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This paper is an assignment on Module 3, Functional Grammar, as a partial fulfillment for Translation Studies MA ODL. The assignment number is FG/06/06 which is about discussing the translation problems and challenges found in the text provided (Appendix 1) in terms of experiential, interpersonal and textual meaning.

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## **1. Introduction**

The aim of this paper is to consider which of the Textual, Experiential and Interpersonal meanings is causing the most difficulties in finding equivalences with respect to Arabic, the Target Language. The paper is developed to introduce all translation problems in the text accompanied with functional analysis to extract the source of difficulty. The translation problems are categorized according to the metafunctional level and discussed to show why they are considered as translation problems, in which metafunctional level the difficulty occurs and what has been done to solve the problem. A descriptive procedure is then implemented to determine which functional meaning creates most problems. The paper wraps up with a conclusion about the nature of problems within every functional domain stressing out the most problematic one. All the above follow a review about functional grammar and translation problems.

Throughout the paper, linguistic metafunctions appear with capital initials, for example, Experiential, Actor and Theme. Target Text, Target Language, Source Text and Source Language are shortened as TT, TL, ST and SL respectively.

## **2. General Review**

### **2.1. Functional Grammar**

Functional Grammar is "the name given to any of a range of functionally-based approaches to the scientific study of language" (Dik, 1997:3). The study approach of Functional Grammar tries to draw links between language constituents and the role, languages' users intend to implement at different levels of language structure, i.e. semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic levels. A single clause, the fundamental meaning structure in linguistic communication (Butt 2000:33), has three communicative metafunctions, broad function, 1) the Experiential metafunction to

refer to the external world, 2) the Interpersonal metafunction to interact with others and 3) the Textual metafunction to give a message that fits within a wider context (Thompson, 1996:28). To sum up, "a model of FG (Functional Grammar) is therefore represented as a semantic system accompanied by linguistic forms in which meanings are realized." (Mwihaki, 2004:129).

Experiential meaning, which is sometimes referred to as ideational, is "a set of resources for referring to entities in the world and the ways in which those entities act on or relate to each other" (ibid). It has three functional constituents: 1) the Participant which is the role of entities involved, like Actor, Agent, Goal and Carrier, 2) Process which is the expression of happening, like Material, Relational and Mental, and 3) Circumstance like place, time and manner (Butt, 2003:47). For example in: 'the children occasionally play football', 'the children' is the Actor, 'play' is the Material Process, and 'football' is the Goal.

Interpersonal, on the other hand, is about exchanging meanings either by demanding or offering information and services and it is the meaning domain that reflects the producer's opinion and attitude towards the message (Thompson, 1996:38-39). It is the relationship between grammatical functions mainly Subject and Finite to build up the Mood, the major part of the Interpersonal metafunction (Butt 2003:88). The Mood of the above example is: ('the children' as the Subject+ 'occasionally' as the Mood Adjunct+ the present Finite).

Textual domain of meaning is "that by which we are able to construct coherent and cohesive texts" (Birmingham 2004). It is about organizing the message to give the prominence to the first part of the clause as the Theme, while leaving the rest of the message as the Rheme (Butt 2003). The Theme in the example mentioned above is 'the children' and the rest of the sentence is the Rheme.

When texts share the same Experiential, Interpersonal and Textual meanings, it means that they are within the same register (Butt, 2003:9). Register varies in Field which is what the text is about, the Tenor which is the relationship between people involved, and the Mode which is about how the message is communicated (Thompson, 1996:36). Marco (2000:3) states the link between the communicative metafunctions and register dimensions, when he argues that Field determines the Experiential, Tenor reflects the Interpersonal and Mode governs the Textual metafunction.

To illustrate, the following table is the register description of the question text, in terms of Field, Tenor and Mode supported with some examples from the text to highlight the link between metafunctional meanings and register elements of the text:

<b>Field</b>	<b>Tenor</b>	<b>Mode</b>
<p>The text is about how alcohol may affect livers and cause serious diseases.</p> <p><b>Experiential:</b> our liver, alcohol, drinks, free radicals.</p>	<p>The text is addressing public audience who has limited scientific background which gives the producer superior authority to implement the warning tone.</p> <p><b>Interpersonal:</b> imperative verbs, you drink, your diet.</p>	<p>The text is written in a scientific magazine using the second person subject to convey the message through offering information.</p> <p><b>Textual:</b> your abdomen, if you drink regularly for few weeks, so what.</p>

**Table 1:** The register analysis of the text "Pickled Livers"

## 2.2. Translation Problems

Translating from one language into another is a multi-dimensional task that takes place on many levels. A translation problem can be defined as: " a verbal or non-verbal segment that can be present either in a text segment (micro level) or in the text as a whole (macro level) which compels the student/translator to make a conscious decision to apply a motivated translation strategy, procedure and solution from amongst a range of options" (Davies, 2005:164). One of the most prominent problems is the problem of non-equivalency.

