

Translator as Researcher: A Case Study with Reference to Bobbi Cieciorca and Frank Cieciorca's

Negroes in American History

عندما يكون المترجم باحثًا: دراسة حالة بالإشارة إلى كتاب *الزنج في التاريخ الأمريكي*

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مستخلص البحث باللغة العربية

تعد ترجمة التاريخ السياسي من بين مجالات الترجمة المتخصصة الأكثر صعوبة وتعقيدًا إذا ما جرى مقارنتها بفروع الترجمة الأخرى كالترجمة الاقتصادية والإعلامية والتجارية، حيث تبرز هذه الصعوبة والتعقيد من خلال مكوناتها مثل طبيعة النص والأنظمة السياسية التي تتعلق بها النص والخطاب السياسي الذي غالبًا ما يحمل بين طياته مصطلحات ودلالات متعددة المعاني قد يتغير معناها بتغير الخلفية الثقافية السياسية. يسלט هذا البحث الضوء على الصعوبات والتحديات التي يواجهها المترجمون والإستراتيجيات التي يتعين عليهم اتباعها عند ترجمة نصوص التاريخ السياسي وذلك من خلال تحليل الصعوبات واستعراض نموذج ترجمة للبحث في العلاقة بين النص والأيدولوجية وآثر ذلك على الترجمة، علاوة على إبراز دور المترجم بوصفه وسيط محايد حيثما تتواجد الصراعات السياسية ومحاولات تجنب تأثير خلفيات المترجم التاريخية والاجتماعية والثقافية. كما يستعرض البحث المائل أيضًا إجراءات الترجمة وفقًا للباحث نايدا. يهدف هذا البحث إلى تحليل أوجه الصعوبات التي تعترض عملية ترجمة نصوص التاريخ السياسي من الإنجليزية إلى العربية من حيث الجانب المعجمي والنحوي والثقافي من بين جوانب أخرى مع الاستدلال بنصوص مترجمة من كتاب "الزنج في التاريخ الأمريكي" والمقرر أن ترفق ترجمته كاملةً مع الرسالة. تطبيقًا للنظريات المستعرضة في هذا البحث، جرى ترجمة كتاب "الزنج في التاريخ الأمريكي"، وهو دليل تمهيدي يستعرض تاريخ الزنج في أمريكا، من وجهة نظر كاتبه، ويزيح الستار عن واقعهم وماهيتهم التي لطالما أخفتها الأكاذيب والروايات المغايرة للواقع. تستعرض ترجمة هذا الكتاب العديد من التحديات اللغوية والنحوية والثقافية والتداولية التي واجهتنا، فضلًا عن إستراتيجيات الترجمة التي اتبعناها في سبيل التغلب على تلك التحديات وفقًا للنماذج المقررة من جانب كل من "دياز" و"أكسيلا" و"دافيز" والتي كان من بينها: الحذف والإضافة والاستبدال والابتكار.

Abstract

In translating political history texts, several difficulties are encountered by translators. To overcome these difficulties, certain strategies have to be complied with. This is achieved by assuming a bi-dimensional task: translating Bobbi Cieciorca and Frank Cieciorca's *Negroes in American History: A Freedom Primer* (1965), and analyzing the difficulties faced and the strategies adopted to analyze the translated work. This translation sample is used to investigate the relationship between the text, ideology and its implications for translation. Further, this qualitative-based study highlights the translator's role as a mediator where there are political conflicts, and the interference of the translators' own historical, social and cultural backgrounds. This Study also focuses on the difficulties of translating political history texts from English into Arabic as per phonological, lexical, syntactic, and pragmatic wises with a focus on Diaz Cintas' (2007), Aixelá's (1996) and Davies' (2003) models of translation. Subsequently, the procedures and strategies to overcome such difficulties are explained herein.

Keywords: Political history text, translation difficulties, translation strategies, source language, target language

1. Introduction

Recently, translation studies have concentrated on broader issues such as culture and its effect on the product and process of translation. According to recent studies, the translation process is currently concerned with two civilizations and cultures rather than just two linguistic systems. Nida (1994, p.157) defines culture as "all of a

society's values and customs. Languages do not determine culture, but they do tend to reflect the values and practices of a society. Words only have meaning in the context of the culture in which they are used". Culture is an organization of people, behaviors, emotions, etc. since it is the forms of things that people have in mind, their models for perceiving, relating, and otherwise interpreting them. As a result, as people use their culture to perceive and respond to their situations, it influences the things people say and do as well as their social interactions and events.

