



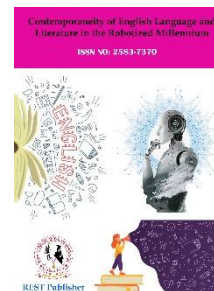
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Exploring the Influence of CAT Tools on Domestication and Foreignization in Translation

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Abstract. *This study explores the usage of computer-aided translation (CAT) tools by translators (TRLs) to determine the extent of their utilization. It aims to identify commonly employed CAT tools and evaluate their impact on enhancing the translation process. Additionally, the study investigates the efficiency of these tools in increasing translation productivity. Moreover, it investigates the implications of CAT tools on language learning, particularly in the context of English and foreign languages. By analyzing these factors, the study seeks to provide valuable insights into the utilization and effectiveness of CAT tools in contemporary translation practices. This research contributes to the existing body of knowledge on the role of technology in translation, offering valuable information for translators, language learners, and professionals in the field. The findings of this study have the potential to shape future practices and advancements in computer-aided translation.*

Keywords: *Computer-assisted translation, CAT tools, English, Foreign language learning*

1. INTRODUCTION

The Translation has played a vital role throughout human history, evolving from oral to written forms as civilizations developed. The translation process gained prominence with significant events such as the Septuagint, the first known translation of the Hebrew Old Testament into Greek around the 3rd century BCE (Nida, 1988: 23). In the 20th century, events like World War II and the Nuremberg trials underscored the importance of translation in national and international communication. This led to the establishment of translation and interpreting training programs in various institutions worldwide (Schäffner and Adab, 2000: vii). The Cold War era marked a significant turning point for Translation Studies, with the recognition of the value of translating foreign data, including military strategies and classified information. The need for rapid translation of large volumes of data prompted the influential Warren Weaver Memorandum in July 1949, which laid the foundation for machine translation (MT) research even before the full capabilities of computers were realized (MT News International, no. 22, July 1999). Computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools are advanced software programs designed to enhance translation speed and quality. While they offer clear advantages, their effectiveness is particularly evident in certain types of texts, such as scientific and technical documents that exhibit repetitive patterns in style and structure (Bundgaard, Christensen, and Schjoldager, 2016). Translators, in order to remain competitive in the market, often rely on the latest translation technology to work with client-provided translation memories, optimize their work time, and increase their output volume and rates per page (Pym, 2009; Christensen and Schjoldager, 2016).

Methodological Framework: One of the fundamental issues in translation theory revolves around the importance of maintaining the visibility or invisibility of cultural concepts in the target language. Venuti (1995:1) highlights that this invisibility is influenced by various factors, including the "effect of discourse" and the "practice of reading," and it depends on how translators perceive and evaluate translations. Venuti (1995:1) introduces the concepts of domestication and foreignization, which have been extensively discussed by scholars. Domestication involves replacing the linguistic and cultural differences of the foreign text with a version that is easily understandable to the target-language reader (TLR). On the other hand, foreignization refers to preserving the linguistic and cultural differences of the source language (SL) text by disrupting the prevailing cultural norms in the target language. Linguists argue that the translation process extends beyond language transfer to include cultural transfer, where the translator conveys a text from the source language culture to the target language culture. Consequently, translators are expected to be both bilingual and bicultural, selecting appropriate cultural equivalences to ensure accurate and comprehensible translations. Depending on the context,

translators may choose to adopt a domestication strategy to familiarize the SL culture to the target readers or retain the SL culture as it is.

Hypotheses of the Study:

This study posits the following hypotheses:

1. Domesticating the translation of English cultural concepts will lead to more comprehensible and culturally acceptable translations in the target languages.
2. Linguistic differences between the source language culture (SLC) and the target language culture (TLC) are reflective of the underlying cultural differences between the two.
3. Employing foreignization strategies in translating cultural concepts will preserve the authenticity and distinctiveness of the source culture in the target language, albeit potentially challenging the comprehension of the target-language readers.

These hypotheses will be tested through empirical analysis and examination of translation outcomes to determine the impact of domestication and foreignization strategies on the fidelity and cultural adaptation of translated texts.

