



Textual Analysis Approaches to Corpus-Based Translation Research

Thomas Njie Losenje

Lecturer, Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters (ASTI), University of Buea, Cameroon

***Corresponding Author:** Thomas Njie Losenje, Lecturer, Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters (ASTI), University of Buea, Cameroon

Abstract: The use of corpus material in research has witnessed tremendous increase, hence opening up new avenues for the analysis of translated texts. Also, over the last decade, there has been a proliferation of research work undertaken by students from the Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters (ASTI), University of Buea, on this relatively new field of study, hence triggering an urgent need to propose new insights, approaches and methods for the analysis of texts. This study has proposed a new perspective by focusing on the 'why' and 'how' of text analysis. An attempt has been made to conceptualize on corpus-based translation and text analysis to provide a deep understanding of the concepts and hence show their interconnectedness. The study employed an exploratory research design by presenting three very complementary models for the analysis of texts. They include descriptive translation studies (DTS), critical discourse analysis (CDA) and thematic content analysis (TCA). Findings reveal that the three approaches are interrelated and that DTS permeates through the approaches, hence supporting the claim that the three approaches could be used in tandem to ensure that all the elements of intertextuality are taken into consideration in corpus-based translation research.

Keywords: Textual Analysis, Corpus-based Translation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Corpus-based translation studies is that branch of translation that focuses on the relationship between translation and ideology, within the broader framework of DTS. In corpus-based translation studies, the features of translated texts, as well as the use of language strategies and methods come under scrutiny. Translation is not done in a vacuum. It is an encapsulation of intercultural communication governed by all sorts of social factors and norms, including ideology. Thus, at the heart of corpus-based translation studies is the need to reveal the interconnectedness between translation and ideology by analyzing the choice of the source text, the reception of translated texts, the features of translated texts and the strategies and methods that are used by translators. Researchers on corpus-based translation studies therefore have to ask themselves the following questions before embarking on their work:

- The choice of the corpus which is the object of research
- The text-type (is it a literary piece, that is drama, poetry or prose; bible; children's literature; or a text on politics, economics, legal text or a text on gender issues).
- The reception of the translated work by the target language audience.
- The different methods, theories, strategies and approaches used in translating the text from the source to the target language.

The above is a pointer to the fact that translation is not possible without an understanding of the text being translated. Popelkova (2017:415) for example, emphasizes on thorough understanding of the text prior to translation and points out that "it would be a mistake to believe that in professional translation, a simple substitution of terminology and a very basic level of grammar would suffice to create a quality target text." It should be observed that understanding of both the source language text and the target language text can only be possible after an in-depth analysis of both. The very obvious

question is: “what should be analyzed and how should it be analyzed?”. Contemporary translation studies have witnessed a proliferation of models, methods and approaches to textual analysis. Some models include Roberts (1989) linguistic content analysis, discourse analysis, Beintern (1972), Geerts (1973), Hymes (1972), Garlick (1987), text analysis (Hatim and Mason 1997) and others. This study is more interested in text analysis because its main focus is the text.

The use of corpus material has witnessed tremendous increase in an increasingly evolving field of translation studies, opening up new avenues of analysis for the study of translated texts. This new area for the analysis of translated texts has been labelled corpus translation studies (CTS). It has seen an urgent need to develop new approaches and methodologies for the analysis of various texts, especially in the domain of literary translation. Baker (1993, 1995, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2004) may be considered a precursor in this respect, as she promoted the use of corpus methodologies to uncover the nature of translation as “a mediated communicative event” (Baker, 1993:243, cited in Ruaono, 2017). Other scholars like Kruger and Walmach (just to name a few), followed in the footsteps of Baker, hence creating another niche in translation research. This niche has stimulated research in the area of translation studies, especially literary translation. It can even be said that at the heart of all literary translation research is corpus-based translation. Ruano (2017) notes that “the conflation of CTS and disciplines such as corpus stylistics has made possible the analysis of literary translations using corpus methods.” For example, the translated works of many writers like Miguel de Cervantes (2012), (Patton and Can (2012), Williams, Ruaono, etc. into Chinese, Turkish and Spanish have been the object of research following the corpus methodology.

