

A Study of Ellipsis in English Translation Skills from the Perspective of Linguistics

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Abstract: As the process of globalization continues to accelerate, the world's political, economic and cultural exchanges are also becoming more frequent. At the same time, the role of translation activities cannot be underestimated. Reasonable translation is particularly important due to differences in language and culture. The cognitive linguistics view of translation emphasizes the importance of experience and cognition in the translation process, and insists that translation is a dynamic balance between the subjective initiative and constraints of the cognitive subject. Cognitive linguistics translation view provides a new perspective of translation research, which has profound guiding significance for translation teaching. Omission, also known as "zero substitution", "is a rhetorical way of omitting a certain element in the language structure so as to avoid repetition and make the expression concise, compact and clear." In English-Chinese translation, ellipsis belongs to grammatical cohesion. The application of ellipsis is also changeable, but there are rules to follow. While learning the skills summarized by predecessors, we should also be good at discovering and summarizing new skills and rules, which is essential in translation activities. Ellipsis has its own rules. It is a rule-based and practical translation method. How to solve the problem of ellipsis in translation activities is a key problem to be solved in translation activities.

1. Introduction

With the development of globalization, translation plays an increasingly important role in politics, economy and culture. However, due to the existence of cultural and language differences between Chinese and English, there are many language problems between Chinese and English that deserve attention. Translation is one of many language activities. It is a language practice that uses one language form to re-express the content in another language form. There are many translation methods and types, including literal translation and free translation, explicit translation and implicit translation, part of speech conversion, addition and omission, and so on. The so-called ellipsis is originally a rhetorical device. The ellipsis sentence has a short structure and a strong sense of rhythm. Ellipsis in translation refers to the omission of those indispensable parts of the original text in translation [1]. The purpose of ellipsis is to make the translation more fluent and more in line with Chinese habits. The condition of ellipsis is that the omitted part is self-evident in the translation, but the translation is rather cumbersome, and ellipsis cannot damage the original intention or change the color of the original text. In other words, reducing words does not reduce meaning. The purpose of ellipsis is to make the translation more fluent, fluent, concise and authentic on the basis of faithfulness to the original text, which conforms to Chinese expression habits. Therefore, ellipsis is not casually omitted, nor omitting the content and information of the original text, but a means to better express the information of the original text on the basis of being faithful to the original text [2].

English and Chinese belong to different language families, English belongs to the Indo-European language family, and Chinese belongs to the Sino-Tibetan language family. Due to different customs, English and Chinese have many differences in expression. Essential words in English may be useless, redundant, or even wrong in Chinese. Such as the English article there is such a contradiction. Articles are extremely important in English grammar, but there is no such part of speech in Chinese [3]. Many important words in English must be omitted in Chinese. The application of ellipsis is by no means to change or omit the content of the original text, nor to delete

the sentences that are not understood or difficult to translate. Using the ellipsis method, although the translation has some ellipsis compared with the original text literally, the ideological content should be able to accurately and completely express the meaning of the original text. When using ellipsis, we should master one principle: subtracting words does not reduce meaning, and subtracting words does not reduce color. On the one hand, we should avoid over ellipsis in translation, which can not fully express the full meaning of the source language. On the other hand, we should also avoid translating word by word, resulting in cumbersome, unobstructed and poor readability of the translation. Ellipsis is by no means the deletion of some ideological contents of the original text, nor is it taken out of context at will [4].

2. Cognitive linguistics

2.1. Cognitive Linguistics Concept of Translation

Cognitive linguistics is based on experiential philosophy. Compared with the traditional text-centered translation view and the translation view based on traditional linguistics, the translation view of cognitive linguistics highlights the performance of the subject's cognitive activities in translation. As the paradigm of translation studies in the early stage of translation studies, whether in China or the west, the paradigm of philology lasted the longest, but it has never formed a systematic translation theory, which is expressed as a scattered theory of only a few words, lacking systematicness and integrity. Translation theorists often comment on the translation from the perspective of experience, either from the perspective of words, or from the perspective of literature and aesthetics. Their focus is mainly on the translation methods of words and sentences, the transmission of style and the standards of translation [5]. The research method is mainly intuitionism, focusing on introspection and personal perception, and seldom borrowing the theories and methods of other disciplines. At this stage, most translators and translation critics directly borrowed traditional aesthetics and intuitionistic aesthetics into translation studies, which made the translation studies of philology paradigm, on the one hand, have made great achievements in rhetoric refining. On the other hand, this paradigm translation study is permeated with mysticism because it thinks that translation depends on talents and endowments as well as literary and artistic creation, showing the tendency of "attaching importance to the subject but neglecting the object, paying attention to the analysis of the object constitution law, emphasizing the inner spirit and neglecting the language form; Pay more attention to perception and intuition than rationality; Emphasis on individuality and difference, and light on common features and universal laws [6].

2.2. Disadvantages of traditional translation teaching mode

Traditional translation teaching is a one-way communication, which makes translation teaching become knowledge communication rather than skill training. This teaching model is result oriented, does not pay attention to the learning process, and is based on behaviorism theory. In the traditional translation teaching mode, the translation class has long adopted the way that the teacher provides the original text. After the students make the translation, the teacher explains the relevant translation problems according to the reference answers and evaluates the students' translation gains and losses. As the philosophical basis of structuralist linguistics, epistemological philosophy regards language as an accurate tool to describe the world and a rational model, and requires the certainty and unity of meaning. Therefore, guiding translation research will inevitably erase the humanity of translation and the creativity and subjective initiative of translators, and turn translation into a mechanical language conversion activity, It will inevitably lead to its neglect of the study of external factors in translation activities, which makes the horizon of translation research extremely narrow [7]. The defect of this translation teaching method lies in that only language training is carried out, but students are not allowed to extract and select information, and translation is not created according to the established teaching objectives, so as to cultivate students' translation ability. This teacher-led translation teaching makes students psychologically passive and unable to actively cooperate with translation teaching. This teaching mode can't stimulate students' interest in translation and can't

meet the requirements of translation practice for translation teaching.

