Correlation between Strategies of Translation and Politeness in *Arms and the Man*

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Abstract

It is axiomatic that language in books and speech is full of regularities and patterns. This linguistic behavior can be reflected on translation as well when translating between English and Arabic. This study aimed to examine the potential relationship between Brown and Levinson’s (1987) politeness strategies and Vinay and Darbelnet’s (1995) translation strategies in Zaidan’s (1999) Translation of Shaw’s Arms and the Man. A quantitative method was adopted. The corpus of this study included 207 polite expressions distributed among five types of politeness strategies to be translated according to Vinay and Darbelnet’s model of translation strategies. The analysis of data was done by using SPSS (v.25) to find this potential correlation between politeness strategies and translation strategies. The findings of the study revealed that bald on record was the most frequently used strategy in both the source and the target texts. Besides, literal translation was the most frequently used strategy for rendering polite expressions. The study concluded that statistically there was no significant correlation between Brown and Levinson’s strategies of politeness and Vinay and Darbelnet’s model of translation strategies for personal and cultural reasons.

Keywords: translation, politeness strategies, drama, corpus, correlation.
علاقة ارتباط بين استراتيجيات التلطف واستراتيجيات الترجمة في مسرحية “الإنسان والسلاح”

الملخص
من البديهي أن ما تزخر به بطون الكتب وخطابنا الشفوي في طياته الكثير من الأنماط اللغوية المنظمة، وهذه الظاهرة اللغوية قد تنعكس على سلوكنا في الترجمة بين اللغتين العربية والإنجليزية. تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى البحث عن وجود علاقة ارتباط محتملة بين استراتيجيات التلطف لدى براون وليفنسون (1987) واستراتيجيات الترجمة لدى فينيه وداربلينيه (1987) عند ترجمة مسرحية “الإنسان والسلاح” والتي كتبها برنارد شو وترجمها زيدان (1999) إلى اللغة العربية. وقد تبنت هذه الدراسة المعنى البحثي الكمي، حيث جمعت مدونة بيانات الدراسة في طياتها 207 عبارةً تلطف تم توزيعها على خمسة من أنواع التلطف حيث تم توزيع عبارات التلطف المترجمة على سبع من استراتيجيات الترجمة. وقد استعانت الدراسة ببرنامج SPSS لقياس العمليات الإحصائية اللازمة للبحث充裕اً إمكانية وجود علاقة المحتملة بين استراتيجيات التلطف واستراتيجيات الترجمة. وقد تبين للباحثين أن استراتيجيات الفظ الصريح كانت أكثر استراتيجيات التلطف تكراراً، كما أن الترجمة الحرفية كانت أكثر استراتيجيات الترجمة تكراراً. وقد خلصت الدراسة إلى أن الترجمة الإنجليزية كانت أكثر استراتيجيات الترجمة تكراراً. وقد خلصت الدراسة إلى أن الترجمة الإنجليزية كانت أكثر استراتيجيات الترجمة تكراراً. وقد خلصت الدراسة إلى أن الترجمة الإنجليزية كانت أكثر استراتيجيات الترجمة تكراراً.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الترجمة، استراتيجيات التلطف، الترجمة، مدونة لغوية، علاقة ارتباط.
Introduction

Basically, Hatim and Mason (1997) define translation as a way of communication which tries to rely on cultural, and linguistics limits, as another way of communication. Based on this definition, the translator is influenced by cultural norms and linguistic constraints that could hinder the process of translation (Al-Mizgagi, 2020). The role of translation is not just delivering the meaning from the SL (Source Language) into TL (Target Language), but also conveying the target reader’s culture. Politeness is a natural phenomenon in all cultures. In rendering polite expressions to the TL, the translator should have pragmatic knowledge of politeness in both source and target culture. For example, the Arabic expression “مبارك” means “congratulations” in English. From this example, translator should find a suitable equivalence for the target reader. In fact, the crucial role of the translator is to understand the message’s significance and to recognize the speaker’s motives to be polite. Politeness is a universal trait of normal language interaction. As Hatim and Mason (2000) “From a translation point of view, what this might suggest is that the dynamics of politeness can be relayed trans-culturally but will require a degree of linguistic modification at the level of texture.” (p. 433). Translators should consider the cultural differences between societies that need linguistic modifications.

