ORIGINAL REVIEW

The Application of Cohesion and Translation Strategy in the Holy Quran: Arabic and English in Contrast

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The present study focuses on cohesive devices in terms of frequency rate. In doing so, the surah of "Bacara" has been contrastively compared with its English rendering version. The Arabic text of the holy Quran was selected as a source text and the English translation as a target text. Cohesive devises were reference, ellipsis, conjunction, substitution, and lexical markers. The religious texts are sensitive, and that's why they were broadly identified along with their subcomponents both in the ST (source text) to the TT (target text), then counted and compared. The study employs descriptive qualitative methodology and describes the specific cohesion relations in every sentence, so the model of Halliday and Hassan's (1976) followed. In summary, the result obviously confirms that the comparison of the frequency of each component of cohesive devises between the original Arabic text and the English rendering has some differences and discrepancies in strategy and application by the translator.

Keywords: Translation, Cohesion, Cohesive Devices, Religious Text.

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Introduction

According to Halliday and Hasan's (1976) analysis, approximately fifty percent of cohesive ties are lexical, and according to Halliday (1991), there is a difference between registers, from closed and limited to comparatively free and open-ended.

Buitkiene (2005), on the relationship between cohesion and genre, mentioned that a great variety of texts and discourses are learned or acquired consciously, such as technical, legal, and medical discourse, or are simply picked up throughout people's lives. Moreover, the type and frequency of text-cohesive devices and their distribution must be used in describing the characteristics of different types of discourse. He intended to examine the distribution and frequency of cohesive devices and ties in literary texts, popular science texts, and newspaper articles.

He stated that text type and register ascertain the functioning of a special form of language to create different types of texts. Buitkiene added that there are three factors for the presence and frequency of cohesive devices in different text types that are of primary value: field, tenor, and mode. Contrastive research has revealed that cohesion varies with the modality of discourse, that is, spoken or written discourse (Thompson, 1994; Tanskanen, 2006); even cohesion varies with spoken and written genre (Taboada, 2004) and with registers (Mccarthy, 1991). Louwerse, Mcnamava and Graesser, 2004).

If a writer, as a text producer, intends that his or her text lay claim to a certain genre, he must provide an underlying pattern throughout the text. For example, the dominance of lexical cohesion in the genre of legal text is extremely obvious (Thompson, 1994; Tanskanen, 2006); even cohesion varies with spoken and written genre (Taboada, 2004) and with registers (Mccarthy, 1991). Louwerse, Mcnamava and Graesser, 2004) or conjunction in the genre of academic (Thmpson, 1994; Tanskanen, 2006); even cohesion varies with spoken and written genre (Taboada, 2004) and with registers (Mccarthy, 1991).

Literature Review

The investigation aims at comparing the English opinion articles and their Persian translations with regard to the use of marked and unmarked themes, and the research question is:

To what extent are opinion articles written by American columnists and their Persian translations different with regard to the marked and unmarked thematization patterns?

This study is devoted to characterize thematization patterns or theme/rheme organization in the sample of English newspapers and their translations into Persian.

Thematization Patterns

Ahmadi & Rezaie (2015) researched the textual cohesion in "Munajat Namih" by Khajih Abd-Ollah Ansari, the poet and mystic in the ninth and tenth centuries,

based on Halliday and Hasan (1985, 1976). Having selected 30 cases of Munajats from Munajat NHalliday and Hasan (1985, 1976). Having selected 30 cases of Munajats from Munajat Namih to discovercohesive devices, they have calculated the frequency of their functions and concluded that the most basic cohesive devices in them are personal pronouns. Repetition of the same word is ranked in the second place, and additives are ranked in a third place. Furthermore, collocation and verbal ellipsis are from among important cohesive devices in Munajat Namih Fatemi, Kafi and shahriarpour (2014) investigated cohesive devices and stated that, among Halliday & Hassan's models of cohesion, referencing principles, especially demonstrative ones, played a remarkable role in establishing meaning & texture in the newspaper.

Abdul Rahman (2013), in his research on the use of cohesive devices in descriptive writing, believes that "the misuse of cohesive devices is prominent in the writing of these Arabic L1 students. This phenomenon not only creates disorganized texts but also renders the content incomprehensible to the reader."

