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CRITERIA FOR THE MILITARY TEXTS TRANSLATION

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No one denies the fact that military translation has become in the last few years one of the major translation fields due to the huge advancement in military weapons manufacturing and the over-reliance of the developing countries on importing weapons from the developed countries, which increased the pivotal role of military translators.

The main objective of this study was to identify the main criteria for the military texts' translation (as well as in the English-Ukrainian language pair).

Another objective was to identify the most common translation strategies used by professional military translators. It was found that literal translation was the most common translation strategies as the use of translation strategies mainly relies on the translator's own perceptions about the effective use of translation strategy.

To begin with, we should mention the main definitions which are used in this paper.

Theoretically, the term **strategy** is defined as "A plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall aim" (Oxford Dictionary, 1984). Operationally, these are procedures or actions taken by translator when S/he encounters problems while translating a text.

Military terms and expressions can be defined theoretically as unique terms and expressions that civilians are not exposed to. However, operationally, they can be defined as the terms used only by military personnel who are familiar with these terms.

Military translator is personnel responsible for translation process specifically in the military field and they have skills such as: ability to find the equivalence in the target language.

As for the types of military texts translation, these may include:

1) Word- for- word translation (interlinear translation), the form of translation, the translator' role is to replace the words in SL with their same equivalent in TL while working on providing the reader of the TL text with the suitable structure.

2) Faithful translation implies the translator's attempt to reproduce the same meaning found in the original SL text in the most suitable form at the syntactical and grammatical levels in the TL.

3) Idiomatic translation is a kind of translation where the translator works on reproducing the same message found in the SL text, but, works at the same time, on distorting the nuances of the meanings embodied in the original text by tending to use some colloquialism and idioms not given in the SL text.

4) Communicative translation: the translator renders the same contextual meanings in the SL text while providing a TL text that is understandable and acceptable for the readers. Some scholars (Aissi 1997), identify two main types of translation (communicative and semantic). For the first type, the translator is basically attempting to reproduce the same effect found in the SL text by using the suitable means to be exactly the same in the TL text. For the second type, the translator's work is to convey

the meaning found in the SL text into a suitable form in TL text while preserving the content and meanings in the original text.

5) As for Larson (1984), translation may be classified into two main categories; the first is form- based translation (literal translation) where the translator assumes a role of preserving the same structures and syntactical features found in the SL text when working on translating. As for the second, it is meaning based translation (semantic translation) as the translator attempts to express the same meaning provided in SL text in the appropriate form and structure in the TL text.

According to Duff (1989), acceptable and good translation should include the following criteria:

1) The translated text should be able to reflect a similar meaning as found in the original one.

2) The structure of the translated text must be in the same structural and syntactical order as has been presented in the original text while keeping in mind some language variances between the different languages.

3) Translator must have the needed expertise and knowledge to be able to differentiate between the fixed expressions in any given language in addition to having the experiences in identifying the personal expressions used by the writer in the original text.

4) The need to acknowledge that translation is a natural process maintaining fidelity and integrity, and this implies that the translator must be as objective as possible.

5) It is of great importance to preserve the language style in the SL text if this is possible.

6) The use of suitable idiomatic expressions in the TL is a must. In other words, the translator is obliged to select the most appropriate similes, metaphors, proverbs, sayings, jargon, slang, colloquialism, and phrasal verbs so as to provide a good quality translation for the reader.

Moreover, Dejica and Stoian (2016) maintain that good translators assume an important role as they explain and mediate between cultures when they translate any given text (SL text) to another text (TL text); respecting their strengths and showing their weaknesses. As military translation is one form of technical translation, the main objective of this cultural communicative act is to bridge the gaps between different cultures, and this requires the work of high quality translators who are able to fill such gaps.

This study shows that professional military translators prefer using literal translation, a translation strategy that is an effective one in technical translation, but does not give the exact meaning of the source language text. For this reason, professional development programs should work on making professional military translators acquire the most effective translations strategies such as computer assisted translation, a translation strategy that has been proved effective in the various technical fields.

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