

Translation of Abbreviations in International Relations (IR)

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ARTICLE INFORMATION

Received: August 08, 2021

Accepted: September 18, 2021

Volume: 4

Issue: 9

DOI: 10.32996/ijllt.2021.4.9.13

KEYWORDS

Abbreviations, Acronyms, conventions, CDA, Discourse, Genre

ABSTRACT

Abbreviation, as an old phenomenon in linguistics, is an inherent part of the technical texts and daily communications and as time goes on, making and using abbreviations is rapidly growing. The widespread usage of abbreviations has brought these linguistic formations into the field of translation. The present study aims to investigate differences in translation strategies of abbreviation when they appear in texts produced in different discourses and genres that need to be translated following social norms and conventions of the target language. To analyze abbreviations, their linguistic structures have been thoroughly discussed and they were analyzed according to the taxonomy proposed by Mattiello (2013). Fairclough's (1995) model of CDA has been adopted to show that translation, as it deals with language, is a social practice and social conventions and norms govern the translation strategies of abbreviations adopted by translators. In this regard, a corpus of 300 abbreviations was circulated. 150 abbreviations were collected from 5 translated books from English to Persian in the field of IR and their translation strategies were compared to 150 abbreviations that were translated in news texts concerning the same genre. The result indicated that while abbreviations in Persian scientific books were mostly borrowed, abbreviations in Persian news texts were translated by descriptive strategy. This implies that translation practice is inconsistent with the social norms and conventions of the target language society and it is the genre and discourse of the text that determines how a text must be translated.

1. Introduction

Abbreviation, a word-formation process in which words and phrases are shortened, is an old phenomenon and an inseparable part of the language. Although abbreviations are not new in languages, there is a strong disagreement among linguists about the structure of abbreviations and there is a lack of comprehensive study regarding their formations. Multiplication of abbreviations in language from technical texts to daily communications brings them into the sphere of translation and causes some challenges for translators to interpret these formations correctly and choose a proper strategy to translate them. Translators should consider many factors in choosing the strategy, from their types of formation and underlying phrases to social and conventional rules of the society that are in operation in producing a text. Thus, translators should pay attention to both micro and macro structures of a text in which abbreviations appear.

2. Literature Review

Although usage of abbreviation has been disseminated in the past two centuries, from a linguistic point of view is an old and universal phenomenon in linguistics that can be found in all languages, even dead ones (Zerkina & Kostina & pitina, 2015). Good examples are Greek manuscripts, Roman, Arabic and Old Persian. There were three types of abbreviations in Roman: Shortened form of words and syllables, Substitution of one letter with another and using "arbitrary signs" (Partington, 1838, p.5) and there are some abbreviations in the Quran, such as كهيحص (19:1), which are secrets of the Quran and no one can decode it. In Sassanid Empire, there were six words in Old Persian (e.g: DHYUV → DH) with eight abbreviated forms (Zahedi & Sharifi, 1390, p.

39). These words were used only in written language due to the limitation of space in inscriptions, seals and coins (ibid). Also, in Hebrew, proper names were initialized, but these formations were not proliferated and recorded in dictionaries until the nineteenth century when there was a need for suitable technical terms and "advances in computer and technology" created the need for new concepts to refer to new devices (Mattiello, 2013, p. 64). Abbreviations were taken into account by lexicographers in 1873. In 1880, a collection of abbreviations, *The Use and Abuse of Abbreviations* by H. R. Boss, was published anonymously and *Handbook of English Abbreviations* written by Fallows was published in 1883 (Haymon, 1957). World Wars had a considerable role in the proliferation of military abbreviations in languages, especially in English, since these formations were used as codes among military forces to convey their messages safely. Abbreviations have proliferated in English more than other languages since it is grammatically flexible and its morphological structure is monosyllabic (Belda-Medina, 2001). Abbreviations are now part of the ordinary vocabulary of languages and the process is the result of the principle of economy in language and the principle of least effort which dominates all the linguistic aspects of utterances (Jam, 1395; Sharifi& Zahedi, 1390).

Linguistically, an abbreviation is not, as some people consider it, 'damage of language' or artificially created structure; rather, it is, as Zerkina et al. state, a "regular process stipulated by changes" for communicating because of the development of the society (2015, pp. 137–8). In their paper, Zerkina et al. refer to the theory of equivalence which regards abbreviations as "lexical units that do not require any classification", but they themselves believe that these formations are not identical to words and they just "correlate with words" and needs to be classified (2015, p. 139).

