



People's Democratic Republic of Algeria  
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research  
University of Ibn Khaldoun, Tiaret  
Faculty of Letters and Languages  
Department of Foreign Languages  
Section of English



**Critical Discourse Analysis of Linguistic  
and Cultural Obstacles in English-Arabic  
Translation Among EFL Students**

Case Study: 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Students of Ibn Khaldoun University,  
Tiaret

A Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfilment for the Requirements of the Master  
Degree in Linguistics

**Submitted by:**

Mr. Gattaf Mouffak Sid Ahmed  
Mr. Sennaoui Abdelhafidh

**Supervised by:**

Dr. Fasla Allel Bilel

**Board of Examiners**

Mrs. Marhoum Rafika	<b>Chairwoman</b>	(MAA)	Ibn Khaldoun university-Tiaret
Dr. Fasla Allel Bilel	<b>Supervisor</b>	(MCB)	Ibn Khaldoun university-Tiaret
Dr. Boughena Khaldia	<b>Examiner</b>	(MCB)	Ibn Khaldoun university-Tiaret

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## **Dedication**

*First of all, praise and thanks and foremost to Allah who has guided us during all these years.*

*We dedicate this dissertation work to our dear parents and family. Our thanks and dedication also goes to our teachers for devoting their time to spread knowledge and enlighten our minds, to our friends who encourage and help us.*

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## **Abstract**

The research at hand attempts to investigate the linguistic and cultural obstacles and difficulties that English foreign language learners face during the translation process, especially when they translate texts, idioms and cultural expressions from Arabic language to English language and the other way around. This study consists of three main chapters, the first chapter provides different definitions of the concepts of language, culture and translation in addition to shed the light on the different translation methods and strategies according to several scholars, the second chapter introduces the different linguistic and cultural obstacles that translators may face in the process of translation, along with mentioning specific translation strategies to overcome the translation obstacles, and the last chapter introduces the used instruments and tools to collect data and analyse the results using the critical discourse analysis, which is the appropriate approach in analysing texts and their relation to socio-cultural practices, since this research focuses on describing, interpreting and explaining the translation problems that come against English Foreign Language students during the operation of translation. The product and the process analyses reveal that the most common difficulties faced by the 3rd year students are the misuse of translation strategies and the ambiguity and misunderstanding of expressions in terms of pragmatic competence, the lack of vocabulary, the linguistic untranslatability of some expressions, and the grammatical differences of languages in terms of linguistic competence, while the gap between languages and cultures, the limited cultural background of the source language, the lack of cultural background of the target language and the failure to achieve the appropriate equivalence in the target language stand as difficulties and obstacles in terms of culture.

**Keywords:** Cultural background, translation process, linguistic obstacles, cultural obstacles, critical discourse analysis.

## **List of Abbreviations**

**CDA:** Critical Discourse Analysis

**EFL:** English Foreign Language

**SLA:** Second Language Acquisition

**SL:** Source Language

**ST:** Source Text

**TL:** Target Language

**TT:** Target Text

**SC:** Source Culture

**TC:** Target Culture

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## General Introduction

The invention of writing in 3400 B.C set the tone for human developments and human communication; which is a symbolic system that transfers language and carries multiple beliefs, ideas and thoughts, cultures and the history of the ancient civilizations along with different nations from all around the world. Language becomes more functional when it is connected to writing, especially when the main purpose is to transfer thoughts and cultures through translating texts, speech and most importantly the real meaning behind each word and expression.

Many scholars have given multiple definitions of language, culture and translation. They basically define language as the system of communication based on structured words to communicate, convey and transmit knowledge, ideas and thoughts through speech, signs and writings, it is the best tool and the road map that links different cultures and nations, while they define translation as the process of transferring ideas, words, rendering texts, knowledge or purposes from SL to TL. Generally, the main purpose of translation is to reproduce various kinds of spoken and written texts in another language directed towards a reader who shares a different language and maybe a different culture. However, translators may face many difficulties and obstacles due to the diversity of languages and cultures, these difficulties start to occur because of the fact that ‘not all people share the same culture and language structure’ which led us to do our research and investigate the linguistic and the cultural difficulties and obstacles that face EFL students (3rd year students of English at university of Ibn Khaldoun, Tiaret) and translation performers in general.

This research is built on three main chapters, the first chapter includes general definitions of language, culture, translation and their importance and the relationship between them. It also provides different translation methods and strategies suggested by scholars in the field of translation studies such as Peter Newmark, Jean-Paul Vinay and Jean Darbelnet, Mona Baker and Eugene Nida. The second chapter introduces many difficulties and obstacles that translators may face during the translation process, these difficulties are divided into: the linguistic difficulties which have a relationship with language and the cultural difficulties that become observable through texts embedded in a given culture and idiomatic expressions, it also contains

translation strategies to overcome the cultural obstacles and obtain a closer meaning in the SL. While the final chapter is practical, it contains collected data and analysis of a survey that was provided by us to 3rd year English students of Ibn Khaldoun University, Tiaret. In order to investigate the most common difficulties and obstacles in terms of linguistics and culture in translation from English to Arabic.

## **1. Research Questions**

The questions we aim to answer in this study are the following:

1. What are the most common linguistic and cultural difficulties that EFL students and translation performers face during the translation process?
2. Are there any translation strategies that should be used by EFL students and translation performers to deal with cultural texts and obtain very close meaning to the SL?
3. How do EFL students typically perceive and grasp the foreign languages cultures, namely English?

## **2. Research Hypotheses**

The following hypotheses are possible to answer the previous research questions:

1. The lack of linguistic and pragmatic competence in terms of linguistics, the lack of cultural background and failure to find equivalent structures from SL to TL, and the ambiguity of the cultural words and expressions in terms of culture.
2. Many scholars have mentioned different strategies; EFL students and translators should be aware of these translation strategies and differentiate between them, in order to choose the proper strategy in the process of translation and obtain the possible closest meaning in the TL, especially when dealing with cultural materials.
3. In order to perceive a foreign language culture, EFL students and translation performers should learn the customs and the traditions of the TL community.

### **3. Research Aims**

This study deals with a critical discourse analysis and investigation of the linguistic and cultural obstacles and difficulties that come against EFL students in the process of translation from Arabic to English. However, the secondary aim of this research is to discover how EFL students adopt the precise and the correct translation strategies and to provide them with the right translation strategies to overcome the translation difficulties.

### **4. Research Significance**

This research aims to investigate the obstacles and problems that appear during the process of translation, in terms of linguistics and cultural aspects. The main points of this study is to facilitate the operation of translation among EFL students by analysing the 3<sup>rd</sup> year students' translation, highlighting and defining the most common difficulties in addition to providing solutions concerning the used strategies to overcome this latter.

### **5. Research Methodology**

The research methodology used in this study is a qualitative critical discourse analysis. The selected instruments in this research are questionnaires delivered to 3<sup>rd</sup> year English students of Ibn Khaldoun University, and a direct observation during the translation session.

### **6. Research Process**

This study consists of three main chapters. The first chapter is considered as the theoretical part of this research, in which it provides different definitions of the concepts of language, culture and translation. In addition to shed light on the different translation methods and strategies according to several scholars. On the other hand, the second chapter introduces the different linguistic and cultural obstacles that translators may face in the process of translation, along with mentioning specific translation strategies to overcome the translation obstacles. However, the last chapter is practical, it introduces the used instruments and tools to collect data and analyse the results using the CDA approach.



# Chapter I:

## Language, Culture and Translation

## **Introduction**

Language, culture and translation are closely related to each other, they are the keys of communication between people from different nations. Studying language, culture, translation and the relationship between them is valuable due to the importance and the complexity of Human communication. The variety of languages with the diversity of cultures and the necessity of communication in human's life caused translation to be a very effective tool in communicating, exchanging cultures and knowledge. This chapter deals with the definitions of language and culture and their importance, the relationship between language and culture, the definition of translation, translation types, translation strategies and the relationship between culture and translation.

### **1. Language and Culture**

Many scholars agree that learning a language is not only related to learning the alphabet, the meaning, the grammar rules and the arrangement of words but it is also concerned with learning the behaviour of the society and its cultural customs. It influences an individual's behaviour and attitudes. Therefore, Claire J. Kramersch (1998) stated that “language is a system of signs that is seen as having itself a cultural value. Speakers identify themselves and others through their use of language, they view their language as a symbol of their social identity”.

#### **1.1. Language**

Language is basically defined as a system of communication and the main factor that links between humans, cultures and nations. In human history, language is considered to be the best tool by which human beings could express most of their feelings, needs, attitudes, beliefs, and experiences, it is considered as a way of conveying and maintaining thoughts and ideas through speech, sign, or writing. Henry Sweet, an English phonetician and language scholar, stated that “Language is the expression of ideas by means of speech-sounds combined into

words”. To illustrate, the words are combined to transmit meanings and thoughts to the listener. It is also used in a different way by many creators as humans, animals and even machines and computers. Therefore, Language is what makes individuals communicate, mastering language means mastering a complex system of words and structures. It is an important factor to culture, society, business, human development and personal communication.

### **1.1.1. The Importance of Language to Culture and Society**

Language is fundamental to cultural identity. It is used to transfer culture from one generation to the other, and the ability to rapidly understand thoughts that may be different from your own culture. Anthony Aristar claimed that losing a language is a major setback for everyone, because along with the language, you will also lose all of the poems, the stories, the songs. And those things are of immense importance to all of us as human beings. However, Dottie Lebeau said that “Losing the language means losing the culture. We need to know who we are because it makes a difference in who our children are”. People from different nations are in need of language in order to understand their culture, if you lose the language, you lose the culture. According to Rita Mae Brown (2015), Language is the road map of a culture. It tells you where its people come from and where they are going. Individuals from different societies are in the need of language in order to share their own culture and beliefs.

### **1.1.2. The Importance of Language to Business**

Without language we cannot share ideas and grow them, learning a foreign language will give the ability to the individuals to share ideas with people who come from a different country or simply learn how to use it to dominate while doing an interview and networking with others.

### **1.1.3. The Importance of Language to Human Development**

The human race is the most advanced species in the whole universe. Language plays a very important role for human development and knowledge exchange. Ludwig Wittgenstein (1922) mentioned that "The limits of my language mean the limits of my world." Individuals cannot speak about the same things if the words don't exist to allow them to speak. This makes them unaware of concepts that others are able to discuss, this last may lead to the inability to develop due to the limitation of language. Today's technology is available for the reason that language is the way of learning and sharing ideas which help humans during their development.

### **1.1.4. The Importance of Language for Personal Communication**

Language is important for personal communication; people are able to talk to friends, partners, or family when they use a shared language. A shared language is necessary for this type of interaction.

## **1.2. Culture**

Cultures are viewed to be rather different systems of ideas: cognitive, symbolic, and critical. From the cognitive point of view. Edward B. Tylor in his book 'Primitive Culture' 1871 defined the concept of culture as the "complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, law, morals, customs, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society". While Goodenough (1957) tried to illustrate the previous definition and claimed that:

"A society's culture consists of whatever it is one has to know or believe in order to operate in a manner acceptable to its members ... Culture is not a material phenomenon; it does not consist of things, people, behaviour, or emotions. It is rather an organisation of these things. It is the forms of things that people have in mind, their models for perceiving, relating, and otherwise interpreting them (p. 167).

To illustrate, culture is seen as the knowledge of structures that every individual must be acquainted with, in order to effectively operate and successfully interact with different members of the society. In other words, culture can be defined as the set of attitudes, beliefs and practices shared by individuals of the same society. However, Ernest Becker referred to culture as a codified hero system which is a living myth of the significance of human life. According to him, our set of ideas of the meaning of things, and the ideas of the nature of reality are culturally derived, by which he meant that our judgments and opinions concerning right and wrong are based on our own cultural perspectives. However, the cultural perspectives of wrong and right in most cases are based on religion which is influenced by culture and also influences culture. Therefore, culture varies from one society to another, according to the individual's principles, attitudes and beliefs.

### **1.2.1. The Importance of Culture**

As seen throughout these definitions, culture touches upon all aspects of life. It has an influence on spoken languages, perceptions of the world, attitudes and behaviours, values and religious beliefs, dressing and eating habits, systems of education, health etc. Although it may be sometimes silent and unseen, its presence has an irrefutable importance in shaping human existence and giving meaning to people's lives. A major importance of culture is its ability to create strong bonds that tie people together; values, costumes, customs and traditions that all society members share and hold on to make up an effective means of social integration and solidarity. At the same time, culture is viewed as a system that controls society. People's established principles and values are based on cultural beliefs and rules. This is clearly reflected in the various mannerisms they exhibit and serve as underlying motives for their actions and ways of life. Fernandez-Armesto (2001) stated that "A people's proximity to and relationship with neighbouring cultures can transform or inform the life of a society" (p. 4 - 5). Cultural values and practices in a given community give it a unique identity and set it apart from other cultures. A community acquires a distinguished personality and nature due to the culture of its people. Culture is so valuable that norms, artistic, spiritual and linguistic symbols are learned, followed and passed on from one generation to the next. Wagner (1975) agreed that "When we

speak of people belonging to different cultures, then, we are referring to a very basic kind of difference between them, suggesting that there are specific varieties of the phenomenon of man” (p. 12). Sustaining these values and practices guarantees a long-lasting survival of cultures and allows people to stay connected to their roots and stand out in foreign lands.

### **1.3. The Relationship between Language and Culture**

From the point of view of cultural anthropologists, culture is characterised by the following four basic features:

- Culture is a kind of social inheritance instead of biological heritage.
- Culture is shared by the whole community, not belonging to any particular individual.
- Culture is a symbolic meaning system in which language is one of the most important ones.
- Culture is a unified system, the integral parts of which are closely related to one another.

However, the study of language and the study of culture appear to be completely distinct subject matters, no one can deny their intertwined relationship. A relationship that intrigued many researchers over the past few decades to investigate how they strongly relate, overlap and influence one another. Languages are described according to five fundamental components, which linguists agreed were the common features shared by all language systems. ‘Phonology’, being the most basic, is the sound system that studies the distribution and patterning of speech sounds and the rules governing pronunciation. Next, ‘vocabulary’ or lexicon which is a set of morphemes or whole words in a language that denotes particular meanings. The meanings of words constitute another component termed ‘Semantics’. ‘Syntax’ or grammar, however, is concerned with how words should be arranged in order to form meaningful sentences. Last, ‘Pragmatics’ which studies language use in social context. Despite the fact that languages may obviously be structurally similar, Matsumoto and Juang (2008) asserted that “culture influences

the structure and the functional use of language”, and note that “language can be thought of as the result or manifestation of culture” (p. 263). By the same token, Sapir (as cited in Wierzbicka, 1997) described language as “a symbolic guide to culture” (p. 1). Unlike some opposite views, Language is not seen as an abstract code; studying its function rather than its structure can provide better insights to its ambiguity. Therefore, Scollon and Scollon (1995) claimed that “history, worldview, beliefs, values, religions, and social organization may all be reflected through different languages and linguistic varieties in a culture. At the same time, language may be a directly defining aspect of culture, rather than simply a 16 reflection of other, more basic structures. A cultural group may have quite distinctive ways of understanding the basic functions of language” (p. 150). Linguistics, or the scientific study of language, is a multidisciplinary topic, new fields have come to exist due to the direct relation of language to other areas of study. The relationship between culture and language can be closely explored in some of those fields like anthropological linguistics, sociolinguistics, etc.