Translation Strategies

Newmark (1988) declares that the basic aim of translating a drama is typically to have it performed effectively. Translating drama is challenging because it must consider semantic as well as cultural aspects. Translation strategies (TSs) are used by translators to manage the problems that often happen in the process of translation to avoid misunderstanding or mistranslation. The concepts of TSs introduced by different names such as techniques, procedures, shifts, strategies, methods, tactics, rules, or solutions. Many experts in translation pay attention to define and discuss TSs (Baker, 2018; Lörscher, 1991; Newmark, 1988; Nida, 1964; Venuti, 1998; Vinay & Darbelnet, 1995).

According to Nida (1964), technical procedures involve three steps: examination of source and receptor language, careful study of the source-language text, and determination of the appropriate equivalents.

Vinay and Darbelnet (1995) categorize TSs into two types: oblique or (free) and direct or (literal) translation. The two types involve seven strategies, of
which literal translation covers three strategies; calque, borrowing and literal, while oblique translation involves four strategies; transposition, equivalence, modulation, and adaptation.

**Politeness Strategies**

Brown and Levinson (1987) declare that they adopted an idea of *face* from English folk term and from Goffman (1967). *Face* is the self-image that everyone needs to protect; he wants to be free not to be imposed on by others. For Yule (1996, p. 60), “the term face implies the public self-image of a person”. It indicates sentimentality and social sense of self that everybody has and anticipates everybody else to recognize. Brown and Levinson (1987) classify Face Threatening Act (FTA) idea into two kinds: negative face, and positive face.

![Figure 1: Strategies for doing Face Threatening Acts (FTA)](source: Brown and Levinson (1987, p. 69).)

According to Brown and Levinson (1987), there are five strategies of politeness:

1. Bald on Record Strategies includes emergency, task-orientation, etc...
2. Positive Politeness Strategy includes notice, attend to the hearer interests, etc...
3. Negative Politeness Strategy includes question, hedge, etc...
4. Off-Record includes give hints, presuppose, understate, use tautologies, etc...
5. Do not Do FTA (Silent Strategy)

Brown and Levinson (1987) suggest two main factors that influence the speaker to apply politeness strategies, namely circumstances and payoff. The speaker employs those three relevant factors to evaluate the danger of FTA.
1. Power of speaker and hearer (an asymmetric relation).
2. Social distance of speaker and hearer (a symmetric relation).
3. Ranking of impositions.

**Politeness Translation**

Belqes and Saidi (2019) conducted a study entitled “Translating drama: A Comparative study of two translations of Shaw’s Arms and the Man”. The study aimed at exploring the equivalence in translation and identifying the challenges faced translators through the process of translating the play from English into Arabic. The study applied Koller’s (1979) classification of translation equivalence. The results showed that there were problems of the concept of equivalence at the denotative, connotative, text normative, pragmatic, and formal level. Several terms were associated with politeness mechanisms; one of which is euphemism which is a process softening harsh expressions (Al-Mizgagi, 2020).

This study is not the first to debate PSs in translation. In fact, recent decades have seen many studies discussing the term politeness in translation. Recently, a study was done by Abudayeh and Dubbati (2020) that aimed to identify the strategies applied by six Arabic news channels in rendering argumentative commentaries that US former President, Donald Trump, presented during his elections campaign. The findings showed that Trump used bald on record strategy in his speech. According to Al-Mizgagi and Al-Rawhani (2020), translators use some techniques such as literary, omission, domestication, ellipsis, and some translators use euphemism as a translation strategy to save the face of Arab viewers and to protect their faces because they know the language of Trump.

Rahayu et al. (2019) had a three-objective study that aimed at figuring out and analyzing kinds of politeness strategy used by the characters in the novel, figuring out the techniques of translation used to transfer the politeness strategy applied by the characters in the novel, and recognizing factors that influence the translation of politeness differences in the novel from Indonesian into English. The study concluded that positive PSs were mostly used and oblique translation strategies were used in translation of politeness strategy.
Abuarrah and Istetih’s (2016) study aimed to investigate the conceptualities of politeness and the notion of face in English and Arabic Audio-visual promoting through a comparative and pragmatic study of politeness in both English and Arabic. It additionally analyzed the tendency to the idea of face and politeness, and the influence of FTA on the translation of cosmetic audio-visual commercial from English to Arabic. The findings revealed that English advertising was oriented to negative politeness as independence and less-context culture. On the contrary, Arabic converted advertisement revealed that Arabic has more tendency to positive politeness. The outcomes of the study showed domestication strategy could be utilized in translation of PSs in English and Arabic advertisements.

