

ANALYSING THE TRANSLATION METHODS USED FOR THE ENGLISH RENDITION OF  
CHINESE EMPTY WORDS: A DETAILED STUDY OF TRANSLATION TECHNIQUES BASED  
ON MATERIALS.

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**ABSTRACT**

This research is being conducted for a number of purposes, one of the most important of which is to enhance the translation of illogical Chinese into English. This effort had a number of initial purposes, one of which was to assemble significant works of literature that had been published in both Chinese and English. This corpus is being used with the intention of gaining an understanding of how translators deal with empty words. A successful translation requires people to follow eight distinct phases: matching, editing, sharing, implication, grammatical travel, borrowing, and omission (mismatch). These procedures are necessary in order to achieve a solid translation. In the eighth step, there is a mismatch that has occurred. Experts are in agreement that Grammatical Conveyure has lately achieved significant progress in terms of its development. For the purpose of this study, researchers will monitor the extent to which particular procedures and non-procedures, such as shared matching and loaning, are farther down the implementation curve. A number of other significant findings appear to have emerged as a consequence of this work. These include the translation of Chinese empty words into English and the prospect of discovering two further patterns that are remarkable. Given that no previous research has attempted to compile a list of all of the empty terms that are utilised by Chinese translators, it is abundantly evident that this research is a huge improvement. The researchers found that the kind of sentences that were the most difficult to understand were those that had empty phrases. Some examples of phrases that fall into this category are adverbial and particle sentences. To summarise, the long-held ideas that people have about clichés are utterly false; in reality, they are rather simple to comprehend.

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

**INTRODUCTION**

The works of previous academics on translation approaches or strategies for European language pairs or translation from Chinese to English attracted the attention of current scholars who are working to uncover the specific mechanisms necessary to convert Chinese empty words into English. The researcher believed he may make a substantial impact in the field of translation by specialising in Chinese to English translation due to his fluency in both the

Chinese and English languages. Furthermore, the hope of identifying novel translation processes was a driving force for the researcher's decision to do this study. Reason being, Chinese differs from other European languages in a number of important respects, including syntax, culture, writing system, and phrase. For this reason, this remains true. The author drew inspiration from David Pollard's "Empty Words: Modal Adverbs" and used Chinese empty words as objects of examination. Despite their frequent use, Pollard found that modal adverbs—widely recognised as useless filler words—are infamously difficult to translate. Problems he had while trying to accomplish this goal are likewise the subject of this research. So that the researcher might have a better understanding of how translators deal with confusing language, they sought my opinion. He believes that by looking into the matter, people would be able to figure out how to fix it. But he knows that nobody has ever looked up every empty phrase in both English and Chinese at the same time. He thinks this is another important factor that has to be considered. People can say with certainty that my research will have a lasting impact on translation studies (Baker, 2019). The reason behind this is that it represents the cutting edge of its field.

### BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Even though the term "translation studies" is used rather frequently in the modern era, one of the primary responsibilities of "translation theory" is to investigate the topic of equivalent, which has been there for quite some time. It is generally accepted that "translation theory" is a subfield of the study that academics have carried out on the activities that take place throughout the process of translation and interpretation. In an effort to widen the scope of the study of translations outside the setting of the debate between literal and free translation, a growing number of academics are beginning to connect translation studies with other subjects. Utilising this strategy allows for the introduction of novel approaches and points of view. One of the most controversial topics in the field of linguistics is considered to be the impact that translation has on the original text. The literature, politics, religion, and economy of a society are all subsystems that, according to Even-Zohar, contribute to the creation of the identity of that group through their respective contributions. He contends that this is the case because each of these subsystems is connected to the others. There is an old adage that states, "their interactions are not random but mainly defined by their location in the total to which they belong," and it also states that subsystems within a whole are reliant upon one another. The several subsystems that comprise the integrated system are located at a variety of distances from the component that serves as the fundamental component of the system. On the other hand, it is also true that various civilisations may assign distinct subsystems varied degrees of emphasis on their own systems. In addition, polyesters, which originate from a variety of different groups, have a relationship with one another in addition to having a status that is separate from that of the other varieties. The research conducted by Even-Zohar analyses the ways in which the stature of the target polycystic and the target language impact the tactics taken by translators. Through conducting his analysis on the basis of this, he is able to achieve

this. Sager has conducted a study (Malmkjaer, 2019) with the purpose of determining the relative advantages of using human translators as opposed to machine translation.

