



## Economy in Translating English Argumentative Texts into Arabic \*

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### Abstract

The present study argues for the pivotal role that the principle of economy - linguistic and cognitive - plays in translating English argumentative texts into Arabic. The study investigates, within the framework of relevance theory, the hypothesis that if some ST information is irrelevant to the TL decoder, it will most probably entail him to further process that information and cause him to be overloaded cognitively. Moreover, based on the realization of cognitive environment shared by the SL communicator and the TL decoder, it is hypothesized that the background knowledge and the cultural aspect are of great importance in giving an adequate shape of an argumentative text in the process of translation.

To carry out the analysis, an English argumentative text has been selected in order to examine how the principle of economy affects the process of translating English argumentative texts into Arabic by applying the "Relevance Theory" as a model. The study concludes that there is a balance between economy and redundancy; the latter is indispensable in clarifying vague information and unfamiliar reduced forms of expressions, the former is also necessary to save the reader time and effort in processing the information.

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الاقتصاد في ترجمة النصوص الجدلية من الإنكليزية إلى العربية \*\*

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المستخلص

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تتناول الدراسة الحالية الدور المحوري الذي يؤديه مبدأ الاقتصاد بشقيه اللغوي والادراكي في ترجمة النصوص الجدلية الإنجليزية إلى اللغة العربية. وتبحث الدراسة، في إطار نظرية المواءمة، الفرضية القائلة بأنه إذا كانت بعض المعلومات في اللغة المصدر غير مترابطة بالنسبة للمتلقي في اللغة الهدف، فسوف يستلزمه ذلك على الأرجح مزيداً من معالجة هذه المعلومات ذهنياً مما يؤدي إلى إجهاده فكرياً. أضف إلى ذلك أنه استناداً إلى وجود البيئة المعرفية التي يتشاركها كل من كاتب النص الاصل والمتلقي في اللغة الهدف، فمن المفترض أن الخلفية المعرفية والجانب الثقافي لهما أهمية كبيرة في إعطاء الشكل المناسب للنص الجدلي في عملية الترجمة. ومن الناحية العملية، فقد جرى اختيار نص جدلي باللغة الإنجليزية لبحث كيفية تأثير مبدأ الاقتصاد على عملية ترجمة النصوص الجدلية الإنجليزية إلى اللغة العربية من خلال تبني نظرية المواءمة بوصفها منهجاً عاماً للدراسة. وقد خلّصت الدراسة إلى أن هناك توازناً بين الاقتصاد والزيادة من حيث أنه فمع أن هذا الأخير لا غنى عنه في توضيح معلومات غامضة وأشكال مختصرة غير مألوفة من التعبيرات، فإن الأول ضروري أيضاً لتوفير الوقت والجهد للقارئ في معالجة المعلومات.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** الترجمة، الاقتصاد، الفائض، الجدلي، الموائمة.

## 1. Introduction

The present study attempts to unveil the nature and impact of the principle of economy as a cognitive and linguistic phenomenon. Economy, whether linguistic or cognitive, is regarded as one of the common phenomena in language, and a serious problem a translator may encounter. This is due to some structural differences between the two languages and the different cultural backgrounds. English, for instance, is said to exhibit more economical structures and more condensed items compared with Arabic. This fact is sometimes bound to bring about some problems in understanding some English texts, particularly argumentative ones, when rendered into Arabic. This tendency to excessive economy involves condensed information that can lead to a cognitive load on the part of the receptor language decoder, particularly when he/she does not share the same knowledge with that of the original, or lacks some of it or has a different cultural background.

Considering the nature and effect of the principle of economy, the present study will investigate, within the framework of relevance theory, the hypothesis that if some ST information is irrelevant to the TL decoder, it will most probably entail him to further process that information and cause him to be overloaded cognitively. Moreover, based on the realization of cognitive environment shared by the SL communicator and the TL decoder, it is hypothesized that the background knowledge and the cultural aspect is of great importance in giving an adequate shape of an argumentative text in the process of translation.

The model adopted in the present study is "Relevance Theory" of Sperber and Wilson (1986). Relevance Theory (henceforth RT) limits pragmatics to whatever can be communicated in terms of a cognitively defined notion of relevance. That is, RT is based on two principles: a Cognitive Principle (i.e. human cognition is geared to the maximization of relevance), and a Communicative Principle (i.e. utterances create expectations of optimal relevance).