Ardi et al. (2016) presented a qualitative study on translating politeness in literary text which aimed at investigating the translation of PSs of directive acts applied by four characters in Dan Brown’s novel titled (Deception Point) and its two Indonesian translations. The finding indicated that both novels use more positive PSs. There was an inclination that the 2015 translation version utilized less negative PSs than the old translation version. It also showed that PSs in giving directive act in the translation are changed.

Boubendir’s (2012) study aimed to examine the phenomena of politeness in general and linguistic politeness in practical which found that Arabic speakers faced challenges in attempting to translate Arabic, while English native speakers did not give any translation for Arabic polite formulas because of their (test subjects of the study) little information of Arabic Culture.

Yaqubi and Afghari (2012) carried out a study on translating politeness from English into Persian. The study aimed at finding out the sub-strategies of politeness in both English into Persian; it also aimed at comparing both cultures, and examining the TSs used in translating them from English into Persian. The results of the study showed that fourteen sub-strategies of off-record and negative were employed in both languages. The results also indicated that seven TSs were used by the translator, and the highest translation strategies were expansion and literal.

Fuertes-Olivera and Nielsen (2008) focused on the analysis of a Spanish-English business dictionary and its treatment of politeness in special sections dealing with business correspondence. The results revealed that the treatment is inadequate because clients’ business-language skills do not empower them to communicate the right degree of politeness. Bilingual dictionaries
should offer a systematic treatment of cultural and genre-specific means of expressing politeness in informative, contrastive, texts revealing the specific uses of politeness in business discourse.

Moreover, Dyminkiewicz (2007) aimed to investigate what occur to verbal politeness in demands in the subtitling of sex and the city into polish. The study applied Brown and Levinson’s politeness theory. The findings of the study revealed that on record PSs were the most used in the original English soundtrack. Off record and on record politeness were normally retained. As a matter of fact, negative and positive PSs were eliminated. The changes showed in the translation were expected to the constraints of space and time of subtitling. There were differences between English and polish languages.

Mahyuni (2008) reported that each culture seems to take part in a very wide set of linguistic politeness agreements. Hence, culture is a crucial component of one’s communication in all cultures. This means that politeness exists in all language and is a cross-cultural aspect; for instance, English and Arabic belong to two different language families and different cultures. The term politeness can be expressed in Arabic by different words such as *kiyaasah*, *ta?ddub*, *liyaaqah*, and ‘*mujamela*. Politeness in Arabic culture is used to show consideration and respect elders, greeting and helping them. Arabic language has rich cultural and religious linguistic norms in using politeness expressions. Arabs are known to have a strong abidance to Islam belief. For example, in greeting, people greet each other by using a religious expression as “*السلام عليكم*”.

Samarah (2015), in his article *Politeness in Arabic Culture*, mentions nine cases to be considerate in Arabic. These nine cases are: express sociability, express gratitude, benevolence and felicitation, express guilt, ask for permission, express your regards for the others, hospitality, and generosity, and express a respect for the other and start a conversation.

**Problem Statement**

A considerable number of researchers pinpoint the importance of politeness translation (Abuarrah & Isetith, 2016; Abudayeh & Dubbati, 2020; Ardi et al., 2016; Rahayu et al., 2019). Akbari (2014) says the translator should work on people’s interaction in different situations to make a frame of his or her study, and politeness paradigm is also utilizable in natural and directional equivalence. Navidinia et al. (2021) claim that there is a significant relationship between translation strategies and translator’s
personal traits. This claimed relationship may reflect a potential relationship between potential translation strategies and translator’s choice of politeness strategies. The alignment of Vinay and Darbelnet’s strategies of translation (1995) may yield symmetry or analogy with Brown and Levinson’s (1987) strategies of politeness in Zaidan’s (1999) Translation of Shaw’s *Arms and the Man* into Arabic. This correlation, if it does exist, needs to be scientifically proven. Akbari (2014) emphasizes that those who try to inspect the nature of politeness strategies in translation to procure an incredible interpretation or rendering in the target language and depict the deference strategy of the source language is completely utilizable.

