

EXPLICITNESS OF COHESIVE DEVICES IN TWO VIETNAMESE TRANSLATIONS OF AN ENGLISH NOVEL

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Abstract: This preliminary qualitative research aims to examine the changes in the level of explicitness of cohesive elements during the translation process. It does so by comparing an excerpt from Jane Austen's English novel "Pride and Prejudice" (1993) with its two Vietnamese translations by Diep Minh Tam (2002) and Lam Quynh Anh and Thien Nga (2017). The study focuses on how these translations handle cohesive elements based on Halliday and Hassan's cohesion taxonomy (1976). It also considers the tendency for explicitation, as suggested by Blum-Kulka's hypothesis (1986) and Gumul's framework (2017). The analysis involves identifying these cohesive devices in the source text and comparing them with their counterparts in the target texts to detect translational shifts towards greater explicitness. Additionally, the study examines how the two Vietnamese translations differ from each other in handling these elements. The findings of this descriptive study reveal that both Vietnamese translations employ explicitation techniques, including reiteration, the transformation of pro-forms into lexical cohesion, and the restoration of substitution and clausal ellipses used in the original text. The analysis also reflects different translation decisions in transferring the same source language content into the target language between the two translators, which manifests in the usage of explicitation shifts in the target language texts under study.

Keywords: cohesive devices, translational shifts, explicitation

1. Introduction

Newmark (1988, p. 5) defines translation as the act of "rendering the meaning of a text into another language in a manner consistent with the author's original intention." He also differentiates between semantic and communicative translation. In his words, semantic translation focuses on capturing the exact contextual meaning of the original within the cultural and linguistic confines of the target language. Communicative translation, however, aims to produce a translation that reads fluently and is easily understandable by the target audience, even if it means making certain changes to the text to adapt to the cultural and linguistic norms of the target language.

Also stated by Newmark (1987, p.295), cohesion has consistently been identified as the most valuable element in the realm of discourse analysis and text linguistics when it comes to its application in translation. A central priority for translators is the creation of coherent renditions in the target language that mirror the source language texts. For a translation to effectively communicate, it should adhere to the cohesive devices of the target language rather than those of the source language. This is because languages differ significantly in how they connect words and sentences, and cohesive devices and their governing rules are intrinsically

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ted to the nature of each language.

Numerous scholars have explored the notion that various languages possess distinctive arrangements of cohesive elements and techniques for establishing coherence (Hasan, 1984). The inherent variations in cohesion have been examined by Blum-Kulka (1986), who argues that translation inevitably results in modifications to both the textual and discursive relationships (p. 18). Similarly, Schäffner (2002) acknowledges the unavoidable occurrence of shifts in the translation of cohesive elements, while Larson (1984) suggests that a one-to-one translation of these elements would likely distort the intended meaning of the source text. Therefore, it is essential to recognize cohesive elements for what they are and manage them appropriately during translation. Regarding narrative texts, van Leuven-Zwart (1990) maintains that adjustments to formal connections in translation can impact the narrative function of the text.

Studies have delved into the comparative aspects of cohesive elements within specific language pairs, for instance, Kirk (2005) investigates changes in cohesion and bonding patterns in translations from English to Korean, Wu (2014) examines shifts in cohesive elements when translating English texts into Chinese. As with any type of discourse, the communicative value of translated texts is enhanced by their cohesive texture. The coherent flow of the written discourse as a unitary whole depends to an important extent on the effective use of cohesive devices.

Many studies have investigated the use of cohesive devices in comparative analysis of English and Vietnamese; however, all of them tended to focus on recognizing and comparing the frequency of cohesive devices in selected texts. There have been few studies investigating the translational shifts of cohesive devices from the English source text into Vietnamese translated texts or vice versa. Therefore, this research was done with the purpose of examining cohesive devices in a new light, which is to test the explicitation hypothesis.

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen was selected as the research corpus for a variety of reasons. Firstly, it is considered a timeless narrative, despite its age, due to its ability to resonate with readers across different eras. The narrative style allows readers to experience the events much like the characters, without complex storytelling techniques, which enhances the story's relatability. Additionally, the novel explores numerous themes such as love, reputation, class, family, inclusion, and gender. These themes are intricately woven into the unfolding story, with events and character interactions providing a rich source of linguistic features for examination and discussion.

The primary research query in this study is: "How do translational shifts towards explicitness manifest when cohesive devices are rendered from an excerpt of 'Pride and Prejudice' into the two Vietnamese translations?"

In the upcoming sections, we will explore the theoretical foundation of this research, elucidating the methodology employed, and presenting the findings derived from the data corpus.

2. Theoretical Background

In the realm of language and translation studies, the intricacies of creating coherence in written texts and the strategies employed to achieve this coherence are of paramount importance. This research paper is intended to provide an insight into these issues; therefore, discussion of the linguistic tools that bind elements within a text – cohesive devices – will be

brought to the fore, which is followed by presentation of explicitation hypothesis and translational shifts manifesting explicitness in the target language text.

