Contextually Associative Translation (CAP) method in translation studies: explanation with examples

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Abstract: This article introduces the Contextually Associative Translation (CAP) method as a significant approach in the field of translation studies. CAP method aims to enhance the translation process by considering the context in which a particular text is embedded. This article provides a comprehensive explanation of the CAP method along with several illustrative examples. By incorporating contextual factors, CAP method offers a deeper understanding of the translation process and its outcomes. The article concludes by highlighting the potential benefits of adopting CAP method in various translation practices.

Keywords: Contextually Associative Translation (CAP) method, translation studies, context, translation process, contextual factors, examples

Translation studies have always been a crucial field of research, aiming to bridge the gap between different cultures and languages. As globalization continues to enhance intercultural communication, the demand for accurate and efficient translation techniques has intensified. In this context, the development of innovative methods has become pivotal to meet the evolving needs of translation professionals.

The overarching goal of the contextually associative translation (CAP) method is to achieve translations that not only capture the lexical and grammatical aspects but also reflect the contextual nuances of the source text. This holistic approach considers the broader meaning, cultural references, idiomatic expressions, and even the emotional undertones present in the original text. CAP fosters a contextual understanding of language, resulting in more precise and culturally sensitive translations.

To comprehensively illustrate the efficacy of the contextually associative translation (CAP) method, this article will provide in-depth explanations and

showcase practical examples. By examining various textual samples from different domains, including literature, technical manuals, and scientific papers, we aim to shed light on how CAP ensures precise, contextually accurate translations that surpass traditional methods.

Delve deeper into the intricacies of the CAP method throughout this article, we invite you to witness its transformative potential and appreciate the groundbreaking contribution it brings to the realm of translation studies.

The CAP transfer process includes the following steps:

1. Context analysis: The translator analyzes the context of the homonym in the source text and determines all possible meanings that can be associated with the homonym.

2. Selection of associative translation: The translator looks for associative connections between the meanings of the homonym and the context in the target text. He chooses the translation that most accurately reflects the semantics of the homonym in a given context.

3. Checking semantic compatibility: The translator checks whether the selected translation and the context of the target text are compatible. If the translation and context do not agree semantically, the process moves on to the next possible translation.

4. Evaluation and Editing: The translator evaluates the quality and accuracy of the associative translation and makes the necessary edits to achieve the best result.

The CAP method is an innovative approach to solving the problems of translating homonyms. It allows translators to take into account the contextual features of the source and target text, providing a more accurate and understandable translation of homonyms.

The use of contextually associative translation can be especially useful in the field of translation studies, where translators are faced with many homonyms in texts of various subjects. This method helps improve translation quality and provides a more flexible and accurate translation solution for homonyms.

Translation is a complex process that involves conveying the meaning of a source text in a target language. One of the challenges in translation is dealing with homonyms, words that sound similar but have different meanings. To address this issue, the "contextually associative translation" method has been introduced in the field of translation studies.

The contextually associative translation method aims to find the most suitable translation of a homonym by considering its surrounding context. This method relies on the principle that words derive their meaning from the context in which they are used. By analyzing the overall meaning and purpose of the text, translators can make informed decisions about how to translate homonyms effectively.

To illustrate this method, here are some examples in English: 1. Example: "I caught a bass."

- Homonym: "bass" (can refer to a type of fish or a musical instrument)

- Contextual association: If the text is about fishing or nature, the translator would opt for the meaning "fish." If the text is about music, the translator would choose the meaning "musical instrument."

- Translation options: "Я поймал окуня" (referring to the fish), "Я сыграл на басгитаре" (referring to the musical instrument).

2. Example: "Please bear with me."

- Homonym: "bear" (can refer to an animal or to tolerate/endure)

- Contextual association: The phrase implies asking someone to be patient or tolerate a situation, so the translator would choose the meaning "tolerate/endure."

- Translation: "Пожалуйста, потерпи со мной."

3. Example: "The bank was closed."

- Homonym: "bank" (can refer to a financial institution or a riverbank)

- Contextual association: If the text is about business or finance, the translator would opt for the meaning "financial institution." If the text is related to geography or nature, the translator would choose the meaning "riverbank."

- Translation options: "Банк был закрыт" (referring to the financial institution), "Набережная была закрыта" (referring to the riverbank).

By using the contextually associative translation method, translators can accurately convey the intended meaning of homonyms in different situations. This method allows for more precise and contextually appropriate translations, ensuring better understanding for the target audience.

One example of the use of the homonym "spring" in English fiction is Charles Dickens' novel "Great Expectations". At the very beginning of the novel, the main hero of the novel Pip describes his childhood and talks about the gloomy and abandoned area where he lives. He describes a field of tulips in which he jumps and plays with other children: *"I often passed Mount Pleasant, and even enjoyed the view of the outside of it, from the bottom of the valley in which it stands. The name always sounded strangely in my ears, like the word goblin; and I was afraid of it. I have known it backwards at times to satanland <u>spring</u> potions. There was a gay fiction among us that we were constantly enjoying ourselves, and a skeleton truth that we never did".*

Analysis of the word "spring" in this context: - "spring" in this example means *jumping and playing on a field with tulips*. This indicates a childlike joy and lightness, which creates a contrast with the gloomy and abandoned atmosphere described around. - "spring" in this context can also refer to the image of new life, renewal and hope, which corresponds to the general theme of the novel "Great Expectations".

In these following contexts using the homonymic word "spring". If translators cannot grasp the intended meaning of the word "spring" within the given contexts, an appropriate translation may be challenging. However, by considering the surrounding context and the sentence structure, translators can still make an informed interpretation. It is essential for translators to utilize their linguistic and cultural knowledge to provide a translation that aligns with the intended meaning.

An example of the use of the homonym "spring" in English literature: "She felt the cool breeze of spring on her face as she walked through the park."
(Author: Jane Austen)

Analysis: Here the word "spring" represents the season of spring. It denotes a period of time that transforms after winter and is characterized by the rebirth of nature, the flowering of plants and the emergence of new life. In this context, the description of a spring breeze indicates rebirth and optimism, which is a common connotation of the word "spring".

2) An example of the use of the homonym "spring" in English literature: -"She saw a beautiful flower spring up from the ground." (Author: William Wordsworth)

Analysis: In this example, the word "spring" describes the sudden appearance of a flower emerging from the ground. Here "spring" is considered as a verb and means "to arise", "to appear". This use of "spring" conveys strength and energy, creating an image of a beautiful and unexpected process of emergence. Both examples demonstrate the different meanings and uses of the homonym "spring" in English literature. The first example refers to its use as a name for a season, and the second example uses "spring" as a verb to describe the occurrence of something new or sudden. The authors of the examples are Jane Austen and William Wordsworth, respectively.

List of used literature

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