### Significance of the Study

The significance of this study lies in using politeness in translation and giving information about translating literary text. The finding of this study will hopefully be useful for translation under/post-graduates, translators, and academic researchers. The study will serve the students who want to get information about PSs classified by Brown and Levinson (1987). It could be a guide for literary translators for providing them with more information in the translation of politeness in literary text from English into Arabic. This study will enrich the academic research in identifying TS that literary translators may apply in translating polite expressions from English into Arabic as well. The findings of this study might be used as a solid background rationale for other researchers who want to conduct a similar study related to translation of PSs.

### The Study Question

This study attempts to answer the following question: is there a significant correlation between Vinay and Darbelent’s translation strategies and Brown and Levinson’s politeness strategies in Zaidan’s Arabic translation of Shaw’s *Arms and the Man*?

### Research Method

The study employed a mixed design approach which involves both descriptive qualitative and quantitative research types to show a much more detailed view and draw a clear picture of what is being investigated. The study used qualitative methods by adopting an evaluation checklist which describes the types of politeness strategies and translation strategies employed by translator. In addition to that, a quantitative method is used to show the
amount or numbers of frequencies. Accordingly, SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) was used in analyzing the corpus of polite expressions.

The Study Corpus

The first corpus of this study was the data taken from an English play *Arms and the Man* written by the Irish author, Shaw, which was first published in 1894. The original play’s content consisted of 75 pages divided into three chapters. The second corpus, on the other hand, was the Arabic translation of the play which consisted of 101 pages.

After reading both versions of SL and TL of the play, polite expressions in the play were listed. The corpus was 207 polite expressions including PSs which were obtained from *Arms and the Man* and their Arabic translation by Zaidan. These expressions were distributed into five categories in terms of type of PSs namely: bald on record, negative, silent, positive, and negative, according to Brown and Levinson’s (1987) classification of PSs. Such distribution and classification of the corpus was made to simplify data analysis and presentation.

Data Collection Instrument

To guarantee getting sound analysis for the corpus, the following steps have been taken: First, both versions of “*Arms and the Man*”, the original English version and its Arabic translation, were read extensively to find out the types of PSs in the ST and TT based on Brown and Levinson’s (1987) classification of politeness theory. Secondly, polite expressions in corpus (Zaidan’s Translation) were sorted out with reference to a tool developed based-on Vinay and Darbelnet’s (1995) classification of TSs. Thirdly, the five types of PSs were matched out with TSs in the TT. Fourthly, the corpus data were subject to SPSS to investigate whether there is a correlation between PSs and TSs.

Planning for the Instrument

The source of data was non-human, so the main role of the researchers was planning, classifying, collecting, and analyzing the data. The study took the whole corpus of PSs found in both SL and TL. After gathering the data completely from the play, the data were classified according to the referential methods. The referential method employed in this study was the theory of politeness based on Brown and Levinson’s (1987) classification and Vinay and Darbelnet’s (1995) TSs. After collecting and classifying the data, the researchers planned to design an evaluation checklist.
Developing the Checklist

The instrument for data collection in this study was an evaluation checklist. This evaluation checklist was developed to answer the research question. To ensure its validity, the tool was checked by three professors specialized in applied linguistics and translation who suggested modifications to guarantee that it would answer the study question. To ensure the degree of reliability of the study tool, Cronbach’s Alpha was applied to measure the internal consistency of item corpus which indicates that Cronbach’s Alpha is equal to (0.581) that indicates high reliability. After carrying out the modifications suggested by validators, the checklist was brought to its final version.

Then, the checklist was tabulated in the form of an eight-column table; the first column involved SL corpus polite items within their context; the second and the third columns included SL and SL polite strategy respectively; the fourth and the fifth columns were used for the Arabic text and TL polite strategy respectively; the sixth column was designed for the TSs employed by Zaidan for transferring PSs into Arabic. After collecting corpus data and uploading it into the checklist, the data were analyzed quantitatively by using SPSS software (version 25) to investigate descriptive statistics such as, frequencies, percentages and spearman were applied to measure correlation between PSs and TSs.

Findings and Discussion

This section describes the findings resulted from the analysis of English PSs selected from *Arms and the Man* and their translations into Arabic as well as the strategies applied for translating them as presented by Zaidan (1999). Two-hundred and seven polite expressions were found in SL which is the corpus of the study.