2.3. The construction of translation teaching mode from the perspective of linguistics

The translation view of cognitive linguistics holds that the translator, as a cognitive subject, participates in multiple interactions against the background of real experience. In translation teaching, teachers and students, as cognitive subjects, should compare and interact with each other in terms of text, translation and translator's cultural background, choose and determine a more reasonable translation, and realize the harmony of translation. Since translation does not occur in a vacuum and the translator is restricted by various factors inside and outside the text, the study of various manipulation factors in this process has naturally become the focus and center of cultural paradigm translation research. The creativity of translation must be reasonable and objective, and can better understand the original text and reflect the author's thoughts [8]. In the practice of translation teaching, teachers should remind and encourage students to exert their subjective initiative, and to translate rationally and creatively. If we don't study the inherent law of the text, especially the law of language transformation, but only care about the external conditions, it is extremely one-sided just like the translation research of structuralism paradigm mentioned above. In the process of translation, the translator needs to adjust the structure, information meaning and discourse coherence of the source text according to the text information, so that the translation can conform to the readers' thinking mode and reading habits.

3. The application of ellipsis in English translation

Chinese expression is much more concise in form than English, so ellipsis is a unique and indispensable method in English-Chinese translation. In fact, the understanding and expression of text meaning in translation activities are inevitably affected by a variety of external factors. At the same time, the author and the translator are not value neutral and the language is not transparent, which is strongly expounded by the cultural paradigm of translation research. At the same time, structuralist linguistics and its translation research paradigm, which only pays attention to the law of language composition and only studies the static language system, are not fully applicable to the language in translation, because people are applying the language system when communicating in language, and its expression is "speech" [9]. Compared with Chinese, English grammar is more complete in terms of sentence structure. The positions of subject, predicate, object and adjective of a sentence are fixed in a sentence. No matter how simple a sentence is in English, the elements of subject and predicate must be present in the sentence. Therefore, there are a lot of connectives in English. As an integral part of the whole, the function of connectives cannot be ignored and replaced. Obviously, the function of connectives in English is wider than that in Chinese.

As we all know, a way of thinking is influenced by a specific culture. To some extent, the way of thinking and the structure or style of the two languages will help us better understand a difference between different cultures. Through such a process, language learners can understand the essence of learning a language, Even better use and cross use of two languages. Omission does not affect the meaning of the original text. We can fully understand the omitted part through the text context. Ellipsis is also the key to effective translation. Excellent translators should not only faithfully show the meaning of the original text, but also know how to use cohesion skills. While reproducing the style of the original text, they should improve the quality and level of the translation in natural, clear and fluent Chinese. Translation skills are regular. When translating, the translator must have encountered various cultural differences and communication coordination between English and Chinese, and the use of ellipsis must have played a considerable role in the harmony between the two languages [10]. Generally speaking, when doing English-Chinese translation, we can omit articles, prepositions, pronouns, conjunctions and other words based on the background knowledge, so as to achieve the purpose of concise language.

Omission of articles. English has articles, Chinese has no articles. Generally speaking, except that the article with obvious demonstrative meaning means "one" or "this", which cannot be omitted in translation, it can not be translated. For example, the sentence: she left without a word. The

article a in English here is not omitted in translation, but is correspondingly embodied as "one" in Chinese. Omit personal pronouns. The reference relationship is clear. Generally, each sentence has a subject and a predicate, or sometimes an object, which is required by English syntax, while the Chinese expression habit is often when the reference relationship is clear, and several predicates are borrowed. A common subject mentioned in the context does not need to be repeated one by one. Therefore, the personal pronoun as the subject is often omitted in Chinese translation, and the same is true for the personal pronoun as the object. For example: the sentence We live and learn. (Omit we as the subject). Omit possessive pronouns. Possessive pronouns in English can often be omitted in Chinese translation, such as I play my piano in the room. In Chinese, it is only necessary to say "I play the piano in the room", not "I play my piano in the room".

4. Conclusions

Ellipsis is an indispensable part of the process of English-Chinese translation. Its existence makes the translation smoother and more in line with the expression of the target language. In view of the complexity of translation activities, no research paradigm can be perfect and can not solve all the problems related to translation and translation research. Personality characteristics have an important impact on language learning level; Extroverted students are better at listening and speaking, while introverted students are better at vocabulary, reading, writing and translation. In the process of translation, ellipsis is not a universal method. Its significance lies in making the translation more suitable for the readers' cultural context and cultural understanding ability. This paper studies cognitive linguistics and introduces the application of ellipsis in English translation. In the process of translation, we should omit some parts to make the language more faithful to the original. At the same time, it should be understood that only by paying attention to the differences between the target language and the source language and omitting them properly can we avoid the blunt and artificial translation and avoid the emergence of translation cavity. While learning the skills summarized by predecessors, we should also be good at discovering and summarizing new skills and rules, which is essential in translation activities.

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