Research on Translation Strategies based on Human Metaphor in Elderly Nursing Projects

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Abstract

Human metaphors are an important way for humans to understand the world, and the human body plays an important role in the process of cognition by mapping parts of the body to the objective world. Human body parts are used in a wide range of texts, and accurate translation and understanding of the various terms is essential for informative texts. There are many similar images of the human body metaphor in English and Chinese because both languages have similar physical and psychological bases in the process of understanding the world, stemming from their own bodily experiences. However, the two languages differ in their use of human body parts to perceive the world, because of cultural differences. This paper focuses on the English translation practice of elderly care projects, using the text of elderly care projects and dementia care projects as data sources, and analyses the terms related to human body metaphors that appear in translation practice, combining Newmark's seven metaphorical translation strategies to investigate the translation strategies for the English translation of terms in elderly care projects.

Keywords

Human Metaphor; Metaphorical Translation; Lexical Analysis.

1. Introduction

The human body metaphor is an important way in which humans make sense of the world by mapping their body parts onto the objective world. The human body metaphor is based on the physical experience of the human body and is an expressive tool for understanding the world. Although there are commonalities in the means of understanding the world, there are still cultural differences between the English and Chinese languages in the expression of human metaphors.We need different translation strategies and translation methods when dealing with the translation of human metaphors for different domains.

The translation of terminological information texts for nursing projects must be concise and precise in the delivery of information. At the same time, people make use of their own physical experience to express the relevant medical care vocabulary. Due to the differences between the English and Chinese languages, we have adopted different translation strategies for the study of the terminology used in the English translation of the human body.For the terms and expressions related to human metaphors that appear in translation, we have compiled and summarized them, and on the basis of data analysis, we have discussed and studied the translation strategies related to metaphors in the process of Chinese to English translation of human metaphors.

2. Research Methodology and Theory

2.1. Research Methodology

This paper focuses on the translation practices of two documents, care for the elderly and care for the elderly with dementia, and takes the terms related to human metaphors that appear in

translation practices as the object of study. Using Antconc software for statistical and corpus analysis, we combine Newmark's seven metaphorical translation strategies for the human metaphors that appear in care for the elderly projects.

Firstly, Antconc was used to filter the translated documents for words and vocabulary about the human body that appeared in the whole text, and word frequency statistics were conducted for the filtered words. After the words were counted, Antconc was used to analyze the words in conjunction with Newmark's theory of metaphorical translation, and to summarize the translation strategies for these technical terms.

2.2. Newmark's Seven Metaphorical Translation Strategies

Metaphor in Chinese can also be allusions and similes, indicating that in metaphors we are dealing with metaphors that are not obvious but suggestive. Metaphor in English originates once from the Greek word "Metapherein", which means "to move from one place to another", and by extension "to describe one thing in terms of another". Metaphor can be a way of thinking the world, a way of understanding it creatively. (Lakoff, 1980). Lexical metaphors are mainly about people making connections between different things and projecting into different domains, similar to "generalizations", which allow people to understand and grasp something more intuitively.

Metaphorical translation plays a very important role in all language translation. Metaphorical translation can be used to convey the meaning of an object visually, either by combining it with an image of something concrete or by combining the meaning of a word with a relevant concrete image, thus demonstrating the important role and place of metaphorical translation in translation.

Newmark argues that the purpose of metaphor is to provide a more comprehensive, concise and methodologically complex description of entities, time, and nature (Newmark, 1982). Newmark proposes seven translation strategies for metaphor, which are as the follows: 1) direct translation to retain the original imagery 2) combining explicit metaphor and paraphrase 3) using the same combination of metaphor and paraphrase 4) replacing the original imagery with standard target language imagery 5) using explicit metaphor to translate for metaphor 6) converting metaphor into paraphrase for translation 7) deleting metaphor without translation. (Gao Wei,2021) Newmark has also specified the types of discourse according to the functions of discourse, which are mainly divided into informational discourse and expression discourse. (Newmark, 2000) If the metaphor is not related to the information function, i.e., it is regarded as low information, then the metaphor in the discourse can become a dead translation and can be left alone. (Zhao Donglin.2013)

Newmark's seven metaphorical translation strategies are a kind of empirical summary of metaphorical translation, with certain practicality and classroom operation, but the use of the theory still lacks certain systems. How to translate metaphors, and whether metaphors can be reduced, require us to identify the type of discourse and context, and to analyze metaphorical translation in specific situations. This means that metaphorical translation must take into account cultural factors and the type of discourse.