To answer the question of the study, the following steps were taken into consideration:

- Collecting the corpora of the study (all embedded polite-scaled expressions in SL and TL).
- Sorting out polite expressions in SL and TL according to Brown and Levinson’s (1987) classification of politeness strategies (PSs).
- Exploring Vinay and Darbelnet’s (1995) translation strategies (TSs) adopted by Zaidan when translating *Arms and the Man*.
- Investigating whether there is a correlation between PSs and TSs in Zaidan’s translation of *Arms of the Man*.
Polite expressions in SL and TL according to Brown and Levinson

Table (1) provides information about the distribution of Brown and Levinson’s (1987) PSs in the source text of Arms and the Man and its Arabic Translation by Zaidan (1999).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Politeness</th>
<th>Politeness Strategies in SL</th>
<th>Politeness Strategies in TL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bald on record</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>positive</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>negative</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>off-record</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>silent strategy</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in Table (1), there is a similarity in frequency distribution of polite expressions between SL and TL. This symmetry reflects high consistency between the original text and the translation. That is, Zaidan tried to be in conformity to transfer PSs of SL to the best of as much as he could. The total number of polite expressions was 207 distributed among four types of PSs mentioned by Brown and Levinson. Brown and Levinson (1987) cited that PSs as a normal way of behavior aims at creating essential relaxing of FTAs. As stated earlier, there were four main PSs used by the speakers in Arms and the Man. The following section gives a clear account to this distribution of PSs used in Arms and the Man in both SL and TL.

The most frequent type of politeness strategy in both SL and TL was bald on record which scored 82 (39.6 %) and 84 (40.6%) respectively. Brown and Levinson (1987) stated that bald on record is utilized in various situations since speakers can have various motives in doing the FTAs. The speaker used this strategy without considering the feeling of the hearer. In other words, bald on record is categorized as the least polite strategy “completely absent of politeness.” Bald on record strategy was applied by the characters in Arms and the Man. An example selected from the data obtained from the current study is “shame on you” in SL and “تبا لك” in TL. The strategy was used by a mother to her daughter when a daughter asked her mother about the battle. The speaker used more directive speech toward the hearer. Zaidan tried to transfer this expressivity to TL.
The second frequent politeness strategy in both SL and TL was positive strategy with a frequency of 70 (33.8%) and 68 (32.9%) respectively. Positive politeness is used by the speaker to mitigate the speech act of the hearer. Yule (1996) mentioned that applying the positive politeness form is to assert the intimacy between the speaker and the hearer. According to Brown and Levinson (1987, p. 70), the positive strategy “is a technique which is directed towards the face saving or the positive self-image of hearer.”. An example about the positive politeness strategy selected from Arms and the Man, is the expression “My dear, Sergius” in SL, “عزيزي سرجيوس” in TL. In this case, the speaker applied the positive politeness strategy towards the hearer’s face. The word dear is used to convey the membership between the speaker and the hearer. Zaidan, on the other hand, tried to be consistent with that strategy.

The third frequent type of politeness strategy was the negative politeness in both SL and TL. The result revealed that negative politeness obtained 47 (22.7%) and 45 (21.7%) respectively. It has ten sub-strategies, which include conversationally indirect, hedge and question, be pessimistic, give deference, minimize the imposition, and apologize. An expression opted from Arms and the Man used by the speaker as negative PSs could be seen in the expression “I am sure. My fault, Madam; I hope you will overlook it.” in SL, and “تي إنها غلط يا سيدتي. أرجو أن تغضي النظر عنها.” in TL. The speaker used negative politeness by admitting that he is impinging on hearer’s face. The speaker apologizes to the hearer because he did something wrong towards the hearer. Zaidan has rendered this expression using the same strategy.

The fourth frequent politeness strategy used by the speakers in Arms and the Man in both SL and TL was off-record strategy which were 8 expressions (3.9%) and 7 expressions (3.4%) respectively. Brown and Levinson (1987) mentioned that speaker can apply off-record strategy by utilizing hints or statements which are considered to be the most polite strategy. The speaker uses this strategy to avoid FTA toward the hearer. This strategy involves fourteen sub-strategies which include overstate, use tautologies, be incomplete or use ellipses, give association clues, and use contradiction. An example about using off-record PSs can be shown as in expression “Well I don’t intend to get killed if I can help it.” in SL, and “حسنا.. لا أريد ان اموت إذا كان بإمكان” in TL. The speaker applied indirect speech toward the hearer. The speaker wants the hearer to help him and keep him away. Zaidan managed to transfer the expression into adopting the same strategy.
Another type of off-record strategy applied by the speaker in the source data of this study is overstating. For instance, the expression “If you are away five minutes, it will seem five hours.”, was used by the speaker to overstate his reaction. It can be noticed that PSs have been slightly changed in TL. For example, the discrepancy of the use of bald on record strategy may be referred to variation between the SL and TL due to the technique employed by the translator. It is remarkable that the frequencies of PSs in SL were a little bit higher than those in TL.

