



*The Translation of English Food Idioms into Arabic Through ChatGPT:
Problems and Solutions*

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ترجمة التعبيرات الغذائية الإنجليزية إلى اللغة العربية من خلال شات جي بي تي:
المشاكل والحلول

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Abstract

The present study sought to investigate the translation of English FIs (EFIs) into Arabic through ChatGPT (CGPT). The main objectives of the study are to examine the extent to which the EFIs are preserved in the Arabic translation Through CGPT and to determine whether the translation of EFIs into Arabic was applied to Newmark's theory of semantic or communicative translation. A qualitative, descriptive research approach was employed in both data collection and analysis. The data comprised 10 EFIs and their Arabic translations Through CGPT. The bilingual corpus was compiled according to certain criteria, in line with the objectives of the study. The data were analysed according to Newmark's theory of semantic and communicative translation. The novelty of this study was to focus on the translation of EFIs into Arabic. The findings of the study revealed that in general, EFIs display different meanings and loss of the intended meaning of the selected texts, due to the nature of the EFIs as well as Arabic. However, the study concluded that such difficulties could be overcome, in that a CGPT must determine the FIs of the target text. In this manner, the CGPT would be able to find an accurate equivalent in Arabic without adding or deleting unnecessary elements. Finally, knowing the bilingual corpus may assist CGPT in finding out any change in or loss of meaning of the EFIs or their equivalence during the process of translation.

keywords: Translation; English; Food Idioms; Arabic; CGPT; Problem; Solution

المستخلص

سعت الدراسة الحالية إلى التحقق من ترجمة المصطلحات الغذائية الإنجليزية إلى اللغة العربية من خلال شات جي بي تي . تتمثل الأهداف الرئيسية لهذه الدراسة في دراسة مدى الحفاظ على معنى التعبيرات الغذائية الإنجليزية في الترجمة العربية باستخدام شات جي بي تي وتحديد ما إذا كانت ترجمة التعبيرات الغذائية الإنجليزية إلى اللغة العربية قد تم طبقت نظرية نيومارك في الترجمة الدلالية أو التواصلية. تم استخدام منهج البحث الوصفي النوعي في كل من جمع البيانات وتحليلها. تتألف البيانات من ١٠ عينات من مصطلحات الغذاء الإنجليزية وترجماتها إلى العربية بواسطة شات جي بي تي. وقد جمعت النصوص من اللغتين وفق معايير معينة، بما يتماشى مع أهداف الدراسة. وقد تم تحليل البيانات وفقا لنظرية نيومارك في الترجمة الدلالية والتواصلية. وكانت اصالة في هذه الدراسة هو التركيز على ترجمة التعبيرات الغذائية الإنجليزية إلى اللغة العربية. كشفت نتائج الدراسة أن التعبيرات الغذائية الإنجليزية بشكل عام تحتوي على معاني مختلفة وفقدان المعنى المقصود للنصوص المختارة، وذلك بسبب طبيعة التعبيرات الغذائية الإنجليزية وكذلك اللغة العربية. ومع ذلك، خلصت الدراسة إلى أنه يمكن التغلب على هذه الصعوبات، حيث يجب أن يحدد شات جي بي تي المرادف للتعبيرات الغذائية الإنجليزية في النص المستهدف. وبهذه الطريقة، سيتمكن شات جي بي تي من العثور على معادل دقيق باللغة العربية دون إضافة أو حذف عناصر غير ضرورية. أخيرًا، قد تساعد معرفة النصوص المختارة في اللغتين شات جي بي تي في اكتشاف أي تغيير أو فقدان لمعنى المصطلحات الغذائية الإنجليزية أو ما يعادلها أثناء عملية الترجمة.

Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI) played an important fundamental role and had a major presence in the field of linguistics in general and the field of translation in particular through using of some tools that played a vital role in translation from one language to another and which gained great importance in the field of scientific research literature (Lund, 2023).

The translation process has become a daily practice that is widely used during the chat process with the new CGPT (Muhammad et al., 2023). CGPT In addition, chat software has contributed to the spread of AI significantly in 2023 (Sadasivan et al., 2023). While CGPT, the emergence of CGPT has made a significant impact in all areas of knowledge research, and researchers from various disciplines have begun to study its problems and how to overcome challenges, including translation problems (Jao et al., 2023). Some scholars consider linguistic chatbots such as CGPT to be an important tool in fast, automatic text translation and machine translation, which often produce inaccurate translations. On the other hand, many scholars believe that CGPT can be harmful.