In contrast to the proliferation of abbreviations in languages, their formation, compared to other word-formation processes, has received scant attention in the discipline and most of the investigations have focused on the product rather than arguing the process (Mattiello, 2013; Kriedler, 1979). Kriedler (1979) has pointed to this problem about thirty years ago, but the lack of comprehensive studies on abbreviation is still the main issue in linguistics. Another problem concerning abbreviations is that linguists rest these formations at which level of language. Some linguists categorize them as a type of word-formation processes, while others exclude them from such regular processes, reasoning that abbreviations "do not conform to canonical word-formation rules" and they are unpredictable (Mattiello, 2013, p. 97). Merchant (1969), considering word-formation processes as being morpheme-based, introduces abbreviations as one of "non-morphemic word-formation processes" and his argument is supported by Štekauer (1998) and Steinmetz and Kipfer (2006) (as cited in Fandrych, 2008). Fandrych herself accepts this viewpoint and mentions that the acronym is one of the non-morphemic word-formation processes and explains that in non-morphemic word-formation processes, at least, there is an "element which is not a morpheme" (2008, p. 107). Mattiello (2013) describes abbreviations under the term extra-grammatical morphology rather than word-formation process. It is essential to elaborate on what she means by this term since, by classifying abbreviations as extra-grammatical, she introduces a new level to linguistics. She regards abbreviations as extra-grammatical structures since she believes that abbreviations are not regular, cannot be predicted and do not add a new meaning to their underlying phrases or words. Plag (2003) and Bat-El (2000) oppose these viewpoints and believe that abbreviation is a type of word-formation process since their patterns can be systematically analyzed and they are regular (as cited in Mattiello, 2013). Kriedler (1979) and Zerkina et al. (2015) are also among those linguists who consider abbreviations as part of word-formation processes.

Several divergent accounts of abbreviation and its classifications have been proposed, creating numerous controversies in linguistics. Al-Hamly & Farghal (2013) name the whole process as English Reduced Lexical Forms (RFLs) and categorize them into three main types: abbreviations and acronyms, clipping and blending. They and Jam (1395) clarify that the pronunciation of abbreviations and acronyms differentiates them from one another. While abbreviations are pronounced letter by letter, acronyms are pronounced as words. This is how Jam (1395) classifies abbreviations. He, based on their pronunciations, divides them into two types: abbreviations and acronyms. Plag (2003) explains some other differences between acronyms and abbreviations (or initialisms): more constraints are at work in the formation of acronyms and only letters of initialisms are separated with dots, but Mattiello has found out that the tendency is to write initialisms without dots (p. 127, as cited in Mattiello, 2013). Kriedler (1979), naming the shortened forms as acronyms, explains that there are two types of acronyms: letter-recitation and letter-sounding. Letter-recitation acronyms are those which contain a letter from each major word of the underlying phrases. "The Letter-sounding type of acronym has to conform to the phonotactic norms of the language" (p. 25). Mattiello (2013) puts clippings and alphabetisms under the label abbreviation and alphabetisms include acronyms and initialisms.

There are various classifications of abbreviations in linguistics and the above-mentioned ones are a few of them which reveal linguists' divergent perspectives about these formations.

In this paper, abbreviations will be recognized and defined based on the extra-grammatical taxonomy proposed by Mattiello (2013). She takes the term abbreviation as an umbrella term for clipping and alphabetism. Alphabetism itself includes acronym and initialism. She thoroughly goes through her taxonomy in her book.

Mattiello (2013) defines clipping as “a process which abbreviates a word to one of its parts, with a consequent loss of phonetic material” (p. 68). She believes that clipped words do not change semantically. She classifies clipping into four major types, i.e. fore-clipping, mid-clipping, edge-clipping and back-clipping. She also introduces two other types based on the addition of a suffix and randomly deleted letters.

1. Fore-clipping: “deletes the initial part of the word, thus preserving the final portion” (p.74). Examples are: sniff→ niff, confess→ fess, android→ droid (Mattiello, 2013, p. 75).
2. Mid-clipping: “deletes the middle part of the word, thus preserving both extremities” (ibid). It is the rarest type of clipping and is unclear since the base word is not continuant in clipped form. E.g.: procurator → proctor, anorexia→ ana (ibid)
3. Back-clipping: “deletes the final part of the word, thus preserving the initial portion” (p. 72). Dressler (2005) states that back-clipping is the most common one since it preserves the first part of the word which is the most transparent part of each word (as cited in Matteillo, 2013). Examples are fanatic→ fan, talcum→ talc, administrator → admin, holidays→ hols, hyperactive→ hyper, Promotion → promo,
4. Edge clipping: “deletes the initial and final portion of the word, thus preserving the medial portion” (p.75). influenza→ flu, inquisitive→ quiz (Stockwell and Minkova, 2001, p. 10, as cited in Mattiello, 2013).
5. Random clipping: “retains some scattered letters, specifically, consonants, from the base word (p.76): limited→ Ltd, please→ pls, people→ ppl
6. Suffixed clipping: In some clipped words, one part is deleted and a suffix (-ie/-y, -o,-er/-ers) is substituted the omitted part. This type of clipping is common when there is a close relationship between speakers. aggravation/aggression→ agro, barbecue→ Barbie, Amanda → Mandy, , combination→ combo, bedroom→ bedder, collections→ collekkers

Mattiello (2013, p. 76) points another type of clipping, i.e. clipped compound but does not consider it as the main type of clipping, since in this type, the base word is a compound word, not a single one and it may cause a confusing similarity between clipping and blending.

