

Research on Dialect Translation Strategies

-- Taking Lingbao City's English Translation "My First Love" as an Example

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Abstract

The source language dialect has always been a problem for translators in translation. Although there are many achievements in other areas of translation, the research on dialect translation is slightly less than that in other aspects. This paper explores the strategy of dialect translation through the dialect version of *My First Love* in Lingbao City in Western Henan region and its English translation, and compares it with the dialect of Ruicheng County in the surrounding area. Then this paper analyzes the translation of the two dialects and finds a suitable translation method. In a word, this paper hope can complement the dialect translation.

Keywords

Dialect Translation; Dialect Culture; Translation Strategy.

1. Introduction

1.1. Dialect Meaning and General Situation of Lingbao Dialect

A dialect refers to a variant of a language, but can sometimes also refer to a language in a specific geographic area. In China, a dialect refers to the language of a certain region that is different from the standard language. Lingbao City is located at the junction of Henan Province, Shaanxi Province and Shanxi Province. Lingbao dialect belongs to the Central Plains official dialect in Fenhe (east) and Guanzhong (west). Due to the special geographical location of Lingbao City, Lingbao dialect also presents a hybrid state. Lingbao dialects can be basically divided into three categories: one is the former Langxiang County. In 1956, the state built the Sanmenxia Dam. According to the national policy, Langxiang County was relocated, and some were moved to 5 miles southeast of the county. The administrative division belongs to Xiyan, Lingbao City. Under the jurisdiction of the township, the village name is "Yandong Village". The other part was relocated to 5 miles southwest of Langxiang County, and the administrative division was under the jurisdiction of Yangping Town, Lingbao City. The village was named "Lan Village". The dialect characteristics of Langxiang County are like those of Shaanxi Province; which are like Lushi County and Sanmenxia City respectively; the last category is the townships around the urban area.

2. Taking "My First Love" Adapted from the Popular Song "Xiaofang" as an Example to Analyze the Dialect Translation

"My First Love" was adapted from the popular song "Xiaofang" by the famous public account of Lingbao City - Lingbao Dialect Story Club. The song was widely circulated in Lingbao when it was released, and it was a classic. People complimented after hearing it. But the fire returns to the fire. After all, the songs compiled by the minority dialects have become the talk of people

after dinner, amusing everyone to be happy, and the picture of being happy also played a role in it. However, how to translate the dialect version of "My First Love" into other languages is also a problem. Because it represents not only a song, but also a dialect culture. When people think of this song, they can think of Lingbao, a small place with its own unique culture. Therefore, this article will take the English translation of the adapted version of "My First Love" as an example to analyze the dialect translation.