2.1. Cohesion

Discourse analysis and textual linguistics are the disciplines chiefly dealing with cohesion. Cohesion is also a paramount concern in the field of translation as it involves not merely the conversion of individual sentences but also the intricate interplay among them.

Halliday and Hassan (1976) introduce a comprehensive framework of cohesion which has become influential in the analysis of cohesive devices. Their approach takes into account both the linguistic features (grammatical and lexical) and the discourse-level functions of cohesive devices, allowing for a thorough examination of how these elements contribute to the text's overall coherence. Furthermore, this framework is recognized to be language-independent, meaning it can be applied to different languages, making it versatile for the analysis of cohesive devices in a wide range of linguistic contexts. Halliday and Hassan's taxonomy of cohesion, therefore, has been applied in numerous studies and research projects, enhancing its credibility and reliability as a theoretical framework.

Their taxonomy posits the existence of both grammatical and lexical cohesive devices. The former encompasses reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunction, while the latter includes reiteration and collocation.

Reference involves the use of pronouns, articles, or adverbs to refer backward or forward to an entity mentioned within the linguistic or situational context. This form of reference can be categorized into three types: personal (e.g., I, you, he), comparative (e.g., such, similarly), and demonstrative (e.g., this, there).

Substitution, on the other hand, denotes the replacement of one linguistic item with another, emphasizing a relationship within the language itself rather than altering the meaning. It encompasses nominal substitution (using "one," "ones," "same"), verbal substitution (utilizing auxiliary verbs like "do" or "did"), and clausal substitution (employing words such as "so" or "not").

Ellipsis is the concept of omitting certain parts of a sentence with the assumption that a preceding sentence will clarify the intended meaning. It manifests in nominal, verbal, and clausal forms.

Conjunctions, in contrast, are words or phrases that signify systematic connections between what follows and what precedes in a text, indicating logical semantic relationships among phrases, clauses, and sentences. Four primary types of conjunctions include additive (e.g., "and," "also"), adversative (e.g., "but," "however"), causal (e.g., "so," "because of this"), and temporal (e.g., "then," "next").

Lexical cohesion is established through the structural relationships among vocabulary items. It encompasses reiteration, which involves the repetition of lexical items or the use of synonyms within a given context. While collocation is a crucial aspect of lexical cohesion, it is often underrepresented in studies due to its complexity, and therefore, we will solely focus on reiteration in this study.

Now that we have examined categories of cohesive devices, which are beneficial for the understanding and analysis of textual coherence. In the context of our research question, which investigates the manifestation of translational shifts towards explicitness, it is imperative to delve deeper into the discussion of explicitation shifts to establish the theoretical background

for the study.

2.2. *Explicitation in Translation*

Explicitation in translation refers to the deliberate or unintentional inclination of translators to make their translations more explicit than the source texts. The basic assumption for the analysis of explicitation is that the element explicited in the target text has to be present implicitly in a linguistically traceable way in the source text. Considerable evidence supports the presence of voluntary explicitation in literature. This concept finds its roots in the influential work "Stilistique Comparée du Français et de L'anglais" by Vinay and Darbelnet (1958). They defined explicitation as a "stylistic translation technique" involving the clarification in the target language of what remains implicit in the source language due to its clear context or situation.

After Vanderauwera (1985) presented numerous examples of explicating shifts in English translations of Dutch novels, Séguinot (1988, p.108) made one of the earliest attempts to categorize explicitation, aiming to differentiate its various forms. He categorized explicitation based on surface manifestations, identifying three ways in which it becomes evident: firstly, something is expressed in the translation that was absent in the original; secondly, something implied or inferred through presupposition in the source text is explicitly stated in the translation; and thirdly, an element in the source text is accentuated in the translation through focus, emphasis, or lexical choice.

Blum-Kulka (1986: 19-21), on the other hand, associates explicitation with an increase in explicitness in a target text through adjustments in cohesion and coherence at the discourse level. In simpler terms, explicating shifts occur when the translator expands the target text by adding extra words or incorporating explicit cohesion markers. She introduces the "explicitation hypothesis," suggesting that the process of interpreting the source text may lead to a target language text that is more redundant than the source text. This redundancy is conveyed through heightened cohesive explicitness in the target language text.

Klaudy (1993/1998), a prominent linguist in the field of translation studies, has provided a well-regarded typology of explicitation, which is widely referenced in translation research. According to Klaudy, explicitation occurs when several transformations take place during the translation process. He identifies five forms of modification as follows: (1) *General-to-Specific Transformation*: This occurs when a unit in the source language with a broader or more general meaning is replaced by a unit in the target language with a narrower or more specific meaning; (2) *Complex-to-Simple Transformation*: In this case, the complex meaning of a word in the source language is distributed across multiple words in the target language; (3) *Addition of New Elements*: New meaningful elements are introduced in the target language text that were not present in the source text; (4) *Splitting Sentences*: A single sentence in the source language is divided into two or more sentences in the target language; (5) *Extension or Elevation*: Source language phrases are extended or elevated into clauses in the target language, among other transformations.