Knowledge building, motivation, and creative translation. Many users may refrain from translating when CGPT can do the job faster. Translation tools and their uses may have meant, but they have nothing to do with human cognition and understanding of cognitive processes and how the brain works. In this sense, the future of learning as a whole, the translation profession, and ICS academic ethics are at a critical crossroads. Giving rise to what has recently been referred to as CGPT, a tool that can translate and analyze texts in this way puts creativity at risk. But on the other hand, it works to suppress creativity and diversity in writing and

translation (Mayne, 2023). Translation is primarily affected by CGPT, which inhibits the creativity of translators. CGPT has raised questions about the ethics of publishing and transcreation. The emergence of such technologies requires a redefinition of what it means to be an “educated” and “professional” translator who avoids many basic mistakes, which is necessary. From this standpoint, this study shed light on the problems and solutions of translating cultural texts by taking samples of food expressions and translating them from the source language, English, to the target language, Arabic, by setting its objectives to answer the questions of the current study.

This study focuses on translating EFIs into Arabic through CGPT because. The purposes are to examine the extent to which the EFIs are preserved in the Arabic translation Through CGPT and to determine whether the translation of EFIs into Arabic was applied Newmark’s theory of semantic or communicative translation.

The study aims to answer the following questions:

1. To which the extent of EFIs intended meaning is preserved in the Arabic translation Through CGPT.
2. What are the strategies used by translators in translating EFIs from English into Arabic according to Newmark’s semantic and communicative translation?

Significance of the Study

Food idioms (FIs) are an important part of cultural expressions that are used to express a certain idea, negatively or positively. Therefore, translating FIs is considered an arduous task for translators because it contains some different cultural challenges. If lost in translation or not translated accurately, FIs can cause a loss of meaning or misunderstanding. To avoid such complications, it is important to understand nutritional terminology in their own culture and then correctly transfer it to the target culture.

Statement of the Problem

Translating EFIs is considered a difficult task because idioms carry a meaning that cannot be guessed from the meaning of the words that compose them. In addition, the idioms contain food words that have a specific cultural meaning. A CGPT translator not only transfers a passage from one language to another but also needs to understand the cultural expression and convey the intended meaning into TT. In the case of translating food idioms, the difficulty depends on the fact that translators need to understand the connotation of the food idioms within the source language (SL) culture. Although, the translation of English food idioms by CGPT has not been studied yet, So, the present study will focus on the translation problems and its solution.

Literature Review

AI is rapidly spreading and affecting how languages are learned, taught, and translated AI applications have greatly impacted the work of translators through chat engines and translation assistance (Amin, 2021). CGPT (CGPT) is a new intelligent dialogue agent program developed by OpenAI, an AI research laboratory in the

United States. Based on integrating and training a large amount of data, CGPT can integrate comprehensive materials, form integrated perspectives, and engage in continuous dialogue with humans. These abilities make CGPT have broad educational application prospects. Previous studies have shown that CGPT can effectively enhance students' second language acquisition efficiency (Ali Bin Hady et al., 2023) and enhance their various language skills (Kohnke et al., 2023). Hu Jiasheng and Qi Yajuan (2023) pointed out that CGPT has upgraded from the initial stage of grammatical or syntactic processing of natural language texts to the advanced stage of logical, semantic, and emotional processing, from the operation of language form shells to the selection and judgment of language content and ideological essence.

It is a knowledge processing tool with huge computational power, preliminary ideological, and intelligent nature, and will have a comprehensive impact on foreign language education. Translation teaching is an important component of foreign language education. This article aims to explore the changes, challenges, and related coping strategies brought by CGPT to translation teaching, providing a reference for academic colleagues.

