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Reflection on Participating in the 2020 Annual Play: *Frozen*

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Learning Outcome Demonstration Reflection

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<div align="center">Reflection on Frozen Translation LOD</div>

In this year's Annual Play in the Department of English Language and Literature,

I participate in the role of the subtitle translation group. Even though I once

participated in the drama club when I was in senior high school, this is the first time

for me to join the crew after entering the university. Besides, although I have taken

some courses related to translation, and this is also the first time for me to translate

such a long work and cooperate with more than two members.

The motivation for me to do this task is that I would like to try something

different, the thing I have never done before in my college life, which is being a crew

member in the annual paly or senior play. After watching last semester's senior play, I

was highly touched and motivated by the outcome they present by the crew at that

time, so I deeply hoped that I could be a wonderful experience for me before

graduating.

In the translation team, my duty is to translate the script of this year's annual paly, *Frozen*, into Chinese subtitle. This task is a group work, so we divided the play into five parts, and each member translates about twenty pages separately. Since it is a group translating, other members and I have to read through the whole script of the play first, find some terms or names that appear more than once, compile them into a glossary, and discuss how to translate then in order to keep the consistency. After translating each part, we would start discussing and giving suggestions on how to modify the translation. In other words, I, as a translator in this task, should be very familiar with the script, understand each meaning, and translate each line into a brief, correct, and easy-to-understand sentence for the audience to understand every meaning in each line efficiently and clearly.

In terms of individual work, I am in charge of translating the part containing several long monologues of the protagonists, and a series of professional terms about brain functions and psychiatry, which is relatively complicated to other members' parts. For translating it better, I looked up and search several articles related to brain science and criminal psychiatry in order to understand what Agnetha, the doctor in this play, says in the speech and what is her viewpoint.

Similarly, there is a scene about Ralph, the criminal who suffers from mental illness in

this play, introducing his tattoos and where he got them. It is not very easy for me

because I am not familiar with the art of tattoos, and how it works. So, I need to spend

more time on searching the background knowledge, which means I have to spend time

to consume the information and translate them in a more easy understanding way.

Furthermore, considering the tones of the lines is also a challenge for me because

sometimes I may misunderstand or have different interpretations with the performers

or the director. The most common difference in opinions is that they may think the

sentences are not "colloquial", they think we should modify them into the style more

similar to daily conversations. For example, they usually think "然而" (*however* in

Chinese) is not colloquial because they seldom say it in their daily life. To solve this

kind of question, we have to discuss with them and think more about whether it is

more suitable for the translation.

Working as a team is also a new challenge for me because each one of us may

have different styles of writing and translating; however, there is only one play, so we

have to consider and respect each other's opinions. Despite that sometimes it may be

a problem due to the differences, it sometimes can be a great surprise when hearing

the suggestions that are better than I think, and I have never thought about these kinds

of possibilities. So, for me, cooperating with other members as a group is a great

chance for me to think about how to improve myself and learn how to cooperate with

other people.

After the performances, I have learned a lot from translating subtitles,

including how to improve my translation skill, how to communicate with others

efficiently, how to cooperate with others. When I finished my first draft, I had made

several mistakes including "lost in translation", misunderstood the meanings of the

original texts, separated sentences without logical order, and so on. But after listening

to Professor's instructions, other members' suggestions, and doing self-revision, the

outcome successfully becomes easier and more effective for the audience to see.

As one of the translators in the Annual Play, I have done my best to translate

this play by doing researches and discuss with the professor, and other members.

Also, I have helped and gave suggestions to others in order to make the whole

outcome more perfect and let the audience enjoy more to the performance. According

to several feedbacks collected by other members or classmates, the audience indeed

enjoyed the show, and the subtitle can make them understand more about the feelings

of the characters, and realize the meanings of some certain difficult terms they do not

know.

In my opinion, it is a great opportunity to deal with this work, and it is a new

monument for me in my university life. Although the time I spent is only about one

semester, I have learned and improved a lot from doing the translation. Besides, it is

also meaningful for me since I can learn the skills and help the audience at the same

time. Therefore, this project is ideal for me to demonstrate my learning outcome from

this course.