

# Strategy to Solve Translation Problems (A Case Study of College of Education-Dongla University)

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**Abstract:** this study aims at strategy to solve the problems of translation for Sudanese university students College of Education, Dongla University in academic year 2014-2015 during the second semester. The study also aims at identifying these problems, showing different strategies to handle these problems, introducing translation problems in details and suggest suitable solution for these problems. For these purpose, research questions are posed. The sample of these study consists of 30 students who are chosen from the level four students. The analytical descriptive approach is adopted to handle this study. The method of this study is descriptive and analytical method. Also, deals with the analysis of the data and to test the hypotheses. It includes the procedures followed in achieving the objectives of this study and strategies chosen in analyzing data. This data was analyzed in order to reveals the strategy to solve the problems. The study focus on strategy to solve translation problems that used by students when they translate. The study used questionnaire as a tool for collecting data. The findings of the study revealed that the students face difficulties in translation due to some factors such as: grammatical categories, linguistic level, lexical items and there are some differences between Arabic and English Language which make problems. Besides lack of translation procedures and techniques represent problems and Culture dimension and lack of culture awareness represent problems.

**Keywords:** translation, problems, strategy, solution.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Translation helps people to exchange ideas and equipment that cannot be dispensed with in our daily life. So we need efficient translators who will translate masterpieces of art in such a manner that the translated text should be a true copy of the original one and have the same effect without any deformity. One of the responsibilities of a translator is to be clever in choosing names for scientific innovation of every sort of science that he/she intends to translate to his/her mother tongue.

Since English is used as a foreign language in Sudan or in any other Arabic country and as there is no linguistic clubs of English where learners can go and see the latest publication of books, journals and references, the case that will not help to familiarize learners with translation which may facilitate the process of learning translation or any other linguistic or grammatical.

Translation must take into account constraints that include context, the rules of grammar of two languages, their writing conventions and their idioms. A common misconception is that there exists a simple word-for-word correspondence between any two languages, and that translation is straightforward mechanical process. A word – for –word translation does not take into account context, grammar, convention, and idioms.

Translation is viewed as a number of problems of different kinds that require suitable and possible solutions.

### **Statement of the Problem:**

The study attempts to discuss problems of translation of university students at College of Education, Dongla University in academic year 2014-2015 during the second semester.

**Question of the study:**

- 1-What are the problems that university students need to solve?
- 2-what is strategy to solve translation problems

**Hypotheses of the study:**

- 1-there are some problems that university students need to solve
- 2- there is strategy to solve translation problems

**Objective of the study:**

- 1-illustrate the problems of translation the difficulties that face university students
- 2-to show the kind of these problems
- 3-To suggest best strategy for translation

**Limits of the study:**

The study is mainly devoted to give suitable strategy to solve translation problems for Sudanese university students College of Education, Dongla University in academic year 2014-2015 during the second semester.

**Significance of the study:**

- 1-Introducing all translation problems in details.
- 2-Looking for factors and reasons that has relation with the problems and economic translation because variety and diversity are very important.
- 3-give different strategy to solve the translation problems and to show the best.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

**2.1- History of Translation Studies:**

Translation is the transformation of a text from one language into another. So, translation is not just a change, but a transformation of many elements of a text.

Translation studies or translation theory means different things to different peoples. Since 1980, a shift of emphasis has taken place in studies of translation.

There were several missionary societies from various European and American states that sent representatives to diverse areas of South Africa. These missionaries have done some of the translations and printing achievements.

In 1835 missionaries from the Africa came to work amongst the Zulu people. They established their first press in 18 centuries.

The anthropologists have found that establishing methodology for the translation of cultural language is a formidable task. In sixteenth and seventeenth Jesuits were trying to convert the Chinese to Christianity, this needed to express Christianity, western concepts like God and heaven soul and sin, in Chimes, but the only terms available to them were those which echoed Confucian and Buddhist usage.

Translation like any other linguistic activity, crucially involves making sense. The word making is to be stressed. Linguistic expression-form or words to texts-do not have meaning nor do they carry meaning. Meaning is a process, not a product, the process of making sense of linguistic expressions, means specific symbols and there are active processors involved in this process.

Translation is one of the oldest occupations in the world and thousands of tablets were excavated or discovered in Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Turkey.

