The Translatability of Proverbs that Pertain to Men Used in Jordanian Spoken Arabic

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Abstract

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This study examines the translatability of proverbs that pertain to men in Jordanian spoken Arabic into English. This study aims at examining the problems that translators face while rendering this type of colloquial proverbs from Arabic into English. The problems discussed in the study are cultural, lexical and linguistic problems. The study concludes that (1) proverbs that pertain to men used in Jordanian spoken Arabic are translatable with some difficulty because of the cultural differences between Arabic and English. (2) Translating colloquial expressions and metaphors are the most difficult in the translation process. (3) These difficulties may be solved by using one or more of the translation strategies, such as paraphrasing, functional translation, addition and omission.