



## Methods and Text in Translation (A case study Al-Baha university, college of science and arts, department of English language)

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### Abstract

The central problem of translating has always been whether to translate literally or freely. The argument has been going on since at least the first century BC Up to the beginning of the nineteenth century, many writers favored some kind of Tree1 translation: the spirit, not the letter; the sense not the words; the message rather than the form: the matter not the manner- This was the often revolutionary slogan of writers who wanted the truth to be read and understood. Since methods and text pose problem for translators, so this study aims at investigating the methods and text in translation that should be used by Saudi Arabia university students, College of Science and Arts AL-Baha University in academic year 2016-2017 during the second semester. The study also aims at disusing these methods and text type, showing the kind of methods, introducing translation different methods in details and suggest suitable method for translation. Also introduce text type Related to Translation.

**Keywords:** methods, text type, word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, semantic translation, adaptation, free translation, idiomatic translation, communicative translation

### 1. Introduction

Translation is the communication of meaning of a source – language text by means of an equivalent target- language text. The word translation derives from the Latin *translatio* (which itself comes from *Trans* – and *fero*). discussions of the theory and practice of translation reach back into antiquity and show remarkable continuities. The ancient Greeks distinguished between *metaphrase* (literal translation) and *paraphrase*. This distinction was adapted by English poet and translator John Dryden (1632- 1700) who described translation as judicious blending of these two modes of phrasing when selecting, in the target language “counterpart” or equivalents, for expressions used in the source language. during translation process, a translator uses various methods to deal with all difficulties which might arise throughout translating. there are several methods of translation the methods are: Transcription or Arabization, naturalization, is the attempt to adopt English terms to morphology of Arabic word structure. coinage is the best method. This coinage method aims at presenting new terms in the Arabic language. Derivation is based on measurement; it aims at using certain measures found in Arabic language to derive new terms, Revival attempts to put back into use old Arabic words and Neologisms introducing new terms into Arabic

#### 1.1 Statement of the Problem

The study investigates different methods and text in translation, also introduces text and these methods in details and evaluate them.

#### 1.2 Question of the study

1. What are the methods that used in translation?
2. Is understanding the text important in translation?

#### 1.3 Hypotheses of the study

1. There are some methods that used in translation
2. Understanding the text type is important in translation

#### 1.4 Objective of the study

1. Investigating the different kind of method
2. To show the kind of these methods and kind of text
3. To suggest best methods for translation

#### 1.5 Limits of the study

The study is mainly devoted to investigate the methods and kind of text that used by Saudi Arabia university students in academic year 2016-2017 during the second semester.

#### 1.6 Significance of the study

1. Introducing all translation methods in details.
2. Looking for text which has relation with translation
3. Boasting and encouraging the use of the suitable method for translation
4. Give different methods of translation and to show the best.

### 2. Literature Review

#### 2.1 concept of translation

Throughout the ages; translation has been the most efficient and effective mean of communication between nations, peoples, and groups, and through it; the exchange of common interests took place, and through it the customs and traditions of other nations were known. The importance of translation has been growing steadily, particularly in this era of globalization, where nations need to communicate with each other more than they used to do previously; as the entire world has been much like a small village.

At the early stages of learning translation, some learners

wrongly think that translation is a matter of word-for-word process; hence, translation to them is no more than a mechanical way.

It is certain that translation is a human activity, therefore, the text that is translated into the target language should be written in a rhetorical style that is intended to impress or influence readers and must have the same language effect that the source language does. But this cannot be produced without using imagination or skills which characterize human mind. Consequently, it is unreasonable to think that computers can be used as an aid to translation. Saudi college students of English face difficulty in translation because translation consist of different methods that pose problem, particularly at the university stages. Translation is viewed as a number of problems of different kinds that require suitable and possible solutions. English and Arabic belong to two different language families Germanic and Semitic, therefore difficulty will definitely arise.

Some grammatical features of both languages pose problems in translation from Arabic into English or vice versa. Arab students should know that English grammar is not identical with Arabic grammar so we cannot translate each other in a straightforward way.

Translation plays an important role in rendering a text from one language into an equivalent version in another language, thus through translation, highly advanced international societies can be created despite their differences or the similarities of their people's culture and the degree of the level of their civilization and superiority.

Translation helps people to exchange ideas and equipments that cannot be dispensed with in our daily life. So we need efficient translators who will translate masterpieces of art in such a manner that the translated text should be a true copy of the original one and have the same effect without any deformity.

## 2.2 Text type in translation

Darwish, (2009: 194) mentions that according to Watson (1993), every text has a certain perspective on reality. Reality is external to text, but the reader seeks it as presented in the text through its semantic context. Communicating such prospective on reality through the medium of translation involves a process of reconstructing and imaging reality in the target language. This problem is inherent in the relative nature of the relationship between the text and the mental picture.

Milicevic, (2006:1) defines that meaning is, roughly, a linguistic content to be communicated and text is any fragment of speech. Both meanings and texts are taken to be directly accessible to speaker. The meaning-text theory has placed strong emphasis on semantics and considered natural language primarily as a tool for expressing meaning. The meaning-text theory has always considered relations to be the main organizing factor in language.

