Meta-Analysis of a Case Study Finding (Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone)

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Abstract

This brief and intensive study explores the importance of norms in translation process. The application of norms not only brings accuracy but also reduces ambiguity in translation. These are norms which assist with translators to translate a text accurately. It is reality that the application of norms limits the translators, but makes translations acceptable to the audience. This study indicates the implication of norms violation during translation. The ultimate goal(s) of conducting this study is to point out the role of norms in translation process. It is a library research which is conducted to find out what will happen if we violate the norms. At the end, I come up with this decision that, if we violate the norms during translation, so we could not communicate the message accurately. And, we also cannot convey the sense of a source text to a target text properly.

Key Words: Meta analysis, translation norms

Introduction

Translation studies can play an important role to make universal literature. It is translation which led us to communicate across the borders and countries (Levy, 2000). These days in world market translation of languages have their own value and status. Scholars from different backgrounds worked in translation field of study . They worked in different aspects of this field. For example, Vinay and Darbelnet (1958/95) focused on the two most important translation strategies (Direct and Oblique Translations). They shed light on translation methodology and procedures. In addition, Catford (2000) mentioned that the theory of translation should be a branch of comparative linguistics. He discussed level shifts during translation from source language to target language. On the other hand , (Leader , 1994) concentrated on translator professional knowledge related to translation. He stated that translator has to grasp the sense of the target text (explicitly and implicitly) and attempt to recover the authorial intention. He indicated that for a translator to possess not only linguistic competence but also the world knowledge. He meant form world knowledge " is de-verbalized, theoretical, general, encyclopedic, cultural and activated differently in different translators and by different texts" (Leader ,1994, pp. 63). Moreover, (Toury,1995) somehow took the -same issue with Leader (1994). He discussed the importance of norms in translation. Toury(1995:55) defined norms as "the translation of general values or ideas shared by a community as to what is right or wrong, adequate or inadequate into performance

instruction appropriate for and applicable to particular situation". For a better and valid translation it is essential to apply the whole process of translation mainly translation norms. Translation norms are very essential to use an order to accomplish an accurate and appropriate translation. It is discussed that comparison of two different translations of the same source language in a case study finding. Toury(1995) methodology has some very important advantages to situate an appropriate translation in target culture. Thus these norms will give you big picture of source text into target text.

Literature Review

The word norm is derived from the Latin word *Norma* carpenter's square, rule, and pattern. It is defined from different perspectives. (Malmkjær, 2005. in Stafford and Scott 1986: 81) stated that norms can be defined as "shared belief that a person ought to behave in a certain way at a certain time". The idea of norm in the translation theory was first mentioned Jiří Levý (1969) and by Itamar Even-Zohar (1971), however it was extended out by Gideon Toury and his colleagues since the late 1970s. Toury's development of the concept of "norm" derives from his stance that translating is a learned social activity. Moreover, he defines norms as" the translation of general values or ideas shared by a community - as to what is right and wrong, adequate and inadequate - into performance instructions appropriate for and applicable to particular situations, specifying what is prescribed and forbidden as well as what is tolerated and permitted in a certain behavioral dimension (Toury 1995: 55)".

Meta analysis is a process which analysis data from various studies that are conducted about the same subject (Normand, 1999). It is cleared that the results of a meta-analysis are usually stronger than the results of any study by itself. Some scholars discuss the role of norms in translation. Other scholars point out the significant function of meta analysis in data collection. None of them, discussed the role of meta analysis of the translation norms in constitution of target text. What will be the consequence if translators violate the translation norms? And, what will be the result if translators apply the norms in translation.

Research Methodology

It is a secondary type of research (library research). I have reviewed the recent standard and most updated books, textbooks and research articles related to the translation norms application and violation in translation. I analyzed a case study to identify the role of norms in translation. I try my best to indicate the importance of the translation norms in order to constitute target text. Mainly, I concentrate on their roles in translation. I also found, that if we apply or violate the norms what will happen as a result in transition.