To pinpoint the aspects of the principle of economy and its impact on the translation of English argumentative texts into Arabic, an English argumentative text has been analyzed in accordance with the RT and the different aspects of argumentation. The selected text is given to five test-subject translators of M.A. degrees to translate into Arabic. The Arabic renderings of the selected material are analyzed to examine how the difficulties are reflected in the translations, and how common these difficulties are among the translators. Some basic comments on each test-subject's rendering of the ST have also been

presented to see to what extent each subject is affected and succeeded in producing a TL version according to his understanding as well as his own style.

This study will help translators benefit from the results and decisions made about the principle of economy and achieve a better understanding of this phenomenon in communication in general and in the process of translation in particular.

## **2. The Concept of Economy:**

Scholars in the field of language, communication, and translation (Zipf 1949, cited in Vicentini, 2003:40; Vicentini 2003:37; Leech et al.1982:191; Leech 1983:67) have in common the idea that an inclination to economy is a criterion regulating any aspect of human behavior, which is governed by the principle of least effort. Accordingly, words are constantly shortened, permuted, eliminated, borrowed and altered in meaning, and that economy is always preserved.

Hartmann and Stork (1972:74, among many other scholars) define economy as the reduction of redundancy in language with the effect of making only those distinctions which are necessary for efficient communication.

In his view of economy, Gutt (1991:26) argues that communication is determined by the desire for optimization, and one aspect of optimization is to keep the effort spent to a minimum. Accordingly, to maximize the "principle of least effort" would be to make the text unintelligible. Thus, one should not reduce when economy conflicts with clarity. Consider the following example, cited in Leech et al. (1982:192):

***Molesworth proved the theorem Blenkinsopp had assumed to be true was false.***

Omitting the conjunction *that* after *proved* results in a garden-path sentence. Thus, a balance has to be struck between saving time and effort and maintaining intelligibility. This balance clearly depends on contextual factors such as the physical distance between the writer and the reader and the social predictability of the message as well (cf. Leech, 1983:67).

Generally, the principle of economy has two realizations, cognitive and linguistic. The former is pragmatic and implies the "principle of least effort", which is the essence of RT; whereas the latter can be realized by grammatical devices represented by reduction whose realization, in turn, is by both ellipsis and substitution.

### **2.1 Economy and Redundancy:**

Redundancy is known to be a controversial principle tackled from different perspectives. However, writers who tackle the issue of linguistic redundancy represent two trends: Those who accept it as a positive factor and those who take it negatively.

Nida (1964:174) points out that "Dynamic Equivalence" aims at a higher degree of decodability, even if it involves a rather extensive redundancy which expands the translation in order to make it relevant to the audience. Many other scholars (Campbell1982, cited in Gillette and Wit, 1998:3; Leech1983:68-69; Quirk et al.1985:860)) are of the same view that redundancy is the only way to transmit a complex message. Hence, its positive role is manifested in decoding a message. It can also

serve as an instance of expressive repetition, where the emphasis of repetition has some rhetorical values such as surprising, impressing or rousing the interest of the addressee, and that economy almost has no part to play in this case.

Considering redundancy in translation, Hassan (1992:51-58) states that redundancy makes the translated text coherent in meaning and cohesive in structure. It is used to elaborate and clarify what is being translated. With reference to English and Arabic, Hassan concludes that English opts for reduction where Arabic prefers expansion. Repetition in the case of Arabic is expressive of the views the Arabs entertain about the world and their own culture. The following exchange of greetings in Arabic and its English equivalent is a good indicative example:

<i>-Hello.</i>	<i>Peace be on you.</i>	<i>-السلام عليكم<sup>(10)</sup>.</i>
<i>-Hello.</i>	<i>On you be peace and mercy of God.</i>	<i>-و عليكم السلام ورحمة الله وبركاته.</i>

Bolinger (1975:616), Newmark (1988:177), Grant-Davie (1995:1-2) among many other scholars hold the view that redundancy in a text could be a negative form of writing. However, they point out that an "extended redundancy" represented by repetition, paraphrase, pleonasm and tautology can also be used to clarify, to avoid false emphasis and to assist comprehension in case of obscurity, irrelevance or complex thought. And the translator's role lies in detecting the tautology before deciding whether to transfer it to the TL.

