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General Translation and Covid-19 Terminologies

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Abstract:
This article titled 'General Translation and its texts', is based on the notion of general translation, the composition of its texts and some COVID19 terminologies as a practical example of General Translation especially in the traditional African language, example of Khana. This communication wants to examine general translation and its texts in the pragmatic framework of translation. Study deals with reevaluating the different information misinterpreted in the field of General Translation and its Texts and thus the difference between the concept of general translation and specialized translation within the framework of pragmatic translation. The article then wants to re-establish critical difference in their specificities appropriate to this class of translation with some illustrative documents that we have chosen. The methodology of this study will be documentary hence involves published journals stored in the libraries and on the internet, carrying relevant information to our work. This article offers definitions and proper classification to general translation and its texts in the context of pragmatic translation, because in the study of translation, the notion of general translation and its text is not well structured as a category of translation among the genres and genres of texts in translation and especially in the treatment of translation typologies and text typologies.

Keywords: General translation, specialized translation, general text, specialized text, pragmatic translation, Covid-19 terms

1. Introduction

When we talk about general translation, we are talking about one of the largest aspects of translation. This aspect of translation under the categories of translation falls under the pragmatic field of translation.Pragmatic as a field of translation is an all-encompassing branch of translation that forms the opposite of the literally translation. Following this simple segmentation of translation in the literally domain and the pragmatic branch of translation, one may say that translation itself has two great branches.

Back to the context of our study, the general translation can be a form of the pragmatic translation. The pragmatic translation has two major branches by which come other branches of translation. The two major branches of pragmatic translation are: General translation and specialized translation. Though in most research works in translation, the concept of specialized translation is the dominant concept. The concept of general translation is not often treated.

- Definition: General translation can be referred to as one of the major branches of pragmatic translation that deals with the translation of those texts that are neither literally nor specialized texts in translation. The concept of general translation can also be defined as the totality of texts produced for consumption of the general public. Further, they are those texts that are extracted from specific areas of study but conveying important message that is meaningful for the duration of the general public. In other words, these texts in most cases may convey some concrete meaning relating to a particular domain of activity but the purpose of composing such texts and the situation or events surrounding such texts are what will determine its translation to make the needed general meaning to the reader who may be expecting such information. We can practically relate this to the outbreak of corona virus. During the outbreak of this deadly disease, the entire masses globally were in high expectation of relevant information on the prevention and cure of the virus. This is one of the reasons why in this work, we will present a part where some terminologies of corona virus will be examined and in turn will be translated into traditional African language with Khana as example and as a demonstration of a practical general text. According to Anexiam, the concept of general translation can be referred to as the:

Translation of non-specialize texts that have no terminological or technical difficulties. The language used can be natural without technical terms.

This statement explains the fact that general translation is performed based on the need for documents not dedicated to a specific domain. One may encounter such text during the translation of academic certificate from one language to another. According to USA translate, S.C.S, General translation means:
Translation for which the translator doesn't need extensive knowledge or experience of a specific specialist area. These include, for example, news, articles, travelogues, private or business letter and applications.
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theJinah assertion on general translation, also reminds us on the nature of general translation. Therefore, it is important to note that general translation focuses on disseminating important information in all languages among members of the general public. According to Jinah,

For general translation from and to English, Dutch, French, and German, the freelance translator will not need specific knowledge about a specialized filed or know the specific terminologies. In other words, very little subject research is required.

This means that general translation does not deal with a particular subject matterrather, it can be the translation of any document containing a message relating to public hearing. Some examples of general translations according to Jinah translate are: 'correspondences (letters) incoming and out-going e-mails, standard documents and forms. (i.e., quotation, invoice, order, formsetc.), invitation, press releases and marketing communications.

Further, despite the fact that general translation is not traceable to a specific domain of activity, its importancecannot be overemphasize. It is to a large extent dedicated to service the greater need of communicationin day-to-day activities of humanity. It also strengthens human and bilateral relations. In this way, USA translate explains that:'The importance of general translation is more than any other translation because, people of all tracks are engaged to each other. And general translation Bridges the language gap'. In the next lines, we will be looking general texts as a central point of general translation.
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2. General Texts

