An Epistle to Translator: Prescribed Methods and its Application

Nishith Trivedi

Research Scholar,

Dept. of English & CLS,

Saurashtra University, Rajkot.

Prof. Dr. Nilaben Shah

Associate Professor,

Dept. of English,

Jasani Arts College, Rajkot.

- **Introduction:**

Translation categorically has been used to relocate written or spoken SL (Source Language) texts to equivalent written or spoken TL (Target Language) texts. In broad sense, the rationale behind translation is to replicate various kinds of texts—including religious, literary, scientific, and theoretical texts—in another language and thus making them available to wider readers.

If language were just a categorization for a set of common or widespread concepts, it would be easy to translate from an SL to a TL; in addition, under the circumstances the process of learning an L2 would be much easier than it essentially is. In same line of argument, Culler opines…

> "Languages are not nomenclatures and the concepts of one language may differ radically from those of another, since each language articulates or organizes the world differently, and languages do not simply name categories; they articulate their own." (P 2)

To sum up, it is likely to be derived from what Culler writes is that one of the worrying tribulations of translation is the difference amongst languages. The larger the gap between the SL and the TL, the more complicated the relocating of message from the former to the latter will be. The disparity between an SL and a TL and the deviation in their cultures makes the process of translating a real defy.

- **Translation – Procedures, Strategies and Methods:**

The course of translation, as depicted by Nida is as follow…

I. **Technical Procedures:**
    A. Analysis of the source and target languages;
    B. A thorough study of the source language text before making attempts translate it;
    C. Making judgments of the semantic and syntactic approximations.

II. **Organizational Procedures:**
A steady re-evaluation of the endeavor made; juxtaposing it with the accessible and available translations of the same text done by other translators, and inspecting the text's communicative effectiveness by interrogating the target language readers to evaluate its precision and effectiveness and studying their replies.

Krings describes translation approach as…

> "Translator's potentially conscious plans for solving concrete translation problems in the framework of a concrete translation task."

Moreover, Seguinot opines it as…

"There are at least three global strategies employed by the translators: (i) translating without interruption for as long as possible; (ii) correcting surface errors immediately; (iii) leaving the monitoring for qualitative or stylistic errors in the text to the revision stage."

furthermore, Loescher outlines translation method as…

"A potentially conscious procedure for solving a problem faced in translating a text, or any segment of it."

It is mentioned in these definitions, the idea of realization is important in individualizing strategies which are practiced by the beginners or translators. In the same line of argument, Cohen confirms…

"The element of consciousness is what distinguishes strategies from these processes that are not strategic."

In addition to this, Bell distinguishes among global (those concern with the entire texts) and local (those concern with text fragments) approaches and confirms that this difference consequences from various kinds of translation troubles.

Under the same line of argument Venuti points to…

"Translation strategies involve the basic tasks of choosing the foreign text to be translated and developing a method to translate it."

He implements the notions of domesticating and globalizing to submit to translation strategies. Jaaskelainen regards approach as…

"a series of competencies, a set of steps or processes that favor the acquisition, storage, and/or utilization of information."

As he confirms that approaches are…

"heuristic and flexible in nature, and their adoption implies a decision influenced by amendments in the translator's objectives."

Captivating into consideration the course and product of translation, Jaaskelainen splits policies into two foremost categories: some strategies corresponding to what happens to texts, whilst the other strategies correspond to what happens in the procedure.

Product-related methods, as Jaaskelainen puts forward, engross the basic tasks of preferring the Second Language text and mounting a new method to translate it. Though, she attaches to those process-related strategies…

"are a set of (loosely formulated) rules or principles which a translator uses to reach the goals determined by the translating situation."

Besides, Jaaskelainen separates this into two kinds, specifically global strategies and local strategies…

"Global strategies refer to general principles and modes of action and local strategies refer to specific activities in relation to the translator's problem-solving and decision-making."

Newmark, an authentic voice, talks of the disparity between translation methods and translation procedures. He considers…

"While translation methods relate to whole texts, translation procedures are used for sentences and the smaller units of language."

He goes on to refer to the following methods of translation…

1. Word-to-word Translation: in such type of translation the SL word order is observed and the words translated individually in their near most meanings, sometimes context suffers.

