



## The Effect of Style in the Meaning and Translation

Mohamed Ali Elsiddig Ibrahim and Ahmed Mohammed Abdulrahman Mansor

Department of English Language, College of Science and Arts, AL-Baha University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article history:

Received: 29 August 2017;

Received in revised form:

10 October 2017;

Accepted: 20 October 2017;

#### Keywords

Translation,  
Style,  
Meaning,  
Effect,  
Differences,  
Language,  
Fractures,  
Problem,  
Identical.

### ABSTRACT

English and Arabic belong to two different languages families Germanic and Semitic, therefore difficulty will definitely arise. Since style is the manner or the way that somebody usually writes, so it plays an important role in affecting the meaning of any translated text. Some style features of both languages pose problems in translation from Arabic into English or vice versa. Arab students should know that English style is not identical with Arabic style so we cannot translate in a straightforward way. Style difference in origins causes a difference in meaning and creates wide gaps for translators when translating. This study aims at discussing style, showing the differences between Arabic and English style, introducing different style and suggest suitable correct and. Because style plays an important role in affecting the meaning of any translated text Also the study shows style for university students of AL-Baha University, College of Science and Arts, Department of English Language 2016-2017 during the second semester.

اللغة الإنجليزية والعربية إلى لغتين مختلفتين من الأسر الجرمانية والسامية، لذلك تنشأ صعوبة بالتأكيد. وبما أن الأسلوب هو الطريقة التي يكتب بها عادة شخص ما، لذلك يلعب دورا هاما في التأثير على معنى النص، فتشكل بعض مميزات الأسلوب في كلا اللغتين مشاكل في الترجمة من العربية إلى الإنكليزية أو العكس. لذلك يجب على الطلاب العرب ان يعرفوا ان أسلوب اللغة الإنجليزية ليس مطابقا للأسلوب العربي لذا لا يمكننا ان نترجم بطريقة مباشرة. باختلاف النمط في الأصول يسبب فرقا في المعنى ويخلق فوارق واسعة للمتترجمين عند الترجمة. تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى مناقشة الأسلوب، وتبين الاختلافات بين اللغة العربية والإنجليزية، وطرح الأسلوب المختلف واقتراح أسلوب مناسب وصحيح. لأن الأسلوب يلعب دورا هاما في التأثير على معنى اي نص مترجم كما تظهر الدراسة نمط لطلاب جامعه الباحة، كلية العلوم والآداب، قسم اللغة الإنجليزية 2016-2017 خلال الفصل الدراسي الثاني.

© 2017 Elixir All rights reserved.

### 1. Introduction

Throughout the ages; translation has been the most efficient and effective mean of communication between nations, peoples, and group, 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.

There is almost certainly stark problematic area for the translators who use word for word translation to put it bluntly. Due to the existence of style differences which result into word for word translation, abuses unintentionally and this might be the translator does not have enough ideas or knowledge about the structure of language and style, therefore word for word translation takes place. The potential solution to iron out this problematic matter is to have an idea exhaustively on the topic addressed and that is considered as a part and parcel of far more acceptable translation.

#### 1.1 Statement of the Problem:

The study investigates grammatical problems for university students for AL-Baha University, College of Science and Arts, Department of English Language 2016-2017 during the second semester

#### 1.2 Question of the study:

1-Are there different styles?

2-does style affect meaning in translation?

#### 1.3 Hypotheses of the study:

1-There are different styles in translation

2- The style plays an important role in affecting the meaning of any translated text.

#### 1.4 objective of the study:

1-Investgating the different styles used in translation

2-to show the differences between each style o

3-Show how translate different styles

#### 1.5 limits of the study:

The study is mainly devoted to investigate the effect of style in meaning for university students of AL-Baha University, College of Science and Arts, Department of English Language 2016-2017 during the second semester.

#### 1.6 Significance of the study:

1- Introducing different styles.

2-Looking for differences between the style between two languages

### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 What is translation:

Some students 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, skills and style which characterize human mind. Consequently, it is unreasonable to think that computers can be used as an aid to translation. Saudi college students of Translation face problem in translation. 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 styles, therefore problems will definitely arise.

Some style features and linguistics of both languages pose problems in translation from Arabic into English or vice versa. Arab students should know that English language and style are not identical with Arabic language and style. For these reason problems occur.

## 2.2 Translation Equivalence:

Pym, (2007: 272) explains that equivalence was a key word in the linguistic-based translation theories of the 1960s and 1970s, although its basic mode of thought may be traced back to Cicero and later to Renaissance theories that began to presuppose language of equal status. Close inspection reveals that some theories assume pre-existing equivalents and are thus concerned with a search for natural equivalence.