In the case of the elderly care project, the terminology of the text is used to convey the message, and the translation focuses on the accuracy of the message and its reception. To address this characteristic, the following translation strategies were adopted for the translation of the text.

1. Direct translation to retain the imagery of the original

If the imagery in the source language and the metaphor in the translated language are basically the same, a direct translation can be adopted, replicating the same imagery into the target language, so that the original text and the translated text correspond directly, making the translation more direct and accurate.

2. Combining the same metaphor with explanation

Retain the imagery of the original text in the target language, and add explanations and interpretations.

3. Replacing the original imagery with standard imagery

The imagery of body parts in the source terminology may be replaced by other imagery in the translation.

4. Delete the metaphor

In order to allow the recipient of the translation to understand the information conveyed in the original language more intuitively, the imagery in the Chinese language is sometimes omitted in the Chinese to English translation in order to represent the characteristics of the object more intuitively and accurately without creating ambiguity.

3. Extraction of Human Metaphorical Terms

When filtering with Antconc, we focus on comparing and analyzing the original text and the translation of the elderly care project, analyzing and filtering the English words related to body parts that appear in the translation, and analyzing and mastering the body part metaphors.

3.1. Extraction of Words for Body Parts in Original Text

Table 1. Word Frequency Count

Sequence	Human Body Parts	Word Frequency Count
1	Human Body Parts	131
2	手 (hand)	80
3	身体 (body)	72
4	皮肤 (skin)	66
5	背 (back)	58
6	脚 (foot/feet)	51
7	鼻 (nose/nasal)	51
8	头 (head)	29
9	嘴 (mouth)	28
10	脸 (face)	20

The original source language of the elderly care project document is Chinese. Within the Chinese expressions of the relevant care terms, it is mainly addressed to professional health care and companionship staff, introducing the details of life and care for the elderly, and explaining and analyzing the relevant activities. The language used in the project is mostly colloquial. However, the medical terminology is still very strict. The Chinese and English languages are more intuitive in their expressions of some diseases and even terms. For example, in Chinese, Alzheimer's disease is understood to be a dementia and behavioral disorder that occurs in the elderly，called 老年痴呆症in Chinese. In English, however, the expression for

Alzheimer's disease is directly called Alzheimer's disease, because Alzheimer's disease was first named after the German psychiatrist, who named the condition discovered by Alzheimer's. As a result, in English, our understanding of the disease may be limited to the terminology, and we may not be able to understand the disease more intuitively by its name. The disease may not be understood in English in terms of terminology, but rather in terms of its name. There are many examples of this.

In the original text, we can see that there is a total of articles about body parts, but only one about the terminology. When comparing the original Chinese text with the translated English text, we can see that there are many metaphorical terms for the human body. The top 10 frequent-appeared words in original text can be seen in Table 1.

3.2. Extraction of Words for Human Body Parts in the Translation

In Antconc's word frequency statistics, we have selected the translations of the full text with regard to body parts, which are still very frequent in the full text. After filtering the full text, only those body parts that appear in nursing terms and related nursing items were filtered and analyzed. The following filtering results can be seen.

The frequency of words related to body parts is very high in the translation and we can see that the number of words related to body parts that appear is also very large.