2. Literal Translation: in such type of translation the SL grammatical structures are renewed to their adjacent TL corresponding, however the lexical words are over again translated singly, out of context.

3. Faithful Translation: in such type of translation, the translator attempts to generate the exact contextual meaning of the creative within the limits of the TL grammatical constructions.

4. Semantic Translation: such translation varies from 'faithful translation' only in as far as it must take more explanation of the artistic value of the SL text.

5. Adaptation: it is the freest style of translation, and is used mainly for plays (comedies) and poetry; the themes, characters, plots are usually preserved, the SL culture is rehabilitated to the TL culture and the text is reproduced.

6. Free Translation: it generates the TL text without the style, form, or content of the original.

7. Idiomatic Translation: it generates the 'message' of the source but tends to deform shades of meaning by favoring colloquialisms and idioms where these do not exist in the original.

8. Communicative Translation: in such type of translation tries to render the accurate contextual meaning of the original in such a way that both content and language are voluntarily adequate and understandable to the readership.

Newmark is of the opinion that continuum existing between "semantic" and "communicative" translation. A

translation can sometimes be…

> "more, or less semantic—more, or less, communicative—even a particular section or sentence can be treated more communicatively or less semantically."

Both look for an "equivalent effect." Zhongying, who favors literal translation to free translation, says…

> "In China, it is agreed by many that one should translate literally, if possible, or appeal to free translation."

Just to make clear the dissimilarity between practice and strategy, the approaching section is selected to discussing the procedures of translating culture-specific conditions, and strategies for depiction of insinuations will be clarified in detail.

- **Procedures of Translating Culture-Specific Concepts (CSCs):**

Graedler talks about some measures of translating CSCs:

1. Making up a new word.

2. Explaining the meaning of the SL expression in lieu of translating it.

3. Preserving the SL term intact.

4. Opting for a word in the TL which seems similar to or has the same "relevance" as the SL term.

Figuring Culture-Bound Terms (CBTs) as the terms which…

> "refer to concepts, institutions and personnel which are specific to the SL culture."

Harvey places frontward the below mentioned four major methods for translating CBTs:

1. Functional Equivalence: Generally it means using a referent in the TL culture whose purpose is similar to that of the source language (SL) referent. Harvey says writers are divided over the qualities of this technique: Weston describes it as "the ideal method of translation," while Sarcevic asserts that it is "misleading and should be avoided."

2. Formal Equivalence or 'linguistic equivalence': It means a 'word-to-word' translation.

3. Transcription or 'borrowing' (i.e. replicating or, where necessary, transliterating the original term): It places at the far end of SL-oriented policies. If the term is officially translucent or is clarified in the context, it may be used alone. In other cases, chiefly where no information of the SL by the reader is supposed, transcript is escorted by an explanation or a translator's note.

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4. Descriptive or self-explanatory translation: It employs general terms (not CBTs specifically) to express the connotation. It is suitable in a wide variety of contexts where formal correspondence is measured insufficiently clear. In a text intended at a specialized reader, it can be helpful to add the original SL term to avoid vagueness.

The subsequent are the dissimilar translation procedures that Newmark suggests…

- Transference: it is a kind of process of transferring an SL word to a TL text. It comprises transliteration and is the same as what Harvey named 'transcription.'

- Naturalization: it acclimatizes the SL word first to the usual articulation, then to the normal morphology of the TL.

- Cultural Equivalent: it means substituting a cultural word in the SL with a TL one. though, "they are not accurate"

- Functional Equivalent: it necessitates the use of a culture-neutral word.

- Descriptive Equivalent: in such procedure of translation the meaning of the CBT is clarified in some words.

- Componential Analysis: it means juxtaposing an SL word with a TL word which has a parallel meaning but is not a palpable one-to-one correspondent, by representing first their common and then their conflicting sense mechanism.

- Synonymy: it is a "near TL equivalent." Here economy trumps correctness.

- Thorough-Translation: it is the factual translation of ordinary collocations, names of associations and components of compounds. One can also call it calque or loan translation.

- Shifts or Transpositions: such practice engages a change in the grammar from SL to TL, for instance, (i) change from singular to plural, (ii) the change essential when a specific SL structure does not exist in the TL, (iii) modification of an SL verb to a TL word, change of an SL noun group to a TL noun and so forth.

