Translating Idioms from English into Arabic: Appointment with Death as a Case Study

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Abstract
This study aimed at identifying the English idioms as well as fixed expressions used by Agatha Christie in her novel, Appointment with Death, and how they was translated into Arabic by Omar Abdulaziz Ameen. The study principally aimed to highlight the strategies used by the translator to overcome the problem of no equivalence in the target language. Baker's strategies for translating idioms (1992) formed the basis of the theoretical part of the study. The analytical part comprised Agatha Christie's novel, Appointment with Death (2001) and the translation of the novel by Ameen from English into Arabic. The study concentrated on the most dominant translation solutions when translating idioms from English into Arabic. A lack of equivalent idioms in the Arabic language was one of the outcomes of this study. Further investigations showed that the most prevailing translation strategy used by the translator encompassed paraphrasing. The translated version highlighted the challenges of switching between different cultural, conceptual and linguistic frames of reference.

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College of Languages and Translation

Department of English Language and Literature

Translating Idioms from English into Arabic:

Appointment with Death as a Case Study

By:

Arwa Abdulaziz Assaf Al-assaf

A Study Submitted to the Department of English of the College of Languages and Translation in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master Degree of Arts in Translation

Supervised by

Dr. Montasser Mohamed Abdelwahab Mahmoud

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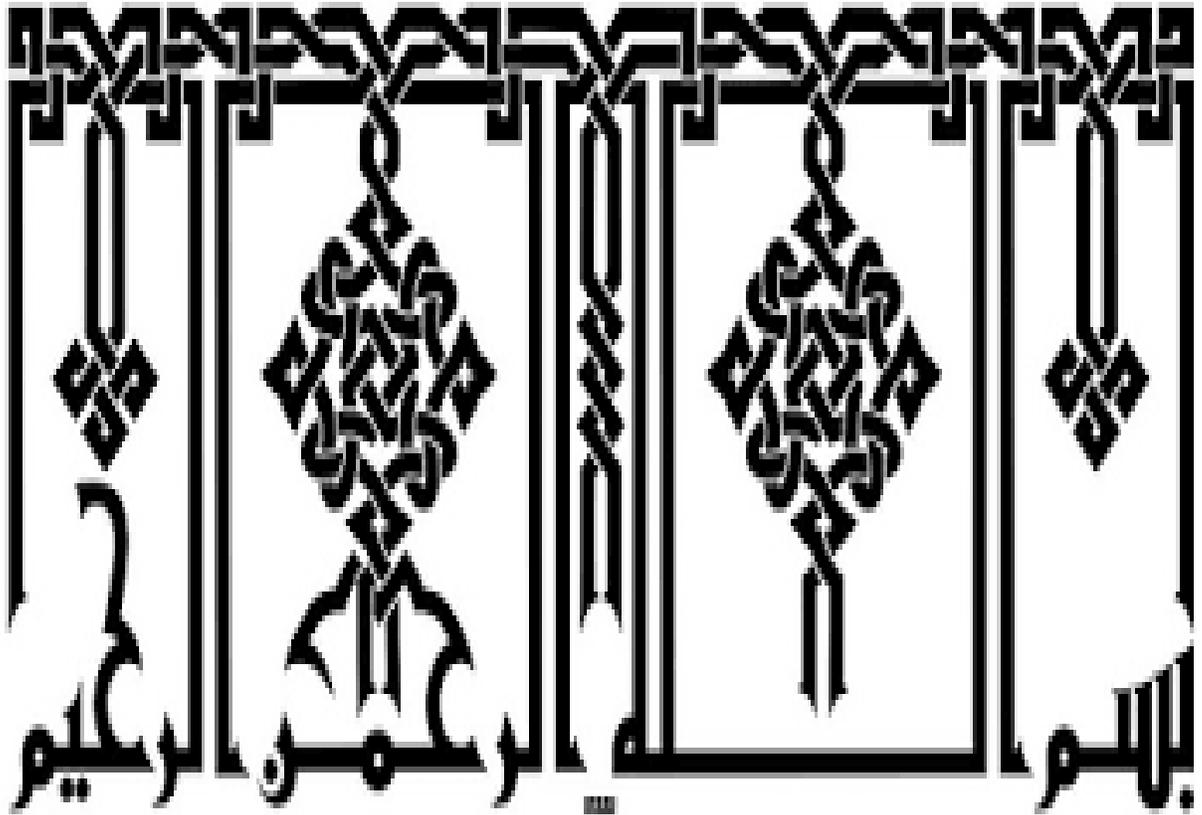
In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

And whosoever puts his trust in Allah, then He will suffice him.

Verily, Allah will accomplish his purpose. Indeed Allah has set a

measure for all things.(*AI-Talaq 65:3*)

This thesis is entitled:

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Written by Arwa Abdulaziz AL-assaf

Has been approved for the Department of English Language and Translation

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Shaaban' 1437 – May 2016

Abstract

This study aimed at identifying the English idioms as well as fixed expressions used by Agatha Christie in her novel, *Appointment with Death*, and how they was translated into Arabic by Omar Abdulaziz Ameen. The study principally aimed to highlight the strategies used by the translator to overcome the problem of no equivalence in the target language. Baker's strategies for translating idioms (1992) formed the basis of the theoretical part of the study. The analytical part comprised Agatha Christie's novel, *Appointment with Death* (2001) and the translation of the novel by Ameen from English into Arabic. The study concentrated on the most dominant translation solutions when translating idioms from English into Arabic. A lack of equivalent idioms in the Arabic language was one of the outcomes of this study. Further investigations showed that the most prevailing translation strategy used by the translator encompassed paraphrasing. The translated version highlighted the challenges of switching between different cultural, conceptual and linguistic frames of reference.

الملخص

هدفت هذه الدراسة الى تمييز التعبيرات الاصطلاحية والتعبيرات الثابتة في اللغة الانجليزية التي استخدمتها اجاثا كريستي في روايتها جريمة في الصحراء وكذلك ايضاح الطريقة التي استخدمها عمر عبد العزيز أمين في ترجمتها. كما هدفت هذه الدراسة بشكل اساسي على تسليط الضوء على الاستراتيجيات التي استخدمها المترجم لتغلب على مشكلة عدم وجود المكافئ اللغوي في اللغة الهدف. وشكلت استراتيجيات بيكر لترجمة التعبيرات الاصطلاحية (١٩٩٢) الاساس النظري للدراسة. كما اشتمل الجزء التحليلي على رواية اجاثا كريستي جريمة في الصحراء (٢٠٠١) وترجمتها بواسطة أمين من الانجليزية الى العربية. بالإضافة الى أن هذه الدراسة ركزت على الحلول المختلفة لترجمة التعبيرات الاصطلاحية من الانجليزية الى العربية. ويعد غياب المكافئ اللغوي لهذه التعبيرات الاصطلاحية في اللغة العربية احد مخرجات هذه الدراسة. وأظهرت الدراسة ايضا ان استراتيجية الترجمة السائدة المستخدمة بواسطة المترجم هي اعادة الصياغة. كما القت الترجمة الضوء على التحديات التي تعوق المترجم لما تحتويه من مفاهيم لغوية وثقافية مختلفة .

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Dedication

To my parents

To my husband and children

To my sisters and brothers

For their support, prayers, patience, and encouragement.

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Abbreviations

SL	Source language
TL	Target language
ST	Source Text
TT	Target Text

Chapter I

Introduction

In recent studies, more focus has been targeted towards descriptive and comparative translation studies.Translation has customarily been seen as an interlingual correspondence though some translation scholars, as Hans J. Vermeer, are energetically against the origination of translation principally as a culturally diverse exchange or intercultural correspondence (Bassnett and Lefevere, 1990).

1.1. Background of the Study

The spread of the human race through the course of time came along with a variety of languages and dialects that created a profound hole of disconnection among the languages users because of their insufficiency in translating the message of source language to their own language. Progressively, this need of having the capacity to understand other languages set the way to the rise of a new discipline, concerned with expressing a language in different words of another language which is known mostly by translation.

Translation scholars as well as etymologists all concur that there is a nearby connection in the middle of language and society. Vermeer (1992) considers dialect to be a characteristic piece of society, whose perspective is shared by Mary Snell-Hornby especially when culture is characterized as "a totality of information, capability and discernment" (Nord,1997, p.23). Lyons (1968), an English etymologist, as well, considers the language of a specific culture as an indispensable piece of its way of life; he also holds that the lexical refinements drawn by every language will have a tendency to mirror the socially vital components of items, establishments and exercises in the general public in which the language works. Similarly mindful of the entwined state of language and culture, Nida (1993) trusts that since culture is summed up as "the totality

of convictions and practices of a general public, nothing is more deliberately critical than the language through which its convictions are communicated and passed on and by which most association of its individuals happens."(p.105). Munday (2001,p.127) reports that "Bassnett and lefevere (1990) go beyond language and focus on the interaction between translation and culture, on the way which culture impacts and constrains translation and on the larger issues of context, history and convention". Regardless of whether those scholars view language as a component of culture or not, they all recognize that language and culture are firmly associated or related. It is, consequently, not astounding that language and culture are here and there discussed as "languaculture"- a solitary substance (Nord, 1997,p.25).