## **2. Translation**

Translation is defined as the process or the act of the reproduction of a linguistic discourse from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL), regarding its appropriate equivalence in the TL in terms of meaning and style. According to E.A Nida and C.R Taber (1982), translation is described as the “reproduction in the TL of the closest natural equivalent of the source language messages, first in terms of meaning and second in terms of style” (1982, p.208). In other words, translation refers to the process in which the actual meaning of a discourse is delivered from SL to TL in its appropriate manner. Newmark (1988) claimed that “translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text” (p. 5). However, Catford (1995) defined translation as “the replacement of textual material in one language, by equivalent textual material in another language” (p. 208). Therefore, translation can be defined as the process of replacing a discourse of SL by its same meaning in TL, regarding the discourse’s style in both languages. Since translation is considered as a process in which both meaning and style are transmitted from SL to TL, scholars distinguished different methods of translation. Each translation method requires a set of

strategies in order to guarantee the success of the translation process. Therefore, Peter Newmark pointed out the difference between translation methods and translation strategies as he stated ‘While translation methods relate to whole texts, translation procedures are used for sentences and the smaller units of language’ (Newmark 1988, p 81).

## **2.1. Translation Methods**

Scholars tend to mention different methods of translation. According to Newmark (1988), there are eight different methods of translation: Word-for-word translation, Literal translation, faithful translation, semantic translation, adaptation, free translation, Idiomatic translation and communicative translation. However, Schleiermacher claimed that “either the translator leaves the author in peace, as much as possible, and moves the reader toward him, or he leaves the reader in peace, as much as possible and moves the author towards him”. Relying on his perspective, Schleiermacher distinguished two different methods: Free translation and Literal translation.

### **2.1.1. Word-for-word Translation**

This method is commonly used as a pre-translation step, since it refers to the translation of a word from TL to SL regardless of the context. It tends to keep the SL word’s order and replace the words by their most commonly used meanings in the TL, including the use of the same number of words in both languages. Word for word translation is concerned with the meaning of each word separately, as it focuses on SL structure and grammar, regardless of the differences between SL and TL. Since this method deals with words’ meaning ignoring the whole context of any given discourse, the process of translation may fail in conveying a meaning from SL to TL and vice versa. The failure of this method occurs especially when both TL and SL are from two different families in terms of grammatical rules and structure. However, it could also appear in terms of differences between cultural backgrounds of both SL and TL.

### **2.1.2. Literal Translation**

Literal translation tends to keep the grammatical structures of SL including their closest TL equivalents. It can be used when SL and TL share the same structure. Literal translation is similar to the word-for-word translation method, since it relies on the SL words' order, regarding the use of the same kind and number of words in both languages. Therefore, literal translation is considered as a word-for-word translation in which the context is not ignored, in addition to the possibility to find metaphorical equivalents in both languages.

### **2.1.3. Faithful Translation**

Peter Newmark (1988) stated that “a faithful translation attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the TL grammatical structures” (p. 46). In other words, it is the reproduction of a particular meaning of SL in TL regarding its grammatical structure. A faithful translation aims at conveying the intentions of the SL writer and the text realisation of a specific context as faithfully as possible. However, cultural words can be translated along with preserving their grammatical and lexical abnormality. Faithful translation tends to protect the context and deliver the intentional meaning from one language to the other.

### **2.1.4. Semantic Translation**

Scholars in the field of translation studies tend to describe semantic translation as the process of translation, in which the translator has the semantic knowledge that helps him create an equivalent meaning in SL. Therefore, P. Newmark (1981) stated that “semantic translation attempts to render, as closely as the semantic and syntactic structure of the second language allow, the exact contextual meaning of the original” (p. 39). However, semantic translation takes into consideration the aesthetic values of the ST. It is flexible and mainly focuses on the ST, as it gives the translator an opportunity to be creative in the process of translating the ST.

### **2.1.5. Adaptation**

According to Mark Shuttleworth and Moira Cowie (1997), the term adaptation “usually implies that considerable changes have been made in order to make the text more suitable for a specific audience (e.g. children) or for the particular purpose behind the translation” (p. 4). In other words, adaptation refers to the reshaping of ideas in SL in order to find the appropriate one in TL. Adaptation translation according to Peter Newmark (1988) is “ the ‘freest’ form of translation”. It is used in translating poetry and plays in which the SL culture is transmitted to the TL culture, along with preserving themes, characters and plots of the translated poems and plays.

### **2.1.6. Free Translation**

This method is used to convey the actual meaning of the source text regardless of its form, in terms of syntax or style. The intended meaning of a given discourse matters more than its original form. As stated by P. Newmark (1988) “free translation produces the matter without the manner, or the content without the form of the original” (p. 46). That is to say, free translation aims at conveying a particular meaning ignoring its form and style. According to Ghazala (1995), free translation is divided into two types:

#### **2.1.6.1. Bound Free Translation**

Ghazala stated that bound free translation is “derived from the context in a direct way, though it may go out of it in some way or another, in the form of exaggeration, expressivity, and effective, rhetorical or formal language. It is the type we usually understand by the term ‘free translation’” (p. 12). In simple words, bound free translation is when the intended meaning is derived directly.

### **2.1.6.2. Loose Free Translation**

In this type of translation, the intended meaning is delivered indirectly. However, the translator has the freedom to go beyond the context based on the context and his own understanding and needs.

### **2.1.7. Idiomatic Translation**

According to Richard Larson (1984), idiomatic translation is described as a “meaning-based translation which makes every effort to communicate the meaning of the source language text in the natural forms of the receptor language” (p. 17). To illustrate, idiomatic translation aims at reproducing a ST that is natural in TL, in which the translator tends to use colloquialisms and idioms.

### **2.1.8. Communicative Translation**

According to P. Newmark (1981), communicative translation “attempts to produce on its readers an effect as close as possible to that obtained on the readers of the original” (p. 39). That is to say, communicative translation aims at delivering the appropriate meaning of TL along with the same effect that TL users had, in a way that both meaning and language are acceptable and comprehensible to the reader.

## **2.2. Translation Strategies**

Peter Newmark distinguished the difference between translation methods and strategies, in which he specified methods to the whole texts, and strategies to small units of language such as sentences. Translation strategies refer to the set of plans made by translators in the process of translation. They are mostly used when literal translation is not possible, in addition to the problems faced by translators in the process. Therefore, scholars have mentioned several

strategies in translation based on their own perspectives. Jean-Paul Vinay and Jean Darbelnet (1995) classified strategies into two main types: direct translation in which they included three strategies: literal translation, borrowing and calque. The second type is oblique translation that carries another four strategies: transposition, equivalence, adaptation and modulation. In addition to the aforementioned strategies, both E.A Nida and C.R Baker classified the translation strategies according to their own point of view.

## **2.2.1. Jean-Paul Vinay and Jean Darbelnet's Translation Strategies**

### **2.2.1.1 Direct Translation**

According to Mark Shuttleworth and Moira Cowie, the term direct translation “refers to the type of procedures in which a target text is produced directly from the original source text” (1997. P 40). It is also known as literal translation, since it tends to preserve the TL grammar and word order. It is used when meanings from SL can be found in TL taking into consideration both languages' structure.

#### **2.2.1.1.1. Literal Translation**

Literal translation is considered as the most common strategy used between two languages that share the same family and culture. As defined by J.P Vinay and J. Darbelnet, literal translation is to translate each word directly to TL, preserving the same order, meaning, style and structure as it is in the ST. According to the translation studies dictionary, M. Shuttleworth and M. Cowie stated that “as a translation strategy, literal translation clearly has its uses; a fairly literal approach is, for example, generally appropriate for translating many types of technical text, while in a different context the technique can also provide language learners with useful insights into TL structure” (1997. p 96). In other words, it is the reproduction of meaning from the SL to its appropriate idiomatic and grammatical equivalent in the TL. However, it is unacceptable to use this strategy when the SL and TL do not share the same structure, or when

the direct translation of a word from the SL refers to a different meaning in the TL. For instance, the following expression “Everything you can imagine is real” is translated to “كل شيء يمكنك تخيله” “هو حقيقي” by the use of this strategy.

#### **2.2.1.1.2. Borrowing**

Borrowing refers to the actual use of SL terms in the TT. It can be defined as taking words or expressions directly from the ST and using them in the TL. As mentioned in the translation studies dictionary, Borrowing is defined as ”a type of direct translation, in that elements of ST are replaced by ‘parallel’ TL elements, since it merely involves the transfer of an SL word into target text without it being modified in any way“ (M. Cowie and M. Shuttleworth. 1997. p 19). The following example illustrates the previous definition of this strategy:

He is weak at solving maths problems, especially algebra.

انه ضعيف في حل مسائل الرياضيات, خاصة الجبر.

The term algebra is considered as a borrowed word from Arabic 'الجبر' that has the same meaning in both languages.

According to J.P Vinay and J. Darbelnet, it is a simple strategy in which the translator uses the word from the SL directly in TL, since there is no equivalent of the actual word in TL. This strategy aims at delivering the actual meaning and preserving the cultural context of the source text.

#### **2.2.1.1.3. Calque**

As stated by J.P Vinay and J. Darbelnet, Calque is considered as a borrowing strategy “a calque is a special kind of borrowing” (p. 32), in which the borrowed expressions and phrases are literally transmitted into the TL. In this strategy, the TL structure and grammar are taken into consideration. Calque strategy or Through-Translation as stated by Peter Newmark (1988), is to imitate the structure or manner of the source text. However, Shuttleworth and Cowie defined it as

“the process whereby the individual elements of an SL item (e.g. morphemes in the case of a single word) are translated literally to produce a TL equivalent” (1997. P 18). In simple words, calque strategy is a word-for-word translation in which each word is translated by its literal equivalent, the literal translation of the borrowed expression from the ST to the TL as the following expression that refers to the world war 2 between the United States and the Soviet Union "The Cold War" by which it is translated using this strategy into ' الحرب الباردة '.

### **2.2.1.2. Oblique Translation**

As mentioned in the translation studies dictionary, According to J.P Vinay and J. Darbelnet, it is “a term used to refer to various types of translation procedure designed to cope with situations where, because of structural or conceptual differences between ST and TT, some stylistic effects cannot be rendered satisfactorily without disturbing the syntactic or lexical order of the text” (1958:46, 1958/1995:31). In other words, it is an indirect translation procedure in which the expressions are reformulated in the TL in a different way that it is in the SL. Oblique translations are usually used in translating idioms and proverbs in which they have no direct equivalent in the TL.

#### **2.2.1.2.1. Transposition**

Jean-Paul Vinay and Jean Darbelnet defined transposition as “replacing one word class with another without changing the meaning of the message” (1958/1995:36). That is to say, it is to convey the actual meaning from SL to TL, by replacing the SL grammatical category by its appropriate idiomatic or grammatical equivalent of the TL. However, J.P Vinay and J. Darbelnet (1995) claimed that transposition is “probably the most common structural change undertaken by translators” (p. 94), in which it can be either obligatory or optional. Transposition is considered obligatory when the translator has no other choice but to use this strategy, due to the differences between TL and SL, as it is in translating this sentence "Having you on my table tonight is such a pleasure" can be translated to:

On the other hand, it is considered optional when the translator has the freedom to choose between calque strategy and transposition strategy.

#### **2.2.1.2.2. Equivalence**

According to J.P Vinay and J. Darbelnet, equivalence is an indirect translation strategy in which it “replicates the same situation as in the original, whilst using completely different wording” (1958/1995:342). To illustrate, it is the process of conveying the exact intended meaning from SL to TL, by replacing SL expressions by its appropriate equivalents in TL in terms of meaning. It also refers to the similarity between expressions of both languages with reference to their meanings. Therefore, the term equivalence according to Mark Shuttleworth and Moira Cowie, is used to “describe the nature and the extent of the relationship which exist between SL and TL texts or smaller linguistic units” (1997. p 49). This strategy is mostly used in translating cultural materials such as idioms and proverbs. The following translation of the idiom "between the devil and the deep blue sea" will illustrate more:

The literal translation of the mentioned idiom does not make any sense in the Arabic language "بين الشيطان والبحر الأزرق العميق". Therefore, translators search for its appropriate equivalence to refer to its exact meaning which is to be forced to choose between two unpleasant choices. However, its appropriate translation in Arabic is: أمران كلاهما مر or بين نارين, depending on the situation and the context where the idiom takes a place.

#### **2.2.1.2.3. Adaptation**

As stated by J.P Vinay and J. Darbelnet, adaptation is considered as an indirect translation strategy in which it is used “when the situation referred to in ST does not exist in the TC, or does not have the same relevance or connotations as it does in the source context. As such it is a kind of ‘situational equivalence’ as it works by replacing ST elements by TL items which in some way serve the same function and are thus ‘equivalent’ (1958/1995:39). In other words, adaptation is to transmit a cultural element from the SL into the TL, in which the transmitted

meaning is appropriate in the TL culture. Adaptation is mainly used when it is impossible to find the equivalent of the SL culture in the TL culture. Since adaptation aims at conveying the intended meaning from SL to TL in its appropriate and functional manner, it is considered as a special kind of equivalence.

#### **2.2.1.2.4. Modulation**

According to J.P Vinay and J. Darbelnet, modulation is described as “a variation of the form of the message, obtained by a change in the point of view” (1958/1995:36). In other words, it is the reproduction of the ST in a way that is appropriate and sounds natural in the TL. The form of the transmitted SL message is changed due to the change in perspective. For instance this expression "It is difficult to Show", by the use of this strategy it is more appropriate to be translated to " ليس من السهل إظهاره " rather than "يصعب إظهاره". Therefore, modulation refers to the use of a different expression in both languages in order to convey the same meaning. This strategy is mainly used when the literal translation is unidiomatic or awkward in the TL.

#### **2.2.2. Eugene Albert Nida’s Translation Strategies**

According to Eugene Albert Nida and Charles Russell Taber, translation is defined as “Translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style.” (Nida & Taber, 1969: 12). The term natural equivalence refers to the closest meaning in TL and since E.A Nida focuses on meaning rather than style, he distinguished two translation strategies: formal equivalence translation and dynamic equivalence translation.

##### **2.2.2.1. Formal Equivalence Translation**

The formal equivalence translation is considered as a word-for-word translation, since it is literal and tends to preserve the ST structure. It is mainly concerned with both the content and

the form of the message. Therefore, E.A Nida stated that “formal equivalence focuses attention on the message itself, in both form and content” (p 159).

### **2.2.2.2. Dynamic Equivalence Translation**

Dynamic equivalence translation is a strategy in which the translator tends to find the closest natural equivalent of SL regardless of its structural and grammatical aspects. It is mainly concerned with the function of the text and receivers’ needs. Therefore, E.A Nida Stated that “the relationship between receptor and message should be substantially the same as that which existed between the original receptors and the message” (1964, p. 159). That is to say that dynamic equivalence focuses on delivering a message from SL as close as possible to its meaning in TL, along with the same impression that original receptors had.

### **2.2.3. Mona Baker’s Translation Strategies**

In 1992, Mona Baker distinguished eight different translation strategies in her book ‘In Other Word’. This classification is also known as ‘Mona Baker’s Taxonomy’. Mona’s strategies are mentioned below with a brief explanation.

