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## THE TRANSLATION METHODS OF RIDDLE TEXTS IN TRANSLATION STUDIES

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***Annotation:** This article discusses the diverse translation methods employed in rendering riddle texts across languages within the realm of translation studies, exploring the strategies, approaches, and considerations that shape the multilayered process of translating riddles for global audiences.*

***Key words:** translation methods, riddle texts, linguistic creativity, translation studies, contextual information, linguistic devices.*

### **Introduction:**

The translation of riddle texts poses unique challenges and opportunities for translators, requiring them to navigate the complexities of linguistic creativity, cultural nuances, and cognitive play inherent in enigmatic language puzzles. Translating riddle texts involves capturing the essence of wordplay, linguistic creativity, and inventive language use that are central to the enigmatic nature of riddles. Translators grapple

with the challenge of preserving puns, rhymes, alliterations, and other creative linguistic devices that add layers of meaning and intrigue to riddle texts.

### **Literature analysis and methods:**

Translating riddle texts necessitates cultural adaptation and localization to convey the cultural references, social norms, and contextual cues embedded in the riddles to the target audience effectively. Translators must consider the cultural connotations of riddle themes, symbols, and metaphors and make informed decisions about how to adapt these cultural elements to resonate with the target culture. By incorporating cultural explanations, footnotes, or glosses, translators bridge the cultural gap between source and target languages, ensuring that the translated riddles communicate the intended cultural nuances and thematic richness to the new audience.

Translating riddle texts requires a deep understanding of the contextual interpretation and inferential reasoning involved in riddle solving, as translators must navigate the ambiguity, deception, and hidden meanings that characterize riddle discourse. Translators analyze the contextual information, linguistic clues, and cultural background of riddles to infer the underlying messages, implied references, and concealed solutions in the source text. By employing interpretative strategies, such as paraphrasing, explicating, or providing hints, translators guide readers through the cognitive processes of unraveling the enigmatic mysteries of riddles in the target language.

### **Results:**

Translating riddle texts involves maintaining semantic equivalence and structural integrity between the source and target texts, ensuring that the translated riddles convey the same conceptual content, logical coherence, and linguistic patterns as the original texts. Translators strive to preserve the structural features, stylistic elements, and rhetorical devices of riddle language, such as parallelism, repetition, and sound patterns, while ensuring clarity, fluency, and naturalness in the target language. By adhering to principles of fidelity to the source text, communicative effectiveness, and

linguistic coherence, translators preserve the enigmatic allure and cognitive challenges of riddles in translation.

Translating riddle texts demands a poetic sensibility and stylistic finesse to capture the lyrical cadence, aesthetic appeal, and imaginative flair of riddle language in the target language. Translators pay attention to the poetic devices, figurative language, and stylistic flourishes employed in riddles to recreate the evocative tone, imaginative imagery, and playful spirit of the original texts. By balancing fidelity to the linguistic form and creative adaptation to the poetic essence of riddles, translators imbue the translated texts with a sense of enchantment, musicality, and artistic beauty that resonates with the inherent artistry of riddle discourse.

### **Discussion:**

Investigating the translation methods of riddle texts in translation studies expands our understanding of the nuanced art of translation, the interdisciplinary nature of riddle discourse, and the transformative power of language to unlock the mysteries, delights, and cultural treasures hidden within the enigmatic realm of riddles across diverse linguistic traditions and translation practices. Strategies such as transcreation, adaptation, and creative rewriting are employed to retain the playful and inventive qualities of riddle language in the target language, ensuring that the translated riddles evoke similar cognitive engagement and linguistic surprises for the target audience as the original texts do for the source audience.

A straightforward translation approach that aims to preserve the original wording and structure of the riddle text. While literal translation maintains fidelity to the source text, it may overlook cultural nuances and wordplay that are integral to the riddle's meaning and humor. A creative reinterpretation method that seeks to capture the essence of the riddle while adapting it to suit the linguistic and cultural norms of the target audience.

Analysis through riddle examples:

1. Riddle: What has keys but can't open locks? (A piano)

Analysis: This riddle plays with the concept of keys on a piano, which can unlock the melodies hidden within but not physical locks. The answer relies on the reader's ability to think beyond the literal meaning of "keys" and apply it in a musical context.

2. Riddle: I have cities, but no houses. I have mountains, but no trees. I have water, but no fish. What am I? (A map)

Analysis: This riddle plays on the concept of representation and abstraction. The answer, a map, symbolizes geographic features without possessing the physical elements, challenging the reader to think beyond literal interpretations and consider the nature of symbols and representations

3. Riddle: I fly without wings. I cry without eyes. Wherever I go, darkness follows me. What am I? (A cloud)

Analysis: This riddle employs metaphors and personification to describe the characteristics of a cloud. The wordplay and imagery create a sense of mystery and intrigue, prompting the reader to unravel the symbolic language used to describe natural phenomena.

4. Riddle: I have keys but open no locks. I have a space but no room. You can enter, but can never go outside. What am I? (A keyboard)

Analysis: This riddle relies on metaphorical language to describe the function of a keyboard. The play on words and the juxtaposition of physical and virtual spaces challenge the reader to reconsider the familiar object in a new light, emphasizing the dual nature of keys on a keyboard.

### **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, the translation methods of riddle texts in translation studies illuminate the intricate process of decoding, re-encoding, and reimagining enigmatic language puzzles across linguistic and cultural boundaries. By applying diverse translation strategies, cultural adaptations, interpretative approaches, and stylistic considerations to the translation of riddle texts, translators bridge the gap between languages, cultures, and cognitive landscapes, preserving the linguistic creativity, cultural richness, and cognitive challenges of riddles for global audiences.

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