

# THE ANALYSIS OF TRANSLATION TECHNIQUES USED IN ENGLISH SUBTITLE OF BHUPPAE SANNIWAS (LOVE DESTINY)

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## ABSTRACT

Abstract— The purpose of this study is to investigate the translation techniques which were most frequently used in the subtitle translation of Bhuppaee Sanniwas (Love Destiny), which was the astonishing popular Thai television period drama. The series was translated into English language by SJDK fansub. The analysis of the translation techniques is drawn from the theory proposed in Meaning-Based Translation by Mildred L. Larson (1998). The study concentrated on the most frequently used translation technique in the first and final episodes of Bhuppaee Sanniwas (Love Destiny). After collecting the data eight techniques were found. Larson's theory was used to describe the examples of each techniques found in data collection. Source text and target subtitle text are compared in the table with explanatory comments. The most translation techniques identified can be categorized as follows: (1) Loan word, (2) Addition, (3) Omission, (4) Generic word to specific word, (5) Synonym, (6) Cultural substitution, (7) Idiom, (8) Mistranslation. Finally, the recommendations and suggestions for further are provided.

Keywords— Translation techniques, Subtitles, Bhuppaee Sanniwas.

## INTRODUCTION

Bhuppaee Sanniwas (Love Destiny) which is an adaptation of the novel by Romphaeng, the author's penname, has chosen to do data analysis in this study for three main reasons. First, it is the astonishing popular Thai historical television series which was broadcasted on Channel 3 from February 21st to April 11th, 2018. Second, it is not only famous in Thailand, but the series also gained popularity across Asia, contributing in a rise of tourists in filming locations. Finally, the series was translated into English language by SJDK fansub, a well-known Thai subtitle translation website. The translated subtitle is interesting for the audiences due to the complexity of content and difference between cultures. It is obvious that the target language expressed the translator's ability in transmitting their knowledge of Thai language and culture. That is to say, the translator conveyed the same meaning of the source language into the target language by using translation techniques. In this study, subtitles are the principal focus. It would be a big obstacle for foreign audiences to enjoy a movie made in a language they did not understand.[1] The translation of the script to create subtitles is not very easy since the content dealt with cultural. For Thai to English translation as in Bhuppaee Sanniwas, the differences between languages and cultures can be seen as a great challenge. The translators must decide which approach will be the most effective as different techniques are available and which one is suitable in different situations.[2] Regarding to the communication situation, Larson mentions that one way to look at the difference between meaning and form is to consider the traditions and culture of the speaker and the audience. There are difference factors in the communication situations. Therefore, the translator has to select what they want to communicate. [3] For example, the meaning is usually obstructed by the number of forms in the target language. Translator may choose one form over another in the target language to convey an emotive meaning of the source language that is called equivalent meaning and form. [4]

Larson [5] proposes a variety of techniques applied in translation work. The first technique is literal translation. It can be called word for word translation. It may sound unnatural or meaningless and have little communicative or meaning value in the target language. Next technique is using implicit or explicit words. The translator may leave out some information in the text because the reader knows the fact clearly. On the other hand, some information is left implicit because of the structure of the source text. Another technique is using doublet words. A doublet included two near synonym words or phrases that are used together as a unit. The meaning of the doublet must be translated by the form which is more natural in the target

language.[6] One more thing, the technique of adding explanation is used. The classifier is added to make the specific word clearer in the meaning when the translator decides to adopt the original word from source language to target language.[7] Larson also states the technique of replacing specific words with more general words because more general words covering a specific word may cause problems for reader to understand the original meaning. Omission of specific words or idioms is also an interesting technique. When a word or idiom in the source language refers to something that does not appear in the target language and carries unimportant meaning, it can be leave out.

## DETAILS EXPERIMENTAL

### Materials and Procedures

The data of this study consists of Thai screen play and English subtitles of a popular Thai television period drama, Bhupphae Sanniwas (Love Destiny) used as a research materials. The story is an adaptation of the novel by Romphaeng. The series is translated into English language by SJKD fansub. The first and the last of 15 episodes which take about 1.45 hours each have been analyzed.