Whether redundancy is a positive or negative factor, it plays a vital role in language and communication. Navin (1990:443-59, cited in Grant-Davie, 1995:4) rightly confirms this fact saying: "We need to encourage profuseness as well as concision, to teach not just brevity but also loquacity, the ability to extend, vary and expatiate upon one's subject at length, in order to shape, build, argue or alter the force and effect of communication". This, no doubt, reflects the necessity of redundancy as an indispensable means of clarification as much as economy in communication.

Redundancy manifests itself in different ways: repetition, restatement, abundance of cohesive ties, informative headings, good grasp of subject, rhetorical situation, linguistic knowledge, vocabulary, etc. (Grant-Davie,1995:8-9). Gillette and Wit (1998:10) identify five different uses of redundancy: enhancing comprehensibility, resolving ambiguity, isolating a feature (e.g. I love the salty sea), emphasizing or intensifying (e.g. I am fully and completely sensitive about this), creating "poetic" effect (e.g. the green, green grass of home).

Redundancy, after all, we think, must be there in language, regardless of its negative aspects, since it will be easier to eliminate redundancy than attempt to understand elliptical information. And it is our task as hearers, readers and translators to distinguish between the functional and negative redundancies.

## **2.2 Economy, and Cohesion and Coherence:**

Cohesive devices are basically used to shorten and simplify the surface text (de Beaugrande and Dressler, 1981:60). At the same time, we believe that if these ties are poorly employed, they may cause problems in communication and some cognitive load on the part of the receiver. Bolter (1991, cited in Grant-Davie, 1995:9) states that even links are there, readers have more responsibility for developing coherence between the nodes they link. Thus, one can conclude that discourse must be well-organized and understood, and vice versa.

In order to account for the well-formedness of discourse, van Dijk (1977: 95) suggests that one needs not just an account of the relations between the sentences of a text, but also an account of the way that each sentence is related to a unifying topic of a discourse. Brown and Yule (1983:231) assume that "two formally unconnected utterances placed together form a coherent piece of discourse is due to the fact that there is an assumed structure of discourse over and above the more frequently described structure of sentential form". They (ibid: 234) argue that our processing of incoming discourse involves the combination of two activities. In one part of processing, one works out the meanings of the words and structure of a sentence and builds up a composite meaning for the sentence, i.e. *bottom-up processing*. At the same time, one is predicting, on the basis of the context plus the composite meaning of the sentences already processed, what the next sentence is most likely to mean, i.e. *top-down processing* (cf. Naoum,2001:75-164).

Collectively, what has been mentioned so far urges one to agree that for coherence to be attained, one has to rely not only on what is in the discourse, i.e. words and structures, but also on what lies outside the discourse, viz, the context as well as the principle of relevance, which are the most decisive factors needed to achieve adequate communication.

### **2.3 Economy and Relevance:**

Relevance theory (Sperber and Wilson, 1986) argues that the human mind instinctively reacts to an encoded message by considering information that it conceives to be relevant to the message. Accordingly, the goal of communication is to maximize the relevance of a discourse while minimizing the amount of mental processing effort (Pietarinen, 2005:1767).

Gutt (1991:39) claims that RT comes basically with a notion of faithfulness. It is determined for each occasion by the principle of relevance and the cognitive environment mutually shared by the communicator and his audience. Crystal (2003:395) points out that RT is a property of communication and cognition which claims that human cognition is geared to the maximizing of relevance. Consider the following example cited in Sperber and Wilson (1986:262):

***Peter: Did John pay back the money he owed you? Mary: No, he forgot to go to the bank.***

The addressee, guided by his expectations of relevance, along with the contextual assumptions makes it accessible that "forgetting to go to the bank where one keeps his own money makes one unable to repay the money he owes". Consequently, he starts deriving cognitive effects, and when he has enough effects to satisfy his expectations of relevance he stops (Sperber and Wilson, 1986:266). Accordingly, relevance is a potential property not only of utterances, but also of thoughts, memories and conclusions of inferences; viz, a basic feature of human cognition.

Gutt (1991:30) agrees that in every act of deliberate communication, relevance is dependent on the interplay of two aspects: adequate contextual effects and the minimum processing efforts. Taken together, they comprise the level of optimal relevance that RT aims to achieve, which is the highest degree of relevance along with the minimum processing effort with which an audience is satisfied in his interpretation of the utterance(s). Accordingly, Sperber and Wilson (1986:259) argue that an utterance with two competing interpretations would cause the audience unnecessary extra efforts of choosing between them, and the resulting interpretation would not conform to the principle of optimal relevance. Hence, the principle of relevance licenses one to assume that the least costly interpretation is the one the communicator intended (Blakemore, 1987:65).

