

Translation Methods used by Zaw Gyi in the short story *Revolt at Roger's, 1870* by John Galsworthy

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Abstract

This research studies translation methods used by Zaw Gyi in the story *Revolt at Roger's, 1870* by John Galsworthy, based on the translation methods of Peter Newmark (1988). The objectives are to classify the translation methods used by Zaw Gyi according to Newmark's translation methods and to find out the most and the least frequently used methods. The translation methods are categorized into eight types of Newmark (1988). In the story, Smith, the butler, was blamed for the theft at the Roger's house as he was drunken and fell asleep when the thief came in. So, Roger's children were against their father. There are altogether 174 transitions in this research. Mostly, the translator translates sentence by sentence. But in some cases, he does not translate orderly and merges some sentences in the translated version. In translating, Zaw Gyi left out or skipped over few sentences. Among them, the most frequently used method is faithful translation and the least frequently used method is word-for-word translation. The second largest amount of translation method is communicative translation. Because of the use of faithful translation and communicative translation, his work becomes more aesthetic. This research indicates that the translator reproduces the TL as close to SL as possible. But, Zaw Gyi more emphasizes on the understanding of his TL readers.

1. Introduction

According to Catford (1965:01), translation can be defined as a process of substituting a text in one language for a text in another. The definition sounds very simple but it is a quite complex task. The translator needs to master the Source Language (SL) and the Target Language (TL), understand the culture of SL and know the writing style of SL writer. In addition, he needs to have feelings, opinions and creativity.

Nida and Taber (1969:12), quoted by As-Safi (2000), postulate that "Translation consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style." Translation is an art assisted by science or it is a science fulfilled with art. Translator needs to have linguistic (scientific study of language) knowledge and literary knowledge of both SL and TL. Many translators believe that "there is no perfect translation, only good translation". The translated version will always be incomparable to the original because of

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two different linguistic systems involved in translation process. Sometimes, there is untranslatability when a text in one language has no equivalent text in another.

Migration, labour interchange, world-wide transportation, communication, technology development, political needs, colonizing, etc. put the world to be a global village. In this situation, people need a lingua franca and English serves this sector. But it is impossible for everyone to study a foreign language (English). So, translation becomes a necessary thing for people. Translation helps target language to gain new vocabularies, new thoughts, knowledge and ideas.

The material of this research is the translation of English short story Revolt at Roger's, 1870 by John Galsworthy into Myanmar language by Zaw Gyi as '၁၈၇၀ ပြည့်နှစ်က အိမ်တွင်းသူပုန်'. Zaw Gyi translated literary works of various authors from various countries. His skill of translation can be seen in his famous play Maha hsan gyinthu which is the adaptation of Moliere's Le bourgeois gentilhomme. Revolt at the Roger's is included in Zaw Gyi's book, The World Famous Short Stories of Nobel Prize Laureates, published in 2014. The book contains thirty two short stories written by different authors from different countries. Among them Revolt at the Roger's, 1870 is selected because it is an English short story (i.e. it is an original, not a translation). The story also reflects the nature of the youth. The theme of the story reminds the youth not to feel so sad but refresh. As the nature of the youth can be seen vividly in this short story, it is selected as the material of the research.

There are many researchers who study methods, procedures and techniques of translation from one language to another. But, John Galsworthy's Revolt at Roger's, 1870 translated by Zaw Gyi has not been studied yet. Therefore, the research attempts to study translation methods used by Zaw Gyi in the short story Revolt at Roger's, 1870.

The research aims to study the translation methods used by Zaw Gyi in translating English short story Revolt at Roger's, 1870 by Galsworthy. The objectives are to classify the translation methods used by Zaw Gyi according to Newmark's translation methods and to find out the most and the least frequently used methods.

The research contains five main chapters. They are Introduction, Literature Review, Research Methodology, Findings and Discussion and Conclusion. In Introduction, the aim and objectives of the research are discussed. In Literature Review, a biography of the original writer, John Galsworthy, a biography of the translator, Zaw Gyi, a synopsis of the short story Revolt at Roger's, 1870, theoretical background and related researches are described. Research Methodology describes the procedures for data collection, data analysis and data interpretation. Chapter four is Findings and Discussion and chapter five is Conclusion of the research.

