

ANALYSING THE TRANSLATION METHODS EMPLOYED FOR THE ENGLISH RENDITION OF  
CHINESE EMPTY WORDS: A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF TRANSLATION TECHNIQUES  
BASED ON MATERIALS.

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**ABSTRACT**

One of the primary motivations for this research is the pursuit of more effective methods for translating nonsensical Chinese language into English. Collecting influential literature that had been published in both Chinese and English was the initial objective of this endeavour. Using this corpus will allow us to learn how translators treat empty words, which is the goal of this use. Matching, revising, sharing, implication, grammatical travel, borrowing, and omission (mismatch) are the eight unique procedures that must be taken in order to achieve a satisfactory translation result. There is a mismatch, which is the ninth procedure. According to the specialists, there has been a significant advancement in the field of Grammatical Conveyure. As the research process continues, the researchers will determine the degree to which particular procedures and non-procedures, such as shared matching and loaning, have been implemented. The translation of Chinese empty words into English and the likelihood of uncovering two more significant trends are these two additional key outcomes that appear to be the result of this inquiry. The fact that this research marks a huge step forward is shown by the fact that no previous study has ever attempted to catalogue all of the empty words that are utilised by Chinese translators. It was found by the researchers that the types of sentences that dealt with empty phrases were the most difficult to cope with. These types of sentences included adverbial and particle sentences. In a nutshell, contrary to what long-held beliefs might have people believe, platitudes are not nearly as difficult to comprehend as previously believed.

**Keywords:** Chinese empty words, English translation, translation methods, omission, discourse coherence.

**INTRODUCTION**

Attracting the attention of present scholars in the process of uncovering the specific mechanisms that are necessary to convert Chinese empty words into English, the writings of past academics on translation approaches or strategies for European language pairs or translation from Chinese to English were the source of inspiration. As a result of the fact that he was proficient in both Chinese and English, the researcher was of the opinion that he might potentially make a significant contribution to the area of translation by concentrating on

translation from Chinese to English. With addition, the researcher was motivated to carry out this investigation with the expectation of discovering new translation mechanisms. This is because Chinese is different from the majority of European languages in terms of grammar, culture, writing system, and phrasing. This is the reason why this is the case. The researcher employed Chinese empty words as subjects of analysis, drawing inspiration from David Pollard's "Empty Words: Modal Adverbs" as a source of motivation. Pollard discovered that modal adverbs, which are known to be worthless filler words, are notoriously difficult to translate, despite the fact that they are often employed. This study also places a focus on the challenges that he encountered while working towards achieving this objective. In order to get a more comprehensive comprehension of the manner in which translators handle ambiguous terminology; the researcher came to me for my viewpoint. It is his expectation that people will be able to find a solution to the problem via my investigation. However, he is aware that no one has ever concurrently compared the English and Chinese versions of all empty terms. This is another significant issue that he believes should be taken into consideration. Undoubtedly, my work will leave an indelible impression on the area of translation studies (Baker, 2019). This is due to the fact that it is the pioneering research in its field.

### **BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

Despite the fact that the term "translation studies" is often used in contemporary times, one of the primary responsibilities of "translation theory" is to investigate the age-old problem of equivalent. An extension of the study that academics have undertaken on the events that take place during the process of translating and interpreting, "translation theory" is regarded to be an offshoot of this research. In an effort to widen the scope of the study of translations outside the setting of the debate between literal and free translation, a number of academics are starting to combine research on translation with research on other disciplines. In order to provide novel approaches and points of view, this strategy is implemented. One of the most controversial topics in the study of linguistics is the impact that translation has on the original text. Even-Zohar claims that the literature, politics, religion, and economics of a society are all subsystems that help to the construction of the character of that community. He says this because these subsystems all are interconnected.

It is said in an old adage that "their interactions are not random but mainly defined by their location in the total to which they belong," and it is also said that within a whole, the subsystems are reliant on one another. The integrated system is comprised of a number of subsystems, each of which is located at a different distance from the core component of the system. On the other hand, it is also true that different civilisations may place different amounts of priority on the same subsystem. Furthermore, polyesters, which originate from a variety of communities, have a link to one another in addition to a status that is separate from one another. Even-Zohar examines the ways in which the status of the target polycystic and language itself influence the methodologies that translators take. He does this by using this as a basis with which to conduct

his analysis. Sager has conducted a study to determine the relative advantages of working with human translators as opposed to using machine translation (Malmkjaer, 2019).