### PUPOSE OF THE STUDY

A thorough examination of the translation procedures used to translate Chinese empty words into English is the goal of this work. Empty words serve a crucial purpose in speech, consistency, and grammar, despite their lack of meaning. As a result, it may be quite challenging to comprehend them. This study aims to use quantitative approach to identify the frequency of various translator tactics, including literal translation, deletion, replacement, addition, and rearrangement, and to describe these strategies in detail. The study is able to provide an unbiased evaluation of the approaches currently employed to address empty language because of this. This study will look into the ways in which translators manage to handle these functional phrases in a way that is accurate, fluent, and culturally acceptable. By shedding light on the intricacies of cross-linguistic transmission through data-driven insights, the study improves translation studies in the end. It achieves this by analysing patterns that may have practical applications in the field of translation theory as well as in the actual world, including a wide range of text types.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

Although “translation studies” has lately come to the fore, the term “translation theory” is still seen as a natural progression from academic investigations of translation and translation processes. The idea of equivalent has been around for a long time, and one of the main purposes of translation theory is to look at it more thoroughly. Several scholars are beginning to integrate translation studies with other disciplines in an attempt to expand the field’s focus beyond the literal vs. free translation argument. This is carried out within the realm of translation studies with the aim of offering fresh viewpoints and methods of investigation to the subject. What they mean is that translators have to make changes and modifications since the two languages’ grammatical structures and phrasing are different. These changes and adjustments are what they mean when they talk about shifts. The same- According to Zohar, every culture’s own polysystem has several subsystems, some of which deal with topics like as literature, politics, religion, and economics. For a polysystem to function, the interdependence of its constituent parts means that “their interactions are not random but mainly defined by their location in the total to which they belong,” to paraphrase Chang. Reason being, they rely on each other in some way. The interdependence of the many subsystems varies from one system to another, with some being more crucial than others. Various cultural groups may give varying amounts of weight to the same subsystem. It is feasible to have both of these outcomes. Each of the many civilisations that make up a polysystem has its own unique status and set of ties. Translator strategies are analysed by Even-Zohar in relation to the target polysystem and translation subsystem states. Both schools of thought are consistent with one another. The debate between human and machine translation is examined by Sager, who then provides his

conclusions. Subtitler training is in high demand, according to Diaz-Cintas, who cites the expansion of the audiovisual translation sector (Cohen, 2019).

### RESEARCH QUESTION

How does the implementation of translation methods influence the use of translation techniques?

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### Research Design

The quantitative data was analysed using SPSS version 25. Researcher used the odds ratio and 95% confidence interval to find out which way the statistical link was leaning and how strong it was. Researchers set a p-value less than 0.05 as a threshold for statistical significance. A descriptive analysis was carried out to determine the most crucial elements of the data. A lot of the time, quantitative approaches are employed when examining data that has been processed by computer programs for statistical purposes, or data that has been gathered through polls, questionnaires, or surveys.

#### Sampling

The ultimate sample size for the study was 500 clients, after 20 Chinese consumers were used for pilot testing the questionnaire. Seven hundred twelve customers were selected at random and sent an email survey. The analysis did not include the survey since 212 individuals did not complete it.

#### Data and Measurement

A questionnaire survey was the main tool for gathering information in the study. Part one of the survey requested respondents' basic demographic information; part two used a 5-point Likert scale to assess several features of the online and offline channels. Many other sources, most of which were internet databases, provided the secondary data.

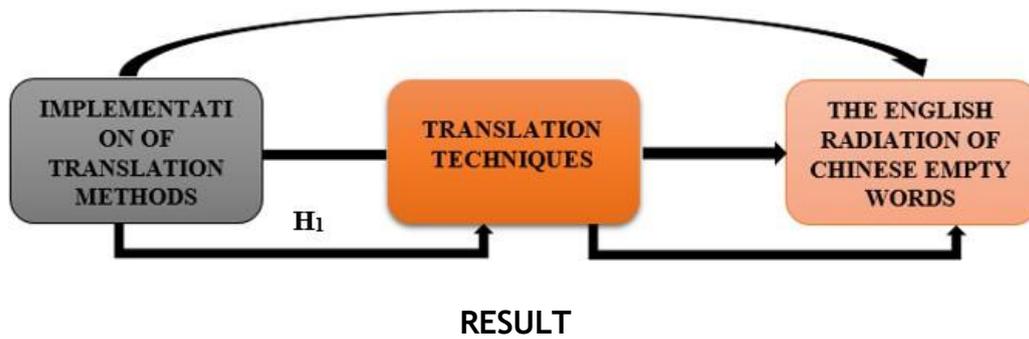
#### Statistical Software

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

#### Statistical Tools

The basic essence of the data was understood through descriptive analysis. It is imperative that the researcher employs ANOVA to examine the data.

### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



**Factor Analysis:** It is standard practice to utilise factor analysis (FA) to confirm that latent components exist in observable data. It is common practice to utilise regression coefficients to derive ratings in the absence of obvious visual or diagnostic cues. For FA success, models are crucial. Finding mistakes, intrusions, and obvious connections is what modelling is all about. To assess datasets produced by multiple regression analyses, one might use the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) Test. Both the model and the sample variables are confirmed to be representative by them. Data duplication is evident from the figures. Describing the facts becomes easier with smaller proportions. A number between zero and one is the output of KMO. If the KMO value is between 0.8 and 1, the sample size should be adequate. Kaiser states that these are the permissible boundaries: The following approval criteria were set by Kaiser:

A dismal 0.050 to 0.059, much below the average range of 0.60 to 0.69.

The range for middle grades is typically 0.70 to 0.79.

Ranging from an 80 to an 89 on the quality point scale.

They are floored by the range of 0.90 to 1.00.

The results of Bartlett's sphericity test are as follows: about chi-squared

df=190

sig.=.000

Claims made for sampling purposes are proven to be truthful. It was ensured that the correlation matrices were meaningful by researchers using Bartlett's Test of Sphericity. A number of 0.940 indicates that the sample is sufficient according to Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin. The p-value is 0.00, as per Bartlett's sphericity test. As per the results of the positive Bartlett's sphericity test, the correlation matrix is not an identity matrix.

**Table 1.** Bartlett’s Test and KMO (Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin) Testing Measure of Sampling Adequacy: 0.940.

<b>KMO and Bartlett's Test</b>		
<b>Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.</b>		.940
<b>Bartlett's Test of Sphericity</b>	<b>Approx. Chi-Square</b>	3252.968
	<b>df</b>	190
	<b>Sig.</b>	.000

Claims based on the execution of a sample are therefore validated. Researchers used Bartlett’s Test of Sphericity to determine if the correlation matrices were statistically significant. Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin deems the sample to be acceptable when the value is 0.940. A p-value of 0.00 was produced using Bartlett’s sphericity test. The findings of Bartlett’s sphericity test, which were statistically significant, indicate that the correlation matrix is distinct from an identity matrix.

**Test For Hypothesis**

**INDIPENDENT VARIABLE**

**Implementation of Translation Methods:** Methods of translation are put into practice when translators employ specific processes to transfer structure, function, and meaning from one language to another. This method entails selecting and employing appropriate strategies to overcome the cultural and linguistic barriers between Chinese and English in relation to Chinese empty words. A number of strategies exist for dealing with the pragmatic and grammatical functions that meaningless words provide. In this category you’ll find literal translation, deletion, addition, substitution, and restructure. Putting these tactics into practice is more than just knowing about them; it’s about actually using them in translation work. The translator’s decision on how to translate an expression should be based on readability, accuracy, and cultural equality. The translator’s decision-making process is illustrated below. To maintain coherence in a discussion, one may utilise omission and rearrangement when an empty sentence is superfluous in English. By highlighting the operational phase, when theoretical techniques are adjusted and applied to actual texts, implementation shows how translation strategies go from theoretical frameworks to tangible linguistic consequences. In order to measure their usage, this research looks at how often and where these techniques appear in translated literature (Corina, 2021).

**MIDEATING VARIABLE**

**Translation Techniques:** A translator’s tactics are the tried-and-true methods they employ on a smaller scale to ensure accuracy, precision, and linguistic parity between the source and

target languages. Methods for translation are another name for translation techniques. The smallest units that translation methods operate on are words, phrases, or sentences. In contrast, generic translation methods address more broad approaches to translation. They provide concrete suggestions for overcoming translation challenges such as linguistic barriers, structural variances, and cultural complexities. They find application in the translation industry. A literal translation is one that makes every effort to preserve the original text's meaning and structure; Examples of transition words include omission (the act of removing unnecessary elements from a text to improve its flow), substitution (the act of inserting a new phrase that expresses the same meaning), and addition (the act of inserting more words to clarify an idea). It is possible to employ strategies such as rearranging the sentence structure to improve its flow in the target language. These tactics could differ for each text, audience, and translator depending on the context in which they are used (Volf, 2020).