As such, the things people say and do, their social arrangements and events, are products or by-products of their culture as they apply it to the task of perceiving and dealing with their circumstances. It is said that translation has contributed significantly to intercultural communication which resulted in significant cultural transformations from one culture to another. As a result, there is extensive language-based communication between many civilizations. A conflict for influence and power may inevitably arise when translation occurs between two different cultures. This frequently leads to some kind of mediation which can be realized through language (Faiq, 2004). Text typically conveys the ideological meaning, exposing them to changeable sociocultural norms.

2. Objective of the Study

This study mainly aims at analyzing the difficulties of translating political history texts, and exploring the aiding

strategies to successfully interpret the meanings, political issues and the impacts thereof on the society. Such purposes are achieved via examining and translating a primer named *Negroes in American History: A Freedom Primer* (henceforth “NAH”) by Bobbi Cieciorcka (1965) and Frank Cieciorcka. Translation excerpts are used to illustrate the linguistic difficulties faced, and strategies followed by the Translator to interpret the source language meaning. The findings of this study are expected to help students in translation departments and may provide them with additional suggestions and recommendations when they come across such cultural translation.

3. Research Questions

- 1- What are the difficulties that the Arab translators face when translating English political history texts?
- 2- What are the translation strategies used by the translators to translate English political history texts?

4. Literature Review

Translation has been a crucial medium of communication between different cultures. This activity; however, was not considered a field of its own and it required merely people with linguistic skills in the source and target languages. Early translations were achieved by lawyers like Cicero (46 AC), philosophers, or simply students.

Today translation, as a separate field of study, has been defined in various ways. According to Oxford’s dictionary, “translation is the process of changing something written or spoken

into another language” (OALD, 2015). The former definition covers, indeed, the essence of what translation is really about: an act of transferring a spoken or written text from one language into another language; however, the key notion at hand could prove much more complicated to define than that. In fact, Newmark (1989, p.5), a major contributor to the field of translation, states that translation is the rendering of the meaning of a text from one language into another while keeping the source text intention. This definition keeps the same focus concerning the notion of “the rendering” of a text from one language into another, which is natural as well as necessary, but adds that the translator ought to be more careful about “keeping” the original author’s touch in their translation. In addition to Newmark, Nida (1969, p.12), claims that the act of translation consists of reproducing in the readership’s language the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message.

The difficulties of correspondence in translation are examined by Nida who gives equal significance to both cultural and linguistic distinctions between the SL and TL. Nida concludes that translators may face severe complications due to cultural differences rather than linguistic structures. He continues by saying that cultural analogies frequently enable understanding despite major formal shifts in translation. From his point of view, lexical concerns and cultural implications for translation are quite important. Cultural implications for translation are considered in Nida’s definitions of both formal and dynamic equivalence. According to him, a gloss translation primarily indicates to formal equivalence where form

and content are reproduced properly and the TL receptors are able to comprehend the means of expression, thought and customs of the ST. In the contrary, dynamic equivalence attempts to relate the receptors to behaviors with their own cultural context without requiring them to understand the cultural patterns of the SL.

According to Nida (1994) culture is the thoughts, practices and beliefs of a given society by which words can only have meanings. This mean that no new behavior, belief, tradition, habit, emotion can be accepted in any society except after been approved by its members. This approval seems to exclude any attempt to insert any new beliefs, feelings or behaviors, etc. that do not adhere to communal traditions (Al-Taher 2008).

Al Taher views that the more distant the cultures; such as English and Arabic, the more challenging the translation will be. It will be much simpler for translators to overcome the gap between the two worlds if they have a thorough understanding of both cultures and the propound meanings of their elements.

Katan (1999); however, defines culture as a mental map or model for explaining and organizing the experience of the real world. Katan describes such world as a compatible and connected ideas, values, beliefs and cognitive environments that direct the common base of conduct. Accordingly, it will be challenging task for a translator to translate a text from one language to another if the speakers of these languages view the world in different ways.

5. Theoretical Framework

This section is mainly concerned with summarizing the common translation strategies that are adopted in translating

NAH. The numerous translation strategies employed by translators while treating or dealing with culture references can be categorized using the taxonomies established by Aixelá, Davies, and Diaz Cintas, which are quite pertinent to the current thesis. So, the researcher goes into greater depth about them in the section below.

5.1 Translation Difficulties

There are many lexical and syntactic problems of translation, which should be tackled with a high awareness of the features of both SL and TL along with a vast background about the readership. The problems offered in the study; i.e. phonological, lexical and syntactic, can be met by beginning translators in rendering a large number of texts. Other translators may be accustomed to solving them easily, the syntactic problems offered can be met by both beginning and experienced translators. Mistranslating a tense and syntactic ambiguity can be noticed in many translations done by experienced translators. So, the solutions proposed here, it seems, can be of much benefit to overcome these problems.

