

Lecture 9

Translation of Short Stories

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1. show understanding of the concept of short story translation.
2. translate certain types of short stories

1. What is a short Story?

- ❑ Short stories are conventionally considered as independent 'core literary genres' with their own typical literary features.

قصص قصيرة تعتبر تقليدياً مستقلة ' أساس ولب الأنواع الأدبية ' مع خصائصها الأدبية النموذجية.

- ❑ A short story is 'a narrative, either true or fictitious, in prose or verse. It is a fictitious tale, shorter and less elaborate than a novel.

قصة قصيرة هي "رواية، إما صحيحة أو خيالية ، في النثر أو في قصيدة. إنها حكاية خيالية ، وأقصر وأقل وضعا من الرواية.

Such narratives or tales are considered as a branch of literature.

مثل هذه الروايات أو القصص تعتبر كفرع من الأدب.

A short story is a narration of incidents or events, a report of the facts concerning a matter in questions.

القصة القصيرة هي عبارة عن سرد الحوادث أو الأحداث، تقرير للحقائق المتعلقة في مسألة الأسئلة.

It has a plot or succession of incidents or events. It could be a lie, a fabrication, a history or a story of something happened in the past.

لها حبكة أو مناقشة الحوادث أو الأحداث. قد يكون كذب، افتراء، تاريخية أو قصة شيء ما حدث في الماضي.

□ **Typical features of a literary short story text include the following:**

مميزات نموذجية لنص القصة القصيرة الادبي يشتمل مايلي :

- They have **a written base-form**, though they may also be spoken.

لديها شكل قاعدي مكتوب, **a written base-form**,

- It has high social prestige.

لها مكانة اجتماعية عالية

- They **fulfill an effective/aesthetic** rather **transactional or informational function**, aiming to provoke emotions and/or entertain rather than influence or inform;

تؤدي فاعلية وجمالية **an effective/aesthetic** بدلا من وظيفة اعلامية او معاملات ,, بدلا من التأثير او الابلاغ

- They have no **real-world value-** i.e. they are judged **as fictional**, whether fact-based or not,

أنها ليست لها أي قيمة في العالم الحقيقي **real-world value-** --أي أنهم حكموها كخيال سواء كان اساسها حقيقي ام لا .

- They feature **words, images, etc., with ambiguous and/or indeterminable meanings;**

لها كلمات مميزة ، صور، إلخ.، مع غموض وتعذر تحديد المعاني .

Example

Read the following example and identify the main features of a short story in it.

The Little Snowman



Once upon a time in the far lands of Mount Everest, there lived a poor woodcutter named Fred. He lived all alone in a wooden house with no pipes and electricity. He loved making snowmen in the winter although he was not very good.



One day, Fred made a little snowman. He named it Tomba. It was a dear little snowman with a hat and a scarf. It also had some cute buttons and beautiful eyes. But then, a terrible thing happened. Tomba's body fell off! The woodcutter picked up Tomba's body and chucked him up across the mountain.

The next day, Fred woke up by a startling knock on his door then a cough. He leapt to his feet. Slowly, he opened the door. A tiny person stepped in. Surprisingly, it was Tomba! But Tomba's body was not to be seen. "Good morning sir," he sniffed. "But not to me. As you can see, some gentleman picked up my gorgeous body and threw it across the snow! Do you know who did it?" Fred shuffled his feet nervously. He had a bad feeling that Tomba would think it was him.

"But you are the only man living on this mountain," Tomba went on. "So it must be you!" "I'm very sorry that I threw away your gorgeous body but now I am busy" Fred roared. Tomba snivelled cowardly. "Please can you help me find them?" "What do you think I am? Crazy!" Fred thundered. "Oh, I thought you would do it for one hundred wishes." Tomba squeaked.

"Well ...ok." Fred answered wickedly. He was planning that he helps this snowman, get his hundred wishes and Kill the snowman! They set off down the mountain. It was a long, long, long way down.



Suddenly, a snowy owl flew past Fred and Tomba and began to squawk. "RUMBLE, BOOM, BOOM! The mountain bellowed. Then it started to shake. It was an avalanche! The snow pushed Fred, (who was holding Tomba's head) to his feet and blew him down the mountain. Finally, the avalanche stopped. Fred looked down. There was the bottom of the mountain. "Mount Everest is high!" puffed Tomba who was blowing madly like a rhino.

Then Fred looked more carefully. He saw a pair of buttons, then a scarf and a lump of snow. Tomba's body was found! "Here's your body, Tomba." said Fred grimly. Tomba bounced happily around him as he attached them on him. "Can I have my one hundred wishes now, please?" snarled Fred viciously. "Well, no!" said Tomba, laughing like a maniac. Fred lunged at him but Tomba was too quick. He had disappeared in a puff of smoke. "That magic snowman," grumbled Fred, struggling to get back up the mountain. It certainly wasn't his best day!

THE END!

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2. Translation of short stories

- ❑ When translating a short story, as a translator, **you have to make first a crude handwritten draft that you never refer to again.**

عند ترجمة قصة قصيرة، كمترجم، اولا اعمل لك مسودة اولية مكتوبة بخط اليد ان لا تعود اليها مرة اخرى .

This is a necessary stage, the stage of 'writing the reading' in some palpable form.

هذه مرحلة ضرورية، مرحلة قراءة كتابة في شكل ما واضح .

Writing mechanically for page after page fixes the reading of each individual sentence; it shows up the problem points, the deficiencies in your understanding and the places where more work is needed.

كتابة آلية لصفحة بعد صفحة إصلاحات في القراءة لكل جملة بمفردها ؛ أنها تظهر نقاط المشكلة ، هناك النقص في فهمك والاماكن التي تحتاج عمل اكثر .

- ❑ **The next stage**, which is as translation proper, **involves writing and rewriting, crafting sentences, using dictionaries, thesauruses and encyclopaedias.** By the time you have finished a translation, you may have several drafts including the initial handwritten scrawl. Significantly, though, you never have more than one draft or two exceptionally, when writing other types of text.

المرحلة الآتية ، كترجمة ملائمة ، تشمل الكتابة وإعادة الكتابة، وصياغة الجمل، استخدام القواميس والمفردات والموسوعات. عند انتهائك من ترجمة، قد يكون لديك عدة مسودات تحتوي خريشات مبدئية بخط اليد. إلى حد كبير، رغم ذلك، لن يكون لديك اكثر من مسوده واحده او اثنتين بشكل استثنائي عند كتابة انواع اخرى للنص .

- ❑ **You rewrite so many times in your head** before sitting down at the computer that all you usually do is to make minor changes, certainly minor comparison to the number of drafts involved in translation.

اعادة كتابتك لعدة مرات في راسك قبل الجلوس على الكمبيوتر كل ما عليك فعله عادتا تغيرات بسيطة ،،
بالتاكيد المقارنة البسيطة لعدد المسودات المشتركة في الترجمة

Translating involves consciously and deliberately working through several draft stages.

تشمل الترجمة بانتباه ودراسة العمل من خلال تعدد مراحل المسوده