**2.2-Translation study:**

The discipline of translation studies has a long way. Until well into 20<sup>th</sup> century, in subsequent years, the focus of attention in translation studies moved away from these narrowly linguistic and basically source-oriented approaches. Surely translation studies developed into an independent discipline that emancipated itself from linguistics

Following Herman's, the descriptive and systematic perspectives of translation emerged during the 60s, were developed during the 70s, extended during the 80s, and finally consolidated, expanded and revised during the 90s. Current, TS is considered to be well-consolidated discipline in which many approaches have emerged over last three decades.

There are five approach related to TS: the linguistic approach, textual approach, the communicative, socio-culture approach, the philosophical and hermeneutic approach.

The communicative and socio-cultural approach belongs to the descriptive studies this approach is divided into four subcategories or aspects.

It seems to be safe to assume that some combinations of top-down and bottom-up operations will be required. The results of initial theoretical speculations will thus be examined against instance of real-world behavior and, conversely, empirical studies will be conducted, moving gradually, and in as controlled a way as possible, from individual instantiations to the culture specific, to more and more general regularities on high and higher levels, to generate new, or modified theoretical statements.

Attempts have been made in translation studies. Therefore, calls have been made that works in translation studies should be written in a generally comprehensible language, in the language of average scholarship, as it was. There have been attempts to create a situation in which different translation theories could be compared or possibilities of interdisciplinary synthesis could be searched for.

Some conceptualizations of translation might reasonably be sought in the interdiscipline of translation studies.

Translation studies offer several ways, an inductive mode conceptualization would be set out from intuitively collected historical terms, related to terms of networks or prototypes such approaches can ultimately be neither right nor wrong.

The growth of translation studies as a separate discipline process is a successful story of the 1980. The subject has developed in many parts of the world and clearly destined to continue developing well into the twenty-first century. Translation studies bring together work in a wide variety of fields, including linguistics. This series of books will reflect the breadth of work in translation studies and will enable readers to share in exciting new developments that are taking place at the

**2.3- Translation Problems:**

The term idiom represents a problem in translation, with regard to a target language and a set of translation rules, it follows that no idiom can be satisfactorily translated into this target language. There are some dictionaries and a certain set of rules which accept as standard. It may well be that, relative to this dictionary and to this set of rules, no satisfactory translation of certain expressions will be forthcoming, dooming these expressions to the state of idiom.

Translation problems can also be a result of the lack of equivalence at word level between two languages.

The chief difficulties in translating can be also lexical, not grammatical, i.e. words, collocations and fixed phrases or idioms.

The following general difficulties in any translation:

No two languages are exactly identical in their phonological, morphological, lexical, syntactic, and semantic features.

Translation problems can be divided to the major four problems:

**1-Pragmatic Translation Problems:**

These arise from the particular transfer situation with its specific contrast of source language vs. target language recipients, source language medium.

**2-Cultural Translation Problems:**

It is a result of differences in the culture specific habits, expectations, norms, and conventions verbal and other behavior.

**3-Linguistic Translation Problems:**

The structural differences between two languages in texts sentence.

**4-Text-Specific Translation Problem:**

Any problem arises and not classified as the previous one is classified Text –specific translation.

The problem is that most of the time, these studies do not investigate to what extent the equivalent translations express comparable concepts. There have been many cases in which there are unique emotional terms like (amae) in Japan that do not have equivalent translations in many languages and there also evidence that suggests that emotional experience is categorized in similar and different ways across culture.

Stylistic problem can be represented by purposeful awkwardness in the original that simply does not work in the new language. There's always a danger that it will just read like a bad translation. You can try to convey the sense of awkwardness in other way-by subtly referring to it, for instance, or moving direct dialogue into indirect, etc. - but sometimes you simply have to leave the passage out.

The French translation theorist Daniel Gouadec (2002) has long elaborated a vision in which translation problems are solved by getting as much information prior to translating anything. Gouadec's general message would be that investing effort in various pre-translation phases is more efficient way of managing risk than having everyone translate differently and trying to solve problems as they arise.