Non-equivalency could occur at various levels (Baker, 1992:17). At the word level, finding equivalence for a lexical metaphor is problematic in terms of the Experiential meaning of the message, because what the expression refers to in the real world may change when it is used metaphorically. However, a grammatical metaphor is problematic at the clause level because grammatical metaphor "involves a realignment of all the other elements of the message" (Thompson, 1996:167) which may differ from one language to another. On the other hand, translating collocations is problematic at the phrase level, which is part of the Experiential metafunction. Translating idioms, on the other hand, takes place at the sentence or clause level, because an idiom is a frozen pattern of words that conveys a meaning that irrelevant to its components' meanings. Most of the above problems were encountered when translating 'Pickled Livers'.

### **2.3. Functional Grammar and Translation Problems**

As mentioned earlier, translation is a process of transferring the meaning from one language to another, so meaning is the key word around which all translation issues evolve. Maintaining the different metafunctional meanings proves translators professionalism because Abdel-Fattah (2005) argues "in decoding the message the translator must understand in addition to its semantic aspect, the pragmatic, the grammatical and the stylistic". Therefore, it is preferable for translators to maintain the register elements: Field, Tenor and Mode presented in the three metafunctional meanings: Experiential, Interpersonal and Textual, in order to meet the text's intended effect (Marco, 2000:3).

In addition, register comprehension would help in producing a TT that matches the ST linguistic as well as the context components. Demonstrating the importance of register comprehension during translation, Marco (2000), states: "it both determines

the choice of elements from the linguistic system, and further relates to the wider context of culture, the framework in which linguistic signs acquire their final value" (ibid). To elaborate, register components are demonstrated by the three metafunctions; for example the Textual meaning in Arabic is displayed in a way that may create translation difficulty when translating from or into English. Baker (1992:128) demonstrated this point when she said, "an ego-centered pattern which is perfectly feasible and natural in English has to be replaced in most contexts by a process-centered pattern which is far more typical of Arabic".

### 3. Text Analysis

A number of problems that vary in their level of difficulty were encountered during translating the text into Arabic. They are organized into categories according to the metafunctional level. After numbering the sentences in the text (Appendix 1), problems are numbered in two digits: the first refers to the sentence number within the text and the second is the problem number within the sentence; for example, problem (2.3) is the third problem within the second sentence.

#### 3.1. Translation Problems in the Text

##### 3.1.1. Problems at the Experiential Level

Sentence number	Translation Problem	Problem Description
2	2.2 get into their stride?	Idiom
4	4.1 alone in the lab in alcohol at the kinds of concentrations found in a drinker's blood	Order of Circumstances
6	6.1 free radicals and inflammatory substances	Scientific Terms
8	8.1 propping up the bar	Metaphor/idiom
9	9.2 put away	Non-equivalency
	9.3 a third..... develop alcoholic..... a fifth get	Non-equivalency
	9.5 scar tissue	Scientific Terms
<b>Total: 7 Problems</b>		

**Table 2:** The Translation Problems at the Experiential Level

## Problem 2.2

"get into their stride?"

The idiom "get into their stride" was an obstacle during translating, and, in this case, the difficulty lies in the Experiential meaning of the chunk (Table 3). The Circumstance of the clause does not match what is intended by the producer, since 'stride' means "a long step" (Oxford Wordpower Dictionary, 1999) and researchers are making progress in their work rather than making big steps. To translate this idiom, the translator may either find idiomatic equivalence in the TL to maintain the stylistic effect of the idiom. Otherwise the stylistic impact of the idiom will be lost, if it is paraphrased to convey the intended message. The idiom is translated by another TL idiom which literally means 'put their hands on the wound'. The TT idiom is not a Circumstance anymore, but an Identifier of the main Process of the clause (Table 4), whereas the intended meaning is that the researchers start to find the real causes of liver diseases.

Experiential				
as	researchers	finally	get	into their stride
	Actor	Process: Material		Circumstance

**Table 3:** The ST Experiential meaning of "as researchers finally get into their stride?"

Experiential					
researchers	who	start	to put	their hands	on the wound
Identified 1/Actor 2		Process 1: Relational	Process 2: Material	Goal 2	Circumstance 2
			Identifier 1		

**Table 4:** The TT Experiential meaning of "as researchers finally get into their stride?"

## Problem 4.1

"and soak them alone ... in a drinker's blood".

The way the Circumstances of this clause arranged (Table 5) creates a little difficulty while translating, i.e. direct translation of the Circumstances order would result in a weak structure in the TT. Therefore, reordering the Experiential elements mainly Circumstances (Table 6) was committed during translation to communicate the message with an acceptable TL structure. The TT Circumstances are arranged as follows: 'take the main type of liver cell to the lab and soak them in alcohol at the same alcohol concentration found in a drinker's blood'.

Experiential									
But	take	the main type of liver cell, hypatocytes,	and	soak	them	alone	in the lab	in alcohol	at the kinds of concentrations found in a drinker's
	Process: Material	Goal		Process: Material	Goal	Circ.	Circ	Circ.	Circ.