5.1.1 Phonological Difficulties

Farghal and Almanna (2015) suggests that phonological features become an important aspect of translation when 'form' comes to the fore in discourse and presents itself as inseparable from content. This is where phonological features emerge as part and parcel of content that need to be taken care of by the translator. Phonological features present themselves as a significant issue in transliteration, which is important translation strategy.

In the translation of NAH, transliteration strategy is significantly used. Transliteration strategy is mainly applied to translate names of non- Arab figures and other proper names. In this regard, Catford's transliteration process (1965) is adopted. Catford's transliteration process consists of three steps, they are as follows: (i) SL letters are replaced by SL phonological units since this is the literate process to convert from the written to spoken medium; (ii) SL phonological units are translated into TL phonological units; and (iii) TL phonological units are converted into TL letters or any other graphological units.

5.1.2 Lexical Difficulties

Lexical problems are those which occur as a result of the diversity of languages, "languages are differently equipped to express different real-world relations, and they certainly do not express all aspects of life with the same equal ease; finding a notional category which is regularly expressed in all languages is difficult" (Ivir, 198, p. 56). The equivalent word may not be found as it might be confused on the first hand because of some words have a lot of meanings; they can be translated into a lot of equivalents; its meanings depend on its context and collocation. On the other hand, a dilemma is sometimes occurred since some items in the source text are not lexicalized in the target language. Lexical difficulties that are tackled by the study include the absence of direct TL counterparts, eponyms, improper selection of vocabulary and collocations and idioms.

5.1.3 Syntactic Difficulties

Syntactic problems are occurred due to various differences among languages when translating any message from a given language into another. Such problems increase or decrease pursuant to the degree of relevancy between the SL and the TL. The more relevant they are, the less syntactic difficulties there are in translating from one into the other. But when the SL and the TL belong to different language families, as is in the case of Arabic and English, more syntactic problems are likely to be met.

By nature, the ways of arranging signs in languages tend to be different. So, having the words correctly translated is not enough. They, moreover, should be arranged in a way corresponding to the proper syntactic and idiomatic usage of the TL. Otherwise, they are unlikely to be grasped by the TL audience and, hence, unlikely to be effective. Among the syntactic problems often encountered in translation are tense, word order and syntactic ambiguity.

5.2 Translation Strategies

A distinction between “strategic decisions” and “decisions of detail” has been made by Hervey and Higgins (1992). They assert that the former has to occur prior to starting the translation process by the translators who have to consider questions like: what are the primary linguistic elements of this text? what is the desired effect? which text genre does it belong to? what is the targeted public? etc. The decisions of detail are often governed by strategic decisions, but their function is to resolve specific problems raised by translation.

Strategy, as Baker suggests, is a sequence of procedures carried out to achieve certain purpose in the most efficient possible manner. Baker, also defines “translation strategy” as a process aims at solving problems occurred while translating any text. Baker, as well, refers to a translation strategy as a process aims at solving a problem faced by translators while translating a text. In this regard, Munday (2016, p. 24) makes a significant distinction between strategy and procedure, stating that a strategy is the orientation of a translated text in general (e.g. Literal “word for word”, free “sense for sense) while a procedure is a certain techniques purposely used in a text (e.g. borrowing, addition,.. etc.)

Translating culturally different texts is a challenging mission that requires the translator to apply certain strategies to bridge the cultural gap between ST and TT. Every translator, even if just subconsciously and without prior planning, has an idea or strategy in mind for how they would deal with certain challenges that may arise throughout the translation process.

Discussing the strategies of Davies, Aixela and Cintas as presented here, it is found that some of them are similar in names or implied procedures. Therefore, the researcher includes and presents similar strategies under certain names before moving on to the following analysis. First, Davies’ Creation is equivalent to Aixela's autonomous creation, so they are used under the name of “Creation”. Second, Cintas’ loan strategy is found very useful to handle phonological difficulty represented in transliteration. Third, omission has the similar meaning of deletion, so they are mentioned using the former term. In addition, Cintas’ calque strategy is used to

refer also to literal translation. However, there are distinctively used strategies such as addition, substitution, explicitation. The researcher in her analysis adopts a model consists of such strategies which are applied at word level and also above the word level.

This section is mainly concerned with summarizing the common translation strategies that are adopted in translating NAH. The numerous translation strategies employed by translators while treating or dealing with culture references can be categorized using the taxonomies established by Aixelá, Davies, and Diaz Cintas, which are quite pertinent to the current thesis. So, the researcher goes into greater depth about them in the section below.

5.2.1 Cintas' Taxonomy (2007)

This phase presents the strategies adopted according to Cintas (2007). Such strategies include calque (literal translation), loan, substitution, explicitation, lexical creation, transposition, omission and compensation.