Aim of the Study:

This study aims to:

1. Examine how domestication and foreignization are used in translating cultural concepts in some Publications.
2. Shed light on the local strategies used in rendering the foreign concepts from English in some Publications.
3. Ensure the use of appropriate strategies to avoid cultural conflicts that may arise from the difference between the source and target language cultures (SLC and TLC).

Research Questions

This study attempts to find answers to the following research questions:

RQ1: To what extent do translators use CAT tools?

RQ2: Which CAT tools are most commonly used by translators?

RQ3: Does the domestication of foreign cultural concepts in the target language lead to the rejection of their application in the targeted communities?

Procedures of Study:

Throughout this study, five cultural concepts were selected from trusted English-language publications sourced from reputable websites. The researcher collected the data and analyzed the meanings of these concepts in both the source language (SL) and target language (TL) using reliable dictionaries. The original origins of the terms in the SL were investigated, and their cultural context in the TL was examined. The study aimed to identify the strategies employed in translating these cultural concepts and determine the level of acceptability by the target readers (TRs) based on Venuti's Model of Domestication and Foreignization (1995). A combined quantitative and qualitative approach was employed to ensure significant findings and reliable outcomes. The qualitative method was utilized to categorize the strategies employed in domesticating or foreignizing the collected data, aligning with Venuti's model. This approach allowed for a comprehensive analysis of the translation strategies used.

Scope of the Study

This study focuses on the strategies of domestication and foreignization in translation. It aims to analyze cultural concepts used in foreign cultures and examine how translators transfer these concepts. The primary target audience of the study are the beneficiaries, and the language used for analysis is English.

Significance of the Study

Compared with previous studies, this study highlighted certain points as follows:

1. The cultural differences between the languages and their impact on the beneficiaries of the publications and programs.
2. The study will be useful for future translators who are interested in working with the missions in the other communities.
3. The study highlights how domestication and foreignization are used in translation and how well they can deal with the differences in the culture between SL and TL.

The study will reinforce translators to domesticate the foreign cultural concepts on the reception of the other culture.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Computer-assisted translation tools:

Computer-assisted translation vs Machine translation

Translation today heavily relies on computers, as they have become an indispensable part of our lives. Computers offer significant benefits in terms of making the translation process easier and faster. Hutchins (2003, p.2) identifies several reasons for using computers in translation:

- Reducing the workload for translators (TRLs)
- Dealing with the monotonous nature of technical material when translated by humans
- Availability of computer hardware
- Faster translation results
- Machine translation allows for fully automated translations without the need for human translators
- Cost reduction.

The terms computer-assisted translation (CAT) and machine translation (MT) can be confusing to non-professionals due to their close association. While both types of translation utilize computers, CAT and MT represent distinct approaches to translation, yielding different results and used in different contexts, as highlighted by Craciunescu (2004). Efforts have been made since the 1990s to integrate automation from MT into CAT, but the software at that time was not powerful enough. In 2006, Lingotek introduced a web-based CAT tool integrated with MT, followed by other CAT tools such as Trados. The integration of MT into CAT enables CAT tools to work traditionally, handling exact, fuzzy, and no matches by accepting, repairing, and rejecting them, or utilizing MT solutions to populate no matches. However, it remains uncertain whether this technology, still in its early stages, would lead to improvements in translation time and quality (Garcia, 2015).

History of CAT Tools: According to Bowker and Fisher (2010), the term CAT tools should be used specifically for software designed with translation in mind, distinguishing them from other tools and software used by translators. This definition excludes tools such as email, spell checkers, and word processing programs. Therefore, Microsoft Word, despite having spell check and word processing features, is not considered a CAT tool. The history of CAT tools is relatively short, as highlighted by Garcia (2015). There are two major periods in the development of CAT tools: the classic era (1995-2005) and the modern era (2005-present). The classic era began when CAT tools were fully developed and commercially available in the mid-1990s. The focus during this decade was on stability and increasing processing power. The modern era of CAT tools is characterized by an increased range of potential scenarios for their usage. According to Garcia, there has been a more granular approach to text reuse and an expansion of addressable data. User interfaces have been simplified, and cloud computing has made CAT tools accessible to a wider audience, allowing for the integration of translation memories (TMs) with machine translation (MT). Additionally, the power of the internet has facilitated collaboration among translation enthusiasts worldwide, leading to significant reductions in translation times (Garcia, 2015).