2. CONCEPTUALIZING THE PROBLEM

Over the past fifteen years or so, students of the Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters (ASTI), University of Buea, have increasingly carried out corpus-based translation research. It has been observed, especially during the defense of theses that most of these students cite various models in the analysis of their corpora without actually knowing how they went about using the said models. Given that the use of corpora in literary translation study is relatively new and is still in a state of evolution, it goes without saying that there is need to constantly learn about it, refine it and why not, propose new methods and areas of application. It is not the intention of this study to recount different models for text analysis but rather to complement approaches put forward by translation scholars while also proposing methods, models and approaches that could ease the task of trainee translators in analyzing corpora, and hence contribute in the vast domain of literary translation.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This study has as overarching objective, to ease the task of researchers, students and scholars in the field of corpus-based translation. The study therefore, aims to present a perspective of text analysis, by focusing on the “why” and “how” of textual analysis. An attempt is therefore made to highlight the reason for textual analysis as well as propose various approaches and methodologies of textual analysis, especially within the broad area of literary translation.

4. LITERATURE REVIEW

In order to meet the above objectives, it is necessary to probe the core concepts of textual analysis and corpus-based translation. However, for better comprehension, these two concepts will be presented in a reverse order, beginning with the latter concept.

5. CORPUS-BASED TRANSLATION STUDIES

As earlier observed, corpus-based translation studies is the branch of translation studies that focuses on the relationship between translation and ideology within the broader framework of DTS. It analyzes the features of translated texts, as well as the use of translation strategies and methods, drawing on the analytical frameworks of critical linguistics and critical discourse analysis. Going by this conceptualization of corpus-based translation, the significance of descriptive translation studies (DTS) and critical discourse analysis (CDA) as analysis models in corpus-based translation research can therefore, not be over-emphasized. Baker (1993) touches on this aspect when she observes that corpus translation studies are “the branch of translation studies that investigates the nature of translation as a product and a process by means of a corpora, based on the statistical analysis of the features of translated texts in relation to non-translated texts and the source texts.” What can be

gleaned from Baker's submission is that this branch of translation studies can employ a mixed method in research, as it involves "statistical analysis" of the features of translated texts.

The increasing importance of corpus-based translation research has been upheld by many researchers in the domain. Prominent among them is Zeng (2010) who notes that this new field of research "has provided a new weapon for translation studies, broadened the research scope and introduced a brand-new thought pattern for translation scholars." This perhaps explains the increasing number of these written in ASTI in sync with corpus-based research.

Baker (cited in Zeng 2010) distinguishes between three types of corpora, which scholars of corpus-based translation research should be aware of. They include parallel corpora, multilingual corpora and comparable corpora. They warrant some explanation. As the name implies, parallel corpora is made up of the original text and the translated version. They are very informative regarding particular translation practices and procedures used by the translator, given that they have the capacity to tell us about those patterns of language use specific to particular texts. Multilingual corpora deal with two or more monolingual corpora in different languages. Thus, they can be explained by finding out more about the various means employed by two or more languages to express the same meaning. The third, comparable corpora refers to two separate collection of texts in the same language, one consisting of the original text and the other of translation in that language hence, bringing out linguistic features which are typical of translated texts.

Shen for his part, shows the relationship between translation and corpus studies. He shows this relationship in the following words:

The integration between corpora and translation studies has generated a coherent, composite and rich paradigm that addresses a variety of issues pertaining to theory, description and the practice of translation. That is also to say corpus translation studies come into two broad areas: theoretical and practical. In theoretical terms, corpora are used mainly to study the translation process by exploring how an idea in one language is conveyed in another language and by comparing the linguistic features and their frequencies in translated texts and original texts. While in the practical approach, corpora provide a workbench for translators and a basis for developing applications like machine translation and computer assisted translation systems (Shen, 2010:183).