5.2.2 Aixelá's Taxonomy (1996)

The importance of CSIs or CRs is highlighted by Aixelá indicating that it can be recognized via "a sort of collective intuition". Aixelá confirms that:

"In translation a CSI does not exist of itself, but as the result of a conflict arising from the linguistically represented reference in a source text which, when transferred to the target language, poses a translation problem due to the nonexistence or to the different value (whether determined by ideology, usage, frequency, etc.) of the given item in the target language culture" (Aixelá 1996, P.57).

With the focus of the text, CRs should be treated as recommended by Aixelá as he provides “some identification strategies for CSIs according to their features”. Aixelá distinguishes several possible strategies applicable to the translation of CSIs and at the same time he tries to order them by the level of inter cultural manipulation starting by conservation, substitution then universalization.

5.3.3 Davies' Taxonomy (2003)

Davies (2003) acknowledges Aixelá's classification as “one of the most clearly expounded taxonomies” (Davies, 2003, p.70). However, she questions the assumptions and examples given by Aixelá, since contrasts of examples provided are not very sharp, and procedures are in the ambiguous order in the scale of intercultural manipulation, thus she suggests her own taxonomy of seven translation strategies. Such Strategies are as follows:

- **Preservation** – refers to the similar agenda of Aixela's repetition and Baker's translation using a loan word, when no close equivalent in the target culture can be found, thus the translator maintains the source text term.
- **Addition** – is a similar technique to Aixela's intra-textual gloss and Baker's loan word plus explanation – the original cultural reference is kept, but a supplement to the text is provided by the translator. This additional information might be placed in brackets, in the endnotes, footnotes, etc. or incorporated in the translated text as part of the passage.
- **Omission** – it is the translator's decision to erase a CSI, because "it may simply be an act of desperation by a translator

who can find no adequate way of conveying the original meaning" (Davies, 2003, p.79-80).

- **Globalization**- is a procedure that is similar to that of Aixela's limited/global universalization – the act of replacing a CSI with a more neutral or general reference.
- **Localization**- instead of using cultural references with neutral connotation, translators aim to "make sure that their translated texts sound as if they originated in the culture of the target language" (Davies, 2003, p.84), thus SL references are replaced by TL references, known and familiar to the readers
- **Transformations** – refers to "cases where the modification of a CSI seems to go beyond globalization or localization, and could be seen as an alteration or distortion of the original" (Davies, 2003, p.84).
- **Creation** – is equivalent to Aixela's autonomous creation, when CSI is inserted or created by the translator; however, this strategy is very rare and questionable (Davies, 2003).

To summarize, it is clear here that there are many lexical and syntactic problems of translation, which should be tackled with a high awareness of the features of both SL and TL along with a vast background about the readership. The lexical problems offered can be met by beginning translators in rendering a large number of texts. Other translators may be accustomed to solving them easily. However, the syntactic problems offered can be met by both beginning and experienced translators. Mistranslating a tense and syntactic ambiguity can be noticed in many translations done by

experienced translators. So, the solutions proposed here, it seems, can be of much benefit to overcome these problems.

Discussing the strategies presented, it is found that some of them are similar in names or implied procedures. Therefore, the researcher includes and presents similar strategies under certain names before moving on to the following analysis. First, Davie's Creation is equivalent to Aixela's autonomous creation, so they are used under the name of "Creation". Second, Cintas' loan strategy is found very useful to handle phonological difficulty represented in transliteration. Third, omission has the similar meaning of deletion, so they are mentioned using the former term. In addition, Cintas' calque strategy is used to refer also to literal translation. However, there are distinctively used strategies such as addition, substitution, explicitation. The researcher in her analysis adopts a model consists of such strategies which are applied at word level and also above the word level.

6 Data and Procedures

The data of the current research consists of the translation of NAH. NAH is a political history primer that narrates the suffering, challenges and threats faced by Negroes in America. This primer tells us about Cherokee Bill, Nat Turner, Peter Salem, Sojourner Truth and many other negro protagonists who fight against being slaves and for freedom. This primer is written for young people who do not know about men like Du Bois and Denmark Vesey and all the others to learn a little about them.

This primer is written by Bobbi Cieciorca and Frank Cieciorca (1939 –2008). Frank, who was an American graphic

artist, painter, and activist, drew the full-page illustration for each chapter and the sketches in between. Cieciorca, F. grew up in Johnson City upstate New York. In 1957, he attended San Jose State College in California, where he joined the Socialist Party out of opposition to American military intervention in the Dominican Republic and Vietnam. In 1964, he was a volunteer organizer during the Freedom Summer drive to register black voters in Mississippi and served as field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, experiences which shaped his political consciousness. Frank also helped organize the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, an alternative to the official white-dominated state Democratic Party. He was married to Bobbi Cieciorca. Their primer on Negro history represents a revolution in the interpretation of African-American history and suggests the aid of newly-minted historians like Howard Zinn.