According to Mattiello (2013), alphabetism includes acronym and initialism and she defines acronyms and initialisms as words made by “initial letters of a phrase, title, compound or list” (p. 82).

She provides one definition for both, since distinguish a clear-cut boundary between acronyms and initialisms as two different structures. The main distinction between acronyms and initialism is that initialisms are pronounced letter by letter while acronyms are pronounced as full words (Mattiello, 2013). She further asserts that initialisms, like acronyms, can also be pronounced as full words if their formations conform to phonetic rules.

Since there is no clear-cut distinction between acronym and initialisms, Mattiello (2013) classifies both of them into almost similar types as they illustrate below:

1. Non-elliptic alphabetism: “retains the initial letters of all the words contained in the source phrase” (p. 87): REACT→ Remote Electronically Activated Control Technology(acronym), URL→ Uniform Resource Locator(initialism)
2. Elliptic alphabetism: “do not retain all the initial letters of the word contained in the source phrase” (ibid). Mainly the omitted letters belong to grammatical words (prepositions, conjunctions, articles and auxiliary verbs): PETA→ people for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (acronym), MAE→ Master of Arts in Education (initialism).
3. Extended alphabetism: “composed of more than one initial letter for each word” (p. 89) . AMESLAN→ American Sign Language.
4. Recursive Alphabetism: “one word of the source phrase coincides with the acronym itself” (p. ibid) . mung→ mung until no good
5. Alphabetism with vowel addition: a vowel is added to alphabetisms in order to make them pronounceable. SLRF→ Second Language Research Forum (it is pronounced as /slɜrf/).
6. Inverted letter alphabetism: the sequence of initial letters of the base word is changed. (MISHAP→ Missiles High-Speed Assembly Program)
7. Semantically-irrelevant acrostics: acrostics whose orthoepic formations are unintentionally similar to an existing word, but they are not semantically related to that word (acrostics are ‘acronyms whose reading/pronunciation coincides with a homophone word in the English language’ (Conti and Mattiello, 2008, p. 563, as cited in Mattiello, 2013, p. 90)
SLEEP→ Scanning Low Energy Electron Probe
8. Alphabetism with symbols, coordinators, prepositions or numerals
9. Semantically-relevant acrostics: “ combinations that intentionally give rise to homophones” (p. 90) : BASIC→ Beginners` all-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code

Mattiello (2013) explains that both acronyms and initialisms can be elliptic, non-elliptic and semantically irrelevant, but only acronyms can be extended, recursive, inverted and semantically relevant.

As abbreviations have been proliferated in languages and are an inseparable part of any text, they need to be translated alongside all the verbal features of the texts. This is problematic since the translator, as the first step, needs to interpret them and their meaning may be ambiguous when the abbreviation denotes more than one underlying phrase. In such cases, the translator can decode them by noticing the text's genre or scientific area. The second step is to translate the underlying phrases of abbreviations into the target language and the third one is to choose a strategy to encode the abbreviations in the target language. The translator should decide whether to borrow them or try to form new abbreviations in the target text.

In many cases, the translation of abbreviations may not result in new formations (translation of UNESCO from English into Spanish) (Gonzalez, 1991). This happens mostly between languages that belong to the same proto-language (Al-Hamly & Farghal, 2013). For instance, in the case of translating UNESCO into Spanish, both ST and TT are Indo-European languages and due to their similar alphabetical systems, translation results in abbreviations with alphabetically similar underlying phrases. But when it comes to languages with different origins, like Persian and Arabic, translating abbreviations from English into these languages may require a kind of coinage or other strategies.

Sometimes, the type of abbreviations can help the translator to choose the proper strategy. According to Gonzalez (1991), abbreviated names of international organizations that are widely known in the target language are generally translated, but when it comes to more specific terms, the abbreviations are borrowed to the target language.

Although translating abbreviations has become a crucial issue nowadays, little literature has been published on abbreviations' different translation strategies. Among those few articles is the work by Zerlina et al. (2015). They propose four strategies for translating abbreviations: "transference of foreign abbreviation with the equivalent abbreviation", "borrowing of a foreign abbreviation", "transliteration", "transcription" and "descriptive translation" (p. 553). It is important to mention that these strategies can be applied by considering different text features which abbreviations are to be translated as parts of it.

According to Fairclough (2016) 'texts are multi-functional', i.e., texts are "forms of actions", representative of things and presentation of identities (p. 187). The multi-functionality of texts is because they can be simultaneously analyzed at different levels. When it comes to translation, the translator needs to analyze these layers and functions to provide a translation that is not contradictory with the addressees' expectations and even target text social conventions. As for translating abbreviations, it is impossible to translate them out of their co-texts and contexts without analyzing the genre of the text and the properties of that genre in both source and target languages, since, without these considerations, the result will be unreadable or incomprehensible translations. Textual analysis will give the translator full awareness of the text properties to choose the proper strategy for translating abbreviations in the text. This means that macro-structures of the text determine translation strategies of the micro-structures, such as abbreviations.