This study is mainly concerned with the former approach, that is, the theoretical approach to corpus-based translation as it seeks to explore the various translation processes in corpus translation research through some textual analysis approaches.

Shen's submission points to the symbiotic relationship between corpus translation studies and descriptive translation studies (DTS) on the one hand and critical discourse analysis (CDA) on the other hand. Thus, in his words, corpus translation studies do not only "address a variety of issues pertaining to theory, **description** and the practice of translation," but also **explores** "how an idea in one language is conveyed in another language..." It should be observed that "description" is made possible through DTS while "exploring" can only be effective through CDA. These two concepts which are inextricably linked to corpus-based translation research will be explained in the methodology section of this study.

6. TEXTUAL ANALYSIS

Any translation activity performed without an in-depth analysis of the source text is doomed to fail and can be likened to a journey into the jungle. Text analysis is a condition sine qua non for undertaking a translation, as it is deemed to enable translators have a better understanding of the text as well as the author's intention and other nuances prior to its translation. Thus, text analysis enables the translator to fully understand the source text message and make a conscious decision about what strategies, approaches and theories to adopt in order to render it effectively into the target language text. It is also during analysis that constraints are identified and translation techniques determined.

The need to analyze texts before embarking on translation cannot be gainsaid. Mutahar and Vijasarayathi (2016:31) opine that text analysis is necessary for comprehensions, which is "the ability to construct the meaning of a text, spoken or written," with such ability "requiring a complex mix of linguistic and world knowledge acquired through interactions with the global environment,

transcending language and cultural translation barriers.” It should be observed that the “global environment may not necessarily be physical, but may be referring to the environment of the text, which should be analyzed thoroughly to acquire “world knowledge. Thus, they enjoin translators to focus on the text while doing the analysis prior to translation in the following words:

In text analysis, the text should be the focus of attention...In addition, text analysis is a means to explore the text and identify its features, writer and audience. It can be used to examine the interplay between cognition and human factor and locate the similarities and differences across cultures and changes within cultures (2016:31).

The above statement by Mutahar and Vijasarayathi points to the fact that translation goes beyond addressing issues related to language between the source language text and the target language text but also touches on cultural aspects as the translator navigates through both texts. This brings to fore the irrefutable relationship between language and culture and the need to analyze texts to establish this interface during the process of translation.

Some scholars have argued that during the analysis of the text prior to translation, there is an interplay of some variables, which translators must take into consideration to ensure comprehension. The three variables as posited by researchers such as Hatim and Mason (1997) Gonzalez and Scott-Tennen (2005), and Thawbteh (2007), among others, observe that “these three processes complicate the process of understanding the text and its subsequent production into the target language.” There is therefore an irrefutable need for textual analysis before translation. Since they (that is, intertextuality, connotation and (un)translatability are said the work in tandem as far as influencing the comprehension of the source text and its subsequent comprehension into the target language is concerned. It is worthwhile discussing them in the ensuing paragraphs.

7. INTER TEXTUALITY

According to Newmark (1981, cited in Mutahar and Vijasarayathi 2016:93), the translator has the arduous task of recognizing or identifying the intertextual sign in a text as well as comprehending its connotation “otherwise deviation will occur in the rendition of meaning.” Kashoob (1995) for his part notes that translators need background knowledge of the text because to achieve successful communication, the text producer and the text receiver should share the same relevant background. He points out that “the lack of this background would threaten the whole communication, resulting in a great loss.” It should be observed that this ‘background knowledge’ can only be made possible after an in-depth analysis of both the source text and the target text.

