The Semantic Characteristics of Pronominal Nouns in Vietnamese and Translation into Chinese

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Author's contribution

The sole author designed, analysed, interpreted and prepared the manuscript.

Short Research Article

ABSTRACT

This article explores the semantic aspects of pronominal nouns in Vietnamese, examining the usage of animal pronominal nouns in direct dialogues excerpted from the work 'The Adventure of Cricket' by writer To Hoai. It also compares these with their modern Mandarin Chinese translations. Based on the results, the article analyzes the methods of translating Vietnamese pronominal nouns into Mandarin Chinese and proposes recommendations and solutions based on translation options presented by Mona Baker.

1. INTRODUCTION

Pronominal reference is one of the characteristics of language. It allows speakers to refer to an object, event, or concept in a non-specific manner. The degree of pronominal reference in a language depends on various factors such as grammatical structure, context,

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culture, and the psychology of the users. In Vietnamese, there are many words used to express pronominal reference, such as 'người ta' (someone), 'việc gì đó' (something), 'ai đó' (someone), etc. In this article, we will discuss pronominal reference in Vietnamese nouns from a semantic perspective, illustrated through examples from 'The Adventure of Cricket,' and compare it with the translation into modern Mandarin Chinese. We aim to identify patterns of pronominal reference translation between the two languages, providing insights for readers, especially Vietnamese-   Chinese translators, to enhance their knowledge and experience in translating pronominal nouns.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Studies on Vietnamese Nouns and Pronominal Noun Models

Vietnamese nouns have been a topic of interest for many researchers, especially concerning the structure of nouns. Notable works include: 'Noun types in modern Vietnamese' (1975) by Nguyen Tai Can; 'Vietnamese grammar' (1983) by the Social Sciences Committee; 'Vietnamese grammar, Volume I' [1] by Diep Quang Ban and Hoang Van Thung; 'Vietnamese grammar' by Diep Quang Ban [2], 'Vietnamese grammar - types and clauses' [3] by Nguyen Van Pho. Additionally, there are several articles published in specialized journals such as 'Contributions to the study of Vietnamese nouns' [4] by Dinh Van Duc, and 'On the subordinate elements after the center in Vietnamese nouns' [5] by authors Hoang Dung & Nguyen Thi Ly Kha. These

authors affirm that nouns are a common type of clause in Vietnamese [6], with a complex and complete structure. In general, the main structural components of Vietnamese nouns have the following characteristics:

In the aforementioned summary table, the central part of the noun denotes objects, theoretically finite but not accurately countable in reality (due to the variable nature of objects, which may be lost or generated); the pre-modifying part is finite, serving the function of indicating the quantity of objects; the post-modifying part is infinite, providing definitive and distinctive characteristics to the central object [7].

Regarding the means of expressing object or quantity pronominal meanings in Vietnamese nouns, they can be summarized as follows:

The pronominal noun model in Vietnamese includes components such as: quantifying adjectives (ĐN chỉ số lượng), unit nouns (DTĐV), mass nouns (DTK), and descriptive modifiers (ĐN miêu tả). For example:

- Những đứa trẻ (con) trong xóm (the children in the neighborhood)
- Một cô gái tóc nâu (a girl with brown hair) In these examples, the quantifying adjective is formed from numerals, pronouns, or adverbs; the noun (unit noun, mass noun, or a combination) represents the object mentioned in the noun phrase; the descriptive modifier follows the noun, often used to indicate specific characteristics of the object [8].

Table 1. Structural components of vietnamese nouns

Components	Quantity	Composition	Position	Informative function
Central	Finite (Unlimited)	Simple	Fixed	Object-only
Pre-modifying elements	Finite (limited)	Simple	Fixed	Quantity
Post-modifying elements	Non-finite	Complicated	Flexible	Finite-distinct

Table 2. Object or quantity pronominal meanings in Vietnamese nouns

Mode	Expressing indefinite meanings	Proof	Note
Indefinite pronouns	Most specific, strongest	"ai', "nào"	There are many
Numeral words	Inaccurate quantity	"vài, mấy, vô số"	forms of occurrence
Quantifiers	Inaccurate quantity	"những, các"	in reality
Unit nouns	Inaccurate quantity	"đoàn, tụi, nhóm"	

