

Winter Sports Tourism: Terminological Issues

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Abstract

The scope of the contribution is to show the difficulty of rendering winter sports terminology in tourism mass media in Romanian, based on the assumption that other European languages (both Romance and Slavic) may encounter the same difficulties in translating winter sports terms. The readers may benefit from our observations and adopt (or not) our suggestions when dealing with the same issues in their own languages. The authors have established a list of terms based on English language dictionaries and on Internet sources and analysed the ways they could be rendered in Romanian. Research results show there are three categories of winter sports terms from a translational perspective: terms that can be translated into Romanian (*Alpine ski* > *ski alpin*), terms that can only be paraphrased (*sledding* > *sanie*), and terms that cannot be translated into Romanian and that need to be adopted as such (*curling* > *curling*).

Keywords: Winter sports, Adventure tourism, Terminology.

1. Introduction

Social and intercultural competence and its related issues can be approached through **language support: if social and intercultural**

2. Material and Method

The material we analysed consisted in 238 offensive, vulgar and obscene English words that both students and teachers should know to attain

3. Results and Discussion

We have identified 110 terms designating winter sports. These terms fall into eight categories, as follows [1, 2].

Ice skating includes: *figure skating* "the sport of skating in prescribed patterns from a stationary position" [3] – *patinaj artistic*; *ice dancing* "a competitive ice-skating event in which a couple, using basic skating figures and not being

permitted to use lifts, performs choreograph movements to music, based on traditional ballroom dances" [4] – *dans pe ghiță*; *short-track speed skating* "a form of competitive ice speed skating. In competitions, multiple skaters skate on an oval ice track with a circumference of 111.12 m" [5] – *patinaj viteză pe pistă scurtă*; *speed skating* "a form of ice skating in which competitors race against each other, typically around an oval track" [3] – *patinaj viteză*.

Skiing "the action of travelling over snow on skis, especially as a sport or recreation" [3] includes: *acroski* (syn. *ski ballet*) "a form of *freestyle skiing*" [5] – *balet pe schiuri, schi artistic*; *Alpine skiing* (syn. *downhill skiing*) "the sport of sliding down snow-covered hills on skis with fixed-heel bindings" [5] – *ski alpin*; *biathlon* "a Nordic skiing event in which the competitors combine cross-country skiing and rifle shooting" [3] – *biatlon*; *cross-country skiing* "skiing over relatively flat or mountainous terrain, as opposed to skiing only downhill" [3] – *ski fond*; *downhill skiing* "the sport of skiing down a slope, usually making turns and various manoeuvres" [4] – *ski alpin*; *free skiing* (syn. *new school skiing*) "a specific type of Alpine skiing, which involves

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tricks, jumps, and terrain park features, such as rails, boxes, jibs, or other obstacles” [5] – *ski liber*; **freestyle skiing** “a type of skiing contest which involves performing a variety of acrobatic manoeuvres while negotiating a sloping course featuring rails for sliding and ramps for jumping” [3] – *ski acrobatic*; **kite skiing** (syn. **snow kiting**) “the sport or pastime of riding on skis or a snowboard while holding on to a specially designed kite, using the wind for propulsion” [3] – *paraschi*; **mogul skiing** “a skiing event in which skiers descend a slope which is covered in mounds of snow, making two jumps during the descent” [4] – *ski pe dâmburi*; **monoskiing** “sliding on a single broad ski attached to both feet” [3] – *monoschi*; **new school skiing** “a specific type of Alpine skiing, which involves tricks, jumps, and terrain park features, such as rails, boxes, jibs, or other obstacles” [5] – *ski liber*; **Nordic combined** “a competition for Nordic skiers comprising ski jumping and cross-country skiing events, the winner having the highest combined score” [4] – *combinata nordică*; **skate skiing** “a style of cross-country skiing in which the skis are pointed outwards and the skier alternately pushes off one and glides on the other in a motion similar to ice skating” [3] – *ski fond*; **ski archery** “an event very similar to the sport of biathlon except a recurved bow is used in place of a gun” [5] – *biatlon cu arcu*; **ski ballet** “a form of **freestyle skiing**” [5] – *balet pe schiuri*, *ski artistic*; **ski jumping** “jumping from a steep slope levelling off before a sharp drop to allow a skier to leap through the air” [3] – *săritura cu schiuri*; **ski boarding** “a winter sport which combines elements of skating, snowboarding, and skiing” [5] – *ski cu schiuri mici*; **skibob** “skiing on a device resembling a bicycle with skis instead of wheels, used for sliding down snow-covered slopes” [3] – *ski pe bicicleta cu schiuri*; **skijoring** “the action of being pulled over snow or ice on skis by a horse or dog, as a sport or recreation activity” [3] – *ski cu atelaj animal*; **snow kiting** “the sport or pastime of riding on skis or a snowboard while holding on to a specially designed kite, using the wind for propulsion” [3] – *paraschi*; **speed riding** “a mix of skiing and paragliding” [5] – *paraschi*; **speed skiing** “skiing downhill in a straight line at as high a speed as possible, as timed over a fixed stretch of ski slope” [5] – *ski viteză*; **telemark skiing** “skiing turning on skis to which only the toe of each boot