Titscher et al (2000:23) classify intertextuality into what relates to precedent, simultaneous occurring discourse and genres as well as text varieties, while Fairclough (2003) defines intertextuality as texts that draw upon decontextualized dialogues with other texts. What is worth noting is the fact that intertextuality can be identified at textual and lexical levels. Thus, while textual intertextuality refers to the classification of texts (such as religious, political or social, etc.), lexical intertextuality refers to culturally specific elements in a text (such as religious, political or social, etc.). The translator therefore, has the twin obligation of recognizing the elements of intertextuality in the source text (be they textual or lexical) and replicating them in the target language such that the meaning comes across seamlessly.

8. CONNOTATION

Denotation, referential or lexical meaning of a word refers to the core meaning of an object, an act, or a quality that is frequently used and understood by users. Connotation on the other hand, implies the associations that a word may bring to the hearer’s mind according to his cognition and experience, in addition to its literal or dictionary meaning. Some words may have approximately the same denotative meaning but the difference in their connotative meaning may be very telling. For example, the English word “bus,” which denotes a vehicle for transportation, may have different connotation for different persons. For the poor for instance, it may connote ‘low cost’ and ‘convenience’ whereas for those who have private cars, it may be associated with ‘inconvenience’ and ‘discomfort.’

Different scholars have viewed connotation differently. Nider and Taber (1974:91-94) view connotation in terms of the emotional effects of a word on speakers and the emotional response on hearers, while Hatim (1997:228) defines connotation as the “additional meaning that a lexical item

acquires beyond its primary, referential meaning.” Graddol et al (2005:103) for their part, equate connotation with “the associations that words have for us.”

From the different conceptualizations on connotation, it is very obvious that they pose serious problem of understanding to language users. The situation is even more complex when moving from one language to another. The translator’s task is complicated by the fact that s/he is not only called upon to convey the referential meanings of lexical items. He also needs to pay close attention to the connotative meaning of words during the process of translation. Commenting on this, Munday (2001:154) states that “shifting the source text connotations may sometimes produce a shift in ideology.” Jianzhong and Yan (cited in Ilyas 2013:251) note that issues related to connotation can defy translation. They highlight the importance of textual analysis, stating that a “translator is not just a bilingualist but also a biculturalist who does not only consider linguistic and referential factors in the process of translating, but also takes connotations into consideration.”

8.1. (Un) translatability

The concept of (un)translatability also possess problems in translation and calls for more attention and seriousness in textual analysis, so that SL lexical items that appear untranslatable may find expression in the target language. Untranslatability is a property of a text, or any utterance in the source language for which no equivalent text or utterance may be found in the target language. Catford distinguishes between two types, which he terms as ‘linguistic’ and ‘cultural’ untranslatability. Linguistic untranslatability is when there is no lexical or syntactical substitute in the target language for a source language item, while cultural untranslatability refers to the absence in the target language culture, of a relevant situational feature for the source language text.

A lack of thorough textual analysis will not only lose the translator’s view to untranslatable features of the source text, but will also create a serious lacuna in the target language rendition. Such lacuna can only be compensated for after analysis, hence enabling the translators to resort to any of the following translation procedures to produce a functionally relevant text in the target language:

- **Adaptation:** Also known as free translation, is a process which enables the translator to replace a social or cultural reality in the ST with a corresponding reality in the TT, to enhance the understanding of the TL audience.
- **Borrowing:** Is a translation procedure that enables the translator to use a word or expression in the SL text unmodified.
- **Calque:** This entails taking an expression, breaking it down into individual elements and translating each element into the TL word for word. Hence, it is a kind of literal translation.
- **Compensation:** Compensation entails adding lexical items in the TT that are not found in the ST to make up for a previous loss, while also enhancing the overall meaning of the text.
- **Paraphrase:** Commonly referred to as periphrasis, a paraphrase is a translation procedure that enables the translator to replace a word in the ST by a group of words or an expression in the TT.
- **Footnote:** Is a note added by the translator to the TT to provide additional information related to the limits of the translation, the cultural background or any other items in the ST.

The above translation strategies and procedures can of course, only be possible after textual analysis, which enables the translator to identify untranslatable elements in the text and the need to make up for them. After having probed the main concepts of the study, which are corpus-based translation and textual analysis, the study continues with the presentation of the methodology.