CGPT, which has recently gained popularity and has become a source of interest regarding translation accuracy, can help improve accuracy by providing more context and understanding of the language being translated. This can lead to more accurate translations that better capture the nuances of the original text. There have been a few studies on the use of CGPT in translation, including competency, problems, and evaluation. However, with only a few studies (Gao et al., 2023), there appears to be some optimistic evidence About the positive and accurate output of

CGPT translation. In addition, Arabi, (2023) evaluated the performance of different systems for translating Spanish into 11 native languages. Moreover, Peng et al. (2023) aim to enhance the translation ability of CGPT. The study also showed that CGPT may generate incorrect information for non-native English speakers. Furthermore, Gao et al. (2023) conducted experiments to find out how to improve machine translation Using CGPT.

However, it still needs to pay more attention to the AI translation community. These studies examined different language pairs beyond Arabic and English. There Need to explore the impact and user attitudes regarding the effectiveness of CGPT in Translation from Arabic to English. Khoshfa, (2023) evaluated the performance of CGPT by comparing their translations with professional translations, the results indicate that CGPT can act as a translator for simple content, but has difficulties with complex texts which means it requires human intervention. Therefore, users should be careful when hiring CGPT for such texts and ensure human intervention to ensure their accuracy. These results show that discussions about CGPT and research are ongoing the emerging findings are primarily exploratory. CGPT is gradually being recognized as a tool that facilitates academic work better and faster. However, even though it has impressive capabilities, there are recognized limitations.

Cultural Idioms

Food idioms are those expressions that are concerned with food. Idioms also resist grammatical modifications. The words of an idiom cannot be re-ordered or substituted nor can new words be inserted. Food idioms are considered one of the cultural idioms that have received great attention in linguistic studies because of their social importance. Although linguists agree on what the term stands for, its structure, and its meanings; they have different views on the difficulties imposed by cultural expressions in the process of translation from one language to another. On this basis, it was defined with several definitions, as Al-Qadi (2015) defined it as its meaning cannot be predicted from its specific meaning because it carries two meanings if that term carries a social, historical or political background or significance and it is not translatable. While Al- Alhaysony, (2017) described it as it can cause linguistic and cultural problems during the translation process, which may lead to losing the original intended meaning. Ali and Al-Rashidi (2016) stated that it is difficult to find a synonym in the target language that matches the idiom in the source language, whether in meaning or form.

Ajaaj, M. (2014) claims that an idiom is a string of words whose meaning is different from the meaning conveyed by the individual words. Belfaqih's (2009) point of view is that it is difficult to translate expressions because of not finding a synonym for a single dictionary without finding a synonym for a series of words that convey one specific meaning. Newmark (1988) pointed out that it is difficult to translate terms accurately because it is not easy to match the meaning of the term with its exact equivalent in the target language. Al-Dahesh (2013) believes that the semantic, syntactic, and practical complexity of source language expressions

is difficult to translate from one language to another. Al-Qadi (2015) defined terms as untranslatable, as their meaning cannot be predicted from their meaning, especially if that term carries a social, historical, or political background or connotation. According to Al-Haissouni (2017), idioms can cause linguistic and cultural problems, which may lead to loss of communication of the intended meaning. Ghazala (2007) classifies the translation of idioms from English into Arabic in terms of directness and indirectness. Direct idioms, translators might not face problems with direct idioms. They can find the equivalents in the target language that have an appropriate meaning or are like the ones in the source language.

In this regard, Baker (2011) stated that the ability to understand a language is considered the first challenge that the translator faces, during the translation process from the source language to the target language. Some expressions are easy to recognize while others are difficult to recognize. The second challenge involves facing the problems of communicating the different aspects of the meaning expressed by the term in the target language. Translators must know that they are dealing with a language. Translators must have the ability to accurately decode expressions. Baker (2018) added that there are some challenges in translating terms that have nothing to do with the nature of the terms. Rather, these problems are represented in the lack of equivalence of the source expression in the target language.

Finally, each culture has its unique idioms that distinguish it from other cultures. Such idioms create an obstacle in the process of translation since the translator is considered a mediator, not only between two different language systems but also between two

different cultures. Thus, we agree that languages have terms, but a term in one language does not necessarily agree with another term of the same meaning and form in another language. Therefore, idioms could be defined in terms of non-equivalence from one language to another and they should not be translated literally. However, it is more appropriate to find a rendering that can convey the same meaning and effect in the target language as in the source one.