The data from Bhupphae Sanniwas (Love Destiny) was collected by comparing sentence by sentence the original Thai screen play and English subtitles and also related data to translation theories in order to collect the information and select appropriate examples in both the original and translated subtitles. In this study, the researcher presents translation analysis technique by technique and these data are analyzed according to Larson's theory (1998).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings will be discussed based on the Larson's theoretical framework.

### 1. Loan Word

Loan word are formed from other languages that are unknown to most of the speakers of the receptor language. For instance, the names of people, places, geographical areas, thus these words need to have a classifier. For example, in the case of a translation of a name of person, country or river the original words in the source language are borrowed by the translator for complete meaning in the receptor language. (Larson,1998, p.186). In this study the names of people and pronoun are frequently used in the source language and translated into the target language.

**Table 1**  
Loan Word

Source language	Target language	Remark
1.แหม : นะเจ้าคะ คุณหัว (ep1: 00.04.29)	Yam : Please, <u>jao ka</u> ? My darling.	The translator used the word jao ka in the target language for easier to understand.
2.บ่าว : แกลงหัวสับปรดกับไข่เมงดา ท่านให้เอาไปฝากคุณหญิงจำปาเจ้าคะ (ep1: 00.05.36)	Servant : Curry with pineapple and eggs. Khun Ying said to bring them for <u>Khun Ying Jumpa</u> .	The translator used a loan word technique for the pronoun used to call a person in source language not translated in the target language.
3.เจ้าคุณพ่อ : พ่อเคยหาซื้อของหัวงไม่ แม่กระเทยเป็นนางที่ถือเรือนอยู่ที่นี่ ก็เพราะลูกประวิงเวลาอยู่อย่างนี้ เขาถือกันไปถึงสามบ้านแปดบ้าน (ep1: 00.14.42)	Father : <u>Por Date</u> don't worry. <u>Mae Karakade</u> is staying here. It's because you're stalling for time like this. It's gossip all across 7 or 8 houses.	Por Date and Mae Karakade is the name of the main actor in this series. The translator used a loan word technique for the name of person in source language not translated in the target language.

### 2. Addition

Addition is type of translation when the translator makes a meaning in the source language over the meaning than target language, (Larson, 1998). The translator makes an over in translation meaning of the source language into the target language by adding some more words or explanation into the target language.

**Table 2**  
Addition

Source language	Target language	Remark
1.คืน : แม่ขายเจ้าขา (ep1: 00.10.23)	Pin : <u>What do we do?</u>	The translator added the addition "What do we do?" into target language.
2.คุณพี่เคซ : กระโจนวิ่งสะบัดจนพวกว่ากระเด็นอย่างนี้ (ep1: 01.15.22)	Khun P' Date : Running and <u>frightening</u> the other maids like this.	The translator made addition translation in order to make an over meaning in the target language by adding the words "frightening" into the target language.
3.คืน : ได้ยินแล้วอยากจะทำแม่ขายไปสั่งสอนพวกมันจริงๆ แหม : อีนางพวกนี้ก็กระไร ทลานี้ไม่รู้จักหับจกนอนกัน (ep1: 01.20.48)	Pin : I want to teach them a lesson. Yam : These maids are too much. Don't they know <u>how to speak at this hour?</u>	The translator added the addition "how to speak at this hour" into target language.
4.คุณหญิงจำปา : เป็นพระแม่กระเทยเป็นแม่ หัวเราะหัวใครเสียงดังได้ยินไปทั้งเรือน (ep15: 00.07.14)	Khun Ying Jumpa : It's because Mae Karakade <u>is a woman</u> . And the entire house can hear them.	The translator added the addition "is a woman" into target language.

### 3. Omission

Omission is type of translation when the meaning in the target language is missing when compared with the source language, Larson (1998). After collecting the data, the researcher found that the translator used omission technique in the target language. However, the translator should translate in the limitation for accuracy of meaning.