Klaudy (1998) further categorizes explicitation into four types (1) *Obligatory Explicitation*: This type is driven by inherent differences in the syntactic and semantic structures of languages. Translators are compelled to make explicit what is implicit in the source text due to these structural disparities; (2) *Optional Explicitation*: Here, the decision to make certain elements explicit in the translation is based on differences in text-building strategies and stylistic preferences between languages. Translators have the choice to decide whether to use explicitation; (3) *Pragmatic Explicitation*: This is often linked to cultural differences, pragmatic

explicitation occurs when there is a lack of common knowledge in the target-language cultural community that is assumed in the source-language culture; (4) *Translation-Inherent Explicitation*: This type is attributed to the inherent nature of the translation process itself. It suggests that explicitation is a natural outcome of the translation process, possibly stemming from the need to convey a clear message in the target language.

Klaudy's typology presents a comprehensive structure for grasping the diverse aspects and reasons for explicitation in translation. However, this research aligns with Gumul's (2017) explicitation taxonomy in translation, which builds upon the work of previous scholars like Blum-Kulka (1986) and Séguinot (1988), provides a thorough framework for identifying various surface manifestations of explicitation. This classification encompasses a wide range of linguistic features and strategies employed by translators to make the target text more explicit compared to the source text. Here is a summary of the key indicators of explicitation in Gumul's taxonomy (2017):

Adding connectives: Introducing words or phrases that enhance the logical and semantic connections between sentences and paragraphs.

Intensifying cohesive ties: Strengthening the links between cohesive devices or making categorical shifts in cohesive elements.

Lexicalizations of pro-forms: Shifting from referential cohesion to lexical cohesion by using specific words instead of pronouns.

Reiteration: Repeating words or phrases to emphasize or clarify meaning.

Filling out elliptical constructions: Completing sentences or clauses that were initially elliptical or incomplete.

Reconstructing substitution: Restoring substitution elements that may have been omitted or simplified in the source text.

Inserting optional "That": Adding the word "that" where it might not have been explicitly present in the source text.

Adding modifiers and qualifiers: Including adjectives or adverbs to provide additional information and context.

Inserting hedges: Adding cautious language or qualifiers to mitigate the strength of statements.

Inserting discourse organizing items: Introducing items like conjunctions or transition words to improve the flow and coherence of the text.

Adding proper names: Substituting generic names with specific names or providing full names instead of pseudonyms or nicknames.

Full expression for acronyms or abbreviations: Providing the complete expansion or explanation for acronyms or abbreviations.

Including additional explanatory remarks: Adding explanatory comments or descriptions to clarify concepts.

Adding examples: Inserting illustrative examples to enhance understanding.

Replacing nominalizations with verb phrases: Transforming nominalizations (noun forms) into verb phrases to make the text more action-oriented.

Disambiguating lexical metaphors: Clarifying the meaning of lexical metaphors or replacing them with similes.

Lexical specification: Substituting words with more specific meanings to convey precise nuances.

Meaning specification: Articulating ideas that were implicit or inferable from the context.

Distributing meaning: Spreading the meaning of a source text unit across several units in the target text for clarity.

Punctuation modification: Adding, changing, or adjusting punctuation marks to aid comprehension and organization.

Gumul's taxonomy (2017) is a relatively recent development in the field of translation studies which is specifically designed to detail translation strategies with the research objective of understanding how translators make text more explicit during the translation process. This allows other researchers to systematically analyze and classify the various ways in which translators make implicit information more explicit in the target text. The results of such studies will shed light on the rendition of higher-quality target texts as well as understanding of linguistic and cultural nuances.

2.3. Previous Studies

There has been a growing interest in empirical research into explicitation since the day it was recognized. Besides the aforementioned scholars such as Vinay and Darbelnet (1958), Vanderauwera (1985), Séguinot (1988), Blum-Kulka (1986), and Klaudy (1998), Shlesinger (1995) noted the presence of cohesion shifts characterized by the substitution of elements such as ellipsis with the repetition of specific lexical items or their synonyms in a bi-lateral corpus of English to Hebrew language. Shlesinger further suggests that this discovery can serve as the basis for an explicitation hypothesis, which can be applied to written translations as well (Shlesinger, 1995, p. 210). Meanwhile, Puurtinen (2004) looks for linguistic indicators of explicitation at the level of lexis. At the level of syntax, indicators include the distribution in translated and non-translated texts of devices explicitating optional choices (Olohan and Baker, 2000; Jiménez-Crespo, 2011). The level of discourse embraces explicitating shifts in lexical cohesion in translated texts as compared to their sources (Øverås, 1998), conjunctive explicitness (Pápai, 2004) and explicative reformulation (Xiao, 2011).