Bassnett (1980) states that Since language and culture are interrelated, and translation is considered as an interlingua communication and additionally a procedure of social exchange, translators are quite often required to be both bilingually and culturally skillful. The translator, as an extraordinary kind of reader and his very own insider society, cannot generally be a passkey to opening all the social locks. He cannot totally rise above the limits of his own social legacy into the universe of the other. He himself, some of the time, may be excessively bolted into his own social state of mind to have the capacity to share different societies. Consequently, the level of trouble and the nature of translation have more to do with culture than with language itself.

"Translation is a sort of action which definitely includes no less than two dialects and two cultures customs."(Toury1978:200). As this announcement suggests, translator are forever confronted with the issue of how to treat the social angles verifiable in a source content (ST) and of discovering the most suitable procedure of effectively passing on these viewpoints in the objective dialects (TL).

The aim behind this paper is to exhibit the intricacy of issues which can be experienced by a translator in translation of idioms from English into Arabic.

Bassnett states that "the translation of idioms takes us a stage further in considering the topic of which meaning and translation, for idioms, similar to puns, are culture bound"(p.32). At the point when two dialects have compared informal expression that renders the idea of prevarication, thus during the time spent interlingua translation of one idiom substituted for another. That substitution is made not on the premise of the semantic components in the expression, nor on the premise of a relating or comparative picture contained in the expression, yet in the phrase. The SL expression is supplanted by a TL expression that fills the same need in the TL society, and the procedure includes the substitution of SL sign for TL sign. Dagut's qualification among translation and production (1980), like Catford's refinement in the middle of "strict" and "free" translation does not consider the perspective that considers translation to be semiotic change. In his explanation of translation identicalness, Popovic (1976) recognizes four types:

1- Semantic comparability, where there is homogeneity on the phonetic level of both SL and TL writings, i.e. word for word translation.

2- Paradigmatic equality, where there is identicalness of the components of a paradigmatic expressive pivot, i.e. of language structure, which Popovic sees just like a higher classification than lexical identicalness.

3-Stylistic (translation) equality, where there is useful comparability of components in both unique and translation going for an expressive character with an invariant of identical meaning .

4-Textual (syntagmatic) equality, where there is proportionality of the syntagmatic organizing of a content, i.e. equality of structure and shape.(P.33)

Though most idioms oppose variety in shape, some are more adaptable than others. A man's ability in effectively utilizing the idiom and altered articulations of a remote language scarcely ever coordinates that of a local speaker. The larger part of translation working into an outside language cannot accomplish the same affectability that local speaker appear to have for judging when and how a colloquialism can be controlled. This gives backing to the contention that translators ought to work into their native language.

However, one cannot face fairly the translator's problems without reckoning with the many and sometimes striking differences between cultures. Cultural differences have a direct bearing on the problems of understanding expression encountered in translation. Everything observed as being different from our own culture is specific to the other culture, whereas a cultural difference between language-couples (that are culturally closely relevant or far culturally closely related or those with only a far cultural connection) is one of degree and not of kind (Bassnett and Lefevere, 1990).

1.2. Statement of the problem

Idioms are considered to be one of the hardest and most interesting parts of the English vocabulary. On the one hand, they are considered one of the most peculiar parts of the language; on the other hand, they are difficult to translate because of their unpredictable meaning and grammar. Moreover, idioms may be culture bound and this may cause even greater problems for the translator. The translator is faced with many complicated hurdles that are not easy to overcome. Finding an idiom in the target language with the same form and meaning as in the source language could turn out to be a mark of perfection for the translator. While each language owns its own idioms, it is still difficult to find its exact equivalent.

Therefore, in order to transfer a source idiom into the target language, the translator must choose the most appropriate strategy. The translator must learn a lot about the function of idioms in the source and the target languages, and the characteristic of idioms in both languages. Moreover, in order to deal with the problem that arise in the process of idiom translation, translators use different strategies. The examination and categorization of strategies is very useful and helpful for the work of the translator.

1.3. Research Questions

To identify the problem and find a solution to it, the current study attempted to answer the following research question:

1.What are the main types of translation strategies used in the translation of idioms in Christie's novel *Appointment with Death*?

2.What are the best and worst choices of translation strategies used by the translator of Christie's novel *Appointment with Death*?

1.4. Significance of the Study

This study belongs to the field of descriptive analytic translation. *Appointment with Death* by Agatha Christie is the source of application of this study. *Appointment with Death* has been chosen because it depends on idioms. It is a detective story by Agatha Christie. Christie states that *Appointment with death* reflects the author's ability to make sardonic references to human lacks and prejudices in funny and rather non-abuser and forgiving way.(1977)

The study analyzed strategies used by Ameen in translating idioms from English into Arabic included in the English novel *Appointment with Death* by Agatha Christie. It focused on the problem of no equivalence in the target language. Moreover, it

presents the most prevailing translation solutions used in the translation from English to Arabic.

1.5. Definition of Terms

Idioms:

Nida (1964) defines idioms as "The most numerous and serious errors made by translators arise primarily from their lack of thorough knowledge of the receptor language".(p.150)

Baker (1992) defines idioms in her book In Other Words as "frozen patterns of language which allow little or no variation in form and often carry meanings which cannot be deduced from their individual components".(p.63)

Catford (1965) states that "idioms and phraseological units should not be considered as "the only possible translation units on the level of combination of words". Also, he defines idioms as "a free combination of words whose source language meaning is built up out of the meaning of its separate components."(p.54)

Equivalence :

Vinay and Darbelnet (1995) define equivalence as "the replicates the same situation as in the original, Whilst using completely different wording". They also suggest that, "if this procedure is applied during the translation process, it can maintain the stylistic impact of the SL text in the TL text".(p.342)

Catford (1965) suggests that "textual equivalence occurs when any TL text or portion of text is observed on a particular occasion to be the equivalent of a given SL text or portion of text".(p.27)

Baker (1992) gives equivalence a new descriptions: grammatical, textual, pragmatic equivalence.(p.11)

Translation Strategy:

Krings (1986) defines translation strategy as "translator's potentially conscious plans for solving concrete translation problems in the framework of a concrete translation task,"(p.18).

 Seguinot (1989) believes that there are at least three universal strategies employed by the translators: (1) translating without interruption, (2) correcting surface errors immediately, (3) leaving the monitoring for qualitative or stylistic mistakes in the text to the revision stage.(p.3)

Loescher (1991) defines translation strategy as "a potentially conscious procedure for solving a problem faced in translating a text, or any segment of it." (p.8)

Jaaskelainen (1999) considers strategy as, "a series of competencies, a set of steps or processes that favor the acquisition, storage, and/or utilization of information. "He maintains that strategies are "heuristic and flexible in nature, and their adoption implies a decision influenced by amendments in the translator's objectives."(p.71)

Fixed expression

Baker (1992) defied the fixed expression as "The extreme end of the scale from collocations in one or both of these areas: flexibility of patterning and transparency of meaning".(p.63)

Cater (1998) classifies the fixed expression as "a type that include proverbs, stock phrases, catchphrases, allusions, idiomatic similes and discoursal expressions."(p.66)

1.6. Limitation of the Study

    For the comparative purpose of the study, this study focused on analyzing, assessing the Arabic translation of English idioms in Christie's novel *Appointment with Death*. The study was confined to the Arabic translation done by Omar Abdul Aziz Ameen.

Chapter II

Literature Review

2.1. Introduction

This chapter reflects a review of previous research related to the main translation strategies used in translation of idioms from the source language to the target language in the light of the problem of no equivalence in the target language. This chapter discusses the theoretical part of the study as well as the previous related studies in the field of translating idioms.

2.2. Translation of Idioms

Idioms can be considered a part of our everyday language. They are the substance of any language and the most problematic part to handle with. Not all idioms have direct reciprocals in another dialect, in light of the fact that they are phonetic expressions which are common for a language and particular to a single culture. It is difficult to characterize any extraordinary methodology in the translating process of idioms since such a large number of idioms are culturally. Translation scholars have been contributing to the field of comparative translation to gain correct models of assessing translations for judging translational decisions and actual translated texts; Baker (1992), Moon (1998), House (1997), Leuven-Zwart (1989,1990), Nord (1988), and Toury (1995) are scholars who contributed to that field.

Baker (1992) provides a definition for the idiom as "frozen patterns of language which allow little or no variation in form and often carry meaning which cannot be deduced from their individual components."(p.63)

Also, Moon (1998) defines idiom as "an ambiguous term, used in conflicting ways. In lay or general use, idiom has two main meanings. First, idiom is a particular means

of expressing something in language, music, art, and so on, which characterizes a person or group. Secondly (and much less commonly in English) an idiom is a particular lexical collocation or phrasal lexeme peculiar to a language."(p.3).