Newmark's Strategies in Translating Idioms

According to Newmark (1988), the translator must ensure that his translation is understandable and natural, and written in everyday language with appropriate syntax, idioms, and vocabulary. Idioms, patterns, and registers are part of a person's natural language use. Newmark (1988) explains the difference between translating idiomatic expressions. Conventionally correct interpretation "reproduces the original message, but tends to misinterpret the accuracy of colloquial expressions and other expressions that are not included in the original text. There are two types of translation: semantic and communicative translation, according to Newmark (1988). Semantic translation is to capture the meaning of a word or phrase as accurately as possible considering the semantic and grammatical structures of the target language. The second form of translation, known as communicative translation, aims to create an impression of its audience that is close to the original audience.

Newmark's Translation Theory (Semantic and Communicative)

Peter Newmark is one of the most prominent translation theorists and a prominent figure in Britain throughout the ages. He has done a lot of research work in the field of translation theory and practice and had a clear point of view on many translation theories (Newmark, 1988). From Newmark's point of view, the purpose of the translation process is to translate the text and not leave it aside in the translation. Newmark divided texts into three main types: expressive text, informational text, and advocacy text (Newmark, 2001). He proposed two translation methods to solve the problems of translating different texts: semantic translation and communicative translation. On the other hand, he also pointed out that only semantic translation and communicative translation are capable of achieving accurate, economical, and smooth translation of various texts from the source language to the target language.

Characteristics of Semantic and Communicative Translation

The characteristics of semantic and communicative are presented in the table that follows for reference for the process of translation. These characteristics show the distinction between semantic and communicative translation.

Table 1: Characteristics of Semantic and Communicative Translation

Semantic Characteristics	The author is centered
	Source language biased
	The translator has no right to improve or to correct.
	Faithful, more literal.
	Semantic-and syntactic-oriented the TT
	Meaning
	Concerned with the author as an individual
	Semantic- and syntactic-oriented of the TT.
Communicative Characteristics	The translator has the right to correct and improve
	Adapts and makes the thought and cultural content of the original more accessible to the reader.
	Concerned with the reader as an individual
	Semantic- and syntactic-oriented of the ST.
	May be better than the original because of the gain in force and clarity
	Social
	Message
	a successful act

Method of the Study

The current study adopted a descriptive research, qualitative research approach. The size of the study data is 10 selected EFIs and their translations in Arabic. The data are the selected English texts that are translated into Arabic by using the CGPT translator. After collecting the data, the analysis was carried out on qualitative data. The qualitative analysis techniques, with the 'idioms' as the primary unit of analysis. prepared the data for analysis according to the model of the current study (Newmark's theory) to answer the research question.

Results

The study aims to examine the extent to which the EFIs are preserved in the Arabic translation Through CGPT and to determine whether the translation of EFIs into Arabic was applied Newmark's theory of semantic or communicative translation. A qualitative analysis was conducted to identify such translation strategies and see the extent the ST meaning of such idioms was conveyed.

The analysis presented that Newmark's theory of semantic or communicative translation strategies was used by the CGPT translator. It was also found that the ST meaning of the identified idioms was conveyed in some of the cases and lost in others. This study suggested a new translation of idioms in literary meaning as it is shown in the following table.

Table 2: Percentage of Semantic and Communicative Translation

Translation	Number	Percentage
Semantic	8	80 %
Communicative	2	20 %
Proposed	8	80 %

Table 2 shows the number and percentage of semantic and communicative translation strategies which are 8 out of 10 represented 90% semantic translation and 2 out of 10 represented 20% communicative translation. In addition, the present study proposed 8 new translations which represented 80% of perceived the intended meaning of ST in TT during the translation process from English into Arabic.

Discussion

This section provides a detailed qualitative analysis of the selected data. It discusses the strategies used by CGPT in converting ten EFIs into Arabic. CGPT translations are classified into semantic (Sem. Tran.) and communicative (Com. Tran.) translations.

After identifying the problems that translators face with literal translation, which led to a change in meaning, a new translation in the Arabic language was proposed to solve the problem that faced the translator to preserve the intended meaning in the Arabic language in the form of a term or expression that achieves an acceptable translation to the recipient in the language, as shown in the following table:

Table 3: Data Analysis of Semantic (Sem.) and Communicative Translation (Tran.)

