

Review Article

The Influence of Sense Relation on Translation

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Abstract: In recent years, from the perspective of pragmatics, the linguistic approach to translation studies is more common, and the traditional semantic approach seems to be forgotten. Here we will analyze the translation from the aspects of semantic features and semantic type ambiguity analysis, in order to arouse the scholars' re-focus on the semantic approach of translation and deeper thinking, thus playing a role in inspiring.

Keywords: sense relation; translation ; semantic field.

INTRODUCTION

What is semantics, and what is the obvious boundary between semantics and pragmatics? What is the relationship between them. The linguists have been arguing about these two interrelated issues for a long time. In general, there are three different views:(1) semantics belongs to pragmatics;(2)pragmatics belongs to Semantics;(3) semantics and pragmatics do not belong to each other, but are unified in a certain discipline. Here we take about this article from the third perspective. Compared with semantics, the emergence of pragmatics is relatively late, but at present pragmatics has become a branch of linguistics, so we can see its great influence, the development of translatology are similarities with the development of pragmatics. Since the 1980s, Chinese translators and researchers have engaged in heated debates about whether translation studies are scientific or not. Until the end of the last century, the status of translation studies was widely recognized, and the theory of pragmatics had very practical guiding significance for translation. It is mainly reflected in the speech act of Austen, the indirect speech act theory of American linguist philosopher Searle and the principle of conversational cooperation of American philosopher Grice. Therefore, the predecessors have carried out a large number of translations from the perspective of pragmatics but relatively little research has been done from the perspective of semantics. Semantics, as the name suggests, is the science of studying the meaning of words. In the process of translation, in order to better understand the source language from the meaning,

style, significant and other aspects of the target language, the first step is to truly understand the various aspects of the word and sentence in the works. Secondly, in the process of translation, the translator should express his understandings of the original text in the target language, and whether the semantic ability can convey the meaning of the corresponding words in the original text is a key issue, so the translation has a high dependence on semantics. Many scholars have carried out some researches about translations from the perspective of semantics on the basis of the leech's seven divides. Jost Trier, a German linguist, claimed that the vocabulary of a language is not simply a listing of independent items, but is organized into areas or fields, the members of which are or are joined together by some common semantic component.

SEMANTIC FIELD

The whole vocabulary can be divided up into fields. Words in each field are semantically related and define one another.(Trier, 1930) Vocabulary is seen as an interrelated system of lexemes interrelated in sense. We know that most languages share same semantic fields. The meaning of English words can be found in Chinese by the corresponding words. For instances 书 book. 猫 cat. There are only partial correspondences in the lexical sense, and there are narrow and broad distinctions. For instances : uncle 叔叔, we all know that uncle can express many relations in daily life, such as the brother of your father or mother; the husband of your aunt. But our Chinese people called mother's

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brother 舅舅 instead of 叔叔. The semantic field of the same concept may not have the same members in different languages, thus lexical gaps, this situations difficult for us to translate, because we can't find the corresponding word in the target language, that is to say some Words with Chinese characteristics, that is to say some things are unique in Chinese culture, so the Chinese need to use some characters to express them, so it is difficult for translator to find the corresponding words, for instances: 龙 are unique in Chinese culture, some translators want to find the corresponding word to express it in English, they think the Chinese characters 龙 have some commons with the English verb dragon, so they translate 龙 into dragon , but this is a completely wrong translation. First of all, the English word dragon originally refers to a fictional animal in European mythology. It is huge, fierce, and looks like a monitor lizard. It has huge bat wings. Can fly, eat people, but also like fire-breathing attacks. It's symbolic meaning is very negative. In foreign media, the dragon of this European mythology animal has been used to symbolize all kinds of bad things. In the process of running for the presidency, Trump was portrayed by the competitor as Dura, while his supporters portrayed his objections, such as Political Correctness, as Dura. Trump is portrayed as an ancient hero who kills Dura . Therefore, translating "龙" into "dragon" is very wrong. The Chinese claim to be "the descendants of the dragon." The dragon is also the main symbol of China in the international community. In the eyes of foreigners, this is the Chinese who claim herself to be demons. China has to shake off the situation of "beating" and "starving" and is time to solve the problem of "挨骂". However, the translation of the 龙 into dragon is a big trouble, which provides a convenient condition for the anti-China forces to demonize China. Therefore, the wrong translation of "Dragon" should be corrected as soon as possible.