2.1. Analysis of the Dialect Translation of "My First Love"

Lingbao dialect is quite different from mandarin. Although it is only an hour's drive from Sanmenxia, it is not as close to mandarin as Sanmenxia dialect. I will cite a few examples from the English translation of My First Love to illustrate. The fourth sentence in "My First Love" is "磨角是老吊老壮", in Mandarin, it means "braids are long and thick". We can't really look for the meaning of "磨角" when translating it. Because in Mandarin it is interpreted as an architectural vocabulary, and in Lingbao dialect it means "hair", so it should be translated as "hair". And "壮" can not be translated as "strong", but translated into "浓密" in Mandarin, namely "thick". The whole sentence translates as "Her hair is long and thick". The fourth sentence is "芜湖塞恰却不日神念". In Mandarin, it is "I ignored her at that time." The "日神" here does not mean "the sun god", but means "to deal with". "不日神" can also be translated as "ignoring" by using the opposite or positive translation method. So the whole sentence translates as "But I iced her out". The eighth sentence is "只会塞念都嫁给黑娃拉", and in Mandarin it is "Now she is all married to Hei Wa". "Heiwa" is named according to his characteristics. In the countryside, boys who look very dark are like to be called "Heiwa". Another reason for calling him Heiwa is to hope that they can feed well, get sick less often, and grow strong. In fact, it contains the simple love of the older generation for children. So there is no need to translate it into "the black child", but use the pinyin translation method, plus an explanation. The ninth sentence "有乃天我爬上墙头看念小芳", this sentence is in Mandarin "I climbed to the wall to look at Xiaofang that day". The "wall head" in this sentence does not need to be translated, but will be directly translated as "wall" using the provincial translation method, because for a person who climbs the wall, it is impossible to climb to the half center of the wall and stop there. It is to climb to the top of the wall, where the top of the wall is the "upper or top of the wall". So the whole sentence is translated as "That day, I scaled the wall to visit Xiaofang". The eleventh sentence "我赶紧从墙上溜下来". The Mandarin for this sentence is "I hurriedly climbed down from the wall". The "溜" here refers to sliding, sliding down, not the meaning of slipping away as we usually see. So we can translate this sentence as "I hurried down the wall". The twelfth sentence "白叫黑狗再舔我拉". The Mandarin of this sentence is "Don't let the black dog chase me again". The in this s "白"entence is not "white" in English, but "don't". And another word in this sentence "舔", the original meaning of "舔" is to take food with the tongue, which means "to make...wet", and here "licking" means to chase, shove, so this sentence can be translated as "Don't let the black dog chase me again". The last sentence "叫恰再看一哈小芳吧" in Mandarin is "Let me take another look at Xiaofang". "看一哈" here means "look at", so the whole sentence is translated as "Let me take a look at Xiaofang".

If we don't know the meaning of these dialects, then translation will be impossible. Therefore, we have come to the conclusion that dialect translation is not an easy task. If there is a slight deviation in the understanding of the meaning of the dialect, there will be big jokes when translating. The most important thing is that it affects the reader's understanding of the dialect, so naturally The culture behind the dialect-related books or songs cannot be deciphered. Foreigners who read the famous book "White Deer Plain" feel the local customs and simple folk customs of Shaanxi, so I believe that reading the song "My First Love" adapted from Lingbao dialect can also deeply feel the humor and humor of Lingbao people. Young people's attachment

to their love and the disappointment and hesitation after losing love, but if the meaning is not properly interpreted when the dialect is translated into Mandarin, and then translated into the target language, the target language readers will not feel the charm of the dialect culture.

2.2. Analysis of the Dialect Translation Strategy of "My First Love"

2.2.1. Focus on Local Characteristics

According to the characteristics of the dialect translation of "My First Love", I classify the dialect translation strategies into the following three situations: First, pay attention to local characteristics, which includes the translation of people's names and the translation of some common words in daily life. The dialect of each place has its own characteristics, and Lingbao area is no exception. The dialect of Lingbao area is affected by diet, climate, environment, etc., and has formed a language with its own unique style in the long-term communication and evolution. Words are not much different from Mandarin, but some are quite different. "Lick" in "My First Love" is an example of a common phrase in daily life. It has many meanings. I have already explained it above, so I won't go into details here. Then there are many other common expressions in Lingbao dialect worth pondering. For example, "编", the original meaning of "编" in Mandarin is rhetoric, showing off, boasting or showing proudly. But the word "编" has many meanings in Lingbao dialect. In Mandarin, "I talked to a person", and Lingbao's words are "I lied to a person". In Mandarin, "the old people in the village like to gossip", and Lingbao dialect means "the old people in the village like to gossip". There are many common terms in daily life that have as many definitions as it, which requires us to distinguish different meanings according to different contexts when translating, and then translate. For the translation of names, such as "Heiwa", we use pinyin to directly translate them, and then add explanations. From Heiwa, we can think of the nicknames of grandparents and grandmothers. Most of their nicknames are related to animals, such as cats, dogs, and birds. Unlike today's children's nicknames, they are called Doudou. Or Lele, etc. They are so named because of their living conditions and the educational level of their parents. However, when we translate these names, we should not only translate them according to their original meaning, but should use the annotation method, add explanations after the English names, and only need to explain the relationship between him and a character, and the relationship with other characters. Readers I will sort out the relationship between the characters by myself. Next time I see this name, a certain relationship diagram of the characters will come to my mind, and I will consciously think of his relationship with other characters. If you do not add comments, readers will not know whether it is a human name or an animal name, which is easy to cause misunderstandings. This method of naming should be regarded as a local feature of our Lingbao area.