Features of CAT tools: CAT tools can vary in the functionality provided, but at a basic level CAT tools offer at least Translation Memory (including alignment) tools or Terminology Management tools, or both. At a more advanced level, both the architecture and functionality of the tools are increased (cf. Fernández-Parra, 2014).

Terminology management: Along with translation memory, a terminology database, or termbase, is an essential component of computer-aided translation tools, as terminology plays a critical role in technical translation (cf. Bowker, 2002, pp. 104-106). A termbase is a database, but it differs from a TM in that it is used to store and retrieve segments at the term level, such as phrases and single words, whereas the TM is typically used for sentences. Depending on the level of sophistication of the CAT tool, the termbase can also be used to store and retrieve various kinds of information about the term, such as gender, definition, part of speech, usage, subject field, etc. Additionally, some CAT tools' termbases allow the storage and retrieval of multimedia files, such as graphics, sound, or video files, more quickly and efficiently than spreadsheet software like MS Excel. Furthermore, they can facilitate a hierarchical organization of the information.

The CAT TOOLS Between the Domestication and Foreignization

The Concepts of Domestication and Foreignization: Linguists, academics, and researchers continue to engage in heated discussions on domestication vs foreignization. However, despite the fact that this discussion originally focused on the linguistic domain, Wang (2002, cited in Yang 2010:77) suggests that it "may be considered as the cultural and political extension of the time-worn conflict between free translation versus literal translation" today. According to Munday (2001:148), domestication and foreignization "address the question of

to what extent a translation assimilates a foreign text to the translating language and culture, and to what extent it indicates the peculiarities of that text."

The Concepts of CAAT TOOLS (computer-assisted translation): CAT tools are designed to automate various tasks related to translation. Translators can input text in the source language into a CAT program and use its interface to divide the text into segments, such as phrases, sentences, or paragraphs. Simultaneously, the program saves each segment of the source text and its corresponding translation as an entry in a database known as a translation memory. As more content is translated, the program can increasingly leverage translation matches from the database. This automation significantly accelerates the translation process and ensures consistency with previous translations.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Using CAT Tools in the analysis of the concept in comparison with Arabic between Domestication and Foreignization:

The researcher conducted a linguistic study of the cultural concept in the English form and a linguistic and cultural analysis of the concept in the Arabic version. The sample represents a vast array of the diverse components of Iraqi society.

TABLE 1. First Concept

Source Concept in English Version	Target Concept in Arabic Version
Contraceptives	وسائل تنظيم الأسرة

Cultural Analysis of TL: According to experts, family planning is considered an important tool in reducing poverty. It enables women to work and care for smaller families, allowing parents to allocate more resources to the health and education of their children. They also emphasized that methods such as condoms, contraceptive pills, and other forms of contraception have prevented millions of unplanned pregnancies and saved numerous women from health risks associated with pregnancy and childbirth. In the Arab region, specifically Iraq as an example, the use of contraceptive methods by women is influenced by religious, cultural, and social factors. To gain insights into the role of Islamic law, which is widely followed in the region, Deutsche Welle conducted a telephone interview in Arabic with Dr. Muhammad Raafat Othman, a Professor of Comparative Jurisprudence at the University of Al-Azhar in Egypt. In the interview, Dr. Othman stated that it is crucial to address two fundamental terms, namely "birth control" and "family planning" (3).

TABLE 2. Techniques and Discussions

ST	TT	Technique	Strategies Appropriateness	
Contraceptives	وسائل تنظيم الاسرة	Adaptation	Domestication	Foreignization
			+	-

The translator employs the adaptation technique by translating the source text (ST) into 'وسائل تنظيم الأسرة' to enhance its comprehensibility and align it with the target language and culture (TLC) for the readers. In this instance, the translator has domesticated the cultural term found in the original text by substituting it with an equivalent term commonly used in the target language. By replacing the original term "موانع الحمل" with the recognized term in the TLC, the translator ensures that the translated text (TT) is acceptable and relatable to the target language readers[24].