### **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

The objective of this study is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the translation methodologies employed in the conversion of Chinese empty words into English. Empty words don't mean much, but they are very important for syntax, consistency, and discourse. This could make it very hard to understand them. The objective of this research is to delineate the specific techniques employed by translators, such as literal translation, deletion, replacement, addition, and rearrangement, and to determine the frequency of these strategies through a quantitative methodology. This allows the study to give an objective assessment of the methods that are currently used to deal with empty language. The study will investigate how translators reconcile accuracy, fluency, and cultural appropriateness in their handling of these functional phrases. The study ultimately enhances translation studies by providing data-driven insights into the complexities of cross-linguistic transmission. It does this by looking at trends that could be useful for both translation theory and real-world uses of many different kinds of texts.

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

The word "translation theory" is still considered to be an extension of academics' studies of translation and translation processes, despite the fact that the term "translation studies" has recently gained prominence. One of the primary goals of translation theory is to investigate the concept of equivalent, which has been around for a considerable amount of time, in more depth. In an effort to broaden the scope of translation studies beyond the debate between literal and free translation, a number of academics are starting to combine translation studies with other fields of study. In the topic of translation studies, this is done in order to provide new perspectives and research approaches to the field. They are referring to the adjustments and alterations that translators are need to make since the grammatical structures and phrasing of the two languages are different from one another. When they speak about shifts, they are referring to these modifications and alterations. Even-Zohar asserts that the characteristic polysystem of every culture is made up of a variety of subsystems, some of which are associated with subjects like as literature, politics, religion, and economics. "Their interactions are not random but mainly defined by their location in the total to which they belong," as Chang expressed it, because of the interconnectedness of the subsystems that comprise a polysystem. This is because of the mutual dependency that exists between them. There are certain subsystems that are more important than others, and the degree to which they are all connected to one another varies from one subsystem to the next. It is possible that different cultures will place different levels of priority on the same subsystem. Both of these possibilities are possible.

Polysystems, which are made up of several civilisations, come with their own set of relationships and separate statuses as well. Even-Zohar examines the ways in which the state of the target polysystem and translation as a subsystem impact the tactics that translators use. This line of reasoning is in concordance with the previous line of reasoning. Sager takes a look at the controversy that exists between human translation and machine translation and presents his findings. As a result of the growth of the audiovisual translation industry, Diaz-Cintas asserts that there is an increasing need for training for subtitlers (Cohen, 2019).

### RESEARCH QUESTION

How does the implementation of translation methods influence the English rendition of Chinese empty words?

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### Research Design

In order to analyse the quantitative data, SPSS version 25 was used. The direction and intensity of the statistical association were determined using the 95% confidence interval and odds ratio. A statistically significant threshold was established by the researchers with a p-value less than 0.05. To identify the most important aspects of the data, a descriptive analysis was conducted. When analysing data transformed by computing tools for statistical analysis or data collected from surveys, polls, or questionnaires, quantitative methods are often used.

#### Sampling

After pilot testing the questionnaire with 20 Chinese consumers, the study's final sample size was 500 customers. Customers were chosen at random and 712 of them were emailed surveys. Because 212 participants did not fill out the survey, it was not included in the analysis.

#### Data and Measurement

The primary method of data collection in the research was a questionnaire survey. The first part of the survey asked for basic demographic information, while the second part asked respondents to rate various aspects of the online and offline channels on a 5-point Likert scale. Secondary data was culled from a wide variety of sources, the majority of which were online databases.

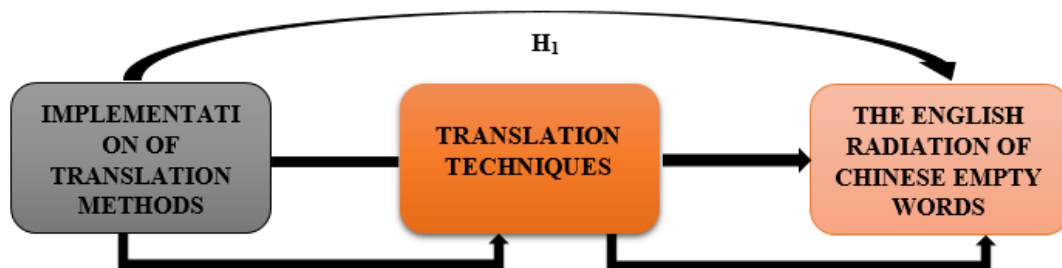
#### Statistical Software

The statistical analysis was conducted using SPSS 25 and MS-Excel.