Baker (1992) maintains that references are semantic relations between a word and the entity in the real world that they refer to. Nevertheless, they have restricted their models to relationships, that exist between two linguistic elements. Models can be textual or semantic. She adds that languages have particular items that show the property of reference in the textual sense and these require the reader to look elsewhere for their interpretation and trace participations, events, entities, and so on, in the text. To establish chains of reference in languages, for instance, a name or title is first mentioned explicitly and then referred backward or forward by pronoun. By the same token, pronouns are the most common reference item in English and other languages.

She adds that (Thompson, 1994; Tanskanen, 2006) even cohesion varies with spoken and written genre (Taboada, 2004) and with registers (Mccarthy, 1991). Louwerse, Mcnamava and Graesser (2004) have investigated the pattern of reference in three genres of American English: fast-paced popular narratives, spontaneous conversation and written expository prose. Her studies resulted in the finding that there is a difference in the distribution of pronoun versus full name phrases from one discourse to another, and every language has a general preference for patterns of reference.

For example, Callow (1974) explains that some languages, like Hebrew, have a preference for using proper nouns rather than pronouns to trace participation.

In other languages, such as Brazilian Portuguese, we prefer to use more lexical repetition, but in Japanese and Chinese, omitting the subject of the following clauses is a sign of continuity of reference.

As for substitution and ellipsis, unlike reference, Baker believes that they are grammatical relationships rather than the semantic ones. In substitution, for her, "an item(s) is replaced by another item(s)". She gives some examples from Halliday and Hasan (1976):

You think Joan already knows? I think everybody does (*Does* replace knows).

My axe is too blunt. I must get a sharper one. (*One* replace axe).

I will have two poached eggs on toast, please.

I will have the same. (*The same* replaces two poached eggs on toast).

According to Baker, an ellipsis is the omission of an item that is replaced by nothing. These examples of ellipsis are from Halliday and Hasan (1976) too.

Joan brought some carnations, and Catherine some sweet peas.

(Omitted item: brought in the second clause).

Here are thirteen cards. Take any. Now give me any three.

(Omitted items are cards after any in the second clause and *cards* after any three in the third clauses).

Have you been swimming? Yes, I have. (The omitted item is: *been swimming* in the second sentence).

Mona Baker adds that there is no clear boundary between reference, ellipsis, and substitution.

She gives examples from Hoey (1991).

Does Agatha sing in the bath?

i. No, but I do.

ii. Yes, she does.

iii. Yes, she does it to annoy us, I think.

Mona Baker examines the original Arabic text and its English translation version and explains that in each language, the grammatical system specifies the use of certain devices in preference to others. The Arabic language, for example, tends to use a high level of lexical repetition with respect to its grammatical structure, and the English language, to avoid ambiguity, has to use pronouns more.

According to Baker (1992), "conjunction involves the use of formal markers to relate sentences, clauses, and paragraphs to each other." She classifies the conjunction into five headings:

a. additive: and, also, in addition

b. adversative : but, yet, however

c. causal: so, for, because

d. temporal: then, next, after that

e. continuatives : now, of course, well, any well

She also holds that, in addition to these conjunctions, punctuation systems are a type of conjunction that refers to relations and breaks between chunks of

information in a text. She further points out that three issues are important and must be mentioned. First, in each context, the same conjunction may indicate different relationships. Second, other means can also signal these relationships. Third, only conjunctive relations haven't signaled relationships between external phenomena.

Mona Baker investigates kinds of languages such as German, Arabic, Japanese, and Chinese in terms of conjunction and explains a particular feature of them in the use of these cohesive devices.

Design of study

Because this research is a case study and pilot one, the selected corpus consists of a Quran surah, namely, Al-Baqara (the Cow). The main focus was to analyze the disbursal notions of cohesion, including reference, conjunction, ellipsis, substitution, and lexical ones. In Arabic text as a source text and two target versions, that is, English, to make the analysis more intelligible and avoid confusion, the examination has been performed broadly along with their subcomponents.

