

***Influence of Contextual Factors on Translation Shifts
English into Arabic Translation of Reports from the Pan
African Parliament (PAP)***

by

Galal Mohamed Nour ARI

***Mini-dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for
the degree***

***Magister Artium Applied Language Studies
Translation and Interpreting***

***In the Department of African Languages
Faculty of Humanities University
of Pretoria***

Supervisor

Dr. Helena Kruger-Roux

April 2018

DECLARATION

I declare that the work I am submitting for assessment contains no section copied in whole or in part from any other sources unless explicitly identified in quotation marks with detailed, completed and accurate referencing.

A handwritten signature in brown ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Signature:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

When I was planning to meet my supervisor Dr. Helena Kruger-Roux for the first time to discuss the initial version of my proposal, I was expecting to meet a rigid academic scholar who would easily rubbish my proposal. Surprisingly, the meeting was a totally different story and the opposite of all my expectations. In a nutshell, I want to say that I have been so lucky and grateful to be supervised by such a brilliant and charismatic scholar like Dr. Helena. I certainly believe that without her guidance and encouragement, this research would never have seen the light of day. Therefore, I wish to first acknowledge my gratitude and indebtedness to my supervisor Dr. Helena Kruger-Roux.

I also wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to Renée Marais, the Program Manager of the Translation and Interpretation Studies at the Faculty of Humanity in the University of Pretoria; who, despite her busy academic schedule and the difficult time that she had after the death of her father, managed to set the right direction for me and for my colleagues in the program to complete our studies. I really appreciate all her sincere efforts and guidance accorded to me personally.

I would also like to thank my colleague and friend Nadia Pandit, a freelance translator and editor who has always been available to read and to edit four chapters of my research. My thanks and appreciation also goes to Janelle Mangwanda who also accepted to read and edit the last chapter of my research.

I also wish to extend my deep appreciation and gratitude to my colleagues in the Documentation Unit of the Pan African Parliament, Mr. Jan Jalloh, Senior Documentation Officer and Mr. Nadjitoide Toggan, Assistant Clerk, who graciously and timeously provided me with all the required reports for this research. I will never forget their enthusiasm and encouragement to finalise this research project.

Last but not least, my acknowledgments will fall short if I do not include my small family; Fadwa, my beloved wife and my children, Aya, Faris, Razaz and Rimaz for being so patient and understanding to my very demanding professional schedule, which also encroached upon a lot of their deserved time due to my studying at night. To them, and to my parents and all the members of my family, I wish to say thank you and may God bless you all.

ABSTRACT

This research set out to study the influence of contextual factors on the occurrence of translation shifts through the case study of English to Arabic translation of reports from the Pan African Parliament (PAP). The phenomenon of translation shifts has not yet been dealt with extensively in the field of translation and in particular in the combination of English and Arabic. Therefore, this research intends to contribute positively to fill this gap in the body of knowledge. The main objective of the research is to explore the nature of contextual factors that impact on the occurrence of the phenomenon of translation shifts and how this very phenomenon is manifested in translation strategies that are used to overcome translation problems at the word and above word levels. To achieve the objectives of the research, a quantitative and qualitative study was designed to explore the correlation among three related variables which are: translation problems, translation strategies and translation shifts.

As a case study the data focuses on reports (ST and TT) of the Permanent Committees of the PAP produced between 2010 and 2016. The research found that at the word level, both the stylistic and contextual factors had an influence on the occurrence of the translation shifts, but the influence of the contextual factors is less than that of the stylistic factors. On the other hand, the research found that the contextual factor is the main factor that impacts on the same phenomenon above word level.

The main conclusions of the research are that because of the inherent structural differences between English and Arabic, the occurrence of translation shifts is inevitable. There are also many other factors, such as stylistic and contextual factors, which govern the structure of different languages. Therefore, the research emphasises that the occurrence of this phenomenon is natural and it should be expected between any two languages. Finally, due to specific limitations in the study, the research recommends that the scope of the study be widened in future research. The research further strongly advocates for the study of

translation shifts in various contexts, and therefore recommends that the study of this phenomenon should form part of any translation course.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	II
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	III
ABSTRACT	V
TABLE OF CONTENTS	VII
LIST OF TABLES.....	XII
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	XIII
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE RESEARCH	1
1.1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1.1 The research problem	2
1.1.2 The purpose of the study.....	3
1.1.3 The objectives of the research.....	4
1.1.4 Research questions.....	4
1.2 LITERATURE REVIEW	5
1.2.1 Introduction	5
1.2.2 Context in translation.....	6
1.2.3 Translation shift.....	7
1.2.4 Translation strategies as vehicles of translation shifts	8
1.3 PROPOSED METHODOLOGY	9
1.3.1 Research design	9
1.3.2 Data sources	10
1.3.3 Data collection techniques.....	10
1.3.4 Issues of validity and reliability	11
1.3.5 Sampling techniques	12
1.3.6 Data analysis and interpretation	12

1.3.7 Ethical considerations	12
1.4 CHAPTERS OVERVIEW	13
1.4.1 Chapter One: Introduction to the research.....	13
1.4.2 Chapter Two: Literature review.....	13
1.4.3 Chapter Three: Research methodology.....	13
1.4.4 Chapter Four: Collection of data and research results	13
1.4.5 Chapter Five: Summary and conclusion	14
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	15
2.1 INTRODUCTION.....	15
2.2 CONTEXTUAL FACTORS	16
2.2.1 Culture of the intended readers	16
2.2.2 The client or the commissioner.....	19
2.2.3 Function of the text.....	20
2.3 TRANSLATION SHIFTS	23
2.3.1 Definition of translation shift	24
2.4 TRANSLATION STRATEGIES AS VEHICLES OF TRANSLATION SHIFTS	25
2.4.1 Translation strategies of Vinay and Darbelnet	26
2.4.2 Oblique translation strategy.....	27
2.4.3 Transposition.....	28
2.4.4 Modulation	29
2.4.5 Equivalence.....	30
2.4.6 Adaptation.....	31
2.4.7 Work of Kitty van Leuven-Zwart on translation shifts	32
2.4.8 Translation strategies of Eugene Nida.....	34
2.4.9 Addition and subtraction	35
2.4.10 Alteration.....	35

2.4.11 Translation strategies of Mona Baker	37
2.4.11.1 Non-equivalence at word level.....	38
2.4.11.2 Non-equivalence above word level	39
2.4.11.2.1 Collocations.....	40
2.4.11.2.2 Idioms and fixed expressions	40
2.5 CONCLUSION	41
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	44
3.1 INTRODUCTION.....	44
3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN.....	44
3.3 CASE STUDY	45
3.3.1 Data sources.....	46
3.3.2 Data collection techniques.....	47
3.3.3 Population of the research.....	47
3.3.4 Purposive sampling	49
3.3.5 Size of the sample.....	51
3.4 VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY.....	51
3.5 DATA ANALYSIS	52
3.5.1 Corpus Linguistics (CL)	53
3.5.2 Definition of corpus and parallel corpus.....	53
3.5.3 Using linguistic corpus to examine translation strategies	54
3.5.4 Design criteria of parallel corpus	55
3.5.5 Development of parallel corpus	56
3.5.6 Annotation and alignment of parallel corpus.....	56
3.5.6.1 Annotation of parallel corpus	57
3.5.6.2 Alignment of parallel corpus.....	58
3.5.7 Method of analysis	60

3.6 ETHICAL CONSIDERATION	61
3.7 CONCLUSION	62
CHAPTER FOUR: PROCESSING OF DATA AND RESEARCH RESULTS	64
4.1 PROCESSING OF DATA AND RAW MATERIAL ANALYSIS	64
4.2 ANALYSIS OF TRANSLATION PROBLEMS AND STRATEGIES AT WORD LEVEL	64
4.2.1 Analysis of translation problems at word level	64
4.2.2 Analysis of translation strategies used at word level	66
4.2.3 Relationship between translation problems and strategies	67
4.2.4 Analysis of translation shifts occurring at word level	71
4.3 ANALYSIS OF TRANSLATION PROBLEMS AND STRATEGIES ABOVE WORD LEVEL	73
4.3.1 Analysis of translation problems at collocational level	73
4.3.2 Analysis of translation strategies used at collocational level	74
4.3.3 Relationship between translation problems and strategies at collocational level	74
4.3.4 Analysis of translation shifts at collocational level	76
4.3.5 Analysis of translation problems and strategies at idiomatic level	77
4.3.6 Analysis of translation problems at idiomatic level	77
4.3.7 Analysis of translation strategies used at idiomatic level	78
4.3.8 Relationship between translation problems and strategies at idiomatic level	78
4.3.9 Analysis of translation shifts at idiomatic level	80
4.4 KEY RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH	81
4.4.1 At word level	82
4.4.2 Above word level (collocations and idioms)	82
4.4.2.1 At collocational level	82
4.4.2.2 At idiomatic level	83
4.5 CONCLUSION	84
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION	86

5.1 SUMMARY OF THE MAIN RESULTS.....	86
5.2 CONCLUSION	88
5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS	89
LIST OF SOURCES.....	91

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1:	Number of translation problems at word level encountered in the fifty reports	59
Table 2:	Number of translation strategies used to overcome translation problems at word level	61
Table 3:	Relationship between translation problems and translation strategies at word level	61
Table 4:	Numbers of translation problems caused by collocations encountered in the fifty reports	67
Table 5:	Numbers of translation strategies used to overcome translation problems at collocational level	68
Table 6:	Relationship between translation problems and strategies at collocational level	68
Table 7:	Numbers of translation problems occurring with idioms encountered in the fifty reports	71
Table 8:	Numbers of translation strategies used to overcome translation problems at idiomatic level	71
Table 9:	Relationship between translation problems and strategies at idiomatic level:	72

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CL	Corpus Linguistics
CTS	Corpus-based Translation Studies
PAP	Pan African Parliament
SL	Source Language
ST	Source Text
TL	Target Language
TP	Translation Problem
TS	Translation Strategy
TT	Target Text

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE RESEARCH

1.1 INTRODUCTION

In the political discourse, politicians often complain that their statements are taken out of context by media. This happens when politicians feel that what has been reported in the media is not a true reflection of the message they had intended to convey. In the translation field, context is a key notion that affects the outcome of the translation process. Even the layperson knows that the simple question of 'what is the suitable translation for a linguistic unit?' depends on the context in which that unit is used. Many professional translators feel it is difficult to provide a suitable translation without knowing the context. This implies that the meaning of any linguistic unit is connected to other parts of the text and finally to the context of that text. In other words, the context plays an important role in determining the meaning and the appropriate translation of the linguistic unit.

The notion of context acquires its strong relevance to translation from the fact that a decontextualised utterance is subject to a multitude of interpretations, as language is meaningful only within its context of use. Confirming this fact, Halliday and Hassan (1984: 28) state that:

We do not experience language in isolation but always in relation to a scenario, some background of persons, actions and events from which the things that are said derive their meaning. This is referred to as situation. So, language is said to function in context of situation.

Translation is a decision-making process. A translator's role is therefore to choose the best option from among several possible options. His/her choice is contextually determined, as context swings the balance in favour of only one translation option, to the exclusion of other options. Moreover, context helps a translator to understand the meaning when he/she is not acquainted with the signification of (a) certain word/words in a sentence. Context unveils clues that can guide the translator to the intended meaning. As some words have different

meanings in different contexts, knowing the context would therefore steer a translator towards a certain translation option.

This research is context-oriented. It intends to study a phenomenon that falls within the frame of a specific context. The phenomenon of translation shifts has been a controversial issue in the translation field. Many scholars believe that the translation process inevitably results in some sort of shift due to the differences between any two languages. Therefore, scholars distinguish between two types of shift: obligatory and non-obligatory shifts. The obligatory shifts are caused by systemic differences. According to Rosa (2012: 86) “the majority of shifts are non-obligatory, norm-governed, and contextually motivated by cultural, ideological and political reasons”. Furthermore, non-obligatory shifts occur “as a result of contextually motivated decisions to introduce changes” (ibid: 86). This research focuses on the non-obligatory shifts.

1.1.1 The research problem

When the translator is faced with the question of what the best translation is for a linguistic meaning, his/her expected reply will be: what is the context in which the linguistic unit is used? The answer to the latter will guide the translator in suggesting the appropriate translation for the linguistic unit. However, the translation process also entails some analytical work from the translator. After finding out the context, the translator looks among the translation strategies for the best one that could render the most appropriate equivalence in the target language (TL).

This implies that knowing the context may not provide the translator with a ready answer, but there are many other factors and elements that are involved in determining the translation of the linguistic unit in question. Despite this, the context still remains an important first aspect that the translator needs to know before other factors are considered. This research therefore seeks to explore the impact of the contextual factors in the translation process. Specifically, the research intends to look closely at the nature of translation shifts that occur due to contextual factors within a very specific context, by answering this question:

What translation shift occurs due to contextual factors in English into Arabic translations of reports from the Pan African Parliament (PAP)?

1.1.2 The purpose of the study

Despite the fact that context has almost become synonymous with translation and that, further, “it has rather become a truism to say that translations do not take place in a vacuum, that they need to be interpreted and evaluated in their relevant context” (Koskinen 2008:72 cited in Saldanha & O’Brien 2013:205), there is a feeling that the concept still lacks a concrete definition and seems vague. This cannot undermine the validity and the contribution of the concept in the field of translation, as many other important concepts have faced and are still facing criticisms; however, this is the nature of the scientific process of testing and verifying such concepts. In this regard, one cannot ignore, for example, the fierce criticisms of fundamental concepts like equivalence but still this concept remains one of the pillars of translation theory.

Therefore, it is not surprising that the concept of context also faces many criticisms. For example, in a paper titled “Text and context of parliamentary debates”, Dijk (2004) discusses earlier studies on context. Dijk’s below conclusions about the main three categories of the context of situation in the systematic-functional linguistics (SFL) approach, (field, tenor and mode) offer a good example of the many criticisms of context (Dijk 2004: 342), some of which are: (1) the contextual categories are not original (they are largely due to variation stylistics); (2) the notions are theoretically unproductive and inert (they have barely changed in many years); (3) they are rather vague (even SF linguists have variable definitions of the categories); and (4) they are heterogeneous (theoretically very different notions are described by these categories).

As mentioned earlier, translation is always viewed as a decision-making process, in that every text is subject to a multitude of possible translations. A translator is most often faced with the need to opt for only one of many options unfolded by the processes leading to translation. The first questions that a translator needs to answer in such a situation are which

translation option to choose, and on which criteria he/she should base his/her decision in this respect.

Translation theorists have described context as a concept that can be of help during decision-making. However, context is a multidimensional concept that can be useful as the best translation option determinant only if the translator is well aware of the various dimensions of context. Based on the importance of context in translation, this research aims to explore the impact of contextual factors on the translation process in general and on the phenomenon of translation shifts in particular. In general, the research intends to shed light on the development of the concept of context in the translation field, through examining a specific influence of this concept in translation. By doing so, the research seeks to contribute positively in filling a gap of knowledge, since any attempt to make this concept more understandable can present a good justification for researching it.

1.1.3 The objectives of the research

In order to achieve the aim of the study, will be attained through achieving the following objectives:

- I. Describe contextual factors that impact on English into Arabic translation in general;
- II. Describe the concept of translation shifts and how it manifests in translation strategies and procedures; and
- III. Analyse and discuss reports translated into Arabic from the PAP to identify instances of translation shifts due to contextual factors.

1.1.4 Research questions

The research questions which will guide this research are as follows:

- I. What are the contextual factors that impact on translation from English into Arabic in general?

- II. What is a translation shift, and how does it manifest in translation strategies and procedures?
- III. What is the nature of translation shifts that occur due to contextual factors in reports of the PAP that were translated from English into Arabic?

1.2 LITERATURE REVIEW

1.2.1 Introduction

Munday (2008) chronologically traces the evolvement of translation studies through the early 20th century up to the most recent studies in the translation field. According to Munday (2008:56), since the 1950s, various linguistic approaches have focused on translation products in an effort to categorise the translation process. In this regard, the most notable contributions are those of Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) and Catford (1965).

This research focuses on a phenomenon that relates to the study of translation products, which is the phenomenon of translation shifts. In its basic level, translation shifts “are small linguistic changes occurring in translation of ST to TT” (Munday 2008: 54). However, and as will be further discussed in chapter 2, the concept itself seems more complicated and confused than its simple definition. Furthermore, various studies have been undertaken to unpack and understand this phenomenon. But the general feeling in the various studies is that translation by its nature involves some kind of shift that occurs during the translation process due to linguistics and extra-linguistic factors.

This research intends to look at translation shifts that occur due to contextual factors. In order to thoroughly cover the various dimensions of this phenomenon, an extensive literature review will be undertaken. More specifically, the literature review will include discussions on three main concepts, namely: context and contextual factors, translation shifts, and translation strategies and procedures.

These three concepts represent the general framework of the study. For the purpose of this research, the context represents the bigger frame which encompasses the translation shift. The latter manifests in the translation process through the adoption of translation strategies and procedures. Hence, the discussion in the literature review will guide the analysis of the examples in the subsequent chapters.

1.2.2 Context in translation

It is impossible to ignore context in translation. Context is the factor that always casts its shadow on the various components of the translation process. Authors of source text (ST), translators as producers of the target text (TT), and audience of the TT all in one way or another take into account the element of context. Throughout the evolution of the translation field, the concept of context has been much considered. This resulted in abundant secondary material on the concept, which of course reflects the importance of context with regard to translation.

Melby (2010) in his article "Context in translation: definition, access and team work" argues that the importance of context should not only be limited to the translator, but should be extended to the other parties involved in the translation process. After he explains different types of contexts and their relevance to the various parties of the translation process, Melby (2010:8) concludes that "understanding of the importance of context will help everyone involved in multilingual communication to better cooperate in providing appropriate, efficient and effective translation".

Due to the importance of this concept, chapter 2 includes a discussion on the relevance of context in translation. Since there are abundant secondary sources dealing with the concept, only aspects related to this research are covered, in particular contextual factors that affects translation of reports from English into Arabic in the PAP. In this regard, Saldanha and O'Brien (2013: 206) explain that context-oriented research in translation studies is traditionally informed by cultural and sociological studies. However, there is work in a much

wider range of disciplines, including political science, anthropology and psychology, that is relevant to the study of contextual factors in translation (ibid: 26).