The pronominal reference to objects is most clearly expressed through nouns containing pronominal particles (such as ai, nào); whereas quantity pronominal reference does not necessarily include specific numbers, expressed through quantifying adjectives (such as nhiều, ít, vô số, hằng hà sa số) or unit nouns indicating a group (such as đoàn, nhóm, tụi)

The criteria for selecting nouns in our study are as follows:

1. They are nouns, not containing definite articles like cái (the) and demonstratives like này (this), ấy (that), kia (that), nọ (that), đó (that), or singular expressions like duy nhất (only), cuối cùng (final), đầu tiên (first).
2. They contain pronominal elements including pronominal particles (ai, nào), quantifying adjectives (nhiều, ít, vô số, hằng hà sa số), unit nouns (đoàn, nhóm, tụi), and some other words indicating classification.
3. The pronominal nouns appear in direct speech actions between characters in the DMPLK story.

2.2 Regarding the Work DMPLK and Its Translation into Chinese

The story DMPLK was introduced by the writer Tô Hoài to readers starting from 1941, and since then, it has been published more than 50 times. DMPLK is a small picture of the animal world, with a coverage area, and features clear prose and dialogue [9]. On the other hand, in the genre of literature - storytelling, nouns are used very commonly with an average ratio of 3 nouns per sentence (Trần Hữu Mạnh. 2006, p.77). Studying the activity of pronominal nouns in a literary work (language in the form of text), observing language in action in reality (in specific situations), then, nouns are related to specific phenomena of the external world, thus all aspects of the content (expressed meaning) will be fully revealed.

In mainland China, initially Tô Hoài's work DMPLK was referred to as "蝼蛄漂流记" (Sòng to phiêu lưu ký) in the Collection of Modern Vietnamese Literature. However, this name was later changed to "蟋蟀冒险记" (Tất xuất mạo hiểm ký) for better suitability, and the name 蟋蟀

冒险记 for DMPLK was recognized in the Chinese National Library (nlc.cv).

As of now, DMPLK has a complete translation into modern Mandarin Chinese by translator Lý Doanh. The translation "蟋蟀冒险记" by translator Lý Doanh has ISBN code 978-7-5126-5595-9, published by Unity Publishing for the first time in January 2018. A year earlier, in January 2017, Unity Publishing had released an electronic version. After publication, the work received warm reception from readers, especially young readers (douban, vovworld).

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The article uses a descriptive method to clarify the semantic structure of pronominal nouns. When describing, we also use other auxiliary methods such as: describing characteristic features to highlight the unique characteristics of the research object group; statistical and classification methods to process qualitative and quantitative source data.

4. RESEARCH RESULTS

4.1 Semantic Characteristics of Pronominal Nouns Referring to Animals (Animate Nouns) in the DMPLK Work

The structure of pronominal nouns in simple forms such as: cú mèo (a cat), dế cụ (an ant), người lớn (adult), người ngoài (outsider), con kiến (an ant), học trò (students); in descriptive modifier forms such as: đứa khôn ngoan (a wise child), đứa độc ác (a cruel child), kẻ yếu (a weak person), kẻ chán đời (a person bored with life), kẻ yếu hơn ta (a weaker person than me), kẻ cướp đến phá nhà (a robber who comes to destroy houses), thằng cướp hung dữ nhất (the fiercest robber), tay dọc ngang nào biết trên đầu có ai (who knows who's on top of the head), một đấng trượng phu (a wealthy man), những đứa độc miệng (mouthy kids), quân bất mục bất hiếu (disobedient soldiers), những tay võ đông môn với nhau (martial artists competing with each other), những kẻ viển vông ấy (those extravagant people), những đứa nhát sợ và nóng nảy (timid and impulsive kids), anh hùng bốn phương (heroes of all directions). In total, we counted 26 dialogue contexts using pronominal nouns.