2. Literature Review

This chapter presents biographies of the authors, John Galsworthy and Zaw Gyi, synopsis of the short story *Revolt at the Roger's*, 1870, theoretical background and related researches.

2.1 Biographies of the Authors

It is important to know the biography of the author to understand the text well. In studying a translated text, it is also important to know the biography of the translator. So, the biography of the source language writer, John Galsworthy, and the biography of the translator, Zaw Gyi are described as follows.

2.1.1 A Biography of John Galsworthy

John Galsworthy (born Aug. 14, 1867, Kingston Hill,Surrey, Eng_ died Jan. 31, 1933, Grove Lodge, Hampstead), English novelist and playwright, winner of the Noble Prize for Literature in 1932. Galsworthy's family, of Devonshire farming stock traceable to the 16th century, had made a comfortable fortune in property in the 19th century. His father was a solicitor. Educated at Harrow and New College, Oxford, Galsworthy was called to the bar in 1890. With a view to specializing in marine law, he took a voyage around the world, during which he encountered Joseph Conrad, then mate of a merchant ship. They became lifelong friends. Galsworthy found law uncongenial and took to writing. For his first works, *From the Four Winds*,(1897), a collection of short stories, and the novel *Jocelyn* (1898), both published at his own expense, he used the pseudonym John Sinjohn. *The Island Pharisees* (1904) was the first book to appear under his own name. Galsworthy was also a successful dramatist, his plays, written in a naturalistic style, usually examining some controversial ethical or social problem.

2.1.2 A Biography of Zaw Gyi

According to the website Wikipedia, a biography of Zaw Gyi is as follows.

Zaw Gyi (born Thein Han) was born on April 12, 1907. He was the eldest among U Yaw and Daw Sein Nyunt's nine children. He studied in his native town, Pyapon, Irrawaddy Division, till he passed Grade Eight. Then he moved to Yangon and continued his study and passed Grade Eleven in 1923. His quality of translation emerged when he was 17. He won the Thissarwardi Prize (5 gold sovereigns) from the Thissarwardi Newspaper for the poem *Sittathukha Linga*, translated from the English poet Henry Wotton's *The Character of a Happy Life*. He achieved B.A degree in 1929, majoring in Myanmar Literature, English Literature, Oriental and Far East History and continued M.A. In 1938, he joined University of London and University of Dublin for the Diploma in Library Science. These would be a great help for his translations. Not only England, he also travelled U.S.A, Mexico, Canada and Pakistan as a member of studying education systems. He was one of the leaders of the Hkit San movement in Myanmar literature. His first Hkit San poetry was *Padauk Pan*.

Zaw Gyi wrote 30 books, almost 230 poems, 46 short stories, 8 plays and 300 papers and essays. On September 26, 1990, he left his beloved wife, Daw Saw Yin and their fruits (three daughters), Khin Myo Han, Khin Hla Han and Khin Ohn Han.

2.2 A Synopsis of the Short Story Revolt at Roger's, 1870

According to the website Sparknotes, a summary of *Revolt at Roger's, 1870* is as follows. The saga chronicles the lives of three generations of a large, upper, middle-class family at the turn of the century. Having recently risen to wealth and success in the profession and business world, the Forsytes are tenaciously clannish and anxious to increase their wealth. The novels imply that their desire for property is morally wrong. In this story, Roger Forsyte, the younger brother of Jolyon, was very strict and severe though he was generous and warm-hearted person. He seemed to have rarely sympathy to others. His daughter, Miss Francie was 12 and his son, Eustace the youngest, was 11. As they both had brought up in the new era, they showed their protest against their father's action upon Smith, their butler. In the story Smith was blamed for the theft at the Roger's house as he was drunken and fell asleep when the thief came in. The story represents the gradual disappearance of the pride of Europeans at that period. Humour can be seen in describing the characters in it.

2.3 Theoretical Background

Newmark (1988) defines translation as rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. Newmark (1988) states that there are many tensions in translations between "sound and sense, emphasis (word order) and naturalness (grammar), the figurative and the literal, neatness and comprehensiveness, concision and accuracy". In order to adjust these tensions and to make readers understand the text better, there are many methods of translation.