However, the focus of this research is limited to culture. In other words, only contextual factors of this discipline will be taken into consideration in the context of studying their influence on the translation process through the occurrence of translation shifts. The rationale behind limiting the study to this discipline is that differences in cultural setting between any two languages are always expected to pose some challenges in translation. Furthermore, cultural dimensions cover a wide range of components. Factors such as dialect and the usage of some specific cultural expressions (e.g. idioms and fixed phrases) will be focused on in the source texts, and it will be noted how translators dealt with them, which specific translation strategies were used and thus how translation shifts occurred.

1.2.3 Translation shift

Most studies confirm that Catford (1965) was the first to introduce the term 'translation shift'. However, Cyrus (2009: 92) believes that Catford "was by no means the first to deal with the phenomenon". According to Cyrus (2009: 92) the work of Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) on a contrastive analysis of English and French, which was published before Catford's work, represents a systematic attempt to describe translation shift occurrences in translating between English and French. Munday (2008: 60) also believes that "although Vinay and Darbelnet do not use the word 'shift' in discussing translation shift, that is in effect what they are describing". However, both Cyrus (2009) and Munday (2008) admit that the credit of introducing the term 'translation shift' goes to Catford.

As will be further elaborated in chapter 2, there are various types of translation shifts that occur during the translation process. Due to the multitude of these types, it will be difficult to trace all sorts of translation shifts. For example, van Leuven-Zwart described 37 subcategories of translation shift (Leuven-Zward 1991, cited in Cyrus 2009: 9). Furthermore, Larson (1998: 181) confirmed that "it is extremely difficult to keep track of all the different

kinds of shift as there are eight different categories and thirty-seven subcategories, not all clearly differentiated".

What is more important here is that the translation process inevitably involves some sort of change that occurs in transferring or conveying the meaning of the ST into the TL. This may be attributed to the inherent differences between any two languages. In order to overcome difficulties or pitfalls faced during the translation process, translation strategies have been suggested to deal with various translation problems.

One of the areas that might need more clarity is related to the question of to what extent translators are entitled to apply changes to texts which may be shifts. Such a question becomes even more important when several texts warn against translation shifts, dismissing them as errors, which is not true. Hatim (2013: 73) neatly defends the validity of translation shifts by confirming that:

The so-called 'shifts in translation' are not considered as 'errors' as many translation critics have called them. Shifts are seen as part of the process which is naturally embedded in two different worlds, intellectually, aesthetically and from the perspective of culture at large.

1.2.4 Translation strategies as vehicles of translation shifts

Based on the above discussion, one can claim that translation generally occurs as a result of applying translation strategies and translation procedures. For the purpose of distinguishing between these two concepts, Chesterman (2005:24) cited in Rosa (2012:85) defines strategy as "basic problem-solving sense, as a plan that is implemented in a given context", and technique or procedure is used "to refer to routine, micro-level, textual procedures". In other words, translation strategy is the broader concept that encompasses translation procedures. As Munday (2008: 56) explains, the two general translation types identified by Vinay and Darbelnet, i.e. direct translation and oblique translation, comprise

seven procedures. Cyrus (2009:92) considers these seven procedures “the central element” of the work of Vinay and Darbelnet.

There are various translation strategies described by key scholars who dealt directly or indirectly with the phenomenon of translation shifts. A detailed discussion on these strategies and procedures will be reflected in chapter 2. However, emphasis should be put here on translation strategies described by Baker (2001) in her famous book “In Other Words”. Baker (2001) identified several attested strategies used by professional translators to overcome problems of non-equivalence at different levels (word level, above word level, grammar and structure). For example, Baker suggested, among others, strategies such as paraphrasing using related words, paraphrasing using unrelated words, translation by illustrations, and translation by cultural substitutions. The results of all these strategies are different types of shift in translation.

In conclusion, chapter 2 will discuss in more detail the relationship between translation strategies and translation shifts. Special emphasis will be placed on translation strategies described by Baker (2001). The justification for this is that Baker is originally from an Arabic-speaking country and, in addition to her valuable contribution to the field of translation, Baker also worked as an Arabic/English translator. Her theoretical work and practical insights are therefore not only clearly related to the subject of this research, but will also assist in the analysis that will be carried out to study the phenomenon of translation shifts.

1.3 PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

1.3.1 Research design

This research is a descriptive and exploratory study. The research intends to describe two primary translation concepts, namely contextual factors and translation shift. Generally, the exploratory aspect focuses on answering questions of how and what. As such the research will explore how translation shifts manifest in translation strategies and procedures, in addition to finding out what contextual factors impact on English into Arabic translation in general.

The research will follow a qualitative method based on a case study. There are three reasons behind selecting the case study method for this research: first, because the case study method is a qualitative research method that can contribute to knowledge beyond the particular in three different scenarios, one of which is “exploring questions of how and why” (Saldanha & O’Brien 2013: 209); second, due to the flexibility of a case study “in terms of drawing on a wide range of sources of data” (ibid: 8); and third, because the research seeks to describe the translation process in a specific unit, the PAP.

1.3.2 Data sources

Data sources for this research will mainly include two types of data: secondary data and primary data. Secondary data, or in the broader term, academic literature, will include academic references, journal articles and previous dissertations related to the subject of the research, which will be reviewed and consulted in chapter 2 (the literature review) in order to better conceptualise the research.

Meanwhile, primary data for this research will include reports from both the STs and TTs (reports translated into Arabic). These texts will be used to serve three purposes: (1) examine the nature of contextual factors affecting translations from English into Arabic in general, (2) identify patterns of translation shifts occurring in the translation of PAP reports from English into Arabic and (3) identify translation strategies and procedures applied to overcome translation problems faced during the translation process, thus leading to translation shifts.

1.3.3 Data collection techniques

The research will focus on studying institutional translation through a case study of translation in the PAP. This will be carried out from only one vantage point: translated texts. A comparative study of STs and TTs will be carried out to present a product-oriented perspective.

1.3.4 Issues of validity and reliability

According to Saldanha and O'Brien (2013: 28) "at the most basic level, the validity of our results will depend on the extent to which the data we collate and [analyse] can contribute to answering our question". There are many threats that can affect validity during the research process. However, in the context of this research, consideration will be given to two types of threats. Since this is a text-based research, the first one relates to threats imposed by the researcher himself. This applies to not only participant-based research where the researcher's personal attributes may influence the participant, but also to textbased research "as researchers bring ideologies and expectations with them to the research process" (Saldanha & O'Brien 2013: 30). The researcher will deal with this threat through "self-reflexivity" (ibid: 30).

The second threat to validity in this research relates to threats regarding measurement. The research will involve a process of sampling for the required texts to investigate the phenomenon of translation shifts, therefore aspects of sampling methods and size might also impose a threat to the validity of the research results. However, the researcher resorts to the method of purposive sample as the analysis will be based on corpus, and purposive sampling is a commonly used technique in this kind of study. With regard to the size of the sample, the researcher selects a sample size that is large enough to make sound analysis and thus come to acceptable conclusions.

On the other hand, reliability refers to the possibility of generating similar results or conclusions if other researchers investigate the same research question using the same data and methods at different times. However, there is a general agreement between scholars that achieving exact results/conclusions is not possible, whether for quantitative or qualitative research. Therefore, what is important for researchers is that they should endeavour to increase reliability. In order to achieve increased reliability in this research, the researcher strives to demonstrate that the data collection and analysis methods used are

dependable, that the methods are transparent and, consequently, that the results are credible (Saldanha & O'Brien 2013: 36).

1.3.5 Sampling techniques

For the purpose of building corpora to undertake the analysis, the sampling method for selecting texts is applied. In this regard, this research adopts a purposive sample to select the texts required for the analysis. Furthermore, samples of reports produced and translated during the period 2006 – 2015 have been selected.

1.3.6 Data analysis and interpretation

Any product-oriented research cannot ignore methods such as Corpus Linguistic (CL) in analysing both the target text and the context that affects the production of the text. For the analysis of the comparative study of the selected texts, the research will use CL. Specifically, the research will use Baker's model to carry out the analysis using corpora in answering the problem statement. Further details on Baker's model will be given in chapter 3. In addition, the CL will be used to trace translation problems and translation strategies used in the target texts.

1.3.7 Ethical considerations

Two standard ethical requirements for all research are the notions of privacy and confidentiality. Since the researcher is an employee of the unit of analysis (case study – translation in PAP), there are two factors that need to be taken into consideration: the first one concerns articles of Staff Rules and Regulations, which govern issues of confidentiality and disclosure of information by staff members. This entails that the researcher/staff member should distinguish between his responsibility as a staff member and his role as a researcher. The second factor concerns the nature of parliaments in general. Parliaments are the voice of people and in that sense, there should not be a lot of restrictions in terms of availing documents and other material to the public. This might be in favour of any researchers who intend to study phenomena within parliaments.

Considering the above two factors, and for academic and scientific purposes, the researcher strives to play the expected neutral role. Therefore, the researcher undertakes not to take advantage of being a staff member and will not collect or obtain any source of information without following required procedures. In this regard, the researcher provided his employee with an official letter from the University to seek permission for collecting the required information and for conducting the research on the PAP.

1.4 CHAPTERS OVERVIEW

1.4.1 Chapter One: Introduction to the research

This chapter introduces the study. It states the research problem, the purpose of the research and the objectives of the research. The chapter also outlines the theoretical frame of the research and the proposed methodology.

1.4.2 Chapter Two: Literature review

The literature review discusses the current status of the main concepts related to the problem of the research, namely: the context and contextual factors, translation shifts and translation strategies.

1.4.3 Chapter Three: Research methodology

This chapter provides a discussion of methodology theory and indicates the methodological approach used in the research. In this chapter, the researcher also discusses the details of collecting the required data from various available sources.

1.4.4 Chapter Four: Collection of data and research results

This chapter presents the processing of data and raw material analysis. Furthermore, the key results of the research are discussed and compared with reviewed literature.

1.4.5 Chapter Five: Summary and conclusion

This chapter discusses the importance and contribution of the research, the main conclusions and recommendations of the research to contribute to the development of the translation field.

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter provides an overview of the body of literature related to the research problem. The key concepts covered in this chapter are context, contextual factors, translation shifts, and translation strategies.

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The notion of context first came into being as a product of the anthropological research conducted by Bronislaw Malinowski during the early thirties, among the Kirwinian language-speaking fishermen of the South Pacific Trobriand islands. Therefore, it can be said that Malinowski was the first one to arrive at the notion of context and its significance in discourse interpretation (Halliday & Hassan, 1984: 25). The context of an utterance is “the set of premises used in interpreting” (Sperber & Wilson, 1986: 15, cited in Monacelli, 2009: 63). As such, context “is a psychological construct, a subset of the hearer’s assumptions about the world” (ibid: 63).

Firth (1964: 67) believes that a context of situation for linguistic work is related to the following categories: the relevant features of the participant (persons, personalities, verbal and non-verbal actions), the relevant objects, the verbal and non-verbal actions, and the effects of the participant’s actions. Furthermore, Halliday and Hassan (1984) identify three contextual configurations which are: field of discourse (refers to the institutional setting in which a piece of language occurs), tenor of discourse (refers to the relationship between participants) and mode of discourse (refers to the channel of communication adopted), (Doughty *et al.* 1972, cited in Fairclough, 1989: 33).

Translation is a decision-making process. A translator’s role is therefore to choose the best option from among several possible options. The general consensus in the translation field is that context plays a critical role in determining the best option. This is because some words have different meanings in different contexts, hence knowing the context would steer a translator towards a certain translation option. However, there are many other factors that

generally also have an impact in the translation process and specifically in the selection of an appropriate translation strategy. In the section which follows, the research closely examines some of the contextual factors that generally influence the translation process.

2.2 CONTEXTUAL FACTORS

The range of contextual factors is very wide and it would be unrealistic in the course of this research to cover all relevant aspects of this concept. Therefore, in order to narrow the scope of the contextual factors, the research will adopt the approach of the Skopos theory due to its practicality. The Skopos theory identifies three specific contextual factors which should not be ignored in translation. These factors are “the culture of the intended readers of the target text, the client who commissioned it and more significantly the function which the text aspires to perform in that culture for those readers” (As-Safi, 2011: 15).

In the next section, the research briefly highlights these three contextual factors in order to examine how they can influence the occurrence of translation shifts. However, the culture of the intended readers of the target text will be focused on, since it represents the key factor impacting on the occurrence of translation shifts, as the discussion on translation strategies will confirm.

2.2.1 Culture of the intended readers

Culture remains one of the fundamental factors that translation scholars take into consideration in their endeavour to pave the way for rendering accurate translations. The idea of involving cultural aspects in the translation process started very early in the field. Mizani (2016: 1) believes that “translation theorists have been cognisant of the problems attendant upon cultural knowledge and cultural differences at least since ancient Rome”.

The notion of literal translation versus free translation implies that in literal translation, translating word-for-word cannot achieve the exact meaning of the translation unit, and therefore proposed that in free translation the translator should make an effort to accompany cultures embedded in the two texts, i.e. the source and target text.

Mizani (2016: 19) further states that historically the first theory regarding cultural translation was introduced by Mounin in 1963 who “underlines the importance of the signification of a lexical item claiming that only if this notion is considered will the translated item fulfil its function correctly”. In 1964, Nida introduced his concept of dynamic equivalence, which focuses on the response of the receptors of the message in the receptor language. This response should be the same as that of the receptors in the source language, and this cannot be achieved without taking into consideration the cultures of the two receptors.

But the more systematic approach in dealing with culture and translation is the concept of the cultural turn. According to Munday (2008: 124), the use of this term in translation studies refers to the “move towards the analysis of translation from a cultural studies angle”. The main rationale behind including the aspect of culture in the translation process is that literal translation cannot render the exact message/meaning and therefore cultures of the two texts should be taken into consideration. Moreover, Bassnett (2007: 19) believes that “translation offers an ideal laboratory situation for the study of cultural interaction, since a comparison of the original and the translated text will not only show the strategies employed by translators at certain moments, but will also reveal the different status of the two texts in their several literary systems”.

The definition of the concept of culture might not be that straightforward, as the concept itself is not limited to a specific discipline. In this regard, it would be difficult to indulge in a discussion regarding the various definitions of the concept. However, for the sake of defining the concept in the context of this research, the research prefers to adopt the definition of Newmark (1988: 94) who defines culture as "the way of life and its manifestations that are peculiar to a community that uses a particular language as its means of expression". This definition is a general one that gives a clear picture of what the concept means. The definition is also appropriate for the field of translation, although some scholars indicated that in translation studies the term ‘culture’ is often used “as if it referred to an obvious and unproblematic reality” (Simon: 1996, cited in Munday 2008: 128), giving an example of the

definition of Lefevere who defines it as simply “the environment of a literary system” (Lefevere 1985: 226, cited in Munday 2008: 129).

As mentioned earlier, culture remains one of the most important contextual factors that affects the translation process in general. The inclusion of culture has contributed significantly to the evolvement of the translation field. It has also assisted in developing specific translation strategies to address the cultural aspects in the translation process. Details of these various strategies will be discussed in the section to follow. But what is important here is to emphasise that cultural factors generally affect the entire translation process in one way or another.

In the context of reviewing the literature related to translation and culture, one sees that there are many theories dealing directly with the aspect of culture in translation. However, it would be difficult to highlight all these theories. What might be most important in the context of this research is to answer the simple question of why the cultural aspect is important in translation. The research provides answers for this question from a different perspective of the main theories dealing with culture and translation.

In this regard, there are two schools of thought which deal with translation and culture: the traditional school and the contemporary school. The traditional school focuses on cultural aspects of the text or, as Mizani (2016: 2) notes, “the main concern has traditionally been with words and phrases that are so heavily and exclusively grounded in one culture that they are almost impossible to translate into the terms – verbal or otherwise – of another”. This school includes the contributions of scholars like Nida, Newmark and Baker among others. Scholars of this school addressed specific cultural translation problems and proposed appropriate strategies to overcome such problems. For example, Newmark discusses what he calls cultural words, which according to Mizani (2016: 4), “the readership is unlikely to understand and the translation strategies for this kind of concept depend on the particular text-type, requirements of the readership and client and importance of the cultural word in the text”. Baker (1992) also discusses some specific cultural problems such as cultural

concepts that are totally unknown in the target culture and suggested appropriate strategies to deal with them.

Contrary to the traditional school, the contemporary school takes a broader approach through discussing specific cultural issues that affect the translation process such as powers controlling translation and the value-driven nature of sociocultural frameworks (Venuti, 1992, 1995), defining the ideal reader (Coulthard, 1992), postcolonialism (Spivak, 1993), gender and culture (Simon, 1996), ideology and cultural translation (Hervey & Higgins, 2002), and globalisation and translation (Wiersema, 2004).

In the context of this research, it would be difficult to highlight all the issues and aspects that relate to culture and translation. However, it is important to emphasise the fact that culture affects the translation process and it remains one of the most important factors that needs to be taken into consideration.

2.2.2 The client or the commissioner

Simply put, the commissioner refers to the person who asks a translator to carry out a translation assignment. However, the Skopos theory differentiates between the initiator of the process and the commissioner. The initiator is defined as the person, group or institution that “is the factor that starts the process and determines its course” (Nord, 2005: 9). According to Schjoldager *et al.* (2008: 160) “this role is taken on by the commissioner, but not necessarily so”. It can also be taken on by the translator himself/herself or somebody else who thinks that the translation is needed. Meanwhile, the commissioner is defined as “the person, group or institution who asks the translator to produce a target text” (ibid: 160). According to the Skopos theory, the commissioner is also responsible for providing the translation brief and for paying for the job.

The Skopos theory gives the translator the liberty to decide how to accomplish the translation; however, it also insists that the written brief provided by the commissioner should clearly indicate why the text should be translated. By doing so, the commissioner would

assist the translator to decide important factors such as the intended function of the text, and the appropriate translation strategies. In the following section, the research will explore how the function/purpose or aim of the translation can impact on the selection of the translation strategy.

