A Brief Analysis of the Trend and Direction of Translation Teaching Reform for English Majors in Colleges and Universities in Present-day China

Yang Xiaoru
Xi’an University, 710065

Keywords: college; English major; translation; reform; trend; direction

Abstract: In recent years, the demand for professional English talents in China has increased geometrically in both quality and quantity. As a large country of education, there are not a few professional English talents trained every year, but on the whole, the contradiction between talent demand and training is still prominent. In the new period of economic and social development in China, translation teaching in English majors in colleges and universities in China presents new characteristics. To enhance the translation teaching reform of English majors in colleges and universities in the new period is a key issue related to the success or failure of the development and reform of higher education, and this plays an important indicative role in the development and reform of other disciplines. This paper analyzes the trend and direction of translation teaching reform for English majors in colleges and universities in China in the new period.

English is an important basic subject. Under the influence of globalization, English, as a communicative language in the world, plays an increasingly important role in the world. At present, the demand for English talents at all levels in China is increasing year by year. As the leading figures of professional and high-quality personnel training in China, colleges and universities shoulder an important historical mission in the educational reform in the new period.

Translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities in China began earlier. After years of continuous development and improvement, it has made commendable achievements in both the curriculum structure and the education system. However, we should also see the problems in the development, especially in the important transition period of the reform and development of colleges and universities, how to comply with the trend of translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities, seriously examine their own shortcomings, face the long-term, facing the future, out of their own unique road of development is a practical problem that needs to be solved for the translation teachers for English majors in every university.

1. Shortcomings in Translation Teaching for English Majors in Colleges and Universities

Translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities is an important part of the English teaching system in colleges and universities. At present, the problems existing in translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities in China are mainly as follows:
1.1 Backward Methods of Education and Teaching

From a certain point of view, English is not only a new subject, but also a time-honored discipline. To say that it is brand new means that its educational and teaching methods and teaching contents are in the process of keeping pace with the times; to say that it is time-honored refers to the relatively stable grammatical structure and knowledge composition of English. In order to improve translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities, it is necessary to recognize its two attributes. As the most cutting-edge position for our country to accept new things and new thinking, colleges and universities should be in the forefront of the times in all aspects of innovation and development, but on the whole, our education and teaching thinking and teaching methods tend to be relatively conservative, and many places are out of step with the development of the times. Some methods of translation education for English majors in colleges and universities have seriously affected the subject, and the healthy and sustainable development of this course. In the translation education and teaching of English majors in colleges and universities, we generally continue the traditional teaching methods. The classroom takes the teacher as the core, and more students are in the position of passive acceptance. In the classroom, the interaction between teachers and students is less, so the lack of necessary communication between teachers and students makes the curriculum one-way. This backward and old teaching method is difficult to stimulate students' interest in learning, and even seriously restricts students' creativity and imagination in some aspects.

1.2 Lack of Professional Teaching Faculty

The contingent of teachers is the basis and core of the long-term and healthy development of a discipline. At present, a big problem in translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities in China is the backwardness of the construction of teaching staff. There is a big gap between our college English teaching staff and the requirements of teaching objectives in terms of ability literacy and knowledge composition. On the one hand, many English teachers in colleges and universities graduate from professional English colleges and universities, and they may have rich English professional knowledge, but due to the lack of training in normal colleges and universities, many teachers have empty knowledge, so their performance in education and teaching is not satisfactory. On the other hand, due to financial constraints, once college English teachers set foot on the job, it is difficult to have the opportunity to exchange and learn from each other, a variety of on-the-job training and other work is also rare, therefore it has not yet formed an effective mechanism. As a result, over time, many teachers have gradually lost their enthusiasm for work, and it is very easy to breed slackness in their minds.

1.3 Lack of scientific evaluation mechanism

Scientific evaluation mechanism plays a benign role in promoting the development of the cause. Up to now, translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities in China has not yet formed a set of long-term evaluation mechanism which adapts to its own development, scientific and feasible, and strong maneuverability. It is difficult to evaluate the work of English teachers in colleges and universities in the form of quantification. The evaluation system used by many schools is basically reference to the set of examination-oriented education, which is neither reasonable nor scientific. Although this evaluation mechanism has been widely criticized, it is still popular. According to the reality of their own development and the requirements of discipline construction, it is urgent for colleges and universities to formulate a set of reasonable and scientific evaluation mechanism of translation teaching for English majors.
1.4 Neglected Application of New Education and Teaching Means