**Table 3**  
Omission

Source language	Target language	Remark
1.การะเกด : มีงูบปากไปเลอะนะ <u>อีตึน</u> ถ้าไม่ชกโดน <u>หน้อยเขียวของกู</u> คนปาก (ep1: 00.17.41)	Karakade : Shut your mouth! If you don't want me to slap you.	The translator omitted to translate the words "อีตึน" and "หน้อยเขียวของกู" into the target language.
2.คุณหญิงจำปา : แล้วอย่าทำให้ผู้คนเขาแตกตื่นกันอีกล่ะ อีตึน อีแฉ้มก็เหมือนกัน <u>อะอะดังกลองเพล</u> (ep1: 01.14.35)	Khun Ying Jumpa : And don't frighten everyone again. E-Pin E-Yam as well.	The translator omitted to translate the phrase "อะอะดังกลองเพล" into the target language.
3.การะเกด : ทำไมโหวงจัง <u>ถ้ามีกบงในตึลลี้</u> (ep1: 01.41.52)	Karakade : Why is it so loose?	The translator omitted to translate the phrase "ถ้ามีกบงในตึลลี้" into the target language.
4.คุณหญิงจำปา : เป็นเพราะแม่การะเกดเป็นแม่ <u>หัวเราะหัวโกร่</u> เสียงดังได้อินไปทั้งเรือน (ep15: 00.07.14)	Khun Ying Jumpa : It's because Mae Karakade is a woman. And the entire house can hear them.	The translator omitted to translate the idiom "หัวเราะหัวโกร่" into the target language.

### 4. Generic word to specific word

Generic word refers to all sets of words and words that are grouped together in a language and given a class name (Larson, 1998, p.72). On the other hand, specific words have additional components of meaning as well as the meaning of the generic term (Larson, 1998, p.72). Therefore, "generic to specific word" is a word which is grouped in a class of things, and translated into the specific details of something. In this study, the generic words in the source language are translated to more specific meanings into the target language as shown in table for achieving an equivalent meaning from the source language to target language.

**Table 4**  
Generic word to specific word

Source language	Target language	Remark
1.เกษตรวงค์ : ซงให้แล้วยังต้อง <u>เก็บ</u> ให้อีก (ep1: 00.26.57)	Kedsurang : I made it for you and I still have to <u>clean up</u> after you?	The specific meaning of "เก็บ" is "clean up"
2.แฉ้ม : มนต์กฤษณะกาลิเป็นมนต์ที่ตกทอดใน <u>เรือน</u> ออกญาท่านมหาหลายชั่วคน (ep1: 00.36.56)	Yam : The moon mantra has been passed down from Thun's <u>family</u> through many generations.	The specific meaning of "เรือน" is "family"
3.ขุนหลวง : ไซ้พระชานครศรีมันถือได้อย่างไร จึงบังอาจสั่ง <u>ประหาร</u> คนในปกครองของกู โดยที่กูไม่ได้อนุญาต (ep15: 00.49.43)	Khun Luang : What right does that Phraya Nakorn Sri have? To dare to <u>behead</u> someone under my rule? Without my permission	The specific meaning of "ประหาร" is "behead"
4.คุณพี่เดช : <u>พวกฝรั่ง</u> เรียกชาวเราว่าสยาม (ep15: 00.57.28)	Khun P' Date : Siam. <u>The French</u> call us this.	The specific meaning of "พวกฝรั่ง" is "The French"

### 5. Synonym

There are words which are very similar in meaning. On the other hand, there are groups of words which are synonymous in their nuclear meaning and contain certain addition positive or negative overtones (Larson, 1998, p. 78). While a synonym is a word or a group of words with similar meanings which are not used exactly the same in a sentence, the translator selects the synonyms for appropriate meaning in the target language.