2.2.3 Function of the text

In addition to the two contextual factors mentioned above, the Skopos theory identifies the function of the text as the third contextual factor that needs to be taken into consideration during the translation process. In the translation field, the function of the text has been a fundamental concept to the extent that there is a translation theory currently being developed based on this concept, which is known as the functional theory. This theory started in Germany in the 1970s when “Katharina Reiss, Hans J. Vermeer and other translation scholars began to stress the functional aspect of translation” (Schjoldager *et al.*, 2008: 152).

Nord (2005: 5) believes that Reiss was probably the first to take this approach to the theory and practice of translation. Her model on text type, which linked text function with translation methods, paved the way for the development of the functional theory. Munday explains that Reiss suggested specific translation methods according to text type (Munday, 2008: 72). These text types are: informative, expressive, operative, and audio-medial. Based on these types, Reiss proposes general features that should be included in the target text of each relevant text type. The major criticism of Reiss’s work focuses on the viability of linking a translation method with the text type, as “the translation method employed depends on far more than just text type” (Munday, 2008: 75). There are other factors that affect the selection of the appropriate translation strategy, and the contributions of the other functionalist scholars cater for this shortage.

Holz-Manttari (1984) goes one further step in his attempt to use the function of the text as the key criteria for the translation process. The translatorial action model focuses on “producing a TT that is functionally communicative for the receiver” (Munday, 2008: 78). Munday further explains that in order to achieve this goal, the TT “must be guided by what

is functionally suitable in the TT culture, rather than by merely copying the ST profile” (ibid: 78). This does not mean that the translatorial action completely ignores the ST. The model describes specific steps that would ultimately assist the translator to produce the desired translation products. These steps include, among others, the analysis of the roles of the different participants in the translation process such as the initiator, the commissioner, the ST producer and the translator. However, the translatorial action model emphasises the critical role of the translator. Munday neatly described the translator role as envisaged in this model by stating that “what is functionally suitable has to be determined by the translator, who is an expert in translatorial action and whose role is to make sure that the intercultural transfer takes place satisfactorily” (Munday, 2008: 78). Nevertheless, the translatorial action model has been criticised for disregarding the role of the ST in the translation process. This last point was addressed by scholars of the Skopos theory.

Generally, the Skopos theory focuses on the purpose or aim of the translation which “determines the translation methods and strategies that are to be employed in order to produce a functionally adequate result” (Munday, 2008: 79). The Skopos theory has faced many criticisms regarding the basic principles of the theory, however, it does release the translator from depending completely on the ST or as stated by Schjoldager *et al.* (2008: 152) “helps us to see that there are other approaches to translation than a source text-oriented one”. Furthermore, the theory “allows the possibility of the same text being translated in different ways according to the purpose of the TT” (Munday, 2008: 80). Similar to the functional approach, the Skopos theory also gives priority to the TT over the ST. This was one of the criticisms of the Skopos theory; Munday (2008: 81) confirms that “the Skopos theory doesn’t pay sufficient attention to the nature of the ST nor [to] the reproduction of micro-level features in the TT”. Nord, however, addresses this aspect through her model of translation-oriented text analysis.

What distinguishes Nord’s model on text analysis from the other functionalist approaches is that the model focuses more on the ST than the other functionalist models do (Munday, 2008: 86). The other aspect is that the model establishes two types of intended function of

the translation or, as Munday (2008: 82) calls them, “two basic types of translation product”. These are documentary and instrumental translation.

Similar to the other functional approaches, Nord also insists on the importance of analysing the roles of the different participants in the translation process, after which the translator needs to compare ST and TT profiles defined in the commission to “see where the texts may diverge” (Munday, 2008: 83). According to the model, the comparison between the ST and TT profiles could assist in a close analysis of the ST in order “to decide on functional priorities of the translation strategy” (ibid: 83). Furthermore, in undertaking the translation, Nord establishes a functional hierarchy. This means that priority should be given to the most important functions of the translation process.

The above brief discussion reflects the key components of Nord’s model but focuses primarily on the difference between Nord’s model and the other functionalist approaches. However, what makes the model more distinct is that the model managed to “bring together strengths of the various and functional theories” (Munday, 2008: 84).

As concluding remarks on the third contextual factor, the function of the text, and in the context of this research, there are three key characteristics of the functional approach. First, the approach defines the function as the key criterion in the translation process. Second, the appropriate translation strategy or method should be guided by the function of the text. Finally, other factors such as the analysis of the different participants’ roles in the translation process (in particular the commissioner of the process, the nature of the ST, and the cultures of the recipient) play a lesser role in defining the translation strategy. However, in the context of this research, the main focus is on the role played by the text function on the selection of the translation strategy, since the latter is the vehicle of the phenomenon under study, which is the translation shift. In the next section, the research will further elaborate on the phenomenon of the translation shift and how the different translation strategies cause this phenomenon.

2.3 TRANSLATION SHIFTS

Usually, great ideas not only remain valid but also contribute to producing more ideas based on the initial idea. This typically applies to the introduction by Catford to the concept of translation shifts. Many scholars agree that Catford did not expand the concept in illustrating it. According to them, the concept lacks many characteristics. Others believe that Catford's concept is not practicable and not applicable (Munday, 2008: 61). Nevertheless, many studies and research build on this concept.

For example, the work of Vinay and Darbelnet on a contrastive study between English and French was not considered to fall under the concept of translation shifts. However, many other scholars believe that the work of Vinay and Darbelnet is actually the most developed version of the translation shift concept. Reviewing the literature that deals with the work of Vinay and Darbelnet gives the impression that those scholars implicitly acknowledge that Vinay and Darbelnet are the pioneers of the translation shift concept, except that they did not explicitly speak about it. The same sentiment can be felt when reviewing other prominent work in the translation field, such as that of Nida and Baker, to mention a few.

An important question to be raised is how Catford deals with translation shifts and how other scholars deal with the same phenomenon, in other words, how Catford and others have conceptualised this term. In order to answer this question and ultimately explore the evolvement of this concept, the section that follows traces the main characteristics of the concept through the works of some prominent scholars. The section will start by shedding light on Catford as the owner of the term, after which it will focus on the works of Vinay and Darbelnet, Nida, and Baker. The section will be concluded by touching on recent works on and criticisms of translation shifts. Applying this approach, the research can establish a strong foundation to firstly understand the concept and secondly to assist in the analysis stage of the contextual factors that impact on the occurrence of the phenomenon.

2.3.1 Definition of translation shift

Most studies which deal with the phenomenon of translation shifts in one way or another refer first to Catford's definitions of this concept and then provide other versions of the definition. In the researcher's opinion, the reason behind the other versions of the definition could be the complexity of Catford's definition. Catford (1965: 73) defines translation shifts as "departures from formal correspondence in the process of going from the SL to the TL". Munday (2008: 55) uses different words to define the same concept when he states that "translation shifts are small linguistic changes occurring in translation of the ST to the TT". On the other hand, Melby (2010), in highlighting the evolvement of the concept, traces other works dealing indirectly with the phenomenon, but according to him all these works were in their essence merely manifestations of translation shifts. In this regard, Melby refers to the work of Vinay and Darbelnet in addition to the work of Nida. Newmark (1988) also concurs with Melby in considering the work of Vinay and Darbelnet as the most accepted version of translation shifts (Newmark, 1988: 55).

The above approach concerning the definition of translation shifts aimed to reflect as precisely as possible the fundamental components of Catford's definition of the concept. However, all the above scholars failed to take into consideration an important fact regarding how Catford arrived at this definition. They look at the definition in isolation to previous theory provided by Catford. Translation shifts as explained by Catford came at a later stage, after explaining translation. His work was organised in a particular hierarchy.

This was clear by his statement that "having reviewed all types of restricted translation, we return now to general discussion; in particular, to a brief systematic survey of some of the challenges or 'shifts' which occur in translation" (Catford, 1965: 73). This introductory remark by Catford implied two things: first, there are some fundamental approaches to the translation process before the second aspect, which Catford referred to as challenges or shifts. In other words, the translation can be rendered literally or word-for-word, but the challenges appear when the rule of literal translation is no longer applicable. Catford specifically called these challenges or shifts. This understanding is very important in

reviewing other works that deal directly or indirectly with the same phenomenon, as the following discussion will confirm.

2.4 TRANSLATION STRATEGIES AS VEHICLES OF TRANSLATION SHIFTS

The previous discussion of translation shifts indicated that not all kinds of translation strategies result in some sort of change or shift; only specific strategies lead to a shift in the target language. Furthermore, there are many factors that impact on the selection of the specific strategies and ultimately lead to a shift in the target text. In the next section, the research briefly touches on all the strategies that generally lead to a shift in the target language. In this regard, emphasis will be placed on strategies prescribed by Vinay and Darbelnet (1958), Eugene Nida (1964), Kitty van Leuven-Zwart (1990), and Mona Baker (1992).

The main objective in focusing on these specific strategies is to divide them into two categories. The first category relates to those strategies that are applied not due to any contextual factors and the second to those strategies which are being applied due to contextual factors. This categorisation will help in identifying, in the context of this research, the strategies that were applied due to specific contextual factors. In doing so, the research will be guided in the analysis of the nature of the translation shift that occurs due to contextual factors.

Before starting the discussion on the link between the translation strategies and translation shifts, two aspects should be clarified. The first one relates to the rationale behind the selection of the above-mentioned theorists, to show the nature of this link. In a nutshell, the research limited the discussion to this sample of theorists to illustrate how the outcomes of their approaches to address translation problems generally resulted in some sort of translation strategy. However, this research will focus on the work of Baker, since she is originally from an Arabic-speaking country and she also worked as an Arabic/English translator; her work is therefore very relevant.

The second aspect relates to the differentiation between the two concepts of translation strategy and translation procedure. These two concepts are used in an interchangeable way, which will be indicated in the discussion of the works of these scholars. Therefore, and in order to avoid any confusion in this regard, the research needs to define the two concepts.

According to Mailhac (2007), translation strategy is broader than translation procedure. Mailha defines translation strategy as a “method employed to translate a given element/unit (including a whole text) making use of one or more procedures selected on the basis of relevant parameters”. He further defines procedure as “a means of translating a particular element as part of a strategy” (Mailhac, 2007 (no page no.)). Newmark (1988) also makes clear distinctions between the two concepts, but he uses the term ‘translation method’ to refer to the same concept of strategy. This was indicated by his statement that “while translation methods relate to whole texts, translation procedures are used for sentences and the smaller units of language” (Newmark, 1988: 81).

Discussions of the works of all scholars mentioned in this section will show that they all adopt the above approach of applying general translation strategies/methods which include specific procedures, except Baker. Baker (1992) uses the term ‘strategy’, without giving a clear definition of the term, to describe how ‘professional translators’ deal with translation problems. However, it will be noted that all translation strategies described by Baker do, in fact, represent translation procedures since they have been used for problems related to sentences and smaller units of languages. Based on this clarification and in the context of this research, the research opts to use the term ‘translation strategy’ to refer to both translation strategy and translation procedure wherever applicable.

2.4.1 Translation strategies of Vinay and Darbelnet

Although Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) did not directly describe translation shifts, their contrastive work on English and French was typically applied to using a definition of translation shift, as they focus on the difference occurring between English (SL) and French

(TL) by comparing various changes that took place during the translation process. Vinay and Darbelnet focus on specific translation strategies that can be used by translators to overcome any problem or pitfall facing them during the translation process.

Vinay and Darbelnet produced two practical general translation strategies, which are direct and oblique translation. According to Munday (2008: 56), these two translation strategies “comprise seven procedures, of which direct translation cover three”. Cyrus (2009: 92) considers these seven translation procedures which translators apply when moving from source to target text as the “central element” of the work of Vinay and Darbelnet. Procedures under direct translation strategy include borrowing, *claque*, and literal translation. Procedures under oblique translation strategy include transposition, modulation, equivalence, and adaptation (Vinay & Darbelnet, 1958: 30-39).

The outcome of the three procedures under direct translation strategy does not involve any sort of change or, in other words, shifts in target languages. However, the change or shift in the target languages appears when applying the four procedures under oblique translation: transposition, modulation, equivalence, and adaptation. Cyrus (2009: 92) confirms this by neatly stating that “it is these oblique procedures that result in various differences between the source and target text – shifts, in other words, even though Vinay and Darbelnet did not call them that”. Therefore, in the context of this research, the first three procedures will be excluded and the main focus will be on the last four procedures. In the next section, the research thus focuses only on the translation procedures under oblique translation strategy because the outcome of these procedures is always translation shifts in the target text.

2.4.2 Oblique translation strategy

In terms of oblique translation strategy, Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) identify four translation procedures to be applied, which are: transposition, modulation, equivalence, and adaptation. These translation procedures should only be used where the first procedures under direct strategies are not possible. In line with the context of this research, it would be good to focus the discussion on these four procedures by answering specific two questions about each

procedure, which are: what is the procedure, and when should it be used? The first question will provide an answer to the nature of the procedure, while the second question will explain conditions governing the application of the procedure. Furthermore, the answer to the second question will assist in exploring the contextual factors that impact on the application of the specific procedure and ultimately lead to the occurrence of the translation shift.

2.4.3 Transposition

Vinay and Darbelnet (1958: 36) define transposition as “replacing one word class with another without changing the meaning of the message”. They further distinguish between two types of transposition, obligatory transposition and optional transposition (ibid: 36). According to Munday (2008: 57), Vinay and Darbelnet consider transposition to be “the most common structural change undertaken by translators”. This procedure can be applied under ten different categories. However, “particular emphasis is placed on the replacements of verbs with nouns or vice versa” (Cyrus, 2009: 92). Another common category is the replacement of nouns with adjectives.

Vinay and Darbelnet raise an interesting point by explaining that transposition can also be applied within language. Hence, “‘I give him a kiss’ is semantically no different from ‘I kiss him’, though the word ‘kiss’ is changed from a noun into a verb” (Ni, 2009: 81). Vinay and Darbelnet called the first expression ‘base expression’ while the second expression of ‘kiss’ as a verb is called ‘transposed expression’. Vinay and Darbelnet (1958: 36) believe that stylistically the two expressions “do not necessarily have the same value”. To answer our second question of when to use this procedure, Vinay and Darbelnet (1958: 36) advise translators to choose transposition “if the translation thus obtained fits better into the utterance or allows a particular nuance of style to be retained”. Furthermore, Waliński (2015: 61) believes that “transposition can be employed for a better economy of the target text”. For example, using countries’ names instead of nationalities in some instances can be an efficient choice (ibid: 61).

In conclusion, it is obvious that transposition is mainly applied from a stylistic point of view, as it “is generally more literary in character” (Vinay & Darbelnet, 1958: 36). This means there are no contextual factors that impose the application of this procedure.

2.4.4 Modulation

Vinay and Darbelnet (1958: 36) define modulation as “a variation of the form of the message, obtained by a change in the point of view”. Their definition might be not clear enough, thus many scholars have provided various definitions of modulation. For example, Munday (2008: 57) explains that modulation “changes the semantics and point of view of the SL”, while Waliński (2015: 62) believes that modulation “involves changing the form of the message through a change in perspective”.

A good approach to understanding the nature of this procedure may be through one example of its eleven categories, which is changing the active voice to passive and vice versa. Here the change in the point of view is very clear. Furthermore, Newmark (1988: 89) confirms that changing passive to active and vice versa “is a common transposition, mandatory when no passive exists, advisable where, say, a reflexive is normally preferred to a passive”.

Similarly to transposition, Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) distinguish between optional and obligatory modulations. According to Munday (2008: 58), Vinay and Darbelnet set much store by modulation as the “touchstone of a good translator”. Ni (2009: 81) further observes that “the application of this skill demands very much the translator’s capacity [sic] to mastering bilingual languages”.

In the context of this research, the important question is when modulation can be used or can be justified. Vinay and Darbelnet identify only one condition that justifies the application of this procedure, though it comprises many categories, and that is “when, although a literal or even transposed translation results in a grammatically corrected utterance, it is considered unsuitable, unidiomatic or awkward in the TL” (Vinay & Darbelnet, 1958: 37). Here, one might agree with Newmark who views the general concept of modulation as not

useful “since it is a super-ordinate term covering almost everything beyond literal translation” (Newmark, 1988: 88). But, on the other hand, the reference to ‘unidiomatic’ expression in the TL implies that the application of this procedure partially takes into account contextual factors (that may govern its application). Contrary to transposition, modulation as a translation procedure thus falls under the category of procedures that are guided by contextual factors or, in other words, it is a context-oriented translation procedure.

2.4.5 Equivalence

In this procedure, Vinay and Darbelnet shift to deal with a problem that goes beyond specific linguistic units, which they refer to as a situation. Baker refers to this problem as a problem of non-equivalence on the level beyond words, which is mainly focused on translation procedures to deal with specific linguistic forms such as proverbs, clichés and idioms. Vinay and Darbelnet (1958: 38) emphasise that “the same situation can be rendered by two texts using completely different stylistic and structural methods”. In this regard, Walinski (2015: 62) notes that this procedure tends to be fixed in most cases because “it embraces an opulent repertoire of idioms, sayings, proverbs, clichés, etc.” According to Cyrus (2009: 93) this procedure can also be applied “when the source text contains an allusion to a literary work or historical event that might be lost to a recipient with a different cultural background”.

The main concern with this procedure relates to the fact that it might not be easy to find a suitable equivalent in the target language that can accurately convey the same meaning. It has to be noted that Vinay and Darbelnet did not provide practical advice on creating equivalence texts in the target text, except for a few hints in the translation of some examples. The issue of translating these kinds of fixed expressions has been the focus of many studies in the translation field which provide more practical suggestions to deal with this specific phenomenon.

Another concern is that the name of this procedure might create confusion with a well-established concept in translation studies, i.e. Nida’s concept. This has been noted by many

scholars such as Munday and Ni, and is the reason why Chesterman prefers to refer to this procedure as “total syntagmatic change” (Chesterman, 1989: 67, cited in Cyrus, 2009: 93).