#### **2.2.3.1. Translation by a more general word**

One of the most common strategies, it is used when the translator is not able to find the appropriate equivalence in TL, so he uses a more general word. However, Baker mentioned that “it is one of the commonest strategies for dealing with many types of non-equivalents, particularly in the area of propositional meaning” (Baker, 1992: 26). As she claimed, this strategy works in most, if not all languages.

### **2.2.3.2. Translation by a more neutral or less expressive word**

In this strategy the translator tends to use the less expressive word in the TL language, due to the differences between both languages in terms of expressing meaning. Therefore, it is considered as a semantic translation strategy.

### **2.2.3.3. Translation by cultural substitution**

It is to replace a cultural expression of the SL with its appropriate equivalence in TL, preserving the same impact of SL on its audiences. That is to say it aims at conveying a cultural meaning along with its impact and intention.

### **2.2.3.4. Translation using a loan word**

This strategy is mostly used in the translation of specific cultural concepts that are not known in TL culture, or in translating thoughts and ideas that are not common to TL audiences or their culture.

### **2.2.3.5. Translation by paraphrase using a related word**

According to Mona Baker, paraphrasing in translation is usually used when the SL concepts “has no close match in the target language, its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased, or for stylistic reasons” (Baker, 1992, p. 77). That is to say, paraphrasing is adaptable when the expression of SL is lexicalized in TL but differently, in terms of form and style. Therefore, the use of a related word from TL is considered appropriate since it preserves the meaning.

### **2.2.3.6. Translation by paraphrase using unrelated words**

This strategy tends to deliver a meaning of SL in the TL, in which the source language expression is not lexicalized in the TL, or when the exact meaning is ambiguous in TL. Therefore, it focuses on the meaning rather than its form or style. That is to say that the translator aims at conveying the meaning from SL to TL by using unrelated words.

### **2.2.3.7. Translation by omission**

According to Iacovoni, "Omission means dropping a word or words from the SLT while translating" (2009, p. 1). It refers to the situation in which the translator omits translating a word or an expression, but he preserves the actual meaning of SL. However, according to Baker "This strategy may sound rather drastic, but in fact it does no harm to omit translating a word or expression in some contexts. If the meaning conveyed by a particular item or expression is not vital enough to the development of the text to justify distracting the reader with lengthy explanations, translators can and often do simply omit translating the word or expression in question" (1992, p 40).

### **2.2.3.8. Translation by illustration**

It is similar to omission translation. However, it is used when the TL equivalent does not cover the whole meaning and yet misses some aspects of the SL equivalent. Therefore, the translator tends to illustrate the meaning as much as possible to TL audiences.

## **3. The relation between Translation and Culture**

According to Peter Newmark language is considered as a reflection of a culture, by which he defined culture as "the way of life and its manifestations that are peculiar to a community that uses a particular language as its means of expression" (1988, p. 94). However, language is

inseparably linked with culture since these two influence one another. Translation, on the other hand, deals with languages in terms of meaning; it could be defined as the process by which a meaning is reproduced from SL to TL. According to House (2009), she claims that “Translation is not only a linguistic act; it is also a cultural one, an act of communication across cultures. Translation always involves both language and culture simply because the two cannot really be separated. Language is culturally embedded: it both expresses and shapes cultural reality, and the meanings of linguistic items, be they words or larger segments of text, can only be understood when considered together with the cultural context in which these linguistic items are used” (p. 11). In other words, due to the effects of cultures on both languages and their users, and the fact that culture can never be separated from language, translation aims at conveying the SL meaning along with its culture since the two are inextricably linked together.

## **Conclusion**

According to scholars, language is defined as a system of communication, while culture is described as a whole of ideas, beliefs and social behaviours of a specific community. As mentioned by Julian House, translation is considered as a cultural act in addition to its linguistic one, since language and culture cannot be separated. The purpose of translation is to convey a meaning from the SL to the TL. Therefore, translators tend to understand the translation process along with its methods and strategies, in order to preserve the intentional meaning of the SL, and reproduce it in the TL in its appropriate context. However, this chapter aims at defining language and culture pointing to their relationship, as well as defining translation and its relation with culture, along with its methods and strategies, from different scholars’ perspectives.

# Chapter II:

## Linguistic and Cultural Obstacles in Translation

## **Introduction**

As aforementioned in chapter one, translation is considered as the process by which a particular meaning is reproduced from SL to TL. However, learners and translators may face several obstacles and challenges that come against the translation process. These obstacles are known as ‘The translation difficulties’. According to Ghazala “a translation problem is any difficulty we come across at translating” (1995, p. 17). Since translation is not a linguistic act only but also a cultural one, the translation difficulties can also be divided into two main aspects: linguistic difficulties and cultural difficulties. Therefore, this chapter is mainly concerned with introducing the translation obstacles that learners and translators may face in translating from SL to TL and vice versa, at both levels: linguistics and culture.

### **1. Linguistic Difficulties in Translation**

Linguistics refers to the scientific study of language and its structure, while the term linguistic difficulties point out to all the obstacles faced by translators in terms of language use, structure or meaning. In other words, it refers to any challenges and problems that appear due to linguistic aspects. However, the most common linguistic difficulties in the field of translation are: the lack of linguistic competence, grammatical problems, lexical problems and stylistics problems. According to Catford the linguistic untranslatability is also considered as a challenge in the translation process. In addition to the lack of pragmatic competence, the misunderstanding of expressions and the misuse of translation strategies, since pragmatics is considered as a sub branch of linguistics. Therefore, the linguistic difficulties in translation are characterised in two types: linguistic competence and pragmatic competence. The aforementioned difficulties are defined separately.

## **1.1. The Lack of Linguistic Competence**

According to Noam Chomsky, the term competence refers to the ability to produce and comprehend an infinite number of sentences in the SL, as it is in the TL in the case of translators and second language learners. In other words, linguistic competence in the field of translation is the translators' ability to transmit meaning from SL to TL through the appropriate use of language. Therefore, scholars stated that it is the functional use of a language due to the knowledge of a language's system and its grammatical aspects. Since translators deal at least with two different languages, they must have a linguistic competence in both languages. According to R. Jakobson in his book 'On Linguistic Aspects of Translation', he described translation as a linguistic comparison of two languages in which he said "Any comparison of two languages implies an examination of their mutual translatability; widespread practice of interlingual communication, particularly translation activities must be kept under constant scrutiny by linguistic science." In other words, translators must know both languages' set of rules, system and grammar. In addition to the appropriate use of languages and their structures. However, any lack in the linguistic competence at any level in SL or TL may lead to the failure of the translation process, since languages have different systems and structures. Therefore, the limited knowledge of a language's system will obviously come against the translation process. The lack of linguistic competence appears at three different levels: Grammatical, Lexical and stylistic level.

### **1.1.1. Grammatical Obstacles**

In the field of linguistics, the term grammar refers to the whole system, structure and the set of rules of a language. It includes syntax, morphology, phonology and semantics. In translation, it is obviously known that translators deal with different languages' structures, rules and grammar, since every language has its own system. However, the knowledge of SL grammar is as important as knowing the TL one's. This difference in grammar causes a lot of translation problems among translators, therefore Catford stated that "grammatical translation is restricted

translation in which the SL grammar of text is replaced by equivalent TL grammar.” (p. 71). That is to say, that in order to transmit a meaning from SL to the TL the translator must have the knowledge of both languages' grammatical aspects and the ability to use it in its appropriate context. According to N. Chomsky, the term grammatical competence refers to someone's ability to understand and use language's grammatical aspects in its appropriate context. While in the field of translation, it refers to the translator's capacity to comprehend and use different languages' grammatical aspects. However, the limited knowledge of a language's grammar confronts the process of transmitting a meaning, or even delivers meaningless sentences due to the lack of grammatical competence. In the English language for example, it contains only verbal sentences, the Arabic language on the other hand, it includes both verbal and nominal sentences. Therefore, to translate a nominal sentence from Arabic to English or vice versa, the translator must know both languages' structures, rules and grammar in order to ease the translation process and to deliver the intended meaning effectively and in its appropriate context.

### **1.1.2. Lexical Obstacles**

The term lexical can be defined as the words or vocabulary of a specific language. While 'Lexical Obstacles' refers to the problems that appear due to the diversity of languages. In this context, Vladimir Ivir in 1981 claimed that “finding a notional category which is regularly expressed in all languages is difficult” (1981, p 56). To illustrate, translators might face lexical problems due to the different meanings of one word, or due to the inexistence of a lexical equivalent in TL or even in the SL itself. However, one word's meaning can have several meanings in another language which makes the success of the translation process to be difficult to achieve among translators. Therefore, scholars classified the lexical obstacles into different aspects: Synonyms, Polysemy and Monosemy, Collocations, Idioms, Proverbs and Metaphors.

### **1.1.2.1. Synonyms**

According to linguists, synonyms are usually defined as a semantic relation between words, in which one word has the same intentional meaning with another word or more in the same language. However, any translator needs to have the ability to distinguish between synonyms of TL and SL in order to choose the appropriate word ‘synonym’ in its specific context.

### **1.1.2.2. Polysemy and Monosemy**

Polysemes are the words that have different meanings according to the context that are used in. For example, the verb ‘to get’ has several meanings, it could mean to understand, or to procure or even to become, along with other meanings. On the other hand, monosemies are words that have one single meaning. These kinds of words are clear and unambiguous. The word ‘cousin’ for example is a monosemy word, since it only means ‘related to’. However, polysemes and monosemes can be a great challenge in translation, translators must have a background knowledge in polysemes and monosemies in both SL and TL to avoid the failure of transmitting the appropriate meaning.

### **1.1.2.3. Collocations**

Collocation in the field of linguistics refers to the words that are combined together to create a specific meaning. According to Crystal collocation is defined as "the habitual co-occurrence of individual lexical items" (2008, p 86). In which he meant that collocation are two words or more linked together and closely affiliated with each other to make a particular meaning. Words like ‘fast food’, ‘make a bed’ and ‘pay attention’ are considered as collocations. However, in the field of translation collocation needs to be known among translators, since the literal translation of these kinds of words will mislead the hearer or the reader by delivering the

wrong meaning. Therefore, any translator should have a previous knowledge of collocations in his own language and the other languages that he deals with.

#### **1.1.2.4. Idioms**

Idioms usually refer to the expressions or phrases that have a different meaning than what is literally said. It is a group of words linked together to create a specific meaning that is different from the meanings of each word on its own. However, idioms can be a great challenge to translators since it is a matter of meaning of the whole expression rather than the meaning of the used words. Translators need to have the ability to understand the intended meaning of an idiom in SL, and the knowledge of TL in order to find the appropriate equivalent of it. According to Baker, the difficulties that come against translators in translating idioms appears as a lack of the TL equivalence since idioms are in relation to cultures. However, some idioms in a specific language may have their equivalent in another one, but may also be used in different contexts and have different connotations. Therefore, translators need to be aware of idioms and their exact meanings in order to avoid such obstacles and transmit the intended meaning in its appropriate context. For example, the literal translation of the following idiom "break a leg" in Arabic is "إكسر القدم" which is completely wrong and out of context. Therefore translators need to be fully aware about what is actually meant by the idiom that is to say wishing luck for someone, the appropriate equivalence in this case in Arabic is "حظ موفق".

#### **1.1.2.5. Proverbs**

Proverbs are defined as short popular sayings or quotes, which are usually from unknown and ancient origins. Proverbs convey meanings and express useful thoughts or something that is generally true based on common sense or experience. In most cases proverbs are related to cultural references and traditions. Therefore, translators face different difficulties in the process of translation proverbs, since it is related to the culture of a specific community. Unlike idioms, the literal translation of proverbs can make sense in some cases. However, Translators should dig

deeper in SL culture in order to comprehend the intended meaning, and also in the TL culture to find the precise equivalent of the proverb.

### **1.1.2.6. Metaphors**

Metaphors are defined as a figure of speech in which a word or a phrase are used to describe an object or an action that is not literally true, in order to explain an idea or to make a comparison. In other words, metaphors are usually used to compare two different things that share a particular similarity of some kind. However, in the process of translating metaphors, scholars set several translation procedures in order to avoid their ambiguity and to transmit their intended meanings. To illustrate, the expression “music to my ears” cannot be translated literally to *موسيقى لأذني* , but first translators need to understand the metaphor meaning which refers to something pleasant that someone is happy to hear or to know about. After knowing its specific meaning, translators will be able to find its appropriate equivalent in TL depending on its meaning rather than the used words in the expression.

### **1.1.3. Stylistic Obstacles**

Since languages share different systems, structures and rules, they also share different styles. According to linguists, a language style is defined as the choice of words or expressions used by a particular language user and their speech behaviour due to circumstances such as place, time and to whom they are talking. However, in the field of translation, language style of both SL and TL are taken into consideration. According to Jean Boase-Beier, translation is highly connected to language style as she stated that “stylistics aims to explain how a text means rather than just what it means”. She also mentioned its importance in translation by which she claimed that “paying attention to what is unique to the text and its choices, being aware of patterns in the text, and paying close attention to the essential nature and function of the text” (2006, p 1). Therefore, language style is one of the most common obstacles among translators.

These obstacles appear in different levels such as: the formality and informality of languages, clarity, ellipsis, redundancy and extraposition.

### **1.1.3.1. Formality and Informality of Languages**

Each language has its own style, the variation of languages may lead to translators to serious problems since each language has its own formality and informality. However, it could be formal to say something in SL but it is considered to be informal in the TL. Therefore, translators should be aware of both languages' formality and informality and to have the ability to distinguish between both of them.

### **1.1.3.2. Clarity**

According to E.A Nida, any translator needs to avoid ambiguity as he stated that "the principal objective in style should be toward dignity and simplicity. The combination of the two is the highest" (Nida 1947: 17). However, in some cases it is intended to be ambiguous in SL. Clarity should be considered as a priority in translation, since it eases the process of understanding a meaning among audiences.

### **1.1.3.3. Ellipsis**

Ellipsis according to linguists is defined as leaving out words rather than repeating them unnecessarily. It also refers to the omission of sentences' parts by which the meaning of the missing parts is understandable according to the text or the situation itself. Ellipses are commonly used in order to avoid repetition. The problem in dealing with ellipsis in translation is that the texts are incomplete. Therefore, translators should be aware of the missing parts of a text in order to transmit its intended meaning from SL to TL.

#### **1.1.3.4. Redundancy**

Unlike ellipsis, redundancy is a complete information that is described or expressed more than once. It refers to the use of different words such as synonyms in order to express the same meaning all over again. It is also considered as a translation style. However, translators need to be aware of words and their meanings in order to avoid repetition and the lack of translation creativity.

#### **1.1.3.5. Extraposition**

According to Crystal, extraposition refers to “the process or result of moving an element from its normal position to a position at or near the end of the sentence, e.g. That the boy came in late upset the teacher, compared with: it upset the teacher that the boy came in late” (1991,p 131). However, extraposition aims at focusing on a particular part of a sentence along with rhetorical purposes. Extraposition may cause serious problems in translation since languages share different structures, and it could affect the TL structure.