Awedyk, (1988: 59) point out that according to Nida (1964:159) there are two equivalences: one which may be called formal and another which is primarily dynamic.

In formal translation attention is focused on the original text. Dynamic translation one is not so concerned with matching the receptor-language message with the source-language message.

Rabeh, (2009:17) defines that equivalence is a term used by many writers to describe the nature and the extent of the relationships which exist between SL and TL texts. Catford (1965: 20) defines translation as "the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL). Catford views that equivalence aims at receiving the source text message correctly while dynamic equivalence stresses on the effect of this message.

Shakerina, (2013:6) explains that formal equivalence tries to remain as close to original text as possible. Thus, the more literal the translation is, the less danger there is of corrupting the original message.

However, dynamic equivalence is an approach to translation in which the original language is translated thought for thought. Dynamic equivalence involves taking each sentence or thought from the original text

Botso, (2010:4) views that translation is the replacement of a representation of a text in one language by a representation of an equivalent text in a second language whether it free or literal translation and whether it is among readers, translators and critics, the notion of equivalent effect has been one of the first and forest concerns.

Homes (1988: 20) criticizes that the term equivalence is perverse because it is too much asking for sameness.

Nida introduces two basic orientations: formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence. Nida defines, formal equivalence focuses attention on message itself and aims at retaining as much accuracy and correctness.

Binh, (2010:12) argues that Werner Koller (1977) proposes five levels of equivalence, namely denotative, connotative, text-normative, pragmatic and formal equivalence. It is noteworthy that Koller's formal equivalence is different from Nida's. As cited in Mehrab (1997, 14) and Munday (2001, 47) Koller distinguishes five types of

equivalence as follow: denotative, connotative, text-normative, pragmatic and formal.

## 2.3 The relationship between form and meaning:

Smith, (2000:23) states that Beekman and Callow (1976: 20) say the meaning is the message to it is reader that the text conveys. The crucial question for translators concerns the relationship between form and meaning. In the original text, form and meaning are closely related; form serves as a vehicle for conveying meaning. Since different languages often use different forms to convey a given language meaning so that translators encounter some problems when translate and fail to find equivalent meaning in the target language.

Chesterman, (2005:5) claims that the data come from contrastive emtology. The basic idea is to compare the emtologies, and hence the underlying conceptualizations of words with a similar meaning.

The situation with words denotes oral translation. In English we have interpreter, interpreting, from Latin. The probable etymological root is between prices. The origin comes from the concept of trade, where goods are exchanged.

Hoyle, (2008: 375) argues that in simultaneous translation; this transfer of meaning is at the same time usually in the same place. With written translation, this transfer of meaning is always at a different time, and almost always in a different place and different audience from the original communicator was addressing. Translation as a specific type of communication and carries meaning has three fundamental strands: accuracy, clarity and naturalness.

## 2.4 Translation and Meaning:

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) 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, the work that expressions do.

## 3. Materials and methods:

The present paper, under the title of the effect of the style in the meaning in translation is to examine the notion of

the different styles that affect meaning in translation. The first step is to clarify the style areas and showing how the correct style affect meaning and translation, this is a survey on the effect of style in translation.

### 3.1 The effect of the style:

Since style is the manner or the way that somebody usually writes, so it plays an important role in affecting the meaning of any translated text. Ambiguity results from using a bad style and sometimes we may get a different meaning. Therefore, a translator should get control over using a clear and correct style in the (SL) and the (TL) as well. A good piece of translated text needs a distinctive style. Shapiro (1986\_27-28) says "I see translation as an attempt to produce a text so transparent that it does not seem to be translated. A good translation is like a pane of glass. Saudi students face difficulty in translating the target language, because they have to use structures, lexical words, word order with which they are not familiar. Let us consider the following sentences which show how the style which lacks clarity makes a translated text nonsensical.

Translate into English;

أمه: من أكثر كليه يجب

- He loves his dog more than his mother

Sentence above is ambiguous, since it may mean (he loves his dog more than he loves his mother) or (he loves his dog more than his mother loves his dog). So to make sentence unambiguous, we should write it as follows;

-He loves his dog more than his mother does.

or

-He loves his dog more than he loves his mother

Sentence below is a piece of advice said to a kid not to play in the street;

الشارع في تلعب لا الجمعة يوم أمي لي قالت.

Translating this sentence into English

- My mother told me not to play in the street on Friday.

Will be ambiguous because It means that the kid is allowed to play in the street all the days of the week except on Friday. The sentence can be correct if it is written as follows;

-My mother told me on Friday not to play in the street.

or

-On Friday my mother told me not to play in the street.

