

An analysis of the modulation system in Vietnamese from a systemic functional perspective and some suggestions for legal translation

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ABSTRACT

Keywords:

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Systemic Functional Grammar (hereinafter referred to as SFG) is a linguistic area that has attracted numerous attention from linguistic scholars in Vietnam and worldwide. In this paper, we focus on Modulation analysis in Vietnamese, including Obligation and Inclination, from a Systemic Functional perspective. The qualitative research methodology will be applied to explore the aspects of Modulation in Vietnamese. The descriptive language method is mainly employed in this article to investigate the Modulation system in Vietnamese from the SFG viewpoint. The data for the investigation of Vietnamese Modulation was collected from formal online newspapers in Vietnamese. The data for the recommendation for legal translation was the Singapore Companies Act. The results of the study showed that the Modulation system in Vietnamese is composed of two categories: Obligation and Inclination. Regarding Obligation, it consists of four subcategories: necessity, Obligation, permission, and expectation. As for inclination, it includes Intention and Willingness. Then the results of the study will be employed to make some suggestions for legal translation in Viet Nam context.

Introduction

Modality is an aspect of linguistics that has been receiving various concerns among domestic and international scholars. However, the research on Modality is quite complex because each language has its own Modality systems (T. T. H. Nguyen, 2006). Additionally, in one language, each linguist has their own research approaches to Modality. In Vietnam, studies on Modality have been conducted with numerous approaches, from traditional grammar to functional ones. However, an approach to Modality from Systemic Functional Grammar is still new and thus has a lot of gaps.

As mentioned above, an application of the Modulation system to analyze Vietnamese still needs to be more extensive for the differences between the two languages. Additionally, the analysis of legal discourse and then making some recommendations of English and Vietnamese translation has been quite completely new, so it is meaningful to investigate several aspects of SFG as well as its application in translation (B. V. Nguyen & Ngo, 2021; X.

M. Nguyen, 2022; Pham, 2021; Tran, 2022)

In the scope of this paper, we discussed some aspects of the Vietnamese Modulation system. Specifically, in this article, from the Systemic Functional perspective, facets of the Modulation system in Vietnamese as for concept, means of realization, and semantic features are going to be analyzed. Then, the results were applied to make some recommendations for legal translation. The study is expected to be helpful for scholars who are interested in SFG in general and Modulation in particular. Additionally, the study is also useful for legal translators in the specialized field in which the differences in language, culture, society, and legal systems lead to challenges in interpretation.

In the introduction, It is necessary to add the phenomenon, to make the argument clearer and stronger.

Literature review

In the world, in terms of Modality, linguists have approached it in various ways, from traditional grammar to functional one. But in Vietnam, most of the studies have approached Modality from traditional grammar by Vietnamese typical linguistic authors such as Hoang Phe, Dinh Van Duc, Le Dong, and Nguyen Van Hiep in the studies about Vietnamese (Nguyễn, 2002). In terms of functional grammar, there are works by Cao Xuan Hao. Regarding systemic functional grammar, Modality has been approached by Hoang Van Van in his study about interpersonal analysis of a Vietnamese middle school science textbook (Van Van, 2020). Therefore, it can be seen that Modality analysis in Vietnamese is a field that is quite new in Vietnam. For that reason, we chose to explore facets of Modality from a systemic functional perspective and then applied this analysis in making suggestions for legal translation. The novel aspects of this research are to explore the facets of the Modulation system in Vietnamese. More importantly, some suggestions for legal translation have been made thanks to the research's analyzed results (Manfredi, 2014; Olsen, Lorz, & Stein, 2009; Van Van, 2006). Therefore, it is expected to make contributions to comprehend and translate English legal texts, which is essential to approach a foreign legal system in English (Manfredi, 2014; Olsen et al., 2009; Simonnæs & Kristiansen, 2019).