However, there are also vocabularies with Chinese characteristics, and we translated very well in Chinese-English translation. For example, Chinese Kung Fu is a unique vocabulary in China. Besides, the culinary culture of our country is very prosperous, and the food culture made our country need a lot of vocabulary to express them in food, but because there is no such food in Western countries, so there is no specific vocabulary to express them in English. 豆腐 Tofu, for example, is a Chinese cuisine product, but Western countries do not have this food, but in the process of cultural exchange between China and the West, we need to express the culture of our country to the Western countries. Under this circumstance, some translators adopt transliteration methods, and then make some minor adjustments according to the western phonology system, and translate kungfu into kung fu. Translate the 豆腐 into toufou. Therefore, when

translating the dragon, we can also use this method to translate the dragon into a long, but because the West has the word long, the word is used to express the length of some things, but we find the word can express the shape of the our Chinese animal 龙 , we can make a slight adjustment on the vocabulary, we know that the combination of oo pronounce [u] in English, and oo is very similar to the two eyes of an animal. Therefore, translating 龙 into loong is a very good translation of the dragon, not only in graphy, but also in the pronunciation. So the form of loong is a good translation.

POLYSEMY

Both English and Chinese languages have a phenomenon of polysemy. There are usually 2 cases, the one refers to A word with multiple categories means that a word often belongs to several parts of speech and has several different meanings. The other means that the same word has several different meanings in the same part of speech. In the case of polysemy, we should select one suitable meaning from its many meanings to avoid ambiguity. For instances: She is very fair. The sentences have two meanings. The first meaning means that she is very beautiful. The second meaning means that she is fair. This phenomenon is also common in Chinese. As follows:

策	
执策而临之 (名词)	Whip
策马奔腾 (动词)	Lash
测勋十二传 (动词)	Record
计策	Stratagem

We can clearly see that we can use one Chinese character to express many different meanings, but we can't find a corresponding word in English to express the various meaning, in this case, we can only use different English words to express the various meaning. And find out the most suitable meaning. Therefore, in the process of translation, we should be good at choosing and determining the meanings of key words in the original sentence after we understand the structure of the original sentence. Choosing and defining the meanings of words usually start from these aspects that choose and determine the meaning of words according to the words class this word belongs to in a sentence.

In choosing the meaning of a word, we should first determine which part of speech the word belongs to in the original sentence, and then further determine its meaning. For example, in this sentence "He looks round the room, at last he found a key". In here "round" acts as preposition. But in the following example sentence, round belongs to several other different parts of speech.

- The echo rebounded from the round wall.
回声从圆形的墙壁上传回 (adj 圆形的)
- The schoolmaster met us and led us round the campus
校长接待了我们，带我们在校园里转了转 (介词)
- He put his opponent out in the fifth round
他在第五回合中将对手击晕 (noun 回合)
- In the zoo we saw many monkeys running round in the cage.
我们在动物园里看见许多猴子在笼子里跑来跑去 (adv 迂回地)
- We round our completeness.
我们达到了完全彻底的统一 (vt 完成)
- We decided to round off our tour of Europe with a brief visit to Madrid.
我们决定去马德里作一次短暂的访问，结束我们的欧洲之旅 (vi 结束)

Second, choosing and defining the meaning of words through the basic context and the collocation of words in sentences. The same word in the same word class, in English, often has different meanings in different occasions. It is necessary to judge and determine the meaning of a word in a specific occasion according to the contextual connection and the collocation relationship or sentence pattern of the word. Such as “put on” (verb)