Few studies have been carried out to investigate explicitation in translation shifts in the rendition of cohesive devices on the English-Vietnamese corpus. However, there have been efforts to investigate nominalisations in the English-Vietnamese corpus with a view to shed light on translation explicitation.

Le (2014) conducted research into the translation of nominalizations in official or legal language. Notably, this study identified explicitation as a prominent strategy employed by translators, particularly when dealing with nominals ending in -ation and -ment. The research further categorized explicitation into three levels: lexical, syntactic, and stylistic. It revealed that lexical explicitation, often involving the restoration of elliptical units from the source text, was the most frequently employed level. Le and Nguyen (2018) expanded upon Le's work, using a similar analytical framework to explore the translation of nominalizations across different genres. Their study reaffirmed the significance of lexical explicitation as a translation strategy, showcasing its prevalence in various text types. This consistency underscores the importance of lexical explicitation in addressing the challenges posed by nominalizations in translation. Nguyen and Truong (2022) delved deeper into explicitating shifts in the translation of English nominals with specific suffixes (-tion and -er) into Vietnamese. Employing

quantitative corpus analysis, this study identified seven distinct types of explicating shifts and outlined their typical characteristics. By doing so, the research not only confirmed the existence of explicitation in translating nominalizations from English into Vietnamese but also provided a nuanced understanding of the strategies employed.

In summary, these studies collectively highlight the role of explicitation as a vital translation strategy in the English-Vietnamese context, particularly when dealing with complex linguistic structures like nominalizations. They contribute valuable insights that can inform both translation practitioners and researchers in this field. However, the unresearched gap regarding explicitation in the translation of cohesive devices, which is of paramount importance for the coherence of a text, has necessitated this research paper.

3. Methodology

3.1. Research Design

To achieve the objective of this research paper, a combination of qualitative corpus analysis and quantitative data processing was employed. This methodological approach allowed for a comprehensive examination of cohesive devices based on Halliday & Hassan's cohesion taxonomy (1976). The study utilized a parallel corpus, focusing on the first two chapters of Jane Austen's literary novel "Pride and Prejudice" (1993) and its two Vietnamese translations, one by Diep Minh Tam (2002) published by the Publishing House of Literature (TL text 1), and the other by Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga (2017) published by Nha Nam Publishing House (TL text 2).

The source text, comprising 1,652 words, serves as the foundation for the analysis. These initial chapters introduce the story's background and feature conversations between Mr. and Mrs. Bennett, centered around the common familial theme of socializing and arranging marriages for their daughters. This preliminary study not only facilitates a thorough understanding of the translation shifts for cohesive devices from English to Vietnamese texts but also contributes to investigation into the reproduction of textual features in source language text to the target language texts in translation studies.

3.2. Data Processing and Analysis

The research methodology employed a multi-step process. Initially, the resource for the study was keyed into the computer for data collection. This includes both the source language text and the two translated versions under study. Then, Microsoft Word program with its search power and Microsoft excel package were utilized in the process of calculating the frequency and categories of the phenomena discussed. The researcher had to scrutinize the appearance of cohesive devices retrieved from the source text data in order to certify the reliability of the data collected for further analysis and discussion.

Triangulation was resorted to with a view to warrant the validation of the data analysis. In other words, two colleagues of the researcher's, who specialized in linguistics, were consulted during the corpus-building process. These colleagues acknowledged the existence and categories of the cohesive devices identified from the source language text. This ensures that the researcher had recognized the appropriate phenomena before implementing further investigation.

Subsequently, the cohesive devices in the two Vietnamese translations were identified and compared with their counterparts in the source language text. This comparative analysis