It is worth mentioning that the order of PSs is dependent on the nature of the text itself whose discourse depends on the background culture and the text and context of story events. The study of Rahayu et al. (2019) pinpointed slight differences. It showed that the most frequent type of politeness was positive. Whereas the current study revealed that bald on record was the most frequent type of PSs applied by the speakers.

Silent strategy was used in the target text when the polite expression in the source text was neglected despite not doing FTAs in SL. Three polite expressions (1.4%) were neglected to translate into Arabic. The study may refer this translation behavior to dealing with these expressions as redundant linguistically and functional when translating them into Arabic in an expression like “If you please!” which was not translated into Arabic. The study cannot confirm this reason behind neglecting these expressions however.

Vinay and Darbelnet`s translation strategies adopted by Zaidan when translating Arms and the Man

This part presents findings resulted from the data analysis following Vinay and Darbelnet’s (1995) model of translation strategies in Zaidan’s (1999) translation. This procedure, as mentioned earlier, helps answer research question through investigating to what extent there is a symmetry between translation strategies and Brwon and Levinson’s politeness strategies in Zidan’s translation of Arms and the Man. To take this procedure, the data were coded and entered into SPSS software for statistical analysis based on the seven strategies of Vinay and Darbelnet’s classifications. Table (2) gives a clear account to the TSs that were adopted by Zaidan (1999) in translating Shaw’s Arms and the Man.
Table 2: Frequencies and percentages of polite expressions adopted by Zaidan in Arms and the Man

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TSs</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct translation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borrowing /loan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calque</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literal strategy</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>75.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oblique translation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transposition</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modulation</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equivalence</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adaptation</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (2) displays the main and sub-categorized strategies used by the translator based on Vinay and Darbelnet’s (1995) model of TSs. The main strategies are literal or direct translation and free or oblique translation. Direct translation included three types: borrowing with 2 cases (1.0%), calque which was not applied by the translator, and literal translation which scored 156 (75.4%). Oblique translation, on the other hand, included four types; the highest type was modulation which was used for 30 times (14.5%), adaptation with 7 (3.4%), transposition with 7 (3.4%), and equivalence with 5 (2.4%) which is the least type of oblique translation.

The first strategy used by the translator was Literal translation that was the highest translation strategy used in translating PSs in Arms and the Man from English into Arabic with a frequency of 156 (75.4%). Literal strategy was used widely by the translator in rendering several polite expressions into Arabic. An example for this type is the expression “Tell me, tell me, how was it”, which was translated as “أخبريني، أخبريني كيف كانت المعركة”. Another example of using literal translation can be seen in expression “Stop” which was rendered into Arabic as “قفي”. A third example of using literal translation can be illustrated in expression “Tell me the truth” which was reproduced into TL as “أخبريني الحقيقة”. A similar study in this field, done by Alqunaibet (2018), focused on applying Vinay and Darbelnet’s TSs in literary text, in which literal translation was the most frequent type of TSs in translating this literary work. The study found that there is a definite similarity between this study and Al-Qunaibit’s study.

The second type of translation strategy employed by the translator in table (2) was modulation. Modulation strategy was the second most common strategy...
applied by the translator with a frequency of 30 (14.5%). Modulation refers to transferring the SL from various points of view in TT. In English and Arabic translation, modulation is a translation strategy that can be useful to overcome some difficulties of rendering meaning due to culture differences between the two languages. Vinay and Darbelnet (1995) mentioned that modulation could be optional and obligatory. For example, the polite expression “My dear, Blunutchli” was translated into Arabic as “عزيزي الكابتن بلونتشلي”. Another example of using modulation strategy is illustrated in expression “A shocking sacrifice is not it?” which was converted into TL as “إنه تضحية مثيرة للاشمنزاز أليس كذلك”.

