A Study of Dialogue Characteristics and Translation in English Films

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Keywords: English Movies, Dialogues, Characteristics, Translation.

Abstract: With the influx of many foreign movies into China, Chinese people especially like to watch foreign movies, but the differences in language lead to the inability of people to understand the meaning of dialogue in movies, so the translation of dialogue in movies has gradually appeared in people's vision. However, the translation of dialogue in films is also quite difficult. It should not only take into account the differences in language and culture, but also take into account the audience's feelings when watching films. Movie dialogue is more flexible. It needs to combine different characters, different contexts and backgrounds of the film to make some appropriate text conversion. It also needs to retain the taste and information of the original film when changing the language. It also needs to conform to the characteristics of Chinese characters.

1. Introduction

Movie is an art, which reflects people's life and moves people's life to the screen. It expresses people's emotions and enables people to enjoy art from movies through many artistic means. With the continuous entry of foreign movies into China, English film dialogue translation has become a major feature of the film industry in China, especially the influx of Hollywood movies, which disseminates culture and customs, makes people understand the great differences between eastern and Western cultures, and also promotes the development of cultural exchanges between eastern and Western countries. Moreover, the film is mainly narrated, which enriches the characters and inner activities of the actors. Different films show different artistic styles. Moreover, the film vividly expresses the characteristics of education, aesthetics and so on. However, there are many differences between film translation and literary translation. Literary translation has a longer and more mature time than the translation of film dialogue. However, the translation of literary works mainly focuses on poetry collection and prose, and is relatively neglected in film dialogue. Next, the author will analyze the characteristics and translation of English film dialogue.

2. The Characteristics of Dialogue in Films

Film and television works are a kind of literary form. Many of them are based on literary works. Film and television works have certain literariness, and different films and TV works also have cross-racial, cross-linguistic and cross-cultural roles. Therefore, film and television works have a certain role in promoting people's learning and cultural exchanges. Film and television works use narrative means to vividly show the ideological content and characters in the story in people's vision, so that people have a profound impact.

However, there are many differences between the translation of film and television works and literary works. Most of the translations are mainly in the translation of poetry, prose and fiction, while the translation of film and television works is less, and the translation of film and television works should be flexible, so few people choose film translation. Next, sit down to make a few major analyses of the characteristics of film translation.

2.1 Instantaneity of Movie Dialogue

Film and television works are different from literary works. Literary works only describe the whole scene in a single word. But people understand some languages and words, and then contact the
scenes in literary works. Sometimes it will be vague, but some words can leave people permanent memories and allow people to visually see associative scenes. The film is different, it is a combination of words and pictures. It combines the two. It perfectly displays the pictures to the audience and synchronously presents the dialogue to the audience. But the information in the film is all short-lived. If you want the audience to see it once, you can understand the information inside, which is related to the smooth language and logic of the film.

2.2 The Oral Character of Movie Dialogue

Compared with the translation of English movies, translators of foreign literary works have a certain literary basis, so the terminology of literary works is more formal, while English movies are generally composed of dialogue between actors and actors. Movies generally cater to the taste and aesthetics of the public, so the translation of English movies will be more "casual", and the translation of dialogue in movies can not think of literary works. If you use a more formal language, people will feel that the film is not real, and the gap between real life is too big, so the translation of English film dialogue will be more popular. For example, in Toy Story

Woody: Look, I just need to get out of here...
Buttercup: There is no way out!
Buttercup: Just kidding. Door's right over there.

2.3 Restrictions on the Mouth of Actors

The translation of foreign movies is restricted by many factors, such as the length of dubbing speech is limited by the length of the actor's speech, the actor's oral form, and the number of subtitles. One of the important factors is the accent of actors and dubbers. When translating English movies, we should consider that dubbing is roughly relative to actors'mouths. When there is a big gap between dubbing and mouths, we should generally abandon the way of matching mouths to conform to the meaning of the original text.

3. Movie Dialogue Translation

Because the language and culture of our country are very different from those of other countries, many English movies are not familiar with the allusions. If the translation of the movies is not in place, it will cause some misunderstandings among the audience. In serious cases, it may be lower than the film, and it will not achieve the desired effect of the film. With the progress of science and technology, the Internet has become the main tool for us to search for information, which will enable us to have a better understanding of other countries'language, culture, customs, etc., and let us know the meaning of some special words when watching movies.

3.1 Literal translation

Literal translation is a method of translating movies in the original form as well as in the original content.

3.2 Free translation

The meaning of free translation is to translate according to the general meaning of the sentence, but it does not need to translate word by word.

3.3 No translation

Sometimes translation is to cater to the audience's aesthetic and understanding, but sometimes in order to consider the significance of some plots in the film, the film translator will consider giving up the way of translation and incorporating these dialogues into the translation.
3.4 Transforming Images

Because of the cultural differences between the East and the West, some words have different meanings in the East and the West. Therefore, image transformation should be used to translate dialogues in order to avoid some cultural collisions. For example, a dialogue in the film Wuthering Heights:

Isabella: It's a brother's duty, dear Edgar, to introduce his sister to some other type than fops and pale young poets.
Edgar: Oh, you want a dragon?
Isabella: Yes, I do. With a fiery mustache.

In the dialogue above, "dragon" is interpreted as "devil", but the translation of this word is "dragon".

Meaning, dragon in China symbolizes a meaning of "supremacy". Most of the words have a meaning that is difficult to respect. However, in the West, a derogatory word represents the meaning of "stingy, stingy". Therefore, we should pay attention to this difference in translation. We can't translate this sentence directly. At this time, we should use the way of image conversion to correct it. Sentences are translated. These two sentences can be translated into

Edgar: Oh! You don't want to marry a barbarian, do you?
Isabella: Yes, with a big red beard.

Such ambiguous words as East and West can not be translated directly in translation, which may lead to misunderstanding of the content of the film and resistance to the film. Therefore, in translation, this word is transformed into image and expressed in other words without changing the general meaning of the sentence.

4. English Movie Dialogue Translation Problems

In order to create an excellent English film, the dialogues in the film can show the characters' individuality and the development of the plot. However, the translation of the dialogues in some films has greatly damaged the original characteristics of the film, and the ideas and culture that the original film wants to express are not reflected at all. Some film dialogues lack of research on the characteristics of characters in the process of translation, which leads to the inconsistency between the translated film characters and the original film characters, which reduces the particularity of the task in the film. Some films are only loyal to the original text, but can not cater to the taste of the public, so that the translation of the film is too formal, ignoring the audience's feelings. These problems are often encountered in film translation. In translation, the translator should grasp the general development of the film plot and the personality characteristics of the characters to translate. In translation, he should also maintain the humanistic culture of the country, establish a bridge of cultural communication and promote the development of culture.

5. Conclusion

The translation methods of foreign film dialogues are quite different from those of literary works. The translation methods of film dialogues are quite changeable, and the content of the dialogues can not be completely consistent with the original movies in actual translation. The translation of movies should not only consider the differences between eastern and Western languages, but also cater to the public's Aesthetics and flexibly use these translation methods. However, in order to achieve such a requirement, translators need to make continuous efforts and practice. We should believe that in the future, the level of foreign film translation will rise to a higher level, and everyone can enjoy many excellent English movies.

Acknowledgement

Foundation Project: Scientific Research Project of Institutions of Higher Learning in Inner
Mongolia Autonomous Region (NJZC17535). Name: Current Situation and Strategies of English Translation of Mongolian Culture Publicity. Project Host: Li Baixun

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