Theoretical framework

Because of the limitation of the number of pages in this paper, we just made an overview in terms of Modality in SFG and gave more details for Modulation. According to Halliday (1998), language is composed of three meta-functions, and Modality is a component of the interpersonal function (Michael Alexander Kirkwood Halliday, 1998; M.A.K Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004). Matthiessen (2013) demonstrated that interpersonal meaning is a linguistic resource expressing interaction, social role, and the relationship between the speaker or writer and listener or receiver (Matthiessen, 2013). In addition, Thompson (2013) adds that interpersonal meaning is not only the relationship or interaction between the speaker and the listener, but it also reveals the participants' views of the world (Thompson, 1996). The interpersonal meaning is realized through the system of Mood, Modality, and Person system. However, in this article, we just focus on the Modulation analysis in Vietnamese, which is a

component of the Modality system, in order to make some suggestions for legal translation. The Modality system might be summarized in Figure 1 below:

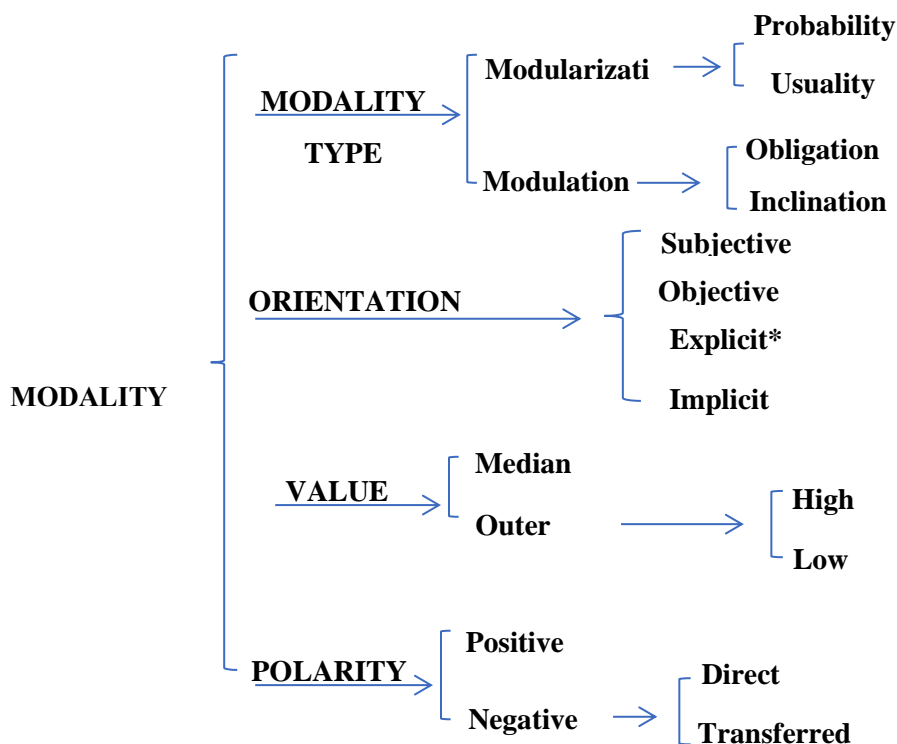


Figure 1. System network of MODALITY (M.A.K Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004)

In the SFG, Modality is classified into Modularization and Modulation. The modulation system reflects the speaker's level of confidence in the eventual success of the exchange in terms of the degree of **Obligation** as *being allowed to, be supposed to, be requested to, need, should, must* in command and **inclination** such as *willing to, anxious to, determined to, will, will not, may,...* in an offer (M.A.K Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004, p. 147). The realization of Modulation can be summarized in the below table:

Table 1. Modulation realization

Types of intermediacy		Typical realization	Example
Modulation	Obligation (allowed /supposed /required)	- Finite modal operator - Passive verb Predicator	<i>You must be patient!</i> <i>You're required to be patient!</i>
	Inclination (willing /keen /determined)	- Finite modal operator - Adjective Predicator	<i>I must win!</i> <i>I'm determined to win!</i>

Source: (M.A.K Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004)

The purpose of the study

The study used a qualitative approach and applied the Modulation analysis from the Systemic Functional Grammar perspective by Halliday in order to explore two main issues:

- (1) The linguistic features of the Modulation system in Vietnamese.
- (2) Application of Modulation analysis in translating legal English.