**Table 5:** The ST Experiential meaning of "and soak them alone in ..... in a drinker's blood"

Experiential							
But	take	the main type of liver cell, hypatocytes,	to the lab	and soak	them	in alcohol	At the same alcohol found in drinker's blood concentration
	Process: Material	Goal	Circ.	Process: Material	Goal	Circ.	Circ

**Table 6:** The TT Experiential meaning of "and soak them alone in ..... in a drinker's blood"

### Problem 6.1

"toxic free radicals and inflammatory substances"

Finding equivalence for 'free radicals'<sup>1</sup> and inflammatory<sup>2</sup> substances' was somehow difficult because they are scientific terms which need to be accurately translated. This difficulty is Experiential, because of the text's specialized field, since finding what these expressions refer to in the real world is the issue in this problem. However, using a specialized medical dictionary would help in translating these terms.

### **Problem 8.1**

"propping up the bar"

This problem occurs, at the Experiential level, out of the metaphorical use of 'the bar' as part of the phrasal verb 'prop up something'. To prop up something means "to give support to something, especially a country or organization, so that it can continue to exist in a difficult situation" (Cambridge Advance Learner's Dictionary, 2007) and the bar is any piece of material, i.e. steel, wood or metal (ibid). 'the bar' in this context may be directly understood as the place where serves alcohol which means 'spending your money and life supporting the business of the bar'. Alternatively it can be interpreted as the human body, which makes the sentence understood as 'whether you will succumb to liver diseases or survive your lifetime propping up your body which is in a bad condition out of alcohol addiction'.

Although the former meaning reflects the text theme, the latter interpretation of the idiom was conveyed into the TL, because it implies the weakness sense of the above lexical meaning of 'prop up'. This idiomatic expression, the post-modifier of the Range of the Material Process 'survive' (Table 7), was problematic because, as

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<sup>1</sup> "An atom or group of atoms that has at least one unpaired electron and is therefore unstable and highly reactive. In animal tissues, free radicals can damage cells and are believed to accelerate the progression of cancer, cardiovascular disease, and age-related diseases" (The American Heritage Science Dictionary, 2007)

<sup>2</sup> "accompanied by or tending to cause inflammation" (Merriam-Webster's Medical Dictionary, 2007)

mentioned above in problem (2.2), translating this chunk into Arabic implied adding more elements to transfer the whole picture, which is basically paraphrasing. The phrase 'propping up the bar' was translated as 'you will survive a lifetime spent in supporting a body that is resulting in falling' (Table 8). So the whole problem evolved around finding what the Range's post-modifier, which is Experiential element, refers to in the real world.

Experiential			
survive	a lifetime	propping up	the bar
		Process: Material	Goal
Process: Material	Range	Circumstance	

**Table 7:** The ST Experiential meaning of "survive a lifetime propping up the bar"

Experiential				
you	will survive	a lifetime	spent	In supporting a body resulting in falling
Actor	Process: Material	Range	Process: Material	Circ.

**Table 8:** The TT Experiential meaning of "survive a lifetime propping up the bar"

## Problem 9.2

"put away"

The Process 'put away' meaning "to consume (food or drink) readily and quickly" (The American Heritage Dictionary, 1994) has no TL equivalent that expresses the meaning in one word. So it will be either reduced into the Arabic equivalent of 'drink' which is '?shrab' or explained in more words. The problem, in this case, is Experiential (Table 9) because it posits at the Behavioral Process 'put away'.

Experiential				
as	those who	put away	more than five or six drinks	a day
	Behaver	Process: Behavioral	Range	Circumstance

**Table 9:** The ST Experiential meaning of "as those who put ... a day"

### Problem 9.3

"A third...develop alcoholic...a fifth get"

The Processes 'develop' and 'get' are used collocatively with diseases. 'develop a disease' means to become affected with a disease (The American Heritage Dictionary, 1994), while 'get a disease' means to catch or to contract (Oxford Collocations Dictionary, 2002). Both Processes are Material, i.e. share the same Experiential elements (Table 10), yet slightly different. Therefore, translating them was problematic because both have one TL equivalent which is 'yuSaab" literary means 'to be hit by' (Al-Mawrid Dictionary, 2004). In other words, using one alternative for both Processes caused partial meaning loss at the Experiential level.

Experiential						
A third of heavy drinkers—loosely..... a day		develop		alcoholic hepatitis, a life-threatening..... condition		
Actor		Process: Material		Goal		
Experiential						
and	a fifth	get	the fatal accumulation of scar tissue	that	is	cirrhosis
	Actor	Process; Material	Goal	Carrier	Process: Relational	Attribute

**Table 10:** The ST Experiential meaning of " a third..... develop alcoholic..... a fifth get.."

### Problem 9.5

"scar tissue<sup>3</sup>"

Another scientific term that was difficult to translate because of the specialized meaning of this noun group within the Experiential level. This difficulty comes out of the specialized field of the text as a medical article about the harmful effects of alcohol drinking.