Generally, relevance is a cognitive feature shared by the communicator and his audience. This is represented by what Sperber and Wilson call "the cognitive environment" which is taken to imply that communicators usually make assumptions and guesses about the addressee's ability to access certain assumptions at the appropriate moment (Blakemore, 1987:31). These guesses are not necessarily guesses about the knowledge the addressee already has, but the guesses about his/her ability to access certain assumptions at the appropriate moment.

### **3. Previous Studies on Economy:**

The principle of economy is tackled on different levels of language by scholars interested in language and communication: the phonological level (Martinet,1960:167-181); economy and directness (Perrin and Ebbitt,1972:343-346); the pragmatic level (Leech et al.,1982:191; Leech,1983:67-69; and Horn 2007:1-29); economy and mental lexicon (Gillette and Wit, 1998:1); economy in encoding and decoding processes of information (Vicentini, 2003:37-55).

All in all, we quite agree with Leech et al. (1982) in their view of economy as well as the negative effects resulting from the excessive tendency to economy, as they state that one must strike a balance between saving time and effort, on the one hand, and maintaining intelligibility on the other. We also agree, to a great extent, with Vicentini (2003) that linguistic economy has a positive side in language and communication. However, it can have a negative effect in communication if the participants have different backgrounds or belong to different cultures, as is the case of the process of translation.

### **3. Strategies and Structures of Argumentation:**

Hatim (1997:38) argues that argumentation focuses on the evaluation of relations between concepts, and that argumentative texts are utilized to promote the acceptance and evaluation of certain beliefs as true/false or positive/negative. Accordingly, the aim of an argumentation, as Poutt and Golder (2006:1) point out, is to convince the addressee of the standpoint of acceptability by providing relevant arguments organized in a coherent structure. Argumentative writing, therefore, is the act of forming reasons, making inductions, drawing conclusions, and applying them to the case in question.

Strategies and structures of argumentative texts were viewed widely and, to some extent, differently by many scholars. However, all sorts of argumentative discourses have global categories like premises and conclusions, possibly with additional subcategories like warrant or condition (van Dijk, 1977:155).

Stratmann (1982, cited in Fathi, 2006:25) points out that the content of an argumentative text can be categorized into three macro-categories: the first contains all information related to the claim cited; the second includes all the information related to the evidence (data) to support or refute the claim; and the third encompasses all what can be included in the concluding part of the text.

In his view of argumentation, Hatim (1997:39-40) comes up with a view that the process of argumentation has two complementary stages that may be distinguished as: Through-argumentation and Counter-argument. In the former, a viewpoint is stated to be argued through. Here there is no explicit reference to an adversary viewpoint. This stage includes: Thesis to be supported, substantiation, and conclusion; whereas in the latter, as the name suggests, a selective summary of other's viewpoint is stated, followed by a counter-claim, a substantiation of counter-claim and a conclusion. It can, therefore, be put as: Thesis cited to be opposed, opposition, substantiation of counter-claim, and conclusion.

#### **4. Translation and Relevance:**

Since translation is considered another act of communication, the principle of relevance is essential in understanding the SL information. Gutt (1991:45-64) claims that "a good translation should read not like a translation at all, but like a target-language original". Accordingly, the translator can have an impact even on the objective of the communication act due to the fact that the communicator may sometimes need to use some of the translator's knowledge of the TL culture to ensure that what he intends to communicate is adequately relevant to the TL audience.

Munday (2001:77) confirms that the translational action must focus on producing a TT that is functionally communicative for the receiver. This means that the form and genre of the TT must be functionally suitable in the TT culture rather than by merely copying the ST profile, and what is functionally suitable and relevant has to be determined by the translator. Accordingly, if the translator finds that there is some information of high relevance to the TL audience not included in the original, then it is his task to present this information in order to achieve a good and, to some extent, effective TL version. This can be attained, as Naoum (2001:45) states, from knowledge of context which facilitates the translator's task: "...the more the translator knows about what characterizes the context, the more likely his/her predictions (i.e. interpretations) are reliable".

