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**Abstract:** This article explores the complex literary problems that arise in the translation of artistic texts, focusing on the challenges posed by linguistic ambiguity, cultural specificity, stylistic nuance, and the preservation of an author's unique voice. Literary translation demands not only accuracy of meaning but also sensitivity to tone, rhythm, symbolism, and genre conventions. The discussion highlights key difficulties such as idioms, wordplay, metaphor, intertextuality, and culturally bound references that often resist direct equivalence. By examining common strategies and theoretical approaches, the article argues that literary translation is a creative act of negotiation, requiring the translator to balance fidelity to the original with naturalness and expressiveness in the target language. Ultimately, it demonstrates that translating literature is a form of cultural mediation, where every choice shapes how readers experience the text.

**Keywords:** stylistics, symbolism, tradition, personal perspective, emotional impact, interpretation.

**Introduction:** The translation of literary works occupies a central place in the field of translation studies, as it represents one of the most challenging and intellectually stimulating forms of intercultural communication. Unlike technical or informational translation, literary translation involves not only the transfer of linguistic meaning but also the recreation of artistic intent, emotional tone, stylistic nuance, and cultural resonance. Authors often rely on idiomatic expressions, metaphorical language, intertextual references, and culturally embedded concepts that do not always have direct equivalents in the target language. As a result, the translator faces the delicate task of striking a balance between fidelity to the original text and producing a fluent, natural, and culturally meaningful version for new readers.

Over the past several decades, scholars such as Bassnett, Venuti, Nida, and Newmark have contributed to a deeper understanding of the complexities of literary translation by examining issues of equivalence, cultural adaptation, translator visibility, and the role of creative negotiation in meaning transfer. Their research demonstrates that literary translation is never a simple substitution of words but an interpretive act that requires sensitivity to linguistic detail, cultural context, and aesthetic effect. As globalization intensifies cultural exchange and readers gain access to an increasingly wide range of world literature, the importance of effective literary translation continues to grow. This article explores the major problems encountered in translating literary texts, discusses key strategies used to address these challenges, and highlights the enduring significance of literary translation in shaping cross-cultural understanding.

**Main body:** Anne Cluysenaar, in her book on literary stylistics, makes some important points about translation. The translator, she believes, should not work with general precepts when determining what to preserve or parallel from the SL text, but should work with an eye 'on each individual structure, whether it be prose or verse', since 'each structure will lay stress on certain linguistic features or levels and not on others'. She goes on to analyse C. Day Lewis' translation of

Valéry's poem, *Les pas* and comes to the conclusion that the translation does not work because the translator 'was working without an adequate theory of literary translation'. The translation of literature falls in the category of a number of challenging tasks, most importantly, because literature is not just used to understand information or knowledge; instead it represents an art. What makes it so difficult, as authors, is for maintaining that unique style and voice of our true author. Literature usually contains several stylistic elements such as metaphors, symbolism, alliteration and word choice. Certainly, these things seldom exist in their target forms in the receiving language, and the translator has had to balance fidelity of meaning against aesthetic function. Consequently, the translator has to tread carefully, balancing sense and style.

Another challenge is the referentiality of culture in literary material. Authors often draw on historical events, customs, traditions or demiromanticism easily recognized by the readers of the home culture but not by those who share that target language. If there is no comparable concept in the target language, then the translator has to strive for other solutions that deliver a meaning similar to that of the source text. The process can be highly culture-specific and context specific, but also creative in making the text relevant to a new audience.

Additionally, literary texts often contain emotionally charged language, which creates further complexity. Emotions are conveyed not only through words but also through tone, rhythm, and subtle connotations. A single word may carry multiple layers of meaning in the source language, and capturing these layers in translation is challenging. The translator must consider how the emotional impact will be perceived by the target audience and adjust the language accordingly while trying to remain faithful to the original text.

Finally, the subjectivity of interpretation also plays a significant role. Unlike technical texts, which aim for clarity and precision, literary texts allow for multiple readings. Each translator may interpret the author's intentions differently, which means the final translation inevitably includes the translator's personal perspective. This makes literary translation a highly creative process but also increases the risk of deviating from the original meaning.

### **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, translating literary works is a multifaceted and intellectually demanding endeavor that requires not only a deep mastery of language, but also a nuanced understanding of culture, history, and artistic expression. Literary texts often carry layers of meaning that are rooted in a specific cultural context—ranging from subtle emotional undertones to symbolic imagery, idiomatic expressions, humor, and intertextual references. These elements rarely have direct equivalents in another language, which compels the translator to make creative decisions in order to preserve both the spirit and aesthetic effect of the original work. To address such complexities, translators employ a variety of strategies, including transcreation, creative adaptation, compensation techniques, culturally sensitive paraphrasing, and explanatory footnotes. Each of these approaches reflects the translator's effort to remain faithful to the author's intent while simultaneously ensuring readability and naturalness for target-language audiences. This process often demands a delicate balance between fidelity and creativity—an equilibrium that lies at the heart of successful literary translation. Moreover, as languages evolve and cultural landscapes shift, the task of translation becomes even more dynamic. New expressions emerge, historical meanings transform, and readers' expectations change. Yet despite these challenges, the craft of literary translation continues to play a vital role in global communication. It serves as a

bridge between cultures, enabling the beauty, wisdom, and diverse perspectives of world literature to reach new audiences.

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