In order to achieve the purpose of the study, a selective and qualitative approach is adopted to translate and analyze the primer; namely *Negroes in American History: A Freedom Primer* (henceforth NAH). The researcher benefitted from Morshed (2022) who adopted a similar approach based on Catford's (1965) *Linguistic Theory of Translation* (referred to as LTOT). Such theory and those developed by Cintas, Aixelá, Davies, among others, are adopted as a base for analyzing the translation process from linguistic and cultural perspectives. The study, then, examines the text of the mentioned primer in more detailed linguistic manner and sheds the light on some of the challenges as per phonological, lexical, syntactic and pragmatic levels. Accordingly, it presents

various models of strategies to be followed by the translator/ researcher to overcome the aforementioned linguistic challenges.

The research adopts Nida's translation procedures (1964) while translating NAH. Nida considers certain basic procedures relevant to the actual performing of the process of translation. Such procedures consist of two categories: (i) technical procedures, and (ii) organizational procedures. Technical procedures deal with the processes used by the researcher/ translator to translate a text from the SL to TL, while the organizational procedures deal with how the translation is generally organized.

Nida's Technical Procedures can essentially be divided into three phases: (a) analysis of the respective languages (SL and TL), (b) examination of the ST, and (c) determination of the appropriate equivalents.

In the light of the above, and in order to translate NAH, the translated material of this thesis, the following procedures are adopted:

- 1- Going through the whole ST since it is essential to comprehend the entire message before commencing any actual translation;
- 2- Getting background knowledge and information available about the ST to be translated, including its writing circumstances, grounds and publication, etc.;
- 3- Making the first draft after comprehending longer sentences or shorter paragraphs rather than words or even phrases. Rather than achieving the bare minimum of equivalence, this first draft aims at completeness of expression;

- 4- Revising the first draft after a short while. During the revision process, the following steps are taken in consideration; (i) unnecessary words were eliminated, (ii) components were rearranged, (iii) meaning and style errors were corrected, and (iv) connections between basic units were considered;
- 5- Observing the responses of the receptors which in turn can be considered as important indicators of overall impressions and validity of translation; and
- 6- Making sure that the TT is understandable and makes sense by asking the receptors explanatory questions about the content of the translation.

7 Analysis

This part is devoted to analyzing the data of the study which is the Arabic translation of *NAH*, conducted by the researcher. Investigating the key translated excerpts and texts, the researcher sheds light on the translation difficulties and highlights the strategies that are adopted to overcome such difficulties. This analysis is divided into two phases: the first is concerned with analyzing the strategies applied to overcome the difficulties at the word- level, and the second focuses on analyzing units above the word -level. Both two phases are supported by excerpts as examples on the strategies applied.

The units that are selected for analysis, whether words or larger units, are not only universal in nature and reflect the shared cultural beliefs, but they also reflect culture- specific concepts which may be challenging for translators.

7.1 Strategies Applied at the Word- Level

Loan Strategy

Loan strategy is usually applied to cases where the ST words are incorporated into the TL since there are no possible translations for them. Arabic loanwords that are borrowed from English can be divided into some groups such as, transliteration, semantic loan and a combination of the two. The following examples present those three kinds of loanwords.

SR.	ST	TT	Comment
1	IN THE DAYS before the war, Boston was one of the towns where British soldiers stayed.	وفي فترة ما قبل الحرب، كانت بوسطن إحدى مدن تركز الجنود البريطانيين	Transliteration
2	He also kept up their spirits by listening to their troubles and entertaining them. Sometimes he played a banjo or a fiddle.	فضلاً عن دوره في رفع الروح المعنوية لهم من خلال الإنصات إلى مشكلاتهم والترفيه عنهم، فقد كان في بعض الأحيان يعزف على آلة <u>البانجو</u> أو الكمان.	Combination of Transliteration & Semantic Loan
3	They wanted to "reconstruct" society in the South so that equality and democracy would replace rule by a few. They were called " radicals ".	حيث أرادوا "إعادة إعمار" المجتمع في الجنوب لتحل العدالة والديموقراطية محل حكم القلة، وقد أُطلق عليهم لفظ " <u>الراديكاليين</u> ".	Semantic loan

Semantic loan is a subdivision of loan strategy that can be defined as borrowing the meaning of foreign terms and expressions.

