

Application of Concept Grammatical Metaphor in Literary Translation

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Abstract: Grammatical metaphor is first proposed by Halliday, a system functional linguist, and conceptual grammar metaphor is an important part of grammatical metaphor. Nominalization is one of the most important manifestation of conceptual grammatical metaphor. Due to the characteristics of literature itself, there is a great deal of use of nominalization in English literature. This important feature provides a brand new perspective for the translation of English into Chinese. This paper mainly provides some effective strategies and methods for the mutual translation of literary English into Chinese from the perspective of conceptual grammatical metaphor.

Keywords: Conceptual grammar; Metaphor theory; Literary translation; Applied research;

1. Introduction

Traditional metaphorical theories regard metaphor as a variation of language use occurring at the lexical level, and Halliday, the founder of Systematic Functional Linguistics, argues that "metaphorical phenomena are not limited to the lexical dimension, and often occur at the grammatical level, which is the grammar metaphor". Halliday pointed out that "Nominalization is the most powerful manifestation of grammatical metaphor." Literature is characterized by logic, objectivity, simple language, simple grammatical structure, but high vocabulary density[1]. All of these features provide the possibility and feasibility of the massive appearance of grammatical metaphors in scientific discourse. After doing some research, it is believed that grammatical metaphors may first appear in a large number in science and technology discourse, which are mainly two major functions, namely, the formation of scientific and technical terms and cohesive discourse respectively. Newmark Peter, the Western translator and translation theorist who first paid attention to metaphor translation, his understanding of metaphor translation strategies was based on linguistic forms and linguistic semantic equivalence. Based on rhetorical ideas, he discussed metaphor translation issues. The function of rhetoric is usually determined by examining both form and semantics. Catford's "context" and "contextual meaning" have an important influence on the functional discourse analysis of later translation studies. Hatim and Mason pay attention to the translation of the original concept of function and interpersonal function. Zhao Dequan discusses the translation of metaphysics and the literal translation and free translation from the perspective of system function. These translation studies mainly analyze and evaluate the translation from the three major functional aspects of functional linguistics. However,

when discussing the concept and function of original text and translation, they are limited to the discussion of the transitive process and the semantic functional components. The grammatical metaphor resulting from process transformation lacks the necessary analysis. Numerous studies also show that grammatical metaphor, as a form of language expression, can effectively realize the textual features of EST. Based on the research results of predecessors, this paper mainly applies conceptual grammar metaphor to literary translation, hoping to provide some reference for future literary translation.

2. Grammatical metaphor concept

In system functional linguistics, language has three major pure functions: conceptual function, interpersonal function and textual function. Grammatical metaphors are also divided into three categories: conceptual (grammatical) metaphors, interpersonal (grammatical) metaphors and textual (grammatical) metaphors. Grammatical metaphors fall into two categories in current research: conceptual metaphors and interpersonal metaphors. Conceptual metaphor is achieved through process, functional composition and lexical syntactic transformation. The transformation of process in conceptual metaphor is mainly reflected in the transformation of six different processes in transitivity system, which are material process, psychological process, relational process, verbal process, behavioral process and existent process[2]. Each process has its own corresponding participants. For example, in the process of materialization, participants are "actors" and "targets"; participants in psychological processes are "perceivers" and "phenomena"; The participants in the process of relationship are "carrier" and "attribute". With the process of conversion, the functional components of each clause also transform each other,

finally reflected from one form of metaphor to another form, which is commonly referred to as "consistent" and "metaphorical (metaphorical form)."Thompson argues that "consistent" refers to the expression of "something closer to the outside world," and "metaphorical" refers to a form of "grammar of the vocabulary" that is not intended to convey the meaning it has previously expressed. In a concerted relationship, a verb is used to denote an action / process, nouns generally refer to things, objects or concepts, etc. Adjectives represent features. However, in the practical application of language, verbs, adjectives, prepositional phrases and conjunctions are often translated into nouns due to various factors such as style, rhetoric and culture, that is, so - called "nominalization" in grammatical metaphors. Verbs, adverbs, prepositional phrases or conjunctions can also be converted into adjectives, which are called "adjectives" in grammatical metaphors; conjunctions and prepositional phrases can sometimes be translated into verbs, ie "verbized."For example :

1a)Nitrogen deposition is a global problem that requires accurate monitoring at a variety of spatial scales.

1b)How does Nitrogen deposit is a global problem and we should monitor it accurately at various spatial levels.

In the above example, 1a) is relatively "metaphorical," while its counterpart 1b) is "consistent." "Deposition", "monitoring" and "variety" in 1a) are the result of the nominalization of "deposit", "monitor" and "various" in 1 b).An important feature of scientific discourse is its objectivity. Nominalization can try its best to get rid of the influence of action participants and environmental components on the process and increase the objectivity of the text. The action executor for the second clause in 1b) is "we," but in its corresponding metaphorical 1a), the action's "we" is omitted, making the text more objective. There is no finite element in the nominalization process, so that the narrative does not depend on any specific environmental factors such as time and place, so that the text content is more objective and fair.