The main procedures pursued in this research were as follows:

1) First, the original text was carefully analyzed in order to find cohesive devices.

2) Second, cohesive devices were detected in the target text, English.

3) Third, they were compared attentively.

4) Fourth, the detected devices and ties were traced and explained.

5) Finally, the percentages were described clearly in order to obtain a sound conclusion.

Material

The first and longest surah of the Holy Quran, namely, Al-Baqara (the Cow) and its English translation version by Marmaduke Pickthall (1930).

Discussion

The religious texts are sensitive; therefore, the conveying of cohesive devices in these texts is very important. Since any change in the meaning of cohesive devices leads to a shift in the function of the texts.

First, each tie of text was specified across the sentences, and then the number of cohesive devices was ascertained in terms of quantity. Types of cohesion ties were also assigned and arranged that are involved in terms of reference, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction, reiteration, and collocation.

These cohesive devices were identified and specified in the target texts. Finally, the frequency of each element and cohesive device was calculated and shown in the following table and charts (these are simply for the initial portion rather than the whole part).

	Arabic		English	
Type of cohesive devises	Presupposing item	Presupposed item	Presupposing item	Presupposed item
reference	ه(فیه)	الکتب	them	Who believe
conjunction	ل	للمتقین	and	And they…
reference	الذین	متقین	they	Who believe
reference	و	یومنون، یقیمون، ینفقون	and	And spend
conjunction	و	و الذین	then	Then …
reference	اولئک	الذین	Him	One who
reference	هم	الذین کفرو	He	Allah
reference	نا	الناس	I	Allah
reference	انا	الذین	They	Some who
conjunction	الا	الا انفسهم	But	But they perceive
repetition	الله	الله	believe	believe
repetition	علی	علی	light	light
repetition	الذین	الذین	believe	believe
collocation	قلوب، سمع، ابصار	قلوب، سمع، ابصار	Heart, eye	hear
collocation	تفسدوا	مصلحون	Deaf ,dumb	Deaf dumb
conjunction	ان	انهم هم المفسدون	But	But they
conjunction	ولکن	ولکن لایشعرون	when	When they...
conjunction	و اذا	و اذا قیل لهم	so	So that …
reference	کم	الذین	He	Allah
reference	نحن	شیاطین	me	Adam
repetition	السفها	السفها	Allah	Allah
collocation	ضلاله	هدی	disease	heart

After identifying and analyzing the cohesive devices, the following results were revealed:
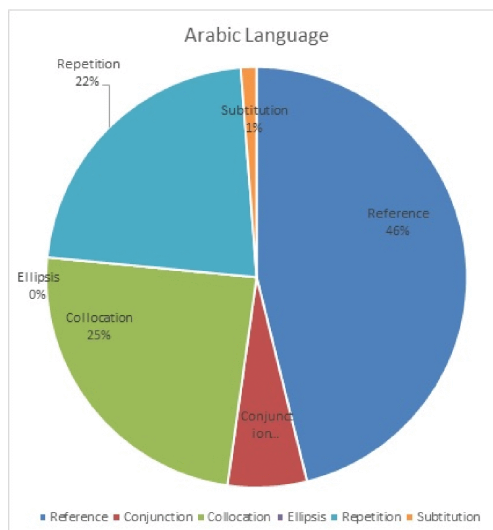

Figure1: Cohesive devices in Arabic text

As revealed in Figure 1, reference has the largest share of devices, with 46 percent. The second-largest section is for collocation, with 25 percent. The others are 22, 6, 1, and zero percent for repetition, conjunction, substitution, and ellipsis, respectively.
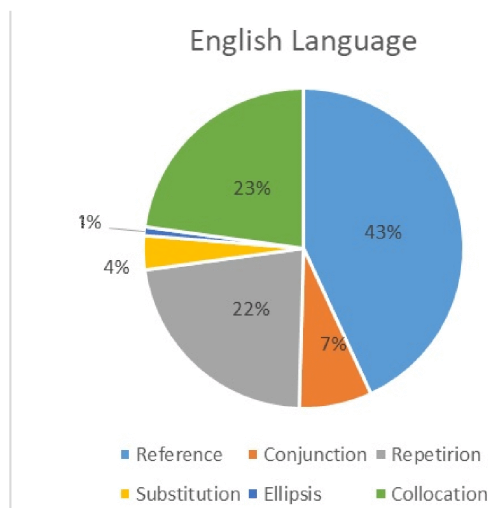

