

Identifying Strategies for Converting Chinese Vacuous Words into English: An Examination of Translation Procedures Dependent on Sources

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Abstract:

This study aims to investigate the process of translating Chinese empty words into English. The first step in this research is to use a parallel corpus of Chinese literary works and their English translations to identify the ways in which translators deal with empty words. Following some time, eight different translation processes are found to exist: (1) Match, (2) Paraphrase, (3) Shared Match, (4) Implication, (5) Amplification, (6) Grammatical Conveyance, (7) Borrowing, and (8) Omission (Mismatch). A significant scientific advance is being hailed for Grammatical Conveyance. Next, we will examine the adoption rates of shared match and borrowing as well as other procedures and non-procedures. In addition to the translation, this research offers two other significant insights. of meaningless Chinese terms into English. This study is the first of its kind to thoroughly list all Chinese empty words and examine how translators handle them. Second, the findings show that empty phrases in the adverbial and particle categories are the hardest to deal with. To put it another way, "meaningless platitudes aren't as tricky to decipher as previously held beliefs would have you believe."

Keywords: Distinct Translation, Amplification, and Grammatical Conveyance, Implication

INTRODUCTION

Reading previous academics' books and articles that addressed translation techniques or strategies based on materials in European language pairs or Chinese-English translation piqued researchers' interest in figuring out the translation processes used in the English translation of Chinese empty words. The researcher believed that by examining Chinese-English translation, he could significantly advance the field of translation studies because he is fluent in both languages. The fact that Chinese differs so greatly from the majority of other European languages in terms of syntax, culture, writing system, and phrasing that new translation processes might be discovered was another factor that motivated the researcher to conduct this study. Empty Words: Modal Adverbs by David Pollard inspired the researcher to utilize blank words in Chinese as study material (2001: 216-222). Modal adverbs are empty words, and Pollard's research indicates that they can be challenging to translate. In this study, he also examines the difficulties in doing so. The researcher came to me to ask how translators deal with such ambiguous terms. He believes that my research will provide an answer. To his knowledge, no prior researcher has ever examined

the English translations of every Chinese empty term simultaneously, which is another intriguing point. Since it is the first of its kind, translation studies are likely to be greatly impacted by my research.

Litrature Reviews

Days, the term "translation studies" is more widely used, while "translation theory" is understood to be an expansion of academics' studies of the processes involved in translation and translation, with the long-standing issue of equivalents being one of its primary duties. In order to contribute new insights and distinctive research methods to the study of translation beyond the literal vs. free debate, a growing number of scholars are starting to combine translation studies with other fields. For instance, Catford (1965) starts a linguistic discussion about the alterations that take place when content written in one language is translated into another. The adjustments and changes that translators must make because the source and destination languages have different grammatical structures are referred to as shifts. phrases or structures. According to Even-Zohar (1978), every community has its own polysystem, which consists of a variety of subsystems such as politics, religion, literature, and the economy. According to the phrase, "their interactions are not random but mainly defined by their location in the total to which they belong," subsystems within a polysystem are interdependent (Chang 2010: 258). Different sub-systems are more or less central than others in terms of centrality. However, different civilizations may have different roles for the same sub-system. Additionally, there is a relationship and unique status between polysystems, or different societies. Based on this concept, Even-Zohar studies how translators' translation techniques are affected by the state of the target polysystem and translation as a subsystem. The difference between computer and human translation is a subject that Sager (1993) has studied. According to Diaz-Cintas (2008), as the audiovisual translation industry expands, so does the demand for subtitler training.

Problem Description

Because translation is such a crucial tool for interlanguage communication, a large number of researchers, professional translators, and religious figures have all attempted to create the best translations possible based on their observations and experience. To determine the best translation strategy, many theories and arguments have been presented in the western world by figures as diverse as Cicero, St. Jerome, Dryden, Dolet, Tytler, and Schleiermacher. While some translators prefer to translate words for words, others prefer to translate sentences for sentences. According to Mary Snell-Hornby (1988: 36) and George Steiner (1998: 275), the debate between faithful and free translation has been the center of translation theory for more than two millennia. Although translation theory has been studied for a while, so long that it wasn't considered a legitimate academic subject until the 1960s (Munday 2008: 5).

The study's goal is to thoroughly analyze how frequently the researcher's treatments are used and to compare them with those of earlier theorists.

Research Questions: • Based on the research findings, which phenomena are worth debating?

METHODS OF RESEARCH

This study aims to investigate the translations of all Chinese empty words in order to identify the employed methodologies. A parallel corpus of Chinese and English that was created especially for it serves as the foundation for this study. Additionally, the frequency of use of various translation processes across different empty word classes is examined in order to determine whether the most frequently used procedures vary across them.

RESEARCH DESIGN

"Given that translation methods and decisions across linguistic domains are all extremely responsive to the specific combination of subject matter and genre realized in a particular source text, it follows that a corpus cannot be created by randomly compiling data if it is to suitably serve any such purpose. Instead, it must be planned as a representative and well-balanced sample of the available data (building a corpus that contains all of the data is rarely feasible). For instance, the corpus's data selection should reflect the pharmaceutical domain rather than the chemistry domain if the objective is to develop an MT system for pharmaceutical texts. Additionally, it must balance data from the various major manufacturers with the various text types that discuss pharmaceuticals, such as research papers and patient information booklets (Hartley 2009:110).

The translated materials for this project must meet the following three requirements: All three of these translations share the following three elements consistently: 1) They are fiction, drama, or prose pieces; 2) They are based on contemporary Chinese material; and 3) The translators are native English speakers. Out of the 62 manuscripts that have been published so far, we have selected the 63 volumes of Renditions that most closely meet these criteria.

CONCLUSION

In order to identify the processes involved in translating from Chinese to English, the researcher recommended using meaningless Chinese words as a specific research material. The twelve scholars whose research is heavily cited in this thesis are just a handful of the numerous people who have deduced comparable conclusions from study articles in other language pairs. The list of translation techniques provided by Vinay and Darbelnet is an assembly of approaches discovered while looking up translations from English to French.

STUDY RESTRICTIONS

Numerous challenges were expected to face the proposed research, some of which might be resolved while others might remain unresolved. We will discuss potential issues that have not yet been resolved in this section.

1. The researcher defined the translation procedures/non-procedures, and it is possible that different people have differing opinions.

2. It's unclear why translators use particular techniques to deal with particular empty words. Why did the translator paraphrase the original word when there was a match that could be made with a suitable correspondent? Why was that word left out by the translator? Although the researcher's explanations for the proposed study are limited to personal inferences, it is likely that those translators performed this or that for specific causes. It would be beneficial to look into this subject further in order to gain insight into the decision-making process of translators and the factors that influence their choices.

3. In order to save time, the researcher decided to examine twenty randomly chosen samples of empty words for every whole word he looked at. Though he asserts that this approach will produce favorable results, there are advantages and disadvantages to take into account. This had the benefit of allowing me to analyze all empty words and identify methods by looking at multiple examples (roughly 5500 examples), while also keeping the study's scope reasonable over a four-year period. When translating Chinese empty words, translators use a range of methods, Total ought to pay for each of them. The disadvantage is that, despite his estimation of a low probability due to the large number of cases being examined, it is difficult to completely rule out the possibility that some cases that were excluded involved the use of techniques that were not acknowledged.

4. As part of this study, translation strategies for Chinese empty words were determined. Translation of empty words will therefore be the main focus, which may result in an analysis that is mainly word-level concerned. Therefore, it's possible that techniques for translating longer, more intricate linguistic constructs—like phrases, paragraphs, and clauses—were overlooked.

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