“BREAKING DAWN”: TRANSLATION STRATEGIES, LINGUISTIC STRUCTURES AND CULTURAL ELEMENTS

LEE PEI JIN

Library Services
UCSI Education Sdn. Bhd. (184479-U)
No. 1, Jalan Menara Gading, UCSI Heights
56000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Tel: 603-9101 2500 Fax: 603-9102 3606
Website: www.ucsi.edu.my

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ABSTRACT

This paper comprises the comparison of the novel “Breaking Dawn” in English and Malay. The study of two versions of ‘Breaking Dawn’ in English and Malay is done to bring light upon the different strategies that are being used in the process of translation, the differences of linguistic structures that are present in the two books and how were the cultural elements being translated. This corpus-based study has shown that there are different strategies used in the process of translating the source text into the translated text. The translation strategies are based on Newmark’s translation strategies and only a few strategies were used to translate the source text to the targeted text. The strategies that were used frequently were communicative translation strategy and semantic translation strategy. The linguistic structure covers grammar, analysis of meaning and word order. Some words that are translated capture the same meaning as the source language. However, some words do not clearly convey the meaning of the source text clearly. In the word order section, some words in the source text are compressed when translated while others are explicited. The reasons why these happen is because of the source language’s grammar, where the source language has different components of morphemes to indicate past tense and possession, whereas the translated language’s grammar do not have the components as the source language. When the cultural elements were studied, it is found that most of the terms were being borrowed from other fields of science, nature and technology. Foreignization in the translated text happened because the source culture is unfamiliar to the translated language’s culture. Overall, it is suggested that translators use a balance of the strategies and include an endnote or footnote to the cultural elements being stated in the translated text. It cannot be assumed that the readers of the translated text have the existing knowledge of the source text’s culture.