PROBLEMS IN TRANSLATING SYNONYMS

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The main aim of translation is to serve as a cross-cultural bilingual communication vehicle among peoples. It is essential to learn how to use the strategic and tactical tools for an effective translating performance in addition to reading comprehension skills, knowledge of specialized subjects gained from specialized training and a wide cultural background, and a global vision of cross-cultural and interlingual communication.

The choice of appropriate synonyms is one of the challenges of translation. Synonyms are various terms that have the same or a similar meaning and can be used interchangeably. Some pairings of synonyms, in the opinion of native speakers, are more synonymous than others. We can imagine a scale of synonymy from this. The concept of synonymy is obviously the sharing of meaning, or the idea that two words have (parts of) the same meaning. It has become difficult to determine how much similarity there must be between two terms in order for them to be regarded as synonyms.

According to Cruse, there is "no neat way of characterizing synonyms". He declares that "synonyms must not only manifest a high degree of semantic overlap, they must also have a low degree of implicit contrastiveness". Synonyms are lexical items "whose senses are identical in respect of 'central' semantic traits, but differ, if at all, only in respect of what we may provisionally describe as 'minor' or 'peripheral' traits". Cruse also observes the co-occurrence of synonyms in specific expressions. "A synonym is often employed as an explanation, or clarification, of meaning of another word". When synonyms are employed in contrast, some expressions are used to indicate the difference: more exactly, or rather. Ex: truthful: honest they are synonyms even though they share only portion of their meaning; truthful: purple they are not at all synonyms. Cruse thinks that contrast is crucial in this situation.
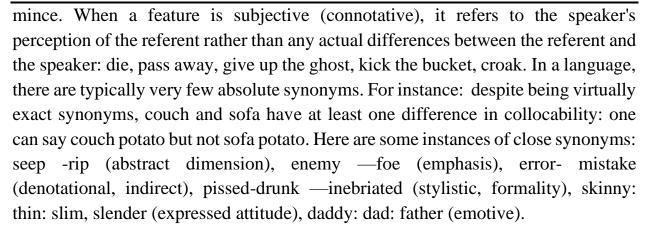
In some cases, the feature is objective (denotative), linking to some actual, a real world gap in the referents: walk, lumber, stroll, meander, lurch, stagger, stride,

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mince. When a feature is subjective (connotative), it refers to the speaker's perception of the referent rather than any actual differences between the referent and the speaker: die, pass away, give up the ghost, kick the bucket, croak. In a language, there are typically very few absolute synonyms. For instance: despite being virtually exact synonyms, couch and sofa have at least one difference in collocability: one can say couch potato but not sofa potato. Here are some instances of close synonyms: seep -rip (abstract dimension), enemy —foe (emphasis), error- mistake (denotational, indirect), pissed-drunk —inebriated (stylistic, formality), skinny: thin: slim, slender (expressed attitude), daddy: dad: father (emotive).

Mostly, words with similar meanings are near-synonyms (or plesionyms), which are nearly synonyms but not quite; they have extremely similar meanings but differ from one another in subtle ways, such as denotation, connotation, implicature, and emphasis. They are also not completely interchangeable.

Additionally, many word groupings are near synonyms, or plesionyms, such as forest and woods or stared and gazed. A concept of semantic distance can be used to clarify the concepts of synonymy and plesionymy, but it is difficult to codify in a way that is satisfactory. The truth criteria will not always be preserved when one word is substituted for another in a sentence or discourse if the meanings of the two words are semantically distinct (for example, mist fog). When two words just differ stylistically (e.g., frugal and stingy), intersubstitution preserves truth requirements but changes the meaning. Knowing more about semantics and stylistics is crucial for understanding how translation works because they are thought of as the fundamentals of a better translation. Both semantics and stylistics play a significant role in the ability to deal with translation without any issues.

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