- She put on a semblance of anger
她装出很生气的样子 (装出)
- Its luck you didn't put the water on.
幸好你没有把水龙头打开 (打开)
- I need help to put on my boots
我需要人帮我穿上靴子 (穿上)
- He picked up the child and put her on his shoulders
他把那女孩举起放在自己的肩上 (把.....放在上)
- If you eat too much meat, you may put on weight
如果你吃太多的肉会增加你的体重(增加)

- The band are hoping to put on a UK show before the end of the year
乐队有望在年底前在英国演出 (上演)

HYPONIMY

All of people whether the Chinese or the English live in the same planet-earth. So we share the resources the earth provides for us, because these things are more or less similar. As a result we can find words for the most part in another language corresponding to any primary word in one's own native language. But as there is infinite number of things in our world, if we use infinite words things to express infinite things, it is impossible, because it is a big burden for us to memorize all of words, so we need to classify the things, that is to say things must be grouped together to form classes which consist of groups stand for a much wider range of things than the word standing for the basic kinds. And the hyponymy is a good example of people grouping things. Hyponymy refers to the sense relation between a more general, more inclusive word and a more specific word. The word which is more general in meaning is called the superordinate, and the more specific words are called its homonyms. Homonyms of the same superordinate are co-homonyms to each other. Of course the phenomenon of hyponymy exist in all of language both in English and Chinese, but because the Chinese and the English has different cognition to the objective world, so they have different classifications, which greatly influence on the translation. For instance: how to translate 你有几只笔 into English, to be honest this translation is more difficult, because we can find pen, pencil and ballpoint in English but we can't find the a word can express 笔, because there isn't the superordinate of pen in English, you can clearly see the distinctions as follows:

	汉语	英语
上义词	笔	没有/Nothing
下义词	铅笔	Pencil
	钢笔	Pen

These are common lexeme gaps between English and Chinese. Under this situation, there is two translation methods:

A: language is so creative that we can use the finite words to express some lacking words, in this way 笔 can translate writing instrument.

B: There is a another different case, using the above method, we can't express the lexeme gap, under this situation, we should trace its development from history. For instance, how to translate 羊年 into English, in English we have some words relatively with the Chinese character 羊 such as sheep and goat, but

which one is suitable to express 羊, in order to have a better translation, we should trace the history to find out the first animals the Chinese domestic, but nowadays many archaeologists are not sure, anyway this is a good direction for us to think about it. Another perspective for this translation is that we all know that our Chinese character belong to pictograph, that is to say ancient Chinese characters were based on images, but is impossible to create characters to represent all of the things and people in the world, some are simplified pictures based on images like 火川, 山; some are based on part of the image, in this way 羊 is a good example, because it empathizes the most prominent features of 羊, that is horn. So let us see the appearance of the sheep and goat, the most difference is that almost all goats have horns, but most sheep have no horns, so from the features of our Chinese characters we can find the ancient 羊 is based on the goat, because goat have 2 horns. Besides we can look at the sculptures and paintings used in ancient China to represent 羊 in the Chinese zodiac, which is clearly that in the twelve animal heads of the old Summer Palace, the goat other than the sheep inside of them. So the better translation of 羊年 should be translated into goat year.

DIFFERENCES AMONG SYNONYMS

We can surely conclude that there are no two totally same word in the world, every language has groups of synonyms, but there do not exist any language two lexeme that are of exactly the same meaning, that is to say there are non-absolute synonyms, because if a word can express the meaning, we need not to create a new word to express the same meaning which increase the burden for us to memorize too much words, so the emergence of synonyms in order to express and describe minute, subtle or delicate differences and variations in meanings, including degrees and levels, tones, registers, styles, and commendation or derogation. Large number of synonyms also cause difficulties in translation. For example, the Chinese word 爸爸 and 父亲, the former is more colloquial, the latter is more formal. This type are easy for us to identify, and we can find the corresponding words in English that is dad and father. But there is more complex words for us to translate, for example, in Chinese, the synonymous of 眼 refers to 目, both the classical Chinese word 目 and the vernacular word 眼 refer to the organ of sight, but their meanings and usage differ in many ways, when we refer to the eye, we usually use the Chinese character (眼 or 眼睛), we can see it in the under cases, such as in 眼球, 眼皮, 眨眼, 眼花, 眼中钉肉中刺, 睁一只眼闭一只眼, etc, we say 眼科 rather than 目科, 目击 rather than 眼击, in a sense, the classical word 目 contains a more abstract meaning than the commonly used word 眼睛/眼. in order to have a better translation,

