Translation of Transitivity from English to Arabic: The Case of News Texts

Arwa Saif Al Saeedi[1], Abdulkhaliq Alazzawie[2*]

[1]*Freelancer & Independent Researcher, Sultanate of Oman, Oman*

[2]*Department of Foreign Languages, University of Nizwa, Sultanate of Oman, Oman*

*****Corresponding Author:** Abdulkhaliq Alazzawie, Department of Foreign Languages, University of Nizwa, Sultanate of Oman, Oman.*

ABSTRACT

This paper aims to analyze news articles translated from English into Arabic using the Transitivity System developed by M.A.K. Halliday. It attempts to account for the different representation of clauses in the Source Language (SL) and Target Language (TL) based on the Transitivity System, showing to what extent it has affected the meaning of the text. The analysis of data was based on a qualitative descriptive method with inductive perspective. Data were taken randomly from 64 news articles. Certain sentences were chosen from the articles and segmented into single clauses. Each clause was presented with its translation and analyzed for its Process, Participants, and Circumstances. Then, both texts were annotated to show how Transitivity was represented in both languages (SL and TL). It was found that in some cases, the different representation of Transitivity System of clauses in news articles changed the ST meaning, also affected the accuracy of the TT and changed the perspective drawn by ST writer.

Keywords: *Process, Source text, Systemic Functional Grammar, Target text, Transitivity*

INTRODUCTION

Halliday has interpreted language as "a system of meanings, accompanied by forms through which the meanings can be realized" (1985, xiv),and answered the question of how these meanings are realized in the clause.Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) has divided language structures according to their use into three metafunctions: ideational, interpersonal, and textual metafunction. The role of these metafunctions is to explore the structures of language within context and to realize meaning (White, 2000).

To Halliday, Transitivity is "a system of the clause, affecting not only the verb serving as Process, but also Participants and Circumstances." (Halliday & Mathiessen, 2014, p. 181). This system has influenced modern linguistics and has been used to study not only English and Chinese, but other languages as well. Here, Transitivity concerns the structure of clauses and divides clauses into three basic elements: Process, Participants, and Circumstances. When further broken down, Process can be defined by verbal structure, Participants by nominal structure, and Circumstances by adverbs and prepositions.

Ideational Metafunction (Clause as a Representation)

The ideational metafunction realizes the clause as a representation of world experiences or processes such as actions, events, and relations by using certain lexicogrammatical choices. The ideational metafunction answers the question of 'who does what to whom?'. This metafunction can be divided into experiential function and logical function.

The experiential metafunction describes experiences, ideas, and situations. It involves all things that could happen, all people, and circumstances. The lexicogrammatical choices made in the experiential metafunction are part of the Transitivity System which will be discussed in the next section more detail. Experiential metafunction is realized by the Transitivity System, voice, and polarity.The logical function relates one experience to another and expresses their meaning logically.

Transitivity

Halliday (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2014) asserted that all reality (or fact) consists of Processes. These Processes are the Process of going on, happening, doing, sensing, meaning,

being and becoming. In his theory, the term Process is used "to cover all phenomena…and anything that can be expressed by a verb: event, whether physical or not, state, or relation" (Halliday, 1976, p. 159). Halliday referred to such phenomena as Transitivity.

The Transitivity System provides lexicogrammatical options for constructing a quantum of meaning centered on Processes. It describes how meaning is carried through the clause. Thompson (1996, p. 78) defines Transitivity as the system used to describe the whole clause and not just a verb and its object.

As a semantic category, Transitivity in SFG functions at the clause level rather than at the level of the verband its object only. In each clause, Transitivity asks about the actors, the acted upon, and the Processes involved (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2014). Based on the type of verb, the notion of Transitivity includes three main types of Processes: Material, Mental, and Relational Processes. It also includes three minor types: Behavioural, Verbal, and Existential Processes. A detailed explanation will be provided in the sections that follow.

in SFG, clauses are composed of three parts: the Process, Participants, and Circumstances. The Process is the main element of the clause and can be related to one or more Participants and Circumstances. A Process is realized by a verbal group.

The Participants are realized by the nominal group in a clause. They represent the role of directly involved entities. In other words, they reflect the one that does, behaves, says, is done to, is said to, etc. The number of participants depends on the type of Process which we will refer to later in the detailed discussion of types of Process. The Circumstances are related to temporal and spatial information which are realized by adverbial groups or prepositional phrases.

In translation studies, theories of linguistics have been widely used. Some scholars have considered linguistics as a tool for studying translation (Fawcett, 1997; Taylor 1998; Jakobson 1962). Fawcett (1997) has described linguistics as a translation toolkit, whereas Taylor (1998) has described it as a linguistic phenomenon. Systemic Function Grammar has also been used by different scholars to discuss and reflect upon different translation topics. Concepts of this theory have been adopted in translation (Baker, 1992; Hatim and Mason,

1997). An extensive body of research has been conducted to investigate Transitivity System in relation to translation (Baker, 1992; Hatim and Mason, 1997; House, 1997; Steiner, 2005).

However, only a few have applied these investigations on the actual corpus of English-Arabic texts.The present studypresents research that links linguistics with translation studies. Here, Systemic Functional Grammar is used to analyze translated texts focusing on the ideational meaning with particular attention to what Halliday called the "Transitivity System" (Halliday, 1985).