Just as we already noted the importance and peculiarity of general translation, in this paragraph, we will be looking at general text. Generally, in translation, it is text type that determines the kind of translation in practice by a translator. That shows how importanttext is in translation studies. In general translation, it is the general text that determines the practical aspect of general translation. All theories of translation, expressions of models and means and strategies appropriate for extracting the proper 'meaning, in other words, equivalence' of a source text which will soon be transferred in to the target text, all depend on theone-word text. The study of texts in the early time, was in other words attributed to literature. Texts in translation and especially under the framework of pragmatic translation, is a 19th to 20th centuries development in the theoretical and practical pragmatic translation. What has reigned over time and in the earliest age of translation has been the concept of ideological translation, ranging from literally, philosophical, sociological, historical, religious, anthropological and psychological translations and later, specialized translation with its scientific and technical branches. We noticed this with Okeke who cited Bassett. According to him,

One of the first writer to formulate a theory of translation was the French humanist, EtienneDolet, (1509-49) who was tried and executed for heresy after 'mistranslating' one of Plato's dialogue in such a way as to imply disbelief in immorality (Bassett-Guire 1980-54).

At that time, there has been a remarkable shift from the literally perspective of translation to its pragmatic kind which entertains industrial translation, therefore, improvingprofessionalpractice in translation. On the other hand, it has to a large extend promotes scientific and technological advancements through its popular branches such as scientific and technical translations. In recent time, even the modern works of creativity is also capturing scientific and technological happenings. As for general texts, they are called general texts because during their translation, they possess general meaning.

3. Sources of General Texts

General texts are created from Magazines, discussions, public opinions for the education of the general public. General texts can also be extracted fromgovernment programmes, presidential speech, political manifesto, government house or assembly bills, bill of contracts, court rulings and injunctions, orientation and reorientation on staffs conducts, radio and television programmes, debates, quiz, communication for children and for the training of youths and women. Another aspect of general texts can be: Sensitization programmes on public health and common hygiene orientations, instructions and prescriptions.

In a brief conclusion, one can say that general textsare numerous than even texts from other domains of translation. Despite its diversity this domain of translation has suffered neglect over time and as such, some of its texts are sometimes assumed and misconstrued to be technical or scientific texts in the cadet of specialized translation under the umbrella of pragmatic translationbecause even Peter Newmark's text categorization is in three forms and does not capture in details the general text type. He noted though and cited Karl Buhler's theory of language and Reiss's text typology which classifies text as:

Expressive (literally texts), informative texts (text books, reports, articles, etc.), and vocative texts which include notices, propaganda, publicity and fiction.

We may only figure out one item in the Newmark's description of texts to having relationship with general text that is 'publicity' hence, publicity can be any general information and advertisement and that is why we are able to figure out publicity as a source of general text in translation.

4. Specialized Translation

The concept of specialized translation is another vast category of translation which falls under the pragmatic translation. It is the type of translation that requires competence, technical know-how and a systemized linguistics

expertise in both the source language and target language. It is the most practiced kind of translation in this age. The specialized translation is practiced at the global scene by the international organizations such as United Nations, European Union, African Union and other regional and business organizations worldwide. Kingscott(247) noted this in his description of technical translation which is a branch of specialized translation. In his account, he noticed that specialized translation accounts for some 90% of the world's total translation output yearly. According to him,

It has been estimated that for some 90% of the world's total translation output each year. This is unsurprising given the importance attached to the availability of technical information in variety of languages motivated partly by the increasingly international focus of many companies partly as a result of legislation such as council of EU directive 98/37 EC (council directive) 93/42/EEC (1993) and international standards such as EN 292-2; and EN 62079;2001 to name just a few. Cited by Jody Byrne.

The notion of technical translation mentioned in the above citations, indicates a branch of specialized translation. According to Jody Byrne in his description of specialized translation citing Pinchuk (19). Who says that:'Vocabulary is the most significant linguistic feature of the technical texts'. It is true that specialized translation implies a reasonable level of professional task in translation hence, requires adequate study of professional registers to enable a smooth practice.

In other words, Jody (7-9) argued that the above statement of pinchukshould be credited to its umbrella field of study that is the 'specialized' translation rather than technical translation which is just a branch of the specialized translation.on the other hand, still referring to 'specialized translation', Isadora states the idea of techno-linguistics competence. That is to say that every translator in the field of specialized translation must possess a good sense of adequate linguistics knowledge and a requiredextralinguistic knowledge which can sum up to a higher level of technical know-how skill to be able to translate the specialized text. He referred to this in French as 'La connaissance technolinguistiqueetla competence extra linguistique'.