We needless to say that difficulties and problems of translation constitute a challenge for the translators. Here are some problems:

**-Discourse Problems:**

The ultimate goal of translation is to preserve meaning. Viewed thus, there is a semiotic interaction of various signs within the boundaries of a text, thought to be of paramount importance for imbibing an utterance the best possible. Such as interaction according to Hatim and Mason (1997:223), paves the way for dimension of context which regulates the relationship of the context.

**- Idioms:**

They pose problems because an idiom is a fixed phrase

**-Collocation a lexical Item:**

Tends to keep company with other words.

**-Transliteration:**

Involves naturalization at the word level where SL spelling and pronunciation are converted into a given language

**-Culture-Related Problems:**

Most translation problems and difficulties are more germane to cultural disparities between languages pairs than to linguistic discrepancies.

**-Technical-Related Problems:**

Conditions of the medium and the reading capacity of non-native language users.

Translation may be described as a problem-solved activity bringing together generative and reductive skills. In some cases, more than one target option may be selected several different translations may be offered. This however, challenges the maxims representation and may be felt to question the translation form.

Where there, in addition to basic options, there is only one target option available, the result may be a translation but there is strictly speaking -no translation problem to be solved.

During translation the translation process, students may encounter many problems. According to Ghazala (1995) these problems are due to either sound and lexis or grammar and style.

**-Phonological Problem:**

These problems are concerned with sounds.

**-Lexical Problems:**

These problems are due to the misunderstanding words meaning. Lexical problems which may be encountered when translating can be classified as follows: literal meaning, synonyms, Polysemy, collocations, idioms, proverbs, metaphors, technical terms and proper names.

**Grammatical Problems:**

Difference in origins causes a difference in grammar and creates wide gaps for translators when translating.

**-Stylistic Problems:**

These problems are concerned with style, as it a part of meaning, and its effect is on words and grammar.

The main tasks of translation studies should be to help solve certain problems this may provide a model of interdisciplinary where the definition of problem precedes and orients the discipline that may be used to solve them. Translation like any field subject which is to technological revolution will tend to invest effort working on problems which has tools, such as the tools that seem to cause both problems and solutions. However, the more properly social problems should be precisely those that occur somewhere outside translation studies.

In our simple model the translator works on the problems until he or she produces a rendition, which is what he puts in translation whatever he puts in the translation can then be regarded as a solution at least in the sense that it is the solution that particular translator proposes.

The goodness or badness of a solution is then a question of the way risk correlates with effort and that really a question about strategies. Translation effort: translators exert effort when solving problems. This effort takes many forms and can be measured in many different ways.

**Translation process:**

During translation process, a translator uses various methods to deal with all difficulties which might arise throughout translating. Vinay and Darbelnet theory earlier translation theorists did not use any exact terms for distinguishing between these methods. However, Canadian authors Vinay and Darbelnet created and named a list of methods, based on comparison of French and English stylistics. The list contains seven methods. While Munday presents model which consists of two methods: direct and oblique translation.

Kolchak and Elkan, (2002: 4) emphasize that solving the single-word correction problems involve three steps. First to identify where is a word being translated incorrectly. Second step is to identify the correct translation for that word. Finally given an incorrect translation and the appropriate correct translation, the third step is to generate rule capable of making corrections in new sentence.

There are several methods of translation According to Ghazala (1995:163) the methods are: Transcription or Arabization, naturalization, is the attempt to adopt English terms to morphology of Arabic word structure. Ghazala (1995) suggested that coinage is the best method. This method aims at presenting new terms in the Arabic language. Derivation is based on measurement; it aims at using certain measures found in Arabic language to derive new terms, Revival attempts to put back into use old Arabic words and Neologisms introducing new terms into Arabic.

Amer, (2003:8) states that there are many methods of translation these methods are:

- 1-Word-for-word translation: In which the words translated singly.
- 2-Literaltranslation: In which the SL grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest TL equivalents.
- 3-Faithful translation: It produces the precise contextual meaning of the original.
- 4-Semantic translation: it must take more account of aesthetic value of the SL text.
- 5-Adaptation: Which is the freest form of translation and used for poetry, themes and characters.

6-Free translation: It produces the TL text without the style form of the original.

7-Idiomatic translation: It reproduces the message of the original.

8-Communicative translation: It renders the exact contextual meaning of the original.