In conclusion, the equivalence procedure is one of the main procedures that lead to the occurrence of translation shifts through “completely different lexical, stylistic and structural means” (Cyrus, 2009: 93). This is attributed to the fact that the usage of fixed expressions such as idioms and proverbs varies among different cultures. Therefore, in the context of this research, this procedure also falls under the category of context-oriented translation procedures.

2.4.6 Adaptation

This is the final procedure described by Vinay and Darbelnet under the oblique strategy. According to Vinay and Darbelnet (1958: 39), adaptation lies at “the extreme limit of translation” or, in other words, it is a procedure that not only differs completely from other procedures under direct and oblique strategy except the procedure of equivalence, but is also used for a very different situation “where the type of situation being referred to by SL message is unknown in the TL culture” (Vinay & Darbelnet, 1958: 39).

According to Vinay and Darbelnet, the absence of the SL situation in the TL culture compels the translator to create a sort of equivalence and this is why they describe it as “a special kind of equivalence” (ibid: 39). In this regard, Cyrus (2009: 93) confirms that “the difference between adaptation and equivalence seems only one of degree”.

Furthermore, Vinay and Darbelnet (1958: 39) believe that the refusal to use adaptation will have a negative impact on the final translated product in terms of affecting syntactic structure, development of ideas, representation within the paragraph and indefinable tone. In addition, Walinski (2015: 64) notes that “in extreme scenarios, a particular adaptation can affect extra-textual contexts”.

As noted with the application of the other procedures, Vinay and Darbelnet do not provide any practical steps. Munday (2008: 58) also notes that “this procedure may work for some restricted metaphorical uses”. However, in the context of this research, because adaptation might lead to a full change or shift in the TT, this procedure can be considered one of the main procedures that fall under the category of context-oriented translation procedure.

As a conclusion on the four procedures of Vinay and Darbelnet, under oblique translation strategy, the above discussion proved that three out of the four procedures (modulation, equivalence and adaptation) fall under the category of context-oriented translation procedure while the first procedure of transposition has been categorised as a stylistic-oriented translation procedure. The research in the analysis chapter will apply the categorisation of the translation strategies into context-oriented and stylistic-oriented translation strategies to determine any contextual factors that led to the application of these strategies.

2.4.7 Work of Kitty van Leuven-Zwart on translation shifts

Building on the work of Vinay and Darbelnet (1958) and other work in the translation field, most notably the work of Toury (1980), van Leuven-Zwart (1989, 1990) developed her model on the analysis of translation shifts. Contrary to the previous approaches which considered translation shifts “inevitable but somewhat undesirable” (Cyrus, 2009: 95), van Leuven-Zwart adopts a different approach to translation shifts. In this regard, Cyrus identifies two specific features that characterised van Leuven-Zwart’s model: it is designed and used for the description of actual translations rather than of the relationship between two linguistic systems, and that van Leuven-Zwart’s view of shifts is more neutral (ibid: 95).

In order to carry out her analysis of translation shifts, van Leuven-Zwart adopts an approach comprising two models, a comparative and a descriptive model. The comparative model “involves a detailed comparison of [the] ST and TT and a classification of all the microstructural shifts within sentences, clauses and phrases” (Munday, 2012: 63), while the descriptive model is used to investigate the effect of the shifts occurring on the

macrostructural level or, in other words “on the level of the characters, events, time, place and other meaningful components of the text” (van Leuven-Zwart, 1989: 155, cited in Cyrus, 2009: 95).

The core element of van Leuven-Zwart’s theory relates to setting a condition for the occurrence of the translation shifts by defining the relationship between the ‘transemes’ - the units to be compared – and the ‘architranseme’ – the common denominator.

This systematic approach by van Leuven-Zwart to identify the occurrence of the phenomenon of translation shifts is one of the positive aspects of her model, when compared to those of Vinay and Darbelnet and Catford. Another positive aspect of the model relates to the description of the effect of the translation shift on the macrostructural level. According to Munday (2012:65), van Leuven-Zwart’s model “goes further than the mainly linguistic comparisons which characterise Vinay and Darbelnet’s and Catford’s work”.

On the other hand, van Leuven-Zwart (1989: 153, cited in Munday, 2012: 66) herself acknowledges that the comparative model is extremely complex. This implies that there are many practical implications associated with the application of the model. Munday identifies at least four practical implications in the model. The fundamental implication is the one that relates to the allocation of the different kinds of shifts, since there are 8 different categories and 37 subcategories, not all clearly differentiated (Munday, 2012: 66; Cyrus, 2009: 95).

In the context of this research, it would be impossible to apply van Leuven-Zwart’s model because of its complexity and the difficulty of its application in addition to space considerations. However, this would not undermine the valuable contribution of van Leuven-Zwart in making the concept of translation shifts more understandable and in setting a systematic approach to analysing this phenomenon.

2.4.8 Translation strategies of Eugene Nida

Dynamic equivalence is a key concept introduced by Nida. However, in the context of this research, the main question that might be raised is: what is the link between translation shifts and the concept of dynamic equivalence? In the previous section, the research discussed the difference between direct translation and oblique translation. It has been indicated that usually the result of the literal or word-for-word translation does not involve any kind of change or shift in the target text, while procedures of oblique translation always involve some sort of shift in the target text. Similarly, Nida differentiates between formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence.

According to Nida and Taber (1982: 22) taking translation in terms of the receptors entails a new understanding of "the intelligibility of the translation". In this regard, formal equivalence can be defined as measuring intelligibility of the translation "in terms of whether the words are understandable and the sentences grammatically constructed" (ibid: 22). In other words, formal equivalence represents (word-for-word) translation, which is also known as "literal translation", while dynamic equivalence can be defined "in terms of the degree to which the receptors of the message in the receptor language respond to it in substantially the same manner as the receptors in the source language" (Nida & Taber, 1982: 24).

Dynamic equivalence can be achieved by complete naturalness of expression, or in other words "[the] translation should ideally read like an original of the target language" (Nida, 1964: 159). In order for the translator to convey the desired dynamic equivalence, Nida (1964: 226) explains that the translator needs to apply "techniques of adjustment" during the translation process. Nida dedicates a full chapter to discussing translation procedures that can assist the translator in his/her endeavour to achieve dynamic equivalence. These translation procedures include additions, subtractions and alterations, following the same approach on discussing translation procedures to categorise them into stylistic-oriented and context-oriented procedures through answering the previous two questions: what is the nature of the procedure, and when it should be used? The research in the next section will be limited to discussing translation procedures described by Nida that fall under the category

of context-oriented translation strategy. Due to the space consideration, any procedures which fall under stylistic-oriented translation strategy as described by Nida will not be discussed.

2.4.9 Addition and subtraction

Nida (1964: 227) identifies many types of additions which according to him “may legitimately be incorporated into a translation”. In this regard, it has to be noted that all types of shifts that result from the application of the addition technique do not in essence occur due to any contextual factors. Therefore, the addition procedure is categorised under stylistic-oriented translation strategies. The same applies to the procedure of alteration.

Nida (1964: 231) believes that in translating, although there are not many types of subtractions, they are “highly important in the process of adjustment” that seeks to achieve dynamic equivalence. According to Nida, there are several types of subtractions, such as: repetitions, specification of reference, conjunctions, transitional, categories, vocatives and formulae (1964: 231-233). All these types of subtractions are advisable “[because the] grammatical or semantic patterns of the receptor language are considered” (Nida, 1964: 231). Furthermore Nida explains that, similar to additions, subtractions do not actually alter the total content of the message. They may change some feature from explicit to implicit status (ibid: 231).

2.4.10 Alteration

Alteration is the third type of shift described by Nida. The result of any satisfactory translation must mean a “new birth in the new tongue” (Peterson, 1926, cited in Nida, 1964: 233) and this means that “the entire text must be subjected to a series of changes, involving not only additions and subtractions, but also alterations, some of them relatively radical” (Nida, 1964: 233). Cyrus (2009: 94) further explains that alteration is “a kind of residual category for those shifts that are neither additions nor subtractions”.

Generally, alterations can be classified in a number of ways. Nida identifies the following seven classes for alterations: sounds, categories, word classes, order of elements, clause and sentence structures, semantic problems involving single words, and semantic problems involving exocentric expressions (1964: 233-238). Given the context of this research and the limitations of space, it would be difficult to discuss all these classes of alterations. However, in order to establish a link among the most relevant classes to the subject of the research, the research briefly highlights those types of alteration driven by any contextual factors, particularly cultural factors.

- I. **Categories:** Nida explains that there are two functions for applying alteration of categories. The first one is shifts of forms within categories and the employment of expression which have no corresponding function in the source language. He further indicates that shifts from active to passive or passive to active also involve similar alteration of categories (Nida, 1964: 234). There are no clear contextual factors involved in the shift that occur due to the alteration of categories, however, the last shift from active to passive and vice versa will be noted as one of the common shifts that occur in translations to Arabic.
- II. **Order:** according to Nida (1964: 235) “a drastic alteration takes place in word order in translation”. Nida gives an example for word order of placing vocative expressions for some languages at the beginning rather than embedded within introductory expressions.
- III. **Clause and sentence structure:** Nida indicates that the two most important alterations in clause and sentence structure involve: (1) shifts from questions to statements and (2) change from indirect discourse to direct or vice versa. He further explains that “in some [languages] certain special complications affect the use of direct and indirect discourse” (Nida, 1964: 236).
- IV. **Semantic problems involving single words:** Nida believes that alteration of this type was governed by the rank of the lexical elements in questions. He identifies

ranks for the lexical elements which are “of a lower rank, of a higher rank, of a higher rank plus qualifiers, or of the same rank but shifted in position” (Nida, 1964: 236). He further illustrates various situations where the translators opted to select a term with different rank to overcome a semantic structure in the receptor language, and two of these situations are very relevant to this research. The first one relates to the necessity of the shift when a word that seems to be of the same hierarchical level as the SL word actually occupies a different position because of cultural differences. The second situation relates to the usage of the descriptive equivalents which were defined by Nida (1964: 237) as “deliberate attempts to produce satisfactory equivalents for objects, events, attributes and relational for which no regular term exists in the receptor language”. According to Nida, the most common types of descriptive equivalents involve objects largely unknown in the receptor culture and attributes or processes which have no ready lexical parallel (ibid: 237).

- V. **Semantic problems involving exocentric expressions:** Nida gives idioms as an example of exocentric expressions. He further illustrates that the difficulty for the translator in dealing with such exocentric expressions is that the translator “tends to overlook their exocentric character” (Nida, 1964: 237). A useful strategy for the translation of idioms is to render idioms using corresponding idioms. But the problem arises when there is no readily corresponding idiom in the receptor language. Hence, Nida (1964: 238) advises that “a slight adjustment in the source language expression may make it [acceptable] in the receptor language”. In the context of this research, it will be noted that there are many translation strategies to overcome the problem of non-availability of corresponding idioms. All these strategies, as will be indicated later, involve a sort of translation shift.

2.4.11 Translation strategies of Mona Baker

Baker’s research focuses specifically on the problem of non-equivalence in translation. According to Baker (1992: 17), “the choice of a suitable equivalent in a given context depends on a wide variety of factors; some of these factors may be strictly linguistic and

other factors may be extra-linguistic". Furthermore, Baker (1992) distinguishes between two levels of non-equivalence: non-equivalence at word level and non-equivalence above word level. In dealing with the problem of the non-equivalence, Baker follows a practical approach where she first describes the common problems of non-equivalence at the two levels. She then proposes appropriate translation strategies used by professional translators to overcome these problems. In the context of this research, it would be difficult to cover all aspects of the problem of non-equivalence. Therefore, the focus will only be on some of the translation strategies described by Baker which may result in some sort of translation shift, in order to create a link between these strategies and the phenomenon of translation shifts.

2.4.11.1 Non-equivalence at word level

Baker (1992: 20) defines non-equivalence at word level as the problem occurring when "the target language has no direct equivalent for a word which occurs in the source text". She identifies eleven common problems of non-equivalence. According to Baker (1992: 20) "different kinds of non-equivalence require different strategies". She further emphasises that "the context and purpose of translation will often rule out some strategies and favour others" (ibid: 20). Among different translation strategies described by Baker to overcome problems of non-equivalence at word level, the outcome of the following five translation strategies lead to some sort of translation shift:

- I. **Translation by cultural substitution:** according to Baker (1992: 31) this strategy "involves replacing a cultural-specific item or expression with a target-language item which doesn't have the same propositional meaning but is likely to have a similar impact on the target reader". In answering the question of what the level of liberty is for translators to use this strategy, Baker advises that on the individual level, the use of this strategy will largely depend on how much license is given to him/her by those who commission the translation, and the purpose of the translation. According to Baker, on a more general level the use of this strategy reflects "the norms of translation prevailing in a given community" (ibid: 31).

- II. **Translation by paraphrase using a related word:** according to Baker (1992: 37) “this strategy tends to be used when the concept expressed by the source item is lexicalised in the TL but in different form, and when the frequency with which a certain form is used in the source text is significantly higher than would be natural in the target language”.
- III. **Translation by paraphrase using unrelated words:** contrary to the strategy of translation by paraphrase using a related word, Baker (1992: 38) indicates that “instead of a related word, the paraphrase may be based on modifying a superordinate or simply on unpacking the meaning of the source item, particularly if the item in question is semantically complex”.
- IV. **Translation by omission:** although this strategy may sound rather drastic, Baker (1992: 40) confirms that “in fact it does no harm to omit translating a word or expression in some contexts”. Baker identifies one condition under which omission can take place, which is “if the meaning conveyed by a particular item or expression is not vital enough to the development of the text to justify distracting the reader with lengthy explanations, translators can and often do simply omit translating the word or expression in question” (ibid: 40).
- V. **Translation by illustration:** according to Baker (1992: 42) “this is a useful option if the word which lacks an equivalent in the target language refers to a physical entity which can be illustrated”.

2.4.11.2 Non-equivalence above word level

Baker (1992: 46) refers to the non-equivalence above word level as the situation when “words start combining with other words to form stretches of language. In other words, Baker refers to two language patterns, namely collocations and idioms/fixed expressions. In the section which follows, the research focuses on translation problems related to these patterns and the translation strategies described by Baker to overcome them. This approach will

assist in identifying how the translation strategies deal with these specific language patterns and therefore may result in some sort of translation shift. Later in the analytical chapter, the research will seek to identify the contextual factors that led to the phenomenon of translation shifts.

2.4.11.2.1 Collocations

Baker (1992: 47) defines collocations as “semantically arbitrary restrictions which do not follow logically from the prepositional meaning of a word”. According to Baker (ibid: 47), collocation can also be defined in terms of “the tendency of certain words to co-occur regularly in a given language”. This means that in translating any collocation, if a translator translates individual words composing the collocation, the translation may be inaccurate or may render an inappropriate meaning. Therefore, Baker (1992: 53) indicates that “taking account of collocational meaning rather than substituting individual words with their dictionary equivalents is crucial at the first stage of translation”.

In addition to the problem of ignoring collocational meaning in translation, Baker (1992: 54-62) identifies five problems related to collocation in translation, which are: (1) the engrossing effect of source text, (2) misinterpreting the meaning of a source language collocation, (3) the tension between accuracy and naturalness, (4) culture-specific collocations, and (5) marked collocation in the source text.

2.4.11.2.2 Idioms and fixed expressions

Idioms and fixed expressions are “frozen patterns of language which allow little or no variation in form and, in the case of idioms, often carry meaning which cannot be deduced from their individual components” (Baker, 1992: 63). Since these two language patterns are frozen, users of different languages cannot change the order of the words, delete a word from it, replace a word with another, nor change its grammatical structure (Baker, 1992: 63).

According to Baker, the main problems that idiomatic and fixed expressions pose in translation relate to two main areas: the ability to recognise and interpret idioms correctly, and the difficulties involved in rendering the various aspects of meaning that an idiom or fixed expression conveys in the target language. Therefore, Baker advises that the first stage in translating idioms and fixed expression is to recognise them, and the second step is to decide how to translate it into the target language. Furthermore, Baker identifies the following four difficulties involved in translating idioms and fixed expressions: (1) an idiom or fixed expression may have no equivalent in the target language; (2) an idiom or fixed expression may have a similar counterpart in the target language but its context of use may be different; (3) an idiom may be used in the source text in both literal and idiomatic senses at the same time; and (4) the very convention of using idioms in written discourse, the contexts in which they can be used, and their frequency of use may be different in the source and target language (Baker, 1992: 68- 70).

Based on the above difficulties, Baker (1992: 71-78) proposes these strategies to be applied in translating idioms and fixed expressions: using an idiom of similar meaning and form, using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translating by paraphrasing, and translation by omission. It is quite obvious that the outcome of all four translation strategies involve some sort of translation shift.

The above discussion showed that there are clear links between translation strategies and translation shifts. All translation strategies discussed in this section confirmed that results of all these strategies are some sort of translation shift.

2.5 CONCLUSION

This chapter covers four related concepts, which are context, contextual factors, translation shifts and translation strategies as vehicles of translation shifts. The discussion on context showed that context generally remains one of the fundamental factors in the translation process. In addition to the main characteristics of context, the review emphasised two

specific roles of context in the translation process, which are the role of context in defining translation type and the role of the various dimensions of context.

The review further highlighted the contextual factors that influence the translation process the most. Specifically, the literature identified three key contextual factors: the culture of the intended reader, the client or the commissioner, and the function of the text. Furthermore, the literature highlighted the impact of all of these contextual factors on the translation process. In this regard, the review established that the most important influence of these factors, in particular culture and function of the text, was related to the selection of the appropriate translation strategies. The two factors necessitate the application of specific translation strategies to address translation problems associated with either the cultures or the functions of the SL and TL.

Subsequently, the review thoroughly discussed the phenomenon under study, translation shifts. This was carried out through exploring the contribution of Catford, the 'father' of the concept, and other prominent scholars. The discussion concentrated on the definition of the concept and establishing a relationship among the translation strategies, contextual factors and the occurrence of the translation shifts.