### **1.2. The Linguistic Untranslatability**

Untranslatability can be defined as the property of a text or a speech that has no equivalence in another language. It refers to the words or expressions that cannot be translated from SL to a particular TL. According to Catford, untranslatability has two different types: linguistic untranslatability and cultural untranslatability. As stated by Catford, linguistic untranslatability is described as “A situation in which the linguistic elements of a source text cannot be replaced or encoded adequately in structural, linear, functional or semantic terms as a consequence of a lack of denotation and connotation in the language of target text” (1965, p 442). In other words, the linguistic untranslatability is defined as the inability to find out the appropriate equivalence of SL in TL due to the differences between both languages in terms of linguistics, such as different structures and systems or due to a lexical gap. Therefore, Catford

claimed that “untranslatability arising from the fact that any possible TL near-equivalent of a given SL lexical items has a low probability of collocation with TL equivalents of items in the SL text which collocate normally with the given SL items” (1965, p 101). Linguistic untranslatability is one of the most common difficulties among translators that requires creativity in order to find the appropriate and close meaning of SL in TL. Therefore, translators should have the knowledge of translation relationships and to be aware of the linguistic differences between SL and TL in order to guarantee the success of the translation process. However, this knowledge and ability is known among translators as the translation competence.

### **1.3. The Lack of Pragmatic Competence**

According to scholars, pragmatic competence is defined as the ability to produce and understand a specific discourse, in addition to the appropriate use of language. Noam Chomsky defined pragmatic competence as “the knowledge of conditions and manners of appropriate use of the language, in conformity with various purposes” (p.224). However, in the field of translation it refers to the translator’s ability to understand the hidden meanings in SL, and his capacity to transmit the hidden meanings in TL. Pragmatic competence also refers to the appropriate use of language in its appropriate context. Therefore, the lack of pragmatic competence among translators may mislead the audiences of the TL, or even lead to the failure of the translation process. The misunderstanding of some expressions and the misuse of the translation strategies are the most common difficulties in translation due to the lack of pragmatic competence.

#### **1.3.1. Misunderstanding of Expressions**

The lack of pragmatic competence may appear at the level of misunderstanding some expressions. This misunderstanding is due to lexical problems or even cultural factors. Since the translation of a particular discourse of any given language is not always about the literal translation of its words or about what is actually said, but also deals with the discourse's hidden

meaning. Therefore, translators should be able to understand the general meaning of expression along with its hidden meaning in order to find the appropriate equivalent in TL. The misunderstanding of expressions will definitely lead to the failure of the translation process and mislead the TL audiences. However, the most difficult expressions to be translated are: metaphors, proverbs and idioms.

### **1.3.2. The Misuse of Translation Strategies**

As mentioned in chapter one, translation strategies refer to the set of plans made by translators in the process of translation. Before any translation activity, translators need to be aware of the translation strategies and to have the ability to distinguish between them, since each strategy is used for a specific type of discourse. Translators also need to be able to distinguish the differences between translation methods, strategies and procedures. However, translating using the wrong strategy may come against the process of delivering the intended meaning from SL to TL. Therefore, all translators ‘professional or students’ must have a previous knowledge of the different types and theories concerning the translation field in order to avoid such obstacles.

## **2. Cultural Difficulties in Translation**

The previous pages address the linguistic difficulties including the grammatical and the lexical problems, the lack of the linguistic competence and the stylistics problems, these are the most common difficulties that the translator face during translation process, however, these difficulties are not the only obstacles on the field of translation for the reason that translation is not only concerned with language, it is also concerned with learning and mastering the native culture of the language community. Culture becomes a huge obstacle and a break wall in the face of translators which makes it the second major obstacle that comes against translators during the translation process since culture links the past, present and future together, and translation is not just a literal production from one language to another, but it is also an adaptation of cultural values. The next upcoming pages are dealing with the cultural obstacles including the cultural untranslatability, the gap between cultures, the effect of translator’s limited cultural background,

the issue and the difficulties of translating idioms and proverbs. The papers also provide many cultural translation's strategies suggested by scholars in order to obtain an accurate translation and achieve equivalent words and expressions in the TL.

## **2.1. Cultural Untranslatability**

Cultural untranslatability is one of the most common cultural difficulties in translation. The meaning of the word untranslatable is the inability to translate, the term cultural untranslatability refers to the impossibility of catching equivalent comparison or collocation in the TL due to the absence of the culture of the SL text from the culture of the TL, as names of meals, clothes and habits that do not exist in the culture of the TL. Catford (1965) explained that cultural untranslatability appears when a situational feature, functionally relevant for the source language text, is completely absent from the culture of the target language as a part, such as dialect, clothes... (P. 99). This type is usually less absolute than linguistic untranslatability (P. 99). The original culture of a community may differ from other cultures, people who grew up in the same environment are definitely sharing specific habits, beliefs, and culture that distinguish their identity, it is almost impossible to find some of their terms, beliefs and habits in another culture which makes the issue of cultural untranslatability leads to the impossibility of sharing words, habits and beliefs and transfer it to another culture in different nations and different places of the world, it is an obstacle that provides the failure to achieve equivalence in the TL and keeps translators stuck during translation process, since they are not able to write, transfer and translate texts, idioms, proverbs...etc from their language to the text of the TL.

## **2.2. Cultural Gap**

Cultural gap occurs when people from different cultures have a sit together, it is defined as the systematic differences between two cultures and a split between two social groups who share different cultures, the differences include the values, beliefs, religion, social life, behaviour, education, and customs of the respective culture, for instance women in a muslim community and Muslim countries are not allowed to shake hand with outsider from the family due a religious reasons, however, it is completely normal for other women in the other countries as the

united states and the rest of Europe to shake hands with outsiders in work...etc. According to Hornby (1996), there is cultural and universal overlap between languages. Although some aspects may be universal, the manner in which they are expressed widely varies from culture to culture. The gap between cultures becomes an obstacle in translation. According to Yowelly and Lataiwish (2000, p.107), the greater the gap between the source and target culture, the more serious difficulty would be'. The existence of cultural gaps makes translation to become the most challenging task to be performed by translators, they face problems in translating cultural words for the reason that they live in a world full of different languages, these languages live in the context of different cultures that present different aspects of life. .

### **2.3. Cultural Blindness**

Cultural blindness is a common term that refers to: when people think that they understand the differences between cultures although the reality is that they don't really understand and address the differences between cultures. For instance, fistfights are the style of fights between two people who use their fists. Some people from different cultures think that the use of feet, knees and the other parts of the body is completely normal, but American culture doesn't see the use of feet and knees...etc effective in this type of fight. Cultural blindness becomes an obstacle during the process of translation, translators think that they understand and address the cultural differences between the SL and TL, however they do not spot and understand the differences. it brings ambiguity to the SL reader if s/he has also acquired the SL and may also transfer incorrect knowledge to the TL reader.

### **2.4. The Limited Cultural Background**

Cultural background is defined as: the cultural knowledge of an individual or a community, it includes the beliefs, customs, and behaviours of people from various communities. However, in the field of translation, it refers to the translator's cultural competence in the target and SL. Therefore, the translator who has a limited cultural background in the source/target language will definitely find difficulties to translate any cultural material, which may obstruct the

process of understanding the TT by the readers when the translation is delivered, or even delivering a wrong content and meaning. Moreover, it may block the whole translation process.

## **2.5. Difficulties in Translating Idioms and proverbs**

Non-native speakers and translators find some difficulties in understanding idioms since their meaning cannot always be deduced from its constituent words. Jarvie (1993) writes: “An idiom is an expression whose meaning cannot easily be worked out from the words it contains. Idioms have the potential to cause foreign learners of a language some difficulty.”(p. 148). The translation of idioms is a challenging task for translators, as Baker (1992, p.71-72) says that translating idioms is not only a matter of finding the equivalent meaning in the target language, it also depends on many factors whether cultural or lexical. Idioms as a special kind of language are challenging to the translator, they have to recognize, understand and analyse both the source and the target texts before the translation process takes place. The ability to identify idioms has much importance as a first step, according to R. Ingo (1990, p. 247) the translator must first analyse what the writer has intended to say before s/he can even think of translating the expression. M. Larson (1984, p. 143) agrees that the first crucial step in the translation of idioms is to be absolutely certain of the meaning of the source language idiom. Therefore, the most important issue in translating idioms is the ability to distinguish the difference between the literal meaning and the real meaning of the expression (Ingo 1990, p. 248). Thus, before a translator can even think of translating the expression into the TL, he must identify the non-literal meaning of the idiom in a SL. In addition, the translator must also be able to use idioms fluently and competently in the TL (Larson 1984, p. 116). Another difficulty is to find a TL expression with the same meaning. Balfaqeeh (2009) states the most common problem related to finding the appropriate “equivalence” saying that: “Idioms are difficult to translate. It is sometimes hard to find the right equivalent for a single word without finding equivalence for a sequence of words that convey one specific meaning”. Nida (2001, p.28) also states that “finding a satisfactory equivalent for idioms is one of the most difficult aspects of translating”. Sometimes an idiomatic expression in a language does not have an equivalent expression in the other language. in this case the translator has to think of an appropriate translation strategy for the idiom that may simplify the TT and make it more original and less foreign, here, the incompetence of the

translator can be an obstacle for a successful translation. However, when dealing with idioms most translators find a special kind of ambiguity in terms of TL culture, in addition to the multiple meanings of some idioms. Therefore, in the translation process of idioms, proverbs and any cultural material, translators should be fully aware about the intended meaning of the given material along with a cultural background of SL and TL.

### **3. Translation Strategies to Overcome the Cultural Obstacles**

Jan Pedersen (2005) proposed strategies that include two categories. The source language-oriented strategy and the target language-oriented strategy.

#### **3.1. The SL-Oriented Strategies**

The source language-oriented strategy includes Retention, Specification, Explication, Direct translation and Addition.

##### **3.1.1. Retention**

Retention is the most used source language-oriented strategy, it allows words from the ST to enter the TT.

##### **3.1.2. Specification**

Specification strategy refers to leaving the culture term in its original form with adding information that is not present in the SL, it makes the TC term more specific than the SC term.

##### **3.1.3. Explication**

Explication is the strategy that allows the translator to spell out anything implicit in the ST.

### **3.1.4. Addition**

Addition refers to the added material in the source culture, the use of addition strategy makes the translator give guidance to the TL reader.

### **3.1.5. Direct translation**

Direct translation strategy is similar to literal translation strategy, it refers to the translation of each word directly and separately without looking at how words are used together in the text, it can be used only if the source language culture is similar to the TL culture

## **3.2. The target language-oriented strategies**

The target language oriented strategy includes Generalisation, Substitution, Cultural Substitution, Paraphrase and Omission.

### **3.2.1. Generalisation**

Generalisation Strategy can be used to replace cultural terms that refer to something specific by something more general.

### **3.2.2. Substitution**

Substitution is the strategy that allows one to remove the SC term and replace it with either a different term or paraphrase. This strategy consists of cultural substitution and paraphrase.

### **3.2.3. Cultural substitution**

Cultural substitution strategy allows the source cultural term to be removed and returning at its place a different cultural term.

### **3.2.4. Paraphrase**

Paraphrase strategy is to rephrase the source cultural-specific item by reduction or by simply reformulating the term to which it fits the context by taking out all the traces of the mentioned cultural aspect.

### **3.2.5. Omission**

Omission strategy allows to drop cultural terms from source language text due the conflict between the source language and the TL cultures.

### **Conclusion**

Language is the tool of communication between different societies, it is rooted in culture and culture is passed on by language from one generation to another, in order to communicate effectively, we need to know the language of a specific community and grasp its grammar, vocabulary, culture and how to translate not only the words but the meaning from the TL into the source language. Translations tend to search deeply for meanings and transfer them from the source language to the TL as original as possible. Although the task of translation is exciting and enjoyable, translators experience some difficulties in the translation process as we have seen in this chapter, they may face several linguistic and cultural obstacles which makes the process of translation became a very challenging task and the incompetence of the translator may lead to transmit incorrect knowledge and information, this is why scholars seek to facilitate the translation procedure by suggesting various strategies for learners and translators, in order to give assistance to them in overcoming lexical, grammatical and cultural difficulties.

# Chapter III.: Data Analysis and Results

## **Introduction**

This final chapter is about investigating the most common difficulties and obstacles in terms of linguistics and culture, in translation from English to Arabic and vice versa among third year students. Therefore, the students were asked to answer a questionnaire that aimed at stating the difficulties that come against most of the students in the translation process. This chapter is concerned with data collection and the methods used to test the research's hypothesis, in addition to a critical discourse analysis of the students' answers.

### **1. Research Design**

The main purpose and objective of this study is to highlight the translation difficulties among EFL students. It focuses on the linguistic and cultural obstacles in the process of translation. This study is mainly concerned with the third year English students of Ibn Khaldoun University. However, the methods used in order to collect data are questionnaires and the direct observation of EFL students during their translation session.

### **2. Samples**

Since this study is concerned with the investigation of the translation obstacles, the 3rd year English students of Ibn Khaldoun University were chosen as participants of this study since they study Translation as a module, and they are fully aware about its techniques and strategies. However, 50 students were chosen randomly to be part of this study.

### **3. Data Collection Methods**

Questionnaire and direct observation are the methods used in this study in order to collect data. However, the students were asked to answer eleven questions by which they were asked to translate a brief text that consists of 6 sentences. While during class with the use of the direct observation method, the teacher asked his students to translate 5 separate sentences.

## **4. Analysis of the Students' Questionnaire**

### **4.1. Description of the Questionnaire**

Third year English students of Ibn Khaldoun University were asked to answer a questionnaire that contained eleven questions. Students were asked about their English Language level in addition to their performance level of translating from English to Arabic and vice versa. Furthermore, they were asked about the familiar translation strategies they do know, in addition to translating a brief text that contains 6 sentences along with mentioning the used translation strategy in the process. Students were also asked about the translation difficulties that come against translating the intended text specifically, and the most common translation obstacles in general. Finally, students were asked about their opinion concerning learning culture and the way they perceive a foreign language culture.