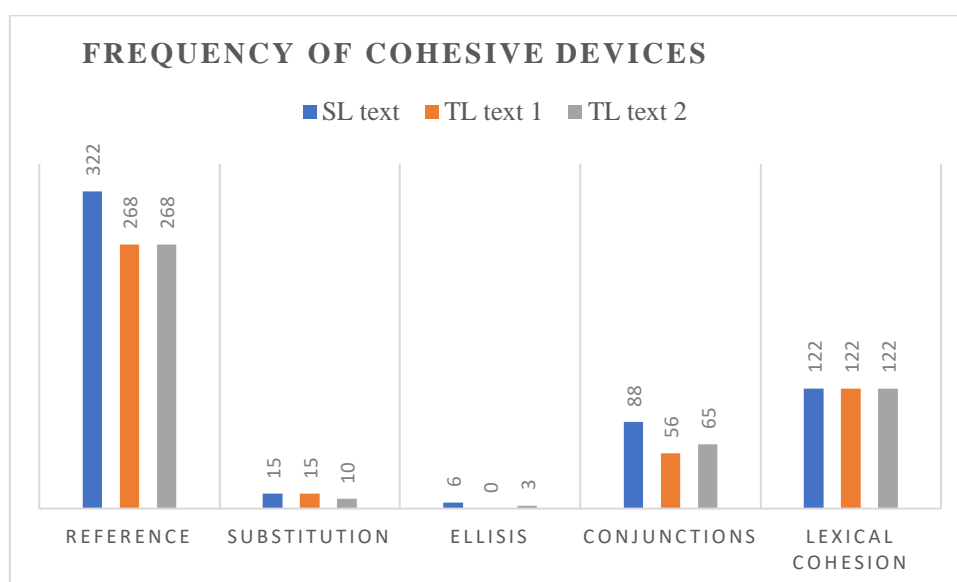
aimed to recognize the translational shifts that transpired during the rendition of textual features from English to Vietnamese, with specific attention to the distinctive forms these shifts took. These forms can be related to the addition or omission of information in the translated texts.

In the final phase of the analysis, the taxonomy of explicitation surface manifestations proposed by Gumul (2017) was utilized. This taxonomy encompasses a broad spectrum of explicating shifts, but the researcher primarily focused on identifying common shifts in explicitness pertaining to the translation of cohesive devices. This approach allowed for an in-depth exploration of these phenomena within the interpretative process, shedding light on the nuances of translation shifts related to cohesion.

4. Findings and Discussion

Table 1

Frequency of Cohesive Devices in the Corpus Studied



In terms of the distribution pattern of cohesion, reference emerges as the most prominent cohesive device in the source language (SL) text, featuring a total of 322 referents that encompass definite article, personal pronouns, demonstratives, comparative ties. Among these types of reference, personal pronouns account for the largest proportion, followed by lexical cohesion with 122 occurrences. This is understandable for a narrative genre of this text. Reference is also observed to maintain its dominance in the two translated versions, yet demonstrate explicating shifts, which will be discussed in the next section. However, the difference in the frequency of reference between the SL text and TL texts can be understood to have resulted from the change in information structure (by means of punctuation modification), with the non-existence of definite article and the omission of reference in some cases in the target language texts. Lexical cohesion, mostly represented by reiteration, remains consistent in the data corpus.

There is not much difference in other cohesive devices between the SL text and the two TL texts when it comes to lexical cohesion and substitution as the frequency of these elements seem to be stable (122 occurrences and 10 to 15 manifestations, respectively); however, closer investigation into their presence revealed explicating shifts as there is lexical specification,

restoration of substitution elements that have been omitted or simplified in the source text. Ellipsis, present in the SL text, is observed to have been restored to its full form in both translated texts.

5. Explication Shifts in the Translation of Cohesive Devices

5.1. Reiteration

Reiteration is prominent lexical cohesion in the translated texts. As shown in the frequency of cohesive devices, lexical cohesion seems to be transferred intact to the TL texts. However, explicating shifts are observed when punctuation marks are added to aid comprehension (Gumul, 2017), thus creating new sentences with the repetition of the same subject as shown in the example below.

e.g. ... *that he came down on Monday in a chaise and four to see the place, and was so much delighted with it, that he agreed with Mr. Morris immediately.*

Ngày thứ hai tuần rồi anh đi đến trên một xe tứ mã cỡ trung để xem qua trước. Anh thích chỗ này lắm nên đồng ý ngay với ông Morris. (Diep Minh Tam, 2002, p. 21)

Hôm thứ hai vừa rồi cậu ta đi một cỗ xe độc mã xuống đây để xem ngôi nhà, tỏ ra thích nó tới mức thỏa thuận xong xuôi luôn với ông Morris. (Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga, 2017, p.5)

In another case, reiteration is seen in the use of synonym “the place” – “ngôi nhà” (the house), which helps make the reference explicit, facilitating readers’ comprehension.

5.2. Transformation of Pro-Forms Into Lexical Cohesion

Notably, explication shifts are observed in the case of demonstratives, where English pronouns such as “that,” “it,” and “them” are often transformed into nouns in the Vietnamese translations. This process is synonymous with lexicalization of pro-forms, as discussed in Gumul’s taxonomy (2017). This transformation serves to make explicit what is being referred to in the TL. For example:

e.g.1. *“But it is very likely that he may fall in love with one of them, and therefore you must visit him as soon as he comes.*

I see no occasion for that.” (Austen, 1993, p. 3)

“Chỉ là anh ấy có thể yêu một trong mấy đứa con gái ta, vì thế ông phải đi thăm xã giao anh ấy càng sớm càng tốt.

Tôi ko thấy có cơ hội viếng thăm nào.” Diep Minh Tam (2002, p. 22)

“Nhưng rất có khả năng cậu ta sẽ xiêu lòng vì một trong mấy đứa nó, bởi vậy khi cậu ta tới nơi ông phải sang thăm hỏi ngay nhé.