**Table 5**  
Synonym

Source language	Target language	Remark
1. เข็ม : นะเจ้าคะ <b>พูนหัว</b> (ep1: 00.04.29)	Yam : Please, jao ka? <b>My darling</b> .	The meaning of “พูนหัว” in English means “lover” The translator selected “My darling” in the target language as it is a synonym with an adequate meaning.
2. การะเกด : บังอาจมา <b>ชี้แจง</b> (ep1: 00.04.40)	Karakade : How dare you <b>lecture</b> me?	The meaning of “ชี้แจง” in English means “suggest” The translator selected the word “lecture” in the target language as it is a synonym with an adequate meaning.
3. การะเกด : ไปเถิด <b>หนี!</b> (ep1: 00.59.04)	Karakade : Go! <b>Run!</b>	The meaning of “หนี” in English means “escape” The translator selected the word “run” in the target language as it is a synonym with an adequate meaning.
4. ปริก : <b>ประหาร</b> อี๋นึ่งมึงพูดให้มันถูกๆหน่อย (ep15: 00.21.59)	Prik : <b>Bed ridden</b> . E-Boung, say it right.	The translator selected the word “Bed ridden” in the target language as it is a synonym with an adequate meaning with “ประหาร”
5. ออกพระเทพราชา : ไซ้ฝรั่งนั้นมันสนับสนุนพระปิ๊ช เพราะฉะนั้นต้องไม่มี <b>พระปิ๊ช</b> ให้มันจับ <b>เชิด</b> (ep15: 00.45.52)	Ork Phra Phetracha : That farang supports Pra Py. So we must get rid of this <b>puppet</b> .	The translator selected the word “puppet” in the target language as it is a synonym with an adequate meaning with “จับเชิด” in the source language.

### 6. Cultural substitution

A culture substitution is a generic word in the source language that the translator employs in the target language as a generic class or words that can describe the event or thing but with not exactly the same meaning as the source language (Larson, 1998, p.76). Since the differences of culture between the source language and target language, the translator tried to find the lexical equivalent of each word which would have some equivalent meaning in both languages.

**Table 6**  
Cultural substitution

Source language	Target language	Remark
1. เจ้าคุณพ่อ : ถึงอย่างไรนางก็ต้อง <b>เข้าห้อง</b> ไรงอยู่ดี หลีกเลี่ยงไม่ได้ (ep1: 00.14.12)	Father : Anyhow she must <b>wed</b> with you. It can't be avoided.	The translator described the idiom “เข้าห้องไรง” into “wed” in the target language that has the same meaning but not exactly the meaning when translated word by word.
2. คุณหญิงจำปา : <b>คุณพระช่วย</b> (ep1: 00.16.19)	Khun Ying Jampa : <b>Goodness</b>	The translator described the phrase “คุณพระช่วย” into “Goodness” in the target language.
3. มิน : <b>ไหว้พระ</b> นะเจ้าคะ (ep1: 00.47.33)	Pin : <b>Pray</b> , jao ka.	The translator described the word “ไหว้พระ” into “Pray” in the target language.
4. หลวงศรีศักดิ์ : คงไม่ใช่เป็นพระมึงจะ <b>ทำของ</b> ไส้รณะ ท่านพ่อ (ep15: 00.10.13)	Luang Sorasak : It's not so that he can cast <b>black magic</b> on us?	The translator described the word “ทำของ” into “black magic” in the target language.
5. การะเกด : นายพลเดฟาจ์จะส่งทหารฝรั่งเศษขึ้นมาทั้งหมด เมื่อเจ้าพระยาวิชาเยนทร์ส่ง <b>ม้าเร็ว</b> ไปที่บางกอก (ep15: 00.43.59)	Karakade : General Desfarges will send all the French soldiers when Cho Phraya Wichayen sends a <b>messenger</b> to Bangkok.	The translator described the word “ม้าเร็ว” into “messenger” in the target language.

### 7. Idioms

Idioms are expressions of at least two words which cannot be understood literally and which function as a unit semantically (Larson, 1998, p.125). The translator translated idiom from a source language into the target language for better understanding. However, idioms cannot be understood by literally translation.