In this regard, the translations that are displayed in example no. (3) represents the application of loan strategy from semantic perspective. The said example includes the word *radicals* that is translated as (راديكاليين), where it is noted that original meaning is preserved, the new meaning being some kind of modification of the old meaning with slight lexical modifications to cope with the commonly known equivalents in the TL.

Another kind is found in examples (1), where the Loan strategy is adopted to overcome the phonological difficulty discussed hereinabove, is Transliteration. In the light of Catford's transliteration process, the mentioned names are translated, whether such names are for persons, cities, battles, etc.

According to the first step in Catford's transliteration process, SL letters are to be replaced by the SL phonological units. That is, cities' names, such as "*Boston*" is first transcribed into /'bɒs.tən/ which in turn is converted into its most similar phonological units in Arabic. i.e. /ب و س ط ن/ and to finally written as "بوسطن".

While the Combination of Transliteration & Semantic Loan is also adopted since the meaning of words are illustrated through using phonological units that are similar to the SL. Example no. (2), but not limited to, presents this combination, since *banjo* is translated as بانجو which means a stringed musical instrument of African origin, popularized in the United States by slaves in the 19th century.

Calque Strategy

Calque is a direct translation strategy that is usually applied to literally translated words or terms from the SL to the TL. The translator adopts calque strategy to moderate some cultural- specific concepts.

SL	TL
<u>Negroes</u> in <u>American</u> <u>History</u>	الزنج في التاريخ الأمريكي

Since the translation of book title aims at conveying the basic information of the book while expressing the genre of its content, calque strategy is found to be the most appropriate strategy to achieve the said aims. The title “Negroes in American History” is simply translated as “الزنج في التاريخ الأمريكي”. The researcher tends to use straight, smooth and simple specific translation. Hence, the translation sticks to the number of units used in the English title, i.e. four words, it does not compromise the connotation of such title. The content of the primer can be concluded from this four -word translated title which simply indicates that such primer narrates the journey of the Negroes towards freedom with special concentration on their sufferings, battles and public figures who have appeared throughout the American history.

Addition Strategy

This section presents the role of the strategy of Addition at the word level and highlights its significance in achieving coherence between sentences. Additions (i.e. conjunctions and connectives) are cohesive devices that work to improve the flow of the translation and writing in general. This is illustrated as follows

ST	TT
This is a history book about us. It is about a history that has been denied us by lies about what we are and what we have been.	يُحكى هذا الكتاب تاريخنا، <u>حيث</u> تدور أحداثه حول تاريخ تتكرر لنا من خلال العديد من الأكاذيب حول ما نحن عليه حاليًا وما كنا عليه <u>فيما مضى</u> .

The addition strategy applied to the translated primer is divided into two level; at word level and above the word level. In regard with the Addition at Word- Level, it is obvious in the above example that the conjunction word “حيث” is used for the purpose of achieving cohesion of the Arabic sentence that is characterized of its length.

Substitution Strategy

Baker (2018) suggests that substitution strategy conveys an essential advantage that is to provide an identifiable concept to the TL reader, something appealing or familiar. In such way, this strategy involves substituting a CSI with a TL item which does not have the same propositional meaning but is likely to have a similar impact on the TL reader, for instance by evoking a similar context in the TC.

ST	TT
So, she asked <u>God</u> , "What is the matter with this wheat?" And God said, "Sojourner, there is a little weasel in it."	فسألت <u>الله</u> : "ما الذي حدث لهذا القمح؟"، فأجابها الله: "لقد أصيب ببعض الخبث يا سوجورنر".

Translation of cultural substitution refers to the translation of some known or unknown concepts in the source language by using the substitution from the culture of the receptor language rather than by other available means of meaning equivalence. It is the

replacement of words or expressions from the ST with different words but have the same connotations when used in the TT. This is what the researcher does hereinabove. As being a Muslim Arab country, we do not usually use the term “*God*” instead we use “Allah”, therefore, the researcher translates “*God*” into “الله” to correspond with the religious background of the audience.

Creation Strategy

Since the translation, subject matter of this thesis, concerns with cultural – specific issue, several cultural differences are found. The researcher applies the creation strategy in an attempt to form TL terms and phrases that reflect the meaning of the SL.

ST	TT
One populist leader, Tom Watson, said the party would "wipe out the color line ."	في هذا الصدد، ذكر توم واتسون، وهو أحد الزعماء الشعبويين، أن الحزب سيقضي على "العزل العنصري".

The researcher adopts Creation Strategy in her translation in order to address certain lexical difficulties. Further, Creation Strategy is very useful means to transfer the message of the ST while maintain the intent, context, style and tone. Since the concept of racism is not common in the Arabic Language, *color line* is translated in a manner that reflects its meaning. “العزل العنصري” is found to be a good created expression to express such term.

