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The Problems of Translating Oriental Texts into Arabic

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to investigate the problems and difficulties that face the students of Arabic Language at Mu'tah University when translating oriental texts from English into Arabic in the academic year 2011-2012. The difficulties facing Arabic students when translating oriental texts has never been studied, rising an urgent need to fill in the gap in the literature concerning this interesting topic. The methodology is based on a systemic questionnaire that was distributed to fifty students in addition to interviews with fifteen students at the Department of Arabic during the first semester of the Academic year 2011/2012. The collected data was then analyzed statistically using the SPSS program. The study found that the majority of the students do not have the ability to translate such texts in an acceptable and correct way. Further, the students face difficulties in understanding the source texts, from one hand, and in dealing with the process of translation, from the other hand. The study recommends that the students need to learn and practise translation before dealing with oriental texts.

Keywords: Arabic translation, oriental texts, texts and translation, problems of translation.

1. Introduction

Translation is considered one of the most important means of communication among nations and different cultures; it is a vital key in transferring knowledge as well as the various sciences and literature. It is taken for granted that the process of translation is not easy to everyone. It demands good translators who can effectively deal with the