Figure 2: Cohesive devices in English text

The data analysis in Figure 2 for reference shows 43 percent and also shows 23 percent for collocation. As for repetition and conjunction, which have 22 percent and 7 percent, ellipsis and substitution have 4 percent and 1 percent, respectively.
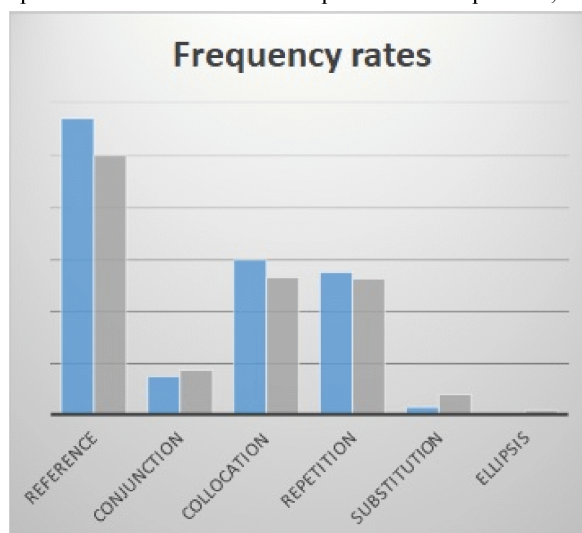

Figure 3: Frequency rates of cohesive devices

According to the data analysis, there is a slight deference between references when comparing both languages. Conjunction and repetition are also similar to each other in terms of percentage and don't show a significant difference. But there is little discrepancy between substitution and ellipsis.

Concluding remarks

The first main conclusion to be drawn from this study is that there are significant differences in the frequency of the use of *substitution ellipsis,* in text. The second main finding to emerge from this study is that there is no significant discrepancy in the frequency of *reference, conjunction, repetition, or collocation.* . Both languages make use of these elements in a rather identical percentage.

The established differences in the cohesive devices in the present paper suggest that there is no precise similarity or exact equivalence between Persian and English in terms of cohesive devices.

It is clear that these kinds of research can support and improve translation, language teaching, and learning in order to expand translation skills. In other words, this research and the like can suggest a set of guidelines and recommendations that, scientifically and logically, lead to the prevention of personal and nonscientific expressions of opinion and remarks on translation. By using these guidelines, translators can resolve the possible problems easily and obtain the more comprehensive outcomes.

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کاربرد انسجام و راهبرد ترجمه در قرآن کریم:
مقایسه عربی و انگلیسی

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مطالعه حاضر بر ابزارهای انسجامی از نظر فراوانی تمرکز دارد. در انجام این کار، سوره «بقره» با نسخهٔ انگلیسی آن مقایسه شده است. متن عربی قرآن کریم به عنوان متن منبع و ترجمه انگلیسی به عنوان متن هدف انتخاب شدند. ابزارهای انسجامی عبارت از ارجاع، حذف، ربط، جایگزینی، و همنشینی واژگانی است. بررسی متون دینی حساسیت زیادی می‌طلبد، و به همین دلیل است که به طور گسترده همراه با اجزای فرعی خود در متن منبع و متن هدف شناسایی شده، سپس شمارش و مقایسه انجام گردید. این مطالعه از روش کیفی توصیفی استفاده می‌کند و روابط انسجام خاصی را در هر جمله توصیف می‌کند، بنابراین از مدل هالیدی و حسن (۱۹۷۶) پیروی کرده و به طور خلاصه، نتیجه آشکارا تأیید می‌کند که مقایسه فراوانی هر یک از اجزای ابزارهای انسجامی بین متن اصلی عربی و ترجمه انگلیسی دارای تفاوت‌ها و اختلافاتی در راهبرد و کاربرد مترجم است.

واژه‌های کلیدی: ترجمه، انسجام، ابزارهای انسجامی، متن دینی.

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