Sometimes, there is an ambiguity in translating that is whether to translate semantically or communicatively. Table 1. Will help to distinguish between these two ways of translation. Newmark (1988) develops the two ways of translation into eight methods of translation. The followings are the eight methods of translation proposed by Newmark(1988).

2.3.1 Word-for-word translation

This is often demonstrated as interlinear translation, with the TL immediately below the SL words. The SL word-order is preserved and the words are translated singly by their most common meanings, out of context. Cultural words are translated literally. The main use of word-for-word translation is either to understand the mechanics of the source language or to construe a difficult text as a pre-translation process.

2.3.2 Literal translation

The SL grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest TL equivalents but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context. As a pre-translation process, this indicates the problems to be solved.

2.3.3 Faithful translation

A faithful translation attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the TL grammatical structures. It 'transfers' cultural words and preserves the degree of grammatical and lexical 'abnormality' (deviation from SL

norms) in the translation. It attempts to be completely faithful to the intentions and the text-realization of the SL writer.

2.3.4 Semantic translation

Semantic translation differs from 'faithful translation' only in as far as it must take more account of the aesthetic value (that is, the beautiful and natural sounds of the SL text, compromising on 'meaning' where appropriate so that no assonance, word-play or repetition jars in the finished version). Further, it may translate less important cultural words by culturally neutral third or functional terms but not by cultural equivalents and it may make other small concessions to the readership. The distinction between 'faithful' and 'semantic' translation is that the first is uncompromising and dogmatic, while the second is more flexible, admits the creative exception to 100% fidelity and allows for the translator's intuitive empathy with the original.

2.3.5 Adaptation

This is the 'freest' form of translation. It is used mainly for plays (comedies) and poetry; the themes, characters, plots are usually preserved, the SL culture is converted to the TL culture and the text is rewritten. The deplorable practice of having a play or poem literally translated and then rewritten by an established dramatist or poet has produced many poor adaptations.

2.3.6 Free translation

Free translation reproduces the matter without the manner, or the content without the form of the original. Usually it is a paraphrase much longer than the original, a so-called 'intralingual translation', often prolix and pretentious, and not translation at all.

2.3.7 Idiomatic translation

Idiomatic translation reproduces the 'message' of the original but tends to distort nuances of meaning by preferring colloquialisms and idioms where these do not exist in the original.

2.3.8 Communicative translation

Communicative translation attempts to render the exact contextual meaning of the original in such a way that both content and language are readily acceptable and comprehensible to the readership.

2.4 Related Researches

In the section, the researches done by other researchers in relation to the field of translation are presented.

The researcher Silva (1997) did the research Hemingway's "The Killers" in Portuguese. The purpose of this paper is to analyze the translation of The Killers into Portuguese in order to verify whether the translator was faithful to the source text as regards preserving the author's style and the main characteristics of the story. The researcher made analysis in style, interpretation, grammar, formality and modality. In interpretation, the researcher thought that the translator was not attentive to some details of the story and its interpretation. The researcher concluded there were numerous

problems concerning lack of attention and misinterpretation of the source text and omission.

Jorge-Legaspi (2007) did a thesis entitled *An Analysis of the Translation Techniques Used in the Filipino Translation of the Short Story "Doubt"*. The translator, Dr. Rustica Carpio, translated the short story *Doubt* by Wong Meng Voon. The researcher used segmentation method to analyse and compare the source text in English with the target text in Filipino. The study aims to find out fifteen translation techniques of Newmark used in the translation, five techniques of Carpio which are not in Newmark, borrowing techniques, and weaknesses of Filipino translation. By pointing out weaknesses, the researcher hoped that the future translators can avoid these problems as possible pitfalls in translation. The researcher also suggested that to develop theories in translation analysis and criticisms, the analyst needs to exchange ideas with the translator.

The research done by Silva (1997) makes analysis in style, interpretation, grammar, formality and modality based on the assumptions of Dubois (1973), Bell (1991), Aubert (1993). The material of the research is a short story. The research done by Jorge-Legaspi (2007) is the analysis of translation techniques based on Newmark's theory of translation (1988). The use of material is also short story. The material of this research is also short story. The theoretical basis for analysis in first research and the present research are different but both researches study translation. So, the researches are related to the present research.