The establishment of this relationship is reflected in the following three outcomes. Firstly, there is a distinction between two types of translation strategies which are: stylistic-oriented translation strategy (which includes all translation strategies leading to the occurrence of some sort of shift due to stylistic considerations) and context-oriented translation strategy (which includes all translation strategies leading to the occurrence of some sort of shift due to contextual factors). Secondly, culture, compared to the other two factors, has more influence on the selection of the translation strategy which in turn influences the occurrence of the translation shifts. This is attributed to the fact that differences between cultures of the ST and the TT usually imply application of certain translation strategies to overcome such cultural differences. Thirdly, the review also indicated that although the other two contextual factors i.e. the client/commissioner and the function of the text can have an influence on the selection of the appropriate translation strategy, they are not the key factors in this process.

In the next chapter, the research provides a discussion of methodology theory to indicate the methodological approach to be used in the analysis chapter.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the research methodology to be adopted for carrying out the research. The chapter covers the following key areas: research design, case study, data sources, data collection technique, issues of validity and reliability, sampling techniques, data analysis and ethical considerations.

A brief conceptual framework on the key methodological concepts in this research is very essential in order to clarify the adopted methodology. But due to the space consideration, the research will limit the conceptual framework to providing definitions and main characteristics of each of the primary relevant concepts.

3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

This research is a descriptive and exploratory study. It intends to describe two primary translation concepts, namely contextual factors and translation shifts. Generally, the exploratory aspect focuses on answering questions of how and what. As such, the research explores how translation shifts manifest in translation strategies and procedures, in addition to finding out what contextual factors impact on English into Arabic translation in general.

The research uses a qualitative method based on a case study. There are three reasons behind selecting the case study method for this research: first, the case study method is a qualitative research method that can contribute to knowledge in three different scenarios, one of which is “exploring questions of how and why” (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 209); second, a case study is flexible “in terms of drawing on a wide range of sources of data” (ibid: 8); and third, the research seeks to describe the translation process in a specific unit, the Pan African Parliament (PAP). Accordingly, in the sections to follow, the research discusses definitions of case study and establishes data sources and data collections under case study. The section also briefly covers issues of validity and reliability.

3.3 CASE STUDY

Despite the fact that a case study allows a certain degree of flexibility, it “does have some important requirements” (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 206). In order to establish these important requirements, the research needs to first define what a case study is. In this regard, Gillham (2000) defines a case study as “a unit of human activity embedded in the real world, which can only be studied or understood in context; which exists in the here and now; that merges in with its context so that precise boundaries are difficult to draw” (Gillham, 2000, cited in Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 207). Based on this definition, Saldanha and O’Brien (2013: 207) indicate that the two most important factors for each case study are to establish boundaries for the unit of analysis, and that it should be a real-life phenomenon. They further explain that “a case can be anything from an individual person (translator, interpreter, author) or text [of] a whole organisation” (ibid: 207). Williams and Chesterman (2014: 65) add three functions for the case study when they state that “case studies can be exploratory (what can we find out about X?), descriptive (what is the nature of X?) or explanatory (why X, how X)”.

In the context of this research, the above discussion on the definition of the case study assists in paving the way for establishing the case study to be developed under this research, hence the case study under investigation is translated texts of reports of the Pan African Parliament (ST and TT). This is clearly in line with the two basic requirements for each case study. Furthermore, the function of this case study is an exploratory one since it seeks to find out about the occurrence of a specific phenomenon i.e. translation shifts.

On the second requirement of establishing clear boundaries for the case study, Saldanha and O’Brien (2013: 215) advise that “in order to impose limits, it is helpful to think along three dimensions; social, spatial and temporal”. They further explain that in establishing temporal boundaries, the choices are either to look at contemporary or historical situations. Based on this, the practical and possible boundaries for the case under study can be reports which cover a period of six consecutive years, from 2010 to 2016. This period is selected for two

considerations: firstly, the accessibility of the PAP archive during this period, and secondly, the longitudinal nature of the period which can assist in observing “changes over a period of time” (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 215). The PAP’s institutional translations cover the four official languages of the PAP which are Arabic, English, French and Portuguese. Translation to Kiswahili and Spanish is also provided upon specific request. However, in the context of this research, the case study is limited to translation from English to Arabic since this is the main focus of the research problem.

Another aspect of the type of case study under this research which needs to be clarified is the unit of analysis. In this regard there are two options available, which are either to focus on one unit of analysis generally, that is, one text (it can be a small- or large-sized text), or to use more than one unit of analysis (more than one text).

In this research, the unit of analysis includes more than one unit since, based on the selected sample, various translated reports will be used for the analysis by taking into consideration that “when more than one unit is analysed, it is often the perceived links and analogues between units that [make] them eligible for analysis in the first place” (Susam Sarajeva, 2001, cited in Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 211). Additional considerations that also support choosing multiple texts for analysis in this research are, firstly, that contrastive studies using multiple units of analysis “protect us from easy generalisations derived from single units of analysis” (ibid: 175), and, secondly, “data from several similar cases can help us present cumulative evidence about a single phenomenon” (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 212).

3.3.1 Data sources

Generally, research questions are the appropriate point of departure to identify the sources of information to be used. According to Saldanha and O’Brien (2013: 217), this can be achieved by “asking how each of those sources will provide answers to the questions”. Furthermore, the main focus in choosing sources is “to cover the topic in enough depth and breadth” (ibid: 217). They further advise that “it is important to be realistic as to how much can be covered within the time and the resources available” (ibid: 217).

Data sources for this research mainly include two types of data: secondary data and primary data. Secondary data, or in the broader term, academic literature, include all academic references, journal articles and previous dissertations related to the subject of the research that was reviewed and consulted in chapter two, the literature review, in order to better conceptualise the research.

Meanwhile, primary data for this research include reports from both the STs and TTs (English reports of the PAP translated to Arabic). In the context of this research, these texts serve three purposes: to examine the nature of contextual factors affecting translations from English into Arabic in general, to identify patterns of translation shifts occurring in the translation of PAP reports from English into Arabic, and to identify translation strategies and procedures applied to overcome translation problems faced during the translation process, thus leading to translation shifts. Furthermore, quantitative data in the form of descriptive statistics derived from the selected reports will be used to summarise and compare information. The important questions in this regard are: what are the criteria of selecting the texts to be included in the analysis, and how many texts should be chosen? The section to follow on data collection techniques answers these questions.

3.3.2 Data collection techniques

This research focuses on studying institutional translation through a case study of translation in the PAP. This will be carried out from only one vantage point: translated texts. A comparative study of STs and TTs will be carried out to present a product-oriented perspective. For the purpose of building corpora to undertake the analysis, the research applies a sample method to select the texts required for the analysis. The next section provides more details on the sampling technique in this research including target population, type and size of the sample.

3.3.3 Population of the research

Literature distinguishes between two types of populations, animate (e.g. translators) and inanimate (e.g. text). According to Saldanha and O'Brien (2013:71), using texts as the units

in a population “seems to be the most common approach to sampling in Corpus Linguistics (CL)”. Furthermore, defining the target population involves the following steps: (1) deciding what texts are included and excluded (boundaries of the population), and (2) the categories of texts and how these are defined, in other words, organising the population (Biber, 1993: 243, cited in Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 71).

In order to establish the range of the population, i.e. to decide which texts belong to the target population, Saldanha and O’Brien (2013:71) advise that “texts can be categorised according to external and internal criteria”. According to Saldanha and O’Brien, “external criteria are situationally defined; they relate the text to the context and mode of production”, while internal criteria are “linguistically defined based on counts of linguistic features” (ibid: 71). Although selecting texts based on external criteria seems easier than on internal criteria, it is advisable that in selecting texts for a corpus both external and internal criteria should be accommodated as much as possible. However, external criteria tend to take precedence because “the identification of salient linguistic features requires a pre-existing representative corpus of texts for analysis” (Biber, 1993: 245, cited in Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 71). Saldanha and O’Brien further note that “in practice, texts are often selected on external criteria only” (ibid: 71). Based on this, the population under this research will be selected on the basis of external criteria but attempts will also be made to accommodate internal criteria in selecting texts.

Thus, in this research, the target population is based on the following three determining factors of external criteria: types of texts, categories of texts, and dates of publication.

Types and categories of texts of target populations: the target population in this research is reports of permanent committees of the PAP submitted to the plenary (the whole house) during the ordinary sessions of the PAP. In this regard, it is worth mentioning that the PAP organises two ordinary sessions annually which take place in May and October. Furthermore, the PAP has ten permanent committees that cover a wide range of thematic areas, for example, agriculture, finance, health, gender, education, human rights, transport, international relations, trade and rules. All ten committees are required to submit reports of their various activities for consideration and adoption by the plenary. The outcomes of all

committees' reports are then included in the final recommendations and resolutions of the PAP sessions.

Reports of the committees to be presented to the plenary are based on specific criteria, but most importantly they should reflect activities that relate to the main theme of the session. They should also follow standard formatting that provides an introduction to the report, including reasons for submitting the report, the background of the report's main subject, objectives of the specific activity, methodology adopted, descriptive narrative of the processes, recommendations, and conclusions of the report.

The above brief description of the nature of the PAP permanent committees' reports assists in identifying the type and category of the target population, or the type and category of texts to be selected from among the various other reports and documents that are used in the context of the PAP.

Date of publication: the date of publication of the target population, which in this research is the reports of the permanent committees of the PAP presented to the plenary, is the period 2010 to 2016. Hence, the texts will be selected in chronological order starting from May 2010 and ending at October 2016 where the last ordinary session of the PAP included the date of publication.

The next step after defining the target population is to find an appropriate sampling frame to select the appropriate sample from the target population. The section to follow discusses the issue of the sample in this research.

3.3.4 Purposive sampling

Biber (1993) defines a sampling frame as an “operational definition of the population, an itemised listing of population members from which a representative sample can be chosen” (Biber, 1993: 244, cited in Saldanha and O'Brien, 2013: 71). A ready sampling frame, for many reasons, is not always guaranteed. Therefore, Saldanha and O'Brien (2013: 71)

indicate that finding an appropriate sampling method involves “deciding on the number of texts per text type, sample per text and word per texts”.

For corpus-based studies, purposive sampling is a commonly used technique. The main characteristics of purposive sampling which make this method the most appropriate for corpus-based studies include selecting a sample based on pre-defined critical parameters and tendency to control aspects of production, such as authorship, date of publication etc. (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013:72). Biber (1993) further advises that “every possible attempt has to be made to ensure that the corpus includes the full range of variability in that population and that there is a certain balance among the different values in the range” (Biber, 1993: 244, cited in Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 71). According to Saldanha and O’Brien (2013: 71), range and balance depend “on a thorough definition of the target population and the sampling methods chosen”. This further entails that researchers should describe in detail “their attempt to obtain balanced representation of the population, taking as many factors into account as possible” (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 73). Examples of these factors include authors, publishers, time span, translator, translator’s gender, translator’s experience, etc.

Accordingly, the most appropriate sample method in this research is purposive sampling, since the research falls under corpus-based studies, in addition to the fact that this type of sample is based on pre-defined critical parameters. Therefore, in the context of this research, the pre-defined parameters to select the sample include the following: type of text, language, field and mode. The selection of the sample in this research will therefore be based on these sets of pre-defined parameters. Furthermore, since the focus is on the texts themselves, factors relating to translators will not be taken into consideration in the context of selecting a sample of text. However, the question arising here is what the appropriate size is for this sample. The following brief theoretical frame on the size of the sample assists in answering this question.

3.3.5 Size of the sample

The importance of the sample size stems from its effects on two key areas, which are the generalisability of findings and the issue of representatives. Achieving these desirable outcomes is strongly related to the size of the sample. In this regard, Saldanha and O'Brien (2013: 35) believe that "achieving a sufficiently large sample to justify claims is difficult in translation studies for numerous reasons". Availability of the required type of texts, funds or time required to include a large sample are just a few examples to mention in this regard.

Furthermore, Saldanha and O'Brien (2013: 73) note that "giving more precise indications of size is problematic because whether a corpus is 'large' will depend on what it tries to represent". The size of the sample depends heavily on the nature of the study under investigation. Therefore, knowing the variable to measure in advance is a good starting point to calculate the sample size required (Saldanha and O'Brien, 2013: 74). They further state that "in translation studies, purpose-built corpora have ranged from a few hundred thousand words to 2 million or more" (ibid: 74).

The brief above discussion confirms that there is no standard sample size. Therefore, what is important is to select a sample size which can assist in achieving a reasonable level of representativeness and an acceptable level of generalisability. The sample size of this research is fifty reports of the PAP permanent committees which were originally written in English and presented in the plenary of the PAP. The total number of words in the fifty reports are expected to be more than two hundred and fifty thousand (250 000). Furthermore, availability of all these texts in electronic format will make the process of building the corpora a little easier, however, in the context of this research, constraints of time and space will make it difficult to select a larger size.

3.4 VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY

According to Saldanha and O'Brien (2013: 28) "at the most basic level, the validity of our results will depend on the extent to which the data we collate and analyse can contribute to answering our question". There are many threats that can affect validity during the research

process. However, in the context of this research, consideration is given to two types of threats. Since this is a text-based research, the first one relates to threats imposed by the researcher himself. This applies to not only participant-based research where the researcher's personal attributes may influence the participant, but also to text-based research "as researchers bring ideologies and expectations with them to the research process" (Saldanha and O'Brien 2013: 30). The researcher will deal with this threat through "self-reflexivity" (ibid: 30).

The second threat to validity in this research relates to threats regarding measurement. The research involves a process of sampling for the required texts to investigate the phenomenon of translation shifts, therefore aspects of sampling methods and size might also impose a threat to the validity of the research results. Sections 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 thus adequately cover many considerations related to the issue of sample method and size.

On the other hand, reliability refers to the possibility of generating similar results or conclusions if other researchers investigate the same research question using the same data and methods at different times. However, there is a general agreement among scholars that achieving exact results/conclusions is not possible, whether for quantitative or qualitative research. Therefore, what is important for researchers is that they should endeavour to increase reliability. In order to achieve increased reliability in this research, the researcher strives to demonstrate that the data collection and analysis methods used are dependable, that the methods are transparent and, consequently, that the results are credible (Saldanha and O'Brien, 2013:36).

The last section in this chapter focuses on data analysis using corpus linguistics as a tool of analysis.

3.5 DATA ANALYSIS

Any product-oriented research cannot ignore a method such as corpus linguistics (CL) in analysing both the target text and the context that affects the production of the text. For the analysis of the comparative study of the selected texts, the research will use CL. Hence the

research applies parallel corpus as one of the corpus linguistics tools to examine the influence of the culture, as a contextual factor, on the occurrence of the translation shifts. The section to follow provides more details on CL as a tool of data analysis.

Furthermore, the research applies Baker's model of translation problems and strategies at word and above word level, in order to carry out the analysis of translation strategies used to overcome translation problems at these two levels. For this purpose, the research developed a parallel corpus to identify the translation problems and strategies at word and above word levels. The section to follow provides more details on the corpus linguistics and on the development of the parallel corpus for this research, including the annotation and alignment of this type of corpus.

3.5.1 Corpus Linguistics (CL)

Definitions of main concepts related to Corpus-based Translation Studies (CTS) have been thoroughly covered and discussed in the translation field. Therefore, in the context of this research, redefining and re-discussing these definitions may be redundant. However, for the sake of clarification and consistency in adopting specific concepts, the research needs to make reference only to definitions of relevant concepts, specifically corpus and parallel corpus, in the sections to follow.

3.5.2 Definition of corpus and parallel corpus

Bowker and Pearson (2002: 9) define a corpus as "a large collection of authentic texts that have been gathered in electronic form according to a specific set of criteria". Fernandes (2006: 88) believes that this term in the context of CTS has more specific connotations. These connotations "can be associated with at least four main attributes; electronic form, size, representativeness and open-endedness" (ibid: 88). Sinclair (1991) also emphasises representativeness in his definition of the term when he defines a corpus as "a collection of texts assumed to be representative of a given language, dialect or other subset of a language" (Sinclair, 1991, cited in Masubelele, 2004: 204).

With regard to the definition of a parallel corpus, the review of the literature shows that most of the scholars adopt the definition of Baker (1995). According to Baker (1995: 230), parallel corpora consist of “original, source language-texts in language A and their translated versions in language B”. Parallel corpora can be bilingual or multilingual, unidirectional, bi-directional or multi-directional. But the most important aspect in parallel corpora is that “texts are grouped together on the basis of translational resemblance (i.e. one text could be taken as the translation of the other and vice versa)” (Fernandes, 2006: 91).

According to Guo-rong (2010: 182), parallel corpora “have traditionally been the most popular data for research in translation studies”. Furthermore, the available literature expanded on the advantages of the parallel corpora. However, in the context of this research, the important part of applying the parallel corpora relates to the fact that this type of corpora “can tell us a great deal about those patterns of language use specific to certain target texts, and should thus be very informative regarding particular translation practices and procedures used by the translator” (Guo-rong, 2010: 182). This is because the main focus of this research is on analysing translation strategies that are used by translators of targeted texts, in order to create a link between these strategies and the culture as one of the contextual factors that impact on the selection of the specific translation strategies. In the section to follow, the research explores how parallel corpus can be applied to study translation strategies.

3.5.3 Using linguistic corpus to examine translation strategies

The purpose of analysing the applied translation strategies is to identify what the types of translation strategies are according to the previous categorisation indicated in chapter two, i.e. stylistic-based translation strategy and context-based translation strategy. The second purpose is to examine the nature of any translation shifts that occur due to the application of the translation strategies. By doing so, the research will establish the influence of contextual factors on the occurrence of translation shifts. Hence, if the translation strategy adopted was among the context-based translation strategies, this automatically implies that there are some contextual factors behind the adoption of this specific strategy.