#### **5. Data Analysis:**

**SLT (1):** (McCrimmon, 1957:355). (See the Appendix)

**L.1** My opponent asks me to tell him what is wrong with this **L.2** proposal of **compulsory medical insurance**(1). **I'll tell him what is L.3 wrong with it**(2). It is a half-baked plan cooked up by him and **L.4** other **fellow-travelers** who are more interested in socializing a great **L.5** profession than they are in providing better medical care(3). These **L.6** men will sacrifice everything to their bigoted faith in a **system of L.7 regimentation** that is abhorrent to the American people(4). **L.8** They want to begin by **socializing medicine**; they will not rest until **L.9** they have made over the whole American economy into the image of **L.10** the dictatorship to which their secret allegiance is pledged(5).

#### **ST Analysis:**

In the present argumentative text, the arguer attempts to develop an argument about a plan of compulsory medical insurance. He is expected to underline the defect(s) of the proposal of this plan as an answer to the question. However, what happens in the text is that the arguer when answering the question attempts to refute the plan not by attacking the plan itself, but by making an attack on the character of the people who support it. This type of indirect refutation involves attacking the objector's character; it is an argument against the people, not against the plan itself (McCrimmon, 1957:355). The arguer, therefore, shuns from the main point of the argument, since the character of the proponents of the plan is not the point on which the argument must stand.

Basically, the aim of the argument is to convince the addressee of the standpoint of acceptability by providing relevant arguments organized in a coherent structure. However, the arguer causes irrelevant information to color the argument when he ignores the question to indulge in a personal abuse. The addressee in resorting to the cooperative principle believes that whatever the communicator says is assumed to be relevant. This is not the case here, since it does not contribute to the goal of both the arguer and the addressee. This shift in the information is a distraction because it brings about unnecessary words and information; and that an unnecessary word is not merely a dead weight, it is a stumbling block. This shift in the information causes the translator to be confused, since it implies that some information is missing and something else takes place and, consequently, inadequate and inappropriate translation can be the outcome. This, in turn, costs the TL reader an extra cognitive effort to process the information; hence, the principle of cognitive economy is lost.

Generally, any argumentative text has a dual function, expository and persuasive. In the present text, the arguer does not expose any facts pertaining to the plan. Thus, the text lacks an important part of argumentation on which an agreement or disagreement about the matter in question is based through evaluation. Accordingly, it seems that the arguer lacks the credibility appeal, viz, the good knowledge of the matter under discussion. By the same token, the arguer lacks also the rational appeal, since he does not give any good and convincing reasons needed to support his point of view in the argument. That is why the danger in resorting to the indirect refutation lies in the damage it may cause to both credibility and rational appeals.

To conclude, the arguer does not have to treat his opponent as if he is a personal enemy, since in doing so, he may lose the sympathy of his addressee and then may fail to change the addressee's attitude which is the ultimate goal of the arguer.

### **TTs Analysis:**

What has been mentioned so far is embodied in the translators' versions of the ST, since some words or phrases are translated wrongly and inappropriately into the TL. This is due to the fact that some of the translators are not quite familiar with the ST information, and this entails a further cognitive effort to process the information in order to produce an adequate and appropriate TL version. Therefore, the principle of cognitive economy is lost; and this will not conform to the principle of optimality. This is evident in the following phrase: "**fellow-travelers**" which has been translated differently into:

Trans. (1) رفقاء دربه; Trans. (2) الذين ساروا في فلكه; Trans. (3) مؤيدوه; Trans.(4) زملائه الوافدين; Trans.(5) ثلة من رفاقه المسافرين.



It seems that most of the translators do not comprehend the phrase in the way it should be, since in cases (1), (4) and (5) the translators give quite inadequate and inappropriate renderings which can affect the general meaning of the text, and the real intention(s) of the ST writer. Accordingly, these are inaccurate renderings, since one may ask: who are those travelers? Why and where are they traveling? Rather, trans. (2) and (3) give accurate renderings, since a look at the dictionary along with the context will reveal that the phrase means those people who are proponents of an idea and mean to generalize it for a certain purpose in mind.

In (snt.4, L.6-7), the phrase "**system of regimentation**" seems somehow vague, as is shown in the following renderings provided by the test- subjects: Trans. (1) نظام متشدد; Trans. (2) نظام الانضمام; Trans. (3) —————; Trans. (4) نظام اشتراكي صارم; Trans. (5) نظام صارم.

This vagueness can be attributed to the irrelevant and distracting information included in the text. However, the 4<sup>th</sup> rendering can be regarded as an adequate one, since the ST writer is criticizing the **Socialism**, the principle that is detested by the Americans.