In textual analysis, three functions, i.e. genres, discourses and styles, must be identified and connected to each other (Fairclough, 2016).

As was mentioned, in translating abbreviations, micro-structures (abbreviations) need to be seen as parts of macro-structures (texts), i.e., abbreviations are to be analyzed in texts they appeared in. Thus, a comprehensive model is required to enable the translators (or researchers) to analyze these macro-structures in order to provide acceptable translations of the texts. Critical discourse analysis (CDA), which analyses the language at the discourse level, could be one of the theories of language that can be applied in this sense.

Both linguists and social theorists use the term discourse in their analyses. In adapting the linguistic view of discourse, Fairclough defines it as "spoken or written language use" (1995, p. 92). He uses the term to view language as social practice and this view of language indicates that language, on the one hand, is an action and constitutes dimensions such as social identity and social relation on the other hand. What is crucial in critical discourse analysis (CDA), which has its root in critical theory of language, is that both sides of the language, i.e. being "socially shaped" and "constitutive" (ibid) must be taken into account and it should not be analyzed one-sidedly. So, in his viewpoint, texts are the results of discourse or language use as social practice; in other words, texts are produced under conditions of the society (Janks, 1997).

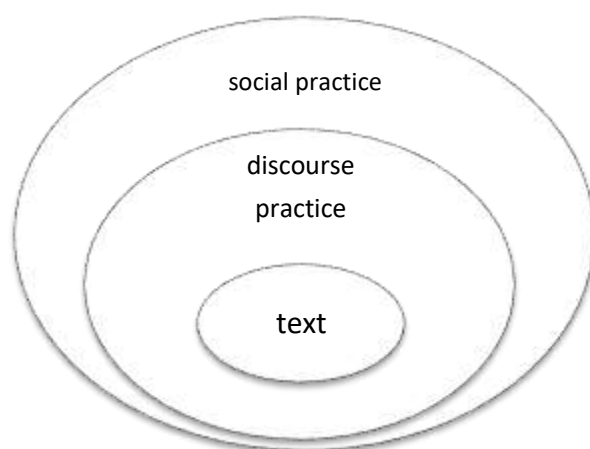
Fairclough calls the process of production or consumption of a text, discursive event or discursive practice and maintains that a discursive event, which is defined as an "instance of language use" (p. 95), is linked to the norms and conventions of the discourse. This implies that texts are produced in discursive events and their production is ruled or governed by the existing norms and conventions of the discourse and the linkage between discursive events and conventions, as a whole, is called orders

of discourse. Thus, according to Fairclough (1995), a text is produced through a discursive practice and forms a discursive event which is linked to orders of discourse which itself is based on the rules and conventions of the society. This linkage is a logical reason for what is happened in the production of news texts in English and Persian. In English, the inclusion of abbreviations is a normal part of text production, since shortening is generally a conventional rule of language use (discourse), so it is normal to encounter abbreviations both in news texts and academic books. On the contrary, dealing with abbreviations in Persian news texts is unconventional since abbreviating phrases is not a conventional process in the Persian language and by doing so, the readers need to decode the abbreviations which is in contrast with the nature of the production of the news texts in websites, i.e., conveying information in a short time.

The relationship and boundary between norms and discursive events are complicated and discursive events are difficult to be categorized, since text production usually involves combining more than one type of discourse (Fairclough, 1995). Due to this complexity, Fairclough (1995) only differentiates between discourse and genre, i.e. "uses of language associated with a particular social activity" (p.96).

By CDA, Fairclough (1995) investigates the relationship between a text and its production (discursive practice) and social and cultural relations and conventions that affect the discursive practice. He considers this relationship obscure because the relationship between social structures, power relations, and discourse is not clear to those involved (Bourdieu, 1977, as cited in Fairclough, 1995).

To analyze this obscure relationship in discursive events, Fairclough (1995) proposes a "three-dimensional framework" (p. 94) in which any discursive event has three aspects: 1) text which is produced through 2) discursive practice which is part of 3) social practice, just like below:



In this model, discourse practice is a mediator between a text and social practice (Fairclough, 1995).

In Fairclough's model of CDA, each of the three layers needs to be analyzed respectively. One begins with the text analysis to provide some assumptions about the social discourses that affect text production (Janks, 1997). Fairclough (1995) utilizes Halliday's model to analyze the first layer which is text. Analysis of discourse practice involves investigating "socio-cognitive aspects of text production and interpretation" and social practice is analyzed in terms of ideology, power relations and culture (p.94).

