

قراءة أخرى لتقنيات فيني وداربلني في الترجمة الطبية

Another Reading of Vinay and Darbelnet Techniques in Medical Translation

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Abstract		الملخص
Vinay and Darbelnet's techniques are widely used in the process of translation in medical field. In fact, medical text deals with a large range of topics as it includes differentspecialties, such as medicine, surgery, biology, pharmacology, chemistry, veterinary medicine, and so forth. This diversity may present a great challenge for the translator in performing his job, starting with terms, abbreviations, neologisms.		تستعمل تقنيات فيني وداربلني بشكل واسع في ترجمة الميدان الطبي. وفي الواقع، يتناول النص الطبي عددا كبيرا من المواضيع المرتبطة بمختلف الاختصاصات مثل الطب والجراحة وعلم الأحياء والصيدلة والكيمياء والبيطرة وغيرها من الاختصاصات. ويشكل تعدد الاختصاصات الطبية تحديا كبيرا بالنسبة للمترجم أثناء الترجمة بدءا بالمصطلحات والاختصارات والمستجدات.
Keywords: Vinay and Darbelnet; techniques; medical text; . challenges; medical text translation; medical background.		كلمات مفتاحية: تقنيات فيني وداربلني؛ النص الطبي؛ التحديات؛ ترجمة النص الطبي؛ الرصيد الطبي.

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1. Introduction

Vinay and Darbelnet techniques are frequently used in scientific text in general, and in medical text in particular. That is why they occupy top position in the sphere of translation studies. Some theorists of translation say that some Vinay and Darbelnet techniques cannot play a considerable role in the process of translation of medical text, especially modulation and adaptation. This is the reason behind this research to show up how immense is the contribution of Vinay and Darbelnet techniques in the process of translation. From all this, arises a big and controversial issue: Can the translator use Vinay and Darbelnet techniques to solve problems he meets in the translation process of medical text? Other questions may emerge: are modulation and adaptation effective solutions in medical translation? Which techniques serve to find the adequate equivalent terms?

To give an answer to these questions, we put forward two hypotheses: First, Vinay and Darbelnet techniques are procedures like other translation procedures, so that they can be used in different fields, including the medical field. Second, Vinay and Darbelnet techniques give the opportunity to the translator to overcome obstacles that hamper translation process in the medical field by putting in his hands a variety of solutions.

To carry out a rigorous research, analytic and descriptive method seems to be the best way. That is why we have defined and analysed each technique; then, provided examples that correspond to each technique. Some objectives to be attained: demonstrating the effectiveness of Vinay and Darbelnet techniques in the process of translation; Giving Vinay and Darbelnet techniques what they deserve; and pushing the translators to the limit of using them to overcome obstacles they meet.

2. Borrowing

Vinay and Darbelnet (1977, 47) state that borrowing is used to transfer, from a source language into a target language, a new technique, or an

unknown concept. When dealing with a new technique, the translator finds himself in a blind alley, looking for borrowing, which is the torch that shines the path. On the other hand, Peter Newmark (2005, 81) suggests that meanwhile the translator should not favour source language interests, that is, keeping terms as they are in order to promote their products, he cannot be hostile by trying to find for each term in SL an appropriate term in TL. We can mention some borrowings: Coronavirus (فيروس كورونا); penicillin (بنيسيلين); peptid (بيتيد).

3. Calque

Calque is the rendering of syntagma as it is; however, we translate its component separately using literal translation (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1977, p.47).

There are two types of calque:

3.1 Lexical calque

lexical calque is transferring of a given syntagma following the syntactic rules of the TL in a new expressive way. For instance, sexually transmitted disease (STD) is translated into Arabic as الأمراض المنتقلة جنسيا. Here, we have translated the three components separately, respecting the target linguistic system. So, we have theme (الأمراض), rheme (المنتقلة) and adverb of manner (جنسيا). Nevertheless, there is more or less ambiguity regarding the way of transmission. We might not understand well how these diseases are transmitted from one person to another. In fact, in Arabic, the term (جنسيا) does not refer exactly to sexual intercourse. It rather refers to type of human sex whether male or female. That is why I suggest the following translation: الأمراض المنتقلة عن طريق الجماع

3.2 Structural Calque

Unlike lexical calque, structural calque alters completely the structure of the ST syntagma, leading to a new form of it, which colours the TL with a strange touch.

4. Literal Translation

Literal translation is the transferring of a given message regarding the linguistic system of the TL without making considerable modifications whether grammatical or semantic. It is mainly used in informative text, which aims at showing up facts as well as terms. This technique relies enormously on linguistic aspects. (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1977, p.48).

5. Transposition

When the translator finds one grammatical element in the TL that stands for another grammatical element in the SL, keeping the same meaning, we are before transposition technique. (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1977, p.50). Two kinds of transposition could be distinguished.

5.1 Obligatory Transposition

The translator has recourse to obligatory transposition when TL provides him with one solution not more to render the same meaning. For instance, English does not have plural for the noun (knowledge). So, when the translator transfers the noun (معارف), which is classified as plural in Arabic, he must have recourse to only one choice. This choice could not be something else except the singular noun (knowledge). The following example illustrates perfectly this case:

تتطلب الترجمة باعا كبيرا من المعارف.