9. METHODOLOGY

This study adopts an exploratory and analytical research design aimed at reducing the lapses of budding researchers in the field of corpus-based translation research. Consequently, various methods and approaches for the analysis of texts, and the steps for using them have been proposed as methodology. There are many models for the analysis of texts. This study particularly focuses on three models or approaches which are, descriptive translation studies (DTS), critical discourse analysis (CDA) and thematic content analysis (TCA) approaches. The choice of these three models is

not fortuitous. Thus, there is an inalienable link between corpus translation research and the above three approaches. Corpus-based translation studies is said to be concerned mainly with the relationship between translation and ideology, *within the broader framework of DTS*. It also focuses on the features of translated texts as well as the use of language strategies and methods. These ‘*features*’ can only be brought to the realization of the translator or corpus-based researcher after a thorough and critical analysis of the source text vis-à-vis the target text. It is therefore necessary to discuss these approaches and propose methods to be used in analyzing texts while using them.

9.1. Analyzing Texts through Descriptive Translation Studies (DTS)

Toury’s DTS has been prominent in corpus-based translation studies since the 1980s when it gained prominence. Toury (1995:1) criticized past theories for claiming to be holistic and pointed out that “...no empirical science can make a claim for completeness and (relative) autonomy, unless it has a proper descriptive branch.” DTS were geared towards highlighting trends in translation behaviour (that is, from prescriptive to descriptive) by first theorizing on the general nature of the discipline.

The main thrust of DTS is the proposition of three sub-categories, which can be considered as the core for the analysis and translation of any text. These interrelated sub-categories include the function of what some researchers call purpose, process and product. These categories have a direct correlation with the three-dimensional approach to textual analysis using DTS, which includes identification (purpose), description (process) and explanation (product). The elements which can appear under the above subcategories can better be represented in a table as follows:

Table1. *Presentation of a DTS Analysis Grid*

A.	Identification	
1.1	Source text	
1.2	Gloss: a) Language (Munga’aka (e.g.) b) Linguistic c) Literal N.B.: This is only for those working from/into their local languages	
1.3	Element of interest	
1.4	Theme/Sub-theme	
B.	Description	
1.5	Context of production	
1.6	Possible constraints to translation	
1.7	Target text or Proposed translation (for those working on translatability)	
C.	Explanation (of Researcher’s method)	
1.8	Macrotranslation strategy	
1.9	Microtranslation strategy	
10.0	Translation theory	
11.0	Literary translation theory (for those whose work is on literary translation)	
12.0	Justification of researcher’s method (this should be done outside the table, as it is also intended to create a link with the next excerpt	

From the table above, a typical analysis grid using the DTS model/approach for textual analysis should contain the above entries per excerpt. This is not to say that the grid is exhaustive because other items may be included depending on the study being undertaken. The above three DTS sub-categories for the analysis of text need to be explained to enhance understanding and hence, ensure that they are used appropriately by researchers.

- a) **Identification:** Here, the corpus or source text is identified, followed by the gloss constituting three elements – the local or source language gloss, the linguistic gloss and the literal gloss. This part ends with the identification of the element of interest as well as the theme within the source text.

- b) **Description:** This section deals with description or presentation of the context of production. The focus here is on the circumstances under which the text is used by the said speech community. Here, the possible constraints to translation is also presented since every text in front of the translator usually confronts him/her with a difficulty or two. The section ends with the presentation of the text (that is, the translation) and/or the proposed translation for those working on translatability.
- c) **Explanation:** This part of the analysis using the DTS approach is the concluding part and usually describes the process employed by the translator to arrive at the product. That is why it has been referred to as “the researcher’s method. Here, the researcher highlights among other things the macrotranslation strategy employed (that is, domestication or foreignization for instance) to render the said excerpt, the microtranslation strategy (among the plethora of starategies like adaptation, calque, explication, modulation, transposition, etc), the translation theory used and the literary translation theory employed (for those working on literary translation).