In Halliday's theory of grammatical metaphor, the vocabulary and grammar are used to study the transformation of language expressions, which can be transformed in the grammatical domain. However, vocabulary and grammar can be divided into two types: consistency and non-conformance. The so-called consistency means that the ideological feelings expressed in the lexical grammar are consistent with the meaning expressed by the utterance. No matter whether it is linguistically or structurally, it can directly see the objective facts it reflects. Non-conformity means that the ideological sentiment expressed by lexical grammar is inconsistent with the meaning expressed by the utterance. It is the fact that the existence of things is expressed through twists and turns. We compare through the following set of examples:

For example: 2a. The third day they arrived in Beijing

2b. They arrived at Beijing on the third day.

2c. The third day saw them at Beijing.

at 2.b We can clearly see that they are the executors of the action, Beijing is the environmental factor in the fact, and the corresponding on the third day is the specific time factor, they arrived at Beijing on the third day The meaning and the deep semantics are exactly the same; but in 2c we can also clearly see that in 2b the performers of the actions were converted to them in 2c. Similarly, the specific time factor on the third day turns into a sensation. Through this unusual expression, the meaning of vocabulary grammar and discourse is inconsistent. That is, the expression of conceptual grammar metaphor, the way expressed by The third day saw them at Beijing is a psychological process.

3. The Application of Concept Grammatical Metaphor in Literary Translation

In literary translation, when literal translation is not well-timed, on the one hand, the translator can interpret the original sentence in terms of "de-metaphorization", and reinterpret the original sentence from the perspective of the process type transition of the clause and the adjustment of the semantic functional components; On the basis of re-interpretation of the original sentence, one can select words and methods that conform to the Chinese expression on the lexis and grammar level. After the process type of the original clause is transformed in the translation, it is accompanied by changes in the relationship between the participants, processes, and environmental components of the clause, which are reflected in the lexical and grammatical layers: word class transformation, information addition and subtraction, and perspective Conversion.

Scientific and technical discourse has the characteristics of logicity, objectivity, simple grammatical structure, high vocabulary density and large amount of information. Nominalization in conceptual metaphor provides the most effective means for realizing these features of English scientific discourse[3]. Therefore, A great deal of nominalization has appeared in English literature. As a language lacking twists and turns, its grammatical structure is more strictly controlled by the principle of "chronological order." Obviously, the clause organized by verbs and other components can more easily reflect this principle. Therefore, Chinese has the meaning of "Center" grammatical features.

Sentence patterns in EST are basically metaphorical, and nominalization is the most effective and common way to achieve this metaphorical expression. In the translation of Chinese and English literature, literal translation can not conform to the habitual expression of science and technology English. We can make some simple analyzes from the differences between Chinese and English languages. First of all, Chinese sentences are semantic types

and English sentences are grammatical types. In Chinese, to measure whether a series of words are set up as sentences mainly depends on whether these words can express relatively complete meanings. The position of the verbs is very flexible. Therefore, verbs of actions or processes are used in Chinese discourse to represent adjectives of features. And so on, the metaphorical expressions are far less than those in English texts. In English, grammatical English sentences are arranged strictly in accordance with the "main-predicate" structure, and the rest of the constituents must be based on this backbone and attached to this backbone, so some components must make the necessary change can be attached to this backbone, such as the nominalization of verbs or adjectives, so as to accommodate as much as possible in a smaller discourse.

For example, (1) Being graceful and interesting, standing moreover on the momentary threshold of womanhood, her appearance drew down upon her some sly regards from loungers in the streets of Chase-borough... The translation of this passage is: Because she is soft and gentle, sensational, and she is in the blink of an eye, she is in a fleeting moment, and she appears in the castle fortress. She is tempted by some idle people on the street. With the help of appropriate conceptual grammatical metaphor, the participle phrase "being graceful and interesting" in the original text is translated into a relational process clause and a mental process clause in the translation, adding participants "She", the original adjectives "graceful" and "interesting" have been translated into predicates "gentle and gentle" and "emotional," in line with Chinese expression habits. In addition, the main sentence "her appearance drew down upon her some sly regards from loungers in the streets of Chase-borough" in the original text is a material process clause, and the translation is transformed into a single sentence according to the characteristics of the Chinese plural clauses. The material process sentence "she appeared in the fortress in the yard" and a psychological process sentence

"have attracted some idlers on the street to steal secrets", and the original participant "her appearance" was transformed into "her" in the original translation. The terms "appearance" and "regards" have been translated into the verbs "appearance" and "spooing", so that the expressions are in line with the characteristics of Chinese multiverbs and the language is smooth.

4. Conclusion

This paper uses the conceptual metaphor of grammatical metaphor for the translation of English and Chinese scientific texts. It shows that under the framework of conceptual grammar metaphor, it is instructive to use relevant theoretical knowledge to guide the translation of scientific texts. In the process of English translation of scientific texts, we should try our best to restore those verbs or adjectives that have been nominalized in the English original sentences to the original verbs or adjectives and then reflect them in Chinese sentences. In fact, the process of translating English texts into scientific texts is the reverse of the above process. That is, we try to nouns verbs or adjectives in the Chinese original sentences to increase the vocabulary density, and objectively and justly reflect the scientific textual information.

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