The third type of translation strategy mentioned in Table (2) was adaptation. Adaptation was applied by the translator in rendering PSs from SL into TL. In the current study, adaptation scored 7 (3.4%). Newmark (1988) defined adaptation as the ‘freest’ type of translation. Adaptation is applied when a SL term is not found in the TL. Adaptation translation strategy was applied by the translator in rendering polite expressions as in the expression “Just see that he talks to them properly, Major, will you?”, which was translated into TL as “لطيفة؟ بطريقة من فضلك أيها المأجور أنظر فيما إذا كان سرجيوس يتحدث إليهم بطريقة لطيفة؟”. Another example of using adaptation can be noticed as in expression “Don’t mention it.” which was rendered into TL as “إلزمي الصمت”.

The fourth type of translation strategy was transposition. Transposition means a change of structure, which includes rendering the word class in the ST by a varied word class in the TT. In this study, transposition was used by the translator for rendering PSs from SL into TL with a frequency of 7 (3.4%). The expression “Good night.” was rendered into Arabic Language as “طاب مساوكة”. Another example of using transposition is the expression “Tiger cat”, which was translated into Arabic as “قطط متوحشة”.

The fifth type of translation strategy was equivalence. According to Vinay and Darbelnet (1995, p. 38), equivalence is “one and the same situation [that] can be delivered by two texts using totally different structural and stylistic”. In this study, equivalence was obtained by 5 (2.4%). An example of using equivalence in rendering politeness is the expression “The little beast!” which was rendered into Arabic as “الحيوان التالفه”. Another instance of using politeness strategy is given in the expression “Don’t scold me.” which was transferred into TL as “إغضري لي”.
The least translation strategy mentioned in table (2) was borrowing which was applied by the translator with a frequency of 2 (1.0%). Borrowing strategy was only applied twice in the current study. The translator resorted to use this strategy in order to add the flavour of the SL culture into TL culture. Borrowing strategy is coveted in order to manage translation gap between the two different languages. This translation strategy was used for dealing with culture-specific word. An example for this strategy was “You are a barbarian” which was rendered into TL as “بربريا”.

The last translation strategy mentioned by Vinay and Darbelnet, which is calque, was not applied by the translator. Vinay and Darbelnet (1995) defined calque as “a special type of borrowing whereas elements of an expression in the SL are translated literally into the TL”. Here, calque was the only strategy that did not exist in the sample of the recent study.

When doing macro analysis to the main types of translation elicited from the first column in Table (2), the pie chart in Figure (2) shows portion size and percentages of both the direct and oblique translation.

Figure 2: Direct and oblique translation of polite expressions in Arms and the Man

Figure (2) displays that direct translation type took the lion’s share of TSs used in the target text with frequency of 158 (77%). Oblique translation, on the other hand, was less than the direct translation with the frequency of 49
(23%). This indicated that direct translation type dominated the translation of polite expressions with more than three quarters whereas the proportion of oblique type was less than one quarter of the total number of polite expressions.

In comparison to a previous study done by Rahayu et al. (2019), who investigated TSs used in rendering PSs, the findings of the current study showed that direct translation was widely used by the translator, while the result of the compared study revealed that oblique translation was widely used by the translator for transferring PSs. The researchers in this study may refer this difference to the nature of subjectivity of translators who are directed by their own personal and functional orientations.

**Correlation between PSs and TSs in Zaidan’s translation of Arms and the Man**

To answer the question of this study: *is there a significant correlation between Vinay and Darbelent’s translation strategies and Brown and Levinson’s politeness strategies in Zaidan’s Arabic translation of Shaw’s Arms and the Man?*, the study, first, counted the frequencies and percentages of Brown and Levinson’s PSs, and Vinay and Darbelnet’s TSs used by Zaidan in the translation as shown in Table (2) and Figures (3) and (4) respectively.

![Figure 3: Politeness strategies in TT of Arms and the Man](image-url)
Figure 4: Translation strategies in TT of Arms and the Man

Having done this, the study comes to answer this question whether there is a possible correlation between PSs and TSs in the Arabic translation of Arms and The Man done by Zaidan. Table (3) was developed to match out PSs with TSs in TT. Data from the TL Version were opted and entered into the SPSS software (version 25) for statistical analysis based on Brown and Levinson’s (1987) politeness theory and Vinay and Darbelnet’s (1995) TSs. Chi-Square test was used for the analysis of the potential correlation between the five PSs: bald on record, positive, negative, off record and silent, and the seven TSs: literal, borrowing, transposition, calque, equivalence, modulation, and adaptation.