This section usually ends with the justification of the method used by the researcher. Here, the appropriateness or effectiveness of the method employed is explained, and a proposed translation made where necessary. It should be observed that most of the elements on the table are usually presented in the findings. Their frequency of usage is presented in percentages, hence justifying the quantitative aspect of most corpus-based translation research.

The methodology continues with a presentation of the critical discourse analysis approach for textual analysis.

9.2. Analyzing Texts through the Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) Approach

Before proposing any CDA model or approach for the analysis of texts prior to their translation, it is worthwhile explaining what CDA is all about. The main thrust of CDA is that the way people use language is purposeful, irrespective of whether discursive choices are conscious or unconscious. The term ‘discourse’ may be viewed differently by researchers. However, all agree on the notion that language use (be it in speech or writing) is a form of social practice and that discursive practices, that is, the process through which texts are produced (created) and consumed (received and interpreted) are an important form of social practice which contribute to the constitution of the social world (Pennycook 2001).

This view of critical discourse analysis is concurred by a host of researchers. Prominent among them is Johnstone (2002:3) who considers discourse as “the analysis of language in use,” saying critical discourse analysis considers the relationship between language and the context in which it is used. This also resonates in translation, as in producing a functionally relevant text into the target language, one has to consider the circumstances under which the source text was produced. Thus, CDA is concerned with the description and analysis of both spoken and written interactions, with the primary purpose of providing a deeper understanding and appreciation of texts and how they become meaningful to their users. Johnstone also considers discourse from a social constructivist perspective and considers critical discourse analysis as “the social construction of reality.” This view sees texts as “communicative units, which are embedded in social and cultural practices.” This view on discourse can best be summarized in the following words:

...Discourse then is both shaped by the world as well as shaping the world. Discourse is shaped by language as well as shaping language. It is shaped by the people who use the language as well as shaping the language that people use. Discourse is also shaped by the medium in which it occurs as well as it shapes the possibilities for that medium...Discourse also shapes the range of possible purposes of texts...(Johnstone 2002:9).

In view of the above statement, another scholar Paltridge views discourse as “looking at patterns of language across texts and considers the relationship between language and the social and cultural context in which it occurs (2010:2).” Paltridge’s views on discourse is in sync with the text-oriented and social-oriented view shared by Johnstone and other scholars like Fairclough. The latter (citing Marx 2002:201) describes CDA succinctly as “a product, producer and reproducer of social consciousness,” hence proposing the following three-dimensional approach to for language analysis:

- A spoken or written language text;
- Discourse practices involving the production and interpretation of the text;
- Larger social context leading to the creation of meaning.

Besides the above three-dimensional CDA model, Fairclough also proposes what he calls “the three levels of language constituents.” These levels perceive of language use as not only affected by its groundedness within a certain frame of social or cultural practice but also influencing or shaping the literary and stylistic context in which it finds itself (in Khan 2014:34). Fairclough therefore submits that language is a constituent of society at various levels (through which texts should be analyzed): social relations, social identity, and knowledge of systems and beliefs. The argument behind these three levels of language constituents is that users of language, including translators, do not function in isolation but function within a set of social, cultural and psychological frameworks. It is worthwhile proposing how CDA can be used as an approach for textual analysis, using Fairclough’s model (within the larger DTS framework):

Table 2. Presentation of a CDA Analysis Grid using Fairclough’s Model(s)

A	A Spoken or Language Written Text (Identification)	
2.1	Source Text	
2.2	Element of Interest	
2.3	Context of Production	
B	Discourse Practices Involving the Production of the Text (Description)	
2.4	Theme	
2.5	Translation Constraint	
2.6	Target Text	
C	Larger Social Context Contributing to the Creation of Meaning (Explanation)	
2.7	Macrotranslation Strategy	
2.8	Macrotranslation Strategy	
2.9	Translation Theory	
2.10	Literary Translation Theory (for those whose work is on literary translation)	
2.11	CDA approach (could be social relations, social identity, systems of knowledge and beliefs...)	
2.12	Justification of Researcher’s Method (This should be outside the table, as it is also intended to create a link with the next excerpt)	