3. Research Methodology

This chapter is concerned mainly with a description of the materials and methods employed in the present research as well as procedures for data collection and data analysis. The material of the research is the translation of the short story *Revolt at Roger's*, 1870' ခရစ် ဖြည့်နှစ်က အိမ်တွင်းသူပုန် The translated story is included in Zaw Gyi's book *The World Famous Short Stories of Nobel Prize Laureates*. The data were analysed according to Newmark's (1988) translation methods. Newmark proposed eight types of translation methods: word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, semantic translation, adaptation, free translation, idiomatic translation and communicative translation.

Sr. No.	Line No.	Original Sentences and Their Translation in Myanmar	WT	LT	FaT	ST	A	FtT	IT	CT
	3 - 6	A broad man of extremely genial disposition, he had in the few months of his butlerdom in Roger's new house enderared himself to the young Rogers, and even Roger was wont to speak of him as 'an amiable chap'. ဘဏ္ဍာစိုးစမစ်သည် ကာယဗလကောင်းသူ ဖြစ်သည်။ ရင်အုပ်ကျယ်ကြီးနှင့်ဖြစ်သည်။ ကာယ ဗလသာကောင်းသည်မဟုတ်။ စိတ်သဘောလည်း ကောင်းသူဖြစ်သည်။ သူဌေးရော်ဂျာ၏ အိမ်၌ဘဏ္ဍာစိုးအဖြစ် အလုပ်လုပ်ခဲ့သည်မှာ လေးငါးခြောက်လလောက်သာ ရှိသေးသော်လည်း ရော်ဂျာ၏ သားငယ်သမီးငယ်တို့၏ အချစ်တော်ကြီး ဖြစ်နေပြီ။ သူဌေးရော်ဂျာ ကိုယ်တိုင်ကစမစ်ကို 'တယ်သဘောကောင်းတဲ့ အကောင်' ဟု ဆိုသည်။						✓		
3	6 1 8	To be drunk without anyone's knowing, is a tort; to be discovered drunk, a misdemeanor, to be drunk when burglary is committed under one's nose, a crime, if not a felony. အကြင်အကျင့်သည် မူးအောင်ယစ်အောင် အလွန်အကျွံ အရက်သောက်သော အကျင့်ဖြစ်၏။ ထိုအကျင့်သည် လူသိရှင်ကြား မဟုတ်လျှင် မသိမသာကိုယ်နစ်နာရုံမျှဖြစ်သည်။ လူသိရှင်ကြား ဖြစ်လာလျှင် အကျင့်တန်ရာ ရောက်သည်။ သူ့ခိုးအခိုးခံရတုန်းမူးယစ်နေသည်ဖြစ်လျှင် ပြစ်မှုအကြီးစား မဟုတ်စေကာမူ ပြစ်မှုအသေးစားကို ကျူးလွန်ရာရောက်သည်။						✓		

The rest of the data analysis is enclosed in Appendix A.

The frequency and percentage of the translation methods used by Zaw Gyi in the short story Revolt at Roger's, 1870 are expressed in Table 2.

Table 2: Frequency and Percentage of Translation Methods Used by Zaw Gyi

Sr. No	Methods	Frequency	Percentage
1	Word-for word Translation	4	2.30%
2	Literal Translation	9	5.17%
3	Faithful Translation	84	48.28%
4	Semantic Translation	6	3.45%
5	Adaptation	11	6.32%
6	Free Translation	17	9.77%
7	Idiomatic Translation	5	2.87%
8	Communicative Translation	38	21.84%
Total		174	100%

3.2 SampleData Interpretation

The following are the sample interpretations of the collected data.

1. Communicative Translation

When the house of Roger Forsyte in Prince's Gate was burgled in the autumn of 1870, Smith was undoubtedly drunk and made no serious attempt to rebut the accusation.

ထိုတိုက်အိမ်သည် ဖော်စီတီ ဆွေမျိုးစုမှ ဆင်းသက် လာသော သူဌေးကလေး ရော်ဂျာ၏အိမ်သည် သူခိုး အခိုးခံရသည်။ ထိုညကသော် သူဌေးကလေး၏ ဘဏ္ဍာစိုး စမစ်သည် အရက်အမူးလွန်နေခဲ့သည်။ မနက်မိုးလင်း၍ သူဌေးက သူ့ကို ခေါ်မေးသောအခါ သူ့အမူးလွန်သည်မှာ မှန်ပါသည်ဟု ဝန်ခံလိုက်သည်။

It is readily acceptable and comprehensible to the readership about the introductory of the house in that the story takes place.