TABLE 3. Second Concept

Source Concept in English Version	Target Concept in Arabic Version
COVID-19	COVID-19

Culture Analysis of TL

The world has recently experienced an outbreak of the Coronavirus disease, which has transitioned from an epidemic to a pandemic, as declared by the World Health Organization. This disease was first identified in mainland China in December 2019 when cases of unidentified pneumonia were reported, leading to the subsequent identification of the new Coronavirus. The statement emphasizes the importance of clear and

accurate communication, stating that if the language used is not precise, the intended meaning may be lost. As a result, the desired outcome may not be achieved.

TABLE 4. Techniques and Discussions

ST	TT	Technique	Strategies Appropriateness	
COVID-19	COVID-19	Borrowing	Domestication	Foreignization
			-	+

The translator made a decision to use the English term in the Arabic translation, considering the widespread global recognition of the epidemic and its associated terminology in the English language. However, it is important to note that this does not justify the exclusion of the term commonly used in the target community. Using a foreign language term may lead to confusion and contradict the cultural concepts familiar to the majority of target language readers. Therefore, it is essential for the translator to prioritize clarity and cultural relevance in order to ensure better understanding and connection with the target audience.

TABLE 5.

Concept	Domestication	Foreignization
Concept 1	+	-
Concept 2	-	+

4. CONCLUSION

Translation today relies heavily on computers, with computer technology having rapidly advanced in recent decades. Computers play a significant role in facilitating the translation process. Translation using computers can be categorized into two types: computer-assisted translation (CAT) and machine translation (MT). These types of translation serve different purposes, and there is potential in integrating them for more effective translation outcomes. The study also concludes that translators may employ the domestication strategy to modify cultural concepts in the source text, making them more familiar and understandable to the target audience. Conversely, foreignization involves preserving the cultural context and foreign elements of the source text in the target language. The research explored the potential of using CAT tools as additional language learning tools, particularly in educational institutions where CAT tools are already part of the curriculum. Since students and staff may already have some familiarity with the software, it is assumed that they possess basic knowledge of CAT tools. Examples from standalone components of CAT tools were provided to demonstrate their accessibility. The original concept of using CAT tools for technical translation based on lexical repetition can be repurposed for language learning to reinforce learning through repetition. While CAT tools are not expected to replace other language learning methods, this paper aims to demonstrate that they can coexist with existing approaches and contribute to enhancing the language learning experience.

Scope for the further research: While this study has shed light on the use of computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools and the strategies of domestication and foreignization in translation, there are several areas that could be explored in future research:

1. Comparative Analysis of CAT Tools: Further investigation could compare different CAT tools to assess their effectiveness, user-friendliness, and impact on translation quality. This could provide insights into the strengths and limitations of various CAT tools and help translators make informed choices based on their specific needs.
2. User Experience and Training: Examining the user experience of translators working with CAT tools and exploring the impact of training programs on their efficiency and productivity could contribute to optimizing the use of these tools. Understanding the challenges faced by translators and identifying strategies to enhance their proficiency in utilizing CAT tools could be valuable areas of research.
3. CAT Tools in Language Learning: Expanding on the potential of CAT tools as language learning aids, future research could investigate their integration into language learning curricula. This could

involve exploring the effectiveness of CAT tools in improving language proficiency, enhancing vocabulary retention, and reinforcing language learning through repetitive tasks.

4. Cultural Adaptation and Acceptance: Investigating the impact of domestication and foreignization strategies on the reception and acceptance of translated texts within target language communities could provide valuable insights. Understanding how cultural concepts are perceived and assimilated by different audiences can help shape translation approaches and strategies.
5. Machine Translation Advancements: Given the continuous advancements in machine translation, future research could examine the integration of machine translation technologies into CAT tools. This could explore the potential benefits and challenges associated with leveraging machine translation as an additional tool within the CAT environment.

By delving deeper into these areas, researchers can further enrich the understanding of CAT tools, translation strategies, and their implications for language learning and cross-cultural communication.

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