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<sup>3</sup> " Dense, fibrous connective tissue that forms over a healed wound or cut" (*American Heritage Stedman's Medical Dictionary*, 2007)

### 3.1.2. Problems at the Interpersonal Level

Sentence number	Translation Problem	Problem Description
9	9.1 loosely	Modality
	9.4 a life threatening inflammatory condition	Additional phrase
<b>Total: 2 problems</b>		

**Table 11:** The Translation Problems at the Interpersonal Level

#### Problem 9.1

"loosely"

The Modal Adjunct 'loosely' caused an obstacle during translation. The collocation of 'loosely' meaning "without regard to specific details or exceptions" (WordNet Dictionary, 2007) and 'define' meaning "determine the nature of" (ibid) has no direct equivalent collocation, in the TL, that conveys the same meaning. This difficulty is out of the Interpersonal meaning (Table12) of the clause because it is aroused out of the use of the Modal Adjunct 'loosely'. This corresponds to what Abdel-Fattah (2005:31) describes as: "translating modalized expressions from English into Arabic and vice versa imposes a special difficulty on the translator for many reasons including, apart from the general problematics of the subject, the fact that Arabic does not have a defined modal system.". Translating this comment modal is quite difficult because modals reflect the producer position towards the message. In other words, modals are difficult to translate because of the level of the subjectivity that they hold (Birmingham 2004). So accurate translation of 'loosely' was hard to achieve; it is translated as 'randomly', but expanded in a phrase that literally means 'in a shape of randomly'.

Interpersonal		
loosely (drinkers)	defined	on both sides of the Atlantic
Mood Adjunct+ (Subject) + Finite (Past)	Predicator	Adjunct: Place
Mood	Residue	

**Table 12:** The ST Interpersonal meaning of "loosely defined... a day"

## Problem 9.4

"a life threatening inflammatory condition"

This noun phrase is added to give more information about alcoholic hepatitis, because of the Tenor of the text. The text is addressing unspecialized readers to educate them about liver diseases in relation to alcohol. For this reason, the writer tends to explain some of the scientific terms. So the Interpersonal meaning of the expression mainly the second Complement of the Predicator (Table 13), is communicated in a structure that caused translation problem. To illustrate, the structure of the sentence would not be followed during translation because in Arabic a Predicator, which is 'mean', has to be added to this noun phrase to convey the meaning properly. The back translation of the TT is 'hit by alcoholic hepatitis which means endangered health condition'.

Interpersonal			
A third of heavy drinkers—loosely..... a day	develop	alcoholic hepatitis	a life-threatening..... condition
Subject+ Finite (Present)	Predicator	Complement 1	Complement 2
Mood	Residue		

**Table 13:** The ST Interpersonal meaning of "a third....a life threatening inflammatory condition"

### 3.1.3. Problems at Mixed Levels

#### 3.1.3.1. At Experiential/Interpersonal Level

Sentence number	Translation Problem	Problem Description
2	2.1. one size-fits-all boozing guidelines	Adjective use (metaphor+ Collocation)
3	3.3 scarred	Metaphor
<b>Total: 2 Problem</b>		

**Table 14:** The Translation Problems at the Experiential/Interpersonal level.

#### Problem 2.1

"one size-fits-all boozing guidelines,"

The multi-word adjective 'one-size-fits-all', which is an American informal complex expression meaning "suitable for everyone or every purpose" (Cambridge Advance Learner's Dictionary, 2007), collocates with 'boozing guidelines' which causes a difficulty in finding the appropriate equivalence for this collocation. Because boozing, meaning drinking alcoholic beverages excessively or chronically (American Heritage Dictionary, 2007), metaphorically accompanied 'guidelines' which is the one-size-fits-all, meanwhile boozing does not have guidelines in the real life, at least in the Arabic speaking culture, which makes translating this noun phrase a little bit difficult. So the difficulty occurs at the phrase level within the Experiential meaning (Table 15), because boozing may have one size-fits-all guidelines in the SL culture, but not in the TL culture. The overall objective of the text is to prove that boozing guidelines are not one-size-fits-all, which is part of the Interpersonal meaning, since the expression is used to reflect what the writer wants to prove against boozing guidelines. Consequently translating this clause would result in obscurity in TT, if translated directly because the whole concept of boozing guidelines does not occur in the target culture. The clause literally translated as 'is it possible to be the end of (boozing fits all) idea" which caused partial loss of the Interpersonal meaning of the clause.

<b>Experiential</b>			
Could	it	be	the end of one size-fits-all boozing guidelines
Process:	Identified/Token	Relational	Identifier/Value
<b>Interpersonal</b>			
could	it	be	The end of the one size-fits-all boozing guidelines
Finite (Past)	Subject	Predicator	Complement
Mood	Residue		

**Table 15:** The ST Experiential and Interpersonal meanings of "Could it be the end of one size-fits-all boozing guidelines

### Problem 3.3

'scarred'.

The metaphorical use of 'scarred' is difficult to translate because a metaphor in a language is not always transferable into another (Dickins, 2002). The Attribute 'scarred' is used to describe living creatures not organs, i.e. liver. Thus the difficulty of this expression partially lies at the Experiential level of meaning (Table 16). 'a scared liver' is a quite odd expression in Arabic, but was kept in order to convey the warning tone of the text's Tenor and the authority of the producer, i.e. the Interpersonal intended effect of the ST clause.