In translation, as we mentioned before, we attempt to keep the same meaning of the translated text in the target language in such a manner that it does not seem to be translated. Have a look at this sentence;

لي تروق الفرنسية إن إلا الإنكليزية اللغة تحب جين

- Jane likes English, but French seems better to me.

In sentence (above, the subject of the first clause is a person, whereas in the second clause the subject becomes a thing (French). The sentence can be improved by making the subject of the second clause a proper noun or pronoun; as in; Jane likes English, but I prefer French.

الفرنسية أفضل لكنني الإنكليزية اللغة تحب جين

Example;

Translate the following sentence into English,

التنس لعب إلى فراغه ساعات صيفيه وكرس دراسية دورات زيد اخذ

-Zayd took summer courses, and his leisure hours were devoted to tennis. Sentence can be improved by keeping one subject only, and making both verbs active, as in;

-Zayd took summer courses and devoted his leisure hours to tennis.

Consider the following sentence as being translated into English;

المسرح إلى ذاهباً كان عندما توم جاك قابل

-Jack met Tom when he was going to the theatre.

Sentence is ambiguous since one cannot decide which one of the two men was going to the theatre, and to which one the pronoun (he) refers. The ambiguity will disappear if the sentence is written as follows;

-When Jack was going to the theatre, he met Tom.

Or

-When Tom was going to the theatre, he met Jack.

Consider the following Arabic sentence translated into English;

قد كبيرتان معيشة وغرفنا جميله حديقة له الذي النهر من مقربه على الدار شيدت الماضي الشهر في دولار إلف بثمانين بيعت

- The house was built near the river which has a beautiful garden and two large living rooms was sold for eighty thousand dollars last month.

In sentence, the clause "which has a beautiful garden and two large living rooms" comes immediately after "the river" so it modifies the "river" which is nonsense, whereas this clause is

syntactically used to modify" the house" and not "the river", therefore it must come directly after" the house", as in;

- The house which has a beautiful garden and two large living rooms near the river was sold for eighty thousand dollars last month.

Or, we can make "was sold for eighty thousand dollars last month" an adjectival clause modifying the house, as in;

The house which was sold for eighty thousand dollars last month, has a beautiful garden and two large living rooms near the river.

### 3.2 Different style between Arabic and English sentence:

As mentioned before, using good and correct sentences in translation will help to produce a language that interests' readers or listeners and will be away of ambiguity and vagueness.

To avoid the misuse of literal translation, one should know that the meaning of a sentence can be expressed, orally or in a written language, in more than one structure, so in translation there is no need to follow the same word order of the sentence we intend to translate. The examples below show how we can translate an Arabic sentence into English without being confined to literal translation, as in;

مكان إي في عليه العثور لا يمكن

- He was nowhere to be found.

Or

- We cannot find him anywhere.

Or

- We never seem to find him anywhere.

Or

- No one could find him anywhere.

Another Arabic sentence to translate;

الشركة إدارة على أقاموه

- They put him in charge of running the company.

Or

- He is now in charge of running the company.

Or

- He has been appointed in charge of running the company.

Examples;

شيء في التملق لا يجديك

- Flattery will get you nowhere.

Or

-serving two masters, you will get nothing.

الذقن حتى العمل في غارق

- He is up to his neck in work.

Or

- He is too busy to work.

The same thing can be applied to English sentences translated into Arabic where we can use more than one Arabic sentence as a counterpart for one English sentence, as in;

- There is a green book on the table.

المنضدة على اخضر كتاب يوجد - أ

المنضدة على اخضر كتاب - ب

اخضر كتابا المنضدة على تجد - ج

المنضدة على اخضر كتاب هناك - د

Giving more than one counterpart to a translated sentence, the translator can have options to choose the counterpart that is congruent with the text he is translating, as in;

- In the end, they reached the city.

المدينة إلى وصلوا وأخيرا

المدينة وصلوا النهاية وفي

المدينة مشارف على كانوا المطاف نهاية في

المدينة وصلوا ثم

المدينة وصلوا ذلك كل وبعد

### 3.3 The grammatical style:

The style is no longer seen as secondary to meaning and it is no longer separated from meaning. Nowadays it is regarded as a part and parcel of meaning. the grammatical style such as fronting,

#### Fronting

As to fronting, it means that the writer moves a word, a phrase, or a clause from its original position in the sentence to the front position in the sentence. The following are some examples of fronting; In the holy Quran. We have the following verse which expresses fronting to emphasize meaning that we worship only God "Allah" and no one else, "نستعين نعبد وإياك "إياك"

/iyaka na'budu wa iyaka nastaien/

We worship you Fronting;

You alone we worship. And to you alone we look for help.

Another example;

-The man lives up in the mountains Fronting:

-Up in the mountains the man lives.

