

## Features of the Revising of Art Review Texts

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### Abstract

As an important part of translation quality control, revision has attracted a lot of attention from scholars home and abroad. The new European Standard for Translation, EN15038, issued by the European Committee for Standardization in 2006, has added new standards and norms for translation revision. Thus, the application and research of translation revision at home and abroad have entered a new stage. Translation revision has norms and standards to follow, and the research and application of translation revision are also more frequent. But research on revision of art review translation is rare. Therefore, this paper analyzes the textual characteristics of Chinese painting review from the aspects of content, language and style by combining with the basic principles and steps of translation revision and summarizes three features of revising art review texts, that is, to check the professionalism of professional vocabularies, the realization of translation purpose and the transmission of Chinese culture.

### Keywords

Art Review, Text Features, Text Sentiment, Translation Revising.

### 1. Introduction

With the continuous improvement of the requirements for translation quality from all walks of life, the revision work, a part of quality control in the later stage of translation practice, has been paid more and more attention, and the research on the revision at home and abroad has also made a lot of achievements.

*Revising and Editing for Translators* (2001) written by Canada Translators Brian Mossop has elaborated the specific content and operation steps of revising.

The chapter "Editing and Revising" in *Practical Translation Manual* (2010), a book of Chinese scholar Wen Jun, is a compilation overview of Brian Mossop's work based on the actual situation of Chinese translation learners and workers.

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Therefore, this paper analyzes the textual characteristics of Chinese painting review from the aspects of content, language and style by combining with the basic principles and steps of translation revision.

### 2. Features of Art Review Texts

In order to explore the characteristics of translation revision of art review, we should first analyze the text of art review and find out its outstanding features, and then combine the research results of translation review at home and abroad and its own translation practice to get the characteristics of art review .

The characteristics of art criticism are mainly reflected in three aspects: content, language and style.

#### 2.1 Features in Content

Art reviews can be roughly divided into two categories according to the content of the reviews: one is reviews on artists, and the other is reviews on works of art. Generally speaking, the content of the

comment on the artist introduces the artist's life, philosophical thought, artistic development and evolution, artistic style, representative works, and status in the art world. The critics of works of art mostly analyze the works from the perspective of art appreciation and criticism, expounding the expression methods of the work, the painting techniques used, the thought and connotation of the expression, etc., and occasionally expand appropriately to mention the creative style and some other masterpieces of the artist.

## **2.2 Features in Language**

The language used in art reviews tend to be abstract, concise, formal and elegant; lots of Chinese four-character words are used, and its sentences are interlaced long and short. In addition, the words used have the characteristics of "Three-Many": First, there are many commentary words. Except for the statement of the artist's life facts, other words (such as the use of artistic techniques, the evolution of the style of the work, etc.) are all commentary in a broad sense. The second is that there are many art terms; the third is that there are many names of works, and critics often cite a large number of works when introducing the artist's work and style;

All of these have caused great difficulties for translation and revision. Translators and revisers need to understand the original text and grasp its connotation.

## **2.3 Features in Style**

Chinese art, especially traditional Chinese art, is rooted in the profound cultural soil of the Chinese nation, integrating the unique aesthetic consciousness, thinking methods, aesthetic thoughts and philosophical concepts of the entire Chinese nation, forming a unique art system. (Zhang Guojun, 2010: 54) Therefore, compared with other articles, art criticism, as a comment on Chinese art and artists, is often full of unique Chinese culture. For example, in the sentence the other is the abstraction of non-physical and non-figurative. His images come from the inner world completely, from the inner vision, such as the illusion caused by the mind and the synesthesia caused by the melody, like theosophy, or like Kandinsky, using music for example, and using Chinese discourse, it can be called 'heart image', there are no obvious related words between the nine commas, and the semantics are abstract and the logic is fuzzy. Therefore, it is necessary to pay special attention to clarifying the logical relationship of the original text when translating art criticism. In addition, since these unique cultural and artistic expressions are difficult to find in English, it is necessary to pay special attention to check whether the translation can be accepted by the readers while preserving Chinese culture as much as possible..

# **3. Features of the Revising of Art Review Texts**

The distinctive features in the content, language and style of art review texts make the revising work of those texts different from that of other kinds of texts. To summarize, in the process of revising art review texts, special should be paid to checking the translation of professional vocabularies, the realization of translation purpose and the transmission of Chinese culture.