Research methodology and data

In terms of the research methodology, a qualitative approach was employed to investigate the characteristics of the Modulation system in Vietnamese. The language description research methodology has been applied to investigate Vietnamese's linguistic features in Modulation analysis (Iimura, 2021). Specifically, based on Modulation in English in studies by Halliday and other linguistic scholars who are keen on Systemic functional linguistics, we examined features of the Modulation system in Vietnamese. This analysis has taken into consideration factors related to Vietnamese culture, language context, cultural and social context, as well as language typology (Hongying, 2020). The method of describing language is the main research method we use in this study. Specifically, in this article, the linguistic features of discourse will be described at the sentence level to find out the characteristics of the modulation system in Vietnamese on the basis of analyzing the elements of Mood, Modality, and Person. After the interpersonal metafunctional features are described, we will propose some related translations (Hoang, 2005, 2012, 2018, 2020).

Regarding data for Vietnamese Modulation analysis, we collected from formal online newspapers such as Tuoi Tre, Thanh Nien, and Phap Luat. Then the data would be collected for analysis as well as evidence for the authors' perspectives. The data for suggestions of legal translation is the Singapore Companies Act, which was first enacted on December 29, 1967, and has been revised over the years. We use the last revised version dated 30/07/2020 as amended by Act No. 40 (Amended by Act 40 of 2018) and the up-to-date consolidated text on the Singapore government website (<https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Act/>).

Results and discussion

Obligation in SFG

From the SFG's theoretical framework associated with the features of the Modality system in language, we described the Modulation system in Vietnamese in spite of the fact that the features of the functional system in each language are disparate. They depend on language typology, linguistic features, and even the culture, which significantly influence on the functional systems of language (Iimura, 2021, p. 30). For that reason, we based on the linguistic features of the Modulation system established by Halliday in the SFG theoretical framework in order to describe this system in Vietnamese, but we have taken into consideration these factors such as language typology and Vietnamese culture. The key aspect of SFG is to focus on the functions of language mainly, so the Modulation system in Vietnamese has been described based on the functions of language in Vietnamese.

As mentioned above, Inclination and Obligation are two subcategories of Modulation. In

English, they can be realized in one of two ways: by finite modal operators or by expanding the Predicate (in the passive form or by an adjective) (M.A.K Halliday, 1994, p. 181). Within the scope of this article, we will conduct a survey of the commands in Vietnamese that perform two basic functions of the language “*invite*” and “*ask for*” to describe the Modulation in the Modality system. Specifically, in this paper, we discussed (1) the definitions of Obligation and Inclination in Vietnamese, (2) the categories of Obligation and Inclination, (3) the realization of Obligation and Inclination in Vietnamese.

Obligation in Vietnamese

(i) The subcategories and realization

First of all, the definition of Obligation in Modulation has been discussed on the SFG level. It can be said that it is impossible to define the concept of Obligation based on dictionaries. The reason is that Obligation is the linguistic term in Halliday's systemic functional theory paradigm. Therefore, it must be understood from the SFG perspective. Basically, Obligations in the SFG demand goods and services in a language that is not polarized. Accordingly, the Obligations in the propositions must be performed by using intermediate modes of expression between two polarities: prescribing and proscribing. In other words, Obligation in the Modality system might be the modes of expression in which an utterance can require the receiver of the utterance to perform such a certain action. This definition is a base from which the subcategories of obligations are identified and explored.

In Vietnamese, a demanding clause that requires the addressee to perform such a specific action can be realized in several ways. Based on the surveyed data, Obligations can be realized by one of four methods: necessity, Obligation, permission, and expectation. When the addresser expresses the necessity, Obligation, or permission from the addressee, this means that the speaker gives an offer that makes the addressee do an action called the exchange of goods and services. As for permission, it might be a bit difficult to explain the reason why this category belongs in the system of obligations in Modulation. The permission is understood as a bidirectional relationship “*demand – give*”. The requesting party needs to obtain the giver's permission to perform the action. This means that the demanding party has a certain obligation to comply with the action. This is the reason for why Iimura (2021) included the permission in the Modulation system in Japanese (Iimura, 2021). This phenomenon tends to be quite similar in Vietnamese. Therefore, it can be concluded that Obligations in the Vietnamese Modulation system include four basic subcategories: Necessity, Obligation, Permission, and Expectation. Obligations in Vietnamese Modulation can be summarized according to Table 3 below.

