

海格說：「胡說！石內卜是霍格華茲的老師，他絕對不會這樣做。」

赫敏喊道：「那為甚麼他想要殺死哈利？海格，我一眼就知道他在施惡咒，那些書我都看過，對人施惡咒必須緊盯目標，我看得清清楚楚石內卜當時完全沒眨眼！」

下午發生的事，似乎全然改變赫敏對石內卜的看法。

駭格氣沖沖地說：「我跟你說，你錯了！我不『著』為啥哈利的掃帚不受控制，但石內卜絕對不會殺學生！你仨聽我說，『並』理了，這事與你們無關，這樣很危險。忘了那頭狗，忘了牠看守的東西，那是鄧不利多跟尼古拉·弗拉梅爾——」

「啊哈！所以還有一個叫尼拉法姆的人牽涉其中，是嗎？」哈利說。

海格恨透自己。

Eugene Nida's functional equivalence stresses that "the readers of the translated text should be able to understand and appreciate it in essentially the same manner as the original readers did" (Nida, 2001). To reproduce this effect, there shall be meaning, stylistic and cultural equivalence in the translation (Ma, 2015). My translated excerpt of J. K. Rowling's "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" will be analysed on its stylistic and cultural equivalence and compared with Peng Chien-wen's published Chinese translation.

Style equivalence helps to achieve functional equivalence. Thus, it is important to analyse the style of the source text and reproduce one that can bring similar effect to the target text readers in the translation. In the excerpt, Hagrid speaks in a vernacular style which is shown from how he drops the ending letter of words, like, "nothin". Target text readers shall be able to notice that Hagrid speaks in a colloquial way through the translation. Thus, "啥" is used because it is a dialect which is usually only used in Chinese spoken context. It is less formal when one speaks in a dialect which is in line with Hagrid's speaking style. "啥" is also a "heyinci". In Chinese, two-character words carry two syllables, but they may be contracted

into one syllable and represented by a single character which is referred to as “heyinci” (Kurpaska, 2010). “Heyinci” is utilized to imitate Hagrid’s utterance that he drops the ending of words. In the case of “啥(shá)”, it is originally “甚麼(shénme)” (Meng, 1995), meaning “why”, but only the initial of the first character is pronounced. This is similar to the way and style Hagrid speaks, creating the stylistic equivalence. Hence, target text readers may observe Hagrid’s colloquial lines like the source text readers.

Stylistic equivalence shall be considered especially when the style carries associative value (Nida, 2001). The vernacular form of Hagrid’s dialogue implies that he is from a lower social status (Santika, 2016). The use of dialect in my translation such as, “啥” and “佢” also leads to similar implication since, to some extent, Chinese who speaks dialects have a lower social status. It is because they are usually peasants from the less-developed regions who are poor and uneducated. This helps to bring about the associative value of Hagrid’s distinct way of speaking. However, speaking dialect does not necessarily mean that one has a low social status; for example, Cantonese, a dialect, is the lingua franca of the Hong Kong society. Most of them speak Cantonese regardless of their social status. In light of that, apart from dialects, less sophisticated language is also used in my translation of Hagrid’s speech; for instance, “yer wrong” is translated into plain and simple Chinese “你錯了” to show that he is not someone highly cultured hinting that his social status is not particularly high. On the contrary, the published translation used a four-character idiom “大錯特錯” (Peng, 2000), which is more elegant because the structure is similar to classical Chinese. But this may fail to bring the associative value that Hagrid is from a lower social status.

Apart from stylistic equivalence, cultural equivalence shall also be considered, which is not found in Peng’s translation. Rowling explicitly dropped the ending of words or misspelled words to show that Hagrid speaks with a West Country accent (Santika, 2016) which is where the author was brought up. The accent is not always linked with bright

characters; like Hagrid, as it is spoken commonly among the pirates. Rowling makes such an arrangement to imply that people from her hometown are just like Hagrid, who is loyal and kind (Santika, 2016). However, Chinese may not be able to relate to it as they may not even recognize the West Country accent and understand the implication. To replicate the same effect on the target text readers, Henan accent is used because Henan is weak in the economy and infamous for their internal issues; such as the AIDS village, adulterated food etc. (Zhang, 2013) that the image of Henan is quite derogatory. Since Henan suffers similar prejudices like West Country, the target text is translated with “heyinci” in Henan dialect; for example, “『着(zháo)』”. Quotation marks are added as it is a homophone of how Henan people pronounce “知道(zhīdào)”, meaning “know” when contracting the syllables. The West Country accent is replicated into Henan accent in the translation, which is culturally equivalent to the implication of the source text. Thus, target text readers can also appreciate the text similarly as the source text readers and achieve functional equivalence.

To conclude, Nida’s functional equivalence is the translation approach. In order to let target text readers understand and appreciate the text as the source text readers, “heyinci” derived from Henan dialect is used to recreate Hagrid’s West Country accent and replicate the associative values, which are stylistically and culturally equivalent.

(1098 words)

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Appendix I

Source Text

‘Rubbish,’ said Hagrid again. ‘Snape’s a Hogwarts teacher, he’d do nothin’ of the sort.’

‘So why did he just try and kill Harry?’ cried Hermione.

The afternoon’s events certainly seemed to have changed her mind about Snape.

‘I know a jinx when I see one, Hagrid, I’ve read all about them! You’ve got to keep an eye contact, and Snape wasn’t blinking at all, I saw him!’

‘I’m tellin’ yeh, yer wrong!’ said Hagrid hotly. ‘I don’t know why Harry’s broom acted like that, but Snape wouldn’t try an’ kill a student! Now, listen to me, all three of yeh – yer meddlin’ in things that don’ concern yeh. It’s dangerous. You forget that dog, an’ you forget what it’s guadin’ that’s between Professor Dumbledore an’ Nicolas Flamel – ’

‘Aha!’ said Harry. ‘So there’s someone called Nicolas Flamel involved, is there?’

Hagrid looked furious with himself.

Appendix II

Published Chinese Translation

「胡說八道，」海格又說了一聲，「石內卜是霍格華茲的老師欸，他是絕對不會做這種事的。」

「那他為什麼想要殺死哈利？」妙麗喊道。

這個下午所發生的事，似乎已完全改變了她對石內卜的看法。

「我一眼就可以看出是不是有人在下惡咒，海格，惡咒的書我全都看過！你地眼睛必須緊盯住目標不放，連一刻也不能間斷，而石內卜完全沒有眨過眼，我看得非常清楚！」

「我告訴妳，妳大錯特錯！」海格發怒地說，「我不曉得哈利的掃帚為什麼會變成那個樣子，可是石內卜絕對不會去殺一個學生！現在，聽我說，你們三個——你們是在太愛管閒事，惹上跟你們完全無關的事情。這樣很危險的。你們字喔好快點忘了那狗，忘了牠看守的東西，那是鄧不利多和尼樂·勒梅之間——」

「啊哈！」哈利說，「所以這牽涉到一個叫尼樂·勒梅的人，是不是？」

海格顯然對自己非常生氣。