learn the same things in English again."

As per the points put forward above, resorting to the original English scientific terminology seems to be the logical option. Science education may become more efficient and rewarding, with the usage of proper English scientific terminology.

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The Common Personalities IN A TRIP

FATIUL HUQ SUJOY

Trips with friends are great, not just because you get to spend time together outside of Facebook group chats, but also because you get to know the real them. Here's a set of personalities common in trips with friends.

The one who just wants to chill:

He just had a rough week. He only wants to relax, enjoy the scenes and escape from the harshness of life. His vision of a tour comprises of a comfy bed and a bunch of friends who'll serve him food. Although he's a burden during tight schedules, he can be an asset during philosophical talks under the starry sky.

The one who's no chill:

Usually the adventurer of the bunch and is the one who initiates the plans. He has an unquenchable thirst for traveling to new places and enjoying new experiences, which often contradicts with the limited time he's got and/or his poor choice of friends. But his huge amount of enthusiasm, which often leads to arguments and irreparable scars in friendships, gets his bucket list fully checked.

The one who's too chill:

He's just there because his friends are there. He has little or no idea about the plan, and neither does he care. He regularly delays the whole group and replies with "Chill, bro" when confronted. Sometimes he just disappears. After everyone panics and plans what to tell his parents. Then he comes back, with food, so nobody complains. He can also save the day if

things go astray, calmly making decisions while the rest of the bunch loses their minds.

The accountant:

Usually the one who scored 1 or 2 marks higher in math than the rest back in school. His life as the accountant starts from the 'adda' at the local tea-stall and continues until forever. His tour comprises of paying all the bills, calculating everyone's expenses and regularly shouting out the total budget and how that extra packet of chips will cost them the trip.

The one whose body was not ready:

This physically unfit human being ends up in the trip being inspired by photos and reviews of the place online and overlooking the fact that he has motion sickness, gets tummy aches if he eats anything other than "ammur haater ranna", can't walk for more than three minutes and is scared of bugs. His bag has less wardrobe and gadgets and more medicines and packets of saline.

The one who nags:

Why he's there is unclear to both parties. He complains about everything, whether it's the food, the hotel, the sand in the beach or the wind on the mountain. Experts say he's homesick. His friends say he's not their friend anymore. Don't be this person.

Fatiul Huq Sujoy is a tired soul (mostly because of his frail body) who's patiently waiting for Hagrid to appear and tell him, "Ye're a saiyan, lord commander." Suggest him places to travel and food-ventures to take at fb.com/SyedSujoy