#### Statistical Tools

Descriptive analysis was used to understand the data's essential nature. The data must be analysed using ANOVA by the researcher.

### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



### RESULT

**Factor Analysis:** Verifying the presence of latent components in observable data is a common use of factor analysis (FA). Regression coefficients are frequently used to generate ratings in situations when there are no readily apparent visual or diagnostic indicators. Models are crucial to success in FA. The goal of modelling is to identify errors, intrusions, and clear linkages. A method for evaluating datasets generated by numerous regression investigations is the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) Test. They] confirm the representativeness of the model and sample variables. The figures show that there is data duplication. The data is simpler to comprehend when the proportions are less. The output for KMO is a number in the range of 0 and 1. The sample size ought to be sufficient if the KMO value falls between 0.8 and 1. According to Kaiser, these are the acceptable limits: Kaiser established the following standards for acceptance:

An appalling 0.050 to 0.059, below the typical range of 0.60 to 0.69

Middle grades often fall between 0.70 to 0.79.

Having a quality point score between 0.80 and 0.89.

The range of 0.90 to 1.00 astounds them.

The following are the findings of Bartlett's test of sphericity: roughly chi-squared

df=190

sig.=.000

This demonstrates that assertions that were made only for the purpose of sampling are accurate. Bartlett's Test of Sphericity was utilised by the researchers in order to provide assurance that the correlation matrices were pertinent. According to the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin method, a result of 0.890 indicates that the sample should be considered adequate. The p-value

is exactly 0.00, as determined using the sphericity test developed by Bartlett. Based on the results of the Bartlett's sphericity test, it may be concluded that the correlation matrix does not constitute an identity matrix.

<b>KMO and Bartlett's Test</b>		
<b>Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.</b>		.890
<b>Bartlett's Test of Sphericity</b>	<b>Approx. Chi-Square</b>	3252.968
	<b>df</b>	190
	<b>Sig.</b>	.000

**Table 1.** Bartlett's Test and KMO (Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin) Sampling Adequacy Measure: 0.890.

This confirms the validity of claims on the execution of a sample. The significance of the correlation matrices was assessed by the researchers using Bartlett's Test of Sphericity. When the value is 0.890, the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure considers the sample to be adequate. Bartlett's sphericity test yielded a p-value of 0.00. The correlation matrix is not the same as an identity matrix, according to the statistically significant results of Bartlett's sphericity test.

## Test For Hypothesis

### INDIPENDENT VARIABLE

**Implementation of Translation Methods:** The application of translation methods is the practical usage of particular procedures that translators use to move meaning, structure, and function from one language to another. This approach means picking and using the right ways to bridge the linguistic and cultural gap between Chinese and English when it comes to Chinese empty words. There are several ways to cope with the grammatical and pragmatic roles that empty words play. These include literal translation, omission, substitution, addition, and restructuring. Implementation is about how these strategies are genuinely employed in translation work, not simply what people know about them. The translator must consider readability, accuracy, and cultural equality while choosing how to translate an expression. This shows how the translator makes decisions. For example, when an empty phrase is unnecessary in English, omission may be employed, and rearrangement may be used to keep the conversation coherent. Implementation illustrates the evolution of translation strategies from abstract frameworks to concrete linguistic outcomes by emphasising the operational phase in which theoretical methodologies are adapted and applied to real texts. This study examines the frequency and distribution of these approaches in translated literature to quantify their utilisation (Corina, 2021).

## MIDEATING VARIABLE

**Translation Techniques:** Translation techniques are the specific methods that translators use on a small scale to convey meaning, keep grammar correct, and make sure that the source language and target language are practically equivalent. Translation procedures are sometimes called translation methods. Translation techniques work on the level of single words, phrases, or sentences. Generic translation processes, on the other hand, talk about general ways to translate. They give particular answers for how to deal with language gaps, structural differences, and cultural intricacies in translation work. They are used in the translation business. Literal translation, which tries to keep the meaning and structure as true to the original as feasible; Omission, which is leaving out anything that aren't needed to make the text flow; substitution, which means adding a phrase that means the same thing; addition, which means adding more words to make the concept clearer; Reorganising the sentence structure to make it flow better in the target language is one example of a strategy that may be used. These strategies are affected by the setting in which they are utilised, and they may not be the same for every text, audience, or translator (Volf, 2020).