It is an indisputable fact that translation teaching for English majors needs the assistance of new teaching methods. However, on the whole, the translation teaching of English majors in colleges and universities in China is still at the middle and later level in the application of brand-new teaching methods. At present, a variety of education and teaching aids based on new media emerge endlessly, which play a strong role in promoting the level of education and teaching. In the new media environment, the initiative of students can be fully guaranteed. In the new media environment, students can participate in and cooperate with each other. The new media takes the network platform as the learning tool, on this platform has the rich learning resources, the student can make full use of the network to collect and collate the learning materials. This model breaks the traditional teacher-centered way of education and teaching, and highlights the subjective status of students. At the same time, new media technology is also conducive to teachers to update their ideas. At present, more advanced education and teaching methods, such as microcourses, have been carried out in many disciplines, but translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities is still standing still in the application of new media technology, obviously behind the construction of various disciplines.

2. Trend and Direction of Translation Teaching Reform for English Majors in Colleges and Universities in the New Period

The overall goal of translation teaching reform for English majors in colleges and universities in the new era is to take social demand as the guide, adjust the mode of talent training, and reform and innovate translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities with systematic, scientific and continuous thinking. The translation teaching reform of English majors in colleges and universities is an important part of the education and teaching reform in colleges and universities, which plays a guiding and leading role in the overall reform of education and teaching in colleges and universities. To grasp the opportunity of translation teaching reform for English majors in colleges and universities in the new period, we are required to take quality education as the basic tone, strive to improve students' comprehensive literacy and innovative ability, and adhere to the idea of putting what we have learned into practice in education and teaching. Cultivate students' ability to apply knowledge, and earnestly strengthen the application of learning in education and teaching.

Generally speaking, the trend and direction of translation teaching reform for English majors in colleges and universities in the new period mainly show the following characteristics:

2.1 More and More Explicit Positioning of Teaching Itself

In order to do a good job in the reform and innovation of translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities, we must first clarify its position in English teaching in colleges and universities, and we must have a clear understanding of some of the problems in translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities. Translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities should not only teach students knowledge, but also include communication ability and learning ability. As one of the iconic functions of English translation, instrumentality should run through the translation teaching of English majors in colleges and universities. We should be good at leading students out of the classroom, be good at enlightening students to find their own shortcomings in practice, and strive to forge students' autonomous learning ability.
2.2 More Focus on the Practical Ability in Teaching

English translation itself is a very practical work. Before that, there was a certain deviation in our understanding of English translation, which overemphasized the indoctrination of knowledge and weakened the position of practice in translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities to some extent. At present, focus on practical teaching has become an important direction of translation teaching reform in colleges and universities. We should strive to improve the practice of students, for students to create more opportunities out of the classroom, so that students deeper into society, as soon as possible into the social practice. Through practice, students can appreciate the charm of English translation, and through practice, students can have a deeper understanding of foreign culture.

2.3 Optimization of the Application of Teaching Auxiliary Means

Science and technology as the primary productive force should not be just a slogan. In the translation teaching of English majors in colleges and universities, we should be good at using all kinds of information-based auxiliary means of education and teaching. At present, all kinds of new media education and teaching methods have been used in all fields of education and teaching like bamboo shoots after a spring rain. The combination of new media and education and teaching has become a trend, a trend. The new media teaching means are based on information and network technology, which greatly expand the classroom capacity and the space of education and teaching. For the majority of teachers, the application of new media education and teaching means is also a process of self-improvement and self-remodeling. In the new media environment, translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities can make high-quality courseware with rich content, diverse forms and close to students' preferences by means of modern technology. The communication between students and teachers is no longer limited to time and space, communication can be carried out anytime, anywhere. Instead of having a piece of chalk and a blackboard as in the past, teachers can push pictures, texts, sounds, images and other information from time to time with the help of computers, projectors, network terminals and other tools. Translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities under the new media environment has undergone great changes in terms of information transmission structure, students' cognitive structure, classroom time integration, and the means of communication between teachers and students. Rich and interesting teaching methods and teaching content greatly stimulate the students' interest in learning and lead the students to explore the unknown territory consciously.

2.4 Higher Requirements for Teachers' Ability and Accomplishment

In the new era, translation teaching for English majors in colleges and universities has put forward better requirements for the ability and accomplishment of teachers. It not only requires our college English teachers to improve their knowledge level effectively, but also requires the majority of teachers to improve their ability and accomplishment in an all-round way. Each school should conform to the overall situation of reform and development, proceed from its own reality, multi-level, step by step to open up a path for the improvement of the ability and quality of the majority of teachers, so that the majority of teachers in the exchange of learning continue to improve, in the continuous learning collision to take the strengths of others, make up for their own shortcomings, and then achieve the continuous rise of the overall level.
References