Không đời nào!” (Translated by Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga, 2017, p. 6)

As seen in the example 1 above, the pro-form “that”, which can be understood as “việc đó, chuyện đó”, in the SL text refers to “the act of visiting” by Mr. Bennet. However, it has been explicated into a noun in the TL text 1, which can be understood as ‘(such) a visit’ or ‘visiting’ in back translation (I see no occasion for such a visit/ visiting). In this story, Mrs Bennet is insisting on her husband, Mr. Bennet, visiting Charles Bingley, a wealthy young gentleman who has just rented the mason of Netherfield Park. The arrival of Mr. Bingley at the neighborhood has raised high hope for Mrs Bennet, who has always been desperate to see her five unmarried young daughters to be well married. Paying a visit to others, at the time when

the story takes place, is considered a way of socializing, establishing social connections, from which other pursuits can be gratified.

Looking at the second Vietnamese translation by Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga, it is observed that the whole utterance with the pro-form “that” (I see no occasion for **that**) has been transformed into a short and abrupt decline, excluding the pro-form and changing the syntactic structure, in TL text 2 (“Không đời nào” or “Never” in back translation).

With this example, it can be said that TL text 1 displays more explicitness in translation than TL text 2. However, the two target language texts display a reverse in the translator’s choice of translational shift in the following example.

e.g.2. “Mr. Bennet was among the earliest of those who waited on Mr. Bingley. He had always intended to visit him, though to the last always assuring his wife that he should not go; and till the evening after the visit was paid she had no knowledge of it. **It** was then disclosed in the following manner.” (Austen, 1993, p. 6)

“Ông Bennet là một trong số những người đi thăm xã giao anh Bingley sớm nhất. ông luôn có ý định đi gặp anh, mặc dù ông vẫn nói với vợ là mình không muốn đi. Chỉ khi đến buổi tối sau lần gặp gỡ, bà vợ mới biết được tin này.” (Diep Minh Tam, 2002, p. 24)

“Ông Bennet là một trong những người đầu tiên đi thăm Bingley. Ông đã nuôi ý định sang gặp anh chàng mặc dù tới phút chót vẫn khẳng khẳng bảo vợ rằng ông chẳng việc gì phải đi, thành thử đến tới buổi tối của cái hôm ông đi thăm Bingley về bà vợ mới hay biết sự tình. **Câu chuyện** bấy giờ được tiết lộ theo cách thức như thế này.” (Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga, 2017, p. 8)

In this example, the translation by Diep Minh Tam has left out the transitional sentence that introduces the story which is going to be told about Mr Bennet’s visit to Mr Bingley’s new residence. This act can be regarded as a move to implicature by the translator when the details of the story are elaborated thereafter.

Meanwhile, in the works by Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga (TL text 2), the original sentence is preserved with the pronoun ‘it’, representing ‘the visit’ in the SL text, being lexicalized into another noun “câu chuyện” in the TL text 2. The act of preserving the whole sentence here, I believe, is truthful to the original work. Moreover, the translational shift of explicitation comes into play in this case with the rendition of the pronoun “it”. By making explicit the meaning of the pronoun “it” in the SL text into another noun “câu chuyện” (the story) but not “việc đi thăm anh Bingley” (the visit to Mr. Bingley) or “chuyến đi” (the visit), the translator is conveying an idea that the following part is a story of the previous event to be unfolded.

e.g.3. “Oh! Single, my dear, to be sure! A single man of large fortune; four or five thousand a year. What a fine thing for our girls!”

“How so? How can **it** affect **them**?” (Austen, 1993, p. 3)

“À! Còn độc thân, chắc hẳn rồi! Một người độc thân có gia sản lớn, cả bố hay năm nghìn mỗi năm. Kể ra cũng là điều hay cho mấy đứa con gái nhà ta!

Hay như thế nào? **Chuyện ấy** thì có liên quan gì đến **mấy đứa**?” (Diep Minh Tam, 2002, p. 21)

“Ồ! Độc thân chứ, chắc chắn luôn! Một anh chàng độc thân khá giả, lợi tức bốn đến năm ngàn bảng mỗi năm. Thật may phước cho các con gái chúng ta!

May thế nào kia? Làm sao **chuyện đó** lại ảnh hưởng tới **con mình** cho được?” (Lam

Quynh Anh & Thien Nga, 2017, p. 6)

As seen in this instance, the pronouns “it” and “them” in the SL texts are explicitated when they are lexicalized into nouns “chuyện” and “con mình” with the addition of demonstrative words in both TT texts (i.e. “ấy, đó” and “chuyện ấy”, “chuyện đó”) to make explicit what is referred to in the context of the story (Gumul, 2017). Such words (ấy, đó) increase the coherence of the translated texts, reminding the readers of the topic discussed between Mr. and Mrs. Bennett (a wealthy young gentleman who has just moved into the neighborhood and become a topic of interest for families with mature daughters.) As said, Mrs. Bennett is nurturing a high hope of seeing her daughters to be married, especially to financially secured gentlemen, such as Mr. Bingley. Therefore, she immediately perceives the connection between the arrival of such persons and her desires for her girls and considers it as luck.