is fixed, with the outer ski advanced and the knee bent” [3] – *ski telemark*; **winter pentathlon** “a skiing event composed of cross-country skiing, shooting, downhill skiing, fencing, and horse riding” [5] – *pentatlon de iarnă*.

Sledding / sledging / sleighing “the activity of travelling or sliding downhill over snow on a sledge” [3] includes: **bobsled** (syn. **bobsledding**, **bobsleighing**) “riding in a bobsleigh, especially as a winter sport” [3] – *bob*; **bobsledding** “riding in a bobsleigh, especially as a winter sport” [3] – *bob*; **bobsleighing** “riding in a bobsleigh, especially as a winter sport” [3] – *bob*; **dog sled racing** (syn. **sled dog racing**) “racing a dog-pulled sled” [3] – *cursa cu sania trasă de câini*; **ice blocking** “the sport of using large blocks of ice to reach relatively high speeds down a grassy hill” [6] – *datul pe bloc de ghiață*; **luge** “a sport in which competitors make a timed descent of a course riding a luge” [3] – *(proba de) sanie*; **skeleton** “riding a small sled for one person head first while lying in a prone position” [3] – *scheleton*; **sled dog racing** “racing a dog-pulled sled” [3] – *cursa cu sania trasă de câini*; **wok racing** “making timed runs down an Olympic bobsled track using woks” [5] – *cursa cu wok-ul pe ghiață*.

Snowboarding “the sport or pastime of sliding downhill on a snowboard” [3] includes: **Alpine snowboarding** “snowboarding practised on groomed pistes” [5] – *snowboarding alpin*; **boarder cross** (syn. **snowboard cross**) “a snowboarding contest for four to six competitors on a winding, undulating course that includes jumps” [3] – *snowboarding cu obstacole*; **slalom** “a ski race down a winding course marked by flags or poles” [3] – *slalom pe snowboard*; **slope style** “a type of snowboarding contest which involves performing a variety of acrobatic manoeuvres while negotiating a sloping course featuring rails for sliding and ramps for jumping” [3] – *surf pe zăpadă*; **snowboard cross** “a snowboarding contest for four to six competitors on a winding, undulating course that includes jumps” [3] – *snowboarding cu obstacole*; **snow skating** “making skateboard-style tricks on the snow using a snow skate” [5] – *patinaj pe zăpadă*. **Snowmobiling** “racing a motor vehicle, especially one with runners in the front and caterpillar tracks in the rear, for traveling over snow” [3] includes: **cross-country** “racing a snowmobile over relatively flat or mountainous terrain, as opposed to skiing only downhill” [3] – *cursa de fond cu*

scooter-ul de zăpadă; **free style** “racing a snowmobile with few restrictions on the moves or techniques that competitors employ” [3] – *stil liber*; **hill climb** (syn. **hill climbing**) “racing snowmobiles up a steep, often winding, hill” [3] – *escaladarea unui deal cu scooter-ul de zăpadă*; **hill climbing** “racing snowmobiles up a steep, often winding, hill” [3] – *escaladarea unui deal cu scooter-ul de zăpadă*; **sno(w)cross** “a racing sport involving racing specialized high performance snowmobiles on an artificially-made tracks consisting of tight turns, banked corners, steep jumps and obstacles” [6] – *cross pe zăpadă*.