In (snt.5, L.8), the phrase "**socializing medicine**" seems also vague to the translators; this is evident in the following different renderings: Trans. (1) الترويج للدواء; Trans.(2) يجعلوا الطب أكثر توافقاً مع الواقع; Trans.(3) الإجماعي; Trans.(4) استغلال الطب لإغراض دعائية إجتماعية; Trans.(5) ادخال الطب في هذا النظام(الاشتراكي) . تأميم الصحة .

The vagueness can be attributed to the outcome of an obvious mismatch between the ST writer and the translators which caused the latter to be unfamiliar with the information. However, trans. (4) and (5) seem to be accurate and more appropriate, since, as noted earlier, the writer is referring to the **system of Socialism** as a negative system to which some people try to apply the profession of medicine. Accordingly, a proposed economical and adequate rendering could be that of trans. (5), and "اخضاع الطب" of trans. (4) could also be another adequate alternative.

All in all, these differences in translations represent another indication that there is a sort of mismatch between the shared or background knowledge of the writer and that of the translators. This sometimes results in inaccurate renderings of the items in question that can affect the TL reader's general understanding of the text as a whole.

### Comments on the Subjects' renderings:

Naturally, the way the translators translated the text varies from one translator to another due to each translator's view of the text, his understanding and his own style.

#### Trans. (1)

In (snt.2, L.2-3), it is quite sufficient to translate the sentence "**I will tell him what is wrong with it**" into "فقلت له" or "فأجبتة قائلاً" instead of the extended expression "وجوابي له هو التالي" for the purpose of both economy and conformity with the TL style, since the present tense of the ST can be converted into past tense in the TL.

In (snt.3, L.4-5), the phrase "**socializing a great profession**" is translated inaccurately into "التسويق لتجارة رابحة", since the writer here and in what follows refers to the "system of Socialism" and

makes no mention of marketing or trade. This inadequate and inappropriate rendering is the outcome of the translator's unfamiliarity and incomprehensibility of the ST information which seems to have caused him to be overloaded cognitively by the further processing of information. Thus, it seems that no economy of effort is preserved, and that no optimality is realized. Accordingly, "تأميم الصحة" of trans.(5) is more accurate than other translators'. Also "تطبيق النظام الاشتراكي على..." could be another precise and appropriate translation.

### Trans. (2)

In (snt.2, L.2-3), it is better for the purpose of conformity with the TL style to translate the sentence "I will tell him what is wrong with it" into "فأجبتة قائلا" rather than "وسأخبره عن ماهيته".

In (snt.3, L.4-5), the phrase "socializing a great profession" is wrongly translated into "جعل" "المهنة رانجة ومقبولة في المجتمع" which may confuse the TL reader and overload him cognitively, since the TL version has nothing to do with what the ST writer refers to as "the system of Socialism" in which his opponent believes. Accordingly, one can adopt trans.5's "تأميم مهنة عظيمة", as the most accurate and appropriate translation.

### Trans. (3)

In (snt.2, L.2-3), the translator repeats the words of the original "I'll tell him...." as in "وأنا بدوري" "سوف أدله على مواطن العيب فيه" which imposes the same form of the original on the TT. However, this is redundant, since this expansion is not necessary. Instead, it is quite enough to say "فأجبتة قائلا" to preserve economy and adhere to the TL style.

In (snt.3, L.4-5), the clause "socializing a great profession" is wrongly translated into "استغلال" "مهنة عظيمة لأغراض دعائية اجتماعية", since the writer refers to the "system of Socialism" and does not mention, for example, social purposes. This inadequacy is an indication of the translator's misunderstanding of the ST information due to the different cognitive environment between the ST writer and the translator. This entailed the latter a further cognitive effort to process the information; and the result is an expanded, inappropriate and inadequate rendering. This, in turn, confuses the TL reader and puts him into an extra cognitive effort to process the information. Therefore, as mentioned above, "تأميم" "مهنة عظيمة" could be a better alternative.

### Trans. (4)

In (snt.3, L.4-5), the translator succeeds in producing an adequate rendering of the clause "socializing a great profession" into "جعل هذه المهنة العظيمة ضمن النظام الاشتراكي" which refers to the writer's reference to the "system of Socialism". The adequacy of this rendering is the outcome of the translator's comprehensibility of the text and the less cognitive effort exerted.