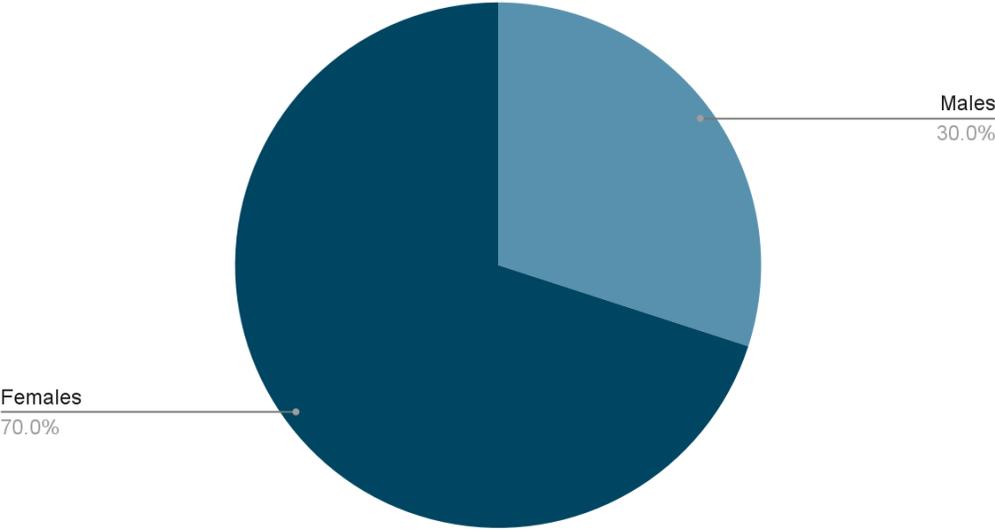
### **4.2. Analysis of the Answers**

#### **Questions One and Two: Gender and Age.**

Students were asked about their gender and age, in order to find out if there is a strong correlation between gender and age in terms of the English language level and the translation performance. However, out of 50 students, 35 students were females while the rest 15 were males. Concerning 'age', 26 students are 20 years old, four of them are males. 12 students are 21 years old, six of them are males. 7 students are 22 years old, four of them are males. 3 students are 19 years old, only one of them is a male. One female student is 23 years old and one male student is 37 years old. However, the following pie charts represent the participants' gender and age:

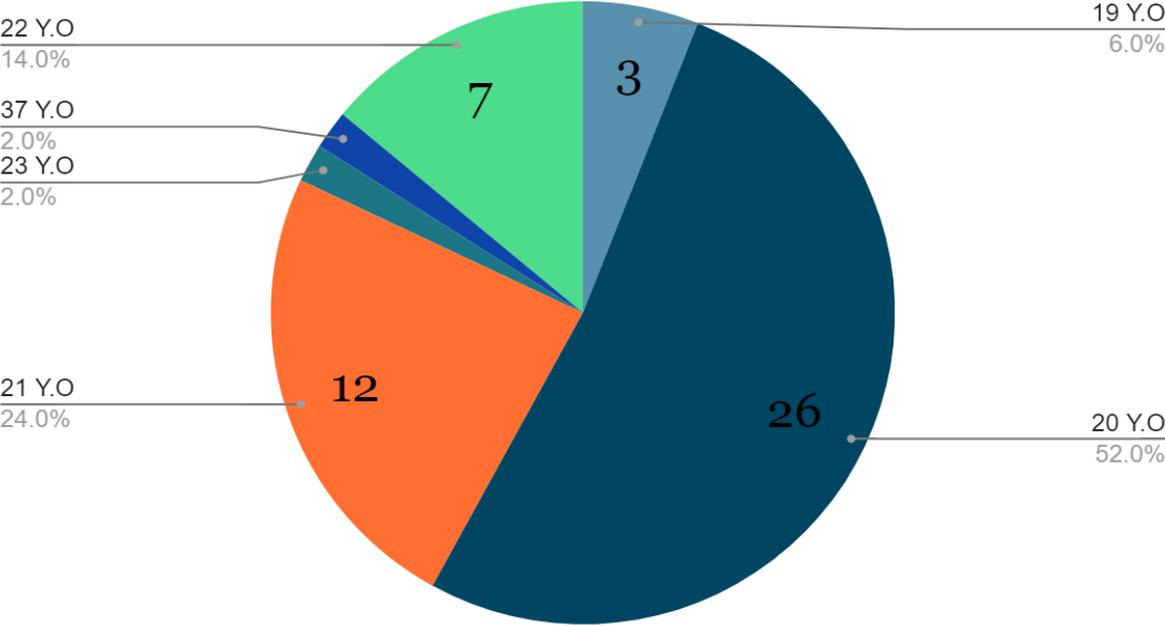
**Figure 01:** Pie chart of the participants' gender.

Gender



**Figure 02:** Pie chart of the participants' age.

Participants' Age

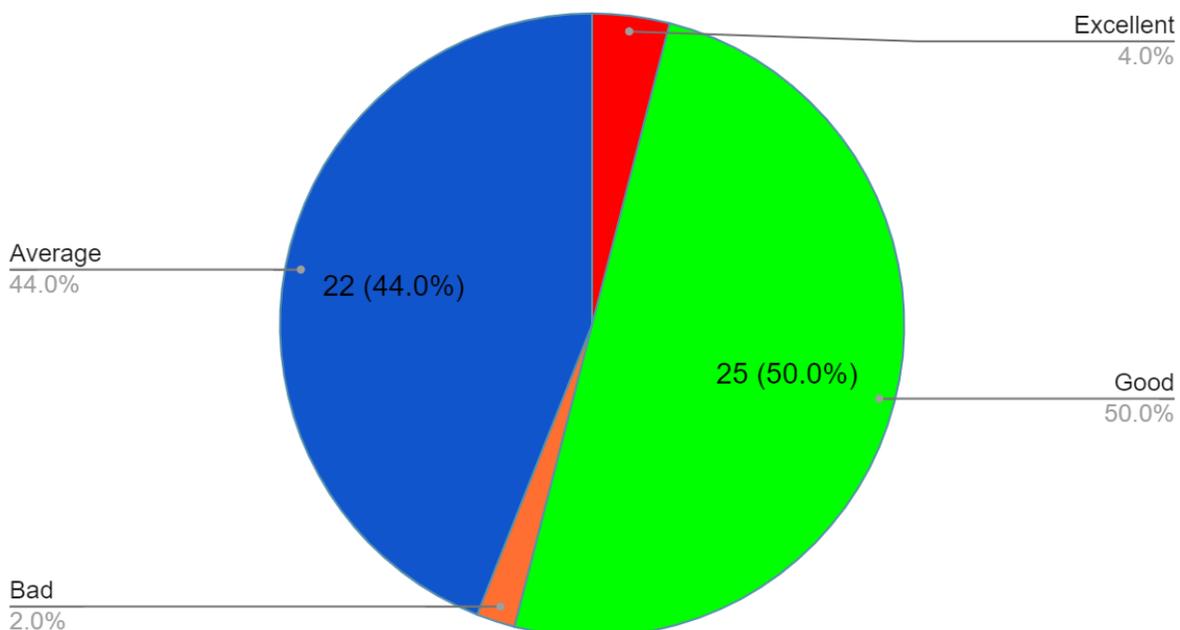


### Questions Three and Four: English Level and The Translation Performance.

Students were asked about their English level and their performance in the translation process from English to Arabic, in order to know how students evaluate themselves concerning their levels. Moreover, asking about the translation performance aims at knowing if the participants perform translation and how do they consider their performance. However, the majority of students, 72% (36 students) considered their English Language as a Good Level. 22 of them think they are Good at translation, the rest 14 think they are Average in translation. 18% (9 students) of the students think they are Average at the level of English Language, 8 of them think they are also Average at translation, while the left one thinks She/He is Good at translation. 8% (4 students) students consider their English Level as a Very Good level. However, two of them think they are Excellent at translation. While the other two, one thinks that she is Bad at translation and the other one thinks that she is Good at translation. Finally, one student (2%) considers his English Level as a Bad level and yet he thinks that he is Good at translation. However, the following pie chart describes the students' performance at translation according to their own evaluation about themselves:

**Figure 03:** Pie chart of the students' translation performance.

The Students' Translation Performance



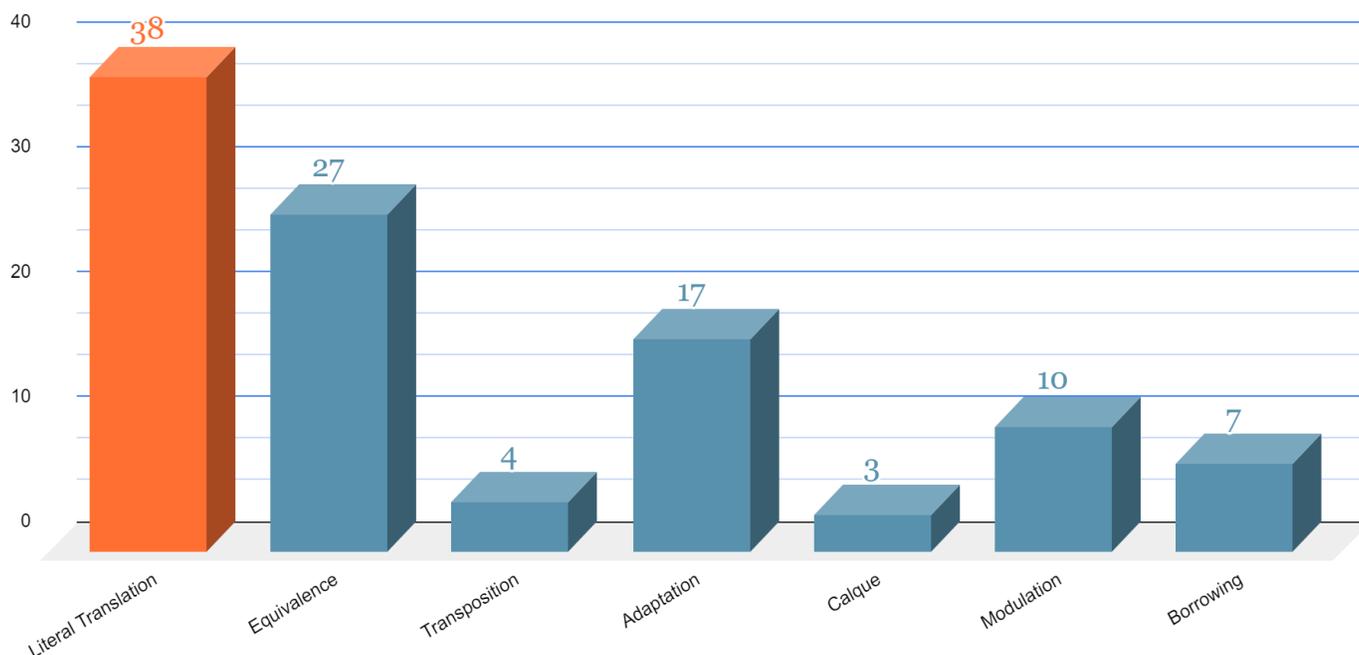
As mentioned in the pie chart, half of the students 50% considered their own translation performance as a Good Level. 44% (22 students) of the participants said that they are Average at the level of the translation performance. Moreover, only two students (4%) claimed that they are Excellent at translation. Finally, one student thinks that she has a bad performance when it comes to translation.

### Question Five: Translation Strategies

The students were asked to select the translation strategies they are familiar with, this question consisted of four translation strategies of Vinay and Darbelnet out of the seven strategies named by their names. The mentioned strategies in this question are: Literal Translation, Equivalence Translation, Adaptation Translation and Transposition Translation. Moreover, participants were asked to add other translation strategies if possible. The main purpose of this question is to know the students' knowledge and level concerning the translation field, in addition to investigating their ability to use the selected strategies in their appropriate use during the translation process. However, the following column chart represents the selected translation strategies by the participants.

**Figure 04:**Column chart of the mentioned translation strategies.

The Mentioned Translation Strategies by Students.



According to the students' answers, Figure 04 shows that the most common translation strategy among 3rd year English students of Ibn Khaldoun University is the literal translation. 38 students out of 50 selected the literal translation as a familiar strategy to them. The second common translation strategy is the equivalence translation, 27 students selected this strategy. Thirdly, 17 students selected adaptation translation as a familiar strategy. However, 10 students were able to mention the modulation strategy, 7 students mentioned the borrowing strategy, and 3 students mentioned the calque strategy. Even though the transposition strategy was mentioned in the question, only 4 students selected it. Finally, only one female student was able to mention all the translation strategies “Jean-Paul Vinay and Jean Darbelnet “.

### **Question Six: Translating a brief text from English to Arabic.**

Students were asked to translate an English material into Arabic, the text consists of seven sentences. The aim of this question is to evaluate the participants' translation performance, in addition to analysing their translation in order to answer the upcoming questions. Students were also asked to mention the translation strategy they used in the process of translating the given text. The mentioning of the used strategy will help to investigate the students' background of the translation field. The participants were asked to translate the following text:

‘The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop, when suddenly his brother whispered ‘I’ve got your back.’

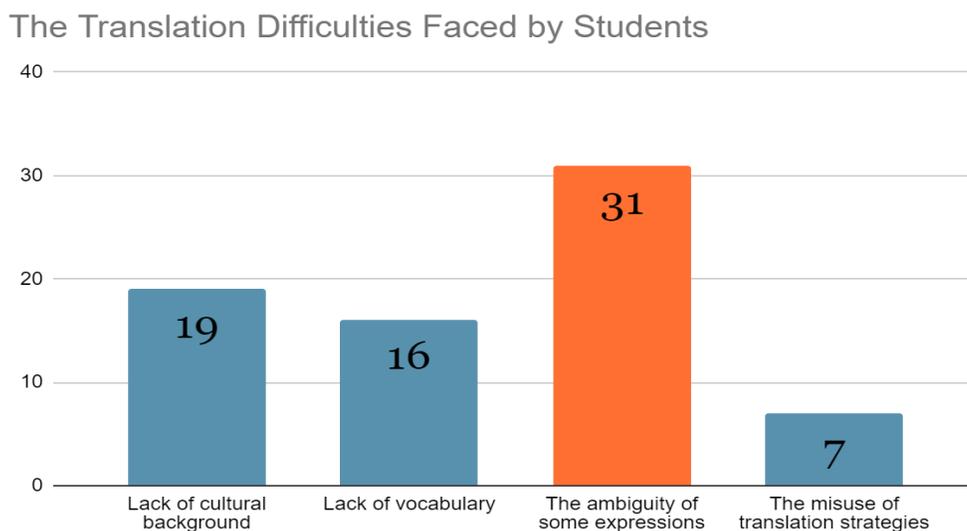
43 students out of 50 (86%) were cooperative and tried to translate the material, 34% (17 students) of the participants were able to translate half the text (4 sentences and more). However, only three students (females) were able to translate the full material, they used different translation strategies. While 18% (9 students) of the participants were only able to translate less than 4 sentences. Also, 34% (17 students) of the students who tried to translate the text, totally

failed at translating the given material, they were not able to translate any sentence. 14% (7 students) of the students did not even try to translate the text, 5 of them are males. The most used translation strategy according to the students' answers is: the literal translation. 20 students mentioned the use of this strategy. However, 12 participants mentioned the use of equivalence as a strategy. 4 students used adaptation, while only one student mentioned the use of two strategies: The literal translation and transposition. Finally, 6 students out of 43 who tried to translate the given text, did not mention the translation strategy they used.

### **Question Seven: The translation difficulties faced by students while translating the previous text.**

This question provides four different translation difficulties, the students were asked to select the obstacles they faced while translating the previous text. In addition to mentioning other difficulties, they faced it if possible. However, only the answers of the participants who tried to translate the previous text, are taken into consideration. Therefore, most of the students 72% selected “The Ambiguity of Some Expressions” as a translation obstacle. While only 6% (7 participants) selected “The Misuse of Translation Strategies” as a difficulty in the process of translation. However, 15 students out of 31 who mentioned “The Ambiguity of Some Expressions”, also mentioned “The Lack of Cultural Background” as an obstacle. 37% of the students considered “The Lack of Vocabulary” as an obstacle that came against the translation of the previous text. The following charts shows the translation difficulties that come against the students:

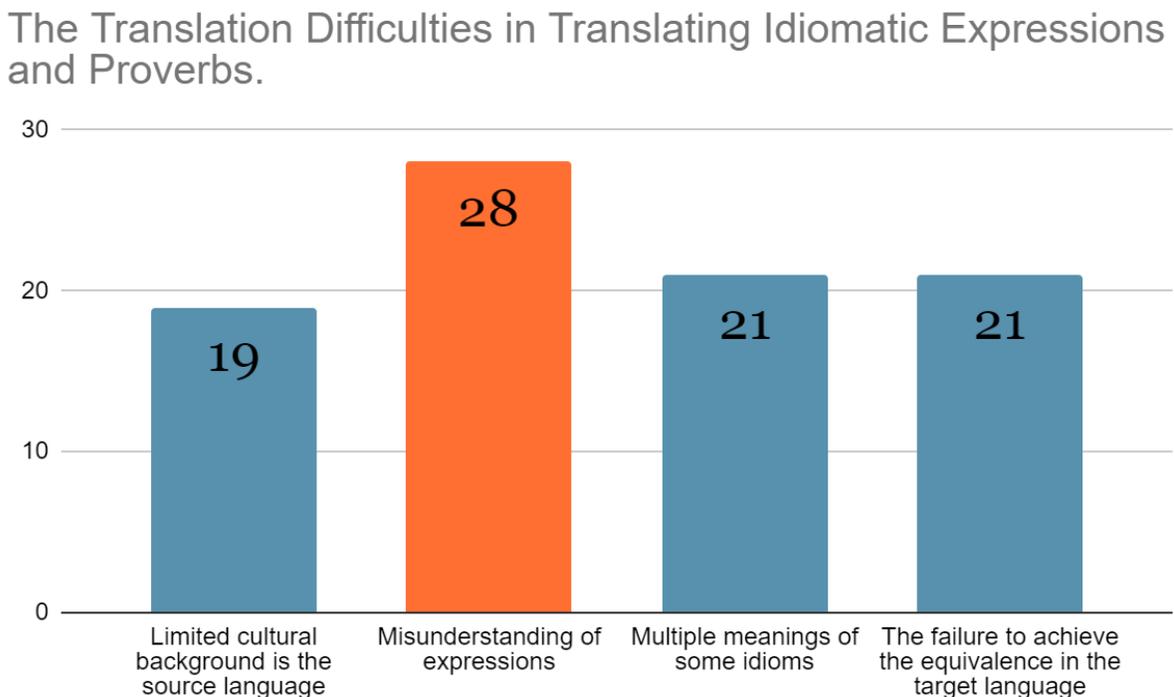
**Figure 05:**The translation difficulties faced by students.