According to Baker (1987:186) transcription and naturalization has not received acceptance from the language purists because they threaten the identity of Arab. Baker said Arabic language word root system is built up on three fundamental consonant roots; each one holds a given meaning. The roots are used for production of nominal and verbal forms by adding prefixes, suffixes, infixes and vowel and in support of this method he claimed that it makes understanding of the meaning of the terms easier for readers since they inherited them from the root. Neologism this method according to Baker (1987) enjoys much acceptance.

### 3. MATERIALS AND METHODS

#### 3-1-Method of the study:

This study follows descriptive analytical method

#### 3-2-Population of the Study:

Population includes all members of a defined group that we are studying or collecting information for data. Population includes Sudanese university student who study translation courses in the academic year 2014-2015 in the Department of English in the College of Education, Dongla University. The students are 20 years old with Arabic as their mother tongue. All the subjects of the study are Sudanese male college students

#### 3-3-Sample of the study:

30 students are randomly chosen to conduct a questionnaire

#### 3-4-Instruments:

The data of this study are collected through questionnaire. The questionnaire is designed for the students chosen as a sample population.

#### 3-5-Questionnaire:

The questionnaire deals with translation problems and strategy to solve them. It consists of five statements; each discuss strategy to solve problem

### 4. DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter deals with analysis of questionnaire, the following is the study of questionnaire and its results.

#### 1-Strategy to Solve Problems:

Table: 1

Use appropriate translation method

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly agree	10	47.6	50.0	50.0
Agree	9	42.9	45.0	95.0
Strongly dis agree	1	4.8	5.0	100.0
Total	20	95.2	100.0	
Missing System	1	4.8		
Total	21	100.0		

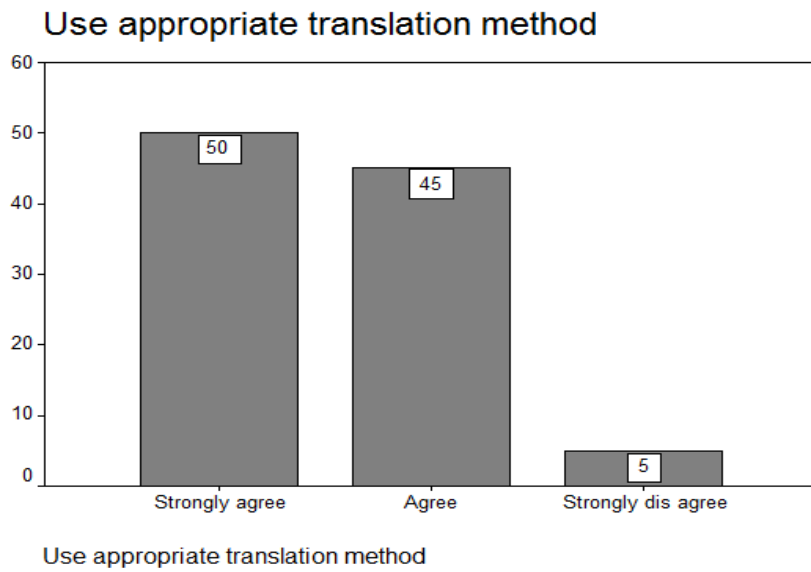


Fig: 1

Table: 2

**Avoiding word - for- word translation**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	11	52.4	55.0	55.0
	Agree	5	23.8	25.0	80.0
	Idon.t know	1	4.8	5.0	85.0
	Dis agree	1	4.8	5.0	90.0
	Strongly dis agree	2	9.5	10.0	100.0
	Total	20	95.2	100.0	
Missing	System	1	4.8		
Total		21	100.0		