The statistical results show that, generally, in 37 cases appearing in direct dialogues, pronominal nouns are mainly used for descriptive purposes or making assumptions. Cases of pronominal reference to quantity of objects are very diverse: using numerals/quantifiers one before a unit noun to indicate a small quantity, using quantifiers like "những" and some other approximate quantifiers before a unit noun to indicate a large quantity; not using any determiners before a unit noun to indicate singular or generic species.

The characters as animals in DMPLK have been personified, thus, they retain the natural characteristics and behaviors of the animals they represent, but at the same time, they also exhibit human characteristics and thoughts. Pronominal nouns with descriptive modifiers show the diversity in character traits, circumstances, and individual characteristics of the characters. Writer Tô Hoài used a detailed and vivid descriptive style in the process of building plot, environment, and mood for the characters, making it easy for readers to vividly imagine the scenes and situations in the story.

Pronominal nouns are one of the means used to generalize the character traits and express the writer's attitude: Dế Mèn is healthy and courageous; Dễ Trũi is honest, responsible; Xiến Tóc is dignified, progressive; Kiến is diligent, united, etc. The character world in DMPLK is very diverse, existing and moving in a wild space; this space directly influences the content of communication, governing the characteristics, psychology, and emotions of the characters, illuminating the inner world of the characters. Being familiar with rural labor life, the characters in DMLPK are carefully observed by the writer, pronominal nouns clearly show attitudes of love, hate, admiration, contempt towards each character in the work.

4.2 Survey of Translation Methods of Pronominal Nouns Referring to Animals (Animate Nouns) in the Corresponding Translated Work

Based on the expressed meaning (including descriptive meaning, attitudinal meaning), the translation results in the Table 3.

In the translated work, there are 4 pronominal nouns completely omitted, accounting for 10.8%. This is an acceptable figure, with the remaining being translated through various methods. In the following section, we will summarize each context to clarify the appropriateness/ inappropriateness of the translation.

4.2.1 Equivalent translation strategy for vietnamese-han objects

In cases of equivalent translation regarding expressed meaning, the most common approach is when the pronominal noun takes the form of a number + singular noun + collective noun. The equivalent terminology in Chinese is: number + classifier + noun. For example:

To bằng bốn thằng ve sầu! Translation: 有四只蝉这么大呢!

Thằng Thịnh hôm nọ cũng có một con dế... Translation: 阿盛也有一只蟋蟀…… Independent pronouns used as nouns are also equivalently translated from Vietnamese to Chinese:

Mới biết đời này hồ dễ ai1 bắt nạt nổi ai?.

Translation: 蟋蟀家族中谁能欺负得了谁呢?

Bên nào được ba " gôn" trước thì ăn thưởng lão dế này.

Translation: 哪边先踢进三个球就算胜利, 并获得这只老蟋蟀作为奖励.

Pronominal nouns expressing attributes of individual objects and plural objects are also equivalently translated into Chinese:

Đứa khôn ngoan ở đời thì không nên nói trước.

Translation: 聪明的人不会那么自负的.

Bấy lâu chú đi làm ăn đâu mà những đứa độc miệng bảo chú chết rồi.

Translation: 后来你去哪里了, 怎么有些毒舌的人传播谣言说你已经死了呢?

Table 3. Ways to translate

The ways to translate	Quantity
Chuyển dịch tương đương	19
Chuyển dịch thành đối tượng rộng hơn	6
Chuyển dịch thành đối tượng hẹp hơn	7
Chuyển dịch khác đối tượng (do vấn đề văn hóa)	1
Không chuyển dịch	4
Tổng số: 37	

4.2.2 Expanded object translation strategy in Chinese compared to the original Vietnamese (source text)

This is a case where the Chinese object has reduced the attributive component compared to Vietnamese. In the entire object, the attributive serves as a limiting or descriptive component of the noun. Before the attributive, indicators such as "của, mà, ở" are often used; expressing possession typically uses "của" (sách của bạn), introducing attributive clauses often uses the relational word "mà" (người đàn ông mà anh vừa gặp), and locational attributives use "ở" (những người ở quê). For example, in case (i), the attributive "bên vệ cỏ nhìn sang" has been omitted in the translation. However, the definitive meaning has been converted into an adverb indicating place at the beginning, so fundamentally, the translation still meets the requirements of expressed meaning

(i)   - ... làm cho ai bên vệ cỏ nhìn sang cũng ...