Team sports includes: **bandy** “a game similar to field hockey or ice hockey” [3] – *bandy, fotbal de iarnă*; **Bavarian curling** (syn. **ice stock sport**) “a winter sport somewhat similar to curling” [5] – *popice pe ghiață*; **broomball** “a game similar to ice hockey in which players run rather than skate and use rubber brooms or broom handles to push a ball into the goal” [3] – *mătură-minge*; **curling** “a game played on ice, especially in Scotland and Canada, in which large round flat stones are slid across the surface towards a mark; members of a team use brooms to sweep the surface of the ice in the path of the stone to control its speed and direction” [3] – *curling*; **ice hockey** “a fast contact sport played on an ice rink between two teams of six skaters, who attempt to drive a small rubber disc or puck into the opposing goal with hooked or angled sticks; it developed from field hockey in Canada in the second half of the 19th century” [3] – *hochei pe ghiață*; **ice sledge hockey** (syn. **para ice hockey**, **sled hockey**) “a sport designed to allow participants who have a physical disability to play the game of ice hockey” [5] – *hochei pe sanie*; **ice stock sport** “a winter sport somewhat similar to curling” [5] – *popice pe ghiață*; **military patrol** “a team winter sport in which athletes competed in cross-country skiing, ski mountaineering and rifle shooting” [5] – *patrula militară*; **para ice hockey** “a sport designed to allow participants who have a physical disability to play the game of ice hockey” [5] – *hochei pe sanie*; **ringette** “a game resembling ice hockey, played (especially by women and girls) with a straight stick and a rubber ring, and in which no intentional body contact is allowed” [3] – *hochei pe ghiață cu băț drept*; **rink bandy** “a game similar to field hockey or ice hockey, played with a ball and large curved sticks on an ice hockey rink” [3] – *fotbal de iarnă pe teren de hochei pe*

ghiață; **sled hockey** “a sport designed to allow participants who have a physical disability to play the game of ice hockey” [5] – *hochei pe sanie*; **snow rugby** “forms of rugby union, which are especially adapted to be played in winter conditions, particularly deep snow” [5] – *rugby pe zăpadă*; **snow snake** “hurling along ice or snowy ground an implement in the form of a staff several feet long in a North American Indian game” [7] – *șarpele de zăpadă*; **synchronised skating** “the art or sport of teams of up to twenty skaters holding onto each other and moving in patterns in time to music” [4] – *patinaj sincron*; **yukigassen** “a snowball-fighting competition from Japan” [5] – *bulgăreală*.

Other sports include: **cold-weather biking** (syn. **fat biking**, **ice biking**, **snow biking**, **winter biking**, **winter cycling**) “riding a bicycle with oversized tyres designed for riding off-road, particularly on soft terrain such as snow or sand” [3] – *ciclism hibernal*; **cross country running** – *cursă de fond pe zăpadă*; **fat biking** “riding a bicycle with oversized tyres designed for riding off-road, particularly on soft terrain such as snow or sand” [3] – *ciclism hibernal*; **ice biking** “riding a bicycle with oversized tyres designed for riding off-road, particularly on soft terrain such as snow or sand” [3] – *ciclism hibernal*; **ice canoeing** “racing a canoe adapted or designed for use on frozen lakes or rivers” [3] – *canoe pe ghiață*; **ice climbing** “the sport or activity of climbing glaciers” [3] – *escaladă pe ghiață*; **ice racing** “racing on ice” [3] – *cursă motorizată pe ghiață*; **ice speedway** “ice motorcycle racing in which the riders race several laps around an oval dirt track, typically in a stadium” [3] – *cursă de motociclete pe ghiață*; **snow biking** “riding a bicycle with oversized tyres designed for riding off-road, particularly on soft terrain such as snow or sand” [3] – *ciclism hibernal*; **snow drifting** “drifting in a car in the snow” [6] – *drifturi pe zăpadă*; **winter biking** “riding a bicycle with oversized tyres designed for riding off-road, particularly on soft terrain such as snow or sand” [3] – *ciclism hibernal*; **winter cycling** “riding a bicycle with oversized tyres designed for riding off-road, particularly on soft terrain such as snow or sand” [3] – *ciclism hibernal*.