Translation requires a vast **knowledge**.

We can clearly see that the solution comes from transferring the plural noun (معارف) into a singular noun (knowledge), using obligatory transposition.

5.2 Optional Transposition

There is more than one possibility, even if we find slight difference in the meaning that does not considerably affect the message of the source text. We take the following example;

The patient receives **effective** treatment.

يخضع المريض إلى علاج فعال.

العلاج الذي يخضع له المريض ذو فعالية.

As shown in the above example, the adjective (effective) is transmitted twice. The first time into adjective (فعال) and the second time into noun (فعالية).

6. Modulation

Modulation consists in seeing the same thing from another angle (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1977, 51). In fact, the translator tries to transmit adequately the meaning, taking into consideration dissimilarities that exist between the reader of the source text and the reader of the target text, in that each one sees the world differently. Definitely, what is important for someone is not for the other and vice versa. From this perspective, we can consider that modulation is the most difficult technique the translator uses. Several kinds of modulation have to be highlighted.

6.1 Specific vs General

The translator may render a general noun by a specific noun for the sake of precision, reflecting a vast medical background.

E.g., Insulin is an effective medicine to treat **diabetes**.

يعد الأنسولين دواء ناجعا لعلاج السكر الأنسوليني.

It is worthy to notice the translator transformed general term (diabetes) into specific term (سكري أنسوليني). Actually, the term سكري أنسوليني فارح، 2017، (97) is more precise, in that its use avoids any sort of confusion between its different types. Hence, vast medical background is required to correctly

transmit the message. The first type is Insulin-Dependent Diabetes (type 1) that results from deficit in the production of the hormone insulin, which lowers sugar in blood, or resistance to it (Garnier & Delamare, 243). Therefore, sugar blood rate is too higher than the normal range (0,80 g/l _1,10g/l), leading to instantaneously serious health problems. The second type is Noninsulin-Dependent Diabetes (type 2) which requires diet and oral drugs. In this type, Hormone insulin is secreted; however, it is misused by cellular receptors of it. (Garnier & Delamare, 243).

Another example may contribute in understanding this type of modulation. He has suffered from **migraine** since his childhood.

قد كان يعاني من الشقيقة منذ طفولته.

Here, the translator replaced a concrete element (migraine) that stands for one part of the two ones of head, or skull by an abstract element (الشقيقة) that could not be touched.

A third example to support the significance of this technique:

Water is a **substance** the function of organs of the body needs.

إن الماء نعمة تحتاجها أعضاء الجسم للقيام بوظائفها.

Here, the translator replaces a concrete noun (substance) by an abstract noun (نعمة), taking into account the cultural aspect of the target language. Definitely, Arab reader sees water as a gift granted by Allah rather than just a chemical substance.

6.2 Part of vs. Whole

This technique is defined as the transmission of the whole into a part of it. It is used when the translator wants to perform a perfect work, looking for precision, which is the milestone of specialised medical text.

يعاني صالح من التهاب في القلب.

Salah is suffering from **coronaritis**.

Here, the translator renders the whole (التهاب في القلب) by the part (coronaritis). It is clear that the noun phrase (التهاب في القلب) includes several diseases that affect heart, such as pericarditis, endocarditis, and so forth. Literal translation of the term (التهاب في القلب) leads to the noun phrase (inflammation of the heart). This may be acceptable if the receptor or the client is a layman person. Nonetheless, it will be vehemently rejected if the receptor is an expert in medical field.

6.3 Whole vs. part of

(Whole vs part of) is a procedure used to render a narrow meaning by a wide meaning for the sake of vulgarisation in order to achieve effective communication, which is the main goal of translation.

The following example demonstrates the same idea:

Oxygen is necessary for the body.

الهواء ضروري للإنسان.

In the latter example, the translator transfers the term (oxygen) into the term (هواء), which is wider and more popular than oxygen in order to facilitate understanding of the message the ST bears.

6.4 Negative vs positive statement

This technique is frequently used as it is simple. It permits the translator to change the vehicle of a given message from positive statement into negative statement without altering the meaning.

A good example to clarify what it has been said is the following:

Omar underwent a **difficult** surgery operation yesterday.

لم تكن العملية الجراحية التي اجراها عمر الأمس سهلة.

Here, the translator opts for this technique to grasp acquaintance's feelings and support.

6.5 Passive form vs Active form

The translator meets great difficulties in conveying mainly the meaning the English passive form bears into Arabic of nowadays passive form. As a result, he finds himself under the obligation to transform the passive form into the active form. I say Arabic of nowadays because it becomes evident that Arabic does not use frequently the passive form to express the action and not the doer of that action while English does easily. I say Arabic of nowadays because Arabic simply as we will see in the following examples uses passive as much as active. As far as the agentive sentence is concerned, we may say that Arabic uses calque from English to render them producing unacceptable construction. More agentive phrases are built as follows: (من قبل او من طرف) corresponds to (from the side of/ on the part of); (من جانب) corresponds to (from the side of); (على يد) is the equivalent of (at the hand of); and (بواسطة) is the equivalent of (by means of) (Khalil,1999 ;268).