In the English translation text of geriatric care, we extracted a total of 757 terms about human body parts, among which 36 involve various human body parts, among which the most frequently appearing human body part is hand-hand, occupying 113 terms; followed by skin, occupying 78 terms, and other parts occupy less in the total terminology, as shown in Figure 1.
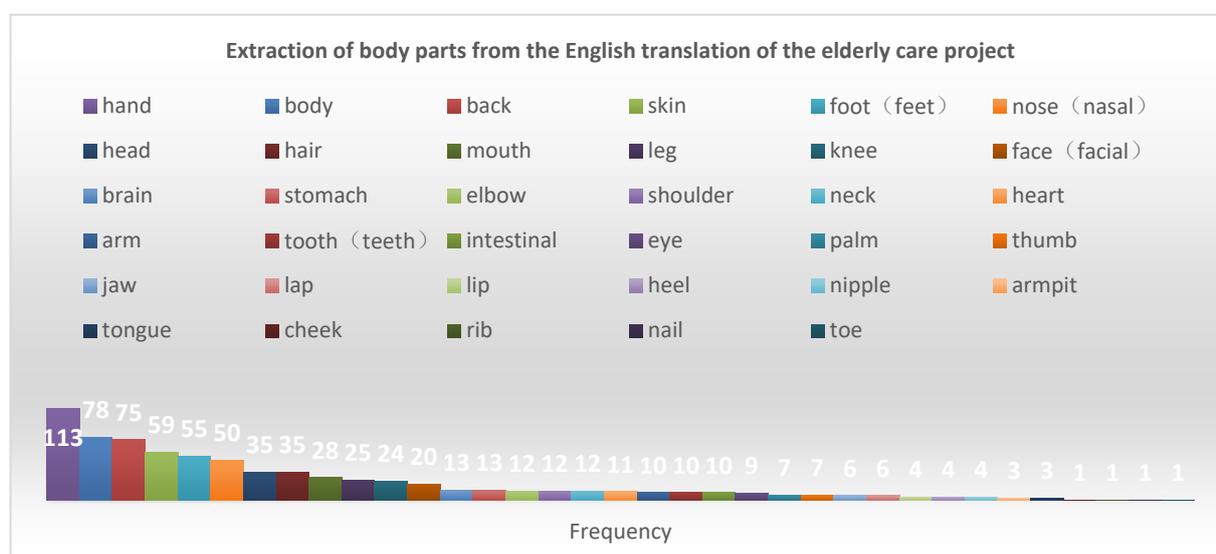

Figure 1. Extraction of Body Parts from the English Translation of the Elderly Care Project

3.3. Comparative Analysis between the Original and the Target Text

The "keyword list" function in Antconc was used to filter and compare words and related terms from the full text corpus, showing directly the words that appear more frequently in the text. The keywords used in the project on the project were extracted to provide further insight into the human metaphorical vocabulary and the main content of all the translations. Following the word frequency statistics, the screening and selection of specialist terms can be carried out to filter out valid specialist terms containing human metaphorical parts, with some of the more frequent occurrences in Chinese and English shown below in the Table 2.

Table 2. Metaphor Usage

Chinese	English	Metaphor
肠造瘘	Enterostomy	Combining the same metaphor with explanation
高血压	High blood pressure	Directly retaining the imagery of the original text
失智症	Dementia	Combining the same metaphor with explanation
气管炎	Bronchitis	Combining the same metaphor with explanation
皮炎	Psoriasis	Combining the same metaphor with explanation
乳头滴灌装置	Nipple Perfusion Device	Directly retaining the imagery of the original text
弹簧眼	Spring Eye	Directly retaining the imagery of the original text

From the analysis of the data, we can see that there is a large difference between the number of occurrences of the "head" part in the original and the translated text, and a smaller difference between the number of occurrences of the "nail" part in the original and the translated text.

This shows that the use of body parts is very common in elderly care programs. Due to the cultural gap between English and Chinese, there is a significant difference in the frequency of occurrence of words containing body parts in English and Chinese. The human body metaphor has a cognitive effect on the names of care and care items. Nursing staff have some physical experience with the body metaphor and most are able to use it to gain a better understanding of the care item.