3. Methodology

The present study is a comparative applied type of research that delves into the differences in translation strategies of abbreviations in International Relations, as academic discipline and news texts. The corpus of this study is comprised of 150 abbreviations of each genre (total of 300). The researcher has tried to compile a corpus in which both genres are quantitatively equal in order to avoid any fluctuation in the comparison of strategies. As for collecting abbreviations of IR as discipline, five books, which were translated in the past twenty years, along with their source texts, were found in the digital library of Allameh Tabataba'i University, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences (the years of translations were important, since it is not rational to compare outdated translations with newly translated news texts):

سیاست خارجی: نظریه‌ها، بازیگران و موارد مطالعاتی، ویر. اسمیت استیو، امیلیا هدفیلد، ترجمه: امیرمحمد حاجی‌یوسفی، محسن محمودی، ایوب کریمی، تهران: سمت، 1391

Smith, S. Hadfield, A. Dunne, T. Foreign Policy: Theories, Actors, Cases, 2nd Ed.1990

آشوب در سیاست جهان: نظریه ای در باره دگرگونی و پیوستگی، جیمز روزنا؛ ترجمه: علیرضا طیب

۱۳۸۴ تهران: روزنه،

Turbulence in World Politics: A Theory of Change and Continuity, N. Rosenau, James, 1990

۱۳۸۸ عقل سلیم و نظریه سیاست بین‌الملل، جان سی گارنت؛ ترجمه: نور محمد نوروزی، تهران: گام نو،

Commonsense and the Theory of International Politics, Garnett, John C, 1984

سازمان‌های بین‌المللی، فالکر ریتبرگر، برنارد زنگل، ماتیاس استاج؛ ترجمه: علی بغیری، تهران: دانشگاه امام صادق (ع)، 1389

International Relations: Polity, Politics and Policies; Rittberger, Volker, Bernad Zangl, Matthias Stiasch, 2006

محمد جعفر جواد، تهران: مهر، 1379 دیپلماسی نوین، آر بی بارستون؛ ترجمه:

Modern Diplomacy, R.P. Barston, 1988

Corpus of the news texts were collected in below websites:

English: Spuntiknews.com, newsweek.com, euronews.com, politico.com, edition.cnn.com, reuters.com, idpendent.co.uk

Persian: yjc.ir, farsnews.ir, mehrnews.ir, ir.sputniknews.com, tasnim.ir, farsi.euronews.com, m.dw.com

There were two procedures involved in this study, one for collecting abbreviations from the books and one for collecting abbreviations from the news texts. At first, the books were found in the library and were checked with their source texts to ensure they contained abbreviations. Then, the main texts of the books were compared with their sources and abbreviations were identified and listed based on the taxonomy provided by Mattiello (2013) (figures, tables, footnotes and other peripheral parts of the books are excluded in this study). Then, the strategies of translations were categorized and noted in front of each one. It should be noted that Zerkina et al. (2015) model of translation was not used as the framework, rather it was just used to name the processes and the researcher herself added omission to the strategies.

4. Results and findings

In the tables below, every strategy with its total percentage of occurrence for the both type of text is listed:

Table No.1: translation strategies of abbreviations in scientific books:

Strategy	Percentage
Descriptive translation	31.3
Borrowing	50
Transliteration	6
Transcription	5.3
Transference	9.33
Omission	2.6

Table No.2: translation strategies of abbreviations in news texts:

Strategy	Percentage
Descriptive translation	51.3
Borrowing	2.6
Transliteration	5.3
Transcription	2
Transference	2.6

Omission	25.3
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The study yielded the following findings: While in the Persian scientific books, the most applied strategy is borrowing, in news texts, it is a descriptive translation that dominates the translation of English news texts into Persian. After borrowing and descriptive translation, the highlighted point is the quantity of omission in these two genres. As with the news texts, about 25 percent of abbreviations were omitted during the process of translation, while in scientific books, it is the least used strategy with the percentage of 2.6. This is the order of discourse that determine the strategies in any genre and text. As with the scientific books, the order is that abbreviations are parts of the key concepts and needs to be rendered accurately. News texts may be omitted along with the other parts of the source text, since not all the information is to be translated into news texts. Only necessary parts. The least used strategy in translation of abbreviations in news texts is a transcription with a percentage of 2, because source language abbreviations are substituted with non-correlative abbreviations in this process and the appearance of abbreviations in news texts is contrary to the norms regarding the translation of news texts into the Persian language. After omission and descriptive translation, transliteration is the most used strategy in the translation of news texts (eg. INSTEX is translated into اینستکس). This strategy accelerates the process of translation, which is crucial in translating news texts because there is no need to find the underlying phrase in the process of translation. In scientific books, descriptive translation is the most used strategy after borrowing (31.3 percent compared to 50 percent). This happens because when abbreviations appear for the first time in the books, some of them are translated by descriptive strategy to let the reader comprehend them correctly for reading the rest of the books. These abbreviations are confusing or have more than one related underlying phrases. Transference strategy is used more in translation of scientific books (9.33 percent) than in the translation of news texts (2.6 percent), since Persian language have some technical abbreviations in the field of international relations that are equivalent to the source language abbreviations, but few abbreviations exist in news texts in Persian language to be equivalent to the source language abbreviations. This study also shows that the process of translation is not detached from the analysis of style, discourse and genre that are interrelated. If translation is a social practice, then readers, as a part of society, are social agents whose views and expectations affects adopting strategies by translators. If we consider production and consumption of a text as discursive events, then two discursive events are at work in the process of translating a text containing abbreviations. One is consumption, in which the translator comprehends the abbreviations, and production, in which the translator chooses the proper strategy for translating abbreviations and it goes without saying that the norms and conventions of society govern discursive events. Thus, society's norms and conventions determine the proper strategy for translating abbreviations in scientific books and news texts based on their genres. This analysis reveals the fact that how a genre of the text can affect translators' decision-making.