ST:1. Don't be such a couch potato and do some work for once!	
TT	" لا تكن كالبطاطسة على الكنبه وقم بعمل شيء مرة واحدة "
Sem. Tran.	+
Com. Tran.	
Proposed Tran.	"لا تكن كسول جداً"
ST: 2. All Sizzle And No Steak	
TT	"كلام كثير وفعل قليل"
Sem. Tran.	
Com. Tran.	+
Proposed Tran.	
ST: 3. "Has egg on his face"	
TT	"لديه بيضة على وجهه"
Sem. Tran.	+
Com. Tran.	
Proposed Tran.	انه في موقف محرج
ST: 4. "cheap as chips"	
TT	"رخيص كالبطاطس"
Sem. Tran.	+
Com. Tran.	
Proposed Tran.	برخص التراب
ST: 5. "Hit the Spot"	
TT	"ضرب الحاجة"
Sem. Tran.	+
Com. Tran.	
Proposed Tran.	يلبي الطلب
ST: 6. "You can't make an omelet without breaking some eggs"	
TT	"لا يمكنك صنع البيض المقلي دون كسر البيض"
Sem. Tran.	+
Com. Tran.	
Proposed Tran.	لا يمكنك تحقيق النجاح بدون تضحيات
ST: 7. "rotten to the core"	
TT	"فاسد حتى النخاع"
Sem. Tran.	
Com. Tran.	+

Proposed Tran.	
ST:٨. Wake Up and Smell the Coffee	
TT	"استيقظ وشم رائحة القهوة"
Sem. Tran.	+
Com. Tran.	
Proposed Tran.	فتح عينوك جيدا
ST:٩. "My wife made me a delicious omelette from scratch"	
TT	"قامت زوجتي بتحضير بيضة مقالية لذيذة من الصفر"
Sem. Tran.	+
Com. Tran.	
Proposed Tran.	العدم ساندتني زوجتي لاصبح ناجحا من
ST:1٠ " Our boss uses a carrot-and-stick approach to motivate us. "	
TT	" يستخدم رئيسنا نهج الجزرة والعصا لتحفيزنا "
Sem. Tran.	+
Com. Tran.	
Proposed Tran.	يستخدم رئيسنا أسلوب الثواب والعقاب

Generally, there are some commonly used online translation tools, such as CGPT which hope to achieve an accurate translation for many languages. However, currently, CGPT assets to do as a good translator. Idiomatic expressions are considered another challenge for CGPT. Based on the assessment of the current study in the above table, the results indicate the translations by CGPT carry the same meaning to some extent, hence, rendering the English food idiom no. 7 "rotten to the core" into the Arabic idiom " فاسد حتى النخاع " which conveyed the intended meaning in the TT.

The idiom meaning is used to describe someone bad, corrupt, or immoral in both texts. Also, in example 5, the English food idiom "all sizzle and no steak" has been translated into "كلام كثير وفعل قليل" in Arabic which is perceived as the intended meaning of the ST into TT which is used in both languages to describe someone who appears much talk and little action. According to Newmark's theory, the CGPT applied a communicative translation strategy in

translating both examples 2 and 7. Whereas, CGPT carried the different meanings of 8 examples which are 1,3,4,5,6,8,9,10 that stated Idiomatic expressions are considered as a challenge for CGPT. In example 1, the English food idiom " Don't be such a couch potato and do some work for once! "has translated into " لا " " تكن كالبطاطسة على الكنبه وقم بعمل شيء مرة واحدة " It rendered the English food idiom as if it were non-idiomatic which makes translation impeccable and precise. This idiom is used in both languages to urge someone to be more active not as " a couch potato ". CGPT rendered the 3 example "has egg on his face" into " لديه بيضة على وجهه " quite literally in Arabic which means someone having egg on his face, while, this idiom indicates embarrassment or humiliation in the ST.