Omission Strategy

This thesis adopts omission strategy in some certain cases where the meaning conveyed by a particular item or expression is not vital enough to the development of the text to justify distracting the reader with lengthy explanations.

ST	TT
A revolution was going on in France. It was a war between <u>rich people</u> and <u>poor people</u> .	في ذلك الوقت اندلعت الثورة في فرنسا، والتي كانت حرباً بين <u>الأغنياء</u> و <u>الفقراء</u> .

Thanks to the linguistic abundance with which the Arabic language is distinguished, such compound adjectives are translated into single word adjectives, i.e. “*rich people*” and “*poor people*” are translated into “الأغنياء” and “الفقراء” respectively.

7.2 Strategies Applied Above the Word- Level

Words never appear alone; they frequently co-occur with other words. Nonetheless, there are always restrictions on how words can be paired to have meaning, regardless of the language. (Baker, 2018). In this sense, the following part concentrates on using the certain strategies to overcome the difficulties that are occurred above word- level.

Loan Strategy Above- Word Level

SL	TL
The slaveowners had separate elections and they voted for the <u>Democrat</u> , Tilden. Negroes and poor whites voted for Hayes, the <u>Republican</u> .	حيث أقام ملاك الرقيق انتخابات منفصلة صوتوا فيها لتيلدن من <u>حزب الديمقراطيين</u> ، بينما صوت الزوج والفقراء البيض لهايز من <u>حزب الجمهوريين</u> .

The above- mentioned example represents fixed expressions which can rarely be varied in form but with clear meanings.

Calque Strategy Above –Word Level

In addition to the above discussed, calque, here is phrase borrowed from another language by literal word-for-word or root-for-root translation.

SL	TL
One kind of tricky law was called a " grandfather clause ." It said that anyone who was a voter in 1867, or the descendant of someone who was a voter then, did not have to take a literacy test.	نص أحد القوانين الخادعة المسماة باسم "شرط الجد" أن كل من صوّت عام ١٨٦٧، سواء بشخصه أو أحد من سلالته، ليس مضطراً للخضوع إلى اختبار محو الأمية.

According to Cintas's translation strategies, calque strategy is used to translate certain English phrases such as *grandfather clause*, mentioned in example (1). Grandfather clause, according to Merriam- Webster Dictionary, defines as: a provision in several southern state constitutions designed to enfranchise poor white people and disenfranchise Black people by waiving high voting requirements for descendants of men voting before 1867. In this sense, *grandfather clause* is literally translated as "شرط الجد".

Addition Strategy Above Word Level

Addition is applied here as a target-text based strategy, since Arabic language concerns with aesthetic aspects. Addition strategy is optionally used to add such aesthetic effects to the translated text.

SL	TL
But many people who came to the mass meetings were Toms for the English	إلا أن الرياح تأتي بما لا تشتهي السفن، فقد كان العديد ممن يحضرون هذه الاجتماعات موالين للإنجليز

Addition above word level is concerned with adding phrases or even sentences to the translated text to achieve coherence and aesthetic effect. From this point of view, the phrase “إلا أن الرياح تأتي بما لا تشتهي السفن” is used to give the antithesis meaning in unusual way.

Explicitation Strategy Above- Word Level

Since English Language is commonly known for using acronyms, explicitation strategy is found to be the most appropriate one to translate such formations. Cintas (2007) suggests that translator can explicit in the TT any information that is implicitly included in the ST.

SL	TL
The FDP had a freedom vote and elected Mrs. Hamer, Mrs. Devine and Mrs. Gray to represent them in Congress instead of the regular Democratic candidates	وكان <u>الحزب الديمقراطي الحر</u> قد صوتت بحرية وانتخب السيدة هامر والسيدة ديفاين والسيدة غراي لتمثيلهم في الكونغرس بدلاً من المرشحين الديمقراطيين النظاميين.

Explicitation strategy is applied to this thesis not only to explain certain cultural- specific items but also to bring to light some political items that t socially related to Negroes community. Such political items become more challenging when they are presented as acronyms.

8. The Role of Pragmatics in Translation

This phase of the study is concerned with a pragmatic analysis of some examples in the translated primer to find out the principles and rules that govern the uses of language and what makes some uses of language more appropriate than others in a given communicative situation. In this sense, the pragmatic equivalence is considered when translating CSIs. Since the interaction rules are

not universal and even far different specially between the West and Arab worlds, the researcher tries to balance between making the produced text comprehensible to target receivers without compromising the intent and messages conveyed in the ST.