In this regard, the research will adopt Baker's approach of non-equivalence at word and above word levels to identify the translation strategies. Details of this approach were adequately provided in chapter two. However, the research needs to emphasise specific steps of this approach which will be followed in examining the translation strategies. The first step therefore relates to the identification of the translation problems at word and above word levels, then the translation strategies described by Baker to deal with such problems. Since this aspect is very straightforward, what might need more attention is the aspect related to building the appropriate corpus using the selected texts. The research opts to use a parallel corpus to carry out the analysis of the translation strategies. The main rationale behind selecting the parallel corpus is that "parallel corpora, of ST-TT pairs, which aligned (sentence by sentence or paragraph by paragraph), can allow the strategies employed by the translator(s) to be investigated" (Munday, 2008: 181). Based on this, the research will build a parallel corpus of English reports of the PAP committees as the source texts and their Arabic translations as the target texts.

Furthermore, there are generally three considerations for using a corpus as a tool for analysis in the field of translation. These considerations include, in addition to the selection of the appropriate type of corpus: corpus design criteria, annotation, and alignment of corpus. In the section to follow, the research provides a brief theoretical frame on design criteria for this type of corpus and the process of annotation and alignment.

3.5.4 Design criteria of parallel corpus

Guo-rong (2010: 182) believes that "no matter what kind of translation field corpus will be used, the general procedures or the basic steps are the same". However, the most important steps for the researcher are to first set up a goal, and then to take action purposely i.e. to establish a suitable corpus (ibid: 182). The process will then involve the issue of the design criteria of the corpus.

In this regard, the general consensus in the literature is that "design criteria of corpus crucially depend on the envisaged use of corpus and centre on the idea that corpora should

be somehow representative of a particular type of language production and reception” (Kenny, 2001: 50). Furthermore, Baker explains that design criteria typically involve decisions such as whether spoken and written languages are to be included, what text types should be accounted for, and whether text samples or full texts are to be included (1995: 229-30). It has to be noted that all these criteria, in particular the unit of population, sampling frame and size of sample, are fundamentally associated with data collection techniques. Since all these aspects have been adequately covered in the section on data collections techniques (3.3.2), the research does not need to discuss them again.

However, before the research moves to discuss the issue of alignment and annotation of a corpus, the literature constantly draws attention to two areas of difficulties in building the corpus, which relate to the availability of texts in electronic format and securing permission from the copyright-holder. Fortunately, the research has access to both.

3.5.5 Development of parallel corpus

The parallel corpus developed in this research comprises fifty reports of the PAP’s committees produced during the period 2010 to 2016, including both the source texts and the target texts. The total number of words in the whole corpus is 259 775. The total number of words in the ST is 130 527, while the total number of words in the TT is 129 248.

Since this type of parallel corpus is not that large and complicated, the research uses Microsoft Word to electronically process the corpus. Technically two key processes were used, which were annotation and alignment of the parallel corpus.

3.5.6 Annotation and alignment of parallel corpus

Annotation and alignment are two processes that follow the selection of texts to be included in a corpus. Due to the consideration of space, the research focuses only on some aspects of these two processes which can be utilised in the context of this research.

3.5.6.1 Annotation of parallel corpus

Annotation or mark-up is “the process of adding information about texts to the text themselves” (Burndard, 2005, cited in Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 76). Furthermore, Kenny (2001: 50) believes that basic mark-up “may involve indicating the main divisions in a text, for instance, or the addition of descriptive headers to individual texts”. The level of annotation can have implications on the kind of electronic processing the corpus can undergo. In this regard, there are three main outcomes for the electronic processing of the corpus which are: (1) the type-token ratio for that corpus, relating to the number of different types of words or tokens compared to the total number of tokens, which can give indication to the variety of vocabulary used in a corpus, (2) lexical density, which indicates what percentage of running word is made up of lexical (vocabulary) words, and hence what percentage is occupied by grammatical words, and (3) KWIC (key word in context) concordance for an input word, revealing the contexts in which the input word actually occurs in the corpus (Kenny, 2001: 51).

Furthermore, texts can be annotated at different levels, most notably documentary, structural and linguistic annotation (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 76). In the context of this research, the focus will be on the last two types of annotation, structural and linguistic, since they will be applied in the process of building the parallel corpus.

According to Saldanha and O’Brien (2013: 76), structural annotation “identifies paragraph breaks, subdivisions, headings, footnotes and so on”. This kind of annotation can be useful “to select parts of corpus for investigation or to establish whether certain linguistic features tend to appear in certain parts of the texts” (ibid: 76). On the other hand, there are several levels of linguistic annotations that can be added to the text. The literature usually refers to the process of linguistic annotation as tagging because “it involves inserting tags associated with the linguistic features described by the tags” (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 77). The appropriate kind of tagging that will be used for the corpus of this research is Part-of-Speech (POS) tagging at the level of a full sentence in particular.

Accordingly, the annotation of the parallel corpus will be carried out at the structural and linguistic levels. Structural annotation is to identify paragraphs breaks, subdivisions and headings, with the main purpose being to select each paragraph separately to identify translation problems at word and above word levels and then using translation strategies to overcome these types of problems.

Meanwhile, the linguistic annotation in the parallel corpus will be used to insert tags that are associated with the two types of translation problems and translation strategies used in the corpus. The research mainly uses colours to tag different types of translation problems, as well as tag the translation strategies. As the last process of tagging those factors was almost all done manually, the researcher needed to read all paragraphs in the fifty reports carefully and once any types of translation problem were found, they had to be highlighted with their assigned colour, and the same had to be applied on the translation strategies used specifically to overcome the problem. After tagging all the translation problems and translation strategies using colours, the researcher recorded the numbers of the translation problems encountered in the fifty reports and their corresponding translation strategies used in three separate matrixes. Although this process is very time-consuming, it has proved to be very efficient in analysing the three variables under investigation: translation problems, translation strategies, and translation shifts.

3.5.6.2 Alignment of parallel corpus

In a simple term, the alignment process of the corpora “consists of associating source text units with the corresponding target text units, which allows them to be retrieved together using a parallel concordance” (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 79). The usability of a parallel corpus is “greatly enhanced by aligning the source and target texts” (ibid: 79). Simoes (2004: 5) also confirms this fact when he indicates that “the first step to enrich parallel corpora is to enhance the parallelism between units of both texts”.

Generally, alignment of parallel corpora can be done at different levels: paragraphs, sentences and words. According to Simoes (2004: 6), “to [sentence-align] two texts is to

create relationships between related sentences”. In the context of this research, the alignment of the parallel corpora will be carried out at the level of paragraphs and sentences. There are several computational techniques that have been developed to align parallel corpora automatically or semi-automatically at paragraph, sentence and word level. (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2013: 79). However, in order to simplify the process of alignment, the research will adopt a very straightforward alignment process which is based on table formatting using the Microsoft Word program. In a nutshell, this process comprises three stages. The first stage is to make sure that the paragraphs of the selected source texts are separated with a space. If there is no space between the paragraphs of the source texts, the spacing can be done manually.

The same process will also be applied to the parallel target texts. The second stage focuses on converting the source texts into a table of one column while the number of rows will correspond with the number of paragraphs of the source text. The same approach will also be applied to the target text. The third stage consists of merging and matching the two tables i.e. the source text table and the target text table into one table that consists of two columns with corresponding rows. This last stage can be carried out automatically in Microsoft Word. However, the process of comparing each paragraph of the source text with its corresponding paragraph in the target text will be carried out manually. Figure 1 below represents an extract from the parallel corpus to be applied in this research.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON COOPERATION, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION	اللجنة الدائمة للتعاون والعلاقات الدولية وتسوية النزاعات
DRAFT ACTIVITY REPORT	مشروع تقرير الأنشطة
<i>Report presented in Plenary session on 16 April 2010</i>	تقرير مقدم في اللجنة العامة يوم 16 أبريل 2010
INTRODUCTION	مقدمة
This report covers activities of the Committee for the period November 2009 to April 2010.	يغطي هذا التقرير للأنشطة الفترة من نوفمبر إلى إبريل 2010.
Pursuant to the provisions of Rule 26(4) of the Rules of Procedure of the Pan-African Parliament, the Permanent Committee on Cooperation, International Relations and Conflict Resolution held its statutory sitting on 1st and 2nd March 2010 at the seat of the Pan-African Parliament.	طبقاً لأحكام المادة 01 (4) من قواعد إجراءات البرلمان الأفريقي، عقدت اللجنة الدائمة للتعاون والعلاقات الدولية وتسوية النزاعات اجتماعها النظامي في الفترة من 01 إلى 02 مارس 2010 في مقر البرلمان الأفريقي في جلاجير إستيت، ميدراند، جنوب أفريقيا.

3.5.7 Method of analysis

The research has clarified that in order to examine the influence of culture as one of the contextual factors by examining translation strategies applied, Baker's approach of non-equivalence at word and above word levels would be applied. The main purpose of applying this approach is to reach a conclusion on whether culture as a contextual factor had any influence on the occurrence of the phenomenon of translation shifts in the case study under examination i.e. reports of the committees of the PAP.

In this regard, the research follows two specific steps in order to carry out the analysis. The first step relates to the identification of the translation problems at word and above word levels, and the second step is to identify the translation strategies as described by Baker to deal with such problems. Furthermore, the research applies quantitative and qualitative analysis.

The quantitative analysis focuses on identifying numbers of various translation problems and translation strategies used to overcome problems at word and above word levels. This approach illustrates the relationship between two variables, which are translation problems and translation strategies. Furthermore, various matrixes including these two variables will be used to carry out the quantitative analysis.

On the other hand, the qualitative analysis focuses on providing narrative descriptions of the quantitative data to establish a logical link between two variables, and to reach a concrete conclusion on the influence of the two types of translation strategies prescribed in chapter two, style-oriented translation strategy and context-oriented translation strategy, on the occurrence of translation shifts. This approach ultimately assists in answering the key research question of what translation shifts occur due to contextual factors in English into Arabic translations of reports from the PAP.

It has to be noted that the analysis in this chapter does not include the translation shifts themselves. This means that the focus will be on the occurrence of the phenomenon and not on its nature. However, the research in the analysis section will make reference to the nature of the translation shifts in the matrixes used for the analysis, as the type of translation strategy that will be analysed implies that its outcome is some sort of translation shift.

Furthermore, the focus will be more on the translation strategies than on the translation problems, as the research proves in chapter two that the translation strategies are the main vehicles of the occurrence of the translation shifts. Therefore, the research will only trace the translation strategies that led to the occurrence of the translation shifts. Subsequently, the research will link these strategies with their corresponding translation problems to indicate a relationship among these three variables i.e. translation problems, translation strategies and translation shifts.

As a conclusion for this section, the research wishes to emphasise the fact that although the process of building a corpus might seem a difficult, laborious and time-consuming one, the main purpose of building a linguistic corpus particularly in the translation field is to allow the possibility of studying and exploring specific features between languages. Therefore, as long as the final corpus allows for this goal to be accomplished, it would be quite sufficient to avoid building a complicated corpus.

3.6 ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

Two standard ethical requirements for all researches are the notions of privacy and confidentiality. Since the researcher is an employee of the unit of the analysis (case study: translation in PAP), two factors are taken into consideration: the first one concerns articles of Staff Rules and Regulations, which govern issues of confidentiality and disclosure of information by staff members. This entails that the researcher/staff member should distinguish between his responsibility as a staff member and his role as a researcher. The second factor concerns the nature of parliaments in general. Parliaments are the voice of people and in that sense, there should not be a lot of restrictions in terms of availing

documents and other material to the public. This might be in favour of any researchers who intend to study a phenomenon within parliaments.

Considering the above two factors, and for academic and scientific purposes, the researcher strives to play the expected neutral role. Therefore, the researcher undertakes not to take advantage of being a staff member and will not collect or obtain any source of information without following required procedures. In this regard, the researcher provided his employee with an official letter from the University to seek permission for collecting the required information and for conducting research on the PAP.

3.7 CONCLUSION

This chapter focused on discussing research methodology to be adopted in this research. It covered five areas, which were: research design, case study, validity and reliability, data analysis, and ethical consideration. However, among these five areas, the chapter gave more emphasis to the areas of case study and data analysis since they represent the cornerstone of carrying out the research.

With regard to the case study, the focus was primarily on issues of data sources and data collection techniques. Under the data collection techniques, the chapter identified the population of the research which was texts (ST and TT). This section also highlighted aspects related to the criteria of defining the population, type of sampling to select targeted texts which was purposive sampling, and size of the sample.

The second important aspect in this chapter was data analysis. This section thoroughly discussed a tool for analysing the data of the research which was the corpus linguistics (CL). Specifically and in order to examine the impact of culture on the occurrence of the translation shifts, the research selected parallel corpus. The chapter also detailed the specific steps to carry out the analysis using this tool.

Finally, the chapter touched briefly on two important issues for any research, which were validity and reliability, and the ethical considerations. However, all the aspects highlighted in

this chapter will be of paramount importance in carrying out the analysis, coming up with findings and results, and ultimately reaching a final concrete conclusion in the last two chapters of this research.

CHAPTER FOUR: PROCESSING OF DATA AND RESEARCH RESULTS

This chapter discusses the details of processing of data and the raw material analysis. The chapter also presents the key results of the research.

4.1 PROCESSING OF DATA AND RAW MATERIAL ANALYSIS

Following the development of the parallel corpus consisting of the fifty selected reports and carrying out the annotation and alignment processes, the researcher processed the data of the corpus to identify the three variables under study i.e. translation problems and strategies at word and above word levels, and the translation shifts. The section to follow provides a detailed description of the outcome of the analysis of these three variables at word and above word levels.

4.2 ANALYSIS OF TRANSLATION PROBLEMS AND STRATEGIES AT WORD LEVEL

The sections to follow analyse three related variables, which are translation problems and strategies at word and above word level and translation shifts.

4.2.1 Analysis of translation problems at word level

Among the various translation problems at word level prescribed by Baker and in the context of processing the data in the fifty selected reports, the research has established that there were key translation problems that led to applying specific strategies which ultimately led to the occurrence of translation shifts in the TT. In order to clarify these translation problems, the research provides below a brief description for these key problems which are extracted from Baker (1992; 21-26):

Culture-specific concepts	The source language word may express a concept which is totally unknown in the target culture. The concept in question may be abstract or concrete; it may relate to a religious belief, a social custom or even a type of food. Such concepts are often referred to as 'culture-specific'.
---------------------------	---

The source language concept is not lexicalised in the target language	The source language word may express a concept which is known in the target culture but simply not lexicalised, that is, not allocated a target language word to express it.
The source-language word is semantically complex	The source language word may be semantically complex. Words do not have to be morphologically complex to be semantically complex (Blinger and Sears, 1968). In other words, a single word which consists of a single morpheme can sometimes express a more complex set of meanings than a whole sentence.
Differences in expressive meaning	There may be a target language word which has the same propositional meaning as the ST word but it may have a different expressive meaning. The difference may be considerable or it may be subtle but important enough to pose a translation problem in a given context.
Differences in form	There is often no equivalent in the target language for a particular form in the ST. Certain suffixes and prefixes which convey propositional and other types of meaning in English often have no direct equivalence in other languages. English has many couplets such as employer/employee, trainer/trainee. Arabic has no ready mechanism for producing such forms and so they are often replaced by an appropriate paraphrase depending on the meaning they convey.
The use of loan words in the ST	The use of loan words in the source text poses a special problem in translation. Quite apart from their respective propositional meaning, loan words are often used for their prestige value, because they can add an air of sophistication to the text or its subject matter. This is often lost in translation because it is not always possible to find a loan word with the same meaning in the target language. Loan words also pose another problem for the unwary translator, namely the problem of false friends, or faux amis, as they are often called.

The above definitions of the key translation problems at word level as prescribed by Baker were used in the context of identifying these translation problems in the selected reports in this research. Thus the below table provides a summary of the numbers of occurrences of these types of translation problems recorded out of the fifty reports:

Table 1: Number of translation problems at word level encountered in the fifty reports

Type of TP	Number of times encountered in the fifty reports
Culture-specific concepts	26
The source language concept is not lexicalised in the target language	21

The source-language word is semantically complex	33
Differences in expressive meaning	26
Differences in form	158
The use of loan words in the ST	10
TOTAL	274

4.2.2 Analysis of translation strategies used at word level

Similarly to the translation problems at word level, the research has established that among the translation strategies prescribed by Baker to overcome translation problems at word level, the application of specific key translation strategies have led to some sort of translation shifts in the TT. In order to clarify these translation strategies, the research provides a brief description for these key problems below, which are also extracted from Baker (1992: 27-40):

No	Translation strategy	Description
1.	Translation by cultural substitution	This strategy involves replacing a cultural-specific item or expression with a target-language item which doesn't have the same propositional meaning but is likely to have a similar impact on the target reader. The main advantage of using this strategy is that it gives the reader a concept with which s/he can identify something familiar and appealing.
2.	Translating using a loan word or loan word plus explanation	This strategy is particularly common in dealing with culture-specific items, modern concepts and buzz words. Following the loan word with an explanation is very useful when the word in question is repeated several times in the text.
3.	Translation by paraphrase using a related word	This strategy tends to be used when the concept expressed by the source item is lexicalised in the TL but in different form, and when the frequency with which a certain form is used in the source text is significantly higher than would be natural in the target language. The paraphrase in the Arabic uses comparison, a strategy which can be used to deal with other types of non-equivalence.
4.	Translation by paraphrase using unrelated words	If the concept expressed by the source item is not lexicalised at all in the target language, the paraphrase strategy can still be used in some contexts. Instead of a related word, the paraphrase may be based on modifying a superordinate or simply on unpacking the meaning of the source item, particularly if the item in question is semantically complex.

The above definitions of the key translation strategies at word level as prescribed by Baker were used in the context of identifying these translation strategies applied to the selected reports in this research. Thus the below table provides a summary of the total numbers of occurrences of these types of translation strategies recorded out of the fifty reports:

Table 2: Number of translation strategies used to overcome translation problems at word level

Type of TS	Number of times the specific TS was used in the fifty reports
Translation by cultural substitution	24
Translation by paraphrase using a related word	214
Translation by paraphrase using unrelated words	29
Translating using a loan word or loan word plus explanation	7
TOTAL	274

4.2.3 Relationship between translation problems and strategies

Table 3 below shows the relationship between the translation problems and translation strategies used to overcome such problems at word level. It essentially shows the number of each specific translation problem and the corresponding number of various translation strategies used to overcome each translation problem.