2.2.2. Pay Attention to New Words

There are many new coined words in dialects, these new coined words fill in the vacancies in the meaning of words in Putonghua. Putonghua has a narrow scope of application. When people conduct daily communication, there are many meanings that cannot be expressed in Putonghua. Words that express meanings are used to create new words. After word of mouth, these words will be regarded as common words by people, and then received in quotations. For example, persimmons in Mandarin are called "persimmon lumps" in Lingbao dialect after drying. The reason is that the shape of persimmons after drying into persimmon cakes is very similar to a lump, so Lingbao people call it "persimmon lumps". Another example is "toads and tadpoles", which are not toads and tadpoles in Mandarin, but in summer, when the weather is hot, Lingbao people have invented an original way of eating, that is, after mixing cornmeal with water, put it in the There are many tadpole-shaped holes on the utensils, and then put the cornmeal on it and press it, it will form a tadpole-like shape, and then sprinkle with seasonings and salads, which can be called a delicacy. Another example is "fried cumin", which is also a new term of Lingbao. It is to put bean sprouts in the pot, then add a lot of cumin powder and other

condiments and fry them on high heat, and then sandwich the hot steamed buns. middle. The reason why it is called cumin stir-fry is because the condiment it adds is a lot of cumin powder, and it is fried over high heat. At that time, Lingbao people who liked to eat pancakes and buns studied many ways to add things to pancakes or buns, and cumin frying was one of them. The newly coined words I have listed are all related to diet, and of course there are other types of new coined words for us to learn and reference. For these newly coined words, we need to know the local dietary habits or other customs preferences in advance when translating. Only after we understand the source of the newly coined words can we know what they represent and translate them clearly. In the process of translating these newly coined words, we can first find out if they have substitute words with similar meanings in Mandarin. If there are substitute words, we use the translation of the substitute words; When translating, explain their meanings clearly; if there is really no way to explain, we can use the method of adding pinyin, which has the advantage of allowing readers to have sufficient imagination, so that they can check the meaning of the words by themselves, left a deep impression on them. The three dialect translation strategies I have summarized above are not only for Lingbao dialect, but also for other dialects.

2.2.3. Pay Attention to the Difference between Word Sound and Word Meaning

The difference between word sound and word meaning is also a way to distinguish Mandarin from Lingbao dialect. Here, it can be divided into homophones and heterophonic synonyms. For example, in "My First Love", "舔" and "舔" in Mandarin have the same sound and the same word, but the meaning is completely different, so we call it a homophone. The interpretation of "舔" in Mandarin cannot explain the meaning of "舔" in Lingbao dialect, that is to say, although "舔" in Lingbao dialect and "舔" in Mandarin are the same sound, their meanings are different. It is completely different. The word "舔" in Lingbao's dialect will take the meaning of chasing, while the "舔" in Mandarin mostly means to lick. There is also the word "ha". The "哈" in the second sentence of "My First Love" and the last sentence "哈" are the same sound, but their meanings are also quite different. The second sentence means "also", but the last sentence means "down". There is also a synonym of different sounds. The "溜" in Lingbao dialect takes the meaning of sliding down, and the tone is two tones. In Mandarin, liu means one or four tones, and the first sound means sliding, sneaking away, and it can also mean smooth; it can be seen that although the tone of "溜" in Lingbao dialect is different from that of "溜" in Mandarin, the meaning is the same. For homophones and heterophonic synonyms, we need to understand their meaning in context and translate them, instead of directly translating the meaning in Mandarin.