Translation: 无论是谁.

In the next two cases, omitting the descriptive attributive "cụ" after the noun "dế" appears to be inappropriate. Let's observe the context:

Mấy lần Bé đổ nước, không thấy dế bò ra, đã toan đi nhưng Nhớn cứ khăng khăng:

Tớ cam đoan thế nào cũng phải có. Mà lại dế to hạng nhất cơ. Cái thứ dế cụ nó bạo nước lắm, ngập cả râu trong nước nó cũng vẫn đứng được, phải ngâm nước đến hàng giờ thì dế cụ mới chịu sặc mà nhoi ra. Bây giờ mình phải tìm lấp hết các ngách xung quanh cho nước đọng lại trong hang, cu cậu tắc thở, thế nào cũng tuổi ra thôi.

In this context, it is observed that the descriptive attributive "cụ" emphasizes the characteristics of the noun "dế" and its omission may affect the richness of the expression in the translation.

| *Đối tượng phát ngôn*: Nhớn | *Nội dung*: phỏng đoán |
| *Đối tượng nghe*: Bé | *Mục đích*: miêu tả đối tượng |

- ... thì dế cụ mới chịu sặc mà nhoi ra.

Translation: 透不过气

- Cái thứ dế cụ nó bạo nước lắm ...

Translation: 这种蟋蟀.

Regarding the first case, the pronominal noun "dế cụ" denotes an attribute of the object, with a general sense, which was translated into Chinese as "蟋蟀" - meaning the translator omitted the descriptive phrase in the pronominal noun, resulting in the loss of the descriptive effect in the original text. In the second case, the pronominal noun "cái thứ dế cụ" also denotes an attribute of the object, and the translator also omitted the descriptive phrase in the pronominal noun, leading to the loss of the descriptive effect in the original text. Therefore, in our view, these two cases should not omit the descriptive phrase

In the next example, there are two symmetrical pronominal nouns, however, in the translation, the balance has been lost. We recommend re-translation to maintain balance in the original text.

Ta đánh kẻ yếu hơn ta thì kẻ khác mạnh hơn ta đánh ta.

Translation: 即使我欺负弱小,也会被比我更强壮的欺负。 (should be translated symmetrically for both pronouns)

In the case of translating the proper name of the species and the combined species name, the translated work appears somewhat lacking in detail when the pronominal noun "thằng Chim Cắt" is translated into "小鸟" - meaning the

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specific name of the species is omitted. The pronominal noun "bọn chuột bọ rắn rết nào" is a combined species name, referring to a hypothetical object where both parties in the conversation cannot determine its nature. The translated work divides it into separate species, which is somewhat inappropriate for the referential meaning of the pronominal noun in the original text.

Phỏng thử có thằng Chim Cắt nó nhòm thấy ...

Translation: 如果被小鸟发现 …

...muốn không cho bọn chuột bọ rắn rết nào vào trộm cấp được thì ... Translation: 不能让老鼠、蛇 或者蜈蚣进来偷东西…

4.2.3 Translation strategy where the target language's scope is narrower than the source language's (source text)

This is a reverse approach compared to strategy 4.2.2, meaning the translator has added details (or changed details) that result in the pronominal nouns in the original text being translated into nouns with narrower descriptive meanings than in the original text. For example:

... đánh thằng dế nào cũng phải thua ...

 Translation: 和其它蟋蟀打架从来没输过…

Bác là người lớn ...

Translation: 是个强壮的成年蟋蟀了呀…

Đứa độc ác không thể cậy khoẻ ăn hiếp kẻ yếu. Translation: 蜘蛛再怎么凶恶也不可以欺负弱小呀.