5. Specialized Texts

Specialized texts are those texts that are dedicated to variety of vocations, vocations not ideological or philosophical rather, conveying realities of professional practice. According to Peter Newmark's (21) assertion on text typology citing Reiss, he refersto specialized text typology as:
Informative texts which include, text books, reports, articles, with scientific and technological, commercial, industrial and economic content.

In other words, specialized texts can be referred to as: technical texts, (texts of applied science and purely technology), scientific texts, i.e., pure science or natural science texts, commercial texts, medical and pharmaceutical texts, engineering texts, laboratory texts and economic texts etc. Other documents are texts or documents coming from technology education, traditional technical writing, technology marketing. Examples are: some general texts on technology, perhaps a political manifesto. Others are:

Software manuals, system administration guides, reports. For lay readers, general interest articles, impact statement etc. Scientific papers, programming guides and technical specifications required, promotional materials, marketing materials specifications or model sheets. Brochures and newsletters.

6. Pragmatic Translation

Pragmatic translation is one of the major branches of translation studies. This category of translation is very vast. Pragmatic translation is the opposite of literary translation. We can find more of this with Natalie Kubler who also sees the pragmatic translation as an opposition against the literary translation. He declared in French that:

La traductionpragmatique à savoir toutetraduction non littéraire qui se concentrantprincipalementsur la réception du texte par le destinataire. Ils'agitdonc d'unetraduction qui vise à la clarté et la compréhensibilité en langue cible avant tout.
https//www.lodel.irevues 3-4/03/2011,

This statement recalls our understanding that Pragmatic translation is the totality of all forms of translation and texts that are not of the literary genres of texts. Pragmatic translation deals with two major forms of translation and text type, ranging from: General texts and their translation, specialized text such as scientific texts, technological texts, judicial texts, commercial/marketing texts, texts on scientific subjects in education, engineering, production and manufacturing (medical, pharmaceutical, dentistry, etc.).

7. General Texts Practical

Example of general texts (some corona terminologies translated from English to Khana)

Sanitizer	Nor corona
Symptomatic	pianueep lo esua lo corona eyiraoloo. Doodoozuumia, gbeneogebeh, turapiogi.
Vaccine	Pie boa eyorloo corona
WHO	tortam boa dumenu bee dedeenyor-ue
Epidemic	Eyorloo a weeyii booboo bue (doodoo corona virus)
Epidemic curve	Eyor loo behcorona
Epidemiology	Tor pie bubue
Essential business	Booboo kehdoroopie corona
Forehead thermometer	Photo emanee lo egbi corona
Hydroxylchloroquine	Pie corona
Immune surveillance	Epbunamloo nee
Index case	Ebua nee corona yiiloo
Case fatality rate	Ebua neecorona feh
Chemical trial	Doaema pie corona
Confirmed positive cases	Nee a ere dume corona
Contact tracing	Kehcoronatehyii
Containment area	Tor boa dume corona
Corona virus	Dumepiachaena(corona virus)
Isolation	Aayeeedonee
Anti-viralDrugs	Pie dume corona
Quarantine	kedoo a pie corona loo
Personal protective equipment	Nu ekpegacoronalealoo
Ventilator	Nu seeapiogi
N95 respirator	Nu seeapiogi (pia dambiedume nu corona)
Self insolator	Su looaayeenee
Self-monitoring	Ep loo oh dedeesor
Social distancing	Ton aakpaanee
Flattening the curve	(Ogehbehbiebu) (kpaabeh)
Hand hygiene	Logaba (su sop logaba oh)
Super spreader	Nee a sucorona team bue
Incubation period	Buetegheyorloo Corona
Transmission	Temayereyeh nee
Community spread	Temayeebue

Table 1

8. Conclusion

General translation is important as well as general texts in our day-to-day activities. That is why we make this document as apractical example. Though, it is important to our work while discussing general translation, its school of thought, which is pragmatic translation was also examined. It is important to note that general translation and specialized translation that make up pragmatic translation. Further, due to the time we are now, general translation has become the commonest kind of translation that is practiced in our different societies and at times misconstrued. Therefore, we also note this importance and, in that way, we decided to demonstrate the translation of a general text centred oncorona terminologies. That was done from English to Khana language, a dialect in Ogoni linguistic system to representone of the traditional African languages so as to keep alive the indigenous African language and culture in scheme of things especially in this digital age. The weight of scientific and technological happenings should also be installed in our local languages since the indigenous people are also suffering the effect of global epidemic and viruses such Corona, Ebola etc. In that way, the indigenous people will be aware of the current happenings around the globe and prepare measures to handle such situations.

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