3. The Comparison of Dialect Translation between Lingbao Surrounding Area and Lingbao Area in the Adapted Version of "My First Love"

Lingbao City is located in the west of Henan Province, with the Yellow River in the north and Ruicheng County and Pinglu County in Shanxi Province across the river; the east is adjacent to Shanxian County in Henan Province; and the west is adjacent to Tongguan County in Shaanxi Province. I will compare and analyze the dialect translation of "My First Love" by taking Ruicheng County, which is adjacent to the north of Lingbao City, as an example, so that readers can have a deeper understanding of dialect translation strategies. Lingbao dialect is very similar to Ruicheng dialect, they both belong to the Fenhe piece of the Central Plains Mandarin. But in "My First Love", the two languages also have many different expressions, such as "beautiful" in the second sentence, "希样" in Lingbao dialect, and "漂亮" in Ruicheng dialect; the third sentence is "beautiful"; The "eye" in Lingbao dialect will be "眼睛", and Ruicheng dialect is "眼窝"; "眼窝" in Mandarin is interpreted as "the sunken part of the eyeball", if it is translated according to Mandarin, it will be distort the meaning of the original dialect. But whether it is "eye" or "eye

socket", they are very similar in meaning to Mandarin. When translating, we only need to find the corresponding words in Mandarin, which is a relatively easy dialect translation method. "At that time" in the fifth sentence, Lingbao dialect is "芜湖塞", Ruicheng dialect is "芜个时候", that time in Ruicheng dialect is closer to Mandarin than that time in Lingbao dialect; The "now" in the seven sentences is "只会塞" in Lingbao dialect, and "yi mang" in Ruicheng dialect. The pinyin in Chinese is three tones and one tones respectively. But whether we see these two time words in Ruicheng dialect or these two time words in Lingbao dialect, we can't imagine which words in Mandarin can correspond to them, and there is no way to translate them. Therefore, at this time, we need to understand the local dialects of Lingbao and Ruicheng, collect and summarize the local dialect words indicating time points, and find their corresponding Mandarin interpretations. If you really can't find it, you can visit the local elderly people. Most of them still speak the authentic dialect, and the memory of the dialect of the time is naturally not a problem. Young people may be taught to speak Putonghua since childhood because of the influence of family education, and the people around them also speak Putonghua. They exist like living fossils, guarding our dialect culture, so that they will not disappear with the passage of time. To give another example, the word "Heiwa" in the eighth sentence has the word "Heiwa" in Ruicheng dialect and Lingbao dialect. This word is like what I said above, not because he looks good. Hei so called him Heiwa, but the nickname given to them by the older generation in the past. When translating other names such as "Heiwa" or place names, we only need to follow the pinyin in Chinese. Copy it down and add a note after it. Comparing the translation of Lingbao dialect with the similar Ruicheng dialect, it can be seen that there are still some differences, although they belong to the same dialect category. Therefore, when translating dialects, we can find similar dialects for analysis, because many dialects are indeed the same, but for those dialects whose meanings are completely different from those of similar dialects, we need to find suitable translation strategies.

4. Conclusion

The translation of Lingbao dialect and Ruicheng dialect is actually a reflection of the translation of minority dialects. The preferred method for translation of minority dialects is to find the corresponding words in the target language, and translate them with the vocabulary of the target language. For this article, it is to find the corresponding words in Mandarin; the second method is to copy the source language, and then add comments to the back. Of course, the most important thing is to fully understand the local dialect and culture, and translate those dialects whose meanings are unclear but can be clearly understood after consulting the data. Minority dialects represent the various cultures of each region. Dialect translation is a form of cultural output. The target language works translated from dialects can directly affect people's understanding of the region. This shows the importance of dialect translation.

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