## Questions Eight and Nine: The translation difficulties in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs.

In this question, the participants were asked about the problems and difficulties they face in the process of translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs. The students were given four different translation obstacles to be selected. However, the main purpose of this question is to find out and investigate the most common "Cultural Difficulties" among the participants. 84% (42 students) of the students stated that they face some obstacles concerning the translation of idiomatic expressions and proverbs, while the rest 16% (8 students) stated that they do not face any kind of difficulties. However, the most commonly faced cultural difficulties among the participants is the "The Misunderstanding of Expressions", according to 67% (28 students) participants. 21 students out of 42, stated that this misunderstanding is due to the multiple meanings of some idioms and expressions. Furthermore, 50% of the participants stated that they failed to achieve the appropriate equivalence in the target language. Finally, the mentioned percentages in this analysis are according to the 42 students that face problems in translation. However, the following chart represents the students' selected obstacles:

**Figure 06:**The translation difficulties in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs.



## **Questions Ten and Eleven: Students' opinion concerning the importance of culture in translation, and the way students preserve a foreign language culture.**

Students were asked about their own opinion concerning the learning of a language's culture, and the help it provides to the translation process. Moreover, they were also asked about the perfect way to preserve a specific culture. The aim of this question is to find out how students learn the English Language Culture. However, 98% of the participants agreed that learning a language's culture helps during the translation process. Only one student did not agree to that. Furthermore, concerning their opinion about preserving a foreign culture, most students (60%) mentioned watching movies and series (Tv Shows in general) of the intended language, Social Media platforms in order to be involved with intended culture, in addition to reading books of that language. However, 20% of the students stated that in order to preserve a specific language's culture, one needs to be involved directly with native speakers, by living in the intentional culture society for the sake of developing a cultural awareness. Finally, 20% of the students chose not to answer and share their opinion.

### **5. The Description and Analysis of Direct Observation of The Students During the Translation Session**

The students were directly observed during the translation session in order to see their performance during class and their ability to translate cultural materials. However, the observation process was made through two separate sessions.

In the first session, the professor asked his students to translate the word "Assassin" in Arabic, and most students raised their hands to answer. The majority translated the given word into "قاتل" or "قاتل مأجور", while few students translated it into "حشاش". Later on, the professor told his students the story of "The Assassins Of Persia" and their leader Hassan Ibn Al-Sabbah. After that, the professor reasked his students to translate the word "Assassin", the majority of students changed their translation from "قاتل" to "حشاش". Furthermore, the professor asked the

students to translate the expression “كنت فينت”. At first, the students were not able to understand it, but after telling them the story of Al-Hajjaj Ibn Yusuf and his wife Hind, they did understand the intended meaning of the expression. However, they were not able to translate the given expression due to the condition made by Al-Hajjaj in his story, in which he asked his servant to tell his wife (Al-Hajjaj’s wife) that she is divorced in no more than two words.

In the second session, the students were taught about the importance of the cultural background of the translator and the impact of the translator on the reader. The professor also mentioned another historical cultural story of the execution of Mansur Al-Hallaj due to his poetry, in which he said “أنا الحق”. However, the students translated it as “I am the truth”. While Al-Hallaj’s people had another opinion and translation, by which they charged him with heresy. Later on, the professor started explaining the source language norms, along with mentioning the three perspectives of language acquisition of Chomsky, Skinner and Krashen to his students. At the end of the session, the professor provided the students with four Arabic sentences to be translated to English. All of the students used the literal translation as a strategy, the majority of students did not succeed at translating the given sentences due to the lack of vocabulary. However, the students were asked to translate the following sentences:

كانت النتائج قريبة من الصحة بعض الشيء.  
أثبتت العديد من الدراسات هذه الفكرة.  
نتائج البحث لاقت نجاحا باهرا.  
انطلق مشروع الطاقة العام الفانت.

## **6. Critical Discourse Analysis of The Results**

### **6.1. Critical Discourse Analysis**

CDA is a critical approach that investigates language in terms of its use, relying on the social aspects that affect the language in use. As stated by Coffin, CDA is defined as “an approach to language analysis which concerns itself with issues of language, power, and

ideology” (2001, p.99). Therefore, Scholars tend to have different approaches concerning CDA. However, in this research the appropriate approach to use is Norman Fairclough's, since he focused on the discourse and its meaning (the language use), ideology and social practice. Fairclough's framework of CDA. Critical discourse analysis aims at investigating the cultural meanings and its ideologies in any given discourse. As mentioned, this research is about investigating the linguistic and cultural obstacles of translation. However, the CDA approach of Norman Fairclough consists of three related analysis processes: the text analysis "Description", the production and consumption of the text "Interpretation" and the social analysis "Explanation". Therefore, this CDA approach will highlight the most common difficulties that come against the students in the process of translation, since it analyzes the students' translations in terms of language use "Linguistics", in addition to its relation to social aspects and its effects "Cultural Factors".

## **6.2. CDA of The Questionnaire's Results**

The critical discourse analysis of the questionnaire's results is made according to the students' answers concerning their translation performance level. Therefore, the analysis is divided into four levels of translation performance: Excellent, Good, Average and Bad. However, each level is analysed separately.

### **Excellent Performance Level:**

Only two students considered their level at the translation performance as an excellent level, both students are females and they stated that they have a very good level of English language as well. However, one of the students tried to translate the given text and failed at translating it. She was only able to translate the last sentence “when suddenly his brother whispered ‘I’ve got your back.’” by which she translated it into “وفجأة همس شقيقه ‘أنا أحمي ظهرك.’”. She was only familiar with the literal translation and mentioned it as the strategy used in translating the given text, in addition to the lack of cultural background, lack of vocabulary and

the misunderstanding of some expressions as obstacles during the translation process. However, the literal translation strategy is not the appropriate one to translate the given text. According to her translation, she does not have a lack of vocabulary concerning the used words in the text, since her translation consisted of all the appropriate literal translation of the words, but she does have a lack of knowledge concerning the translation strategies, as she misused the literal translation strategy since it is not appropriate for the given text. While the other student was one of the seven students that did not even try to translate the given text. Concerning the translation of idiomatic expressions and cultural materials, both students seem to have a limited cultural background of the SL and the misunderstanding of expressions according to their answers.

### **Good Performance Level:**

25 students considered their translation performance as a good level. 7 students (5 females / 2 males) out of 25 were able to translate half of the text “four sentences and more”. However, only one student was able to translate the whole text, by which she mentioned the use of both literal and transposition strategies in the process of translation. This student is familiar with J.P Vinay and J. Darbelnet strategies as she mentioned in question 5. According to her answer, she selected “the ambiguity of some expressions” as an obstacle that came against her during the translation process of the given text. However, despite the fact that she succeeded at translating the whole text, she misused the translation strategies and unconsciously used the equivalence strategy, and the reason for the mentioned circumstance is the participant's previous knowledge of the cultural background of the given text in the TL. The following translation belongs to her:

كان الجندي مسلحا حتى أخمص قدميه، بلغ به القلق أي مبلغ، كان في مأزق حرج، بذل قصارى جهده، أملا أن يهاجم في اللحظة المناسبة رغم خوفه الشديد. كان الصمت رهيبا، وفجأة همس أخيه 'أنا أحمي ظهرك'.

The other six students claimed that they have a good level concerning the English Language, except for one female student who claimed that she has a very good English level. All the six students mentioned the use of the equivalence strategy during the process of translation.

They all failed at translating the sixth sentence “You could hear a pin drop” by which they translated it literally as “يمكنك سماع سقوط الدبوس”, “يمكنك سماع قطرة الماء”. While another student also failed at translating the second sentence “He had his heart in his mouth” as he translated it “كان قلبه في فمه”. However, this failure is due to a pragmatic competence lack concerning idiomatic expressions, the students could not understand the intended meaning of the previous expressions. Therefore, all the six students included “The ambiguity of some expression” as an obstacle that came against them in the translation process.

Eight students (6 females / 2 males) out of 25 were able to translate less than four sentences, all of them used literal translation as strategy to translate the given text. Five students were only able to translate one sentence which is the last sentence of the text “When suddenly his brother whispered ‘I’ve got your back’.” by which they translated it as “فجأة همس أخيه أنا أحمي”. While the other three students (2 females and one male) were able to translate the previous sentence in addition to another two different sentences. All the three students translated the first sentence “The soldier was armed to the teeth” as “كان الجندي مدججا بالسلاح”. Moreover, the eight students could not succeed at translating all the sentences due to the misuse of the translation strategies “literal translation” in order to use the appropriate strategy which is “the equivalence”, and due to their lack of cultural background they failed at achieving the intended equivalence in the TL, along with their lack of vocabulary as they mentioned in their answers.

The rest 10 (6 females and 4 males) students out of 25 totally failed at the level of translation of the given text. Five students chose to skip the translation part, while the other five considered their level of the English Language as a good level except for one female student who viewed her English Language level as an average level. According to the students’ translation, it is obviously clear that they have a lack of pragmatic competence, since they could not understand most of the expressions. In addition to the misuse of the translation strategies. However, the following translations are found in their answers:

- The soldier was armed to the teeth.

كان الجندي مسلحا بشجاعته / كان الجندي يحارب بشجاعة

- He had his heart in his mouth.

ما في قلبه على لسانه / كان يحمل قلبه في فمه أي شجاعا

- He was in hot water.

كان موضوعا في وعاء ساخن / كان في بيئة ساخنة

- He put his best foot forward.

وضع كل ما يملك / استعمل أحسن ما عنده

- He hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots.

حاول ضغط الزناد رغم حرارة السلاح / محاولا النجاة والفرار رغم المعوقات والصعاب

- You could hear a pin drop,

يمكنك سماع قطرات خوفه / سمع طلقات النار

- When suddenly his brother whispered ‘I’ve got your back’.

همس شقيقه بحزن لقد حصلت على ظهرك / سمع أنين أخيه قائلا لقد كنت في انتظارك

### **Average Performance Level:**

9 participants (5 females / 4 males) out of 22 were able to translate more than 4 sentences of the given text. However, only two female students succeeded at translating the whole text, and both the students used equivalence as a strategy in the process of translation. They considered their English Language level as an average level. According to their answers concerning the translation difficulties they faced, both students selected “Lack of vocabulary”, “The ambiguity of some expressions” and “Limited cultural background in the source language”. While the other 7 students, considered their English Language level as a good level. Four of them mentioned the use of the equivalence strategy as the appropriate one to translate the text, the other three did not mention the strategy they used. According to the seventh participants’ answers, the lack of the cultural background and the ambiguity of some expressions are the reasons they could not translate the whole material. Therefore, the mentioned reasons led the participants to misuse the equivalence strategy, since this latter and the cultural background are

linked directly. In other words, the efficiency of the equivalence strategy is based on a proper knowledge of the cultural material along with the appropriate vocabulary.

Six students (4 females / 2 males) were only able to translate less than four sentences of the given text. Four of them used the literal translation as a strategy in the process, while the other two mentioned the use of the adaptation strategy. All of the six students were able to translate the first sentence “The soldier was armed to the teeth” into “كان الجندي مدججا بالسلاح”. However, according to the participants' translations, students were not able to understand the actual meaning of most of the expressions, in addition to the misuse of the translation strategies.

7 Participants (5 females + 2 males) out of 22 have totally failed at translating the given text. Only one male student did not try to answer the 6th question concerning the translation of the text. However, the other six participants used the literal translation as a strategy to translate it. According to the students' translations, the main reasons that they failed at the translation level are: The lack of vocabulary, the misunderstanding of expression and the failure to achieve the appropriate equivalence of the understandable expressions due to their lack of cultural background, in addition to the misuse of the translation strategies. The following translations are examples from the students' answers:

- The soldier was armed to the teeth.

كان الجندي مسلحا بعناية / كان الجندي مسلحا بأسنانه

- He had his heart in his mouth.

كان قلبه شجاعا / ما في قلبه على لسانه

- He was in hot water.

كان في حالة معلقة / كان في ماء ساخن

- He put his best foot forward.

كان يتقدم بصمود كبير / ماء ساخن يضع قدميه فيه

- He hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots.

يرجو الوقوف في الوقت المناسب رغم الخوف / تمنى أن يطعن فوراً بالرغم من شدة رعبه

- You could hear a pin drop,

يمكنك سماع خوفه / يمكنك سماع تحفيزات أخيه

- When suddenly his brother whispered ‘I’ve got your back’.