Table 2. Meaning of Obligations in Vietnamese Modulation

Necessity	Obligation
Spokesperson needs something done (action)	The receiver of utterances must take action because of the requirements of laws, rules, or social norms.
Permission	Expectation
The spokesperson authorizes the receiver to take action, and the person receiving the utterance will not be able to take action without permission.	Expect someone to take action

In terms of ways of realization of Obligation in Vietnamese, according to the research by Bui (2004), Modality in Vietnamese is expressed in a variety of ways, including intonation, modal verbs, idioms, particles (auxiliaries), modal adverbs, interjections, and structures, sentence structure, etc., (Bui, 2004). These study results have been proved in previous studies by Vietnamese linguistic researchers. These findings are based on which the Modulation system in Vietnamese has been discussed in this article.

As mentioned in a theoretical framework, we have applied SFG as the basis for describing Vietnamese grammar. According to SFG, Modality is realized through 'verbs' by one of two methods: finite modal operator and predicate expansion (verb). Thus, in this paper, the Modulation realization in Vietnamese has been mainly described through 'verbs'. The ignorance of other means, such as idioms, particles, adverbs, interjections, etc., is a limitation when investigating the Modality system in Vietnamese clauses. However, these means will be described in the SFG on a different level and may function differently. Therefore, the article only focuses on describing the Modulation system in Vietnamese based on SFG but mainly focuses on two methods: finite modal operator and predicate expansion.

According to the study by Bui (2004), modal verbs play an important role in performing modal functions in a Vietnamese clause. Basing on the previous studies by Vietnamese linguistic authors such as Diep Quang Ban (Diep, 1996), Nguyen Kim Than, Cao Xuan Hao (Cao, 1991), Dao Van Hung (Dao, 2000), it is stated that the means of realizing the Modulation function in Vietnamese have only one method: modal verbs, which are considered equivalent to the finite verbs in English. These modal verbs are preceded by one or more verbs that perform the following predicate function. The below table presents the means of realizing Obligation in Vietnamese.

Table 3. Means of realizing Obligations in Vietnamese

<i>The function of the utterance</i>	<i>Obligation</i>	<i>The method of realization</i>
Demand (Imperative clause)	Necessity	cần (need), nên (should),...
	Obligation	phải, cần phải, buộc phải (must), bảo (ask), đề nghị (suggest), yêu cầu (require)...
	Permission	Có thể (may, might), được, được phép (be allowed to),...
	Expectation	Hy vọng (hope), mong mỏi, chờ đợi (expect),...*

As for groups of verbs that belong to the subcategory of expectation, they are not considered as modal verbs by traditional Vietnamese linguists. Diep (1996) demonstrated that modal verbs are ones that are not independent in normal conditions and do not have full lexical meaning. However, the verbs in the subcategory of expectation are lexical words with full lexical meaning and do not need to be followed by another word to add meaning (Diep, 1996, pp. 65-68). Nevertheless, from our personal perspective, these words perform the function of Modulation realization. The reason is that these words obviously function in the roles of the exchange of goods and services in imperative clauses in an utterance.

These below sentences are examples for this case:

Ex1: *HLV Gareth Southgate của tuyển Anh **mong muốn** CĐV đừng la ó khi tuyển Ý hát quốc ca trong trận chung kết Euro 2020 sắp tới.* (The England coach - Gareth Southgate wants fans not to boo when Italy sings the national anthem in the upcoming Euro 2020 final.) (Source: Online Phap Luat Newspaper dated 11/7/2021)

Ex2: ***Mong sao** đèn khu cách ly bớt sáng thêm mỗi đêm.* (Hope that the lights in the isolation area are less bright every night. (Source: Online Phap Luat Newspaper dated 27/7/2021)

Ex3: *Doanh nghiệp **mong** chính sách thiết thực, hiệu quả mùa COVID-19.* (Businesses expect practical and effective policies during the COVID-19 season.) (Source: Online Phap Luat Newspaper dated 05/7/2021)

It can be clearly seen that words, such as *mong*, *mong Sao*, *mong muốn* in the above examples function as demands in imperative clauses that require specific objects (not) to perform certain actions or happen, such as not to boo, to be less bright or to be practical and effective.