Avelling, (2002: 5) <sup>[1]</sup> claims that the meaning of a text is not something inherent in linguistic signs; it cannot simply be extracted by anyone who knows the code. A text is made meaningful by its receiver and for its receiver. Different receivers or even same receiver at different time identify different meanings in the same linguistic material offered by the text.

Anderman, (2002: 142) emphasizes that it is generally agreed that meaning is important in translation may be thought to be something of an understatement. The words may be regarded essentially as vehicles for carrying the component of meaning. In fact, the words may be likened to suitcases used for carrying various articles of clothing. Meaning is the use of expressions.

## 2.3 Understanding text

You begin the job by reading the original for two purposes: first, to understand what it is about; second, to analyze it from a translator's point of view, which is not the same as a linguist's or a literary critic's. You have to determine its intention and the way it is written for the purpose of selecting a suitable translation method and identifying particular and recurrent problems, Understanding the text requires both general and close reading. General reading to get the gist; here you may have to read encyclopedias, textbooks, or specialist papers to understand the subject and the concepts, always bearing in mind that for the translator the function precedes the description.

In reading, you search for the intention of the text, you cannot isolate this from understanding it, they go together and the title may be remote from the content as well as the intention. Two texts may describe a battle or a riot or a debate, stating the same facts and figures, but the type of language used and even the grammatical structures: passive voice, impersonal verbs often used to disclaim responsibility in each case may be evidence of different points of view. The intention of the text represents the SL writer's attitude to the subject matter.

Following Nida, we distinguish four types of (literary or non-literary) text: (1) Narrative: a dynamic sequence of events, where the emphasis is on the verbs or. for English, 'dummy' or 'empty' verbs plus verb-nouns or phrasal). (2) Description, which is static, with emphasis on linking verbs, adjectives, adjectival nouns. (3) Discussion, a treatment of ideas, with emphasis on abstract nouns (concepts), verbs of thought, mental activity ('consider', 'argue', etc.), logical argument and connectives, (4) Dialogue, with emphasis on colloquialisms and phaticisms

## 2.4 Method of translation

Word-for-word translation This is often demonstrated as interlinear translation, with The TL immediately below the SL words. The SL word-order is preserved and the words translated singly by their most common meanings, out of context. Cultural words are translated literally. The main use of word-for-word translation is either to understand the mechanics of the source language or [o construe a difficult text as a pre-translation process.

### Literal translation

The SL grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest TL equivalents but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context. As a pre-translation process, this indicates the problems to be solved

### Faithful translation

A faithful Translation attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of

the TL grammatical structures. It 'transfers' cultural words and preserves the degree of grammatical and lexical 'abnormality' (deviation from SL norms) in the translation. It attempts to be completely faithful to the intentions and the text-realization of the SL writer.

### **Semantic translation**

Semantic translation differs from 'faithful translation' only in as far as it must take more account of the aesthetic value (that is, the beautiful and natural sounds of the SL text, compromising on 'meaning' where appropriate so that no assonance, word-play or repetition jars in the finished version. Further, it may translate less important cultural words by culturally neutral third or functional terms but not by cultural equivalents. The distinction between 'faithful' and 'semantic' translation is that the first is uncompromising and dogmatic, while the second is more flexible, admits the creative exception to 100% fidelity and allows for the translator's intuitive empathy with the original.

### **Adaptation**

This is the 'freest' form of translation. It is used mainly for plays comedies and poetry; the themes, characters, plots are usually preserved, the SL culture converted to the TL culture and the text rewritten. The deplorable practice of having a play or poem literally translated and then rewritten by an established dramatist or poet has produced many poor adaptations, but other adaptations have 'rescued' period plays.

### **Free translation**

Free translation reproduces the matter without the manner, or the content without the form of the original. Usually it is a paraphrase much longer than the original, a so-called 'intralingual translation\*', often prolix and pretentious, and not translation at all. Idiomatic translation.

### **Idiomatic translation**

Reproduces the 'message' of the original but tends to distort nuances of meaning by preferring colloquialisms and idioms where these do not exist in the original- (Authorities as diverse as Seteskovitch and Stuart Gilbert tend to this form of lively, 'natural' translation.)

### **Communicative translation**

Communicative translation attempts to render the exact contextual meaning of the original in such a way that both content and language are readily acceptable and comprehensible to the readership.

## **3. Materials and methods**

The present paper, under the title of methods and text type in translation is to examine the notion of the methods of translation and text type. The first step is to clarify the concepts of methods to evaluate them and showing the kind of methods, this is a survey on comparative study on methods.