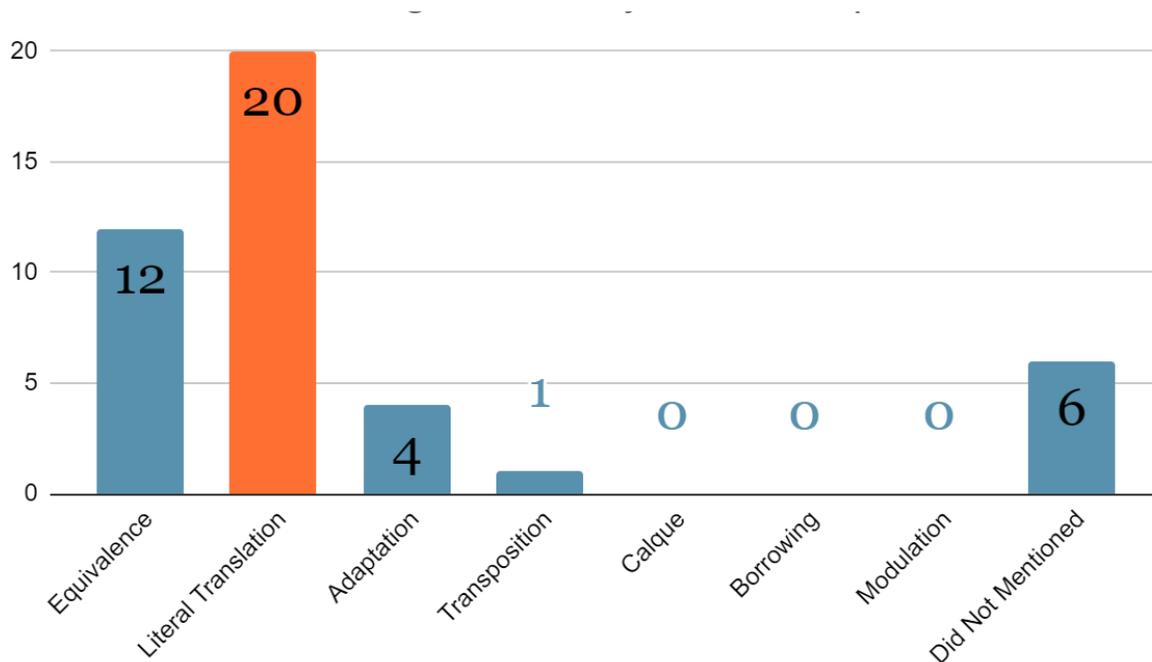
وفجأة سمع صوت صديقه يناديه أنا أسانديك / فجأة سمع متممة أخيه: سأحميك

### Bad Performance Level:

Only one female student considered her level of translation performance as a bad level, and yet she considered her English Language level as a very good one. This student was able to translate 6 sentences out of 7, as she mentioned the use of the adaptation strategy. However, the only sentence she could not translate is “You can hear a pin drop” in which she translated it into “يمكنك سماع سقطة الدبوس”. The main reason she failed at translating the previous sentence is due to the misunderstanding of the expression, which led her to fail at achieving the appropriate equivalence of it. She did not use the adaptation strategy as she mentioned, but she did use the Equivalence strategy.

However, the following chart represents the most used translations strategies among the participants during the translation process of the given text:

**Figure 07:** The most used strategies among 3rd students.



The majority of students used the literal translation as a strategy, and since it is not the appropriate one for the translation of the given text, all the students who used it have failed at achieving the appropriate equivalences of the text's sentences. However, the ones who did use the equivalence strategy did well at the translation performance of the given text. Four students have mentioned the use of the adaptation strategy even though they did not actually use it. Another female student claimed to use the transposition strategy while in fact she used the equivalence strategy. While, 6 students did not mention the strategy they have used. However, most of the students seem to have a problem concerning the translation strategies, in addition to the misuse of it.

### **6.3. CDA of the Observation's Results**

During the translation sessions, students were asked to translate a few cultural materials in addition to four scientific sentences. However, the majority of the students failed at the level of translating the given materials and sentences.

In the first session, only few students were able to translate the term "Assassin" to its appropriate equivalence in the TL "حشاش", while the majority failed due to the lack of cultural background in the TL which is Arabic. The students who were able to translate the given term did have a knowledge about the word's origin, and they were culturally aware about the story of assassins from the video game "Assassin's Creed" as they mentioned. Concerning the second cultural material "كنت فبنت", all of the students could not translate it. This failure is due to the lack of pragmatic competence since they did not understand the intended meaning which is "you are divorced", and most of them considered it as an ambiguous expression. However, after the explanation of the professor the majority did understand its meaning, but still could not translate it, since the translation's condition was to translate it only with two words as mentioned in the story of Al-Hajjaj. The cultural gap between the SL and the TL comes against the translation process of this story, in addition to the linguistic untranslatability of the expression, along with the grammatical differences between the TL and the SL.

Concerning the given scientific sentences, the majority of students used the literal translation. According to their professor, the literal translation is the most common and used strategy among the students. However, in the translation process of the given sentences, most of the students have faced the same difficulty, which is the lack of vocabulary.

## **Conclusion**

This chapter aims at investigating the most common obstacles that come against the 3rd year students in the translation process. However, this investigation is based on a critical discourse analysis of the students' answers and translations. The analysis is made according to the students' evaluation of themselves concerning their translation performance. The majority of the students (25 students) claimed to have a good translation performance, yet only 28% of them did well at the translation process. While 22 students considered their performance as an average level, 41% of them were able to translate more than 4 sentences. Based on the CDA of the results, this big failure concerning the translation performance of the students is due to several linguistic and cultural obstacles. The most common difficulties faced by the 3rd year students are:

First, in terms of pragmatic competence: The misuse of translation strategies and the ambiguity and misunderstanding of expressions

Secondly, in terms of linguistic competence: The lack of vocabulary, the linguistic untranslatability of some expressions, and the grammatical differences of languages.

Thirdly, in terms of cultural obstacles: The cultural gap between languages, the limited cultural background of the SL, the lack of cultural background of the TL and the failure to achieve the appropriate equivalence in TL.



## General Conclusion

As a conclusion, we can state that language and culture have a strong bond with each other, they are two inseparable factors, language is used to transfer culture through speech, signs and writings, and culture is the background and the knowledge used to interact with different people. The diversity of cultures and languages requires translation to be necessary and a required tool to transfer culture, knowledge and thoughts through texts. The purpose of translation here is to transmit the meaning from the source language to the TL, translators tend to understand the translation process, methods and strategies in order to preserve the intentional meaning of the source language and reproduce it in the TL, however, they sometimes struggle and face some difficulties during translation process, these difficulties are divided into linguistic difficulties which are related to language and cultural difficulties which are related to culture.

The linguistics obstacles are related to language, they occur when translators have difficulties in language, and the most common difficulties and obstacles that face translators during translation process are: the lack of linguistic competence which refers to the inability to produce and comprehend language; it appears when the translator has grammatical or lexical or stylistics problems. In addition, the lack of pragmatic competence is considered as an obstacle that may mislead the audiences of the TL and ruin the real meaning of the text for the reason that the translator may misunderstand the text, or misuse translation strategies. Linguistic untranslatability is another obstacle as well, it makes reference to the inability to find the appropriate equivalence, or the words and expressions cannot be translated from Source language to TL.

The gap between cultures stands as a huge obstacle and creates *a cultural obstacle*. Translators may face many problems in translating cultural materials for the reason that they live in a world full of different languages, each language lives in the context of a different culture that presents different aspects of life, in this way, a limited cultural background in both of the source language and the TL will block the process of translation. The cultural gap brings other obstacles such as cultural untranslatability that refers to the impossibility of catching equivalent comparison in the TL due to the absence of the culture of the source language text from the

culture of the TL text such as translation of idioms, proverbs and other cultural materials, while cultural blindness obstacle occurs when translators think that they address the cultural differences between the source language and TL, however, they do not spot the differences and the translation of the text may bring ambiguity to the reader.

We aimed to investigate the linguistics and the cultural difficulties that face 3rd year students of English at the university of Ibn Khaldoun, Tiaret. The results reveal that the lack of vocabulary, the linguistic untranslatability of expressions and the grammatical differences of languages are the most common difficulties in terms of linguistic competence, the misuse of translation strategies, the ambiguity and misunderstanding of expressions are the most common difficulties in terms of pragmatic competence, the cultural gap between languages, the limited cultural background of the source language, the lack of cultural background of the TL and the failure to achieve the appropriate equivalence in TL are the most common difficulties in terms of cultural obstacles. Thus, EFL students must choose the right translation methods and strategies that we suggested in this research to deal with cultural texts.

In order to perceive the foreign language culture, we and the used samples suggest watching Tv shows, using social media platforms to chat with foreigners, and most importantly to be involved directly with native speakers and live with them.

Finally, we would state that this dissertation is a practice-driven contribution in the field of translation and an indicator on the main hurdles that EFL learners face while learning translation. Given the fact that the framework of translation involves a wider range of data such as the perception of foreign languages and their local impacts, the students' acquired knowledge and skills, the variability in translation assessment, further studies would be required in order to determine the linguistic and the cultural obstacles in translation more precisely.



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## Appendix

### Appendice One: Questionnaire.

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

.....

3. How do you consider your level in the English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop, when suddenly his brother whispered ‘I’ve got your back.’

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

What translation strategies did you use:

.....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ?  
(Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

.....  
.....  
.....

**Appendice Two:**  
**The Questionnaires Filled by 3rd Year English Students.**

The participants' answers are classified according to their translation performance: Excellent, Good, Average and Bad level.

**Excellent Translation Performance: 2 students**

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

..... *21 years old* .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

What translation strategies did you use:

.....  
.....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... *from music, movies / going there* .....

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

20 y.o

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got you back.'

كان الجندي مسلحاً حتى أسنانه، كان قلبه في فمه  
كان في ماء ساخن، وضع قدمه الأفضل للأمام  
كان يأمل في العيوب بينما كان العدو يدس أسنانه، وفجأة  
قلبه في حذاءه، كما كان لا يسمع صوت العربة  
وعبادة همت بشيعة، "أنا لست بظفر"

What translation strategies did you use:

literal

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

.....

**Good Performance Level: 25 Students.**

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

22 yo

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

Modulation

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجندي مسلحاً من رأسه إلى قدميه. كان يواجه صراعاً من عقله بين العوقف والوقوف. كان معامراً عيالي. كان يسمع طقات النار وأخاه خلفه كان يلاحقه بالأسلحة.

What translation strategies did you use:

Probably equivalence & literal translation

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

basically by or through communicating with native speakers, listening and watching series from the target language and podcasts

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 20 years old .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجددي كان مسلحاً حتى أسنانه، كان  
لديه قلبه في فمه، كان في الصياح العاشنة  
وضع أقدامه إلى الأمام، كان يركب  
على الحمار، وهو سائق ريكوان فلينج  
في أسبوعه، تستطيع سماع صوت الدبوس لها  
قراءة صاع الحمار، لقد دخلت على ظهوره

What translation strategies did you use:

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 21 .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

..... Borrowing ..... Modulation .....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

! (عندي سلاح بكل معداته، ما في قلبه على لسانه، يتورق قلبا، يضيء بكل قوته، ان الامام ا يريد ان يدافع امام في كامل قوته، ثم حو قوته.

و قلبه بين قد هببه، نسمع ا نبت ا لمة

لكن هو ان ويقدم الامام هو ا حيه قائله: كنت في انتظاره

What translation strategies did you use:

..... Literal translation .....

..... Adaptation .....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... to achieve the foreign language culture you need to be in interaction with the society and the real life, in order to know how they use language.

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

I am 22 years

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

Borrowing, Borrowing, modulation

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

وكان الجندي مسلحاً جيداً لانه كان قد قتل في قسمه كان في الماء الساخن انه وضع افضل قدمه الى الامام كان يامل في ضربه بينما كان الجندى الساخن ينادي في غم عند قلبه كان في جيبه انه هل في احد ارجح  
لقد جعلت عاكر جهور

What translation strategies did you use:

literal

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

lack of reading communication with English languages

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

Develop a warmness language and cultural variation. I love it and I have susceptibility to learn and study it.

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

20 years

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجندي مسلحاً في أحدهم قديمه، وكان قلبه يخرج من عنقه، كان في وضع حرج...

تقديم، ذهوباً إلى الأمام، أملاً في النهاية، وفيه  
إحساسه بقلبه أنه سيقدر، كان له مكانة  
سواءً ذلك، في ذلك اللوحة صعدت أتون

"إحساسه بقلبه"  
What translation strategies did you use:

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

20

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندى كان مسلحاً بالأسلحة وكان  
 خائفاً وقلقاً ووقف منتصباً  
 لسمع  
 رغم انه كان خائفاً يمشي  
 لسمع  
 لسمع  
 "أنا لك"

What translation strategies did you use:

literal translation, transposition  
equivalence

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

Movies, series, music, books





Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

20 years old

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

المتمنى على كان مسلحاً وكان  
جائفاً مستواً في حالة مرسية  
مخاطباً النجاة والفرار، الكلام النجاة  
مع المعينات (المصعب) ... يمكنك تلميحاً  
المعنى في ذلك الصورت عندما لمسه  
أنا حلتك ما حلتك

What translation strategies did you use:

The Equivalence

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

we use it in our daily life  
by watching movies and listening  
to music in internet and  
social media

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

22 y.o

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

none

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

What translation strategies did you use:

adaptive

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

bad

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

22 year old

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:  
.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:  
The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

What translation strategies did you use:

Equivalence

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:  
.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

.....  
.....  
.....



Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجندي قد حجب بالسيخ، ليخبره  
الضوئير بالفتح به الفلق أي ضلغ، أزع  
أن يقرم كما عده، أن يظروا الخدي  
عادوا من طريقها ومن خوفه الشدي من  
الضمت الملقوق يظروا ما ساء صوت  
أخذه هائسا "إذن راجتاي؟"

1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

What translation strategies did you use:

... *transposition + literal* .....

2. How old are you ?

..... *20* .....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

Add other difficulties:

... *overuse of idiomatic expressions* .....

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

Add other translation strategies that you know:

..... *calque, borrowing, modulation* .....

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

... *it is the gateway to a better understanding of the foreign language. it is crucial that we familiarize ourselves with it.* .....

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

19 yo

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندي كان مسلح وكان صريحا  
وستواجهه حالة حربية  
محاولة النجاة بكل الطرق  
أمل النجاة رغم الصعاب (يمكنك

سماع كطريقة التماثل في ذلك الامتداد ما فهمت له أخوه  
"أنا حمايك" What translation strategies did you use:

The equivalence

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

by watching series and  
vlogs and sometime with  
chatting

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

20 yo

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجندي مسلحاً إلى  
الأسنان وقلبه في فمه  
وكان في الماء الحار  
وقد وضع قدمه  
الأولى أمامه  
وكان يأمل أن يضرب  
بينما الحديد ساخن  
على الرغم من أن قلبه  
كان في أحذية الجندي  
الذي كان يمشي بجانبه  
فقط عندما سألته  
خبرته فجأة

What translation strategies did you use:

Equivalence

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

By watching movies  
and chatting

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

I am 20 years old

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندي مسلح حتى فمسه  
قلبه يرتجف منواجبه في ماء  
ساحين... فوجسوا الحياة  
بينما الجندي كان يزال ساكنة  
تحت رصع فحياة أخاه  
لقد رجعت اليك

What translation strategies did you use:

Equivalence

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

According to me, practicing is the best way to perceive the foreign language culture.

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

23

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندي كان مسلحاً، كان قلبه في فمه، كان في الماء الحار، كان يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

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يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

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يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

عندما سجد فجأة، كان العرق

يظهر، وهو يمشي على قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة حتى لو كان قلبه في جعبته، يمكنك سماع قطرة من المطر.

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

Music, Movies, TV Shows

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

20 y.o

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

I don't know

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجدي كان مسلحاً حياً  
كان خائفاً جداً  
في وسط المعركة  
كان يمشي متقدم  
حده حياً  
أن يفتل العدو عنقه  
دقات قلبه كانت  
تنتزع

What translation strategies did you use:

Adaptation

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

I don't know

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

by hearing music  
and reading books

Dear students,

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1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

20 years old

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

Adaptive

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندي مسلح بالأسلحة، كان قلبه على لسانه، كان في الماء الحار، وضع قدمه الأمامية، كان يأمل في الضربة عندما كان الحديد حاراً حتى لو كان قلبه في أحذية الجندي، يمكنك سماع قطرة من الحديد، عندما سجد أخاه يصرخ 'لديّ ظهرك.'

