Translation of Nursery Rhymes from the Perspective of Intralingual and Interlingual Translation

-- Taking the Yuhuan Dialect Nursery Rhyme "Teasing Bugs" as an Example

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Abstract

Yuhuan dialect is included into Taizhou piece of Wuyue dialect. The Yuhuan dialect retains the pronunciation characteristics of the ancient Chinese accent, somehow representing the unique local culture. Folk nursery rhymes are mostly simple and refined, with the great rhyme to appreciate. Through thousands years, the folk nursery rhyme has been passing on by generations, recording the development process of the national culture. Meanwhile, it bears the traditional values and delivers the code of ethics. For the Yuhuan folk nursery rhyme, it has been cited for a long time, and is still glowing with vitality. Therefore, its translation and speech deserve to be deeply discussed. Based on the conception of intralingual translation and the study object " Teasing Bugs", we are focusing on the translation process of the dialects in oral forms, from oral nursery rhyme to writing texts, form folk dialect to the standard language. Through the whole research, it is the phonetic features and the expression of the standard language that we have too compare with and have a study on. Besides, the characteristics and the cultural value of Yuhuan dialects need to be emphasized through the whole translation.

Keywords

Nursery rhyme of dialects; Intralingual translation; Interlingual translation.

1. Introduction

Under the the society that make high point in cultural confidence, we need to show more respect to our traditional culture as well as the sense of identity to our civilization. Regional dialects, a variety of language, retaining most pronunciation from ancient Chinese accent and evolving for a long time, is the best reflection of the regional culture.However, for regional dialects mostly spread in oral forms. There being no standard writing language to convey the content it contains, the regional dialects can hardly ever be described in standard language in writing forms. Thus, when promoting cultures relevant to regional dialects, the first thing we have to do is to take the regional culture into full consideration, then translate it and turn it into the standard language. That is to help us understand and study the dialects and its culture.

Yuhuan, a peninsula city with the sea on three sides, has great potential to be more prosperous. The real economy has been in rapid growth as well as its spiritual culture. The needs of the spiritual culture require us to inherit and promote it. As for Yuhuan dialects, it in some way reflects the costume and the life habits of the local people, has meaningful significance and effect for us to know about local culture and flourish it.

2. Intralingual Translation of the Regional Dialects

Merriam-Webster Third New International Dictionary defined translating as to turn into one's own or another language. It is the activity that the change the original language into one's own language or another language. Also, translation can be divided into three types, the first one is intralingual translation, and the second one interlingual translation while the last one should be intersemiotic translation. Interlingual translation means to transform the language into another language., like to change English into Chinese. Intralingual translation refers to the mutual transformation of two varieties in the same language unit (Jackobson,2000), for example, translate the dialects into mandarin, or to transform the Chinese classical style of writing into modern critics. Through intralingual translation , the main thing is to grasp the cultural background and the relevant knowledge of the original text, fully understand the information passed from the original text. Beside, the priority is to guarantee fidelity and accuracy of the work.

According to different language speakers, dialects includes regional dialect,social dialect and standard form (Catford.1965). Regional dialect is divided by the usage of speakers in different areas. But sometimes, the speakers of diverse dialect cannot communicate each other.

In the dialect understanding stage, most of them need to go through the process of converting the dialect into the standard language. The dialect is generally only in the spoken form, and there is no standard written form. The oral form of dialect is converted into standard language expression or written text form for recording. This process is the conversion within the language, which is a part of the intralingual translation(Wu Bin,2018). Dialects have different cultural backgrounds and expression usages. The expressions of some dialects do not have a direct corresponding words in the standard language. We need to understand the application scenarios and implied meanings of the vocabulary on the basis of understanding. Master, and then convert the dialect into the corresponding standard language.

In addition, in some literary works, in order to retain the language characteristics or the style of the original text, the translator will retain the dialect expression, or find the directly corresponding dialect expression in the corresponding text. For regional culture, dialects are more representative. Literature with more obvious dialect features include Mo Yan's "Red Sorghum", which uses Shandong dialect to highlight the distinctive style of the novel.

3. Interlingual Translation

Interlingual translation refers to the transformation between two different languages and is often our second step when translating from one dialect to another. In the process of interlingual translation, we need to consider not only the lexical and formal transformation of the two languages, but also the syntactic structure, cultural background and other differences. In dialect translation, the cultural context is often one of the most important aspects. In the translation of nursery rhymes in dialects, we also need to consider changes in intonation. It is important to ensure that the rhyme and culture of the original rhymes are conveyed as faithfully as possible, and that this is done in an interlingual way.