So, the proposed translation is " انه في موقف محرج ". In example 4, the idiom "cheap as chips" translated into " رخيص كالبطاطس ", while, the expression indicates the low price which carries a similar meaning in Arabic. Therefore, the proposed translation is " برخص " " التراب". In example 5, The CGPT rendered the idiom "hit the spot" into " ضرب الحاجة " in TT, however, it is stated that satisfies a desire perfectly. Thus, it could be translated into " يلبي الحاجة " in the TT. In example 6, The idiom "You can't make an omelet without breaking some eggs" has connived into " لا يمكنك صنع البيض المقلي " "دون كسر البيض" in Arabic, this expression highlights the success may require sacrifice along the way. So, the suggested translation is " لا يمكنك تحقيق النجاح " "لا يمكنك تحقيق شيء بدون تضحيات". In example 8, The idiom "Wake up and smell the coffee" is rendered literally into " استيقظ وشم رائحة القهوة " in the TT, nonetheless, it urges someone to recognize the situation truth.

So, the proposed rendering is "فتح عيونك جيدا". In example 9, CGPT translates "My wife prepared me a delicious omelette from scratch" into "قامت زوجتي بتحضير بيضة مقليّة لذيذة من الصفر" in the TT. While its idea is to support someone to be succeeded from nothing. So, the proposed translation is "العدم ساندتني زوجتي لأصبح ناجحا من". In example 10, the idiom "Our boss uses a carrot-and-stick approach to motivate us" conveyed through CGPT into "يستخدم" "رئيسنا نهج الجزرة والعصا لتحفيزنا". This idiom indicates the boss's style, that involves offering rewards and punishments. So, the proposed translation is "يستخدم رئيسنا أسلوب الثواب والعقاب". According to Newmark's theory, the CGPT applied a semantic translation strategy in translating examples, and 1,3,4,5,6,8,9,10 literally that it indicated the FIs are considered as a problem and challenge for CGPT during the translation process from English into Arabic.

As a result, the CGPT can provide accurate translations for some idioms as shown in the two examples (2,7), however, the CGPT cannot provide accurate translations for some FIs as shown in the eight examples (1,3,4,5,6,8,9,10). Finally, the findings of this study prove that translating cultural texts related to food expressions from English to Arabic using CGPT. It remains challenging and sometimes difficult to achieve a satisfactory and accurate translation due to cultural differences. Therefore, a CGPT compiler must be developed to solve the problem highlighted in this study.

Conclusion

Through analyzing the selected data to achieve the research objectives and answer its questions, this study concluded that the differences in FIs and how they are understood may differ from one culture to another. This is what happened in this study: translation from Arabic to English is sometimes difficult due to cultural differences. The reason is that idioms have an intended meaning that differs from the literal meaning of their words, and the CGPT translator may not understand the cultural significance of some phrases or terms well because he lacks the necessary cultural background that enable him to use these expressions acceptably. In addition to his inability to think and analysis, which made him incorrectly conveyed the meaning of some idioms by changing the meaning of the original text in the target language.

It also translated some conventional idioms into non-terminological texts in an inaccurate manner. In other words, he may translate these expressions literally, which leads to a change in the intended meaning, which leads to the translation not being accepted. The problem is exacerbated when dealing with limited cultural terms such as FIs that people around the world use to describe certain cultural characteristics, which may be positive or negative. If such problems exist, this indicates that CGPT translation of texts, especially cultural texts in general and FIs in particular, needs more attention to achieve a satisfactory translation for CGPT users.

On the other hand, it must be mentioned, that the CGPT translator translated some selected FIs accurately and satisfactorily and applied the theory required in this study, which indicates that the task is not impossible, and this reflects the importance of CGPT's

translation for users around the world daily. It is found that a semantic and communicative translation strategy of FIs is very effective and persuasive with a positive impact on the collecting and analysing data as well as the qualitative descriptive method is very reliable in rendering meaning as well as message during the translation process via CGPT translator.

In addition, the importance of the current study of FIs also is in shedding light on feeding the CGPT program with all the required, Arabic and English food terms and developing a way to deal with them through the translation process using the CGPT translator to achieve an accurate translation that meets the ambitions and goals of the users.

About the Author

Muhammed Ibrahim Hamood is currently a member of staff at the Department of Translation/ College of Arts/ University of Mosul in Iraq. He obtained his PhD in translation and linguistics from UPM, Malaysia. He also obtained his MA in Translation from the University of Mosul, Iraq. In addition, he completed his degree in translation from the University of Mosul. Iraq.

Conflict of Interest:

The author has declared no potential conflicts of interest about the article, authorship, and publication of this study.

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