English Translation Teaching Reform Strategy under the Background of "Belt and Road"

Liu Shanshan
Department of Foreign languages, Dongchang College of Liaocheng University, Shandong, China

Keywords: Belt and Road; English translation; teaching reform; strategy

Abstract: Under the background of "Belt and Road" strategy, English translation teaching in colleges and universities in China faces both major opportunities and severe challenges. The author tries to analyze the current problems and limitations in college English translation teaching so as to find out effective methods and strategies for college English translation teaching reform from the perspective of the times and through the methods of investigation and research.

1. Introduction

The "one belt and one road" initiative is a great exploration and practice of constructing the community of human destiny under the new historical conditions, and will certainly help further strengthen the communication and exchange between the countries and regions along the border in economic, political, cultural and educational fields. English is an international common language, which plays an important role in the process of communication between different countries and regions in various fields. Therefore, in order to actively implement the "one belt and one road" strategy, training more and more excellent English translation talents is an important task of our institutions of higher learning, which brings not only opportunities but also challenges to college English translation teaching. Under the background of "one belt and one road", the author tries to analyze the current problems and limitations in College English translation teaching so as to find out effective methods and strategies for college English translation teaching reform from the perspective of the times and through the methods of investigation and research.

2. Current problems and limitations in English translation Teaching in universities

Nowadays, many domestic universities have basically offered English translation courses. Through the investigation and understanding of some colleges and universities, the author sorted out the following three common problems and shortcomings. First of all, it is very hard to handle the relationship between teaching theory and translation practice. Some teachers pay more attention to English translation theoretical learning, which bring about a serious gap between theory and practice. In this case, there will be an limitation in the real translation scene for the students. On the other hand, some other teachers neglect the teaching and learning of translation theories, which considers too much to the cultivation of translation practice ability. Although the students trained have strong translation practice ability, due to the lack of translation theory knowledge, it is difficult to improve their translation level. Second, the quality of translation teachers should be improved. In the new historical period, especially the strategy of "one belt and one road", the higher requirements for the quality and ability of the translator have been put forward. According to the author's survey, many translation teachers in colleges and universities are not majored in translation, some are literary, some are English education, and even some are non-English majors. Moreover, the current knowledge reserve of translation teachers cannot adapt to the development of the times. In other words, the teaching of English translation knowledge alone can hardly cultivate compound translators, nor can it meet the urgent needs of the society for translators. Third, English translation textbooks are too old. English translation textbooks play an important role in the success of English translation teaching. At present, some colleges and universities use English translation textbooks published in the last century, which is too old. The timeliness of textbooks is seriously insufficient.
The translation skills, translation theories and translation examples in textbooks still remain in the current situation when books are published. This will inevitably lead to a serious disconnect between the effect of students' learning and the actual needs of society.

3. Reform Strategies of English Translation Teaching

Under the new historical conditions, the reform of English translation teaching should be carried out closely around the great initiative of "one belt and one road". Based on the investigation and research, the author summarizes the following three strategies for English translation teaching reform.

3.1. Forming a scientific translation teaching ideology in the basis of combination of theory and practice

Translation is an elegant and cultural practice. In English translation teaching, it is inseparable between translation theory and translation practice. Translation theory serves translation practice. Translation practice, in turn, further deepens translation theory. With the continuous development of the "one belt and one road" strategy, the translation theories and standards of the countries along the route have gradually entered China, which offers a great opportunity for the current reform of English translation teaching. By assimilating and integrating foreign translation theories, we can effectively reconstruct the existing translation teaching ideas, and establish a translation teaching idea that combines theory with practice and focuses on practice.

3.2. Promoting the Quality of English Translation Teachers in All Aspects through Multi-pronged Approach

The theoretical level and practical ability of English translation teachers directly affect the effect of translation teaching. Translation teachers should not only stay on the inherent knowledge reserve, but also keep pace with the times, continually obtain new knowledge and new ideas so as to meet the needs of translation teaching under the new situation. Thus, colleges and universities should take the following solutions to improve the quality of English translation teachers. Firstly, we should introduce a group of excellent translation teachers with a certain level of translation theory and translation practice to build a high-quality translation teachers team. Second, efforts should be made to improve the theoretical literacy and practical ability of existing translation teachers. Select excellent teachers to undertake short-term or long-term study and training in well-known universities at home and abroad. Through school-enterprise cooperation, select teachers to go deep into enterprises, understand the real needs of the market for translators more deeply, go out, learn and pass on, and introduce advanced translation theory and effective translation practice skills into classroom teaching.

3.3. Update translation textbooks in time and master first-hand translation materials

A good translation textbook plays an important role in the process of translation teaching. Students and teachers devote the most energy in it. Therefore, the selection of textbooks is very important. At present, although there are many kinds of translation textbooks, they are not really suitable for the requirements of the new era. At present, under the background of "one belt and one road" strategy, English translation textbooks should also keep pace with the times and better match the reality of the countries along the line. Translation serves the market and the times. Thus, translation textbooks should directly response to the market and the times. In the selection of teaching materials, the content of translation should be novel and colorful. In addition, we’d better properly add some cultural materials of different countries along the belt and road to the textbooks such as the history, culture, religion and so on. Let students have a completely new understanding of the "one belt and one road" countries along the lines of culture and specialty so as to better accomplish the task of translation in the practice of English translation.
4. Conclusion

In short, under the background of "one belt and one road" strategy, timely reform of English translation teaching in colleges and universities is a general trend and is also an urgent requirement for English translation educators in the market and times. English translation teaching should seize this historic opportunity, keep pace with the times, make efforts to reform, cultivate more and more excellent English translation talents, provide strong language service support for the "one belt and one road" countries along the line, further tell the story of China, and enhance the soft power of Chinese culture.

References