Supposing those pronouns (“it” and “them”) are transferred literally to the target language as “nó, chúng”, the meaning will not be as clear as the expressions by “chuyện ấy/ chuyện đó; mấy đứa/ con mình” in the TL texts.

5.3. Restoration of Substitution and Clausal Ellipses

Given the limited corpus of this research, it was observed that the frequency of substitution and ellipsis is significant. However, the rendering of these ties clearly displayed explicitating shifts. Specifically, the following translational shifts of explicitness were recognized when substitution and elliptical constructions are restored to full forms.

e.g.4. "Have you heard that Netherfield park is let at last?"

Mr Bennet replied that **he had not** (0). (Austen, 1993, p. 11)

“Ông Bennet trả lời rằng **ông chưa biết**” (Diep Minh Tam, 2002, p. 20)

“Ông Bennet trả lời **rằng chưa** (0).” (Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga, 2017, p. 5)

In this example, there is a clausal ellipsis in the English sentence. The modal verb *hadn't* is used instead of repeating the clause (*heard that Netherfield is let at last*). This clausal ellipsis, *he had not*, is explicitated by virtue of lexical means ‘known’ (‘biết’) (in the translation by Diep Minh Tam (2002) but is implicated, equalling the sense of the original text in the translation by Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga (2017). With this instance, the TL text 1 has displayed a trend towards explicitation, compared to the orientation for implicitness in the TL text 2.

By making vague information become more precise in the translation, explicitation makes use of lexical means to realize this objective. Lexical explicitation is also seen in cases whereby signs of re-capturing the elliptical units of the original segment are marked in the translation. This type of explicitation is regarded as necessary because it makes the translation closer to the target language norms while increasing the explicitness of the translated texts. Therefore, we have the expansion of the implicit meaning in the SL text, making the message in the TL texts clearer and thus easier to understand. A similar phenomenon is observed in the following examples:

e.g.5. "Have you heard that Netherfield park is let at last?"

Mr Bennet replied that **he had not** (0).

“**But it is** (0).” (Austen, 1993, p. 11)

“**Có người đến thuê rồi.**” (Diep Minh Tam, 2002, p. 20)

“**Thế mà chuyện là vậy đây!**” (Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga, 2017, p. 5)

The clausal ellipsis in “it is,” leaves out the information of *let at last*. In the two

translations, this clausal ellipsis is explicitated into a complete sentence repeating what has been announced previously “Có người đến thuê rồi.” or “Thế mà chuyện là vậy đấy!”. The translation in the TL text 1 explicitates the message produced in the previous utterance (an eliciting question with a passive structure) by paraphrasing the passive form into an active structural construction (somebody did something). I guess that the translator intends to highlight the purpose of Mrs. Bennett’s conversation as she is referring to the gentleman who has rented the mansion of Netherfield park. Mrs Bennett is trying to draw her husband’s attention to the appearance of the tenant so that he can pay a visit and establish social connections for her girls to be introduced. Meanwhile, the TL text 2 summarizes the whole event by replacing “it” (which refers to *Netherfield park* in the original text) with a new noun “(câu) chuyện” (“the story”). By this way, the translator seems to have established the event mentioned (Netherfield park is let at last) as the background of a story to be told later on during the course of conversation between Mr. and Mrs. Bennett.

e.g.6. “I do not believe Mrs. Long will do any such thing. She has two nieces of her own. She is a selfish, hypocritical woman, and **I have no opinion of her.**”

“No more **have I,**” said Mr. Bennet; “and I am glad to find that you do not depend on her serving you.” (Austen, 1993, p. 6)

“Mẹ không tin bà Long chịu giới thiệu. Bà ta có hai đứa cháu gái. Bà có tính ích kỷ, đạo đức giả, và mẹ không có ý kiến gì về bà ấy.”

Ông Bennet nói

“**Tôi cũng không có ý kiến gì hơn,**” (Diep Minh Tam, 2002, p. 24)

“Mẹ chẳng tin bà Long sẽ làm bất cứ điều gì như vậy. Bà ta còn những hai cô cháu gái kia kìa. Người thì ích kỷ, đạo đức giả, mẹ chả có ấn tượng tốt đẹp gì về bà ta.”