Munday (2016) explains that there are different cohesive devices including: making references, substitutions, conjunction, collocation, lexical cohesion such as repetition among others. Such devices can be used alternatively in order for the translators to achieve cohesion.

Besides, presupposition and coherence are closely related concepts. Presupposition is defined as pragmatic inference and relate to extralinguistic and linguistic knowledge that the receiver is supposed to have. From this point, the translator in her translation tries to consider such extralinguistic factors and the political background as follows:

ST	Dr. King also says that any law is unjust which affects a minority which had no voice in making the law but which does not affect the majority which made the law. "In disobeying such unjust laws ," says Dr. King, "we do so peacefully openly and nonviolently. Most importantly, we willingly accept the penalty, whatever it is.
TT	ويصف الدكتور كينغ أيضاً القانون الجائر على أنه أي قانون يؤثر على الأقلية التي ليس لها صوت في صنع القانون ولا يؤثر على الأغلبية التي تصنع القانون، مسلطاً الضوء على ذلك بقوله: «في عصيان هذه القوانين الجائرة، سنفعل ذلك سلمياً، وعلناً ودون عنف، والأهم من ذلك، أننا نقبل عن طيب خاطر بالعقوبة،

Thus, the phrase of “*In disobeying **such unjust laws***” would presuppose that the receiver knows what are such unjust laws, or it would presuppose that the receiver can define such kind of laws from the linguistic and extralinguistic contexts.

In such cases, the problems faced by translators arise when it cannot be assumed that the TT recipients have the same background knowledge of the ST receivers, wither due to the cultural difference or because of the text is being translated after a period of time during which the original information is no longer available.

The third pragmatic notion highlighted by Munday is implicature, since it is another form of pragmatic inference. Implicature is defined by Baker (2011, p. 223) as “what the speaker means or implies rather than what s/he says”. Paul Grice develops the concept of implicature by describing a set of “rules” or “maxims” that are supposed to be applied to normal cooperative conversation (Grice 1975).

ST	Don't you want to be free?
TT	ألا تود أن تكون حرًا؟

The aforementioned example achieves the four Gricean maxims; since it is a question that is simple in form and significant in merits. By such 6- word question, the questioner raises the sense of freedom and motivates other to fight for their freedom. Hence, the questioner communicates his message in a clear and simple manner without using too much elaboration. Similarly, the translation tries to reflect such maxims by selecting simple few words to be formed in a clear way.

ST	Shoot and be damned!
TT	أطلقوا النار وسنحققكم!

In the same way, the translation mentioned above applies Gricean maxims. This exclamatory sentence is found to be concise

but precise and successfully deliver the intended meaning without breaching the desired standards.

Certain challenges are also faced by the translators when the maxims of the SL culture differ from those of the TL. For example, the Arab culture is not common with drinking alcohol and eating pork, which alternatively, translated into other culturally acceptable stuff. This demonstrates how the application of the maxims of manner and politeness in the two cultures differs which in turn require, as Baker suggests, the translators to be fully aware of the various co-operative rules applied to the respective cultures and languages.

9. Conclusion

A qualitative English- Arabic translation requires a theoretical framework and a specific knowledge and awareness of the difficulties that might be encountered therein. Potential difficulties in the process of English- Arabic translation can be related to linguistic (i.e. syntactic, lexical, etc.) and cultural aspects of both languages. Some of these difficulties are investigated and strategies to deal with them are presented. Many overlooked problematic features are also captured in this thesis.

In responding to the first question: **What are the difficulties that the Arab translators face when translating English political history texts?** the researcher sheds the light on certain translation difficulties based on her translation of Negroes in American History. The selected areas of translation difficulties are phonological, lexical and syntactic ones. Transliteration is examined in the thesis as one of the most challenging phonological features.

The challenge of transliteration comes when there is not an equivalent character as often happens in English translations. The translator needs, then, to approximate the character and this can lead to several translators spelling the same word in different ways. The second kind of difficulties that is considered in this thesis is lexical difficulties. In particular, absence of direct TL counterparts, eponyms, and collocations, idioms are mainly the tackled lexical issues. Finally, Syntactic difficulties are discussed here as the last kind of translation challenges. Syntactic problems mainly occur due to the grammar complications of the SL, syntactic word order and syntactic aspects that are different between the SL and TL.

In responding to the second question: **What are the translation strategies used by the translators to translate English political history texts?** This Thesis introduces three translation theories of Diaz Cintas, Aixela, and Davies. In the light of such theories, the Researcher proposes the strategies adopted by her while translating. Having examined these three theories, the researcher concludes to adopt eclectic model at word level and above word level. Such eclectic model consists of Loan, Addition, Omission, Explicitation, Substitution, Calque and Creation strategies.

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