Thời bây giờ đứa nào cũng nống lên đi với đi! Translation: 现在的年轻小孩子只是想自己快乐 ……都忘了自己身上的责任了

In these cases, the pronominal nouns in the original text have undergone some changes. The pronominal noun "thằng dế nào" has been translated into "其它蟋蟀" – other crickets, the pronominal noun "người lớn" has been translated into "强壮的成年蟋蟀" – strong adult crickets, and the pronominal noun "đứa nào" has been translated into "年轻小孩子" – young

children. We believe that these translations are reasonable in the context of the translated text. However, in the case of the pronominal nouns "đứa độc ác" and "kẻ yếu" appearing in the scene where Dế Mèn talks about general principles, the translator has translated them into specific objects – Spider, so the two pronominal nouns are still translated according to the original, so we do not propose alternative translation suggestions.

4.2.4 Translation strategy to another object (due to cultural issues)

So far, both the Vietnamese and Chinese ethnic groups have gone through thousands of years of development history, each with its own unique cultural characteristics. Therefore, cultural factors are always one of the most difficult factors to translate Vietnamese-Chinese equivalents. In the context below:

Dế Choắt nhìn tôi mà rằng:

Anh đã nghĩ thương em như thế thì hay là anh đào giúp cho em một cái ngách sang bên nhà anh phòng khi tắt lửa tối đèn có đứa nào đến bắt nạt thì em chạy sang...

The term "Dế Choắt" is a common reference to the Vietnamese culture, representing a small cricket. However, in Chinese culture, the significance and symbolism associated with crickets may differ. Therefore, the translator may choose to adapt this term to something more culturally relevant in Chinese, considering the context and cultural nuances, while maintaining the essence of the original text.

Đối tượng phát ngôn: Dế Choắt *Đối tượng nghe*: Dế Mèn	*Nội dung*: đề nghị sự giúp đỡ từ Dế Mèn Mục đích: nêu khó khăn để nhận được sự hỗ trợ

The nominal phrase 'đứa nào' refers to a hypothetical entity. The translator has converted it from referring to an animal to referring to a time, '哪天' (which means 'which day'). This change completely alters the structure of the nominal phrase, the frame of reference, and the function of the two nominal phrases. However, due to cultural considerations, this change in the referent in the translation remains appropriate within the context of the entire story.

4.2.5 Option of no translation

In the translation, there are four nominal phrases that have been completely omitted. To make the

recommendations more contextually appropriate, we will provide the full context for these four nominal phrases.

First is the nominal phrase 'dế to hạng nhất' which appears in the context:

Mấy lần Bé đổ nước, không thấy dế bò ra, đã toan đi nhưng Nhớn cứ khăng khăng:

- Tớ cam đoan thế nào cũng phải có. Mà lại dế to hạng nhất cơ. Cái thứ dế cụ nó bạo nước lắm, ngập cả râu trong nước nó cũng vẫn đứng được, phải ngâm nước đến hàng giờ thì dế cụ mới chịu sặc mà nhoi ra. Bây giờ mình phải tìm lấp hết các ngách xung quanh cho nước đọng lại trong hang, cu cậu tắc thở, thế nào cũng tuồi ra thôi.

Đối tượng phát ngôn: Nhớn	*Nội dung*: phỏng đoán
Đối tượng nghe: Bé	*Mục đích*: miêu tả đối tượng

This nominal phrase indicates an attribute of the entity, conveying a general sense. The translator has omitted this nominal phrase, resulting in the loss of the descriptive effect of the entity in the original text. Therefore, in our opinion, this case should not be omitted.

 The second case is the nominal phrase 'một đấng trượng phu,' which appears in the context:

Đến khi cả bọn Cóc, Ễnh Ương, Nhái Bén, Chẫu Chàng, Rắn Mòng đồng thanh cử đại vương Ếch Cốm hãy tạm rời cái mà ếch mùa đông ở bờ đầm nước và cái sập gạch kiên cố ấy, bước ra, đi trước, bọn họ sẽ theo sau trợ chiến thì Ếch Cốm ta phồng bụng, phồng mép, trố mắt, quát:

- Như ta đây đường đường một đấng trượng phu, hai nhãi ấy chưa đáng mặt đọ sức với ta...