### **3.1 Comparative study and evaluation on different in methods**

Commenting on these methods, I should first say that only semantic and communicative translation fulfil the two main

aims of translation, which are first, accuracy, and second, economy. (A semantic translation is more likely to be economical than a communicative translation, unless, for the latter, the text is poorly written. In general, a semantic translation is written at the author's linguistic level a communicative at the readership's. Semantic translation is used for 'expressive' texts, communicative for 'informative' and 'vocative' texts. Semantic and communicative translation treat the following items similarly: stock and dead metaphors, normal collocations, technical Terms, slang, colloquialisms, standard notices, phaticisms, ordinary language. The expressive components of 'expressive' texts unusual syntactic structures, collocations, metaphors, words peculiarly used, neologisms are rendered closely, if not literally, where they appear in informative and vocative texts, they are normalized or toned down. Badly and/or inaccurately written passages must remain so in translation if they are expressive, although the translator should comment on any mistakes of factual or moral truth, if appropriate. Badly and/or inaccurately written passages should be 'corrected' in communicative translation, I refer to 'expressive' as 'Sacred' texts; 'informative' and 'vocative', following Jean Delisle, as 'anonymous' since the status of their authors is not important. There are grey or fuzzy areas in this distinction, as in every aspect of translation. So much for the detail, but semantic and communicative translation must also be seen as wholes. Semantic translation is personal and individual, follows the thought processes of the author, tends to over-translate, pursues nuances of meaning, yet aims at concision in order to reproduce pragmatic impact. Communicative translation is social, concentrates on the message and the main force of the text, tends to under-translate, to be simple, clear and brief, and is always written in a natural and resourceful style. A semantic translation is normally inferior in it is original- as there is both cognitive and pragmatic loss 'Baudelaire's translation, a communicative translation is often better than its original. At a pinch, a semantic translation has to interpret, a communicative translation to explain. Theoretically, communicative translation allows the translator no more freedom than semantic translation. In fact, it does, since the translator is serving a putative large and not well defined readership, whilst in semantic translation, he is following a single well defined authority, i.e. the author of the SL text.

### **3.2 Evaluating the quality of text and setting**

You have to decide on the likely setting: Where would the text be published in the TL? What is the TL equivalent of the SL periodical, newspaper, textbook, journal, etc.? or Who is the client you are translating for and what are his requirements? You may have to take account of briefer titles, absence of subtitles and sub-headings, shorter paragraphs and other features of the TL house-style, you have to make several assumptions about the SL readership. From the setting of the SL text, as well as the text itself, you should assess whether the readership is likely to be motivated, familiar with the topic and the culture, and 'at home' in the variety of language used. The three typical reader types are perhaps the expert, the educated layman, and the uninformed. You then have to consider whether you are translating for the same or a different type of TL readership, perhaps with less knowledge

of the topic or the culture, or a lower standard of linguistic education. Finally, if you are translating a poem or an important authoritative statement, should you consider the TL reader at all.

Consider the quality of the writing and the authority of the text, two critical factors in the choice of translation method. The quality of the writing has to be judged in relation to the author's intention and/or the requirements of the subject-matter. If the text is well written, i.e. the manner is as important as the matter, the right words are in the right places, with a minimum of redundancy, you have to regard every nuance of the author's meaning (particularly if it is subtle and difficult) as having precedence over the reader's response - assuming they are not required to act or react promptly; on the contrary, assuming hopefully that they will read your translation at least twice. Deciding what is good writing is sometimes criticized as 'subjective' but it is a decision, like many others, not subjective but with a subjective element (the area of taste! which you have to make, using any experience of literary criticism you may have had but bearing in mind that the criterion here is meaning: to what extent does the web of words of the SL text correspond to a clear representation of facts or images? If a text is well written, the syntax will reflect the writer's personality - complex syntax will reflect subtlety (Proust, Mann) - plain syntax, simplicity. Words will be freshly used with unusual connotations. A badly written text will be cluttered with stereotyped phrases, recently fashionable general words and probably poorly structured. Note that language rules and prescriptions have nothing much to do with good writing. What matters is a fresh reflection of the reality outside language or of the writer's mind. The authority of the text is derived from good writing; but also independently, unconnectedly, from the status of the SL writer. If the SL writer is recognized as important in his field, and he is making an ex-cathedra or official statement, the text is also authoritative. The point is that 'expressive' texts, i.e. serious imaginative literature and authoritative and personal statements, have to be translated closely, matching the writing, good or bad, of the original. Informative texts, statements that relate primarily to the truth, to the real facts of the matter, have to be translated in the best style that the translator can reconcile with the style of the original.

#### 4. Conclusion

Translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. Common sense tells us that this ought to be simple, as one ought to be able to say something as well in one language as in another. On the other hand, you may see it as complicated, artificial and fraudulent, since by using another language you are pretending to be someone you are not. Hence in many types of text: (legal, administrative, dialect, local, cultural, the temptation is to transfer as many SL (Source Language) words to the TL (Target Language) as possible. The pity is, that the translation cannot simply reproduce, or be, the original. And since this is so, the first business of the translator is to translate. A text may therefore be pulled in different directions. This study of the Investigating methods and text in translation, shedding light on the nature methods and text, on the difference between these methods as well as the nature

of evaluating these methods.

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