4. Findings of the Study

4.1. The Use of Newmark's Metaphor Strategies

For the use of human metaphorical nouns in nursing projects, the frequency of the use of translation strategies for human metaphors in nursing projects was observed in conjunction with Newmark's seven metaphorical translation strategies, resulting in the data shown in Figure 2.
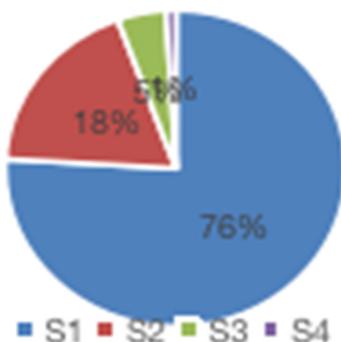

Figure 2. Metaphorical Translation Strategies

Newmark's four main metaphorical translation strategies used in the elderly care project are S1 (a translation strategy that directly retains the original imagery), which accounts for 75%; S2 (a translation strategy that combines the same metaphor and paraphrase), which accounts

for 18%; S3 (a translation strategy that replaces the original imagery with standard target language imagery), which accounts for 5%; and the remaining S4 (a translation strategy that removes the metaphor and No translation) accounted for the least, just 1%.

In elderly care projects, the strategy of directly preserving the imagery of the original text is the most used, with 75% of the translations, indicating that the first thing we can consider when translating elderly care projects is how to preserve the imagery of the original text. There is a certain similarity in the expression of the relevant terms in both Chinese and English, and the two languages share a high degree of similarity in the expression of the relevant human metaphors. The combination of metaphor and paraphrase is the second most frequently used translation strategy after the direct retention of the original text, indicating that there is a certain difference in the expression and understanding of certain imagery between the two languages, and therefore the metaphor needs to be paraphrased and explained in a similar or even different way to help people better understand and grasp the terminology. The last translation strategy used is the translation strategy of replacing the original imagery with standard language imagery and deleting the metaphor without translation, two translation strategies that account for a relatively small proportion and are used less frequently in the text.

While we can better understand a care project through the reference to human body parts, our translation strategy for the names of elderly care projects is also based on the imagery and functions in the original project names, and on the awareness of the cultural differences between Chinese and Western cultures.

When translators translate the metaphorical parts of the human body, they can retain the imagery in the source language when there is no cultural conflict between the source language and the target language, and directly retain the imagery in the original language for direct translation; or we can make metaphors in the target language and add paraphrases to help the recipient of the translation to understand; when the cultural differences are obvious, we can discourse the situation, for unimportant or When cultural differences are evident, we can trim down any unimportant or redundant metaphorical imagery to ensure the accuracy of the message.

5. Application of Newmark's Metaphorical Translation Strategy

5.1. Directly Retaining the Imagery of the Original Text

The translation strategy of directly retaining the imagery of the original text is used in up to 75% of the translations of elderly care items. The nouns for elderly care programs and the names of the programs are expressed and described according to the relative care parts for the body parts. There is no conflict between the source and target language in the description of the imagery, which can be found directly in the corresponding language containing the same meaning. Here are some examples.

Example 1: Nipple Perfusion Device

The term nipple can not only represent an organ or function of the human body, but can also be used to represent a shape similar to a nipple, using the domain of the human organ to describe and express a shape similar to that of a human organ in other domains. The specific image of a nipple is used to describe the "nipple-like" device found in certain medical equipment, and we often see similar expressions in Chinese terminology, such as stalactites, also known as "钟乳石" (means breast-like rock in Chinese), because of their resemblance to the name "stalactite"(钟乳石) is derived from its resemblance to a "breast". When people hear this name, they are able to project the relevant imagery directly, which is more intuitive and graphic.

The nipple in the nipple perfusion device does not really refer to the human organ, but the beginning of the device is similar to the shape of the nipple of the human organ, and the shape

of the device is metaphorically represented by the metaphor. The Chinese word for "breast" is directly projected in English, translated as "nipple-shaped", which is a direct mapping of the relevant imagery in Chinese, with the addition of the word shaped to indicate that it is this shape, rather than the translation "nip-shaped" is a direct mapping of the relevant imagery in Chinese, with the addition of the word shaped to indicate the shape, not the actual human organ. This is a typical example of retaining the specific imagery of the original.