Đối tượng phát ngôn: Ếch Cốm	*Nội dung*: ca ngợi bản thân
Đối tượng nghe: Cóc, Ễnh Ương, Nhái Bén, Chẫu Chàng, Rắn Mòng	*Mục đích*: thể hiện ta đây tài giỏi

This nominal phrase indicates an attribute of the entity, conveying a general sense. The translator has replaced a nominal phrase with a pronoun 我 (I), which diminishes the imagery value of the original text. Therefore, we believe it would be more appropriate to consider an alternative approach.

The third case is the nominal phrase 'những tay võ đồng môn với nhau,' which appears in the context:

Sau có một ban bô lão thượng thọ của đám hội cắt ra trông nom võ đài - một cụ Châu Chấu, một cụ Bọ Ngựa, một cụ Cành Cạch, một cụ Cào Cào, một cụ Niềng Niễng, các cụ ra nói với chúng tôi rằng:

- Thưa hai võ sĩ, đất lành chim đậu, hai võ sĩ qua đây, lại có lòng lên thi thố tài nghệ siêu quần, thiên hạ không còn ai đối địch nổi, thật là phúc cho chúng tôi. Hai võ sĩ là anh em một nhà, lại là những tay võ đồng môn với nhau thì càng may cho chúng tôi và như thế, cái lệ đấu có thể bỏ đi được. Nhưng việc chịu trách nhiệm về đứng đầu vùng này thì phải có một trong hai ngài nhận. Đó là phong tục đất chúng tôi hàng bao đời vẫn chọn tài như thế.

Đối tượng phát ngôn: Ban bô lão	*Nội dung*: thông báo thông tin
Đối tượng nghe: Dế Mèn và Trũi	*Mục đích*: thuyết phục Dế Mèn và Trũi

We observe that the nominal phrase 'những tay võ đồng môn với nhau' indicates an attribute of the entity, serving a descriptive function of high significance, and it is closely related to the nominal phrase 'anh em một nhà' (siblings of the same family). Omitting the translation in this case would lead to a loss of balance in the statement. Therefore, in our view, it is still preferable to honor the original text by not omitting the translation.

The fourth case is the nominal phrase 'kẻ chán đời,' which appears in the context:

Tôi chưa kịp ngạc nhiên, bác Xiến Tóc đã vuốt sừng, cười rộ:

- Tệ quá! Bỏ đi mà không nói ai biết. Đằng ấy đi mấy hôm thì Châu Chấu Voi và Trũi trở về. Tôi kể chuyện đằng ấy vừa đi mất thì họ hoảng hốt lên. Ồ, bạn Trũi giỏi lắm. Ngày trước, Châu Chấu Voi đã giảng giải cho tôi, đến khi đằng ấy tới, cũng nói là đời sống giang hồ thì vui thích như thế nào, tôi cứ u mê cãi lại, tôi tưởng cái số mình lắm tai hoạ, không bao giờ dứt nổi bệnh chán đời nữa. Thế mà đến khi Trũi nói, bạn Trũi nói có một lần, mình đã tỉnh. Tôi xấu hổ nhận ra trong đời mình chỉ mới khó khăn một tí mà đã sợ. Từ nay tôi hiểu rằng chán đời là tính xấu, kẻ chán đời nghĩ là ta cao thượng, nhưng thật không cao thượng mà chỉ là trốn việc và rong chơi...

Đối tượng phát ngôn: Xiến Tóc	*Nội dung*: kể lại suy nghĩ trong quá khứ
Đối tượng nghe: Dế Mèn và các bạn	*Mục đích*: chia sẻ cho mọi người cùng hiểu

In this context, the character Xiến Tóc recounts a long story from the past with the purpose of sharing their inner thoughts and aspirations with everyone. The handling of the translation in the text still maintains the ultimate goal of the statement, so in our opinion, omitting this nominal phrase is justified.

5. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDA-TIONS

Thus, there are a total of 37 phrases appearing in direct dialogues throughout the work, among which 4 phrases are completely omitted in translation. Additionally, there are nominal phrases where not all descriptive attributes are translated, or some are translated using different methods. Chart 1 is a illustrating the accuracy rate of the translation of the studied objects in the translated work.