After the intralingual translation of the Yuhuan dialect nursery rhyme, we compared the Chinese expressions with the Chinese intonation and expressions, and the interlingual translation of the nursery rhyme was carried out, and the following translation was obtained.

4. Characteristics of Yuhuan Dialect

The Yuhuan dialect is the Taizhou piece of Wu language, and the whole dialect retains more cultural elements of the ancient Yue dialect and Wu languages. Compared with the northern dialect, the Yuhuan dialect is quite different from the standard language in various aspects such

as pronunciation and intonation(Wu Tengfei, 2020). Yuhuan dialect has three main representatives, the first is Kanmen dialect, which is mainly spoken in Kanmen Street; the second is Minnan dialect; the third is the representative one called Yuhuan dialect, also known as Chumen dialect. Because the dialect is similar to the dialect of Wenling area. As Wenling is called "Taiping", so Yuhuan dialect is also called "Taiping dialect". Yuhuan dialect includes many unique language phenomena and contains much vocabulary.

4.1. The Use of Adverbs of Degree

In Yuhuan dialect, adverbs of degree are used in front of adjectives to express degree, and adjectives are used to modify something. These adverbs of degree are also very different in collocation, here are some examples:

1.恘: It means very,so much and it can be followed by adjectives, "恘奇怪（strange）" - means "very strange"；at the same time, this word can also follow a specific verbs, expressing dissatisfaction. It can be understood as "how can you be like this", such as "恘做事情（do something）" - "how can you do it in that way!"; "恘画起来（draw something）" - "how can you draw it in this way!". Anyway, "恘"can be used to modify adjectives and verbs, expressing how much it can be, and how strange someone does something in that way.

2.老，literally translated as old, but it means too much, usually followed by adjectives directly to express "how", "老好看（good-looking）" - means "how good-looking it is", "老奇怪（strange）" - "really strange". Here，"老"does not mean old, but means very and so much to modify an adjective in the sentence.

3.多少，translated as how much: means "how", and there is an exclamation in the sentence, "多少钞票（money）" - "how much is it", "多少奇怪 strange": - "how strange it is"; at the same time "多少" in Yuhuan dialect can also directly correspond to the meaning of "多少"-"how much" in standard language. "多少 it costs" - "how much it costs", "多少重（weight）" - "what weight is it?".

4.2. The Use of Overlapping Words

Redundancies were usually used in Yuhuan dialect, adjectives and verbs can be overlapped in Yuhuan dialect.

The overlapping of adjectives is somewhat similar to the transformation of ab-type adjectives into aabb-type adjectives in standard language, such as: clean and clean（干干净净）, ragged and ragged（褴褴褛褛）, dirty and dirty (啪啪啦啦), dawdling and dawdling etc.

The overlap of adjectives can also be expressed from ab-type adjectives to abab-type adjective expressions. For example: snow-white and snow-white（雪白雪白）, straight-towering and straight-towering（笔直笔直）, etc. Usually, the overlap of the abab-type words form will have an emphasis and exclamation tone, and the tone at the end will be raised.

The overlapping one-word verbs usually shares the same meaning as one-word verbs, and generally in inversion, with the noun first, and the verb reduplication last. For example, "play" in Yuhuan dialect can be expressed as "play play" (搞搞）, "playing" refers to playing in one place, and it is expressed as "playing in a certain place"; "play"(嬉戏)should be followed by a noun, such as "let's play with some toys". For example, "buy something to eat(搞点东西吃）", "get some books to read（搞点书看）", "get some TV to watch（搞点电视看）" and so on. We usually use the "搞"in the first place to indicate an action.

At the same time, in some dialects, the use of verbal superlatives adds vibrancy and childlike interest to the language, and is commonly used by children learning to speak. The use of the word"逗逗"（teasing） in this text is also a superlative use of the verb"逗（teasing）", reflecting the childishness of the dialect's nursery rhymes.

4.3. The Postyposition of Verbs

The postposition of a verb refers to a structure that is not in the same order as the standard verb-object construction. The verb postposition is often an object-verb construction. The postposition of verbs is more common in ancient literary texts and dialects. The use of verb postposition can also be found in the Yuhuan dialect.

4.3.1. Postposition of Verb Superlatives

The superposition of the verbs "搞搞"（means tease）, "看看"（means have a look） and "玩玩"（means to have fun） is customarily expressed in standard Chinese as "看东西"(look at something), "玩东西"（play with something） and so on, but in the Yuhuan dialect, the common expressions are "something to play" or "something to see" and "something to play with"，the form of the sentences are quiet different. However, in the Yuhuan dialect, we usually place the verbal superlative after something and adding verbs and imaginary words to the whole sentence. The combination of inversion and verb superposition is a common expression in the Yuhuan dialect.