Objectives and Research Question

The objective of this paper is to show how the Transitivity System employed in English news articles is reflected (viewed, perceived, and translated) in the Arabic target text in terms of the Participant, Process, and Circumstance.

The primary research question is as follows:

To what extent has the different representation of clauses based on the Transitivity System, such as Verbiage, Actor or Material Process, in English news articles source texts been changed in the target Arabic texts?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study is a qualitative study with an inductive perspective in which news articles and their translations have been analyzed in the light of Halliday's system of Transitivity. Qualitative analysis was adopted because it focuses on the depth of small samples and on small single cases which is the case in this research (Conway, 2014). The research uses the Transitivity System forthe analysis of the language used by the translators of the news articles.

Research Approach

The main approach of this research is an inductive approach (Feeney &Heit, 2007). According to this approach, the researcher builds conclusions based on a specific observation. The inductive approach generates meaning from the data collected by the researcher. The reason for opting for such an approach is to know in depth the extent of change that occurs in the source text (ST) according to the Transitivity System during the process of translation.

Corpus of the Study, Limitation, Data Collection Tools and Procedures

This study aims to analyze news articles and their translations published by Reuters from February 28th, 2018 to March 18th, 2018. The corpus includes 68 randomly selected samples with their translations which were done by Reuters' staff. The selection of this limited number of texts is due to the nature of analysis being applied. Halliday's system of transitivity focuses on individual lexical and specific features of a text. Thus, taking a large sample may not be practical, given the time limitation of conducting this study. It is worth noting that the conclusion cannot be generalized because the sample that has been studied is a very limited one and to draw a generalized conclusion, the researcher needs to analyze more samples which is research that could be conducted in the future.

This research has gone through the following procedures:

- The samples were collected from the official website of Reuters.
- The English texts (ST) were divided into clauses because the system used explores the clause as a representation.
- The clauses will be analyzed for their Process types, Participants, and Circumstances (if any) as the components of the Transitivity System.
- The classified texts (Source Texts/ST) were compared with their Arabic translations (Target Text/TT).
- The Arabic texts (TT) were classified according to the Process type, the related Participants and Circumstances (if any).

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

This section is the practical part of the current research which analyzes clauses from the samples stated in the previous section. The analysis is divided into four parts according to the Transitivity System: Processes translation, Participants translation, Circumstances translation, and clauses translation. The discussion includes analyzing clauses from English (ST) to Arabic (TT) only. The analyzed text is underlined. This section will answer the main question of the research that is to what has the Transitivity System employed in news articles of ST has changed in the target text?

ProcessTranslation

Sample 1

ST:

Sara Netanyahu's lawyer said "her questioning took place at a police station near Tel Aviv, while the prime minister was questioned at his official residence in Jerusalem".

TT:

وقال محامي سارة لرويترز إن موكلته أدلت بشهادتها في مركز للشرطة قرب تل أبيب، بينما استجوبت الشرطة نتنياهو في مقر إقامته الرسمي في القدس.

Back Translation:

Sara's lawyer told Reuters that his client testified at a police station near Tel Aviv, while Netanyahu was questioned by the police at his official residence in Jerusalem.

Here, the translator did not reflect the Process of the ST: *took place*. The translator has paraphrased the Verbiage "*her questioning… in Jerusalem*" which, in the ST, is presented in the form of a quotation. Therefore, the translator added إنَ, which has the function of *that,* and according to the Arabic syntax, إنَ must be followed by a nominal structure[1] which explains the absence of the Process[2].

The use of quotes in news writing results in greateraccuracy and clarity and more closely reflects reality. As a result of translating a quote into a reported speech, the translator has taken the risk of losing these three features.

Add to that, the Process *took place*, is a Circumstantial Process, a Process functioning as a circumstance of location (See section 1.2). The ST writer used a Circumstantial Process and a circumstance of location in the same clause to place emphasis on the location of the questioning. The deletion of Circumstantial Process has minimized this emphasis.

The rearrangement, however, has created a different understanding and presented different focuses, thus affecting the accuracy of the translation.

Sample 1

ST:

Sara was questioned under police caution, indicating that she could become a suspect.

---

[1] A nominal sentence is a sentence that starts with a noun and consisting of a subject and a predicate.
[2] أدلت is a verb of the predicate clause.

TT:

<div dir="rtl">

المقابلة القانونية التي أجريت معها كانت مسجلة بعد أن تليت عليها حقوقها لاحتمال أن تصبح مشتبها بها.
</div>

Back Translation:

The legal interview with her was recorded after her right were read out loud having been advised that she might become a suspect.

Here, the translator has made some major changes in translating the clause. The translator has changed the ST Process: *was questioned*, Process of Material, to a different TT Process: كانت, Relational Process. The translator not only change the Process type, but also its nature by translating it to a Participant. The Process in ST, *was questioned*, has become a Participant in the TT, المقابلةالقانونية. The changes resulted in shifting the focus of the text. Although the translator has reflected the main idea, s/he has created a different comprehension as well as making unnecessary additions to the TT, such as "the legal interview conducted with her was recorded".