“**Tôi cũng thế,**” ông Bennet nói. (Lam Quynh Anh & Thien Nga, 2017, p. 8)

The clausal ellipsis and inversion structure “*have I*” (by Mr Bennet) in the original text has been explicitated in the translation of Diep Minh Tam (TL text 1) with the repetition of the information mentioned in the previous utterance (by Mrs Bennet) “*opinion of her*” – “*ý kiến gì*”. This makes the meaning of the utterance given by Mr Bennet explicit and clear in the translated text, helping readers keep track of the conversation taking place now. The TL text 2, on the other hand, orients towards implicature when preserving the original message’s structure, keeping the translated utterance in short form using referencing items (*cũng thế, cũng vậy*) to reiterate similarity or agreement.

The analysis of the examples above has shown a tendency to make the target language texts more redundant than the source language text as explicating shifts are observed as to reference, substitution and ellipsis.

6. Conclusion

Translation is a complex process involving the interpretation and rendering of a message from one language to another. Translators must navigate linguistic differences and make strategic choices to effectively convey the intended meaning to the target audience. Cohesion, an important aspect of textuality, is crucial for ensuring that a text is coherent and meaningful.

This qualitative study sought to compare a passage from Jane Austen's English novel "Pride and Prejudice" (1993) with its two Vietnamese translations by Diep Minh Tam (2002) and Lam Quynh Anh, Thien Nga (2017). The primary objective was to examine the various

translation shifts that occur when rendering cohesive devices, drawing from Halliday and Hassan's cohesion model (1976). The study particularly focused on the concept of explicitation, as proposed by Blum-Kulka (1986/2000) and Gumul (2017).

The findings of this descriptive study reveal that both Vietnamese translations exhibit explicating shifts through techniques such as reiteration, lexicalization of pro-forms (shifting from referential cohesion to lexical cohesion), and the restoration of substitution and clausal ellipses found in the original text. Furthermore, the comparative analysis indicates that the translation by Diep Minh Tam (2002) tends to employ translational shifts of explicitness more frequently, which may suggest that explicitation is contributory in facilitating readers' understanding of the story line and textual cohesion.

As said previously, other studies on textual cohesion tend to focus on the frequency or translation strategies in rendering cohesive relations from a source language text to a target language text. This study, despite being limited in the data corpus as is preliminary research into the issue of discourse and textuality on translated texts, has highlighted how the process of translation involves making linguistic and stylistic choices to bridge the gap between languages, with a particular focus on enhancing explicitness in the target texts. The results of this empirical research are primarily expected to have a bearing upon raising interest in similar investigations into the issue of textuality and represent a starting point for more extensive examination of the translational and contrastive aspects of cohesive devices, contributing to empirical studies that validate explicitation hypothesis and the notion of translation universals in general as well as literary translation in particular.

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TÍNH TƯỜNG MINH CỦA PHƯƠNG TIỆN LIÊN KẾT TRONG HAI BẢN DỊCH TIẾNG VIỆT CỦA MỘT TÁC PHẨM VĂN HỌC

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Tóm tắt: Tính tường minh của các phương tiện liên kết văn bản có thể thay đổi trong quá trình dịch thuật. Vì vậy, trong nghiên cứu định tính ban đầu này, tác giả tiến hành so sánh một phần của tác phẩm “Kiêu hãnh và định kiến” của nhà văn Jane Austen (1993) với hai bản dịch tiếng Việt được thực hiện bởi Diệp Minh Tâm (2002), và Lâm Quỳnh Anh và Thiên Nga (2017) nhằm tìm hiểu các bước chuyển dịch tường minh trong việc chuyển ngữ các phương tiện liên kết. Nghiên cứu này dựa trên các lý thuyết về liên kết của Halliday và Hassan (1976), giả thuyết về tính tường minh của Blum-Kulka (1986/2000) và thang phân loại của Gumul (2017). Để đạt được mục đích của nghiên cứu, tác giả xác định các phương tiện liên kết được dùng trong văn bản gốc (quy chiếu, thay thế, rút gọn, liên từ, và liên kết từ vựng), sau đó tiến hành so sánh với hai bản dịch để nhận diện các chiến lược dịch tường minh. Hai bản dịch cũng được so sánh với nhau để tìm sự khác biệt trong chuyển dịch phương tiện liên kết của hai nhóm dịch giả. Kết quả nghiên cứu cho thấy chuyển dịch tường minh trong văn bản dịch được áp dụng qua kỹ thuật lặp từ, sử dụng danh từ thay thế cho đại từ chỉ định, khôi phục phép thế và phép rút gọn mệnh đề bằng cách thêm thông tin. Phân tích bản dịch cũng cho thấy sự khác biệt trong quyết định dịch thuật của các dịch giả khi truyền tải một văn bản gốc sang văn bản đích, thể hiện ở việc sử dụng các chiến lược chuyển dịch tường minh trên khối liệu của nghiên cứu này.

Từ khóa: phương tiện liên kết, các bước chuyển dịch, minh bạch hóa/ tường minh