Example 2: Spring Eye

The spring-eye in the original language refers to a related accessory found in medical beds, which requires handling and training by medical staff. In Chinese, the eye is often used as an organ to express the center of a thing. For example, the eye of a typhoon(台风眼) is the center of a typhoon, the eye of a spring(泉眼) is the source of a spring, etc. The eye of a spring in this case refers to a buttonhole in a spring, a medical tool that is shaped like an eye. Most of the English language retains the imagery of the eye, which is commonly used in translations of engineering-related accessories, such as pin eye, pad eye and other mechanical expressions that are figurative expressions for some mechanical engineering-related terms.

The spring eye refers to an accessory in a medical tool, spring in this case means elastic, and eye refers to a hole shaped like an eye, in which the imagery of both is directly preserved. The two languages can be directly compared and expressed, retaining the imagery from the original text for visual representation. Detailed examples can be found in Table 2.

5.2. Combining the Same Metaphor with Explanation

The imagery is preserved in the target language and an explanation is added to clarify the imagery in the translation. This translation strategy accounts for 18% of the text, and the translation contains both the imagery in the source language and the explanation of the imagery, giving the reader the most intuitive impression.

Example 1: Handle

In Chinese, the word "hand" has a wide range of extensions and expressions, and there are many words related to hand, for example, the apparatus that can be used by hand can be combined to organize a new word, for example, a walking stick supported by hand can be called "手杖"(hand stick), a door handle pulled open by hand is called a handle, and even for the person in charge of a family is called "a hand" (一把手). In English expressions, hand has a similar expression, for things that can be simply solved, as simple as using one's hand, can be expressed as I can handle it, for the expression of the context is very specific and image.

Handle means handle, cane, etc. Here the additional meaning of handle is explained, so that the target language receiver can intuitively perceive it as the handle of a walking stick. in English the word handle is a word that expresses the image in a very direct way. In Chinese, however, the word "handle" is added for a more in-depth explanation and expression, because in Chinese the hand does not directly express the object and thus describes the whole object through the word handle. In English, however, the expression handle needs to be understood in a different context, but in Chinese the word handle is used as a noun to describe a figurative object.

Example 2: Hemiplegic Foot - 偏瘫侧in Chinese

The word hemiplegic has a hemiplegic meaning and adds to the description of a hemiplegic foot. In the expression here, the English expression is hemiplegic foot, which refers to the hemiplegic side, but in the Chinese expression, the word foot is not translated directly, but as one side, not one foot. In this case, the hemiplegic side would be more direct and appropriate. The use of the superlative to express and generalize the subjunctive is an explanation of the overall context of the buy oh book.

5.3. Replacing the Imagery of the Original with Standard Imagery

This translation strategy accounts for only 5% of the translation, as the cultural differences between the Chinese and English languages result in different choices of the implied meaning of the imagery, and the relevant imagery may be replaced by other body parts in the translation.

5.4. Delete the Metaphor

This type is found in only one place in the whole text, accounting for 1% of all human metaphors. In order to reflect the full textual meaning, the relevant metaphorical images have been omitted and deleted so that the translation does not create ambiguity in the text.

Example 1: The armpit-crutch

The armpit refers to the area under the crevice, which is a part of the body. in Chinese, allows the reader to intuitively perceive that the crutch is not supported by the hand, but is held under the armpit for assistance. The English language is able to express this directly in relation to crutches, which are used under the armpit for support in their conventional understanding. Therefore, it is more intuitive to translate the crutch cane directly in the text, so that the message can be conveyed more accurately.

6. Conclusion

In this paper, we have discussed the translation strategies of human metaphor-related terms in elderly care projects. When translating nursing projects, we prefer to translate the imagery directly from the source language and reproduce it for use in the target language. When translating the terminology, we may first consider retaining the specific imagery in the original language and translating it directly, followed by the interpretation of the relevant imagery. we find that, based on the basic perception of care items, we tend to translate care items by directly transforming the imagery in the source language and reproducing it in the target language. It also provides a good example of Newmark's metaphorical strategy for the translation of health care projects.

Acknowledgments

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