The above entries, using a typical CDA approach for textual analysis, while using the two Faircloughian three-dimensional approaches are non-exhaustive. It should be highlighted that they are in tandem with the DTS approach, which proposes the identification, description and explanation of texts. For better comprehension, they are explained as follows:

- A Spoken and Written Language Text:** This is in tandem with what is referred to in the DTS model as Identification. Here, the following items are identified: the source text, element of interest and context of production.
- Discourse Practices Involving the Production of the Text:** This relates to the Description, following the DTS model. Entries under this heading comprise of the following: the theme, the translation constraint and the target text.
- Larger Social Context Leading to the Creation of Meaning:** This section of the entries is in sync with what is referred to in the DTS model as Explanation. Thus, as part of the larger social context which enhances the understanding of the translator’s choice and hence, the creation of meaning, the translator/researcher explains the following: the macro translation strategy (which may be domestication or foreignization as the case may be), the microtranslation strategy, the translation theory, the literary translation or text criticism theory (for those working in literary translation), the critical discourse analysis approach (this may also serve as the basis for the classification of excerpts). This section ends with the justification of the researcher’s method (which should advisedly appear outside the table).

9.3. Analyzing Texts through the Thematic Content Analysis Approach

This textual analysis approach is based on the premise that “the lack of focus on rigorous and relevant thematic analysis has implications in terms of the credibility of the research process” (Nowell, Norris, While, Moules 2017). Otherwise referred to as TCA, thematic content analysis is “the process of identifying patterns of themes within qualitative data” (or in the case of translation, within a corpus). According to Braun and Clarke (2006, cited in Maguire and Delahunt 2017:2), it is the first qualitative method that should be learned, as it provides core skills that will be useful for conducting many other kinds of analysis.” The main thrust of this approach is that it guarantees flexibility in research, given that it is not dependent on any particular epistemological or research perspective. This makes it to be considered as a method rather than a methodology. The implication of this is that it does not have a hard and fast methodology to be adhered to. Therefore, scholars can tailor it to the needs of their research.

Many approaches to thematic analysis have been proposed by scholars (Boyatzis 1998, Alhojalain 2012, Javadi and Zarea 2016, etc. This study does not intend to romanticize on various taxonomies on thematic analysis. Rather, it intends to, with the guidance of early researchers on the domain, propose a model for the analysis of data in corpus-based translation research. The study therefore is inspired by Braun and Clarke (2006:84) who distinguish between two levels of themes in carrying out thematic analysis: *semantic* and *latent*. In the semantic theme, the researcher does not focus beyond what a participant has said or what has been written, whereas for latent theme, the researcher looks beyond what has been said or written, and examines the underlying ideas, assumptions, conceptualizations and ideologies, that are theorized as shaping the semantic content of the data. In view of analyzing a corpus using Braun’s and Clarke’s approach, the onus is for the translator to determine the different entries within an excerpt that should appear under semantic and latent themes respectively. These are presented in the table below:

Table3. Presentation of TCA Analysis Grid

A.	Semantic Theme (Identification)	
3.1	Source Text	
3.2	Element of Interest	
3.3	Context of Production	
B.	Latent Theme 1 (Description)	
3.4	Possible Translation Constraint	
3.5	Target Text	
3.6	Proposed Translation (where necessary)	
C.	Latent Theme 2 (Explanation)	
3.7	Macrotranslation strategy	
3.8	Microtranslation strategy	
3.9	Translation Theory	
3.10	Literary Translation Theory (for those whose work is on literary translation)	
3.11	CDA approach (for those using CDA as one of the text analysis approaches)	
3.12	Justification of Researcher’s Method (this should be outside the table as it is also intended to create a link with the next excerpt)	

Like the first two approaches, the TCA approach has also been proposed using the descriptive translation (DTS) model. Though the entries are somehow identical to those of DTS and CDA, they also warrant some explanation to ease comprehension.