The translation has accurately rendered 34 out of 42 cases, accounting for nearly 81% of the nominal phrases in the corpus. The language used by the translator is relatively concise and easy to understand, which is suitable for the target audience, primarily children. However, there should be some adjustments to better align with other relevant factors such as context, communicative purpose, and audience.

Based on Mona Baker's eight translation strategies, including: Strategy 1: Translate by a more general word (with broader meaning); Strategy 2: Translate into a more neutral/less emotionally charged word; Strategy 3: Translate by cultural replacement; Strategy 4: Translate by using a loan word or a loan word with an explanation; Strategy 5: Translate by using and explaining a related word; Strategy 6: Translate by explaining and using an unrelated word; Strategy 7: Translate by omission; Strategy 8: Translate by illustration, we propose the following translation recommendations for eight cases that were deemed less appropriate:

1. Apply Strategy 1: Translate by a more general word to capture the general meaning of the phrase.
2. Utilize Strategy 4: Translate by using a loan word or a loan word with an explanation to maintain cultural specificity.
3. Employ Strategy 3: Translate by cultural replacement to ensure cultural relevance.
4. Apply Strategy 6: Translate by explaining and using an unrelated word to convey the intended meaning.
5. Utilize Strategy 5: Translate by using and explaining a related word to maintain coherence.
6. Apply Strategy 1: Translate by a more general word to encompass the broader meaning.
7. Employ Strategy 7: Translate by omission to simplify the expression while retaining the essence.
8. Utilize Strategy 8: Translate by illustration to provide a visual representation, enhancing understanding

These recommendations aim to enhance the overall effectiveness and appropriateness of the translation, considering various linguistic and cultural factors.
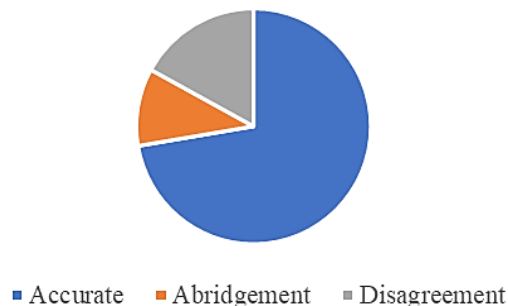

Chart 1. Accuracy rate of translation

Table 4. Overall effectiveness and appropriateness of the translation, considering various linguistic and cultural factors

Original text	The author's translation	Recommendation for Improvement
Mà lại **dế to hạng nhất** cơ.	-	最大的蟋蟀种类
Cái thứ dế cụ nó bạo nước lắm	这种蟋蟀	那种最大的蟋蟀种类
... thì **dế cụ** mới chịu sặc mà nhoi ra.	蟋蟀	巨大蟋蟀
Ta đánh **kẻ yếu hơn ta**	弱小	比自己弱小的
Như ta đây đường đường **một đấng trượng phu**	我	威风凛凛的我
Hai võ sĩ là anh em một nhà, lại là **những tay võ đồng môn với nhau**	-	既是好兄弟又是同门派的
Phỏng thử có **thằng Chim Cắt** nó nhòm thấy ...	小鸟	燕隼/红隼
...muốn không cho **bọn chuột bọ rắn rết nào** vào trộm cắp được...	老鼠、蛇或者蜈蚣	蛇虫

6. CONCLUSION

In summary, the translation by translator Lý Doanh has generally achieved a fairly good quality of translation. However, there are some shortcomings, such as omitting many descriptive modifiers or instances where the original text contains quantifiers but the translation overlooks them. Additionally, when nominal phrases in Vietnamese indicate objects, they are translated into actions or behaviors in Chinese.

We recommend against omitting translation in situations where nominal phrases are used for comparison or description when referring to animals. There is only one mistranslation due to a lack of understanding of the source language, resulting in translations that do not meet standards and are therefore not equivalent to the original text. We suggest that the translator should engage in direct communication with language experts in Vietnamese to discuss and resolve any unclear issues related to culture and native thinking patterns.

These recommendations aim to improve the overall quality and accuracy of translations by addressing specific areas where improvement is needed and by fostering better collaboration between the translator and language experts.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Author has declared that no competing interests exist.

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