4.3.2. The Use of Verb Superimposition

The superimposition of verbs refers to the use of multiple verbs to express an action. A common example is the expression "开"（means "go" in Yuhuan dialect). In the Yuhuan dialect, the word "开" means "go to do something". The word "开不开" means "Do you want to go?". It is often used in conjunction with other verbs to mean "to go", and is inverted after other verbs when used to express a question or a specific statement. For example, "to go to bed" in the Yuhuan dialect can be expressed as "困觉（sleep）开（go）(means go to sleep)"; "to play" in the Yuhuan dialect means "嬉戏（play）开（go）(means go to play and have fun)"; "to play games" in the Yuhuan dialect means "玩游戏（play games）开（go） （means go to play games）". In the standard language, the verb "to go" is often used with other verbs to indicate a tendency to do something, but in the Yuhuan dialect, the expression "to go to do something" is expressed by "开" which is inverted to mean "to have something done".

5. Dialect Nursery Rhyme Translation

5.1. Intralingual Translation of Dialect Nursery Rhyme

The Yuhuan dialect has no written forms, but is passed on orally in the form of spoken language, which is mainly characterized by a catchy feature. When the Yuhuan nursery rhyme "Teasing Bugs" was recorded in written language, the step of intralingual translation was also carried out. The phonetic text before and after translation is as follows (Wenling Dialect, 1959), Sees Table 1.

Most of the words can be found in the standard language, we can translate it into Mandarin literally. But some of the words, we have understand it and then find the corresponding words in the standard language.

The words, especially the verbs are replicated to indicate the joy of the rhyme. The form of the rhyme are remained, and the verbs are mostly literally corresponded to the standard language. The style of the dialect nursery rhyme is simple and catchy, therefore, the intralingual translation is also in short sentences and easy to say.

The intralingual translation is understood as follows:

Chinese translation：逗逗虫，虫绕绕。

The verbs"逗"and "绕" here are in the form of reduplication, and the verbs are repeated, which has the vividness of nursery rhymes, and is full of rhythm. In Yuhuan dialect, "逗逗" expresses

amusement and playfulness among children, which is a kind of childlike expression. This refers to children playing with little bugs.

Table 1 The Denotation and Writing Forms of "Teasing Bugs"

Denotation of the dialect	Tone	Tone pitch	Writing forms in Chinese	Denotation
[dɤ]	level tone	55	逗逗虫	[dòu] [dòu] [chóng]
[dɤ]	level tone	55		
[dzoŋ]	falling tone	51		
[dzoŋ]	rising tone	35	虫绕绕	[chóng] [rào] [rào]
[niɔ]	falling tone	51		
[niɔ]	falling tone	51		
[dɤ]	level tone	55	逗逗鸟	[dòu] [dòu] [niǎo]
[dɤ]	level tone	55		
[diɔ]	rising tone	35		
[diɔ]	rising tone	35	鸟会飞	[niǎo] [huì] [fēi]
[ue?]	level tone	55		
[fi]	level tone	55		
[dɤ]	level tone	55	逗逗鸡	[dòu] [dòu] [jī]
[dɤ]	level tone	55		
[tɕi]	level tone	55		
[tɕi]	level tone	55	鸡会逐	[jī] [huì] [zhuī]
[ue?]	level tone	55		
[di]	rising tone	35		
[dɤ]	level tone	55	逗逗蝴蝶飞	[dòu] [dòu] [hú] [dié] [fēi]
[dɤ]	level tone	55		
[u]	rising tone	35		
[tie]	rising tone	35		
[fi]	level tone	55		

The word "绕绕" is somewhat the same as the word "circle" in Mandarin, but it has richer connotations than the simple word "circle". It represents the crawling dynamics of the insects, and the crawling posture of the worms can also describe the worms digging around. At the same time, it means that children are lively and active, and when they can't be quiet, adults will also describe them as "circling around" like worms, which means that children are hyperactive and crawling everywhere.

Chinese translation：逗逗鸟，鸟会飞。

The pronunciation of "bird" in Yuhuan dialect is quite different from the pronunciation of "bird" in Mandarin, but the meaning is single, which can be literally translated as "bird"; the phrase "鸟会飞" can be literally translated into Mandarin with strong reference meaning. The meaning of this sentence is that a child will tease a bird, and the bird flies away.The overall syntax is the same as the expression above, except that the object and the corresponding verb are slightly different and can be substituted.