Fronting is used to express emphasis as in;

Give the book to your brother, not to me.

Fronting;

-To your brother give the book, not to me.

However, fronting is widely used in the poetic style.

#### Conclusion

Some style features and linguistics of both languages pose problems in translation from Arabic into English or vice versa. Saudi students should know that English language and grammar are not identical with Arabic language and grammar. For these reason problems occur.

Since style is the manner or the way that somebody usually writes, so it plays an important role in affecting the meaning of any translated text. Ambiguity results from using a bad style and sometimes we may get a different meaning. Therefore, a translator should get control over using a clear and correct style in the (SL) and the (TL) as well. A good piece of translated text needs a distinctive style.

This study shedding light on the nature of the effect of the style in translation, on the difference between Arabic style and English. style problems in translation are too often concerned with distinctions between languages.

#### References

1-Al-Zu'bi, I (2012) A difficulty that M.A Students Encounter in Translating Political Expressions from His

Majesty King Abdullah's our Last Chance. Middle East University: Faculty of Art and Science, English Department

2-Amina, A (2010). Lexical Translation Problems: The Problem of Translating Phrase Verbs. Mentouri University of Constantine: Faculty of Letters and Languages, Department of Languages. Algeria.

3-Bar-Hillel, Y. Some Linguistics Problem Connected with Machine Translation Philosophy of Science, Vol, 20, 1953, p. 217.

Bar-Hillel, Y (1953) Some Linguistics Problems Connected with Machine Translation

4-Bassnett, S and Gentzler, E (2007) A Companion to Translation Studies, UK: Frank furt, Lodge, PiotiyKuhiwczak.

5-Binh, p (2010) Strategies to deal with non-equivalence at word level in translation, Hanoi University: department of English

6-Boushab, S (1988) Analytical Study some Problems of Literary Translation University of Salford: Department of Modern Language

7-Cain, L (2001). Redding Culture: The Translation and Transfer of Australionness in Contemporary Fiction. Queen Land University of Technology: School of Humanities and Social Sciences Centre for Community and Cross-Cultural Studies

8-Chen, S (2008). Cultural Presupposition and Decision Making in the Functional Approach to Translation. Da-Yeh University: Department of English Language, Sanjiao.Rd, Docun, Chorghua, Taiwan

9-Cheragui, M (2012) Theoretical Overview of Machine Translation, African university: Department of English, Adrar, Algeria

10-Chesterman, A (2005) Interpreting the Meaning of Translation, Helsinki University: Department of General Linguistic, Helsinki.

11-Cyrus, L (2009) Old Concepts, New ideas: Approaches to Translation Shifts. University of Munster

12-E, Gentzler (1993). Contemporary Translation Theories, New York: Roultdge.

13-Elmgrab, R (2011) Methods of Creating and introducing New Terms in Arabic contributions from English- Arabic Translation, Benghazi University: Department of English language, Libya.

14-Gerzymisch, H (2007). Discourse Analysis and Text Perspectives. Uiversitat Bes Saarlandes, ATRC.

14-Ghazala, H (1996). Translation Problems and Solutions A coursework for University Students and Trainee Translator, Egypt: Dar AL Hilal Library Press.

16-Hornby, M (1988). Translation Studies an International Approach. USA: John Benjamins press.

17-Horny, M (2006) the Turns of Translation Studies, Amsterdam: Philadelphia, John Benjamins Publishing Company.

18-House, J Universals Translation. P, 10, Second International Association on Translation and Cultural Communication, 6-19 July 2006 at South Africa, University of Western Cape.

19-Kehal, M (2010). Problems in English- Arabic Translation of Reference Pragmatic Aspects, Mentouri University: Faculty of Letters and Languages, Department of Foreign Languages. Algeria.

20-Khajeh, Z Transmission of Ideology through Translation: A critical Discourse Analysis of Chomsky's Media Control and its Persian Translation. Islamic Azad University: Central Tehran, Bondar Abbas Branch.

21-Khalossy, S (1982).the Art of Translation in the Light of Comparative Studies, Ministry of Culture and Information: Publication House Press.

22-Maher, A (2010). Difficulties and Problems Facing English Students at QOU in Translation Process from English to Arabic and their Solution at Quads Open University: Department of English Language, Gaza City Region.

23-Pym, A (2003) A Theory of Cross-Cultural Communication, Uiversitat Rovira I Virgili: Tarragona, Spain: Intercultural Studies Group.

24-Rabeh, F (2010). Problems in Translating Collocations, Mentouri University of Constantine: Faculty of Letters and Languages, Department of Languages. Algeria.

25-Riccardi, A (2002). Translation Studies: Perspective on an Emerging Discipline. United Kingdom: Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.