Table 3: The relationship between translation problems and translation strategies at word level

Type of TP	Translation strategy used to overcome the TP			
	Cultural subs.	Paraphrase related	Paraphrase unrelated	Using loan word and explanation
Culture-specific concepts (26)	19	7		
The source language concept is not lexicalised in the target language (21)	0	12	9	
The source-language word is semantically complex (33)		26	7	

Differences in expressive meaning (26)	3	18	5	
Differences in form (158)	2	148	8	
The use of loan words in the ST (10)		3		7
TOTAL	24	214	29	7

Specifically, table 3 found that the total number of translation problems at word level in all fifty selected reports was 274, and 274 translation strategies were also used in the target reports to overcome the translation problems encountered. This indicates that the strategy of omission was not used. The section to follow provides details on the nature of these translation problems and the strategies applied to overcome such problems.

Differences in form

The table further indicates that the problem relates to differences in form between the ST and the TT; this registered the highest number of translation problems encountered in the fifty reports, at a total of 158. This is mainly attributed to two main differences in forms between English and Arabic, which relate to the usage of suffixes and prefixes in the English language. In the fifty English reports, almost all words with prefixes such as re-, in-, un- ('reconfirmed', 'reiterate', 'unable', 'insufficient' etc.), and also all words with suffixes like -ise ('prioritise', 'institutionalise' etc.) have no direct equivalent in the Arabic language. Furthermore, it has also been noted that adverbs in English also create a problem of difference in form. Although there are direct equivalents for the adverb form in the Arabic language, in Arabic the adverb can also be expressed in different forms but by transforming it fundamentally to a semi-sentence, therefore its translation into Arabic resulted in a translation shift.

In terms of translation strategies used to overcome this problem, the research notes that the translation strategy of paraphrasing using related words registered the highest rate among the translation strategies used to overcome this problem with a total number of 148, followed by the strategies of paraphrasing using unrelated words and cultural substitution, with totals of 8 and 2 respectively. Paraphrasing using related words seems dominant in tackling this

problem as “the paraphrase in the Arabic uses comparison, a strategy which can be used to deal with other types of non-equivalence” (Baker, 1992: 37).

The source-language word is semantically complex

Table 3 also shows that problems relate to the fact that the source-language word is semantically complex; this registered the second highest-occurring translation problem encountered in the selected reports, with a total of 33. This is mainly attributed to specific parliamentary terminology used in the reports, as well as new terminology emerging in some reports that address more technical issues such as climate change. Examples of more technical terms are words such as ‘friendly environment’, ‘domestication’ etc.

In terms of translation strategies used to overcome this problem, the strategy of paraphrasing using related words was favoured with a total of 26, followed by paraphrasing using unrelated words with a total of 7. Paraphrasing using related words again registered the highest number of translation strategies used to overcome this problem. Similarly to the previously discussed translation problem, the result of all the translation strategies was some sort of translation shift in the target text.

Culture-specific concepts

Furthermore, translation problems related to culture-specific concepts and differences in expressive meaning both registered the third-highest number of translation problems encountered in the selected reports with a total of 26 for each. Culture-specific concepts as explained by Baker can be abstract or concrete; they may further relate to a religious belief, a social custom or even a type of food. It was noted that most of the culture-specific concepts encountered in the selected reports relate to purely parliamentary cultural concepts and also other concepts discussed such as sexuality. Examples of parliamentary cultural concepts or terms are recess, statutory and non-statutory meetings, office bearers, and domestication of laws etc., while examples of concepts related to sexuality are homosexuality, incest, and monogamy etc.

Contrary to the translation strategies used to overcome previous translation problems i.e. difference in forms and the source-language word being semantically complex, where the strategy of paraphrasing using related words was the main strategy used, the main translation strategy used to tackle the problem of culture-specific concepts was cultural substitution, which was used 19 times, while translation by paraphrasing using related words was used 7 times. It was further observed that translation by cultural substitution provides the reader with a concept familiar and appealing to him/her. However, similarly to the previously discussed translation problems, all translation strategies used to tackle this problem led to some sort of translation shift in the target texts.

Differences in expressive meaning

With regard to the differences in expressive meaning which was the third highest-occurring problem encountered together with the problem of culture-specific concepts, the analysis found that most of the words which constitute differences in expressive meaning relate to the usage of adjectives between English and Arabic, in particular, the usage of compound adjectives which do not have direct equivalents in Arabic. Examples of such adjectives are 'fragile', 'fleeting', 'over-emphasised', 'wide-range' etc. Therefore, translation by paraphrasing using related words was the most appropriate translation strategy to deal with such a problem, as it allowed the translator the flexibility to provide the closest equivalent in Arabic. Furthermore, translation by cultural substitution, although in very few cases (3 times), was used to overcome the problem of difference in expressive meaning. The researcher observes that this strategy was used when the cultural substitute was readily available in the Arabic language and could also provide the Arabic reader with the exact effect of the expressive meaning. Similarly to the previously discussed translation problems, applying the translation strategies of paraphrasing using related words and unrelated words led to some sort of translation shift in the target text.

The source language concept is not lexicalised in the target language

In analysing the fifty reports, the last translation problem encountered at word level was related to the fact that the source language concept is not lexicalised in the target language. This specific problem registered the fourth-highest number compared to the other translation strategies, with a total of 21. The main reason for observing concepts mentioned in the English PAP reports that are not lexicalised in Arabic is that such concepts are mainly drawn from dynamic fields such as information technology and other scientific fields, which were discussed in reports of the Committee on Transport, Science and Technology. Obvious examples for this type of problem are words such as 'bandwidth', 'online mechanism', 'antiretroviral' etc.

In terms of translation strategies that were applied to tackle this problem, translation by paraphrasing using related words also registered the highest strategy used compared to other strategies with a total of 12, while translation by paraphrasing using unrelated words registered the second-highest strategy used with a total of 9. Again, in the absence of a direct equivalent in the Arabic language, these two translation strategies proved to be the most efficient in order to extract the appropriate equivalent in the Arabic language. Similarly to the other translation problems, the application of these two strategies also resulted in some sort of translation shift in the target text.

4.2.4 Analysis of translation shifts occurring at word level

As the researcher explained previously, the nature of the translation shifts occurring is not the main focus of the analysis; rather, it is focused on the factors influencing the occurrence of the phenomenon. This is because the main question the research seeks to answer is what the contextual factors are that have an influence on the occurrence of the phenomenon. Therefore, the research has opted not to analyse the nature of the translation shifts that occurred due to the application of translation strategies at word and above word level. However, a brief general overview on the nature of this phenomenon on the fifty selected reports may assist in linking the theoretical frame with what is happening at the level of

practice, in particular at the level of studying the occurrence of this phenomenon between English and Arabic where, to the extent of the researcher's knowledge, no other study has been undertaken in the other language combinations.

Generally, the research can classify all the translation shifts that occur in the fifty reports due to the application of the translation strategies applied to overcome translation problems at word level into two basic categories. The first category includes those translation strategies that fall under stylistic-oriented translation strategy, which include strategies such as addition and alteration. This is quite clear in the application of the strategies of paraphrasing using related words, paraphrasing using unrelated words, and using loan words with explanation.

The total of these three translation strategies in the fifty reports is 250 occurrences of translation strategies out of 274 strategies applied, or 91.2% of the translation strategies used. Furthermore, the translation shifts occurring due to the application of all these strategies are in essence for the purpose of improving the stylistic aspects in the target text and not due to any contextual factors.

The second category includes those translation strategies falling under context-oriented translation strategy, such as equivalence or adaptation. In the context of this research, this can manifest itself in the translation strategy of cultural substitution, where a new form can be adapted in the target language to overcome a specific translation problem. The total number of uses of this strategy in the fifty reports at word level is 24, or 8.75% of the translation strategies used.

Conclusion

The above analysis of the three variables of translation problems, translation strategies and translation shifts at word level shows that the main factor which has an influence on the phenomenon of translation shifts is the stylistic factors. The contextual factors also had some influence on the occurrence of the phenomenon but its influence is very little compared to the stylistic factors. Thus, the research can conclude that at word level, the stylistic factors

are the main factor influencing the occurrence of the phenomenon of translation shifts and that the contextual factors can also have an influence on the occurrence of this phenomenon but to a lesser extent.

In the section to follow, the research continues the analysis of these three variables but above word level to examine the factors influencing the occurrence of translation shifts at that level.

4.3 ANALYSIS OF TRANSLATION PROBLEMS AND STRATEGIES ABOVE WORD LEVEL

The research in the sections to follow continues the analysis of translation problems and strategies above word level. Specifically, the sections deal with two forms at this level which are collocations and idioms. The nature of translation shifts occurring at this level will also be highlighted.

4.3.1 Analysis of translation problems at collocational level

Among other translation problems created by collocation above word level, the research focuses on two types of collocation: culture-specific collocations and marked collocations in the source text. The main reason behind the focus on these two types is that the translation of these two specific forms into Arabic may result in translation shifts. As Baker explains regarding the culture-specific collocations, “if the cultural settings of the source and target languages are significantly different, there will [be] instances when the source text will contain collocations which convey what to the target reader would be unfamiliar associations of ideas” (Baker, 1992: 59). On the other hand and with regard to the marked collocations in the source text, Baker indicates that the marked collocations are a result of when “unusual combinations of words are sometimes used in the source text in order to create new images” (Baker, 1992: 61). Thus the table below provides a summary of the numbers of occurrences of the translation problems caused by these two types of collocations recorded out of the fifty reports:

Table 4: Numbers of translation problems caused by collocations encountered in the fifty reports

Type of TP	Number of times encountered in the fifty reports
Culture-specific collocations	29
Marked collocations in the source text	
TOTAL	29

4.3.2 Analysis of translation strategies used at collocational level

Similarly to the translation problems above word level caused specifically by collocation, the research establishes that among the translation strategies prescribed by Baker to overcome translation problems caused by collocation, the application of specific key translation strategies have led to various translation shifts in the TT. These key translation strategies include translation by paraphrasing and translation by cultural substitution. The table below provides a summary of the numbers of occurrences of these types of translation strategies recorded out of the fifty reports:

Table 5: Numbers of translation strategies used to overcome translation problems at collocations level

Type of TS	Number of times encountered in the fifty reports
Paraphrasing	6
Cultural substitution	23
TOTAL	29

4.3.3 Relationship between translation problems and strategies at collocational level

Table 6 below shows the relationship between the translation problems and translation strategies used to overcome problems at collocational level. The table essentially shows the number of each specific translation problem and the corresponding number of each translation strategy used to overcome these problems.

Table 6: The relationship between translation problems and strategies at collocational level

Type of TP	TS to overcome TP	
	Cultural substitution	Paraphrasing
Culture-specific collocations (29)	23	6
Marked collocation in the source text (0)	0	0

Specifically, table 6 found that the total number of translation problems at collocational level in all fifty selected reports was 29, and 29 translation strategies were also used in the target reports to overcome the translation problems encountered. The table also shows that no translation problem related to marked collocation in the source text was encountered. The section to follow provides details on the nature of these translation problems and the strategies applied at collocational levels.

Culture-specific collocations

Table 6 further indicates that culture-specific collocations registered the highest number of translation problems encountered in the fifty reports, at a total of 29. Because of the difference in cultural setting between English and Arabic, it is natural that a specific form in one language such as collocation might not have a direct equivalent in the other language.

In terms of translation strategies used to overcome this problem, the research notes that cultural substitution registered the highest rate among strategies used to overcome this problem with a total of 23, followed by paraphrasing with a total of 6. These rates confirm that the strategy of cultural substitution was the most appropriate strategy used to tackle such a problem. However, the research further notes that the application of these two strategies i.e. cultural substitution and paraphrasing has resulted in some sort of translation shift.

Marked collocation in the source text

The research notes that marked collocation in the source text is not encountered in any of the fifty selected reports. The research further establishes that the absence of this kind of collocation in the fifty reports can be attributed to the fact that, generally, the language used in parliamentary reports should always be concise and one should avoid using “unusual combinations of words” which result in marked collocations.

4.3.4 Analysis of translation shifts at collocational level

As the research previously indicated, all types of translation shifts which occur in the fifty reports due to the translation strategies applied can be classified into two basic categories: the first is stylistic-oriented translation strategy, and the second is context-oriented translation strategy which includes strategies such as adaptation, represented in this case by cultural substitution and paraphrasing using unrelated words. The total number of uses of these strategies in the fifty reports at collocational level is 23, or 79.3% of the translation strategies. On the other hand, the total number of uses of translation by paraphrasing using unrelated words in the fifty reports is 6 or 20.6%.

Conclusion

The above analysis of the three variables of translation problems, translation strategies and translation shifts at collocational level shows that the main factor which has an influence on the phenomenon of translation shifts is the contextual factors, as both translation strategies used to overcome translation problems at this level belong to the category of context-oriented translation strategy. Thus, the research can conclude that at collocational level, the contextual factors are the main factor influencing the occurrence of the phenomenon of translation shifts.

In the section to follow, the research examines the nature of factors influencing the occurrence of translation shifts above word level, focusing on the form of idioms.

4.3.5 Analysis of translation problems and strategies at idiomatic level

In the context of this research, translation problems and strategies above word level relate to two linguistic forms, which are collocations and idioms. Therefore, in this section the research focuses on the analysis of the form of idioms. Idioms, according to Baker (1992: 63) are “frozen patterns of language which allow little or no variation in form”. Furthermore, the most important characteristic of idioms is that they “often carry meaning which cannot be deduced from their individual components” (ibid: 63).

4.3.6 Analysis of translation problems at idiomatic level

This research focuses on three specific translation problems occurring at idiomatic level: (1) an idiom may have no equivalent in the target language, (2) an idiom may have a similar counterpart in the target language but its context of use may be different, and (3) an idiom may be used in the source text in both its literal and idiomatic senses at the same time. The rationale behind focusing on these three specific translation problems is that the translation strategies used to overcome them will definitely result in translation shifts, as will be confirmed in the section on translation strategy at idiomatic level. The table below thus provides a summary of the numbers of occurrences of the translation problems occurring at idiomatic level.

Table 7: Numbers of translation problems occurring with idioms encountered in the fifty reports

Type of TP	Number of times encountered
An idiom may have no equivalent in the target language	16
An idiom may have a similar counterpart in the target language but its context of use may be different	15
An idiom may be used in the source text in both its literal and idiomatic senses at the same time	10
TOTAL	41

4.3.7 Analysis of translation strategies used at idiomatic level

Again, the research establishes that from among the translation strategies prescribed by Baker to overcome translation problems occurring with idioms, the application of specific key translation strategies have led to various translation shifts in the TT. These key translation strategies include: using an idiom with a similar meaning and form, using an idiom with a similar meaning but dissimilar form, and translation by paraphrase. The table below provides a summary of the numbers of occurrences of these types of translation strategies recorded out of the fifty reports:

Table 8: Numbers of translation strategies used to overcome translation problems at idiomatic level

Type of TS	Number of times encountered in the fifty reports
An idiom with a similar meaning and form	16
An idiom with a similar meaning but dissimilar form	3
By paraphrase	22
TOTAL	41

4.3.8 Relationship between translation problems and strategies at idiomatic level

Table 9 below shows the relationship between the translation problems and translation strategies used to overcome problems at idiomatic level; it essentially shows the number of each specific translation problem and the corresponding numbers of various translation strategies used to overcome each translation problem.

Table 9: The relationship between translation problems and strategies at idiomatic level

Type of TP	Type of TS		
Type of TP	An idiom with a similar meaning and form	An idiom with a similar meaning but dissimilar form	By paraphrase
An idiom may have no equivalent in the target language (16)	8		8

An idiom may have a similar counterpart in the target language but its context of use may be different (15)	4	3	8
An idiom may be used in the source text in both its literal and idiomatic senses at the same time (10)	4		6
TOTAL	16	3	22

Table 9 further shows that the total number of translation problems at idiomatic level in all fifty selected reports was 41, and the number of translation strategies used to overcome these problems was also 41. The section to follow provides more details on the nature of these translation problems and the strategies applied to overcome such problems.

Nature of translation problems at idiomatic level

The problem relating to the fact that an idiom may have not an equivalent in the TL registered the highest number of translation problems encountered in all fifty reports, at a total of 16. Furthermore, problems relating to the fact that an idiom may have a similar counterpart in the target language but its context of use may be different, and that an idiom may be used in the source text in both its literal and idiomatic senses at the same time registered the second and third highest numbers of translation problems encountered, at totals of 15 and 10 respectively.

Generally, the research notes that idiomatic language is not pervasive in parliamentary reports and this may explain the few numbers of this kind of linguistic form in the fifty reports. However, the few incidents where idioms are used in the report created a translation problem because of the difference in culture between English and Arabic. The research further notes that such idiomatic forms are mostly used in reports of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights where narrative descriptions of the human rights situations in member states are given, hence there is a tendency to use idioms and other similar linguistic forms to reflect the complexity of the relevant issues and situations. In this regard, the research provides a few examples of idioms used in such reports in order to clarify this perspective, including: 'come to the fore', 'speak for itself', 'it goes without saying', 'to this end', 'to go hand in hand',

'take off the ground', 'take matters into one's own hands', 'break away', and 'dangle a carrot in front of them', among others.

Nature of translation strategies applied at idiomatic level

With regard to translation strategies applied to overcome translation problems at idiomatic level, the research notes that the strategy of paraphrasing was used the most frequently at a total of 22, followed by the strategy of using an idiom with a similar meaning at a total of 16. The strategy of using an idiom with a similar meaning but dissimilar form registered the lowest number, at a total of 3.

At this level, it seems that translation strategy by paraphrase is the most appropriate strategy that can be applied to overcome translation problems created by idioms. This can be attributed to the difference in cultural setting between English and Arabic; the other two strategies of using an idiom with a similar meaning and form and using an idiom with a similar meaning but dissimilar form may not always be accessible in terms of availability in the other language, or in terms of its suitability to be used in a context such as a parliamentary report. Therefore, the strategy of paraphrasing can be considered the most appropriate and neutral strategy that takes into consideration the balance between rendering the most accurate meaning and at the same time maintaining the relevant cultural context.

