

Research on English Translation in Agricultural Economic Environment

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ABSTRACT. *In the international trade of agriculture, translators need to have high translation ability and professional quality, and they must make every effort to provide communication convenience for both parties in trade. The most basic principles of translation by translators are “faithfulness” and “smoothness”, so as to provide sufficient and accurate information. This paper first briefly introduces the English translation under the agricultural economic environment, then reveals several problems that often occur in the practical work of agricultural English translators, and finally puts forward several tasks that should be done in the training of agricultural English translation talents in colleges from the perspective of higher education.*

KEYWORDS: *Agricultural economy; English translation; Agricultural english*

1. Introduction

Agricultural economy is the general term of economic relations and activities in agriculture. Agricultural economy is the cornerstone of the national economy of the majority countries in the world and the starting industry to drive the national economic development. As a large agricultural country, China has been actively participated in the international exchange and cooperation in agricultural economy for a long time and has made remarkable achievements. In recent years, China's trade with other countries and regions in agricultural economy has become more and more closer. The agricultural economy has different characteristics in different times. At present, the “one belt and one road” strategy has injected a strong driving force for the development of China's agricultural economy and opened a new path for China's agricultural economy to “go global”. Under the background of “one belt and one road”, the agricultural economic trade between China and countries along the “one belt and one road” is increasingly numerous, which requires a large number of excellent English translation talents [1]. At the same time, in recent years, China's agricultural economy has achieved many scientific and technological achievements, and the outward dissemination of these scientific and technological achievements also requires a large number of excellent English translators.

2. Problems of English Translation in Agricultural Economy

In China's current international agricultural economic and trade, English translators still have many problems that need to be solved urgently, which reduce the quality of translation to different degrees and affect the smooth development of international agricultural economic and trade. Generally speaking, the English translation under the agricultural economy has the following prominent problems.

2.1 Missing Translation

In the process of agricultural English translation, translators sometimes face the situation of missing translation due to unfamiliar words, accents, insufficient vocabulary, or psychological stress. Translators that new to translation work are prone to miss translation issues. For example, for the expression of "In the first nine months of 2019, Russia's Sverdlovsk state's total grain exports to China nearly doubled." Translators translate it as: "In the first 9 months of 2019, Russia's Sverdlovsk region's grain exports to China doubled". It can be seen that the translators missed the translation of the words "total" and "nearly" during the translation process, which could no longer "faithfully" express the original meaning. Missing "total" is missing a scope qualifier. The original text stated "total food exports", and the translator missed this qualifier and only said "food exports", which made the listener mistakenly believe that it was the total food exports. In addition, the translator missed the "nearly" qualifier. The original statement is "nearly 1 times", while the translator omits the qualifier and only says "1 times", which makes the listener think that the increase is exactly 1 times.

2.2 Mistranslation

Agricultural English also has the overall characteristics of scientific English, such as objective, rigorous, standardized, professional, and logical[2]. When translators carry out translation work, they often encounter many professional vocabulary at the economic level, such as soilless cultivation, greenhouse drip irrigation, high-end breeding, land reform, mechanized farming, and so on. In the face of many professional vocabularies, when translating, translators sometimes use words they know well to express words with other meanings. The sentences thus translated are quite different from the original meanings. Translators' blind self-confidence and empiricism are important reasons for their mistranslation problems. When they see the words they are familiar with, the translator blurts out without further investigation, which leads to ambiguity in the listener. For example, for the sentence of "The highlight of the shed film economy is the off-season production, using new materials, new technology, not only can produce off-season vegetables, flowers, but also save labor, electricity", the translator translates it as: "The biggest highlight of the shed film economy is off-season production. The use of new materials and new technologies can not only produce off-season vegetables and flowers, but also save labor and electricity costs". It can be seen that the

translators translate “off-season” into “off-season”, which is very different in word meaning from the “anti-season” expressed in the original text.

2.3 Grammatical Misunderstanding

Chinese and English are very different in terms of grammatical expressions. When translating from English to Chinese, some translators are often affected by Chinese expression habits, resulting in grammatical errors. For example, “I want to visit your farm next month.”, the translator translates it as “I think to visit your farm next month.” It can be seen that translators use “to” directly after “think”, which is a typical Chinese grammatical feature. English grammar clearly states that you need to use that clause or of+V-ing structure after think. The correct translation of the sentence should be “I think that I’ll visit your farm next month.” or “I’m thinking of visiting your farm next month.”

2.4 Lack of Professional Knowledge and Related Knowledge

In international agricultural trade, translators need to have a wealth of professional knowledge if they want to express the original content “faithfully” and “smoothly”. If professional knowledge is lacking, translators will have problems such as miss translation, mistranslation, and unsatisfactory words. In addition, agricultural international trade also contains many aspects such as politics, history, geography, tourism, e-commerce, business administration, and law. If the translators only understand the knowledge of agricultural economy and translation, and know nothing about other aspects, it will also affect the quality of translation. For example, when translating “new socialist countryside”, translators cannot translate directly into “new socialist countryside”. This is because socialist is a very sensitive word in Western countries. In this regard, translators should subtract the word socialist when translating “new socialist countryside” and directly translate the word “new socialist countryside” into “new countryside” [3].

3. Some Suggestions on the Training of College English Translation Talents in Agricultural Economy

In the context of agricultural globalization, more agricultural English translators are needed to build a bridge between China and the international community in agricultural science and technology exchanges, academic conferences, agricultural trade and agricultural cooperation [4]. Cultivation of agricultural English translation talents needs to give full play to the educational advantages of universities. In talent training, colleges need to do the followings.

First of all, colleges should increase the proportion of agricultural economic knowledge in the course of English translation according to market demand. In order to further improve the quality of teaching, colleges can develop agricultural English translation school-based textbooks, which should be more close to the times, such as

the “Belt and Road”, “New Countryside”, “Blockchain + Agricultural Industry”, etc., to consolidate the students’ agricultural English translation foundation. In specific teaching, English teachers should also maintain close exchanges and cooperation with personnel of agricultural economic research institutions to jointly evaluate students’ translation and interpretation to fully ensure the quality of students’ learning.

Secondly, colleges should strengthen cooperation with agricultural enterprises to jointly establish a platform for training English translation talents. During the teaching period, colleges should send students with high translation ability to agricultural enterprises, so that students can practice translation tools, translation quality control and other knowledge in real agricultural international trade. Different from studying in school, students can learn more agricultural economic knowledge in the practice of agricultural enterprises, which can improve translation ability more faster.

Finally, colleges strengthen cooperation with foreign colleges and universities, and actively establish cooperative relations for the cultivation of agricultural English translation talents. Colleges can regularly select outstanding students to receive agricultural English translation education abroad. In this way, colleges can not only significantly improve students’ agricultural English translation skills, but also enable students to learn more about foreign cultures, especially agricultural culture. At the same time, this is of great significance for their future agricultural English translation work.

4. Conclusion

Translation is an act of cross-cultural and cross-discourse communication. At present, China’s agricultural international trade is becoming increasingly frequent. The diversification of trade content and forms requires translators to have high translation skills and professional quality. Translators should constantly improve themselves to ensure high-quality translation tasks.

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