**Avoiding word - for- word translation**

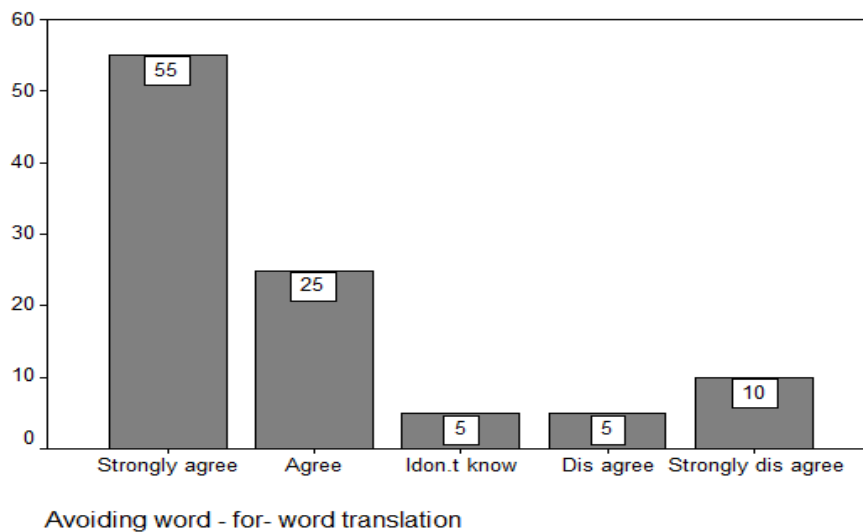


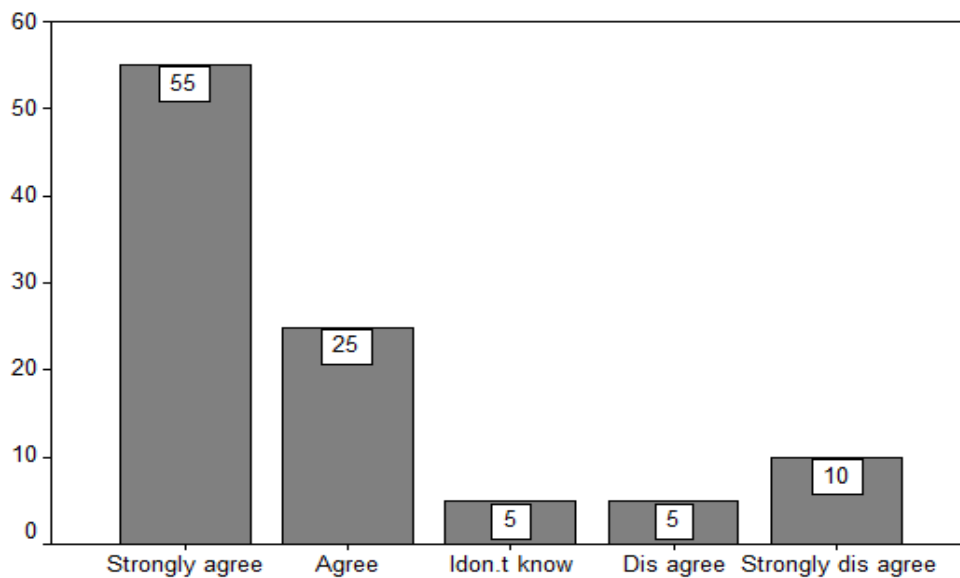
Fig: 2

Table: 3

## Consulting dietionaries

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	11	52.4	55.0	55.0
	Agree	5	23.8	25.0	80.0
	Idon.t know	1	4.8	5.0	85.0
	Dis agree	1	4.8	5.0	90.0
	Strongly dis agree	2	9.5	10.0	100.0
	Total	20	95.2	100.0	
Missing	System	1	4.8		
Total		21	100.0		