- Modulation: it happens when the translator regenerates the message of the original text in the TL text in conventionality with the current norms of the TL, since the SL and the TL may come into view as dissimilar in terms of viewpoint.

- Recognized Translation: it occurs when the translator generally uses the certified or the generally conventional translation of any institutional term.

- Compensation: it happens when loss of meaning in one part of a sentence is remunerated in another part.

- Paraphrase: in this process the meaning of the CBT is elucidated. Here the clarification is much more in depth than that of evocative counterpart.

- Couplets: it takes place when the translator unites two diverse procedures.

- Notes: notes are extra information in a translation.

- <u>Strategies of Translating Allusions</u>:

Proper nouns, which are intentionally separated by Richards as "names of a particular person, place or thing" and can be spelled "with a capital letter," cooperate an important role in a literary work. Personal PNs, for instance may refer to the setting, social status and population of characters, and really demand attention when rendered into a foreign language.

Many Models for rendering PNs in translations are available and practiced. One of these models is offered by Hervey and Higgins who consider that there exist two strategies for translating PNs. They focus on…

"Either the name can be taken over unchanged from the ST to the TT, or it can be adopted to conform to the phonic/graphic conventions of the TL."

Related to the translation of PNs, Newmark declares…

"Normally, people's first and sure names are transferred, thus preserving nationality and assuming that their names have no connotations in the text."

Leppihalme suggests another set of strategies for interpreting the proper name allusions…

i. **Translating Names**:

a. using the name as such.

b. using the name, adding some guidance.

c. using the name, adding a detailed explanation, for instance, a footnote.

ii. **Replacing authors by name**:

a. replacing the name by another SL name.

b. replacing the name by a TL name

iii.   **Omission of the Name**:

    a.   omitting the name, but transferring the sense by other means, for instance by a common noun.

    b.   omitting the name and the allusion together.

Furthermore, nine strategies for the translation of chief-phrase allusions are planned by Leppihalme as follows:

    i.   Use of a standard translation,

    ii.   Minimum change, that is, a literal translation, without regard to connotative or contextual meaning,

    iii.   Extra allusive guidance added in the text,

    iv.   The use of footnotes, endnotes, translator's notes and other explicit explanations not supplied in the text but explicitly given as additional information,

    v.   Stimulated familiarity or internal marking, that is, the addition of intra-allusive allusion ,

    vi.   Replacement by a TL item,

    vii.   Reduction of the allusion to sense by rephrasing,

    viii.   Re-creation, using a fusion of techniques: creative construction of a passage which hints at the connotations of the allusion or other special effects created by it,

    ix.   Omission of the allusion.
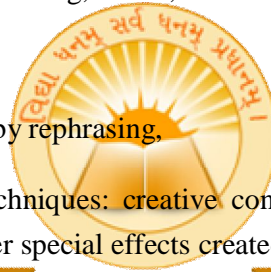
- **<u>Conclusion</u>:**

While a group of stylists think translation "sprinkled with footnotes" unwanted, their utilities can help the TT readers to make just observation of the ST contents. In broad sense, it seems that the actions 'functional equivalent' and 'notes' would have a higher latent for conveying the concepts underlying the CSCs surrounded in a text; furthermore, it can also be asserted that a amalgamation of these strategies would result in a more precise sympathetic of the CSCs than other procedures.

A range of approached chosen for by translators in depiction of allusions seem to play a central role in acknowledgment and insight of connotations carried by them. If an armature translator renders a literary text without paying sufficient notice to the allusions, the nuances are likely not to be moved as a result of the translator's breakdown to acknowledge them. They will be completely lost to the majority of the TL readers; accordingly, the translation will be unproductive.

It becomes imperative for an adequate translation to generate the similar impact on the TT readers as those shaped by the unique work on its readers. Thus the present research paper may show that a translator does not emerge to be victorious in his testing task of professionally rendering the CSCs and PNs when he gives up, or at least minimizes, the effect of allusions in favor of recording graphical or lexical forms of source language PNs. In distinct diction, a capable translator is well-advised not to divest the TL reader of enjoying, or even distinguishing, the allusions either in the name of fidelity or brevity.

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