Problems in English-Arabic Translation of Appliance Manuals

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Abstract

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The aim of this study is to evaluate the Arabic translation of a sample of appliance manuals targeting laymen in terms of accuracy of translation. It tries to identify and categorize the linguistic errors committed in the translations of the appliance manuals. To achieve the goal of this study, the present researcher has examined the translations of ten appliance manuals of American and British appliances that many homes have nowadays. In analyzing the corpus, the researcher has followed an error analysis approach. The linguistic errors are identified, categorized, analyzed, and then ascribed to their possible causes. It was found that the translations suffer from a number of lexical and syntactic errors such as wrong word choice, omission, addition, faulty tense, number, and wrong prepositions. Additionally, the researcher has provided suggested translations that can be more accurate and acceptable by laymen than the original translations.

In conclusion, the present researcher has set forth some proposed recommendations which would hopefully make a valuable contribution to the advancement of translating such manuals.