Sample 1

ST:

A representative for Elovitch had no immediate comment and Hefetz's lawyer did not respond to a request for comment.

TT:

<div dir="rtl">

ولم يدل مندوب عن إيلوفيتش بأي تعقيب ولم يرد محامي هيفيتز على طلبات للتعقيب.
</div>

The translator here has changed the type of Process by translating *had,*a Relational Process, into يدل, Material Process. It appears that this shift did not result in a different mental image nor change the meaning of ST. The translator has successfully deciphered the Participants and their exact roles in the text.

Back Translation:

An Elovitch delegate did not give any comment, and Hefetz's lawyer did not respond to requests for comment.

Sample 1

ST:

So far, partners in Netanyahu's governing coalition have stood by him, saying they are awaiting the attorney-general's next moves.

TT:

<div dir="rtl">

وحتى الآن وقف شركاء نتنياهو في الائتلاف الحاكم في صفه قائلين إنهم بانتظار التحركات المقبلة للنائب العام.
</div>

Back Translation:

So far, Netanyahu's partners in the governing coalition have been on his side, saying that they are awaiting the Attorney General's next moves.

In this example, the Process of ST *are awaiting*was translated into a PP in the TT بانتظارIt seems that thetranslator has made this shift to reflect the continuity of the action or situation (i.e., it is an ongoing situation). The progressive aspect in the Arabic language is not presented in the verb group as in English. Instead, it is expressed by using lexical items or a grammatical construction such as a PP. The NP within the PP is derived from an underlying verb. In the example above, the translator has opted for a PP as بـ for preposition and انتظار as NP reflecting the continuity of the action and preserving the time reference of the ST.

Sample 2

ST:

Lieutenant Colonel Wilson Rono, a spokesman for the African Union-backed peace-keeping force AMISOM, said on Friday that there had been an ambush by al Shabaab but he did not have any details on casualties. He did not answer phone calls on Friday evening seeking further information.

TT:

<div dir="rtl">

وقال اللفتنانت كولونيل ويلسون رونو المتحدث باسم قوات حفظ السلام التابعة للاتحاد الأفريقي يوم الجمعة إن حركة الشباب نصبت كمينا لكن ليست لديه تفاصيل حول سقوط قتلى أو جرحى. ولم يرد على اتصالات هاتفية مساء الجمعة طلبا لمزيد من المعلومات.
</div>

Back Translation:

Lieutenant Colonel Wilson Rono, a spokesman for the African Union-backed peace-keeping force AMISOM, said on Friday that Al-Shabaab had set up an ambush, but he had no details of any casualties or deaths. He did not respond to phone calls on Friday evening asking for more information.

Here, the translator did not translate the Process of the ST *had been,* Process of Existing. The ST clause has been translated into a nominal structure that has no verb as previously indicated. One possible reason for such a change is that the Arabic style of writing uses إن "that" after the verb قال "said". The structure of إنis composed of إن followed by nominal sentence. However, the translator did not reflect the ST accurately. Since *there*provides no information (See section 2, Existential Process), the focus is

on the Existential, *an ambush*. Added to that, the passive structure has played a role in emphasizing the participant *an ambush*. The Translator has shifted the focus from the Existential, *an ambush* to حركة الشباب"Al Shabaabmovement" that is the subject of passive voice. It seems that the way the ST sentence is worded is more passive sounding than the TT, making the action sound more removed or remote. In the TT, the writer uses very direct language, making Al-Shabab sound more sinister, as reflected in the back translation.

Sample 3

ST:

Vladimir Putin announced an array of new nuclear weapons on Thursday.

TT:

<div dir="rtl">كشف الرئيس الروسي فلاديمير بوتين عن مجموعة من الأسلحة النووية الجديدة</div>

Back Translation:

Russian President, Vladimir Putin, revealed a new array of nuclear weapons.

Here, the translator has changed the type of Process of the ST. The Process of the ST *announced,* Process of saying, is translated into كشف "revealed", Process of doing. Apparently, such change affected the meaning of the text in addition to changing the mental image conjured up in the mind of the TT readers. The TT changes the meaning outlaid in the ST. To announce something is to state its existence or possible existence – the product/s could still be in the making. But, in the TT, the verb "revealed" is more active. So, it is basically like saying that Putin showed the new products to some audience, even if just to the Press.

Sample 3

ST:

Other new super weapons he listed included underwater nuclear drones, a supersonic weapon and a laser weapon.

TT:

<div dir="rtl">ومن الأسلحة الأخرى التي كشف عنها طائرات نووية دون طيار تعمل تحت الماء وسلاح أسرع من الصوت وسلاح ليزر</div>

Back Translation:

Among the other weapons revealed was an underwater nuclear unmanned aircraft, a supersonic weapon and a laser weapon.

The translator, in this example, has translated a Material Process *included* into a nominal sentence that has no verb. The translator may have made such change to keep a more stylistically balanced and natural TT. In doing so, however, the translatorhere is dragging out the sentence and clouding the meaning.

Sample

ST:

A spokesman for Kushner attorney Abbe Lowell said the report was the "mischief" of unnamed sources conducting a "misinformation campaign" to mislead the news media.