It is worthwhile to notice that when translating the English passive form into Arabic, we have recourse to omit the agent to focus on the action, on the one hand; and to avoid mentioning what is already omitted for a specific purpose on the other hand (Reda,2010 ,215). The two following examples serve to amply illustrate the significance of the use of this technique:

Some physicians have **diagnosed** Samir with kidney failure.

شخص سمير بقصور كلوي.

If it is necessary to mention the agent, we should use active form; The previous sentence could be translated as: شخص أطباء قصورا كلويا.

Some examples come to clarify the passage from the active to passive and vice versa. No matter the language is, the most important element in transmitting the message is the context. And as we deal with medical text, it would be preferable to transform the active form into the passive form in order to focus on the action.

The second example is the following:

يجب ان يكون البول أول بول أصبح عليه. (ابن سينا، 1993، 178)

It (the urine) must be **collected** in the early morning. (Gruner, 1930, 323).

In this example, the translator attaches more significance to the collection of the urine rather than to the urine itself. Indeed, collecting the complete amount of urine permits biologist to perform urine tests successfully, in that biological results rely greatly on the full amount of urine, not less. This allows the physician establishing diagnosis.

7. Equivalence

Equivalence is the transfer of a given situation in the ST into a similar situation in the TT by means of new stylistic and structural way (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1977, 51). Terms and proverbs highly demonstrate this technique. Often new terms constitute monumental challenge the translator confront (Newmark, 2005, 152). By the time proverbs are mostly used in vulgarized medical text, terms are used in specialized medical text. We can illustrate equivalence with the following examples:

Mohumad is in rude health.

يتمتع محمد بصحة جيدة.

The translator, in this example, has recourse to two techniques as noticed by Newmark (2005: 91) who states that the translator may combine two (couplet), three (triplet) or four (quadruplet) in order to deal with a single problem. The first technique is explanatory modulation used to render the same message. In fact, rude health means having good health. As regards, he renders the situation explained faithfully. The second technique is equivalence, which is used to give vivid colour to the proverb. The translator may translate the aforementioned proverb by means of dialect. For instance, in Algerian dialect, they say (صحته مثل صحة (الحصان). All people agree that horse enjoys good health.

8. Adaptation

When there is no correspondence between the situation of the source culture and of the target culture, the translator has to set an equivalent situation (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1977, 79)

Even if adaptation is rarely used in medical text, we try to show it up through the following example:

قد يكون الدواء مفيدا لمحمد وغير مفيد لأحمد

A medicament may be beneficial for **Peter** and not for **Paul**.

In this example, the translator finds himself before a situation in which cultural aspects dominate the scene. Therefore, he opts for the use of adaptation by replacing the proper nouns (محمد) by (Peter) and (أحمد) by (Paul). It is obvious that the writer of the source text as well as of the target text have chosen very famous names to bring a specific colour to the message. In the whole, we can say that the translator has succeeded greatly in providing a good product. That is why taking into account dissimilarity between cultures is the key to acceptable translation.

9. Conclusion

This research shows up the significance of Vinay and Darbelnet techniques in Translation process of medical text. Direct translation includes borrowing, calque and literal translation. It renders the meaning accurately, except when the translator meets some grammatical and cultural obstacles as well as some medical terms, including neologism, abbreviation and compound term using affixes. In this case, the translator has recourse to oblique translation through using transposition, equivalence, modulation or adaptation in order to overcome the aforementioned barriers.

This research provides the translator with some findings, which are as follows:

- Vinay and Darbelnet techniques are widely used in the medical domain, especially borrowing, calque, literal translation and transposition.
- Literal translation renders perfectly the meaning of the medical text.
- Rarely, the translator has recourse to modulation and adaptation, in that medical text is in the first place informative, that is to say the translator should convey all facts as well as terms that exist in the source text.
- The translator should be aware when using modulation, which needs vast knowledge of medicine for fear of making wrong decision that could be fatal as medical text deals with health problems.
- It is absolutely not truth that Arabic does not use frequently the passive form. And it is the job of the translator to bring the truth to the surface through using it massively as well as inciting other translators to do so.
- Vinay and Darbelnet techniques provide translator with plenty of solutions to solve problems he meets during translation process.
- More than one technique- what Newmark called couplet, triplet or quadruplet- may be used in order to transfer the same translation unit. For instance, the term (menopause) is rendered into Arabic as (سن اليأس), using three techniques: the first technique is transposition because the noun (menopause) is transformed into a noun phrase (سن اليأس) ; the second technique is explanatory modulation because we have rather translated the situation ,which denotes the lack of probability to be pregnant than the term (menopause) itself; and the last technique is equivalence as it is the most common term used in medical field.
- Even if Vinay and Darbelnet techniques are the oldest techniques used in translation process, they remain among the best solution to overcome different barriers the translator may face.

Taking into consideration dissimilarity between cultures is the key to acceptable translation mainly when the translator deals with simplified medical text.

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