In (snt.5, L.10), the translator becomes highly subjective as he states "لهذا النظام اللعين". This subjectivity cannot be justified, since the ST writer discusses the matter in question, i.e. "system of Socialism" from his personal point of view which can be right or wrong. The translator, therefore, must be objective in his rendering and strikes a balance between producing the SL writer's view to the TL readers and maintaining objectivity.

### **Trans. (5)**

In (snt.1, L.1-3), the translator succeeds in producing the implied meaning of the issue in question in an explicit way, as he states: "لايرى خصمي.....النظام" which reflects his understanding of the implicit meaning that the writer and his opponent are of two opposing views. Thus, no harm is done to the information conveyed as long as the ST information is conveyed adequately, albeit in a different style. In the rest of the text, the translator succeeds to a great extent in producing an adequate version, except in some areas discussed earlier, since he produces an accurate rendering of the "system of Socialism" which the writer intends to convey throughout the text.

### **6. Findings and Discussion:**

The data analysis of the study reveals the following:

1. The majority of the test-subjects translated the English argumentative text in an expanded way. This is because some notions and expressions in the ST are vague to the translator and so economical that need some extra explanations due to the different background knowledge of both ST writer and translator. This, in fact, entails some expanded translation, albeit they also preserve some economy of expression in the TT.
2. Some cases of argumentative texts revealed inadequate renderings of some phrases, clauses and even sentences due to some irrelevant information in the ST, false analogy in both ST and TT and the different cognitive environment between the ST writer and the translators.
3. Some translators faced some difficulties in understanding some information in the ST. This is evident from the literal translation they produced for some words or expressions, and, as a result, were unable to produce accurate and acceptable TL versions.
4. There has been a shift in style in the process of translating some information which resulted sometimes in textual defects; that is, the form was at the expense of the content and vice versa.
5. The majority of the test-subjects stuck to the ST slavishly. This is due to the fact that the translator's main objective is to translate the SL text as a whole without leaving any word or expression untranslated, even if this involves rendering some vague words or expressions literally which, in turn, can affect the general meaning of the translated text and cost the TL reader more time and effort to process the information.
6. Little attention has been given to the logical flow of information in the process of translation. Accordingly, the credibility of the translators has been severely affected.
7. Differences in meanings of words and expressions, the connotational ones in particular, have been most frequently neglected in the process of translation. This, in turn, resulted sometimes in inadequate and inappropriate renderings.
8. There have been some instances of renderings in which the meanings of some lexemes are wrongly translated. This can be attributed to the problems of misunderstanding some ST information, such as irrelevant information and the reduced forms of expression. These problems cost the translator more cognitive effort that led him to translate inadequately; and this affects the general and intended meaning

of the ST and increases the cognitive effort of the TL reader in processing the information and overload him cognitively.

## **7. Conclusions:**

Building on the findings of our data analysis, the study comes to the following conclusions:

1. Based on the realization of both functional and negative-end redundancies, there has been a balance between economy and redundancy. The latter is indispensable in clarifying vague information and unfamiliar reduced forms of expressions; the former is also necessary to save the reader time and effort in processing the information, due to the fact that human cognition, naturally, preserves a balance between economy and superfluous extra cues.

2. The difficulty of understanding and translating some SL information is attributed in the first place to the different background knowledge, i.e. the cognitive environment holding between both SL writer and translator. This, as the data analysis shows, is evident in that some vague notions and reduced forms of expressions entailed the translator an extra cognitive effort of processing and caused him to be overloaded cognitively, and, thus, inadequate renderings were the outcome.

3. In the process of translation, context plays a vital and, indeed, indispensable role in clarifying some vague notions and expressions in the ST as well as revealing the general aspects of argumentation.

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### Appendix

ST (1) McCrimmon (1957:355).

L.1 My opponent asks me to tell him what is wrong with this L.2 proposal of compulsory medical insurance(1). I'll tell him what is L.3 wrong with it(2). It is a half-baked plan cooked up by him and L.4 other fellow-travelers who are more interested in socializing a great L.5 profession than they are in providing better medical care(3). These L.6 men will sacrifice everything to their bigoted faith in a system of L.7 regimentation that is abhorrent to the American people(4). L.8 They want to begin by socializing medicine; they will not rest until L.9 they have made over the whole American economy into the image of L.10 the dictatorship to which their secret allegiance is pledged(5).