TT:

<div dir="rtl">وقال متحدث باسم آبي لويل محامي كوشنر إن هذا التقرير صادر عن مصادر لم يكشف عن اسمها تباشر "حملة معلومات مغلوطة" لتضليل وسائل الإعلام</div>

Back Translation:

A spokesman for Kushner's attorney, Abe Lowell, said that the report was issued by unnamed sources who are conducting a "misinformation campaign" to mislead the media.

In this example, the Process of ST *was*, Relational Process, has been deleted. The deletion is due to different grammatical representation of ST in TT. The translator has translated a Relational Process into a nominal structure that includes a covert copula linking the main constituents of the sentence (e.g.هو). Clause-structure change, according to Chesterman (1997), is one of the translation strategies used to overcome the differences between SL and TL.

The second difference is that this translator leaves out "the mischief" and just sticks to the facts without this further damning comment. The word "mischief" implies that someone is "up to no good." The TT here uses "was issued" which sounds more passive and removed from the responsibility of committing the action..

Sample 6

ST:

Kremlin officials privately acknowledge some voters are reluctant to show up and vote, even if they support Putin, because they believe his victory is already a foregone conclusion. The officials say though the vote will be fair.

TT:

<div dir="rtl">ويقر مسؤولو الكرملين في أحاديثهم الخاصة بأن بعض الناخبين يحجمون عن الذهاب للجان الاقتراع حتى المؤيدين لبوتين لأنهم</div>

يعتقدون أن فوزه أمر مسلم به. لكن المسؤولين يقولون إن الانتخابات ستكون نزيهة.

Back Translation:

Kremlin officials privately acknowledge that some voters are reluctant to go to the voting station, even those who support Putin, because they believe his wining is granted. But the officials say the elections will be fair.

In this example, the translator has translated a Process into a Circumstance. The Process *support* was translated into the Circumstance: المؤيدين, *Extending*. The Process of ST *support* is the verb of the condition '*even if*', whereas المؤيدين is a part of the Circumstance of Accompaniment, an additive. Usually the condition '*even if*' is used to add emphasis (Yule, 2009). The translator has translated the 'even if' structure into حتى, corresponding with "*even*". This may have led to structural changes causing loss of the emphasis feature, and this affected the intended meaning of the text.

Sample 7

ST:

"I will convince everybody now under the treaty to get out, get out," Duterte said. "It is not a document that was prepared by anybody; it's EU-sponsored."

TT:

وقال الرئيس الفلبيني "سأقنع جميع الموقعين على المعاهدة بالانسحاب... هذه.. وثيقة ... تم إعدادها برعاية الاتحاد الأوروبي."

Back Translation:

"I will persuade all signatories to the treaty to withdraw ... this is ... a document ... prepared under EU-sponsorship," the Philippine president said.

The translator, in this example, has translated one Process type into a different Process type. The Process *is*, a Process of Relation, is translated into the Process إعداد "preparing/ drafting", Process of doing. Arabic does not have copula verbs in the present tense, which makes it necessary to change the type of Process to meet the TT grammatical norms (Comrie and Eid, 1991). Another translation challenge is the use of hyphen in *EU-sponsored* that does not exist in the TL as well. Likely, the translator obligatorily opts for this translation to get around these two difficulties.

Sample 8

ST:

Zimbabwe's first presidential and parliamentary elections since the end of former strongman Robert Mugabe's long rule will take place in July, President Emmerson Mnangagwa said on Saturday.

TT:

قال امرسونمنانجاجوا رئيس زيمبابوي إن البلاد ستشهد في يوليو تموز المقبل أول انتخابات رئاسية وبرلمانية منذ نهاية حكم الرئيس السابق روبرت موجابي الذي امتد لعقود من الزمن.

Back Translation:

Zimbabwean President Emerson Mnangagwa has said that next July the country will witness its first presidential and parliamentary elections since the end of former President Robert Mugabe's decades-long rule.

Here, the Process type was changed during the process of translation. The ST Process *will take*, a Process of doing, has been translated into ستشهد "witness/see", Process of behaving. Such change has affected the intended message of the ST. The main message that the ST needed to deliver is "the date of the election", which can be seen through the use of information as Circumstance of the head *elections*. It seems that the translator changed the Process type and therefore, in changing Participants and their exact roles, also shifted the focus - that "there will be elections for the first time".

Sample 11

ST:

Russia denies any involvement and says it is the U.S.-led Atlantic alliance that is a risk to peace in Europe.

TT:

وتنفي روسيا أي دور لها وتقول إن حلف شمال الأطلسي الذي تقوده الولايات المتحدة يمثل خطرا على السلام في أوروبا.

Back Translation:

Russia denies any involvement and says that the US-led NATO is a threat to peace in Europe.

The ST Process *is*, a Relational Process, was not translated in the TT. The translator has used a nominal structure in translating the clause *it is the U.S.-led Atlantic alliance that is a risk to peace in Europe*. The Nominal structure of

Arabic does not include verbs. Therefore, the Process of ST has been deleted.

Sample 16

ST:

A fire at a hotel in the Philippine capital <u>killed</u> three people on Sunday and injured nearly two dozen, police and rescue officials said, with two people listed as missing.