## Consulting dietionaries



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Fig: 3

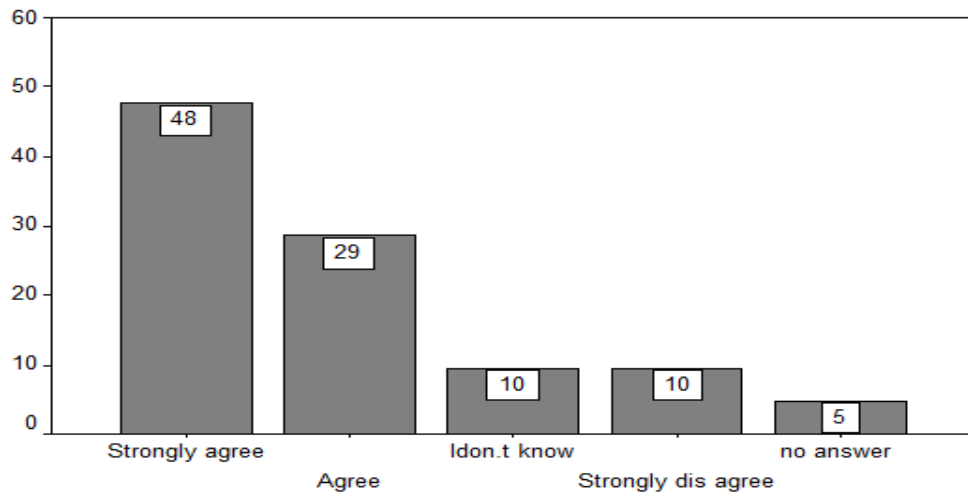
Table: 4

## Inferring translation from context

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly agree	10	47.6	47.6	47.6
	Agree	6	28.6	28.6	76.2
	Idon.t know	2	9.5	9.5	85.7
	Strongly dis agree	2	9.5	9.5	95.2
	no answer	1	4.8	4.8	100.0
	Total	21	100.0	100.0	



**Inferring translation from context**



Inferring translation from context

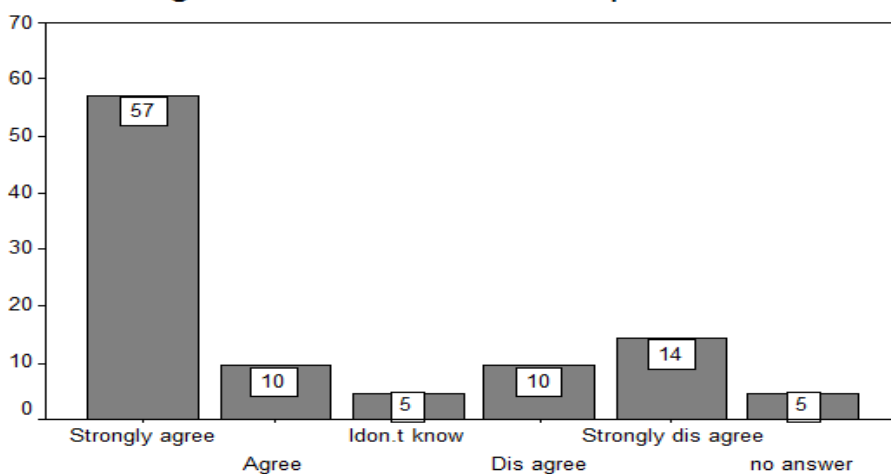
Fig: 4

Table: 5

**Avoiding automatie translation equivalents**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly agree	12	57.1	57.1	57.1
Agree	2	9.5	9.5	66.7
Idon.t know	1	4.8	4.8	71.4
Dis agree	2	9.5	9.5	81.0
Strongly dis agree	3	14.3	14.3	95.2
no answer	1	4.8	4.8	100.0
Total	21	100.0	100.0	

**Avoiding automatie translation equivalents**



Avoiding automatie translation equivalents

Fig: 5

The table (5) and figure (5) show that the students view the strategy to solve problem of translation is avoiding automatic translation equivalents. This assures that students should not depend on computer assistant translation which may be wrong. 57% strongly agree with this and 9.5% agree, while 9.5% disagree and 14.3% strongly disagree.

## 5. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RESULTS

According to analysis of the questionnaire conducted on university students, who are Arabic speakers, the following result can be inferred:

- 1-The strategy to solve problem of translation is avoiding automatic translation equivalents
- 2-Students find problem in equivalence
- 3- Following translating process can help to solve problems which is three phases: pre translation, post translation and translation.
- 4-Students ignore strategy and this makes problem
- 5-according to translation process there are some theoretical and practical solution these problems

### Conclusion:

Translation must take into account constraints that include context, the rules of grammar of two languages, their writing conventions and their idioms. A common misconception is that there exists a simple word-for-word correspondence between any two languages, and that translation is straightforward mechanical process. A word – for –word translation does not take into account context, grammar, convention, and idioms.

Students have many kinds of problems such as linguistic, grammatical, expression, linguistic, idiom, equivalent, structural difficulties. These problems arise from differences between two languages and varieties, problems in translation due to lack strategy of translation.

## 6. RECOMMENDATION

- 1-To develop translation strategy to solve translations problem and skill
- 2-students should be aware of the main features of expressions and terms which are a key factor to produce effective translation in order to achieve the goal.
- 3-Looking for factors and reasons that has relation with problems.
- 4-pay attention to differences between two languages

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