4.3.9 Analysis of translation shifts at idiomatic level

Applying the same approach of classifying translation strategies used at the various levels into stylistic-oriented translation strategy and context-oriented translation strategy, the above analysis of translation strategies applied at the level of idiom indicates that all three translation strategies used at this level fall under the category of context-oriented translation strategy, which include translation by paraphrase, using an idiom with a similar meaning, and using an idiom with a similar meaning but dissimilar form. The percentages of these strategies are 53.6%, 39.02% and 7.3% respectively.

Conclusion

Based on the above analysis of the three variables of translation problems, translation strategies and translation shifts at the level of idioms, it is evident that the main factor which influences the occurrence of translation shifts at idiomatic level is the contextual factors, as all translation strategies used at this level fall under context-oriented translation strategy. Therefore, the research can conclude that at idiomatic level, the contextual factors are the main factors influencing the occurrence of the translation shifts at this level.

Subsequent to the above analysis carried out on translation problems and translation strategies at word and above word level and the associated translation shifts, the section to follow presents the key findings of the research.

4.4 KEY RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH

This research seeks to answer the main question of what contextual factors influence the occurrence of the phenomenon of translation shifts. In order to answer this question, the research closely examines three related variables: translation problems, translation strategies and translation shifts both at word and above word level. In this regard, the research applies Baker's model which deals with the issue of translation problems and strategies at word and above word level.

Furthermore, the research adopts both quantitative and qualitative analysis. The quantitative analysis was used to identify the numbers of occurrences of translation problems encountered and translation strategies applied in the fifty selected reports of the case study, while the qualitative analysis provided narrative descriptions of the quantitative data. Thus, based on the outcomes of the above analysis, the research provides its key results below:

4.4.1 At word level

- 1) Differences in form between English and Arabic at word level registered the highest-occurring translation problem encountered in the context of this research, at a total of 158. This represents 57.6% of all the translation problems encountered. Other problems at this level, such as the source-language word being semantically complex, culture-specific concepts, and differences in expressive meaning registered relatively small percentages of 12%, 9.4%, and 9.4% respectively.
- 2) The translation strategy of paraphrasing using related words was the highest occurring strategy applied to overcome various translation problems at this level, at a total of 214. This represents 78.10% of all translation strategies applied at this level. Other translation strategies applied at this level, such as paraphrasing using unrelated words and cultural substitution, registered small percentages of 10.5% and 8.7% respectively.
- 3) The main factor which has an influence on the phenomenon of translation shifts at this level are the stylistic factors. Most of the occurrences of translation shifts at this level were due to the application of translation strategies falling under stylistic-oriented translation strategy, which essentially intends to improve the style of the sentence in the target text. On the other hand, the application of translation strategies falling under context-oriented translation strategy also had some influence on the occurrence of translation shifts at this level but to a lesser extent.

4.4.2 Above word level (collocations and idioms)

4.4.2.1 At collocational level

- 4) In the context of this research, culture-specific collocations registered the highest number of translation problems encountered, at a total of 29. This represents 100% of all translation problems encountered at this level. Other problems related to

collocations, such as marked collocations in the source text, were not encountered at all.

- 5) The translation strategy of cultural substitution was the highest-occurring strategy applied to overcome the problem of culture-specific collocations, at a total of 23 or 79.3% of all strategies applied at this level. Another strategy applied at this level was paraphrasing, which registered a relatively small percentage of 20.7%.
- 6) The main factor which has an influence on the phenomenon of translation shifts at this level is the contextual factor, as most of the occurrences of translation shifts at this level were due to the application of translation strategies falling under context-oriented translation strategy which essentially intends to reflect a cultural meaning or an idea in the target text.

4.4.2.2 At idiomatic level

- 7) At this level, translation problems relating to the fact that an idiom may have no equivalent in the target language and that an idiom may have a similar counterpart in the target language but its context of use may be different both registered the highest number of translation problems encountered, at totals of 16 and 15 or 39.02% and 36.5% respectively. The translation problem relating to the fact that an idiom may be used in the source text in both its literal and idiomatic senses at the same time also registered a relatively high number of translation problems encountered, at a total of 10 or 24.3%.
- 8) The translation strategy of paraphrasing was the highest-occurring strategy applied to overcome various translation problems at this level, at a total of 22 or 53.5% of all translation strategies applied. The strategy of using an idiom with a similar meaning also registered a relatively high percentage among the translation strategies used, with a total of 16 or 39.02%.

- 9) The main factor which has an influence on the phenomenon of translation shifts at this level is the contextual factor, as most of the occurrences of translation shifts at this level were due to the application of translation strategies falling under context-oriented translation strategy, which again essentially intends to reflect a cultural meaning or an idea in the target text.

4.5 CONCLUSION

This chapter has covered two main components, which were processing and analysis of data collected in the context of this research, and the key results of the research. The analysis of the data collected was carried out at word and above word levels. However, the key focus of the analysis was to closely examine the nature of three related variables which are translation problems, translation strategies, and translation shifts that occur due to the application of translation strategies.

At word level, the research has established that differences in form between English and Arabic was the most common translation problem encountered, while the translation strategy of paraphrasing using related words was the most appropriate strategy applied at this level. Furthermore, the research finds that the main factor impacting on the occurrence of translation shifts at this level are the stylistic factors, since most of the occurrences of shifts at this level were due to the application of translation strategies falling under the category of stylistic-oriented translation strategy.

On the other hand, the research has established that above word level culture-specific collocation was the most common translation problem encountered. The translation strategy of cultural substitution was also the most appropriate translation strategy to tackle translation problems at this level. With regard to translation problems and strategies at idioms level, the analysis confirms that translation problems relating to the fact that an idiom may have no equivalent in that target language was the most common problem encountered, while translation by paraphrase was the most appropriate strategy to overcome translation problems at the idiomatic level. However, contrary to the main factor impacting on the

occurrence of translation shifts at word level, the research confirms that above word level the main factor which has an influence on the occurrence of translation shifts are the contextual factors.

The last chapter of this research discusses the importance and contribution of the research and its impact on the development of the translation field. The chapter also provides relevant recommendations.

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The previous chapters provided the main arguments of this research study. The first three chapters introduced the problem of the research and provided its theoretical and methodological frameworks. Chapter four provided details of the analysis and the processing of the data. This final chapter concludes the study by summarising the main results, drawing conclusions and making recommendations.

5.1 SUMMARY OF THE MAIN RESULTS

Generally, context-oriented research falls under two models which are culturalist and socialist (Marco 2009 cited in Saldanha and O'Brien, 2013: 205). This research is a context-oriented research that mainly focuses on the culturalist model. In other words, the main focus of the research is to explore the impact of culture as one of the contextual factors on the occurrence of the phenomenon under study i.e. translation shifts. Therefore, the research firstly highlights the relevance of the context in the translation field and then thoroughly discusses the influence that culture may have on the occurrence of the phenomenon of translation shifts.

This research project sought to study a phenomenon of translation shifts which is not sufficiently covered in literature, particularly in the area of translation from English into Arabic. In fact, the research could not find any study that has been done in this area. Hence, carrying out this research can contribute to the development of the translation field particularly for the English to Arabic language combination.

The research is set out in chapter one by formulating a research question and stating the purpose of the study and its objective. The objective of the research was to describe the concept of translation shifts and the manifestation of this phenomenon in translation strategies. In this regard, chapter one gave a background to the main concepts related to the research problem, defined the research methodology and concluded by indicating its ethical considerations.

In chapter two, the research reviewed the available literature to conceptualise the research problem and to highlight the gap in the body of language. The literature review covered the main concepts of the research, which are: contextual factors, translation shifts and translation strategies. The main result in chapter two is that the research distinguishes between two types of translation strategies, stylistic-oriented translation strategy and context-oriented translation strategy. Furthermore, the research concluded that culture as one of the contextual factors has more influence on the selection of translation strategies which in turn impacts on the occurrence of translation shifts.

The research study then discussed the adopted research methodology in chapter three. This chapter provided details as to the design of the research, and highlighted the rationale behind the selection of the case study. The study further presented and justified the research methods used to achieve the objectives of the research. In this regard, the research described in detail the tools of analysis that were used, which were the corpus linguistics (CL) in addition to Baker's model on translation problems and strategies at word and above word level.

The focus of chapter four was to analyse the data of the research to answer the main question of the research. The analysis of the data was carried out at both word and above word levels. The analysis further established a link between three related variables which are: translation problems, translation strategies and translation shifts. Based on the outcomes of the analysis, the chapter concluded with key results. Firstly, at the level of word, it was established that both stylistic and contextual factors had an influence on the occurrence of translation shifts. Secondly, it was however noted that the stylistic factors were the main factors which impact on the occurrence of the translation shifts at this level. On the other hand, the research confirmed that the contextual factors were the main factor which impacts on the occurrence of the same phenomenon above word level. These key results provided the answer to the main question of the research.

5.2 CONCLUSION

The above section summarised the main results of the research. In this section, the research draws some conclusions from these findings. The main conclusion is that because of the inherent structural differences between any two languages, the occurrence of translation shifts is inevitable. There are also many other factors, such as stylistic and contextual factors, which govern the structure of different languages. Therefore, the research emphasises that the occurrence of this phenomenon is natural and it should be expected between any two languages.

Furthermore, the main conclusion reached in this research demonstrates that since context generally influences, in one way or another, the translation process; it also impacts on the occurrence of specific translation phenomenon which is translation shifts. This specific impact of context is clearly manifested from the influence of culture, as one of the contextual factors, on the occurrence of the translation shifts. Therefore, it goes without saying that there is an obvious link between the context and the phenomenon of translation shifts.

The other important conclusion for this research is that the attempt to determine specific factors which impact on the occurrence of the phenomenon of translation shifts involves many advantages at the practical and pedagogical levels.

At the practical level, the mere tracing of the occurrence of translation shifts in the target text provides valuable insights for any language practitioner into the different forms of rendering the meaning of the linguistic unit in the target language. The tracing of all sorts of translation shifts that occur in the target text also assists language practitioners to develop a critical skill of liberating themselves from the “engrossing effect of the source text”.

At the pedagogical levels, the research strongly believes that the close examination of important variables such as translation problems and strategies at both word and above word levels also provides a solid training foundation for translation students and beginner translators. In this regard, the research wishes to highlight a few specific areas that need to

be taken into consideration in teaching translation, particularly for the combination of English and Arabic. These aspects include the categorisation of translation strategies into stylistic and context-oriented translation strategies, and the application of corpus linguistics as a tool of analysis. Other important aspects also relate to the identification of the most common translation problems and the most appropriate translation strategies that can be applied to overcome such problems at word and above word level.

The researcher believes that all these aspects are very important in teaching translation, in developing translation training, and ultimately in producing highly trained, skilled professionals.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the main results of the research and the conclusions reached, in this section, the research provides general recommendations on some of the implications of the research as follows:

As Cyrus (2006: 1240) states, “the notion of shift is an important concept in translation studies, however, shifts have not yet been dealt with extensively and systematically in corpus linguistics”. This research intends to contribute positively to fill this gap, particularly in the field of translation between English and Arabic.

However, there are two specific limitations in this research: firstly, the analysis of the data did not include a discussion of actual examples for the sort of translation shifts that occur in the target text. The other limitation relates to the problem of using a one-to-one parallel corpus, i.e. the corpus in this research contains only one version of translation in the target language. Thus, the translation only represents “one individual’s introspection” (Malmakjaer, 1998, cited in Mcenery and Xiao, 2007: 5). Therefore, the research recommends that future studies be done in order to widen the scope of the research, by including actual examples of translated texts to show cases of translation shifts that occur due to the application of some specific translation strategies and also to include more than one version of translation.

The research further advocates that studying the phenomenon of translation shifts can be a useful educational tool for translators, as it will assist translation students to identify translation problems and various translation strategies and procedures used to overcome such problems. Hence, the research agrees with Cyrus (2009: 89) who believes that “the concept of shifts can also be usefully employed in certain practical applications, such as in the evaluation of machine translation output, so shifts are also potentially of interest in applied translation studies”. Hence, the research further recommends that translation syllabuses should include the study of the phenomenon of translation shifts.

The analysis of translation problems above word level and the translation strategies to overcome such problems also provide a good training opportunity for students of translation and beginner translators. This is because it will assist them to appreciate the fact that the meaning of the translation unit does not necessarily depend on the individual word or the literal meaning of the individual word. The understanding of different linguistic forms above word level, such as collocations and idioms, will definitely assist translation students and translators at the beginning of their journey into the profession to understand the meaning of the translation unit rather than focusing on the individual word and hence produce a quality translation. Therefore, the research study also recommends that a specific model such as translation problems and translation strategies above word level be considered in translation syllabuses.

LIST OF SOURCES

As-Safi, Abdul B. 2011. Translation Theories, Strategies and Basic Theoretical Issues. Petra University.

Baker, M. 1998. Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies. London & New York: Routledge.

Baker, M. 1992. In Other Words; A Course Book on Translation. London: Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group.

Baker, M. 1993. Corpus Linguistics and Translation Studies: Implications and Applications. In Text and Technology: Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company.

Bassnet, S. 2007. A Companion to Translation Studies. Great Britain, Cromwell Press Ltd.

Bowker, L and Pearson, J. 2002. Working with Specialised Language: A practical guide to using corpora. London and New York: Routledge.

Catford, J. C. 1965. A Linguistic Theory of Translation. Oxford University Press.

Cyrus, L. 2009. Old Concept, New Ideas: Approaches to Translation Shifts, available at <http://www.e-revistas.uji.es/index.php/monti/article/view/1645> (Accessed on 30 October 2016).

Cyrus, L. 2006. "Building a Resource for Studying Translation Shift", in Proceeding of the Fifth International Conference on Linguistic Resources and Evaluation, available at <http://www.mt-archive> (Accessed on 28 March 2016).

Fairclough, N. 1989. Language and Power. Essex. Longmans House.

Fernandes, L. 2006. Corpora in Translating Studies: revisiting Baker's Typology. *Fragmentos*, numero30, p. 087/095 Florianopolis/ jan-jun/2006.

Firth, J. R. 1964. *Papers in Linguistics. 1934-1951*. London. Oxford University Press.

Guo-rong, S. 2010. Corpus-based Approaches to Translation Studies. *Cross-cultural Communication*, Vol. 6. No. 4, 2010.

Gutt, E. A. 2014. *Translation and Relevance; Cognitive and Context*. New York, Routledge.

Halliday, M.A.K. 1984. *Language as Social Semiotics*. London: Edward Arnold Publishers (Ltd).

Hatim, B, and Mason, I. 1990. *Discourse and the translator*. London and New York: Longman.

Hatim, B, 2013. *Teaching and Researching Translation*. New York: Routledge.

House, J, 2001. Translation Quality Assessment: Linguistic Description versus Social Evaluation. *Translators' Journal*, vol. 46, n 2, p. 243-257.

Jakobson, R. 2000. "On Linguistic Aspects of Translation". L. Venuti.

Kenny, D. 2001. Corpora in translation studies, in *Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies*. London & New York: Routledge.

Lili, N. 2009. For "Translation and Theories", available at files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1082361.pdf (Accessed on 16 December 2016).

Mailhac, J. P. 2007. Formulating Translation Strategies for the Translator. Translation Journal, Volume 11, No. 2, available at <http://www.translationjournal.net/journal/40strategies.htm> (Accessed on 15 March 2017).

Masubelele, R. 2004. A corpus-based appraisal of shifts in language use and translation policies in two Zulu translation of the Book of Matthew, Language Matters: Studies in the Languages of Africa, available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10228190408566212> (Accessed on 25 May 2017).

Mcenery, A. and Xiao, Z. 2007. Parallel and comparable corpora: What are they up to? Multilingual Matters, available at: http://eprints.lancs.ac.uk/59/1/corpora_and_translation.pdf (Accessed on 28 May 2017).

Melby, A. K. 2010. "Context in translation: Definition, access and teamwork", Translation & Interpreting, Vol 2, No 2.

Mizani, S. 2016. "Cultural Translation", available at <http://www.translationdirectory.com/articles/article1507.php> (Accessed on 21 December 2016).

Monacelli, C. 2009. Self-Preservation in Simultaneous Interpreting: Surviving the Role. Amsterdam, John Benjamins Publishing Company.

Munday, J. 2008. Introducing Translation Studies; Theories and applications. New York, Routledge.

Munday, J. 2012: Introducing Translation Studies; Theories and application (3rd edition). New York, Routledge.

Newmark, P. 1988. A Text Book of Translation. New York, Prentice Hall.

Nida, A. E. 1964. Towards a Science of Translating. Leiden; E. J. Brill.

Nida, A. E. and Taber, C. R. 1982. *The Theory and Practice of Translation*. E. J. Brill, Leiden.

Nord, C. 2005. *Text Analysis in Translation; Theory, Methodology, and Didactic Application of a Model for Translation-Oriented Text Analysis*. Editions Rodopi B. V., Amsterdam.

Reiss, K. 1971 *Type, Kind and Individuality of Text: Decision Making in Translation*, translated by Susan Kitron.

Rosa. A. A. 2012. *Translating Place: Linguistic Variation in Translation*. *A Journal of Literary Studies and Linguistics*, Vol. 2, Issue 2.

Saldanha G. and O'Brien Sharon. 2014. *Research Methodologies in Translation Studies*. Routledge, New York.

Schjoldager A. with Gottlieb H. and Klitgard I, 2008. *Understanding Translation*, Academia.

Van Dijk, T. 2004. "Text and Context of Parliamentary Debates" in P. Bayley (Ed.), *CrossCultural Perspectives on Parliamentary Discourse*. Amsterdam: Benjamin.

Vermeer, H. J., 1989. *Skopos and Commission in Translational Action*, translated by Andrew Chesterman.

Walinski, J. T. 2015. *Translation Procedures*, available at anglistyka.uni.lodz.pl/userfiles/Walinski%202015%20Translation%20procedures.pdf (Accessed on 10 January 2017).

Williams, J. and Chesterman A. 2011. *The Map; A beginner's Guide to doing Research in Translation Studies*, London and New York: Routledge.