TT:

قالت الشرطة ومسؤولو إنقاذ إن حريقا اندلع في فندق بالعاصمة الفلبينية مانيلا يوم الأحد مما أسفر عن وفاة ثلاثة أشخاص وإصابة نحو 20 آخرين كما أن هناك شخصين مفقودان.

Back Translation:

Police and rescue officials said that a fire broke out in a hotel in the Philippine capital, Manila, on Sunday, killing three people and wounding about 20 others, as well as two people missing.

Here the translator has translated a Process *killed*, a Process of Material, into a Circumstance عن وفاة, a Circumstance of Result. Although the translator did not reflect the Process and its Participants' exact roles, he/she succeeded in creating a close mental image in the mind of TT readers. Apparently, the translator opted for such a shift to maintain the text's focus.

Sample 18

ST:

Damascus appears to be applying tried and tested military means...

TT:

وتطبق دمشق <u>فيما يبدو</u> أساليب عسكرية مجربة...

Back Translation:

Damascus is using apparently tested military methods ...

In this example, the ST Process *appears*, a Process of Behaving, is translated into the Circumstance فيما يبدو, a Circumstance of Manner. Unlike *appears* that defines or has scope over the whole clause in the ST, the TT فيما يبدو defines only "أساليب عسكرية مجربة 'tried and tested military means".The translator has failed to render an accurate translation.

Sample 13

ST:

Russian petrochemical group Sibur<u>is</u> in talks with Saudi Aramco to set up a venture to produce synthetic rubber, its chief said in a move highlighting growing cooperation between OPEC leader - Saudi Arabia and Russia, the biggest non-OPEC oil exporter.

TT:

قال رئيس شركة البتروكيماويات الروسية العملاقة سيبور إن الشركة تجري محادثات مع أرامكو السعودية لإقامة مشروع لإنتاج المطاط الصناعي، في تحرك يلقي الضوء على تنامي التعاون بين السعودية العضو البارز في أوبك وروسيا أكبر مُصدر للنفط من خارج المنظمة.

Back Translation:

The head of the giant Russian petrochemical company, Sibur, said that the company is in talks with Saudi Aramco to establish a project to produce synthetic rubber, in a move that highlights the growing cooperation between Saudi Arabia, a prominent member of OPEC, and Russia, the largest oil exporter outside the organization.

Here, the Process of the ST *is*, a Process of Relation, is not translated. As discussed before, Relational Process could pose a difficulty for the translator because of the different grammatical structures of the two languages. It is possible that the translator obligatory changed the Process type in the TT to meet the Arabic norms of style and create a similar effect inherent in the ST.

Sample 19

ST:

U.S. shale oil output is set to surge over the next five years, stealing market share from OPEC producers and moving the United States, once the world's top oil importer, closer to self-sufficiency, the International Energy Agency said on Monday.

TT:

قالت وكالة الطاقة الدولية يوم الاثنين إن من المتوقع أن ينمو إنتاج النفط الصخري الأمريكي على مدى السنوات الخمس المقبلة ليستحوذ على جزء من حصة منتجي أوبك في السوق ولتقترب الولايات المتحدة، التي كانت في فترة ما أكبر مستوردي النفط في العالم، من تحقيق الاكتفاء الذاتي

Back Translation:

The International Energy Agency said on Monday that US shale oil production is expected to grow in the next five years, overtaking part of the market share of OPEC producers, and the United States became, which was once the world's largest oil importer, close to achieving self-sufficiency.

The Process *is set*, which might be perceived as a Process of doing, is translated into the Circumstance من المتوقع "it is expected", Circumstance of Projection. More likely is that the translator has translated the Process into a Circumstance to maintain the level of emphasis and to naturalize the TT. However, "is set" can take on different meanings, but in this sentence it most likely means that the company has positioned itself or has prepared to do this; so, ultimately, this expression here can be taken to mean "to be on the point of doing something." So this is basically a prediction or a forecast – a statement of what is likely to happen in the near future.

Participant Translation

Sample 1

ST:

The lawyer said Sara was questioned under police caution, indicating that she could become a suspect.

TT:

وأضاف أن المقابلة القانونية التي أجريت معها كانت مسجلة بعد أن تليت عليها حقوقها لاحتمال أن تصبح مشتبها بها.

Back Translation:

He added that the legal interview that was conducted with her was recorded after she was told her rights for the possibility of her becoming a suspect.

In this example, the Participant *The lawyer*, Sayer, is omitted in the TT. One possible explanation for such omission is that the ST Participant has been mentioned several times in the same paragraph; moreover, it might result in an unusual structure and become less "natural" to the target readers.

Sample 1

ST:

Sara was questioned under police caution, indicating that she could become a suspect.

TT:

المقابلة القانونية التي أجريت معها كانت مسجلة بعد أن تليت عليها حقوقها لاحتمال أن تصبح مشتبها بها.

Back Translation:

The legal interview with her was recorded under advisement for the possibility of her becoming a suspect.

This example has been discussed in example 2 from Process-translation perspective. As mentioned, the translator has made some essential changes in the TT. Adding to the other changes discussed in example 2, it seems that the translator has failed to decipher the Participants and their exact roles. The Participant of ST *Sara*, Actor, is translated as an attached pronoun that is part of a Circumstance clause التي أجريت معها. This change has minimized the thematic focus, thus creating a different mental image.