McMordiew (1983) states "we can say that an idiom is a number of words which, taken together, mean something different from the individual words of the idiom when they stand alone."(p.4)

Moon (1998) claims that "idioms denotes a general term for many kinds of multi-word expressions whether semantically opaque or not."(p.4). Idioms are combinations of words whose meaning cannot be deduced from the meaning of the individual parts. They are heavily culturally- loaded phrases or sentences, usually highly specialized in meaning and closely tied to distinctive cultural features and attitudes. Idioms belong to figurative language, in which cultural differences are often mirrored and from which translation problems often arise. Here the term "idioms" is used in its broad sense, encompassing phrase, clause and sentence idioms (proverbs and sayings).

Idioms that are treated as figures of speech are difficult to translate. It is sometimes hard to find the right equivalent for a single word without finding equivalence for a sequence of words that convey one specific meaning.

Fernando and Flavell (1981) state that the method an idiom is translated relies on the context in which it is utilized. We have distinctive and different translation methodologies however the translator ought to see the utilization of which sort of these systems can assist with focusing on language readers to better comprehend the idiom meaning. At the point when translating the idiom of the source; the translator ought to be aware of the sense. The translator may change a few parts of the colloquialism to protect the sense and to exchange it to the TL readers. For the situation that the first idiom does not have its comparable in other languages, the translator ought not to erase

that maxim from his content but rather he ought to elucidate more on it to let the readers comprehend which means better. Fernando and Flavell (1981) state that there is solid oblivious urge in many translators to hunt hard down an idioms in the receptor language, however wrong it might be.

The strategies utilized in this study are those proposed by Baker (1992). Baker (1992) states that it is possible to find an idiom in a target language, which has similar meaning and form as the source language (p.76). This means that the semantic equivalence of source idioms is given to target text, but the lexical item of the SL idiom is not kept in the target text.

Baker (1992) suggests that the meaning of words that constitute idiomatic expressions cannot be understood from the superficial meaning of the individual single words in isolation, or from the constituent words as a group, there are usually some problems in both processes of understanding and translating them.(p.64)

2.3. Difficulties in Translating Idiomatic Expressions

Translating idioms is one of the most difficult tasks for translators. It is not a matter of replacement of lexical and grammatical items between languages only, it involves rejecting the basic linguistic elements of source language text.

Awwad (1990) identifies two major difficulties when translating idioms. The first one is misinterpreting the intention of the writer or speaker, and the second is recognizing the cultural differences among languages with regard to both traditional and innovative idioms.

Bassnett (1980) states that "idioms should be translated on the basis of the function of the phrase: the source language idioms should be replaced by a target language idioms that has the same meaning."(p.24)

Baker (1992) suggests the main difficulties that a translator faces in translating idioms as follows:(pp.68-71)

1) An idiom or fixed expression may have no equivalent in the target language. The way a language chooses to express, or not express, various meanings cannot be predicated and only occasionally matches the way another language chooses to express the same meaning. One language may express a given meaning by means of a fixed expression, by means of an idiom, or by means of a single word. Idioms may be culture specific such as "yours faithfully" and "yours sincerely" in English which have no equivalents in Arabic (Baker,1992).

2) "An idiom or fixed expression may have a similar counterpart in the target language, but its context of use may be different, the two expressions may have different connotations, for instance, or they may not be pragmatically transferable"(Baker, 1992.69).

3)An idiom may be used in the source text in both its literal and idiomatic sense at the same time". Unless the TL idiom corresponds to the SL idiom both in form and in meaning, the play on idiom cannot be successfully reproduced in the TL"(Baker,1992.69).

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 SL and TL"(Baker,1992.70).

Baker (1992) provides that "the main problems that idiomatic and fixed expressions pose in translation relate to two main areas: the ability to recognize and interpret the idiom correctly, and the difficulties involved in rendering the various aspects of meaning that an idiom or a fixed expression conveys into the target language".(p.65) Baker (1992) mentions two cases which might lead to misinterpreting an idiom:

1) When an idiom's literal meaning also makes sense.

2) When there is an idiom in the target language which has a similar form but refers to a different solution.

According to Newmark (1988): "In translating idiomatic into idiomatic language, it is particularly difficult to match equivalence of meaning with equivalence of frequency"(p.28). Moreover, Newmark (1988) provides that "the main problems in translating idioms are not grammatical but lexical, i.e. words, collocations, and fixed phrases or idioms."

Davies mentions a number of problems students may face in translating idioms and fixed expressions:

-Recognition.

-No equivalent in the target language.

-A similar counterpart in the target language with a different context of use.

-An idiom used in the source text both in its literal and idiomatic sense at the same time .

-Difference between the convention, context and frequency of use in the source and target language (2004, p.193).

According to Mollanazar (2004) "The first step in translating idioms is to recognize them. The pitfall for the translators is to translate idioms literally. A word-for-word translation of idioms is often nonsense or even sometimes amusing."(p.52)

For Straksiene (2009), the main problem that a translator faces in translating idioms is the lack of equivalence on the idiom level. All languages have idioms. But it is difficult to find an equivalence in the target language (TL) that matches to the idiom in the source language (SL) in both meaning and form. Idioms may contain a culture-bound item and this poses a problem for the translator.

2.4. Strategies Used in Translating Idiomatic Expressions

Newmark (1981) states that "idiom should never be translated word for word"(p.125). Newmark (1988) states that "for most texts, the translator has to make sure that 1) his/her translation makes sense and it reads naturally, written in ordinary language, using the common grammar, idioms and vocabulary that meet the situation." He also states that "the natural use of language comprises different idioms, styles or registers which are determined by the setting of the text, the author, topic and readership"(p.47). Moreover, he makes a compassion between the translation of idioms and idiomatic translation and says that "reproduces the message of the original but tends to distort nuances of meaning by preferring colloquialism and idioms where these do not exist in the original."(Newmark,1988,p.47)

Larson (1984) provides that "the first crucial step in the translation of idioms is to be absolutely certain of the meaning of the source language idioms. Therefore, the most important issue in translating idioms is the ability to distinguish the difference between the literal meaning and the real meaning of the expression."

Larson (1984,pp.48-49) provides that "a literal word-for-word translation of the idioms into another language will not make sense. The form cannot be kept, but the receptor language word or phrase which has the equivalent meaning will be the correct one to use in translation."

Larson (1984) suggests that "translators who want to make a good idiomatic translation often finds figures of speech especially challenging"(p.49).

Baker (1992,pp.26-43) states that the main strategies in translating idioms are: 1) using an idiom of similar meaning and form to the source language idiom, (It must convey roughly the same meaning and be of equivalent lexical items); 2) using an idiom of similar meaning but different form (In this case the lexical items of an idiom are not

preserved, it is translated as a semantic equivalent; 3) translation by paraphrasing, using this kind of strategy a translator transfers the meaning of an idiom using a single word or a group of words which roughly corresponds to the meaning of idiom but is not an idiom itself; 4) translation by omission which Toury (1995) calls it "metaphor to 0", as this strategy implies that sometimes an idiom may be omitted, leaving no traces in the target language.(p.82)

According to Baker (1992) translators should learn the various factors in translating idioms, such a availability of an idiomatic expression with a similar meaning in the TL, the significance of the specific lexical items constituting the idiom, i.e. whether they are manipulated elsewhere in the SL, and the appropriateness or inappropriateness of using idiomatic language in a given register in the TL, style, register and rhetorical effect. Baker (1992,p.68) believes that idioms and fixed expressions which contain culture-specific items are not necessarily untranslatable or difficult to translate.

Mollanazar (2004) suggested two ways to translate an idiom: the first is using an appropriate idiom which is found in the target language as its equivalent, the second is when there is no proper idiom in the target language, meaning should be used."(p.52)

Catford (1965) argues that "The meaning of such units is not identical with the total meaning of their constituents and it is impossible to translate such units word for word in most cases. The idiom or phrase is considered as the unit of translation"(p.44).

Baker (1992) suggests that "a person's competence for using idioms and fixed expressions of a foreign language is not comparable with that of a native speaker". She argues that "most of translators working into a foreign language cannot hope to achieve the same sensitivity of the native speakers of a language in judging when and how an idiom can be manipulated."

Gottlieb (1997) taking the contrastive analysis approach, gives the following typology for the translation of idioms:

1- SL idioms matched by TL idioms

a) Convergence (identical at word level)

b) Equivalence (differing at word level)

2- SL idioms matched by other TL lexemes:

c) Single –word matches

d) Formula(i.e. non-metaphorical multi-word matches)

e) Free form (i.e. encyclopedic meaning) (p.319)

Helleklev (2006) suggests four ways of handling idioms:

"1-By translating an idiom with an equivalent idiom.

 2-Word for word.

3-With an explanatory everyday expression

 4-An everyday expression is translated by using an idiom"(p.27)

2.5.Translation of Idioms and Fixed Expression

Both idioms and fixed expressions convey many cultural aspects such as religious beliefs, superstitions, ideologies of different people from different societies and nations. Idioms and fixed expressions reflects everyday speech.