<b>Experiential</b>				
and	your liver	may	end up	inflamed and scarred
	Carrier	Process: Relational		Attribute
<b>Interpersonal</b>				
and	your liver	may	end up	inflamed and scarred
Conjunctive Adjunct	Subject	Finite: Present	Predicator	Adjunct
Mood			Residue	

**Table 16:** The ST Experiential and Interpersonal meanings of "Down a..... inflamed and scarred"

#### 3.1.3.2. At Experiential/Textual Level

<b>Sentence number</b>	<b>Translation Problem</b>	<b>Problem Description</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1.1</b> Pickled Livers	Adjective use (metaphor)
<b>6</b>	<b>6.2</b> but the toxic free radicals..... released	Passive voice
<b>Total: 2 Problems</b>		

**Table 17:** The Translation Problems at the Experiential/Textual Level

#### Problem 1.1

"Pickled Livers"

The title of the text contains a lexical metaphor in 'pickled' that arises a shocking feeling and implies a warning tone. 'pickled', as an adjective used metaphorically, was problematic during translation because word-for-word translation

would not give the overall message of the text. 'muKhallalah' is the literal translation of 'pickled, but 'muKhammarah' have been used, meaning 'brewed' (Al-Mawrid Dictionary, 2004), which is derived from the Arabic word 'Khamr' meaning 'alcohol', to summarize the whole Theme behind the text. The text is all about emphasizing the fact that drinking alcohol is the main reason for developing liver diseases, and by using 'muKhammarah' instead, the message of the text is strongly communicated at the early stage of the title. This difficulty of maintaining the whole message through the title is at the Experiential and the Textual meaning of 'pickled'.

### **Problem 6.2**

"but the toxic free radicals...released"

This problem occurs at the structure of the clause. The main process (Table 18) of this clause, which is (destroy), is deleted and another participle verb 'released' is embedded. The sentence is understood as 'but the toxic free radicals and inflammatory substances, which are released as the body struggles to deal with alcohol, destroy the liver'. So the 'radicals' and the 'substances' are the Actor of the deleted verb and the Goal of the embedded one. This duality of the first Participant 'radicals and substances' caused difficulty during translation, because to maintain the intended meaning correctly, the main Process (destroy) has to be retrieved in the TT.

However, the TT's main Process is 'doing' which implies 'doing (destruction)', and the BT is 'but the toxic free radicals and inflammatory substances, which are released when the body struggles with these alcoholic drinks, are doing (the destruction)'. Having done that, the thematic structure has been modified to place the embedded clause within the Theme (Table 19) instead of being part of the Rheme in the ST.

<b>Experiential</b>			
but	the toxic free radical and inflammatory substance	released	(destroy)
	Actor 2/ Goal 1	Process: Material 1	Process: Material 2
<b>Textual</b>			
It turns out that it isn't alcohol that destroys liver	but the toxic free radical and inflammatory substance	released as the body struggles to deal with it.	
	Theme 1	Rheme 1	
Theme	Rheme		

**Table 18:** The ST Experiential & Textual meanings of "but the toxic free radicals..... released"

<b>Textual</b>	
but the toxic free radicals and inflammatory substances , which are released when the body struggles with these alcoholic drinks	are doing (the destruction)
Theme	Rheme

**Table 19:** The TT Textual meaning of "but the toxic free radicals..... released"

### 3.1.3.3. At Textual/Interpersonal Level

<b>Sentence number</b>	<b>Translation Problem</b>	<b>Problem Description</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>3.2</b> Down a few drinks, and then a few more, and do it again the next night and the next, and your liver may end up inflamed and scarred	Conjunction/Finite
<b>4</b>	<b>4.2</b> But take the main type.....and soak them alone in the lab in alcohol....., and there are no signs of this kind of damage	Conjunction/Finite
<b>12</b>	<b>12.1</b> yet continue drinking heavily, and for....., and you will feel sick	Conjunction/Finite
<b>Total: 3 problems</b>		

**Table 20:** The Translation Problems at the Interpersonal/Textual Level

#### **Problem 3.2**

"Down a few drinks, and then a few more, and do it again the next night and the next, and your liver may end up inflamed and scarred".

In this sentence the use of the Conjunctive Adjunct 'and' in 'and your liver..' may be a source of confusion of the intended meaning of the sentence. The clause 'your liver..' acts as a result of the previous clauses and 'and.....may..' as a Coordinator

Adjunct, does not stress out the intended message, and this makes it difficult to translate. Using the Arabic equivalent 'wa..... Ghad..' meaning, could cause structure weakness and message misinterpretation.

To communicate the same meaning in Arabic, the sentence can be written as follows: 1) 'if (you) down a few drinks..., your liver will end up inflamed and scarred', or 2) 'Down a few drinks, ...the next, and your liver will end up inflamed and scarred'. In the former sentence, the Interpersonal meaning (Table 21) of the sentence is clearer by placing the Conjunctive Adjunct 'if' at the Theme position to support the cause/effect textual meaning. In this case, translating the sentence will be straight forward by using the structure '?etha..... sawfa' which stands for 'if...will'. Also by rewriting the clause in this way the Mood would be changed by having the Future Finite instead of Present Finite. While in the latter sentence, the tone of warning is maintained, cause/effect Textual meaning is communicated and the message is more accurately translated.