Recreational sports (sports competed and/or enjoyed on a more casual basis mainly by children) include: **building snow fortresses** “building snow fortresses” – *construitul de*

fortărețe de zăpadă; **building snowmen** “building snowmen” – *făcutul de oameni de zăpadă*; **digging snow caves** “digging snow caves” – *săpatul de peșteri de zăpadă*; **ice boating** (syn. **ice sailing**, **ice yachting**) “the activity or recreation of sailing in an ice boat” [3] – *navigatul pe ghiață cu ambarcațiuni cu pânză*; **ice fishing** “fishing through holes in the ice on a lake or river” [3] – *pescuritul la copcă*; **ice sailing** “the activity or recreation of sailing in an ice boat” [3] – *navigatul pe ghiață cu ambarcațiuni cu pânză*; **ice swimming** “the sport or activity of propelling oneself through water using the limbs” [3] – *înotul în apă înghețată*; **ice yachting** “the activity or recreation of sailing in an ice boat” [3] – *navigatul pe ghiață cu ambarcațiuni cu pânză*; **outdoor puck** (syn. **pick-up hockey**, **pond hockey** “a game of ice hockey played outdoors, especially by children on a frozen pond” [3] – *hochei pe ghiață în aer liber*; **pick-up hockey** “a game of ice hockey played outdoors, especially by children on a frozen pond” [3] – *hochei pe ghiață în aer liber*; **pond hockey** “a game of ice hockey played outdoors, especially by children on a frozen pond” [3] – *hochei pe ghiață în aer liber*; **shinn(e)y** “an informal form of ice hockey played especially by children, on the street or on ice, often with a ball or other object in place of a puck” [3] – *hochei pe ghiață în aer liber*; **snow bowling** “bowling on snow” – *popice pe zăpadă*; **snow golf** “a sport based on golf but played over snow (or ice) instead of grass” [5] – *golf pe ghiață sau zăpadă*; **snowball fight** “a playful fight in which people throw snowballs at each other” [7] – *bulgăreală*; **snowshoeing** “walking on snow with flat devices resembling rackets, which are attached to the sole of the boots” [3] – *drumeție pe zăpadă*; **tobogganing** “the activity or pastime of sliding downhill over snow on a toboggan” [3] – *datul pe zăpadă ca pe toboggan*; **winter swimming** “swimming during the winter season, typically in outdoor locations (open water swimming) or in unheated pools or lidos” [5] – *înotul în apă înghețată* [8].

4. Conclusions

The 110 English winter sports tourism-related terms grouped into 8 categories can be rendered in Romanian as follows:

- **Ice skating**: the 4 terms have Romanian equivalents;

- **Skiing**: of the 24 terms, 13 have Romanian equivalents and 11 terms need to be paraphrased;

- **Sledding**: of the 9 terms, 4 have Romanian equivalents, 4 need to be paraphrased and 1 is adapted;

- **Snowboarding**: of the 6 terms, 1 has a Romanian equivalent and 5 need to be paraphrased;

- **Snowmobiling**: of the 5 terms, 1 has a Romanian equivalent and 4 need to be paraphrased;

- **Team sports**: of the 16 terms, 4 have Romanian equivalents, 11 need to be paraphrased and 1 is adapted;

- **Recreational sports**: of the 18 terms, 4 have Romanian equivalents and 14 need to be paraphrased;

- **Other sports**: of the 12 terms, 1 has a Romanian equivalent and 11 need to be paraphrased.

This is a serious challenge for winter sports lovers, authors of guidebooks, handbooks and textbooks, teachers of communication, physical training, and tourism-related subjects, and tour operators for the benefit of Romanian tourism.

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