2. Free Translation

A broad man of extremely genial disposition, he had in the few months of his butlerdom in Roger's new house enderared himself to the young Rogers, and even Roger was wont to speak of him as 'an amiable chap'.

ဘဏ္ဍာစိုးစမစ်သည် ကာယဗလကောင်းသူဖြစ်သည်။ ရင်အုပ်ကျယ်ကြီးနှင့် ဖြစ်သည်။ ကာယဗလသာ ကောင်းသည်မဟုတ်။ စိတ်သဘောလည်းကောင်းသူ ဖြစ်သည်။ သူဌေးရော်ဂျာ၏ အိမ်၌ ဘဏ္ဍာစိုးအဖြစ် အလုပ်လုပ်ခဲ့သည်မှာ လေးငါးခြောက်လလောက်သာ ရှိသေးသော်လည်း ရော်ဂျာ၏ သားငယ်သမီးငယ်တို့၏ အချစ်တော်ကြီးဖြစ်နေပြီ။ သူဌေးရော်ဂျာကိုယ်တိုင်က စမစ်ကို 'တယ်သဘောကောင်းတဲ့ အကောင်' ဟု ဆိုသည်။

It reproduces the content without the form of the original. SL 'an amiable chap' is also translated into TL as 'တယ်သဘောကောင်းတဲ့ အကောင်'.

3. Free Translation

To be drunk without anyone's knowing, is a tort; to be discovered drunk, a misdemeanor, to be drunk when burglary is committed under one's nose, a crime, if not a felony.

အကြင်အကျင့်သည် မူးအောင်ယစ်အောင် အလွန်အကျွံ အရက်သောက်သောအကျင့်ဖြစ်၏။ ထိုအကျင့်သည် လူသိရှင်ကြား မဟုတ်လျှင် မသိမသာကိုယ်နစ်နာရုံမျှဖြစ်သည်။ လူသိရှင်ကြား ဖြစ်လာလျှင် အကျင့်တန်ရာရောက်သည်။ သူခိုးအခိုးခံရတုန်းမူးယစ်နေသည်ဖြစ်လျှင် ပြစ်မှုအကြီးစား မဟုတ်စေကာမူ ပြစ်မှုအသေးစားကို ကျူးလွန်ရာရောက်သည်။

It reproduces a paraphrase much longer than the original, a so-called 'intralingual translation'.

4. Faithful Translation

This, at least, was Roger's view, and he acted on it by immediate dismissal. His spoons had gone and Smith must go, too.

ထိုအယူအဆသည်သူဌေးရော်ဂျာ၏အယူအဆဖြစ်သည်။ထိုအယူအဆကြောင့်သူဌေးရော်ဂျာသည် သူ့ဘဏ္ဍာစိုးစမစ်ကိုအလုပ်မှချက်ချင်းထုတ်ပစ်သည်။သူခိုး ခိုးခံကြရသဖြင့် သူ့ငွေဇွန်း ငွေခက်ရင်းတို့သည် သူ့အိမ်မှာ ထွက်သွားကြပြီ။ ထို့ကြောင့် သူ့ဘဏ္ဍာစိုး စမစ်သည်လည်း သူ့အိမ်မှ ထွက်သွားရမည်။ထွက်စေ အမိန့်တော်။

It attempts to reproducde the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the TL grammatical structures.

5. Faithful Translation

"If you hadn't been drunk," he said, "you'd have heard the ruffians. Call yourself a butler-you're a disgrace."

'နည်းနည်းပါးပါးလောက် မင်းသောက်ရင်မင့်အခန်းထဲ သူ့ခိုးဝင်လာတာကို မင်းသိမှာပေါ့ကွ။ ဒါနဲ့များ ဘဏ္ဍာစိုးတဲ့ကွ။ ရှက်စရာ'

It transfers cultural words and preserve the degree of gramatical and lexical 'abnormality' in the translation. The word 'ရှက်စရာ' attempts to be completely faithful to the intentions and text-realization of the SL writer.