Also the overall thematic structure, the Textual meaning (Table 21), of both sentences is influenced by the discrepancy of the Conjunctive Adjunct's position, i.e. by being part of the Theme or the Rheme. Because Arabic Language is a verb-headed language, the thematic analysis of the clause is changed in the TT to put the verbal group (verb+ Future Finite+ Subject), which literary means '(will see+ you)', at the Theme position (Table 22).

Interpersonal					
and	your liver	may	end up	inflamed and scarred	
Conjunctive Adjunct	Subject	Finite (Present)	Predicator	Adjunct: Matter	
	Mood		Residue		
Textual					
Down	a few drinks and then a few more	and do	it again the next night and the next	and your liver	may end up inflamed and scarred
Theme 1	Rheme 1	Theme 2	Rheme 2	Theme 3	Rheme 3
Theme				Rheme	

**Table 21:** The ST Interpersonal & Textual meanings of "Down a..... inflamed and scarred"

Interpersonal				
and	you	will	see	how your liver will end up inflamed and scarred
Conjunctive Adjunct	Subject	Finite (Future)	Predicator	Complement
	Mood		Residue	
Textual				
and ( will see+ you)	how your liver	will end up inflamed and scarred		
	Theme 1	Rheme 1		
Theme	Rheme			

**Table 22:** The TT Interpersonal & Textual meanings of "Down a..... inflamed and scarred"

#### Problem 4.2

"But take the main type..., and there are no signs of this kind of damage"

This problem resembles the previous problem 3.2 above and mainly residues at the Conjunctive Adjunct of the last clause. This problem occurred because using the Conjunctive Adjunct 'and', in this case, needs to accompany Future Finite in Arabic, in order to communicate the intended message. The use of 'and' as a Conjunctive Adjunct, with the Present Finite, in the last clause creates a translation problem that is generated out of the Interpersonal and the Textual meanings (Table 23). The problem could be solved by restructuring the last clause, through adding a Material Process meaning 'discover' in future Finite instead of the Existential Process

in present Finite 'there are' to read the TT clause as "and you will discover no signs of this damage'.

<b>Experiential</b>				
and	there	are	no signs of this kind of damage	
		Process: Existential	Existent	
<b>Interpersonal</b>				
and	there	are	no signs of this kind of damage	
Conjunctive Adjunct	Subject+ Finite(Present)	Predicator	Complement	
Mood		Residue		
<b>Textual</b>				
But take the main type of liver.....	and	there	are	no signs of this kind of damage
	Theme1		Rheme1	
Theme	Rheme			

**Table 23:** The ST Experiential, Interpersonal & Textual meaning of " But take the main..... kind of damage"

### Problem 12.1

"yet continue .. and for....., and you will feel sick"

In this sentence, the use of 'yet' as a Textual conjunction (Table 24) was behind the obscurity in translating the sentence. The pattern 'yet (imperative verb)..., you may...!' is not easy to translate into Arabic because, as mentioned before, some extra expressions need to be inserted to convey the meaning. These added words are 'but if you drink heavily', 'your liver will be infected', and 'this is what is known as liver hepatitis' (Appendix 3). So the Interpersonal meaning of the whole sentence was modified lexically in the TT to produce the intended message due to the Textual conjunction use. Because Arabic language is a verb-headed language, the thematic structure was also modified to have processes like 'become' and 'start' at the Theme position while keeping 'no one' and 'reasons' at the Rheme slot (Appendix 3).

<b>Interpersonal</b>					
Yet		continue	drinking	heavily	
Conjunctive Adjunct	No Finite+ No Subject	Predicator	Compliment	Adjunct: Manner	
	Mood	Residue			
<b>Textual</b>					
Theme			Rheme		
<b>Interpersonal</b>					
And	for reasons	that	no one	really	understands
Conjunctive Adjunct	Compliment	Conjunctive Adjunct	Subject+ Finite (Present)	Mood Adjunct: Manner	Predicator
	Residue		Mood		
<b>Textual</b>					
Theme			Rheme		
<b>Interpersonal</b>					
Your liver	May	suddenly	become	inflamed	
Subject	Finite	Mood Adjunct	Predicator	Complement	
Mood			Residue		
<b>Textual</b>					
Theme		Rheme			
<b>Interpersonal</b>					
Your abdomen	will	start	to hurt	all over	
Subject	Finite	Predicator	Complement	Adjunct	
Mood		Residue			
<b>Textual</b>					
Theme		Rheme			
<b>Interpersonal</b>					
and	you	will	feel	sick	
Conjunctive Adjunct	Subject	Finite	Predicator	Complement	
	Mood		Residue		
<b>Textual</b>					
Theme			Rheme		

**Table 24:** the ST Interpersonal Meaning of "yet continue drinking heavily, and for....., and you will feel sick"

### 3.2. Descriptive Analysis

In the text, there are sixteen translation problems; seven problems are Experiential: (2.2, 4.1, 6.1, 8.1, 9.2, 9.3, and 9.5) and two are Experiential/Textual: (1.1, 6.2). Interpersonal problems are two: (9.1, 9.4), three are Textual/Interpersonal:

(3.2, 4.2, 12.1) and two are Experiential/Interpersonal: (2.1, 3.3). Experiential meaning alone was behind 43.8% of the problems, Interpersonal alone was behind 12.5% and Textual alone caused 0% of the problems. On the other hand, Experiential meaning caused 68.8% of problems either alone or cooperatively with other meanings (Table 22). Interpersonal generally was behind 43.75% of the problems and Textual provoked 31.25% of all translation difficulties.