## DEPENDENT VARIABLE

**The English Radiation of Chinese Empty Words:** This is the process of finding the right English terms to use for Chinese function words. Function words don't have a strong lexical meaning, but they accomplish important grammatical, structural, and pragmatic functions. This is what people call the English translation of Chinese empty words. In Chinese, empty words like particles, prepositions, conjunctions, and modal markers don't provide independent semantic information. Instead, they help sentences stay together, set the tone, and keep the discourse going. It may be hard to translate these idioms into English since many of them don't have precise counterparts in English. Translators must choose tactics that keep both the meaning and the communicative function of the English language since they are translating these words. Literal translation is feasible when a close syntactic equivalent exists, but omission is applicable when the phrase does not substantially enhance the structure of the target language. To maintain fluency and coherence, it may also be necessary to replace words with others that do the same thing, add words to make things clearer, or change the way sentences are structured (Chen & Liu, 2024).

**Relationship between Implementation of Translation Methods and the English Rendition of Chinese Empty Words:** The adoption of translation techniques is directly responsible for determining the quality and efficacy of the English rendition of Chinese words that are missing their meaning. Because empty words mainly act at the grammar and discourse levels rather than having explicit lexical meaning, their translation needs conscious procedures to guarantee that the subtlety, coherence, and structural flow that were meant to be retained in the source language are maintained. The manner in which these function terms are represented or altered in English is determined by the techniques that are used, which may include literal translation,



omission, replacement, addition, or restructuring. By way of illustration, omission may be used in situations when an empty word does not offer any significant meaning in the English language. On the other hand, replacement or addition can be utilised to express grammatical or pragmatic functions that would otherwise be ineffective. In situations when the English syntax necessitates the reorganisation of sentences in order to preserve readability, restructuring is often used. By using such implementations, translators are able to negotiate the variances that exist between the two languages, so guaranteeing that the rendition is both correct and natural (Li, 2022).

The researcher developed the following hypothesis, which examined the connection between the use of translation techniques and the English translation of Chinese empty words, based on the discussion above.

*“H<sub>01</sub>: There is no significant relationship between implementation of translation methods and the English rendition of Chinese empty words.”*

*“H<sub>1</sub>: There is a significant relationship between implementation of translation methods and the English rendition of Chinese empty words.”*

**Table 2.** H1 ANOVA Test.

ANOVA					
Sum					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	39588.620	170	5824.682	1005.642	.000
Within Groups	492.770	329	5.792		
Total	40081.390	499			

The findings of this inquiry are impressive. With a p-value of .000, below the .05 alpha level, the F value of 1005.642 achieves significance. This means that the null hypothesis is rejected and the *“H<sub>1</sub>: There is a significant relationship between implementation of translation methods and the English rendition of Chinese empty words”* is accepted.

## DISCUSSION

The results of this research demonstrate how important the use of translation techniques is in determining how Chinese empty words are rendered in English. Despite having no specific lexical meaning, empty words are crucial indicators of Chinese syntax, coherence, and conversation flow. Their translation into English necessitates careful methodological decisions that affect readability and correctness. The quantitative findings show that the most often used techniques were substitution and omission, which reflects translators’ propensity to place a higher value on fluency and naturalness in the target language. Despite being less common, literal translation was helpful when syntactic equivalency could be achieved. In order to preserve sensitive pragmatic or discourse-level functions, addition and restructuring were



place in certain settings. These results show that translators use a variety of approaches based on the needs of the context, since no one approach can adequately handle the difficulties presented by empty words. Thus, the use of techniques acts as a pragmatic process that establishes whether English translations effectively maintain meaning or run the danger of becoming less coherent. Overall, the research emphasises how crucial it is to match methodological decisions with language and cultural factors in order to ensure that translated writings are both accessible to the intended audience and true to the original.

## CONCLUSION

In order to concentrate on translation processes throughout the Chinese to English transcription process, the researcher suggested using meaningless Chinese sentences as specific study material. translation processes might be identified with the highest degree of precision. Just twelve of the many esteemed scholars included in this thesis have found similar outcomes from studies involving other language combinations; this is just a small selection of the many. Similar findings have been found by a large number of studies.

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