Similarities between the translations

In this part of the academic article I try my best to find similarities of both translations. First, both (Spanish and Italian) languages use the same title for translation (The Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone) by (Rowling,2008). It is indeed related to children literature . Second, both languages use the Toury (1978/2004) three Phases methodology: (1) place the Target Texts in their Target Text cultural systems; (2) 'map' Target Text segments onto the Source Text equivalents; (3) attempt to draw some generalizations regarding the translation strategies employed and the norms at work. Third, both the Italian and Spanish target texts are presented and accepted as translations, the translators' names and the original titles being published on the copyright pages. Fourth, both target texts are direct translations from English to Italian and Spanish languages. Fifth, both the target texts are full translations of the source text no major additions, omissions or footnotes. Sixth, even though both target cultures have strong native children's literature traditions themselves, but they accepted the translation of (The Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone) for their literatures. Seventh, the fact that the Spanish and Italian books are translations is not stressed. It is meant that both language may be riched from such kind of information, or in this field already literary work is existed in both languages. Eight, it is mentionable, that both Italian and Spanish are closely related languages to English language. Nine, the descriptive comparison of two translation suggests that different norms are at work in the two target cultures(or at least in the translation). Comparison of translations provides research questions that can be address in the future studies. For example, does translation strategy depend on the translator, the publisher, and the source language? What happens when names and cultural references are translated into Italian usually demonstrate a target language orientation?

Differences Between The Translations

This part of article is going to discuss the differences between both translations. Despite both (Spanish and Italian) languages use the same title for translation (The Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone) by (Rowling, 2008) but have some differences with one another in translation. First, the same case study was translated into two different languages (Spanish and Italian). Second, even though both translations were thorough translation but Italian translator violate the adequacy norms, but apply mostly the acceptable norms. Rowling (2008) stated that, Spanish translator almost apply both norms during translation (Adequate and acceptable norms). Third, the Italian also has mentioned the translator's name on the title page, but Spanish does not mentioned the translator's name on the title page. Fourth, the Spanish translator use blurb on the back cover of the Spanish target text, for example, quotes comments from the reviewers in the UK and focus the book 's relevance to all children of all the ages. Fifth, the Italian target text also incorporates illustrations by an Italian illustrator, Serna Riglietti, cited along with the translator on the title page where the book is described as a *romanzo* (Novel). Sixth, to mentioned that such word *romanzo* point out the way in which the book is marketed as adult literature in Italy. In the case of Harry Potter, one of the most important aspect of the book (and indeed of much children's literature concerns the names of characters and elements related to the school of magic and sorcery of which Harry Potter is a pupil. Seventh, the Spanish TT, does not change the author's name, while the Italian TT change the author's name in 'The Dark Forces by Quentin Trimble' to Dante Tremante, using the rhyme of the Italian, the sense of tremante (trembling) . Eight, both languages dealt with names in two different ways of the Harry potter book. The Spanish TT, almost without exception , retains these names in the translation , although the first time Draco Malfoy, appears, the translator adds an explanation of his name in brackets: Darco (dragon). But, Italian TT, translate the names. On the other hand, the Italian TT, although

transferring some of the names such as *slytherin* is *Serpeverde*, *Ravenclaw* is *Pecornanera* and so on. Where the sound of the name is more important than the original would be difficult for the TT readers to pronounce. Nine, the Italian adopts a ST-oriented translation, but Spanish adopts a ST-oriented translation. ,Tenth, according to Vinay and Darbelnet (1995) stated that literal translation to be unacceptable because it gives a different meaning and cannot communicate the message. So Italian TT use literal translation procedure to translate the name of author , but Spanish TT use the borrowed translation procedure, because Spanish TT retain the names in italicized to emphasize their foreignness in Spanish language. Eleventh, both languages used different translation methods. For example, Italian translator used Skopos translation method of (Vermeer,1984). On the other side Spanish translator used (Vaniy and Darbetlnet,1958/95) translation methods (direct and oblique). This means the Italian focus on the purpose but the Spanish put focus on the equivalence. Twelfths, Spanish language used borrowing procedure of translation, but Italian language used claque procedure of translation,

Conclusion

All in all, the intensive analysis of this case study (Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone) indicated that translation norms have their own importance in the translation. Without enough familiarization of both source and target languages norms almost it is impossible to translate a text accurately. So, I come up with this decision if the translator violate the norms of translation , so the message of the translation(target text) will be different than the source language message. In other words, if a translator use the translation norms properly in translation, so he/she can translate almost the exact message of the source language to the target language.

Recommendation

This study is conducted to indicate the significant role of the translation norms that contribute with translators to constitute target text. In order to the importance function of translation norms in accurate translation. Further researches in this area are required to focus on the suggested point as mentioned below. This intensive study was conducted about the role of translation norms among very close related languages (English, Italian, and Spanish). That is a limitation of this study. So, other studies of translation norms are suggested to be conducted on different languages for example, (Pashto translation to English and vice versa). In field of translation such kinds of researches will pave the road for further investigation in translation.

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