第一科大應用外語學報第十四期 Journal of Applied Foreign Languages pp.51-79 Volume 14, December 2010 The Explicitation-specific Stylistic Differences: A Comparison of Fiction Translations by Males and by Females

明朗化之風格差異:男性與女性小說翻譯之比較

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摘要

本研究旨在以語料庫分析方法,探討男性與女性小說翻譯中明朗化之 風格差異。先前研究發現,在口語與書寫方面,女性的風格較男性更明朗 化。基於此發現,本研究假設女性譯者的翻譯風格同樣地會較男性譯者更 明朗化。

本研究已分析近七十萬字之英中小說平行語料庫,研究結果發現,女性 譯者較男性譯者使用更多外增的強意副詞,故其譯文中強意副詞明朗化程 度較高,此與原假設相符。此外,女性譯者較男性譯者添加較少連接詞, 故前者連接詞明朗化程度較後者低,此與原假設相左。最後,男女譯者之 詞彙密度並無顯著差異,亦與原假設相左。此研究顯示:性別並非決定譯 文明朗化的唯一因素,其他因素,如教育背景、職業及個人風格喜好等等, 亦需納入考量。

關鍵字:明朗化、語料庫翻譯研究、平行語料庫、小說翻譯、譯者風格、 性別差異

The Explicitation-specific Stylistic Differences: A Comparison of Fiction Translations by Males and by Females

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Abstract

This study aims at probing the explicitation-specific stylistic differences in fiction translations by males and by females through corpus-based analysis. As shown in previous studies in speaking and writing, females have demonstrated a more explicit style than males do. Seen in this regard, we hypothesize female translators similarly present a more explicit style than males do in fiction translation.

An English-Chinese parallel corpus of nearly 700,000 words is analyzed in this research. The findings show that female translators exhibit a higher degree of added-intensive-adverb-resulted explicitation than males do, which supports the above hypothesis. In addition, female translators reveal a lower degree of added-conjunction-resulted explicitation than males do, which opposes the above hypothesis. Finally, the lexical density between the translations by males and by females does not show a considerable difference, which contradicts with the above hypothesis. It is concluded that gender is not the only factor to govern the explicitation degree of translations. Other factors, such as educational backgrounds, professional experiences, and personal idiosyncratic preferences, are possible ones worth further consideration.

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Keywords: explicitation, Corpus-based Translation Studies, parallel corpus, fiction translation, translator's style, gender difference