Most of the scholars such as Baker and Carter consider idioms and fixed expressions as being of no flexibility to change in form and grammar. Baker (1992) states that:

Idioms and fixed expression are at the extreme end of the scale from collocations in one or both of these areas: flexibility of patterning and transparency of meaning. They are frozen patterns of languages which allow

little or no variation in form and, in the case of idioms, often carry meanings which cannot be deduced from their individual components.(p.63)

Moreover, Carter (1998,p.66) classifies idioms as a type of fixed expression that include proverbs, stock phrases, catchphrases, allusions, idiomatic similes and discoursal expressions.

Glucksberg (2001; pp.68-69) also tries to explain the difficulty of defining idioms. What separates idioms from fixed expressions is the absence of any relation between the semantic meaning and the idiomatic meaning.

Moon (1998) defines Idioms as "an ambiguous term, used in conflicting ways. Idiom has two main meanings; 1) a particular meaning that expresses something in language such as music, art, and so on, which characterizes a person or group; 2) a particular lexical collocation or phrasal lexeme, peculiar to a language"(p.3)

Baker (1992) states that "words rarely occur on their own; they almost always occur in the company of other words. But words are not strung together at random in any language; there are always restrictions on the way they can be combined to convey meaning"(pp.47-48). Moreover, Baker(1992) states that

> The main problems that idiomatic and fixed expressions pose in translation relate to two main areas: the ability to recognize and interpret an idiom correctly; and the difficulties involved in rendering the various aspects of meaning that an idiom or a fixed expression conveys into the target language. (p.65)

Baker (1992) also states that difficulties are encountered largely in the case of idioms and not fixed expressions.

2.6.Previous Studies Related to Translating Idioms

Teilanyo (2014) conducted a study in order to provide a comparative study of selected idioms in Nembe (Nigeria) and English. The researcher in his study discussed certain English idioms that have parallels in Nembe. His study revealed that idioms in English and Nembe were similar despite the distance between the two languages and cultures. It was discovered that the idioms shared the same propositions but used different lexical items according to the socio-cultural nuances of these people. For example, "*To rain cats and dogs"* is phrasal in structure but has its propositional equivalent in the compound-sentential "*Kana ka bura terigha; buru ka kana terigha*." Alagoa (1986,pp.60,61) gives only a half of it : "*kana buru terigha*". The English uses the local animals "cats" and "dogs". The Nembe idiom uses the equally domestic such as "basket" and "yam". It is derived from the fact that a basket with its holes is incapable of shielding a yam from rain, just as a yam does not have enough surface area to cover a basket from rain . The two idioms express the proposition of a heavy rain. In a few cases, the lexical items were even identical. In some cases, the grammatical forms were different or the images were more clear in one language than in the other, but the two were still propositionally equivalent. The study denoted that some idioms were easily translatable between these languages. It also implied that when an English user of Nembe heard a Nembe idiom that had a similar idiom or proverb in his/her native English language, she/he was likely to make an informed guess of the communicative import, rather than be dislocated as often thought. Therefore, idiomatic usage was an area to be exploited further in subserving intercultural communication and global culture in general.

Nemcova (2013) conducted a study in order to tackle a comparative study of English and French body parts idioms by selecting a group of English and French body

organs: hand, head and foot. The method of this comparative analysis was based on the concept of equivalence between idioms of the source and target language. The analysis was carried out to prove or reject the hypothesis that human body idioms represented an important part of the essence vocabulary both in English and French since human body expressions appeared in a large number of idioms. For example, *Keep one's head, garder sa tete, zachovat si hlavu*. These category covers idioms that have the same meaning and follow the same syntactic structure of a verbal or non-verbal idiom. The English idiom *Keep one's head* with its French equal are an example. The lexical means employed are identical, both idioms used the same body part and stylistically neutral verb with the same denotation. These idioms are absolutely equivalent on the formal, lexical and semantic level. The research showed that English and French shared a similar cultural bequest. Thus, they shared many metaphorical idiomatic expressions. The hypothesis showed that the high numbers of partially and non-equivalent idioms were not similar in the meaning, structure and usage. As a result, idioms that were certainly equivalent represented the smallest group.

Vokacova (2005) conducted a study in order to represent a comparative view of English, Czech, French and German idioms. This study focused on one idiom area-human body. The study adopted the hypothesis that there is more corresponding idioms in Czech and German than in Czech and English or Czech and French. For example, *To be at one's elbow, Byt po ruce, Etre sous la main, In Reichweite/ bei sich sein*. The meaning of these idioms is to be near someone in order to help them. The idiom focuses on the elbow rather than the arm or some other body part. It means either that someone is so nearby as to form a disturbance or in order to readily provide help. Czech and French idioms both use hand in the position of the elbow. The German expression could be translated within reach. The study showed that the idioms corresponding in all four

languages compared represented 13% of the body idioms, which suggested that even four different languages can have corresponding idioms. As a result, Czech and German represented 39% of all the couplets which made them the most several among all couplets as opposed to Czech and French with their 25% of the couplets or Czech and English which formed 14% of the couplets. In sum, the study of the body parts idioms proved the hypothesis that there existed more corresponding idioms in Czech and German than in Czech and English or Czech and French.

Straksiene (2009) conducted a study in order to compare English and Lithuanian idioms, to discuss the problem of no equivalence in the target language, to focus through main translation strategies used in translation of idioms and examined the choice of translation strategies used by R. Kirvaityte. The theoretical part was based on Baker's, Moon's, Newmark's and Toury's strategies. The analytical part was based on two Christie's novels *Appointment with Death* (2001) and *Death on the Nile* (1977). For example, strategy provided by Bakers is translation of idioms by using an idiom with similar meaning but different form in the target language such as he was *like <u>a cat on hot bricks</u>* (Christie,2001,p.64) and *Paprasciausiai jam <u>padai svilo</u>* (Kristi,1998,p.84). The English idiom a cat on hot bricks means to be very nervous. Although Lithuanian idiom has different lexical structure ,but, its definition "darosi neramu" conveyed the same meaning as English idiom. The result of this study showed that translating idioms from those novels required a lot of knowledge about idioms and the usage of different strategies in translation of idioms in literary translation illustrated the variegated ways of treatment of this interesting and difficult part of languages.

Chapter III

Methodology

3.1. Introduction

This study focuses on the English novel *Appointment with Death* and its Arabic translation. It shows the way idiom is reproduced in the Arabic translation of Christie's *Appointment with death.* It provides some basic information about the novel *Appointment with death*, the author and the translator of the novel. It presents the main procedures relating to this study. The main source that has been the theoretical framework of this study is Baker's strategies which deals with idioms.

3.2. Sample of Study

The novel adopted by this study is *Appointment with death* and the translated version by Omar Abdul Aziz Ameen. This novel has another two Arabic versions made by Yusuf Fakuory and Beirut library. It is a work of detective fiction by Agatha Christie, first published in United Kingdom by the Collins Crime Club on 2 May1938. The novel reflects Christie's experience travelling in the Middle East with her husband. The novel opens as the family and the victim are introduced through the seeable of Sarah King and Dr. Gerard, who discuss the behavior of the family. It begins in Jerusalem at the King Solomon Hotel as passengers from different countries check into the hotel during their respective vacations. The rest of the novel takes place in the traveler's camp at Petra. It is about Boynton family headed by Mrs. Boynton and her three adult stepchildren, Ginevra, Lennox, Raymond and Lennox's wife, Nadine. This novel has been chosen in particular because it includes a large number of idioms, where it displays a clever mystery, and reflects the author's ability to make sardonic references

to human foibles and prejudices in humorous and rather non-offensive and forgiving way.

3.2.1. The Author

Agatha Christie was a famous character in the world of literature. She was born into a wealthy family in Torquay, Devonshire, England. She did not go to school in her childhood. Instead, she got her education at home by her mother. She concerned her mother as her main source of courage. Her mother was strongly convinced that her daughter was a great person who had a successful life. After her marriage, she had the chance to visit most of the Eastern countries that gave her an opportunity to write her most interesting novels. The stability of her life beside other factors were the main reasons for her creative writing. She was the only crime novelist to have created two equally famous and much loved characters, Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple. Also, she was the first crime writer to have 100,000 copies of ten of her titles published by Penguin on the same day in 1948 -A Penguin Million. She was the only female dramatist ever to have had three plays running simultaneously in London's West End. She wrote six bitter sweet novels under the name Mary Westmacott. In 1993 a Christie novel, Chimneys, received its premiere in Canada over 60 years after it was written. The Guinness Book of the world record lists her as the best novelist of all time. She sold billions of copies of her work. Moreover, she was a noted playwright and romance author.

3.2.2. The Translator

Omar Abdul Aziz Ameen (1908- 1986) was a well-known Egyptian translator. He was a famous writer and author, too. In 1936, he founded an Egyptian publishing house known as "Pocket Novels". He published the translation of some crime novels such as *Appointment with Death*, *Death on the Nile*, *Towards Zero*. Omar Abdul Aziz Ameen

translated some famous novels such as, Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables* and Alexandre Dumas's *Les trois mousquetaires*. Ameen published some magazines such as *Superman, The spider man, Tarzen, Jokes*, *Laugh*.

3.3. Instrumentation

The analysis of this novel is based on Baker's strategies. Analysis will be made to overview the most prevailing translation solutions used in all the translations from English to Arabic. The Arabic and English idiomatic expression in the novel are listed in preparation for comparison.

3.4. Data Analysis

The data collection in this study depended on identifying English language idioms included in *Appointment with Death* and examining the way by which they were translated into Arabic by Ameen. The basic theoretical part of this study was Mona Baker's strategies for translating idioms (1992).

Baker provides some cases in which avoiding translation of an idiom will cause a loss in its meaning and sense:

1) The translator cannot change the order of the word in an idiom,

2) The translator cannot delete a word from it,

3) The translator cannot add a word to it,

4) The translator cannot replace one word by another one and

5) The translator cannot change its grammatical structure (Baker 1992,p.63).

Baker (1992,pp. 72-77) discusses four strategies in translating idioms:

1-Using an Idiom of Similar Meaning and Form

This strategy contains an idiom in the target language which conveys the same meaning as in the source language idiom and has the same form. The reason of this matching occurs when the source language and the target language belong to the same

language family, sharing cultural similarities, Larson (1984: 21) states that "idioms are often based on stories or historical incidents".

 Following is an example for using this strategy in translating idioms;

1- "A true friend does not <u>stab in the back</u>" (ST).

(<u>لا يطعن</u> الصديق الحقيقي في الظهر ـ) (TT).

2-"He killed his neighbor in <u>cold blood</u>" (ST).

(قتل جاره <u>بدم بارد</u>) (TT).

2-Using an Idiom of Similar Meaning but Dissimilar Form

This strategy contains an idiom or fixed expression in the target language which conveys the same meaning as in the source language idiom but has different lexical items. It is difficult to find an idiom in the target language which has a similar meaning to that of the source language idiom. In this kind, the translator should own a good cultural background about the idiomatic expression to find the correct meaning and a suitable equivalent idiom that has the same function in the target language.

 Following is an example for using this strategy in translating idioms;

1-"How nice to remember your <u>palmy days !</u>" (ST).

(ما أجمل أن تتذكر <u>أيام الرغد والرخاء</u> !) (TT).

2-"He is <u>a big shot gun</u>" (ST).

(هو شخص مهم) (TT).

3-Translation by paraphrase

This is one of the most famous procedure of translating idioms when the translator cannot find the equivalence in the target language. By using this strategy, the translator reduces the meaning of an idiom by using a single word or a group of words which match to the meaning of idiom. In fact, the translator can apply this strategy for idioms that are less culture-specific than others.

Following is an example for using this strategy in translating idioms;

1-"Wrong end of the stick" (ST).

(TT). (أخطأ في فهم)

2-"To keep both feet on the ground" (ST).

(TT) (تبقي أقدامنا على الأرض)

4-Translation by Omission

In some cases, the translator needs to omit the idiomatic expression because it has no equivalent idiom in the target language or when the translator cannot paraphrase the meaning of this idiom. According to Baker (1992,p.77) "omission is allowed only in some cases: First, when there is no close equivalent in the target language. Secondly, when it is difficult to paraphrase, finally an idiom may be omitted for stylistic reasons".

The study attempted to access dependable conclusions applicable to the translation of idioms and the different strategies which were found in Agatha Christie's novel, *Appointment with Death*. The translation was assessed on the basis of achieving four strategies: Idiom to idiom translation in its both kinds Idioms of similar meaning and form, Idioms of similar meaning but dissimilar form and Omission.(Figure 1). Following is an example for using this strategy in translating idioms;

1- "If it's all the same to you, I'd rather take my chances in open space"(ST).

(TT). (افضل استخدامه في الفضاء)

2- "Why do not you just buy him a new outfit and call it a day? (ST)

(TT). (لماذا لا تشتري له لباسا جديدا؟)

Strategies for Translating Idioms

SL(Idioms)   TL(Idioms)

Idiom of Similar   Idiom of Similar   Paraphrasing   Omission

Meaning and   Meaning

Form   but Dissimilar Form
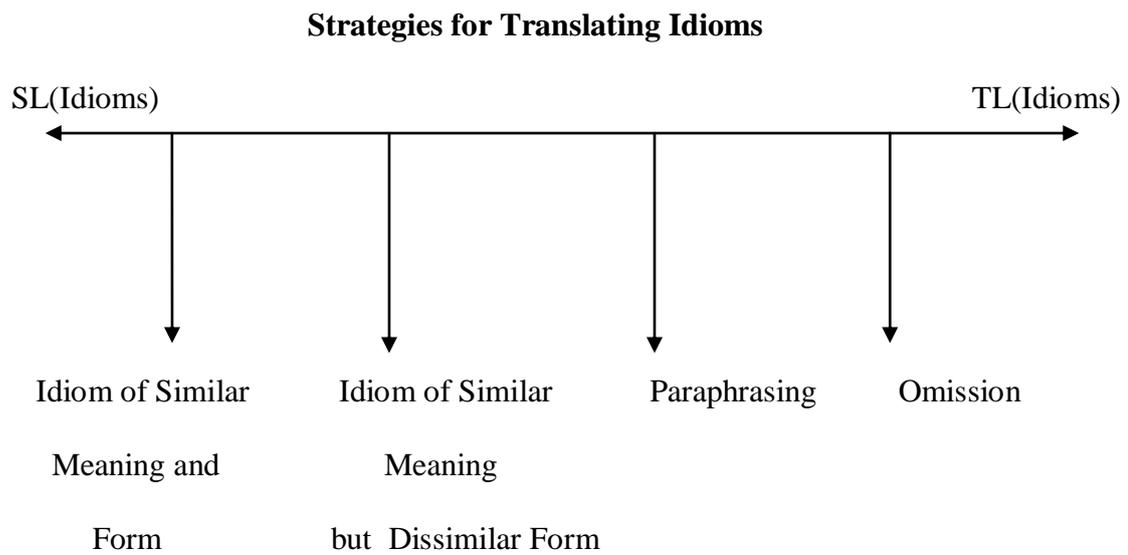
Figure. 1

Four Strategies for Translation Idioms

Chapter IV

Findings and Discussion

4.1.Introduction

This chapter tackles the analytical part of this study which is the translation given by Ameen in the Arabic translated version of the novel *Appointment with death* by Agatha Christie. The strategies that were used in the translation, and a suggested translation to some of idioms if needed will be provided.

The analysis of idioms in the translated Arabic version of Christie's *Appointment with Death* (2001) was based on Baker's four basic translation strategies for translating idioms:

1) Idiom to idiom translation which consists of; a) using an idiom of similar meaning and form, and b) using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form; 2) paraphrasing; and 3) Omission.

4.2. Idiom to Idiom Translation

This kind of idiom includes using an idiom of similar meaning and form, and-using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form**.**

Helleklev (2006) mentions four ways of handling idioms. Unlike many scholars, one of the methods he proposes is a word for word rendering of idioms:

1-By translating an idiom with an equivalent idiom.

2-Word by word .

3-With an explanatory everyday expression.

4-An everyday expression is translated by using an idiom.(p.27)

4.2.1 Using an Idiom with Similar Meaning and Form in the Target Language

This strategy includes an idiom in the target language which reflects the same meaning in the source language. Also, it involves the same equivalent lexical items.

The following example, taken from *Appointment with Death,* matches the above strategy in translating idioms:

Table (1)

Examples of Idioms Translated by Using Similar Meaning and Form

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Assessing as well as explaining the context in which the idioms used
1	I made a fool on myself. (P.59)	شعرت انني ارتكبت اكبر حماقة. (ص٥١)	The idiomatic expression here is Sarah and Dr. Gerard's monologue. It is suitable expression as it expresses Sarah's mistake for her interfering in Mrs. Boynton's family matters.
2	Oddly apathetic. (p.18)	ضعيف الشخصية والميل الى الانطواء. (ص ١١)	This idiomatic expression expresses Lennox's spineless and isolation.
3	Distorted old spider in the center of a web! (p.5)	أشبه ما تكون بعنكبوت ضخم سام قابع في شبكة نسيجه. (ص ١٢)	The idiomatic expression here describes Mrs. Boynton's personality. She is a wicked and bossed woman.
4	Greek head (p. 5)	كإلهة الاغريق (ص١١)	The idiomatic expression expresses. Raymond's external look. His face is very beautiful as Greek head.

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Assessing as well as explaining the context in which the idioms used
5	For <u>standing me</u> coffee.(p.23)	شكرا جزيلا على القهوة (ص ١٤)	The idiomatic expression (standing me)is used to place Sarah's thanking into a standing position.
6	He took stock of them.(p.27)	يختلس النظر الى افرادها. (ص١٧)	The idiomatic expression reflects Dr. Gerard's deep look towards Mrs. Boynton's family and his own analysis towards the members of this family.

The translator in the above examples tried to translate idioms that have similar meaning and form. Idioms in this kind of strategy are translated directly, but should be understood indirectly. They have metaphorical meanings. Moreover, they are all fixed idioms, saying something to mean something else. As a result, these idiomatic expressions own a very important position in the novel in order to understand all the precise details such as Mrs. Boynton's family and their strange behaviors.

4.2.2. Using an Idiom with Similar Meaning but Different Form

This strategy contains an idiomatic expressions in the target language which have a similar meaning in the source text but convey different lexical items. In the examples below, the translator has cultural background relating to the idiomatic expression in order to find the equivalent idioms having the same functions in the target text.

Table (2)

Examples of Idioms Translated by Using Similar Meaning but Dissimilar Form

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Assessing as well as explaining the context in which the idioms used
1	Shied like a <u>nervous horse.</u> (p.22)	ثم أجفل كجواد فزع من شيء. (ص ١٤)	This idiom (nervous horse) conveys a good meaning as it reflects Raymond's behavior towards his family.
2	Her voice deep and hoarse. (p.1)	بصوت متهدج (ص٦)	In this example, it is Carol and Raymond's monologue through which the reader is introduced to Carol's erratic behavior (fear). This idiom conveys a good value for the way it reflects Christie's overall purpose of the novel theme which is death. It is a reasonable translation for this idiom as the translator gathered between two similar words into one simple word.
3	A placid face not unlike a <u>Luini Madonna</u> (p.5)	تشبه في غموضها لوحة مرسومة بريشة ليوناردو دافينشى. (ص ١١)	The reader is introduced to Nadine's personality. This idiom reflects her character which is mysterious and ambiguous person. The translator in this example replaced the original expression of his own, so the researcher though it was unsuccessful translation.

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Assessing as well as explaining the context in which the idioms used
4	She just looked at us as though we were –as though we were dirt! (p. 61)	نظرت إلينا وكأننا حشرات (ص ٩٩)	In this idiomatic expression, the translator over acted at his translation and twisted the meaning a little bit by using more aggressive words for the translation, so the researcher thought he was not successful for this one.
5	What a horror of a woman!" old, swollen, bloated.	ياللهول انها نموذج لزوجة الشيطان ان كان للشيطان زوجة . (ص ١٢)	This idiomatic expression reflects Gerard and Sarah's dialogue to discuss Mrs. Boynton's abnormal personality which is wicked.
6	The strange unearthly smile that <u>lifts the lips of the Maidens</u> .(p 10)	وقد ذكرته ابتسامتها بابتسامات تماثيل الالهه في معابد الاغريق . (ص ١٩)	This expression depicts Carol's smiling which is similar to Maidens.
7	A soft husky voice (P23)	تسمع هذا الصوت الذي يشبه فحيح الأفعى. (ص٤٠)	The idiomatic expression reflects Mrs. Boynton's wicked voice.
8	With the assurance of a transatlantic liner coming <u>into dock</u>. (p.59)	بثبات عابرات المحيطات (ص ٩٧)	This expression expresses Lady Westholme's self confidence even she was in a criminal case. In fact, this idiom is used when there is a criminal case especially in a court of law.

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Assessing as well as explaining the context in which the idioms used
9	Take a snubbing laying down.(p.24)	تقبل مثل هذا التصرف. (ص ١٥)	In this example, it is Sarah's monologue with herself to endure something unpleasant without fighting back.
10	Produced by a cobra. (p.35)	نموذج للطاغية الرهيب. (ص ٢١)	This idiom presents Mrs. Boynton's bad behaviors towards her family.
11	His keen professional glance flitted swiftly from face to face. (p.17)	وتأمل أفراد الاسرة بنظرة فاحصة (ص١١)	The idiomatic expression conveys Dr. Gerard's amazement towards Mrs. Boynton's family as they live in isolation from the outside world.
12	Isn't it rather a fuss about nothing. (p 55)	زوبعة في فنجان. (ص ٨٩)	In this example, the translator paraphrased the meaning of the idiom in the source language to be more clear to the reader.

In this kind of idioms, the translator needs to understand the context only because they cannot be understood in isolation. That is the reason for having them in full sentences. If the context does not help, literal translation of words can be suggested on the condition that it is clearly understood. If not, it must be wrong, and the reader have to recourse to a special English-English (monolingual) or an English-Arabic (bilingual) dictionary of idioms or other reference. So, the translator must be aware at attempting direct translation of any idiom. Noteworthy, some examples are not idioms but they

were used idiomatically in the context of this novel. Also, all these idiomatic expressions play an important role in describing Mrs. Boynton's family and the criminal case in the novel.

4.3. Translation by Paraphrase

This is the most popular procedure of translating idioms when the equivalence cannot be found in the target language or when it seems unsuitable to use idiomatic language in the target text because of the stylistic differences in the source and target languages. This strategy is suitable to idioms which are less culture-specific than others.

Table (3)

Examples of Idioms Translated by Using Paraphrasing in Christie's *Appointment with Death*

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Assessing as well as explaining the context in which the idioms used
1	"I do. she's got a-oh, a <u>malevolent eye!</u>" (p 7)	نعم ، اني أنفر منها وكأنها افعى <u>شريرة النظرات</u>. (ص ١٣)	In this idiomatic expression, the translator paraphrased the idiom in the source text (malevolent eye) to be more easier in the target text. (شريرة النظرات)
2	You poor old thing. (p.88)	يا لك من مخلوقة عجوز بائسة. (ص ٥٤)	In this idiomatic expression, the translator gave more information in the TT to clarify the meaning for his readers such as (بائسة)
3	<u>Rule the roost</u> (p.44)	يعتمد عليها في شؤونه (ص٢٨)	The translator used this idiomatic expression to show that Mrs. Boynton is the boss and manager

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Assessing as well as explaining the context in which the idioms used
			especially at home. The idiom in this expression conveys idiom with similar meaning but different form.
4	The best part of a week. (p.39)	تحتاج الرحلة الى ستة أيام على الأقل. (ص ٢٤)	The translator used this idiomatic expression to show the exact time that the trip needs to arrive to Petra. The idiom here presents similar meaning but different form.
5	Work's a good tonic (p.45)	ليبحث عن عمل يرتزق منه . (ص ٢٩)	The idiomatic expression shows Raymond's opportunity in finding a good job.
6	Have to lamp it. (p.52)	نعرف الحقيقة . (ص ٨٩)	In this idiomatic expression, Sarah asked Hercule Poirot to discover the reality in Mrs. Boynton's death.
7	The rabbit out of the hat (p.52)	أن نكشف غموض الجريمة. (ص٨٥)	The idiomatic expression presents Dr. Gerard's attempts in order to discover the crime of Mrs. Boynton's death.
8	His eyes shone with a green light (p.71)	ركز بوارو نظراته عليه.	This idiomatic expression explains M. Poirot's attempts in order to discover the crime.

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Assessing as well as explaining the context in which the idioms used
9	A wounded dog or a sick horse(p.29)	وبدا له انسان يائس تماما. (ص ١٩)	This idiom expresses Dr. Gerard's first impression towards Lennox's personality which is weak and despair. The researcher though that it was a successful translation because the idiomatic expression reflects the exact features of Lennox.
10	Approaching it from the wrong angle.(p.55)	انما العكس هو الصحيح. (ص ٣٤)	This example presents Sarah and Gerard's dialogue. In this idiom, the translator tried to find the correct equivalent which has a similar meaning but different form.

In these examples, the translator made an addition in his translation. This addition reflects his neutrality which covered on his objectivity at the novel. Noteworthy, some examples are not idioms but they were used idiomatically in the context of this novel.

The translator tended to use this strategy when equivalence is not available. As a result, the translator tried to convey the sense and the meaning of the source text (ST). Toury (1995) stated that "There are plenty of terms used to refer to this strategy: "metaphor into non-metaphor."(p.82)

4.4. Translation by Omission

Sometimes the translator needed to omit an idiomatic expression in the target text because no equivalence in the target text or the meaning cannot be easily paraphrased, or for stylistic reasons. According to Baker (1992) "Omission is allowed only in some cases: first, when there is no equivalent in the target language, secondly, when it is difficult to paraphrase, finally an idiom may be omitted for stylistic reason." (p.77)

Table (4)

Examples of Idioms Translated by Using Omission in Christie's *Appointment with Death*

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Suggestion Translation
1	Had <u>the world at her feet</u>.(40)	وانفصلت سارة عن زملائها ،وتجولت بعيدا عنهم بعض الشيء وفيما هي واقفة فوق مرتفع---------- مستغرقة في التفكير. (ص٦٧)	<u>وترى العالم بين يديها</u>
2	Dr. Gerard, <u>a twinkle in his eye</u>, and quite unperturbed. (p.30)	كان يجب ان اواصل المحاولة ، ولكن الوقت قد فات-------- كان بهو الفندق مسرحا لنشاط كبير بسبب استعداد بعض من النزلاء للقيام ببعض الرحلات. (ص٥٢)	وأضاف دكتور جيرار <u>مسرعا</u> . هذا جعلك كساحرة.

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Suggestion Translation
3	His voice now quietly <u>matter- of- fact</u>: "you do agree, Carol?" (p.12)	لا..لا.. إنها ليست امنا------- ------ هل توافقين يا كارول؟ (ص٧)	توقف الحديث ثم قال ريموند بصوت هادئ <u>وصريح</u>
4	<u>A very distinguished man in his own line</u>. (p.46)	إنه الدكتور جيرار هل سمعت عنه ؟ ------------ ويحسن أن أستدعيه لنسمع أقواله .(ص٧٧)	بالتأكيد انه <u>رجل بارز في مجاله</u>.
5	It's up to him <u>to kick over the traces</u> of his own accord. (p.46)	وهذا يعني أنهم يعتمدون في معاشهم عليها تماما--------- لا شك أن زوجته غير سعيدة بهذا الوضع. (ص٢٩)	إنه من السيء أن يعتمدوا عليها في الوقت الذي يجب على الشخص أن <u>يتصرف على هواه</u>.
6	<u>A creak on the head. (p.87)</u>.	صمت لينوكس لمدة دقيقتين- --------- كنت مذهولا. وفجأة رأيت كم كنت أحمق. (ص١٤١)	ثم قال لماذا قمتي <u>بتحطيم أعصابي</u>.
7	There was a <u>queer ring in her voice</u>. (p.39)	ما رأيكم يا أولاد؟---------- ---- وجاءت الإجابات سريعة متوالية. (ص٢٥)	<u>وكان في صوتها غصة</u>
8	He paused. Gerard heard <u>the even click</u> of Mrs. Boynton's knitting needles. (p39)	إن الرحلة شاقة ،واعتقد ان المسز بونتون لا تتحملها ، ولهذا لابد أن يبقى معها بعضكم هنا ،على أن يذهب	فتوقف دكتور جيرار وهو يسمع <u>ادق الأشياء</u> لمسز بوينتون

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Suggestion Translation
		البعض الاخر لزيارة هذه المدينة التاريخية،انها جديرة بالزيارة حقا--------- فقالت الأم : اننا لا نحب ان نفترق. (ص٢٤)	
9	I believe that is and <u>right off the beaten track</u>.(p.39)	كما أرجو أن أتمكن من زيارة مدينة بترا الأثرية الناشئة في واد من الصخور الوردية--------- انها بعيدة عن العمران. (ص٢٤)	اعتقد انها مدينة <u>معزولة وغير معروفة</u> عند كثير من الناس
10	A man who respects himself <u>strikes out on his own</u>.(p.46)	ضاعت منه كل الفرص ليثبت جدارته بالحياة.------ -لا شك أن زوجته غير سعيدة بهذا الوضع.(ص٢٩)	الرجل الذي يحترم نفسه هو الذي يعتمد على نفسه <u>عندما يكون في وقت صعب</u> .
11	Dr. Gerard hastily raised his hat "<u>I take my leave</u>." (p.85)	كانت سارة قليلة الكلام ----- ---- وترك الفندق. (ص٥٢)	رفع دكتور جيرار قبعتة ثم <u>ودع سارة</u>
12	He doesn't just sit round and <u>twiddle his thumbs</u>.(p.47)	أما لينوكس، فإنه قد انتهى. ضاعت منه كل الفرص ليثبت جدارته بالحياة .------ -لا شك أن زوجته غير سعيدة بهذا الوضع. (ص٢٩)	وقد أضاع وقته <u>سدى وبلا فائدة</u>.

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Suggestion Translation
13	I don't give in to my body! <u>It's the mind that matters.</u>(p.38)	وتكلمت مسز بوينتن بصوت خشن وحزين------------- واختفى صوتها. (ص٢٤)	<u>المشكله في العقل وليس الجسد.</u>
14	Gerard saw Raymond Boynton <u>give a nervous jerk</u>.(p.38)	فغمغم لينوكس قائلا لا أعرف.----------------- إني ارجو أن أفرغ من رؤية كل شئ في القدس خلال يومين. (ص٢٤)	كانت <u>ردة فعل ريموند عصبية</u>
16	The magic of the smile, her exquisite stillness <u>gave him a little pang</u>.(p.30)	تشبه ابتسامات تماثيل الالهه في معابد الاغريق--------- ولكنه لاحظ فجأة ان يديها اللتين كانتا في حجرها، مشغولتين بتمزيق منديل حريري صغير. (ص١٩)	حيث أعطته سحر ابتسامتها سكون رائع مصحوبا <u>بذرة ألم.</u>
17	Presently <u>it came to him in a flash</u>(p.30)	وكأنها تحلق في عالم بعيد عن مدينة القدس،وفندق الملك سليمان---------- ان ابتسامتها الذاهلة، تشبه ابتسامات تماثيل الآلهة،في معابد الاغريق. (ص١٩)	وقد ذكرته بشيئا ما <u>وخطر في باله فجأة</u>

	Idiomatic Expression (ST)	Idiomatic Expression (TT)	Suggestion Translation
18	I think, for the <u>blow to fall</u>. (p.29)	فقد كانت امارات اليأس و الاستسلام ناطقة على وجهه. --------- إن المسكين يشبه مريضا بالسرطان. (ص١٩)	<u>ينتظر موته</u>
19	I weave a story of black <u>magic round</u> it (p.36)	وأدرك في تلك اللحظة المعاني الحقيقة التي كانت تختفي خلف عبارات أفراد الأسرة عند الحديث العادي. انها معاني تنم عن الحقد والكراهية والتمرد المكبوت. --------- وعاد ينظر باهتمام إلى السيدة الشابة المدعوة نادين. (ص٢١)	سأنسج قصة <u>تتمحور حول</u> <u>الشر.</u>

These idioms have some deletion and some adding of the translator, he did not used his objectivity in a right way because he added some parts of his own mind that are not useful for the translation and turned the novel into a new one, and deleted very important parts that are supposed to be the plot of the novel. For example,

Lennox spoke apathetically- without interest. Find it kind of disappointing, do you? I will confess **it struck me** that way at first. But perhaps you haven't been around much yet?

Carol Boynton said: "We can't do very much because of mother". Mrs. Boynton explained: "**A couple of hours**" sight-seeing is about all I can manage every day".

The stranger said heartily: I think it's wonderful you manage **to do all you do**, Mrs.
Boynton." Mrs. Boynton gave a slow, **wheezy chuckle**; it had an almost gloating sound.
"I don't give in to my body! **It's the mind that matters** !

Yes, it's the mind….

Her voice died away. Gerard saw Raymond Boynton give **a nervous jerk**.(p.38)

The previous paragraph is taken from the novel *Appointment with Death*. The
translator ignored to translate this part. This is may be due to the large numbers of
idioms that this novel contain. The translator may think that the translation of this part
would confuse the readers' understanding. However, The researcher thought that this
part should be translated because idioms in this part will add a lot of meaning especially
in understanding the relationship among the members of the family. As a result, the
researcher does not agree with the translator in this part. The researcher suggests this
translation:

تحدث لينوكس بفتور ومن غير مبالاة.

إنها خيبة أمل اليس كذلك؟

أنا اعترف أنها **استوقفتني** في البداية. ولكن ربما بسبب غياب وجودك حتى الان؟

وقالت كارول بوينتون: "نحن لا نستطيع أن نفعل الكثير بسبب الأم .

أوضحت السيدة بوينتون: "بعد مضي بضع ساعات"

التجول بالمنطقة هو ما أقوم به كل يوم.

وقال الغريب بحرارة للسيدة بوينتون:

اعتقد أنه لأمر رائع إن استطعت **أن تفعلي كل ما عليك فعله**.

ضحكت السيدة بوينتون ضحكة بطيئة وصفراء ، وهفتت بصوت ساخر.

أنا لا استسلم لمتاعب جسدي ! ما دام عقلي بكامل صحته!

بالفعل انه العقل...

وانطفئ صوت السيدة بوينتون . رأى جيرار ريموند بوينتون عاكسا **ردة فعل عصبية.**

4.5.Discussion

The analysis of idioms' translation in *Appointment with Death* by Agatha Christie (2001) showed that the translator used more than one strategy.

Firstly, the translator applied all kinds of strategies used in translating idioms in order to clarify the meaning to the reader in the framework of the original text. However, it can be seen that the most prevailing strategy was idiom to idiom strategy in its both kinds, idiom of similar meaning and form, and idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form strategy. Idioms of similar meaning and form comprises 40% of all applied strategies and idioms of similar meaning but dissimilar form comprises 30% of all applied strategies. Secondly, it was clear that the translator tended to use omission in translating some idioms that have no equivalence. It comprises 30% of all used translation strategies. Thirdly, he used paraphrasing when it enriches the meaning of the text. It comprises 15% of all used translation strategies. The following figures will illustrate different preference for strategies by the translator.(figure 2-3).
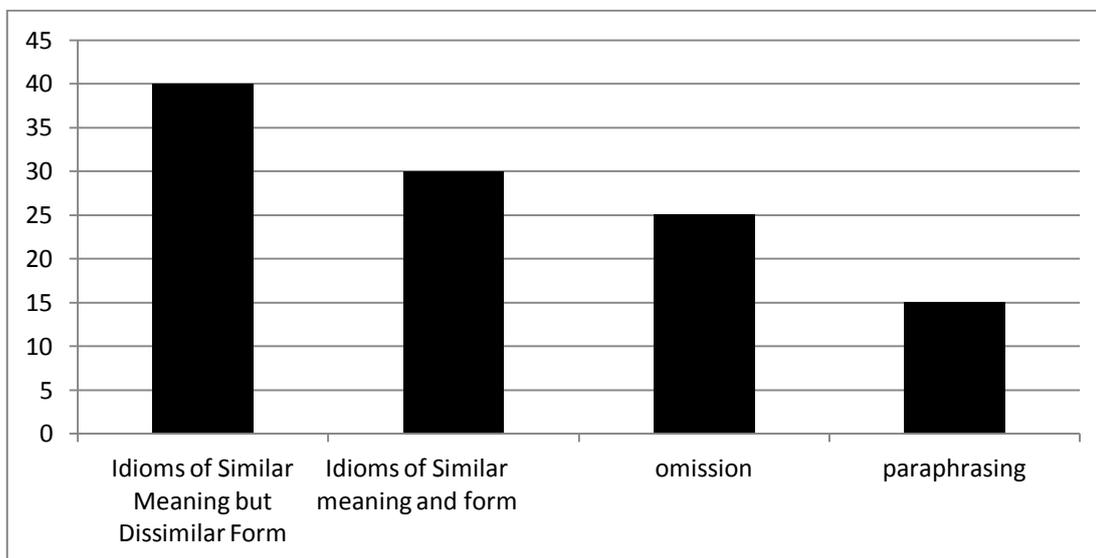

Figure (2)

Strategies for Translating Idioms in Christie's novel *Appointment with Death*
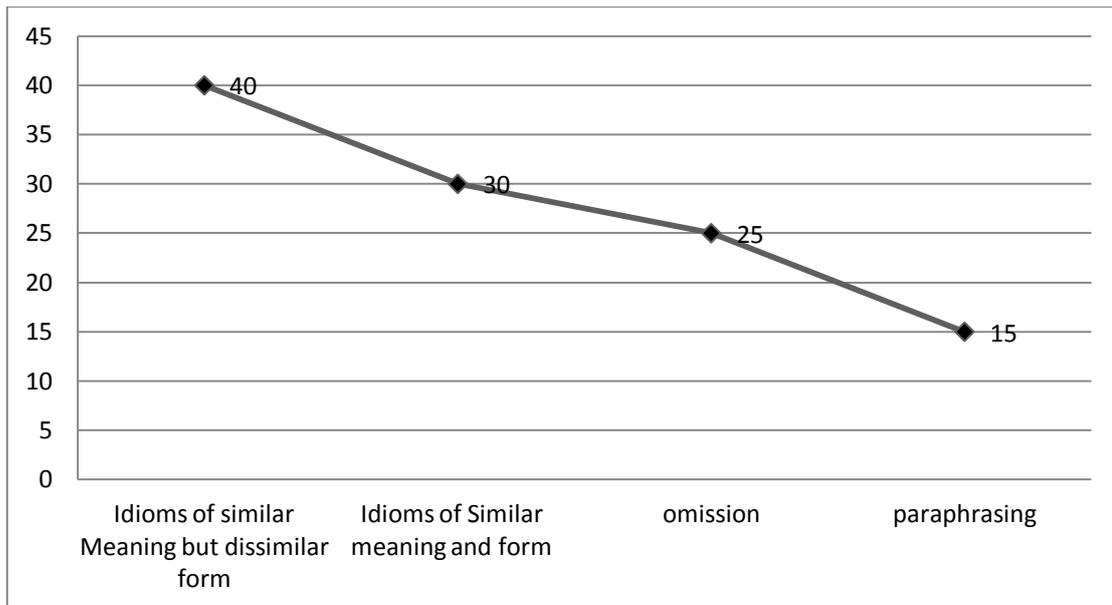
Figure (3)

Strategies Used for Translation Idioms in *Appointment with Death*

Finally, the analysis of the translation of idioms in Agatha Christie's novel *Appointment with death* (2001) has showed that translation of idioms required that the translator needs special and specific ability to recognize and translate an idiom correctly in the target language and he/she should be familiar with source language idioms. Moreover, the translator should focus on the various aspects of meaning and the function of the idiom in the novel since the function of idiom determines the importance of idiom's appearance.

Chapter V

Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1.Conclusion

This study shed some light on idioms translation included in Christie's novel *Appointment with Death* (2001). The translated version made by Omar Abdul Aziz Ameen was chosen for this study to represent the difficulties in the process of translating idioms. Translating idioms are seemingly the most complex and serious errand for translators because mastering a language requires being aware of its idioms and their specific meaning.

The previous discussion has revealed that there are general similarities between the use of idioms in Arabic and English despite the differences between the two languages and cultures. It is clear that the idioms share the same suggestions but need different procedures in order to translate them. There are a few strategies which can be utilized for translating idioms. The translator ought to pick a fitting system as indicated by the motivation behind the translation however in the meantime he/she must put into consideration that nothing ought to be wiped out. Each idiom in one specific language has its own meaning that might be confined to the context as well as the culture of that language.

This study has shown that there are some difficulties related to the translation of idioms and fixed expression such as:

1) An idiom may have no equivalent in the target text,

2) An idiom may have a different meaning,

3) Idioms may convey its literal sense,

4) The different contexts in which idioms can be used.

To avoid these difficulties, the translator should be able to select the suitable strategy. Translating idioms includes four basic translation strategies: idiom to idiom translation which contains using idiom of similar meaning and form and using idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, paraphrasing, and omission.

In Christie's novel, the translator has disclosed certain procedures in order to find suitable equivalence in translations. So, the main focus in this study was to discuss translator's preferences for strategies of translating idioms. As a result, he translated idioms by using idiom of similar form and meaning, and idioms of similar meaning but different form in order to find the meaning of the original idioms. Also, he used translation by paraphrasing to seek the equivalent meaning when a match cannot be found in the target language or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic expression in the target text because of differences in the stylistic aspects between the source and target languages. This strategy causes an influence of interference of another language. In addition, he used translation by omission in which an idiom is deleted by the translator in the target language due to lack of close match in the target language. Using this strategy, may not help the translator gives the translation the correct meaning since an idiomatic expression is totally omitted. In fact, the translator ignored to translate some parts of the novel. This is may be due to the large number of idioms that these parts contain. The translator may think the translation of these parts would confuse the readers' understanding. However, the researcher thought that these parts should be translated because idioms will add a lot of meaning especially in understanding the relationship among the members of the family.

 It is the situation which decides which strategy to be taken. Moreover, the comparison between the source and target texts reflects the most suitable strategy in translating idioms.

The current study focused on grouping words such as idioms and idiomatic expressions. The translation of idioms in Agatha Christie's novel *Appointment with Death* (2001) needs a deep knowledge on both source language and the target language to understand the meanings of idioms and fixed expressions of the source language and the equivalent meaning in the target language beside the strategies in translating them in order to deal with the problems that arise in the process of idiom translation.

With a specific end goal to better translate an idiom, the translator ought to recognize those expressions which are not colloquialisms. At that point, the translator needs to explore the characterization to which that specific idiom has a place and chooses the suitable methodology for his translation. Amid this procedure, the translator ought to be cautious of the instinctive nature and meaningfulness of his content. He would better attempt his best to discover equivalences to exchange both the structure and meaning and be mindful of not erasing the entire meaning when translating idiom for which there is no correspondence for.

The impact that culture has on translation may help to uncover the parts of translation that the abstractly based and semantically based translation hypotheses have neglected to do. Without a methodological investigation of translation and society, any so-asserted hypothetical arrangement of translation studies is fragmented. This commitment concentrates on the treatment of idioms and will reveal insight into the translation of other social specificities. It is expected to introduce further inside and out investigation of relations among culture and translation.

In sum, learning idioms is very important in our life since we find them in many aspects and different domains such as Quran, Poetry, Drama, Cultures, Saying, Novels and so on. Idioms economize the writer's style in writing by using little words that reflect the exact meaning. Another important feature to point out through investigating

the translated version of this novel was that idioms are fixed, which means that people cannot just determine to make up their own. Finally, the glossaries and dictionaries of idiomatic expressions are very important because they help the translator to enrich his/her knowledge in idioms.

5.2.Recommendations

Translation in the field of literature does not have enough studies concerning the Arabic language. Thus, translators should exert their great efforts to meet the needs of the Arabic language. The field of translating idioms requires more depth that what meets the eye. The themes and how they are manifested in the literary text must be analyzed during the process of translation. This research should be useful to other researchers interested in idioms. They can learn different strategies in translating idioms in order to gain the precise meanings of idioms in novels.

Recommendations For Further Research and Studies:

The researcher recommends the following:

1) Analyzing the strategies used for translating idioms in other Arabic translations of the same novel *Appointment with Death* and make a comparison between the strategies used by different translator in order to identify the best translation.

2) Doing more investigation regarding the strategies of translating idioms in other literary works to identify the most common strategy used in translating idioms in the field of literature from English to Arabic.

3)Doing more research for analyzing the strategies used in translating idioms in other fields, such as political, cultural, religious and scientific fields.

4)Practicing idiomatic expressions in translator's everyday use of English language.

5)Focusing on dictionaries concerning with idioms in order to understand the meaning of idioms and the correct function for them.

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