From the above analysis, it can be concluded that there is only one means of the realization of Modulation in Vietnamese: by verbs that perform a quite similar function with the finite modal operators that SFG proposes.

(ii) Illustrative examples

Necessity

Ex4: “Tôi không thể không làm. Chúa nói với tôi: ‘Con là người phù hợp và con **cần** làm điều này’” - bà Debby nói với AP. (Source: “New wife donates kidney to save husband's ex-wife's life” - Tuổi Trẻ Online June 6, 2021)

“I couldn't help but do it. God said to me, 'You're the right person, and you **need** to do this,’” Debby told AP.

Obligatory

Ex5: “Đến 0h40, trạm thu phí buộc phải xả trạm. Đến 2h13 trạm thu phí trở lại nhưng đến 3h25 **buộc phải** xả trạm tiếp.” (Source: “Ninh Xuan BOT was forced to discharge the station after a few hours of toll collection)

“At 0:40, the toll station was forced to discharge the station. At 2:13 a.m. the toll station returned, but at 3:25 a.m., it **was forced** to discharge the station again.”

Permission

Ex6: *Theo các nhà bán lẻ, công việc ưu tiên hiện nay là tập trung xử lý các đơn hàng online, vốn bị ùn ứ trong những ngày trước đó do hàng hóa ở những điểm bán phong tỏa cũng không được vận chuyển ra ngoài.* (Source: “Ho Chi Minh City lifted the blockade for many essential sales points” - Tuổi Trẻ Online on July 2, 2021)

“According to retailers, the current priority is to focus on processing online orders, which were congested in the previous days because goods at blocked sales points were also not shipped out.”

Expectation

Ex7: *“Tết Đoan ngọ: Đơn giản, tiết kiệm, hạn chế đông người, **mong** diệt COVID.”* (Source: Tuổi Trẻ Online on June 14, 2021)

*“The Dragon Boat Festival: Simple, thrifty, limiting crowds, **hoping** to kill COVID.”*

Inclination in Vietnamese

(i) The subcategories of inclination and the means of realization

The inclination is to express the intention or willingness of the speaker to perform the action. The function of Inclination expression is to "offer" goods and services in utterances in clauses. In human communication activities, speakers show their inclination, which means showing what they want to do or tend to do. According to the results of previous studies and our survey of data on Vietnamese newspapers, it can be seen that the semantic scope of propensity modulation in Vietnamese will manifest through two subcategories: intention and willingness. The semantic domain of the subcategory of Modulation in Vietnamese can be summarized in Table 5 below.

Table 4. Meanings of Inclination in Vietnamese Modulation

Willingness	Intention
Willingness to take action	Proposed plan, intention to take action

The intention is a subcategory of the inclination to realize the speaker's “receiving” speech function when he or she makes a tentative plan to perform an action. Correspondingly, willingness is a subcategory of the inclination to realize the speech function of a speaker's “receiving” when he or she presents a willingness to perform an action in exchange for goods - services. Thus, it can be seen that there are two subtypes of inclination in the Vietnamese Modulation system: intention and plan. Similar to Obligation, Inclination is also realized by a sole form of modal verbs, which is finite modal operators, which are called modal verbs in traditional Vietnamese linguists. However, according to Ban (1996), there are still some words that are not completely modal verbs, such as chuẩn bị (prepare). The means of realizing inclination can be basically systematized in Table 6 below:

Table 5. Means of realizing the Inclination in Vietnamese

The function of the utterance	Inclination	Modal verbs to realize the inclination
Offer to receive (imperative clauses)	Intention (plan)	định, dự định, sắp sửa, chuