Study on Chinese-English Translation Quality Assessment Based on Corpora

Peng Yang

School of Foreign Languages, Sichuan Vocational and Technical College, Suining, Sichuan, China

Keywords: Chinese-English translation; quality assessment; corpus

Abstract: This study used a corpus-based method to evaluate the quality of Chinese-English translation. By establishing Chinese and English parallel corpus, the semantic, grammar and pragmatic aspects of Chinese original and English translation are analyzed to evaluate the translation quality. The study found that there are some problems of semantic inaccuracy, grammar errors and improper pragmatic in Chinese and English translation. In order to improve the quality of translation, it is suggested that translators should have a solid language foundation and professional knowledge, and pay attention to translation practice and experience accumulation. This study provides new ideas and methods for the evaluation of Sino-British translation quality, and helps to promote the in-depth development of Sino-British translation research.

1. Introduction

With the deepening development of globalization, Chinese-English translation plays an increasingly important role in cross-cultural communication. However, the translation quality is uneven, so how to accurately evaluate the quality of Chinese and English translation has become an urgent problem to be solved. Traditional methods for assessing translation quality assessment rely mainly on manual evaluation, which is time-consuming, laborious and susceptible to subjective factors. In recent years, with the development of corpus technology, the research on corpus translation has become a new trend. This study aims to make an objective and quantitative assessment of Chinese and English translation quality, in order to provide a useful reference for translation practice and teaching.

This study first established a Chinese-English translation corpus by collecting a large number of Chinese-English parallel corpora. Then, the translated text is analyzed by word frequency, syntax, semantic and other aspects. By comparing the text characteristics of the source and target languages, this study found some key factors affecting the quality of translation in China and English, such as cultural differences, language structure differences, and vocabulary selection. These findings provide an important reference for the subsequent assessment of translation quality.

This study not only provides a useful exploration of the assessment of Chinese-English translation quality, but also provides new ideas and methods for translation practice and teaching. Through the corpus-based assessment of the translation quality, we can measure the accuracy and fluency of the translated text more objectively, thus improving the quality and efficiency of the translation. Moreover, this study can help translation learners to better understand difficulties and
problems in the translation process and improve their translation skills and level.

In conclusion, the corpus-based study has important theoretical and practical significance. By digging deep into the problems and challenges in Chinese-English translation, this study will provide useful reference and reference for future translation research and practice.

2. Research status of Sino-British translation quality assessment

As an important bridge of cross-cultural communication, the quality assessment of Chinese-English translation has always been a hot issue in the field of translation research. With the deepening of globalization, the demand for translation in Chinese and English is increasing year by year, but the quality of translation is uneven, which brings great challenges to the translation practice and teaching[1].

Rule-based method: This method mainly relies on the theoretical knowledge of linguistics and translational science, and evaluates the quality of translation by formulating a series of rules. However, due to the complexity and dynamics of the language, it is very difficult to establish a complete set of translation rules.

Statistics-based methods: This method uses natural language processing and machine learning techniques to analyze and learn a large number of corpora, so as to automatically evaluate the quality of translation. Although this method has some objectivity and operability, the statistical methods still have limitations for some complex linguistic phenomena and contextual information.

Method based on manual evaluation: This method relies on the experience of professional translators or translation teachers, and is evaluated by manually comparing the quality, accuracy and fluency of the source language and the target language. Although manual assessment is able to take into account many complex linguistic factors and contextual information, this approach is time-consuming and susceptible to subjective factors[2].

Mixed methods: In view of the advantages and disadvantages of the above three methods, more and more studies have begun to combine multiple methods in order to obtain a more comprehensive and objective assessment of translation quality. This approach includes both the objectivity and operability of rules and statistical methods, and incorporates the subjectivity and depth of manual assessment, and is considered as an important direction for future assessment of translation quality.

3. The combination of corpus technology and translation research

With the rapid development of information technology, corpus technology is increasingly widely used in linguistics and translation fields. Corpus is a large-scale collection of language samples that provides rich resources for language research by collecting and collating large amounts of real language data. As a branch of linguistics, the combination of translation research with corpus technology brings new perspectives and methods to translation research[3].

First, the corpus technology provides a large amount of real language data for translation research. Traditional translation research often rely on a small number of artificial translation samples, and it is difficult to fully reflect the real language phenomena and translation process. The corpus technology can collect a large number of parallel corpora, namely the corresponding text of the source language and the target language, providing a more comprehensive and realistic data basis for translation research. Through the analysis of these data, researchers can have a deeper understanding of the rules of language conversion and the selection of translation strategies in the translation process[4].

Secondly, the corpus technology provides an objective and quantitative analysis method for translation research. Traditional translation research often relies on subjective evaluation and experience summary, and it is difficult to carry out objective and quantitative analysis. The corpus
technology can deeply analyze the translated text through word frequency analysis, syntactic analysis, semantic analysis and other methods. These analytical methods can provide more objective and accurate data support for the translation research, and help to reveal the internal laws in the translation process.

In addition, corpus technology can be used for studies of machine translation and automated evaluation. With the continuous development of artificial intelligence technology, machine translation has become a reality. The corpus technology can provide a lot of training data for machine translation and improve the accuracy and fluency of translation. At the same time, the evaluation of machine translation output through corpus technology can objectively measure the quality of translation and provide a useful reference for the development of machine translation.

In short, the combination of corpus technology and translation research brings new opportunities and challenges for translation research. This combination not only enriches the theory and method of translation research, but also improves the accuracy and efficiency of translation practice. In the future, with the continuous development and improvement of corpus technology, it is believed that its application in translation research will be more extensive and in-depth [5].

4. The study found that

4.1 Influence of cultural differences on translation quality

In the translation process, cultural differences is a factor that cannot be ignored. Due to the differences of different languages and cultural backgrounds, the cultural connotation and language habits in the original text are often difficult to be accurately conveyed in the target language. Therefore, the impact of cultural differences on the translation quality cannot be ignored.

First, cultural differences can affect the accuracy of the translation. In the process of translation, the translator needs to accurately convey the meaning of the original text, but due to the differences in cultural background, some specific cultural concepts, idioms, allusions and so on may not be accurately translated into the target language. This may lead to problems such as semantic ambiguity and information distortion in the translation, which may affect the accuracy of the translation.

Secondly, cultural differences can affect the fluency of translation. In the process of translation, the translator needs to maintain the language style and expression mode of the original text, but due to the differences in the cultural background, some culture-specific expression methods may be difficult to be understood by the readers of the target language. This may lead to problems such as stiff language and unnatural expression in the translation, which will affect the fluency of the translation [6].

In addition, cultural differences will also affect the reader acceptance of the translation. Reader acceptance of the translation is one of the important criteria to measure the quality of the translation, and cultural differences will affect the readers’ understanding and acceptance of the translation. If the translation cannot accurately convey the cultural connotation of the original text, or the expression mode is contrary to the language habits and cultural background of the target readers, the reader acceptance of the translation will be reduced.

To overcome the impact of cultural differences on the quality of translation, translators need to adopt some strategies. Firstly, the background and characteristics of the original culture and the target culture should be fully understood in the translation process, so as to ensure the accurate understanding of the original text and the correct guidance to the target readers. Secondly, some translation skills and strategies can be adopted, such as explanatory translation, transliteration, etc., to retain the cultural connotation of the original text as much as possible and make the translation easily understood by the target readers.
In conclusion, cultural differences are one of the important factors affecting the quality of translation. In the process of translation, the translator needs to fully consider the influence of cultural differences, and adopt corresponding strategies to improve the accuracy and fluency of the translation, so that the translation can better convey the ideas and style of the original work\textsuperscript{[7]}.

### 4.2 Influence of differences in language structure on translation quality

The difference of language structure is a negligible factor in the translation process, which is crucial to the translation quality. Due to the differences in grammar, syntax, vocabulary and other aspects of different languages, how to handle these differences in the translation process is crucial to ensure the accuracy and fluency of the translation.

First, language structure differences can affect the accuracy of translation. In the process of translation, if the translator cannot deal with the structural differences of different languages well, it may lead to semantic ambiguity, information distortion and other problems in the translation. For example, passive voice is commonly used in English, while active voice is more commonly used in Chinese. If the translator cannot handle this difference correctly, it will affect the accuracy of the translation.

Secondly, language structure differences will affect the fluency of translation. Different languages have different sentence structure and expression mode. If the translator cannot deal with these differences well, it will make the translation appear stiff and unnatural. For example, long sentences and composite sentences are often used in English, while Chinese prefers short sentences and simple sentences. If the translator directly translates the long English sentences into Chinese, it will make the translation appear stiff and does not conform to the Chinese expression habit.

To overcome the impact of language structure differences on translation quality, translators need to adopt some strategies. First, the translator needs to fully understand the linguistic characteristics and structural differences between the original and the target language in order to better deal with the problems in translation. Secondly, the translator can adopt some translation skills and strategies, such as breaking sentences, combining sentences, adjusting language order, so as to make the translation more in line with the expression habits and grammar rules of the target language. In addition, translators can also use some translation tools and software to improve the accuracy and efficiency of translation\textsuperscript{[8]}.

In conclusion, differences in language structure are one of the important factors affecting the quality of translation. In the translation process, translators need to fully consider the influence of differences in language structure and adopt corresponding strategies to improve the accuracy and fluency of translation. Only in this way can the translation better convey the ideas and style of the original work.

### 4.3 Effect of vocabulary selection on translation quality

In the process of translation, vocabulary selection is a crucial link, which directly affects the quality of translation. Due to the differences in lexical meaning, cultural connotation and expression habits between different languages, translators must make accurate vocabulary selection in the translation process to ensure the accuracy and fluency of the translation.

First, vocabulary selection is crucial to accurately convey the meaning of the original text. In the process of translation, the translator needs to accurately understand the meaning of the vocabulary in the original text, and make appropriate vocabulary choices according to the expression habits and context of the target language. If the vocabulary chosen by the translator is inaccurate or incomplete, it will lead to semantic ambiguity and information distortion in the translation, which will affect the quality of the translation\textsuperscript{[9]}.
Secondly, vocabulary selection is crucial to maintaining the cultural connotation of the original text. In the process of translation, the translator needs to fully consider the cultural background and meaning of the original vocabulary, and make appropriate vocabulary selection according to the context of the target culture. If the translator ignores the cultural connotation of the original vocabulary, or the chosen vocabulary cannot express the corresponding cultural significance, the translation will lose the cultural charm of the original text, thus affecting the quality of the translation.

In addition, vocabulary selection also affects the fluency and readability of the translation. In the process of translation, the translator needs to make appropriate vocabulary selection according to the expression habits and grammar rules of the target language to ensure the fluency and readability of the translation. If the vocabulary chosen by the translator is contrary to the expression habits and grammar rules of the target language, it will lead to problems such as stiff language and unnatural expression in the translation, which will affect the quality of translation.

To improve the quality of translation, translators need to adopt some strategies to optimize the vocabulary selection. First, the translator needs to fully understand the lexical differences and cultural connotations between the original and the target language in order to better select the appropriate vocabulary. Secondly, in the process of translation, the translator can adopt some translation skills and strategies, such as the extension and embodiment of word meaning and the transformation of part of speech, so as to make the translation more in line with the expression habits and grammar rules of the target language. In addition, translators can also use some translation tools and software to improve the accuracy and efficiency of translation.

In conclusion, vocabulary selection is one of the important factors affecting the quality of translation. In the translation process, translators need to fully consider the influence of vocabulary selection and adopt corresponding strategies to optimize vocabulary selection. Only in this way can the translation better convey the ideas and style of the original work.

5. Conclusion

The corpus technique provides an objective and quantitative analysis method for the Chinese-English translation quality assessment. By comparing the text features of the source and target languages, key factors affecting the quality of translation, such as vocabulary choice and syntactic conversion. These analytical methods can provide useful references for translation practice and teaching, and help translators to improve their translation skills and level. The influence of cultural differences on the quality of Chinese and English translation cannot be ignored. In the translation process, differences in cultural background may lead to semantic ambiguity and information distortion. Therefore, translators need to fully consider the influence of cultural differences in the translation process, and adopt corresponding strategies to improve the accuracy and fluency of translation. The influence of language structure differences on the quality of translation in China and English cannot be ignored. Due to the differences in grammar, syntax, vocabulary and other aspects of different languages, the translator needs to deal with these differences in the translation process to ensure the accuracy and fluency of the translation. Therefore, the translator needs to fully understand the linguistic characteristics and structural differences of the original language and the target language, and adopt corresponding strategies to improve the accuracy and fluency of the translation. The research on Chinese-English translation quality assessment based on corpus is of great significance and application value. By digging deep into the problems and challenges in Chinese and English translation, we can provide useful reference and reference for the future translation research and practice. At the same time, this evaluation method can also provide rich case cases and data support for translation teaching, and
help students to better understand the translation process. In the future, we will continue to study in depth the Sino-English translation quality evaluation method based on the corpus, in order to provide more scientific and objective evaluation tools and methods for translation practice and teaching.

References