we can also use the corpus to find some words of co-existence. All of these instances is a result of language developing, as the Chinese written language has more than five thousand years of history, there is classical as well as vernacular Chinese influence, under this situation, the translator is need to exercise discretion in understanding subtle or delicate differences in the wording of the source text so as to find the most proper word in the target language. Should he fail to find any at all, the translator should take accommodation to bring out the specific meaning of original. Special attention should be paid to the fact that some synonyms in one language may no longer be synonymous in another language. In this process, we should always remember the context is the only criteria in judging all translations. This phenomenon is also found in English. For instance, Chinese word 笑 means different manners to laugh, but in English, there is many different words to express all kinds of ways to laugh, such as giggle(咯咯出声笑), sneer (冷笑), smile (微笑), chortle (哈哈大笑), titter(傻笑), snigger (暗笑), all of these words are translated into Chinese should use the form like this: “manner +笑” we can clearly see it as follows:

English word	Chinese word	Conclusion
Grin	露齿而笑	露齿+笑
Guffaw	狂笑	狂+笑
Smirk	得意的笑	得意+笑

MERONYMY

English speakers prefer analytical thinking, while the Chinese prefer comprehensive thinking, So this distinction is also reflected in the vocabulary, and meronymy is a typical example of this distinction. Meronymy refers to the semantic relation that holds between a part and the whole. because our Chinese people prefer the comprehensive thinking, so we use a lot words that belong to the whole, but the British are more rational, so their usage and vocabulary are more logical than us. For example, the Chinese characters 手 belongs to a concept of wholeness, however, fingers(手指), wrists 手腕, and fists (拳头) are all the part of the hand, but when our Chinese people communicate with others, we prefer to choose the words that can express the whole concept, but the Birth are totally different with us, let us see the follow sentences:

- (1)他手里拿着个杯子。
He is holding a cup in his hand.
- (2)你瞧他手上戴的那块瑞士表。
Look at the Swiss watch on his wrist.
- (3)今天我忘记带筷子, 只好请大家用手了。

I forgot to bring chopsticks today. You have to use your fingers.

(4)君子动口不动手。

A gentle man uses his tongue but not his fists.

The first sentence, the Chinese character 手 are corresponding to the English word hand, but the following words “fists wrist and finger” are not corresponding to the Chinese characters “手”, because our Chinese people are custom to use a word that can express the concept of wholeness, but we all know that the watch should be worn on our wrist, not on our hand, and the the third sentence, our Chinese people use hand other than fingers, but it is well know that when we have a meal, we should use our fingers to touch the food, not our hand. As well as the last sentence, when we fight with others, we use our fists, not our hand. So from the above sentence, we can clearly see that our Chinese people would like to use the words that can express a concept of wholeness. While the British are very rational they usually choose some words that depend on the fact. Therefore, in the process of translation, we should notice this distinction, which can avoid a poor express. When we do some translations about English into Chinese. For example, when we translate the last two sentences, we should avoid a poor expression like this, 今天我忘记带筷子, 只好请大家用手指头了。君子动口不动拳头。

And when we do some translations about Chinese into English, for example, when we translate the last two sentences, we should avoid such express like this “Look at the Swiss watch on his hand, I forgot to bring chopsticks today, you have to use you hand and a gentleman uses his tongue but not his hand. Although we can understand those sentences very well, our native speakers do not use these expressions. So when we translate the above sentences, we should notice this distinction.

CONCLUSION

The translation process is a comprehensive process. In this process, the translator need to fully demonstrate his cognition and interpretation on the meaning of the original text, and he must have the ability to control the translation. The smallest unit in translation is a word, and common mistakes in translation often appear at the word level. The semantic field shows the relationship between words. We can grasp the meaning of words in various relationships and make appropriate choices.

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