5. Conclusion

The aim of this study was to investigate to what extent translation strategies of abbreviations are different when the texts belong to the same area with two different discourses. As was discussed before, Fairclough (1995) considers language as a social practice governed by society's norms and conventions. If language is a social practice, then translation directly related to language is a social practice. This means that translators are social agents who act as part of society and do their jobs according to the norms and conventions of society. This investigation was done to observe how much translations are affected by these norms. It is normal to deal with abbreviations in any genres and discourses in English since abbreviations are drastically proliferated in this language. Translating these formations into other languages is another story. Abbreviations have not been proliferated in all the languages as much as English. Moreover, in some languages such as Persian, it is not conventional to encounter a shortened phrase in all the areas and genres. One of these areas is news translation. While composing a news text containing abbreviation is normal, either to the writer or to the addressees, it is not conventional to encounter a news text bombarded with abbreviations, since the text will lose its goal, which is informative. This is because native speakers of English are familiar with abbreviations and do not need to decode the text, but native speakers of Persian have to spend some time decoding them. That is why most of the abbreviations in news texts are translated into Persian with a descriptive translation strategy. When it comes to the scientific case, the case is completely different, since the addressees of a translated scientific text are experts of their field and they are familiar with the terminology of the field, since most of their books and the concepts of their major have brought in the field through the process of translation. Thus, when the translator is to translate a scientific book, they mostly borrow the abbreviated forms since it is considered as a convenient way of translating a scientific book.

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Appendix

Data collected from the scientific books:

Abbreviation	Persian Equivalent	Type of abbreviation	Translation Strategy
IR	روابط بین‌الملل	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CFP	CFP	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
DDIR	داده	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
GUT	نظریه کلان یکپارچه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
COPDAB	COPDAB	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
NSS	NSS	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
ANZUS	انزوس	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
JTC	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
WMD	WMD	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
OPEC	اوپک	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
IRBM	موشک‌های قاره‌پیما	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
MNC	MNC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
EWAMS	EWAMS	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CNN	CNN	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
FPA	FPA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing

WEIS	WEIS	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
FPA	تحليل سياست خارجى	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ACP	ACP	Elliptic initialism	Borrowing
GUTT	گات	Non-elliptic initialism	Transference
OECD	OECD	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
IPC	IPC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
NEIO	NEIO	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
UNCTAD	UNCTAD	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
GSP	GSP	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
USSR	معاهدهى منع آرمایش اتمى	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ECDC	ECDC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
ASEAN	آسه.آن	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
IMF	صندوق بين المللى پول	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
KEDS	KEDS	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
ITO	ITO	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
BIS	BIS	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
FPA	تحليل سياست خارجى	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
NATO	پيمان آنتلانتىك شمالى	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
NATO	ناتو	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
NATO	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
ASW	کلاهک چند پیکانه‌ای	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
MIRVs	موشک‌های ضد موشک بالستیک	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ABM	تسلیحات ضد ماهواره‌ای	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
DON	DON	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
FPDM	تصمیم‌گیری سياست خارجى	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
SOP	SOP	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
MBFR	MBFR	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CFF	CFF	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
IMF	IMF	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing

CSCE	کنفرانس امنیت و همکاری در اروپا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ECC	ECC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
UN	UN	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
UNESCO	یونسکو	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
SALT	مذاکرات اعراب و اسرائیل	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
SDR	SDR	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
ONUC	ONUC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
ENDC	ENDC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CCD	کمپته خلع سلاح	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
EFF	تسهیلات صندوق توسعه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CWS	معاهده منع سلاح‌های شیمیایی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
EMU	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
ONUC	ماموریت کنگو	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
UNIMOG	UNIMOG	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
GDP	GDP	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
IAEA	IAEA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
GEF	سازمان تسهیل جهانی محیط زیست	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
HIPC	HIPC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CFC	CFC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing

VERA	محدودیت‌های صادرات اختیاری	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
VERS	VERS	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
RAND	رند	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
IRA	ارتش آزادی بخش ایرلند	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ETA	اتا	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
GNP	تولید ناخالص ملی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
UNPD	UNPD	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
AIDS	ایدز	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
SARS	سارس	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
KGB	KGB	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
KGB	کا گ ب	Non-elliptic initialism	Transference
NATO	ناتو	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration

MTV	شبکه «ام.تی.وی»	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
GSP	GSP	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
FIR	اطلاعات پروازی منطقه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CNN	سی ان ان	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
MTV	MTV	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
RIV/AIDS	«ایدز»	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
GDP	تولید ناخالص ملی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
BBC	BBC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
USSR	شوروی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
USSR	اتحاد جماهیر شوروی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
GSM	GSM	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
GPS	GPS	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
OECD	OECD	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
MCA	ام سی ای	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
NHK	ان اچ کی	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
ABC	ای بی سی	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
NGO	سمن	Non-elliptic initialism	Transference
NGO	سازمان غیر دولتی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
WTO	WTO	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
GCG	GCG	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
GCG	گروه مجازی غنا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
UNESCO	یونسکو	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
NGO	سمن	Non-elliptic initialism	Transference
UN	سازمان ملل	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
OWI	دفتر اطلاعات جنگ	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
OSS	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
VOA	صدای آمریکا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
VOA	VOA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
USIA	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
USIA	USIA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing

CIA	CIA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CSECE	CSECE	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
GDP	تولید ناخالص داخلی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
SEAT	SEAT	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CSCE	CSCE	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CSCE	کنفرانس امنیت و همکاری	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
NATO	NATO	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
W3C	W3C	Alphabetism with numeral	Borrowing
WIPO	WIPO	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
IBRD	بانک بین‌المللی ترمیم و توسعه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
GATT	گات	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
EEC	جامعه اقتصادی اروپا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ASEAN	انجمن ملل جنوب شرقی آسیا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
IMO	سازمان بین‌المللی دریایی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
UNIDO	سازمان توسعه صنعتی ملل متحد	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
BSE	BSE	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
ECOSOC	شورای اقتصادی و اجتماعی ملل متحد	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CFSP	CFSP	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
WTO	WTO	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
COPA	COPA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
ETUC	ETUC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
IBRD	بانک جهانی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
DESA	دپارتمان امور اقتصادی و اجتماعی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
DESA	DESA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
UNMOVIC	UNMOVIC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
PISA	PISA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
TRAFFIC	TRAFFIC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
UNIIMOG	UNIIMOG	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing

UNBMIH	UNBMIH	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CTBT	CTBT	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
NPT	NPT	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
IAEA	IAEA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CWC	معاهده منع جامع سلاح‌های شیمیایی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
TPRB	بازنگری سیاست خارجی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
WTO	سازمان تجارت جهانی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ESAF	ESAF	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
ECU	ECU	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
CFC	CFC	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
UNEP	UNEP	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
PCC1	PCC1	Alphabetism with numeral	Borrowing
ICTY	ICTY	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
ICTR	ICTR	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing

Data collected from news texts:

Abbreviation	Persian equivalent	Type of abbreviation	Translation Strategy
CAIR	شورای روابط آمریکایی-اسلامی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
AFP	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
LHR	فرودگاه هیترولندن	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
IED	دستگاه انفجاری بداهه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
GOP	حزب جمهوری خواه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
NATO	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
ICBM	موشک بالستیک قاره پیما	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
SDF	نیروهای دموکراتیک سوریه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
NE	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
SPD	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
NPD	حزب دموکراتیک ملی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
AUMF	اجازه کاربرد نیروی نظامی علیه تروریست ها	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
NRA	انجمن ملی سلاح	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ECHR	کنوانسیون اروپایی حقوق بشر.	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CAATSA	قانون مقابله با اقدامات بی ثبات کننده ایران	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
SACH	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
INF	پیمان منع موشک های هسته ای میان برد	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ITV	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
FSKN	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission

PLA	ارتش آزادی بخش خلق	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
USARPAC	-----	Back-clipping	Omission
IPO	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
MEP	عضو پارلمان اروپا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
AEB	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
AP	اسوشیتد پرسی	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
AIQIS	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
NDS	ریاست عمومی امنیت ملی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
JASTA	جاستا	Non-elliptic initialism	Transference
CIA	سیا	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
NASSI	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
FBI	FBI	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
JASTA	قانون عدالت علیه حامیان تروریسم	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
DNC	کمیته ملی دموکرات	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
MI5	ام آی 5	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
MI6	ام آی 6	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
SIS	سازمان اطلاعات مخفی بریتانیا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
FBI	اف بی آی	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
FSB	سازمان امنیت فدرال روسیه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
IOM	سازمان بین المللی مهاجرت	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CBS	سی بی اس	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
EU	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
UAE	امارات	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
MSNBC	ام اس ان بی سی	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
NPT	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
SPA	مجمع عالی خلق کره شمالی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
EAD	اجازه کار	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
BMP20	بی ام پی 20	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
IDF	ارتش اسرائیل	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
G-20	جی-20	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
PJAK	پژاک	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
USS	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
FYROM	جمهوری یوگوسلاوی سابق	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
EAD	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
PIA	هواپیمایی بین المللی پاکستان	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
IADS	سیستم دفاع هوایی یکپارچه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
GSOMIA	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
RAF	نیروی هوایی سلطنتی بریتانیا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
LBC	ال بی سی	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
QRA	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
PIR	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
PKK	حزب کارگران کردستان	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
HOPE	-----	Semantically-relevant acrostic	Omission
MAKS	ماکس	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
VUB	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
DMZ	منطقه غیر نظامی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
IADS	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
DF-3A	DF-3A	Alphabetism with numeral	Borrowing