Sample 3

ST:

"Nothing like it in the world exists," Putin told the audience. "At some point, it will probably appear (elsewhere) but by that time our guys will have devised something else."

TT:

وقال بوتين ''لا يوجد مثيل له في العالم... في مرحلة ما سيظهر على الأرجح في (مكان آخر) لكن بحلول ذلك الوقت سنكون قد طورنا شيئاً آخر.''

Back Translation:

"There is nothing like it in the world ... at some point it will probably appear elsewhere, but by that time we will have developed something else," Putin said.

In this example, the Receiver of Verbal Process, the audience, has been omitted. The omission might have resulted in an inaccurate translation since the Receiver, audience, is an important element of the discourse. Perhaps the ST writer has mentioned the Receiver to give readers the sense of being there. This picture or sense is lost in the TT.

Sample 11

ST:

Russia denies any involvement and says it is the U.S.-led Atlantic alliance that is a risk to peace in Europe.

TT:

وتنفي روسيا أي دور لها وتقول إن حلف شمال الأطلسي الذي تقوده الولايات المتحدة يمثل خطرا على السلام في أوروبا.

Back Translation:

Russia denies any role and says that the US-led NATO is a threat to peace in Europe.

In this example, the participant *it*, Carrier, is omitted. As previously discussed, the process may have been deleted because of the TT structure and as a result, the Carrier has been deleted as well. The ST writer has used a semantically empty subject placeholder, Carrier,

to lay emphasis on the Attribute *the U.S.-led Atlantic alliance*. By changing the structure, the intended emphasis was lost.

Circumstance Translation

Sample 1

ST:

Police investigating the case have arrested the controlling shareholder [3] of Bezeq Telecom, ShaulElovitch, and NirHefetz, a former Netanyahu spokesman, who have both denied wrongdoing.

TT:

وذكرت وسائل إعلام إسرائيلية أن الشرطة تستجوب شاؤول إيلوفيتش الشريك المسيطر في بيزك إلى جانب نير هيفيتز المتحدث السابق باسم نتنياهو. والاثنان محتجزان وينفيان ارتكاب أي مخالفة.

Back Translation:

Israeli media reported that police were questioning ShaulElovitch, Bezeq's controlling partner, along with NirHefetz, a former Netanyahu spokesman. Both are in custody and deny any wrongdoing.

In this example, the translator omitted the Circumstance in the ST, investigating the case, from the TT. It seems that the omission of *investigating the case* did not affect the meaning of the ST nor the mental image of the ST. The translator may opt for omission because of information redundancy or because such information does not play a role in the text.

Sample 12

ST:

Shrine caretaker, Rahamat Ali, 60, was hacked to death in November 2015 in the northern district of Rangpur.

TT:

وقتل رحمات علي (60 عاما)، وهو عامل في معبد، في نوفمبر تشرين الثاني 2015 بمنطقة رانج بور شمال البلاد.

Back Translation:

Rahmat Ali, 60 years old, Shrine caretaker, was killed in November 2015 in the Rangpur region in the north of the country.

---

[3]Although "shareholder" is singular, once the conjunction "and" is added, it makes the reader think that the referent should be plural, "shareholders". In other words, the way that sentence/phrase is worded sets up the reader to expect plurality because of the morpheme "and".

As can be observed, the translator has translated the ST Circumstance into a Participant in the TT. The Circumstance *Rahamat Ali*, Circumstance of Elaborating, is translated into the Participant رحمات علي, Participant of the Process قتل. Mostly by not paying attention to the ST's linguistic features, the translator has shifted the ST perspective by translating background information to become the clause focus. The translator may not have taken the comma feature into consideration, which changed the intended message of the ST and themindset it created. Typographic features, such as commas, can have a range of implied meanings in the text as it could indicate "disagreement with the way a word or expression is used, emphasis, irony or tentativeness about the appropriateness or applicability of an expression" (Baker, 2008, p. 242.

Sample 19

ST:

A landmark deal in 2017 between OPEC and rivals including Russia to curb output to reduce global oversupply improved the outlook for other producers as prices rose sharply throughout the year, the IEA said in Oil 2018, an annual report looking at the next five years.

TT:

وأضافت الوكالة، في تقريرها السنوي "النفط 2018" الذي تستعرض فيه آفاق الخمس سنوات المقبلة، أن الاتفاق التاريخي على خفض الإنتاج في عام 2017 بين أوبك ومنتجين آخرين من بينهم روسيا لتقليص فائض المعروض أدى لتحسين فرص منتجين آخرين في ظل الارتفاع الحاد الذي شهدته أسعار النفط على مدار العام.

Back Translation:

The agency added, in its annual report "Oil 2018", in which it reviews the prospects for the next five years, that the historic agreement to reduce production in 2017 between OPEC and other producers, including Russia, to reduce the oversupply has improved the opportunities for other producers in light of the sharp rise in oil prices throughout the year.

In this example, the Circumstance *in 2017*, Circumstance of time, defines the participant *deal*. However, in TT, it is not clear whether it defines الاتفاق or خفضالإنتاج. Such displacement of the circumstance may create confusion for the TT readers.