### DEPENDENT VARIABLE

**The English Radiation of Chinese Empty Words:** Translating Chinese function words into their English equivalents is what this procedure is all about. Although they lack robust lexical meaning, function words provide crucial pragmatic, structural, and grammatical purposes. The English version of Chinese empty words is known as this. Particles, prepositions, conjunctions, and modal markers are all examples of empty words in Chinese that do not convey any meaning on their own. On the contrary, they establish the tone, keep the conversation flowing, and ensure that phrases stay together. Because many of these idioms lack exact English equivalents, it may be difficult to interpret them. Since they are utilising English vocabulary in their translations, translators must ensure that the words' meaning and communicative function are preserved. When there is a near syntactic equivalent, literal translation is possible; nevertheless, omission is used when the term does not significantly improve the structure of the target language. Changing the structure of sentences, adding words to clarify, or replacing them with others that do the same purpose could be required to keep the text flowing smoothly and coherently (Chen C Liu, 2024).

**Relationship between Implementation of Translation Methods and Translation Techniques:** The employment of translation methods and techniques are closely related to each other in the same manner as techniques are a reflection of the real instruments that are used to attain the intended output. The procedures give the general structure, while the techniques show the several ways to translate. A translator will follow a set of rules when translating a text. These rules are set by using different translation procedures. Some of these ways to translate are literal translation, free translation, and communicative translation. On the other hand, translation approaches work on a more detailed level, focused on certain words, phrases, or structures to get around language and cultural differences in the target language. The relationship between the two is based on the fact that they work well together. The translator's overall approach is shaped by the usage of methods, while techniques are used within that approach to solve specific translation problems. For example, it is possible that

strategies like direct equivalence or borrowing will be used a lot when the literal translation technique is used. This is due to the frequent use of the literal translation method. Conversely, the employment of a more adaptable approach may result in the increased use of techniques such as replacement, omission, or addition. This is due to the method’s greater adaptability to change (Khudaybergenova, 2021).

The researcher decided to examine the relationship between implementation of translation methods and translation techniques after coming up with the following hypothesis about the aforementioned topic.

*“H<sub>0</sub>: There is no significant relationship between implementation of translation methods and translation techniques.”*

*“H<sub>1</sub>: There is a significant relationship between implementation of translation methods and translation techniques.”*

**Table 2. H1 ANOVA Test.**

ANOVA					
Sum					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
<b>Between Groups</b>	39588.620	206	5702.651	953.780	.000
<b>Within Groups</b>	492.770	293	5.979		
<b>Total</b>	40081.390	499			

The outcome of this investigation is noteworthy. With a p-value of .000 (less than the .05 alpha level), the significance threshold is reached with an F-value of 953.780. That the null hypothesis cannot be true and that the alternative hypothesis, *“H<sub>1</sub>: There is a significant relationship between implementation of translation methods and translation techniques.”*

## DISCUSSION

This study’s findings highlight the significance of translation methods in deciding the English rendering of Chinese empty words. Despite their lack of lexical significance, empty words play an important role in indicating syntax, coherence, and the flow of a discussion in Chinese. Careful methodological judgements affecting readability and accuracy are required when translating them into English. Substitution and omission were the most popular approaches, according to the quantitative results. This suggests that translators prioritise accuracy and fluency in the target language. When syntactic equivalence could be reached, literal translation, albeit less usual, was advantageous. Some contexts need addition and reorganisation to protect delicate pragmatic or discourse-level functions. Since no single method can solve the problems caused by empty words, these findings demonstrate that translators employ a wide range of strategies according to the requirements of the context. Methods provide a pragmatic means of determining whether or not English translations successfully preserve meaning and

avoid the risk of becoming less cohesive. The research highlights the need of considering language and cultural elements when making methodological decisions. This will help ensure that translated works are accurate and accessible to the target audience.

### CONCLUSION

A large number of studies have found similar outcomes from studies involving other language combinations; this is just a small selection of the many; the researcher suggested using meaningless Chinese sentences as specific study material so that translation processes could be identified with the highest degree of precision. Only twelve of the many esteemed scholars included in this thesis have found similar outcomes from studies involving other language combinations.

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