DF-21	DF-21	Alphabetism with numeral	Borrowing
AFP	خبرگزاری فرانسه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
MSF	پزشکان بدون مرز	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
HRC	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
INSTEX	اینستکس	Non-elliptic initialism & back-clipping	Transliteration
DHS	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
F-35	اف-35	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
ICBM	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
S-400	اس-400	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
FBI	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
IAEA	آژانس بین‌المللی انرژی اتمی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
SATMA	ساتما	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
STFI	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
NSC	شورای امنیت ملی آمریکا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CFR	شورای روابط خارجی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
PPS	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
WTO	سازمان تجارت جهانی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
RQ-4	آرکیو-4	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
USS	کشتی جنگی نیروی دریایی ایالات متحده	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
YPG	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
SPV	ساز و کار ویژه بازرگانی و فراهم مالی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
UNHQ	مقر سازمان ملل متحد	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
KCNA	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
NDA	NDA	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
USMCA	توافق ایالات متحده-مکزیک-کانادا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
BAMS-D	BAMS-D	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
TOC	جرم سازمان‌یافته	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
MQ-4C	ام کیو-4 سی	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
WTO	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
YPG	ی پ گ	Non-elliptic initialism	Transference
NATO	ناتو	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
S-300PT	اس-300 پی تی	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
S-300PT	اس-300	Alphabetism with numeral	Transcription
TEL	TEL	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
SNCF	راه آهن ملی فرانسه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
TGV	حمل‌ونقل ریلی بین شهری پرسرعت	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ASEAN	آسه آن	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
CFSP	سیاست خارجی اتحادیه اروپا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
UNAMA	یوناما	Non-elliptic initialism	Transference
DOD	وزارت دفاع آمریکا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
DW	دویچه وله	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
R&D	فعالیت‌های تحقیق و توسعه	Alphabetism with symbol	Descriptive translation
CDU	حزب دمکرات مسیحی آلمان	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
SPD	حزب سوسیال دمکرات	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
SDF	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
DOD	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
NDA	قانون اختیارات دفاعی ملی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
INSTEX	INSTEX	Non-elliptic initialism	Borrowing
JCPOA	برجام	Non-elliptic initialism	Transference

Dec	دسامبر	Back-clipping	Omission
NTC	دولت وفاق ملی لیبی	Elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
NPT	ان پی تی	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
NSA	آژانس امنیت ملی آمریکا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
AQIS	القائده در شبه قاره هند	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ABM	پیمان موشک‌های ضد بالستیک	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CAATSA	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
START	استارت	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
COE	---	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
CDC	مرکز کنترل و پیشگیری بیماری	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CAA	اعتراضات به اصلاحیه قانون شهروندی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
NRC	لایحه شهروندی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
MSF	----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
TAAD	تاد	Non-elliptic initialism	Transliteration
BJP	حزب حاکم بهاراتیا جاناتا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
HUD	وزارت مسکن و توسعه شهری آمریکا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
UAV	پهپاد	Non-elliptic initialism	Transference
SNP	حزب ملی اسکاتلند	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
KCNA	«کی. سی. این. ای»	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
MP	نماینده مجلس	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ABC	ای بی سی	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
UN	سازمان ملل	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
UNSMIL	ماموریت پشتیبانی سازمان ملل متحد از لیبی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
GNA	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
OFAC	دفتر کنترل دارایی‌های خارجی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
USDT	وزارت خزانه‌داری آمریکا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
NATO	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
E.O.	فرمان اجرایی	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
IRGC	سپاه پاسداران	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
START	معاهده کاهش سلاح‌های استراتژیک	Semantically-relevant acrostic	Descriptive translation
OPEC	کشورهای صادرکننده نفت	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
IDA	انجمن بین‌المللی توسعه	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
OAU	سازمان وحدت آفریقا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation

ASW	کلاهک چند پیکانه‌ای	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
MIRVs	موشک‌های ضد موشک بالستیک	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ABM	تسلیحات ضد ماهواره‌ای	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation

SPIEF	نشست بین‌المللی اقتصادی سنت پترزبورگ	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
AOC	-----	Non-elliptic initialism	Omission
DNC	کمیته ملی دموکراتیک	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
MAS	جنبش برای سوسیالیسم	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
CNN	سی ان ان	Non-elliptic initialism	Transcription
OMB	مدیریت بودجه کاخ سفید	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
ECB	بانک مرکزی اروپا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation
DFID	اداره توسعه بین‌المللی بریتانیا	Non-elliptic initialism	Descriptive translation