4. Findings and Discussion

This chapter presents the findings of this research and the discussion. The material of this research is the translation of the short story *Revolt at Roger's*, 1870. This research is based on the translation methods of Newmark(1988). His methods are word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, semantic translation, adaptation, free translation, idiomatic translation, and communicative translation. Here, the first four methods are SL emphasis and the last four are TL emphasis.

The following figure shows the percentage of the translation methods used by Zaw Gyi. In translating the story, there are altogether 174 transitions. As shown in Table 3, word-for-word translation is used only 4 times (2.30%), literal translation, 9 times (5.17%), faithful translation, 84 times (48.28%), semantic translation, 6 times (3.45%), adaptation, 11 times (6.32%), free translation, 17 times (9.77%), idiomatic translation, 5times (2.87%), communicative translation, 38 times (21.84%). Among them, faithful (48.28%) is the most frequently used method, and the least frequently used method is word-for word translation (2.30%).

Faithful translation is a kind of translation in which the translator needs to be proficient in both SL and TL equivalents. TL writer attempts to be completely faithful to the intention and the text-realization of the SLwriter. As shown in figure, Faithful translation(48.28%) is the most frequently used method. The second largest amount of methods used is communicative translation (21.84%). This method renders the exact contextual meaning of the original to be readily acceptable and comprehensible to the audience. So, the readers can understand the SL text and get its background knowledge. Word-for-word translation (2.30%) is the least frequently used method. In this translation, the word order of SL is preserved in TL cultural words which are translated literally. If the wword order of SL is preserved, the text may not convey any message because of the different sentence structures between SL and TL.

Mostly, the translator translates sentence by sentence. But in some cases, he does not translate orderly and merges some sentences in the translated version. In translating, Zaw Gyi left out or skipped over few sentences. The sentences that he left out are underlined in Appendix C. The sentences that he left out may be untranslatable because of the cultural differences between two languages.

It can be concluded that Zaw Gyi gives his readers the knowledge of SL culture, understanding the context and message of the SL. In addition, he points out the fact that one has ever been defeated for a long time.

5. Conclusion

This research aims at studying the translation methods used by Zaw Gyi in translating the short story *Revolt at Roger's*, 1870. The data are classified according to the translation methods of Newmark (1988). The methods are word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, semantic translation, adaptation, free translation, idiomatic translation and communicative translation.

The result of this research is that the most frequently used method is faithful translation, and word-for-word translation is the least frequently used method. The second largest amount of translation methods are communicative translation. As faithful is mostly used in the translation, the text becomes more aesthetic and the readers can understand the text fully according to target language culture. The readers cannot lose its any message.

The translator's goodwill of attempting to make his readers understand the text thoroughly, comprehend the context and realize the SL culture can be seen by doing this research. Like SL writer, the TL writer can convey the message, "Everything is changeable and no one has ever been in a single mood. The one who is oppressed can revolt at a time", to his TL readers. Translating literary prose is not just a word transfer. It helps the readers to understand the thoughts, feelings, culture, traditions and beauties of the SL.

The research studies only translation methods. Further researches can study translation techniques and procedures. Zaw Gyi translated many short stories and play. But the present research studies only one short story *Revolt at Roger's*, 1870. The results may be more reliable if one studies many translated works of Zaw Gyi.

The findings suggest that translation is not an easy task. The translator needs to have proficiency of SL and TL, general knowledge of both SL and TL culture, creativity and the comprehending the feeling of the SL writer.

Finally, the research has reached its destination of studying the methods of translation used by Zaw Gyi in the selected material and finding the most and the least frequently used methods. This paper will be a great help for future researchers who want of study prose translation.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Pa Pa Sein, Professor and Head of English Department, Yadanabon University, for giving me a chance to do this research and for her encouragement to finish this research in due time. I also want to express my heartfelt thanks to Dr. Lei Lei Wai, Professor of English Department, Yadanabon University, for her valuable advice and encouragement for the completion of this research. I am extremely grateful to my colleagues, from Department of English, Yadanabon University, who encourage me to do this research. In addition, I want to give my sincere thanks to Daw Swe Sis Aung, lecturer of our Department for her great help in checking the data of my thesis. Without her help, this research would not have been completed. I want to extend my thanks to all my teachers who have taught me from my childhood to the university days.

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