Table 3: Correlation analysis using Chi-Square test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pearson Chi-Square</td>
<td>110.979a</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likelihood Ratio</td>
<td>48.384</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear-by-Linear Association</td>
<td>3.253</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (3) shows analysis of correlation using Chi-Square test. The p-value is the probability of observing a chi-square statistic as extreme as the one calculated from the data, assuming that the null hypothesis is true. If the p-value is greater than the significance level which is (0.05), the study fails
to reject the null hypothesis. Accordingly, there is no significant association between the two variables, namely PSs and TSs since P-value is (0.07) which is higher than significance level (0.05). The absence of correlation between PSs and TSs may refer to the nature of the culture-bound linguistic use, individuality of translator and his own personal traits in TT (Navidinia et al., 2021) who has a spam of freedom to render the polite expression which results to inconsistency and unsystematic adoption of translation strategies.

Table 4: Matching out translation strategies with politeness strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Translation strategies</th>
<th>Bald on record</th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
<th>Off-record</th>
<th>Silent</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Borrowing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Count</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Literal strategy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>156.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Count</td>
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<td>51.2</td>
<td>33.9</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>156.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transposition</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Count</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>30.0</td>
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<td>9.9</td>
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<td>1.0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>30.0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equivalence</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
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<td>1.1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>5.0</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Adaptation</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Count</td>
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<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
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<td>Count</td>
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<td>68</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table (4) gives a clear picture of correlation between the PSs and the TSs employed by the translator for rendering polite expressions from SL into TL. The results indicated that five PSs joined with six TSs. Having looked at Table (4), all the five types of Brown and Levinson’s PSs are identified in the TL. They are bald on record, positive, negative, off record and silent strategy.
The highest number was bald on record strategy which represented 84 out of 207. The lowest number was the silent strategy representing 3. Negative politeness obtained 45 which is lower than positive but higher than off-record. From the column of expected count mentioned in Table (4) of matching out both PSs and TSs, it can be noticed that there was no clear correlation between politeness strategies and translation strategies. Bald-in-record in Figure (2) was the most frequent politeness strategy, and literal translation in Figure (3) was the most frequent translation strategy. It was worth mentioning that the more variation of politeness between SL and TL, the more it is likely to be free translation. That is, literal translation took the highest type in translating PSs from SL into TL. This is a reflection of Zaidan`s translation consistent behavior that abides by linguistic and social norms of SL. It is worth noticing that free translation techniques are not the major techniques despite the slight remarkable use of modulation.

The number of polite expressions that changed between the SL and TL texts was ten of all which are free. Nevertheless, the other 39 free translation of polite expressions were still unchanged: negative and off-record. Noticeably, literal translation had the highest percentage in rendering bald on record politeness strategy and the lowest was off-record. Meanwhile, modulation had the frequency of 30 which was distributed among four types of PSs. It is worth mentioning that adaptation was distributed among the five types of PSs. However, transposition was distributed among two types of PSs: bald on record and positive. Also, adaptation was distributed among all the five types of PSs. Equivalence was only used for rendering two types of polite expressions, namely bald on record and positive. Paying attention to the least frequent translation strategy which is borrowing (2), statistics showed that this type was used by the translator for rendering only bald on record expressions.

**Conclusion**

This study focused on investigating potential correlation between politeness strategies and translation strategies in Zaidan`s translation of Shaw`s *Arms and the Man* from English into Arabic. This was done through identifying politeness expressions and translation strategies utilized in both SL and TL.

The inconsistency in the relationship between PSs and TSs adopted by the translator may refer to several factors such as individuality of the translator who deals with translation as an intricate art, and a subject of fascination. The
complexity of translation is not only rooted in linguistic nuances but also in the interplay of various factors that shape the final outcome. Further research may delve into the inherent inconsistencies of translation, highlighting the individuality of the process and the diverse array of factors influencing translation, particularly the balance between adequacy of translation to the source text and its acceptability to the target readership.

Authors’ Contribution

EHA and JAA developed the introduction, literature review, problem statement, and research objectives, designed the research methodology, collected and analyzed the data, and contributed to interpreting the results and highlighting the conclusions and recommendations. Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

References