### Trans. (1)

يسألني خصمي أن أفصح له عن العيب الذي يكتنف مقترح الضمان الطبي الإلزامي. وجوابي له هو التالي: هي خطة مكشوفة أعدها هو ورفقاء دربه المهتمون بالتسويق لتجارة رابحة أكثر من أكتراثهم بتوفير علاج طبي أفضل. أولاء القوم مستعدون لبذل الغالي و النفيس في سبيل فكرهم المتشدد بنظام متشدد يمقته الشعب الأمريكي قاطبة. هم يودون ان يبدؤوا بالترويج للدواء، ولن يهدأ لهم بال حتى يجعلوا الاقتصاد الأمريكي برمته يدور في فلك الدكتاتورية التي يرتهن سر ولانهم لها.

### Trans. (2)

سألني منافسي بأن اخبره عن ماهية الخطأ في هذا المقترح حول التأمين الطبي الإلزامي ، وسأخبره عن ماهيته : انها خطة غير مكتملة صاغها هو والذين ساروا في فلكه والذين هم أكثر اهتماما بجعل المهنة رانجة و مقبولة في المجتمع بدلا من تقديم عناية طبية افضل ، وسيضحون بكل شي لأرضاء ايمانهم الاعمى بنظام الانضمام والذي يعد مقينا للشعب الأمريكي ، فهم يريدون بداية ان يجعلوا الطب أكثر توافقا مع الواقع الاجتماعي وسوف لن يهدأ لهم بال حتى يجعلوا الاقتصاد الأمريكي برمته يتجسد في صورة الدكتاتورية التي تكون رهنا لولائهم الخفي.

### Trans. (3)

سألني خصمي ان ارشده الى مواطن العيب في اقتراحه الخاص بالتأمين الطبي الإلزامي . وأنا بدوري سوف ادله على مواطن العيب فيه. إن الامر برمته عبارة عن خطة غير مدروسة بالمرّة أعدها هو ومؤيدوه ممن لديهم الرغبة باستغلال مهنة عظيمة لاغراض دعائية إجتماعية أكثر من رغبتهم بتقديم عناية طبية افضل. هؤلاء النفر من الرجال سوف يضحون بكل شيء في سبيل معتقدتهم الاعمى الشديد التعصب في ظل نظام تشمئز منه نفوس الامريكان. ومستهل الطريق بالنسبة اليهم هو البدء باستغلال الطب لاغراض دعائية إجتماعية ،

ولن يهنأ لهم بال ولن يغفو لهم جفن حتى تطغى صفة الدكتاتورية على كل مفاصل الاقتصاد الأمريكي ، تلك الصفة التي بذلوا فروض طاعتهم عربونا لها.

#### **Trans. (4)**

يطالبني خصمي أن ابين له ممكن الخطأ في خطة مشروع الضمان الصحي الالزامي. وإني مخبره بذلك. إن هذا المشروع غير ناضج وهو من نتاج فكره واخرين من زملائه الواقدين الذين لا يهتمهم توفير رعاية صحية افضل للناس بقدر ما يسعون الى جعل هذه المهنة العظيمة، مهنة الطب من ضمن النظام الاشتراكي. وسيبذل هؤلاء الغالي والنفيس من اجل عقيدتهم المتعصبة في إقامة نظام اشتراكي صارم يبغضه الشعب الامريكي اشد البغض. وإنهم يعتزمون إدخال الطب اولا في هذا النظام ، ثم لن يهدأ لهم بال حتى يحولوا الاقتصاد الامريكي برمته إلى نظام دكتاتوري قطعوا الوعود والعهود سرا للولاء لهذا النظام اللعين.

#### **Trans. (5)**

لا يرى خصمي ضيرا في مقترح الزامية التامين الصحي. ولكني سأبين له ما يسوء هذا النظام:

ان هذا المقترح الذي تعوزه الدراسة وضعه هو وثلة من رفاقه المسافرين الذين يروقههم تأميم هذه المهنة العظيمة اكثر من اهتمامهم في تقديم رعاية صحية افضل. ان هؤلاء الرجال على استعداد للتضحية بكل شئ من اجل تعصيبهم لفكرة اخضاع الصحة لنظام صارم يمقتته الشعب الامريكي. ثم ان تأميم الصحة في نظرهم ليس إلا الخطوة الاولى نحو تأميم الاقتصاد الامريكي بمجمله و تحويله الى صورة دكتاتورية يكرسون لها ولاناتهم الخاصة.