Sample 23

ST:

"In these difficult moments, I would like to reaffirm to Africa and the entire world my unshakeable faith in the capacity of the Burkinabe people to preserve their dignity and ferociously oppose their enemies," Kabore said.

TT:

وقال كابوري في كلمة أذاعها التلفزيون المحلي ‟إنها لحظات صعبة. أود أن أجدد التأكيد لأفريقيا وللعالم بأسره إيماني الراسخ بقدرة شعب بوركينا فاسو على الحفاظ على هيبته والتصدي لأعدائه بضراوة.

Back Translation:

"These are difficult moments. I would like to reaffirm to Africa and the entire world my firm belief in the ability of the people of Burkina Faso to preserve their dignity and ferociously oppose their enemies", Kabore said in a speech broadcast on local television.

In this example, the translator has translated the Circumstance,in these difficult moments, Circumstance of time, into a full clause إنهالحظات صعبة. Apparently, the translator has made an unnecessary change in the ST structure, resulting in an inaccurate translation and delivering a different comprehension of the material for the TT readers.

Sample 2

ST:

Also on Friday, al Shabaab spokesman Adiasis Abu Musab told Reuters that militant forces had captured the town of Balad, 30 kilometers north of Mogadishu.

TT:

وقال عبد العزيز أبو مصعب المتحدث باسم حركة الشباب لرويترز إن المتشددين سيطروا يوم الجمعة أيضا على بلدة بلعد الواقعة على بعد 30 كيلومترا إلى الشمال من مقديشو

Back Translation:

Abdul Aziz Abu Musab, a spokesman for Al-Shabab, told Reuters that on Friday, the militants also took control of the town of Balad, 30 km north of Mogadishu.

Here, it seems that the translator has changed the ST information. The Circumstance *on Friday*, Circumstance of time, defines the whole clause in the ST. The translator, however, has translated the Circumstance *on Friday* to define the verb سيطروا only, which has affected the meaning and the accuracy of the translation.

Clause Translation

Sample 14

ST:

Trump delivered an ultimatum to the European signatories on Jan. 12. It said they must agree to "fix the terrible flaws of the Iran nuclear deal" - which was sealed under his predecessor Barack Obama - or he would refuse to extend U.S. sanctions relief on Iran.

TT:

وحدد ترامب في 12 يناير كانون الثاني مهلة للدول الأوروبية الموقعة على الاتفاق النووي للموافقة على ‟إصلاح عيوب مروعة في الاتفاق النووي الإيراني" الذي أبرم في عهد سلفه باراك أوباما وإلا سيرفض تمديد تعليق العقوبات الأمريكية

Back Translation:

Trump set in January the 12th a deadline for European signatories to the nuclear deal to agree to "fix terrible flaws of the Iran nuclear deal" sealed under his predecessor Barack Obama, or he will refuse to extend the US sanctions.

The translator has translated a clause into a Circumstance. The clause *It said ... relief on Iran* was translated into a Circumstance للموافقة على ... العقوبات الأمريكية. The translator has opted for the complexity of language structure by re-categorizing the Rheme as a Circumstance of purpose, minimizing its focus. The emphasis on the theme,*it*, was completely lost along with the Verbiage Process *said* and therefore, parts of the ST's intended message was lost.

Sample 3

ST:

Putin was speaking ahead of an election on March 18 that polls indicate he should win easily. He said a nuclear attack on any of Moscow's allies would be regarded as an attack on Russia itself and draw an immediate response.

TT:

وفي الكلمة التي ألقاها قبل أسابيع من الانتخابات الرئاسية المتوقع أن يفوز فيها قال بوتين إن روسيا ستعتبر أي هجوم نووي على حلفائها هجوما عليها هي نفسها ويستدعي ردا فوريا.

Back Translation:

In a speech delivered weeks before the presidential election that he is expected to win, Putin said that Russia would view any nuclear attack on its allies as an attack on it itself and would draw an immediate response.

In the above example, the translator has translated a complex sentence into a Circumstance, which seems to change the main content of the ST. The underlined ST is a complex sentence that consists of three clauses: (a) *Putin was speaking ahead of an election on March 18*, (b) (that) *polls indicate he should win easily, and* (c) *he should win easily*. The translator has translated the clause into وفي الكلمة التي ألقاها قبل أسابيع من الانتخابات الرئاسية المتوقع أن يفوز فيها. It might be the case that during the translation process, some of the information was lost. The translator needs to take into consideration what is acceptable and easily understood by TT readers.

Sample 22

ST:

Britain's interior minister Amber Rudd, who visited Salisbury on Friday, said they were both still in very serious condition, five days after collapsing.

TT:

وزارت وزيرة الداخلية البريطانية أمبر راد المدينة يوم الجمعة وقالت إنهما لا يزالان في حالة خطيرة جدا

Back Translation:

British Home Secretary, Amber Rudd, visited the city on Friday and said they were both still in a very serious condition.

It may be possible that the translator failed in identifying the Process of the main clause. The translator has translated the sub-clause *who visited Salisbury on Friday* as a main clause, bringing it into focus. However, the main clause has been presented as a new clause, قالت إنهما لا يزالان في حالة خطيرة جدا It is important for the translator to understand the ST's structure before translating it. This structural confusion has resulted in a different sense than what was intended.