Chinese translation：逗逗鸡，鸡会逐。

The "追" here is pronounced "di" in the Yuhuan dialect, which means to chase, especially that the person behind is chasing, and the distance is relatively close. There is a sense of urgency and tension. This sentence means that the child teases the chicken, and the chicken begins to chase after the child to peck and bite.In the Yuhuan dialect, the pronunciation of 'di' rises above

the final pronunciation, between the verb "追" and "逐"，the tone of "逐" goes up. So, "逐"is chosen to maintain the tone in the intralingual translation.

Chinese translation：逗逗蝴蝶飞

The meaning here is that the child teased the butterfly, and the butterfly flew away.

The whole nursery rhyme shows a vivid picture of a child who is lively and active, and has a curious appearance about everything in the world. Usually people hum this nursery rhyme when children are babbling. The rhythm in it is rich in language characteristics and rhythm, which is suitable for children to hum and learn.

5.2. Interlingual Translation of Dialect Nursery Rhyme

After intralingual translation of the original text, an interlingual translation was carried out for the resulting standard language translation, the English translation of which is as follows, Sees Table 2.

Table 2. English and Chinese Translation of "Teasing Bugs"

Chinese Translation	Chinese Denotation	English Translation
逗逗虫	[dòu] [dòu] [chóng]	Being teased
虫绕绕	[chóng] [rào] [rào]	Bugs wriggle
逗逗鸟	[dòu] [dòu] [niǎo]	Being startled
鸟会飞	[niǎo] [huì] [fēi]	Birds flit
逗逗鸡	[dòu] [dòu] [jī]	Being provoked
鸡会追	[jī] [huì] [zhuī]	Chicken chases
逗逗蝴蝶飞	[dòu] [dòu] [hú] [dié] [fēi]	Being teased, butterflies fly

In the case of the translation of the dialect after the intralingual translation, we have carried out an intralingual translation.

5.2.1. Original Text Style

The original text is in the form of a nursery rhyme, so the linguistic characteristics of the rhyme are preserved in the translation, the lines are simple and the use of the ing form of the verb increases the rhythm and readability of the translation.

Meanwhile, two short sentences combined into a group, to have its readability. Also, in the English translation, there are two clauses in one sentences. The language and style of the original text are preserved.

5.2.2. Words of Expression

"teasing" means make fun of or attempt to provoke (a person or animal) in a playful way, the "逗逗"was translated into "tease" to express the joy and delight that the children have when play with a worm.

Chinese tends to use repetition of words to emphasize certain verbs and themes and to sublimate the whole text. In English, however, we need to avoid the repetition of words in the text, so when translating "tease" we cannot just translate it as "tease", but rather we need to match different verbs to different objects. Thus "tease" is not only translated as "tease", but also as "provoke", "startle" and "alarmed". And "alarmed". "flit" means move swiftly and lightly, it

describes the quick movement of a bird when it is disturbed by a child and flies away at once. Also, here we use the present tense to add its readability. Other words are all in a literally use to directly describe the dialect nursery rhyme.

5.2.3. The Tone of the Nursery Rhyme

In Yuhuan dialect, the whole rhyme is so catchy and easy to say. When translated into Chinese, it is short and easy to be remembered. Here, we mostly retain its characteristics to be catchy. The verbs are all in present tense, to make the tone started with -ing while ended with -ing as well, which make the whole nursery rhyme more readable with its form remained.

5.2.4. The Logic of the Dialect Nursery Rhyme

Chinese and English are quiet different not only in their oral forms, but also in their expressions. There are no tenses in Chinese, but in English there are not only the present progressive tense, but also the general past tense, the present perfect tense and various other tenses. When translating from one language to another, we must also take into account the correct use of tenses. The Chinese translation here is made up of clauses, two of which form a single sentence. And when translating it, you need to be clear about the logical relationships in the original text. The worm squirmed because people teased the worm; the bird flew away from the branch because someone startled the bird; the chicken chased after because some person provoked the chicken; and the butterfly flew away because people caught the butterfly. Therefore, in the preceding clauses, the alternate voice is used to unify the subjects of the preceding and following clauses and to ensure the overall conciseness of the translation, as well as to express the logical relationship between the sentences in the original by using the inflection of the verbs.

6. Conclusion

This paper gives a certain introduction to intralingual translation, a generalization and introduction to the language characteristics of Yuhuan dialect, and takes Yuhuan dialect nursery rhyme "Doudou Bug" as an example to introduce the transformation of Yuhuan dialect in the process of intralingual translation. When performing dialect translation, the accuracy of intralingual translation should always be at the first place, which will also have a certain impact on the accuracy of subsequent interlingual translation. In interlingual translation we need to be aware of cultural differences and to convey the content of the original text faithfully, while at the same time expressing the rhyme and expression of the original text, so that the translation of the dialect nursery rhymes is faithful in terms of tone and meaning.

Acknowledgments

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