**Table 7**  
Idioms

Source language	Target language	Remark
1.การะเถด : <u>จับตามองไว้</u> อีตั้นทำสำหรัจ กุจิงจะกลับเรือน (ep1: 00.07.24)	Karakade : <u>Keep an eye on them</u> . When E-Pin succeeds. I will return to the house.	The translator describes “จับตามองไว้” into target language which means “Keep an eye on them” for appropriate meaning. It is the similar meaning and similar form of idiom translation.
2.คุณหญิงจำปา : <u>ไก่ขันออกสะเทือนฟ้าสะเทือนดิน</u> (ep1:00.29.20)	Khun Ying Jumpa : <u>Even heaven and earth can hear the rooster crow.</u>	The translator describes “ไก่ขันออกสะเทือนฟ้าสะเทือนดิน” into target language which means “Even heaven and earth can hear the rooster crow”. It is the similar meaning and similar form of idiom translation.
3.คุณหญิงจำปา : <u>เดินเป็นม้าติดกะโหลก</u> (ep1: 01.43.17)	Khun Ying Jumpa : <u>Walking like a horse!</u>	The translator used the similar meaning and similar form of idiom translation technique.
4.ศรีประจักษ์ : หากวันใดพระองค์ทรงทราบความจริงว่าคุณนี้ไม่ผิด <u>คุณนั้นจักคืนสนองพวกมัน</u> (ep15: 00.31.44)	Sriprach : If one day His Majesty knows the truth that I am innocent, <u>the dagger will return to them.</u> (they will receive their karma)	The translator used the similar meaning and similar form of idiom translation technique.
5.การะเถด : คนเหล่านั้นอยู่ฝักตรงข้ามกับกู ออกพระเพทราชาเขาจะเก็บเอาไว้เป็น <u>หน่อข้างหน่อ</u> ฟ้าไม่สะเจ้าคะ (ep15: 00.54.45)	Karakade : Those people are opposing the rebels. Ork Phra Phetracha won't spare them since <u>they're thorns.</u>	The translator used the similar meaning but dissimilar form of idiom translation technique.

### 8. Mistranslation

Mistranslation is found when the meaning of receptor language is different from the source language, Larson (1998). After collecting the data from the source text, the researcher found that the problem occurred when the meaning in the receptor language is different from the meaning of the source language.

**Table 8**  
Mistranslation

Source language	Target language	Remark
1.บ่าว 1 : เกิดอะไรขึ้น บ่าว 2 : <u>เรือล่ม</u> (ep1:00.09.06)	Servant 1 : What happened? Servant 2 : <u>It's a boat.</u>	It should be translated as “There's a boat accident.”
2.คุณพี่เดช : ลูกเกลียดนาง คนอย่างนางมีหรือจะห่วงผู้ใด <u>พูดจนตาย</u> (ep1: 00.13.49)	Khun P' Date : I hate her. Someone like her isn't worried for anyone. She <u>speaks ignorant.</u>	It should be translated as “She is a liar.”
3.ออกพระเพทราชา : ไอ้จูดมันกลับไปแล้ว ไอ้ลาอุบลร์มันอยู่ทำไม (ep15:00.08.46)	Ork Phra Phetracha : The ambassador has <u>returned</u> . Why is La Loubere still here?	It should be translated as “The ambassador went back to France.”
4.จ้อย : ท่านกระเสาะกระแสะมาได้พักใหญ่แล้วขอรับ <u>เพิ่งหนักได้สองวันนี่เอง</u> (ep15: 00.16.52)	Joi : He's been ill for some time now. He was <u>only able to get up 3 days ago.</u>	It should be translated as “He was seriously sick 2 days ago”
5.จวง : ดี จะไล่ไปทำกับข้าวในตะขกวดแล้วละนั้น (ep15: 00.42.23)	Juang : Hey, <u>hurry and go cook the meal.</u>	It should be translated as “Hey, you almost go to cook in prison”

## CONCLUSIONS

A sampling of the first and the last episodes of Bhuppae Sanniwas (Love Destiny) were used to collect a sample total of 88 samples. The most frequently used in the first and the final episodes of this series is "Cultural substitution" of which 20 samples were found. The second most commonly found technique is "Idiom" technique of which 18 samples were found. The third most used technique is "Mistranslation" of which 15 samples were found. The fourth most used technique is “Omission” of which 11 samples were found. The fifth most used technique is "Synonym" of which 8 samples were found. The sixth most used technique is "Loan word" of which 6 samples were found. The seventh most used technique is "Generic word to specific word" of which 5 samples were found. The last technique which was the least used is “Addition” that 4 samples were found. Therefore, it can be concluded that the Cultural substitution technique is the most frequently used with 20 samples from total 88 samples of techniques.

It is possible to expand and do further research in the area of L2 translation as a teaching approach for adult learners in the University [8].

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This is in the acknowledgment of funding by Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University personal development fund for the oral presentation at The ICTBH 2019 International Conference Tourism Business and Health Sciences from March 7th – 8th, 2019.

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