What translation strategies did you use:

Literal Translation

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

None

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

by watching series

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

21

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

/

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندي كان مسلحاً مسلحاً إلى الأسنان، كان قلبه في فمه، كان في الماء الحار، كان يمشي بأفضل قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة عندما كان الحديد حاراً حتى لو كان قلبه في أحذية الجندي، يمكنك سماع قطرة من

الجندي عندما أخبره أخيه سراً 'أنا معك.'

أخبره أخيه سراً 'أنا معك.'

في الحرب، أبدأ الجندي كان مسلحاً مسلحاً إلى الأسنان، كان قلبه في فمه، كان في الماء الحار، كان يمشي بأفضل قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة عندما كان الحديد حاراً حتى لو كان قلبه في أحذية الجندي، يمكنك سماع قطرة من

What translation strategies did you use

literal translation

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

/

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

watching movies

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

39

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

no more!

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

I can not translate the given text, because it takes me time.   
  $\text{لا أستطيع ترجمة النص المعطى، لأنه يستغرق مني وقتاً.$

What translation strategies did you use:

/

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- 19  Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

/

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

It is an important aspect in the process of language learning.

Dear students,

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1. What's your gender ?

Male

Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 21 year .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

Very Good

Good

Average

Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

Excellent

Good

Average

Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

Literal Translation

Equivalence

Adaptation

Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

..... / .....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

What translation strategies did you use:

.....  
.....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

Lack of cultural background

Lack of vocabulary

The ambiguity of some expressions

The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

..... I don't .....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

Yes

No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

Limited cultural background in the source language.

Misunderstanding of expressions.

Multiple meanings of some idioms.

The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

Yes

No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

.....  
.....

..... from music, films, series .....

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 20 years old .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

..... كان الجندي مسلحاً بدمية  
الكلمة ولكن ونجح  
في مشكلة لم تصفه  
من أن يقدم أتمنى  
مادامك لكته كان  
خاتمة ال أن سمع  
كلمة جعلته يقف  
.....  
.....

What translation strategies did you use:

..... literal translation .....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... by indulging with it people .....

Dear students,

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1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

22

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

/

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجندي مسلحاً حتى أسنانه،  
وسأف فداة، كان في ماء ساخن،  
ووضع قدمه الأمام للأمام، وكان  
يأمل في المزيد مما دام الجريد مسانداً.  
رغم أن قلبه كان في حدائه، كان بإمكانه  
سماع صوت الدبوس، وخطبة مصطفى  
عنه أي كسر  
heterotranslation

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

/

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

Male

Female

2. How old are you ?

18

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

Very Good

Good

Average

Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

Excellent

Good

Average

Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

Literal Translation

Equivalence

Adaptation

Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....

.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجندي مسلحاً حتى أسنانه، وقلبه في فمه،

كان في الماء ساخن، ووقع قدمه الأيمن في الأقدام

كان يأمل في الفوز بما دامت الكوافة ساخنة في الرجم

من أن قلبه في نبي حبه الله، يا حبه كان له سلاح  
صوت سيقوها النبوس، ووقاها قد صعدت شبيهه  
القد استتار بله

What translation strategies did you use:

literal

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

Lack of cultural background

Lack of vocabulary

The ambiguity of some expressions

The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....

.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

Yes

No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

Limited cultural background in the source language.

Misunderstanding of expressions.

Multiple meanings of some idioms.

The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

Yes

No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

through movies, music and books

.....



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1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 21 years .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

..... I prefer just literal translation and adaptation .....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندى كان مسلحاً تماماً وكان قلبه يرقق بشدة من شدة الخوف، وكان يمشي وهو لا يعلم به جيبه وأراد أن يقف على العدو وكان همه حياً.

What translation strategies did you use:

..... Adaptation .....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

..... bad comprehension .....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... by watching vlogs, and reading books .....

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1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 21 .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

..... modulation ..... Borrowing .....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندى مسلحاً إلى الأسنان. كان قلبه في فمه. كان في الماء الحار. وضع قدمه الأمامية على الأمام. كان يأمل أن يضرب الحديد الحار حتى لو كان قلبه في أحذيةه. يمكنك سماع نقطة من الحديد. عندما قال أخوه بصوت خافت 'لقد حصلت على ظهرك.'

What translation strategies did you use:

..... transposition .....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... Foreign language culture as an important skill to develop more and to understand how the others can communicate with me or another .....

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 20 years old .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

..... Borrowing - modulation .....  
..... calque .....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان لثديا مسلحا لا يركل كان كل  
ما هو في قلبه في لسانه في ماء  
ساحن يصنع قدمه فيه  
كان جاهل في ان يقربه ليد  
وهو تساحن  
مثل على الرضا في حذائه  
يعتدك سماع صوح الديون  
وهو يقرب حتى هرب اخوه  
لقد رجعت

What translation strategies did you use:

..... literal translation .....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

..... that's all .....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

by go deeper watching  
films, movies, listen to their  
music, know their traditions  
and hobbies

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

2070

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجندي مسلحاً حراً أو حراً  
وغيره قزاً، وقد قدم إلى الأمام  
أفضل ما كان عليه، فبينما هو  
الآن، كان في حيرة من أمره.  
كان الجندي قد نادى صوته  
وهو يمشي في أقدامه  
أجملتك

What translation strategies did you use:

Literal translation  
Equivalence

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

.....

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

٢٢

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجدي مغمورا بالأسلحة  
كان قلبه من تحت الحرف يذوق  
ومع عكاس لم يستسلم وانزل  
العدو لنام، كان يأمل أن  
يقبل  
فجاءه مع صوت أخته  
"أنا في خطر"

What translation strategies did you use:

Transposition

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

not interested

.....

.....

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

19 years old

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

None

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجندي مسلحاً بأسلحته  
ما كان في قلبه حتى لا يسمع  
كان في ماء ساخن وكان واثقاً  
رأه في الأمام وهو يمشي  
من ضربات العدو وهو يمشي  
تسقط سلاحه من يده قطرة  
وعندما سمع أن العدو يقترب  
في آذنه أن العدو

What translation strategies did you use:

Literal Translation

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

None

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

by watching movies and series and playing online games by chatting with foreign players

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- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

20 years old

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

modulation

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان اليربوعي هو قوتنا على كسر الأعداء  
كان قلبه يهتف بشدة  
كان يترجم الأسماء بعبارة كسيرة  
تمنى أن يعطي فوراً الخرج من المتعد  
تجربته كان الهمم يعلم الحكمة  
عجباة معادله أجاد أنا مبالغة أنتك  
كان اليربوعي صلحنا لأفهم درجته

What translation strategies did you use:

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

It's by diving there to learn

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 20 years old .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الـجندى مسلحاً إلى أسنانه ..... وكان  
قلوبهم في أفواههم ..... وكان  
يضع قدمه الأمامية ..... وكان  
يأمل في الضربة الحاسمة ..... وكان  
قلوبهم في أحشاءهم ..... وكان

ما استخدمته من استراتيجيات الترجمة

What translation strategies did you use:

.....  
.....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

..... Don't understand the  
context .....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... chatting with students  
relating the book .....



Dear students,

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1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 21 .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

.....  
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.....

What translation strategies did you use:

.....  
.....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

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- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

.....  
.....  
.....



Dear students,

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1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 20 years old ! .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

..... كان الجندي مسلحاً إلى الأسنان  
..... وكان قلبه في فمه وكان في الماء  
..... ساراً وبع أفضل قدميه وكان  
..... يمشي على حبل المشدود  
.....

What translation strategies did you use:

..... Word by Word: literal translation

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... watching series .....



Dear students,

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- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

... 21 years old .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

..... I don't know .....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندى كان مسلحاً إلى أسنانه. كان قلبه في فمه، كان في الماء الحار، كان يمشي بأفضل قدميه، كان يأمل في الضربة عندما كان الحديد ساخناً حتى لو كان قلبه في حذاءه. يمكنك سماع نقطة من الحديد عندما يتحدث أخوك بصوت خافت 'أنا معك من الخلف.'

..... see the text .....

What translation strategies did you use:

..... ADAPTATION .....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... by reading books, TV shows, anime, social media .....

Dear students,

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- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 20 years old .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

..... كان الجنود مسلحاً حوله لا يذبح  
..... على قوته كانوا ما ساعدت ومع  
..... أن حبله إلى الخنجر .....

What translation strategies did you use:

..... Literal Translation .....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... It's very unfortunate  
..... to translate from one  
..... language to another .....

Dear students,

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- Male  
 Female

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20 years old

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

الجندي كان مسلحاً حراً  
وكان قلبه في فمه  
وكان في الماء الساخن  
وكان يمشي بأفضل قدميه  
وكان يأمل في الضربة  
عندما كان الحديد ساخناً  
على الرغم من أن قلبه  
كان في أحذيةه  
يمكن سماع دبابة  
عندما

What translation strategies did you use:

Literal Translation

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

The difficulty of words comprehension.

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

We have to get attached to the culture  
of the language that we learn

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- Male  
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2. How old are you ?

20 y.o

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- Very Good  
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4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان الجندي مسلحاً حياً وكان شجاعاً  
لقد كان قلبه وحيه مقلقة  
استعمل أحسن ما عنده .. كان يأمل  
الشد خلفه الخطبة الكبارية ..  
؟ .. كان .. حياً .. حياً .. حياً ..  
سماع .. وطرا .. خوف .. عليه ..  
بسرعة .. يقول له لا تخف  
أنا .. حياً ..

What translation strategies did you use:

Equivalence

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

culture is part of language and it is  
as 5<sup>th</sup> skill to best learn the foreign  
language and the daily communication  
and know the best meaning of words  
in that target language.

Dear students,

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- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 21 years old .....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

..... كان الجندي مسلحاً إلى أسنانه .....  
..... كان قلبه في فمه .....  
..... كان في الماء الحار .....  
..... قدم أفضل قدمه .....  
..... كان يأمل أن يضرب .....  
..... حتى لو كان قلبه في أحذيةه .....  
..... يمكنك سماع نقطة من المطر .....  
..... عندما سخر أخوه فجأة قائلاً 'أنا خلفك.'

What translation strategies did you use:

.....  
.....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... الثقافة هي أساس .....  
..... اللغة .....  
.....

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1. What's your gender ?

- Male
- Female

2. How old are you ?

21 years old

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good
- Good
- Average
- Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation
- Equivalence
- Adaptation
- Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان موجد بالأسلحة، كان موعوداً  
وقللاً، اندفع بأفضل ما يملكه  
كياتر يتعمد الهجوم على حرة  
الاصطفاء، عم آتته فبات من عبه  
فصاة كل سرد؟ أصبح صامتا  
منذ ما سمع آتته وهو  
"بنا ورا خلف"

What translation strategies did you use:

Adaptation

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background
- Lack of vocabulary
- The ambiguity of some expressions
- The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes
- No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.
- Misunderstanding of expressions.
- Multiple meanings of some idioms.
- The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes
- No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

Different, unusual but interesting

Dear students,

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1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

..... 20 years old. ....

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

..... modulation .....  
.....

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

.....  
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.....

What translation strategies did you use:

.....  
.....

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

.....  
.....

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

..... by watching movies, series,  
..... reading manga and books.  
..... listening to music, podcast

Dear students,

This questionnaire aims to investigate the linguistic and cultural difficulties that come against most of you during the translation process. You are kindly requested to answer the following questions. Your assistance towards this questionnaire will remarkably help in conducting the research and enhancing its ability. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1. What's your gender ?

- Male  
 Female

2. How old are you ?

20 years old

3. How do you consider your level in English language ?

- Very Good  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

4. How do you consider your level in translating from English to Arabic ?

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Average  
 Bad

5. Which of the following translation strategies are you familiar with ? (Check all that apply)

- Literal Translation  
 Equivalence  
 Adaptation  
 Transposition

Add other translation strategies that you know:

modulation

6. Please translate this material into Arabic:

The soldier was armed to the teeth, he had his heart in his mouth, he was in hot water, he put his best foot forward, he hoped to strike while the iron was hot even though his heart was in his boots. You could hear a pin drop,

when suddenly his brother whispered 'I've got your back.'

كان اليربوعي هو ينادي على ابي له في الارجح  
كان قلبه يهتف بشدة  
كان يترجم الايام بـأشهر كثيرة  
تمنى ان يطعن جورا الخرج من اشد  
توقفه كان الهم يلم الكائن  
فجاءه اجداد اجداد انا ميا ليا نيك  
كان اليربوعي صلحا لا يسهل دراجة

What translation strategies did you use:

7. While translating the previous material, which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Lack of cultural background  
 Lack of vocabulary  
 The ambiguity of some expressions  
 The misuse of translation strategies

Add other difficulties:

8. Do you face problems in translating idiomatic expressions and proverbs ?

- Yes  
 No

9. Which of the following difficulties have you faced ? (Check all that apply)

- Limited cultural background in the source language.  
 Misunderstanding of expressions.  
 Multiple meanings of some idioms.  
 The failure to achieve the equivalence in the target language.

10. In your opinion, does learning culture help during the translation process ?

- Yes  
 No

11. In your opinion, how do you perceive the foreign language culture ?

It's by diving there to know



## ملخص المذكرة:

تعرف الثقافة بأنها مجموعة من السلوكيات البشرية المكتسبة، أما اللغة فهي أداة للتواصل بين افراد المجتمع الواحد الذي يشترك في نفس اللغة ونفس الثقافة أو مجتمعات اختلفت ثقافتها وهويتها مع غيرها، لذلك أصبحت الترجمة عملية لغوية وثقافية فعالة لتلبية حاجيات الإنسان من تواصل وتبادل ثقافي ومعرفي نظرا لتنوع اللغات و الثقافات واختلافها، حيث تعتبر اللغة والثقافة وجهان لعملة واحدة خلال عملية الترجمة. يهدف هذا البحث إلى تقصي المعيقات والصعوبات اللغوية والثقافية التي تعيق متعلمي اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة أجنبية خلال عملية ترجمة النصوص من اللغة الانجليزية إلى اللغة العربية أو العكس. و بعد البحث في أنسب المناهج للتوصل إلى نتائج واقعية، تمّ الاعتماد على التحليل النقدي للخطاب باعتباره أحد المناهج الملائمة لتحليل النصوص اللغوية، حيث يهدف إلى دراسة المواد اللغوية وعلاقتها بالممارسات الاجتماعية والثقافية. بما أن هذا البحث يركز على وصف وتفسير وشرح مشاكل ومعيقات الترجمة التي يواجهها طلاب اللغة الانجليزية بجامعة ابن خلدون- تيارت، فإن منهج التحليل النقدي للخطاب هو المنهج المناسب الذي يمكن تطبيقه في هذه الدراسة من أجل حصد نتائج موثوقة. تشير النتائج المتحصلة عليها بأن المتعلمين الذين فشلوا في ترجمة النص بشكل صحيح واجهوا صعوبات لغوية وثقافية تتمثل في: عدم استخدام استراتيجيات الترجمة بشكل صحيح و الاكتفاء بالترجمة الحرفية، غموض وإساءة فهم مختلف التعبيرات الموجودة في النص المصدر، قلة المفردات اللغوية وعدم قابلية بعض التعبيرات للترجمة نظرا للاختلافات النحوية بين اللغات وهذا كله من جانب المعيقات اللغوية. أما من جانب المعيقات الثقافية فكانت الاختلافات الثقافية بين اللغات تشكل حاجزا أمام المتعلمين لترجمة النص نظرا لقلة المفردات الثقافية وعدم التحكم في معانيها، أو عدم وجود مفردات وتعبيرات مكافئة لها.