## **3.1 Checking the Translation of Professional Vocabularies**

Since art review texts are full of many commentary words, art terms and names of works, special attention must be paid to checking the accuracy of the translation of commentary words, the professionalism of art terms, and correctness and consistency of names of works.

### **3.1.1. Accuracy**

Commentary words are the cornerstone that shapes the tendency of the entire review text and Chinese is a parataxis language, which is concise and abstract, therefore, it is not easy to clarify the accurate meaning of the original Chinese text and express it in English. It requires revisers to repeatedly study the original text of the review text and confirm its translation.

### **3.1.2. Professionalism**

In art review texts, art professional vocabulary will inevitably appear frequently, and the professionalism of its translation will directly affect the quality of the translation.

To check the professionalism of vocabulary, it is best to consult a professional art dictionary. The author found that most of the art dictionaries on the market are English-Chinese or Chinese dictionaries, while Chinese-English dictionaries are few. There are almost no Chinese-English or English-Chinese dictionaries containing Chinese characteristic art and cultural words. This undoubtedly brings great difficulties to the determination of art professional vocabulary.

Fortunately, though Chinese-English paper dictionaries are scarce, but there are many high-quality Chinese art dictionaries, and the Internet resources are rich and abundant. In this case, the author believes that we can first look up the Chinese definition of the vocabulary from the authoritative Chinese art dictionary, and then make full use of the Internet resources to find the English translation, compare the relevant parallel texts, and compare and filter the searched translations to obtain a relatively professional translation.

### **3.1.3. Correctness and consistency of translation of works**

In art reviews, names of works would be mentioned frequently therefore, revisers should check the correctness and consistency of the translation of works. The reviser should first conduct a search to see if there is an existing translation. If so, you can directly refer to it. If not, you need to check whether the translator's translation is appropriate and whether the upper and lower translations of the same work name are consistent. .

### **3.2 Checking the Realization of Translation Purpose**

Every text that needs to be translated has its translation purpose and target audience, even if it is the same text, if the translation purpose is different, the translation will be different. This is the core of the Skopostheorie of the German functional school-the goal criterion. Any translation behavior is determined by the purpose of translation (Nord, 2001:29), so the choice and choice of a certain segment vocabulary are deeply guided by the purpose of translation. In the process of revising, the reviser also specially considers whether the translation well conveys the original intention of the original translation. It is necessary for revisers to imagine themselves as the target readers of the text to understand whether they can understand it. This requires the reviser to understand the purpose of the art review text and the purpose of translation before revising.

### **3.3 Checking the Transmission of Chinese Culture**

Almost all art forms have expressed the influence of Chinese culture in some way. There are many expressions of Chinese culture in the art review texts. As a carrier of art and culture dissemination, it is very important for the Chinese culture contained in the commentary to be accurately and in place, but this step is relatively abstract and difficult to identify. First of all, it is difficult to dig out the cultural information contained in a sentence; secondly, it is another difficulty to convey the culture contained in it well. Regarding the first difficulty, the author believes that revisers need to improve their textual sensitivity and Chinese level since obviously, this work cannot be completed overnight. It requires the revisers to read more excellent articles and analyze them to increase their appreciation and evaluation ability. Regarding the second difficulty, the author believes that for translations involving unique Chinese cultural expressions, existing translations can be directly referenced. If there is no fixed translation yet, it is recommended to use the method of foreignization and annotation as much as possible to preserve Chinese culture and make readers understand. To some extent, this cultural treatment is in line with Venuti's theory of "resistive translation". He proposed to highlight the heterogeneity and unique cultural identity in the source text. In this way, this part of the translator will use a lot of annotations in the translation, which is the "translator's manifestation". It should be noted that although the foreignization strategy can enable readers of the target language to fully appreciate and appreciate the exotic flavors, and therefore promote cultural exchanges between different ethnic groups (Xiong Bing, 2013), we cannot blindly adopt foreignization to all cultural words. The method needs to be considered comprehensively according to the specific situation, because alienation sometimes affects the readability of the translation, making the translation blunt and unnatural, and then affecting the acceptance and spread of the translation.

#### 4. Conclusion

Revising, as the last step in the process of translation, plays an important role in quality control of the translation. In this paper, we have analyzed the textual characteristics of Chinese painting review from the aspects of content, language and style by combining with the basic principles and steps of translation revision and summarizes three features of revising art review texts, that is, to check the professionalism of professional vocabularies, the realization of translation purpose and the transmission of Chinese culture.

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