- a) **Semantic Theme:** This is equivalent to Identification in the DTS approach. As a reminder, the semantic theme refers exclusively to what has been said or written, beyond which the researcher does not have to focus. The following aspects have therefore been identified as semantic theme: the source text, the element of interest and the context of production.
- b) **Latent Theme 1:** This is equivalent to Description in the DTS approach. Here, the possible translation constraints, the target text and proposed translation are presented. If the translation is flawless, there will be no need for proposed translation. The researcher will enter *not applicable* in the allotted column.

- c) **Latent Theme 2:** This is in tandem with Explanation in the DTS approach. Here, in order to highlight the underlying ideas, assumptions, conceptualizations and ideology behind a text (an excerpt) and its translation, the researcher is called upon to explain the following: the macro and micro translation strategies, the translation theory, the literary translation theory (for those whose work is on literary translation), the CDA approach (for those using CDA as one of their text analysis approaches) as well as justification of researcher's method (the latter entry should appear outside the table in order to create a link with the next excerpt).

It should be observed that the excerpts to be analyzed by the researcher using the thematic content analysis (TCA) approach should first of all be classified thematically (that is, under different themes). This makes the TCA approach very appropriate for corpus-based qualitative research in translation.

10. CONCLUDING REMARKS

This study has examined some approaches for the analysis of texts under the broader heading of corpus translation research. It is based on the fact that the use of corpus material in research has witnessed a galloping crescendo over the years, giving rise to new avenues of study for the analysis of translated texts. This new area has been labelled corpus translation studies (CTS). It has brought about an urgent necessity to develop new insights, approaches and methods for the analysis of texts, especially within the field of literary translation.

Over the past decade, students from the Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters (ASTI) have embraced this new field by increasingly undertaking research in this relatively grey area, with most of them citing various analysis models in their Master's degree theses, without mastery of how they went about using the said models. This study has not provided a magic portion for the analysis of texts. However, it has proposed some methods and approaches that could ease the task of budding researchers in analyzing corpora, while also contributing in the area of literary translation. Thus, it has presented a perspective of text analysis by focusing on the 'why' and 'how' of analysis in corpus-based translation research. Three approaches have been examined and steps to analyze texts using them proposed, in analysis grids.

They include descriptive translation studies (DTS), critical discourse analysis (CDA), and thematic content analysis (TCA). The choice of these approaches is as a result of the fact that they are inalienably interwoven. Thus, the main thrust of corpus translation studies is the relationship between translation and ideology **within the broader framework of DTS**. It also focuses on the **features** of translated texts as well as the use of language strategies and methods. It is worth highlighting that these features can only be identified by the researcher after a classification of the texts (various excerpts) to be translated into **themes**, as well as a thorough and **critical analysis** of the source text and the translated text. The study therefore recommends that scholars and researchers in the field of corpus-based translation should use these approaches in tandem, to ensure that all the elements of intertextuality have been considered in their research.

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AUHTOR'S BIOGRAPHY



Dr. Thomas Njie Losenje, is a Senior Lecturer of Translation at the Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters (ASTI), University of Buea. He equally lectures Advanced Written/Spoken Communication Skills and Language Enhancement at the African Union-sponsored Pan African University hosted by ASTI, University of Buea. Apart from teaching, which is one of the core missions of the University, Dr. Losenje is also involved in making the University realize its other missions which are research and outreach. Thus, he has, and still supervises students at the Master's level in both ASTI and the Pan African University. He is also the Head of Service for Admissions at the University of Buea and the Head of Service for Admissions and Records in ASTI.

Dr. Losenje is a freelance translator and a budding researcher in the domain of translation studies, with five publications so far. His research interest is in the following areas:

AREA OF RESEARCH INTEREST

- Corpus-based translation research
- Literary/Bible translation
- Translation from/into African Languages

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