Sample 15

ST:

Kang held talks later on Friday with Sullivan, who is standing in after Trump fired Tillerson. It was not known whether the two Asian ministers would meet Pompeo.

TT:

وعقدت كانج محادثات فيما بعد مع سوليفان. ولم يُعرف ما إذا كان وزيرا خارجية اليابان وكوريا الجنوبية سيلتقيان مع مايك بومبيو مدير المخابرات المركزية الأمريكية الذي اختاره ترامب كي يحل محل ريكستيلرسون الذي أقاله ترامبمن منصبه الأسبوع الماضي

Back Translation:

Kang later held talks with Sullivan. It is not known if the foreign ministers of Japan and South Korea will meet with Mike Pompeo, the CIA director chosen by Trump to replace Rex Tillerson, who was removed from office by Trump last week.

In this example, it seems that the translator has failed to identify the main parts of the ST's clause. The sub-clause *who is standing in after Trump fired Tillerson*defines the NP *Sullivan*. In the TT, however, the clause that is translated as الذي اختاره ترامب كي يحل محل ريكستيلرسون الذي أقاله ترامبdefines the NP مايك بومبيو"Mike Pompeo". This may be a result of the misanalysis of the ST clause. Such misanalysis did not only affect the accuracy of the translation, but also changed the meaning of the ST.

The next section summarizes the results of the analysis and highlights the main points focusing on the changes that occurred and their results.

CONCLUSION

In this study, a number of news articles and their translations were analyzed using the Transitivity System. The purpose of this analysis is to understand how the Transitivity System of the English language in news articles (ST) is reflected in Arabic text (TT), focusing on the textual meaning of these texts.

As identified in the analysis section, several modifications were made. in Process types, the translator has modified the Process by translating it into another type. As forParticipants, the translator has translated one Participant into another or into a different syntactic category.Regarding Circumstances, a Circumstance was translated into a Participant and in some cases into a full clause or even deleted and relocated to define different heads.The translator translated a clause into a complex sentence that compounds more than one clause, translated a sub-clause into a full clause in some cases, and also translated a clause into a Circumstance.

These modifications were made for different reasons. One reason has to do with the differences between English (SL) and Arabic (TL) in terms of their linguistic structures. The translator had to adjust the ST structure to meet the linguistic norms of the TL. Another reason

for the modifications made during the process of translation is assigning different roles to the Participants in the Process. This could be a result of the misanalysis of the ST. The analysis demonstrates that modifying Processes, Participants or Circumstances during the translation process could affect the level of emphasis, image conveyed, information, naturalization, and accuracy of the ST.

REFERENCES

[1] Baker, M. (1992). *In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation*. London and New York: Routledge.

[2] Baker, M. (2018). *In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation*. London: Routledge.

[3] Comrie, B., and Eid, M. (1991). *Perspectives on Arabic linguistics III: Papers from the third annual Symposium on Arabic linguistics*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

[4] Conway, C. M. (2014). *The Oxford Handbook of Qualitative Research in American Music Education*. New York City: Oxford University Press.

[5] Fawcett, P. (1997). *Translation and Language*. Manchester: St. Jerome Publishing.

[6] Feeney, A., &Heit, E. (Eds.). (2007). *Inductive Reasoning: Experimental, Developmental, and Computational Approaches*. New York, NY, US: Cambridge University Press.

[7] Halliday, M. A. K. (1976). *System and Function in Language*. Ed. G. Kress. London : Oxford University Press

[8] Halliday, M.A.K. (1985). Ch.3 *Dimensions of Discourse Analysis: Grammar*. Teun A. van Dijk, (ed.) Handbook of Discourse Analysis Vol. 2: *Dimensions of Discourse*. London: Academic Press

[9] Halliday, M. A. K., &Matthiessen, C. M. (2014). *An Introduction to Functional Grammar* (3rd ed.). London: Edward Arnold.

[10] Hatim, B., & Mason, I. (1997). *The Translator as Communicator*. London: Routledge.

[11] House, J. (1997). Translation Quality Assessment: *A Model Revisited*. Tübingen: Gunter Narr.

[12] Matthiessen, C. M. (2001). *The Environments of Translation*. In E. Steiner & C. Yallop (Eds.). Exploring translation and multilingual text production: *Beyond content* (41- 126). Berlin: Walter de Gruyter.

[13] Steiner, E. (2005). *Halliday and Translation Theory — Enhancing the Options, Broadening the Range, and Keeping the Ground*. In R. Hasan, C. M. I. M. Matthiessen, & J. Webster (Eds.). Continuing discourse on language: *A functional perspective* (481-500). London: Equinox.

[14] Taylor, C. (1998). Language to Language: *A Practical and Theoretical Guide for Italian/English Translators*, Cambridge: CUP.

[15] White, P. R. (2000). *Functional Grammar*. University of Birmingham: Birmingham.

[16] Yule, G. (2009). *Oxford Practice Grammar Advanced Supplementary Exercises; with Answers*. Oxford: Oxford Univ. Press.