	Alone		With other meanings		Total percentage (alone+ with others)
	Number of problems	percentage	Number of problems	percentage	
<b>Experiential</b>	7	43.8%	4	25%	68.8%
<b>Interpersonal</b>	2	12.5%	5	31.25%	43.75%
<b>Textual</b>	0	0%	5	31.25%	31.25%

**Table 25:** Descriptive Analysis of the translation problems in the text

#### 4. Conclusion

After discussing the translation problems that were encountered in "Pickled Livers" text, a number of findings were arrived at. These are discussed as follows:

**4.1.** Textual metafunction did not cause any problems alone but cooperated with other metafunctions in causing 31% of the whole problems. When the problem is Experiential and located at the first entity of the clause, which is the Theme, Textual meaning is influenced, because Textual Meaning is the broadest rank of meaning that depends on the organization of the Experiential and the Interpersonal meanings into a coherent whole (Butt, 2000:134). Textual problems at the Experiential level (Table 17) generally occurred out of clause constituents mostly verbal or adjectival groups, while Textual problems at the Interpersonal level (Table 20) occurred out of conjunctions use that affect the Finite choice. In addition, Arabic thematic system is totally different from the English thematic system, that the thematic continuity in

Arabic is expressed in process thematization rather than subject thematization (Baker, 1992: 127).

- 4.2.** Interpersonal metafunction totally caused seven problems in the text, whereas modality was the major reason behind the pure Interpersonal problems, such as problem (9.1), because Arabic modality system is lexical more than grammatical which means that some lexical modal expressions will be inserted to communicate the meaning sufficiently (Abdel-Fattah, 2005). However, Finite, as Interpersonal element, involved in causing the Textual/Interpersonal translation problems of the text, because using Conjunctive Adjuncts, such as 'and' in problems (3.2) and (4.2) with the Present Finite, created the translation problem. Experiential/Interpersonal problems are culturally metaphorical that the writer's intended meaning, which is Interpersonal, affected the Experiential entities, such as in problem (2.1). To sum up, modality, as Interpersonal factor, was the major cause and quite difficult to handle because of the subjectivity of modals and the difference between the modality systems of both languages involved.
- 4.3.** Experiential meaning, on contrary, caused the highest percentage of translation problems in the text. Seven problems, which are about 43% of the whole problems, were encountered merely out of the Experiential metafunction, because metaphors, idioms, Adjuncts order and specialized terms, as translation problems, are within the scope of the ideational domain. Experiential meaning also involved in causing five Textual and Interpersonal problems.
- 4.4.** The Experiential meaning caused the most problems for two reasons: 1) Having known that drinking alcohol is religiously forbidden in the target

culture, the TL audience would be unfamiliar with the context and most of terms related such as 'boozing guidelines'. Therefore, the field of the text, as being about how alcohol affects livers and causes serious diseases, was the source of Experiential difficulties. 2) The text is medically oriented and contains many specialized technical terms.

**4.5.** Although problems at the Experiential level were the highest, dealing with them was quite easier than dealing with problems at the Interpersonal level. Apart from metaphors and idioms, problems at the Experiential levels were easy to approach, because they are reflecting entities in the real world that could be referred to by most languages. However, the Interpersonal meaning depends on how we, as language users posit ourselves "to show how defensible we find our propositions, to encode our ideas about obligation and inclination, and to express our attitudes" (Butt, 2000:110), which means that expressing probability and likelihood is subjective and differs from one language to another.

To conclude, Experiential meaning caused the highest number of difficulties but the easiest in terms of difficulty level. But the Interpersonal relatively generated less problems, yet more difficult to handle.

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## **Appendices**

### **Appendix 1**

#### Source Text ST

(1) Pickled Livers

(2) Could it be the end of one size-fits-all boozing guidelines as researchers finally get into their stride?

(3) DOWN a few drinks, and then a few more, and do it again the next night and the next, and your liver may end up inflamed and scarred. (4) But take the main type of liver cell, hepatocytes, and soak them alone in the lab in alcohol at the kinds of concentrations found in a drinker's blood, and there are no signs of this kind of damage.

(5) So what is going on?

(6) It turns out that it isn't alcohol itself that destroys liver, but the toxic free radicals and inflammatory substances released as the body struggles to deal with it. (7) What's more, the severity of this response varies greatly from individual to individual. (8) The efficiency of your alcohol-metabolising enzyme, your diet, your Sex, the strength of your immune response and, most surprisingly of all, the number and type of bacteria that live in your gut may all determine whether you'll succumb to liver disease or survive a lifetime of propping up the bar.

(9) A third of heavy drinkers – loosely defined on both sides of the Atlantic as those who put away more than five or six drinks a day – develop alcoholic hepatitis, a life threatening inflammatory condition, and a fifth get the fatal

accumulation of scar tissue that is cirrhosis. (10)But because there are few nerves in the liver, most people have no idea that alcohol is messing with theirs until the damage is in its advanced stage. (11)If you drink regularly for a few weeks, deposits of fat will build up in your liver. These are probably harmless, and disappear with abstinence. (12)Yet continue drinking heavily, and for reasons that no one really understands, your liver may suddenly become inflamed, your abdomen will start to hurt all over, and you will feel sick.(13) This is alcoholic hepatitis.  
New Scientist, 27/11/99:64

## Appendix 2

### Translated text TT

#### أكباد مخمرة

هل من الممكن أن تكون نهاية فكرة أن الإسراف في الشراب يناسب الجميع على يد الباحثين الذين بدؤوا بوضع أيديهم على الجرح؟

تناول بعض الشراب و القليل منه أيضاً ولا تنسى أن تفعل ذلك في الليلة التالية و التي بعدها و سترى كيف أن كبدك ستتتهي ملتهبة مذعورة. و لكنك إذا نعتت الخلايا الكبدية الهيپاتوسيتس في كحول بنفس تركيز الكحول الموجود في دم الثمل في المختبر ستكتشف أنه لا يوجد أي إشارة إلى أي تلف من هذا النوع، فإذا ما الذي يحدث؟

ثبت مؤخراً أنه ليس الكحول الذي يدمر الكبد و لكن الجذور الحرة السامة و العناصر الملتهبة التي تطلق عندما يصارع الجسم هذه الكحول هي التي تفعل أضف إلى ذلك أن خطر هذا الفعل يختلف من شخص لآخر.

فعالية أنزيمك المسئول عن التمثيل الغذائي للكحول و نظامك الغذائي و جنسك و قوة استجابتك المناعية و الأكثر غرابة عدد و نوع البكتيريا التي تعيش في أحشائك كل ذلك مجتمعاً قد يحدد ما إذا كنت سترضخ لأمراض الكبد أو ستنجو بحياة تقضيها في دعم جسد آيل للسقوط.

فتلت مدمني الكحول الموزعين بشكل عشوائي على جانبي الأطلسي و الذين يشربون أكثر من خمس أو ست مرات في اليوم يصابون بالكبد الوبائي الكحولي و هو ما يعني حالة صحية مهددة بالخطر أما خمسه يصابون بتراكم خطير للأنسجة الندبية و هو ما يعرف بالتليف الكبدي. و لكن لأن في الكبد القليل من الأعصاب فالكثير من الناس ليس لديهم أدنى فكرة أن الكحول قد يعيث بهم حتى يصبح التلف في مراحل المتقدمة. فإذا شربت بشكل منتظم لبضع أسابيع فإن ترسبات من الدهون سوف تتراكم في كبدك و هي قد تكون غير مؤذية و تختفي بمجرد

الامتناع عن الشراب و لكن إن شربت بكثرة و لأسباب لا أحد حقيقة يفهمها سوف تصبح كبدك محترقة فجأة و ستبدأ أعضاءك الداخلية بإيلاكمك و ستشعر بأنك مريض فهذا هو ما يعرف بالكبد الوبائي

### Appendix 3

#### Back Translation BT

#### Brewed Livers

Is it possible to be the end of (boozing fits all) idea on hand of researchers who start to put their hands on the wound?

Take some drinks and little of it too and do not forget to do that in the next night and the next and you will see how your liver will end inflamed and scared. But if you soak the liver cell hepatocytes in alcohol at the same alcohol concentration occurred in the drinker's blood in the lab, you will discover that there is no sign of any damage of this kind. So what is going on?

It has proven lately that it is not alcohol that destroys the liver but the toxic free radicals and inflammatory substances , which are released when the body struggles with these alcoholic drinks, are doing (the destruction). Add to that, the danger of this action differs from one person to another. The effectiveness of your enzyme that is responsible for alcohol metabolism, your diet, your sex, the strength of your immune response and the most strangely is the number and the type of the bacteria that live in your gut, all of that jointly may determine if you will surrender to liver diseases or you will survive a lifetime spent in supporting a body resulting in falling.

A third of alcohol addicts, who are distributed randomly on the sides of the Atlantic and who drinks more than five or six times a day, are hit with the hepatitis which means endangered health condition. But a fifth are hit with a dangerous accumulation of scar tissue which is known as cirrhosis . But because there are in the liver few nerves, many people do not have any idea that alcohol may mess with them until the damage becomes at its advance stages. If you drink regularly for few weeks, deposits of fat will accumulate in your liver which may be not harmful and disappear with just drinking refrain. But if you drink heavily and for reasons no one really understands, your liver will become suddenly inflamed and your internal organs will start hurting you and you will feel sick and this is what is known as the hepatitis.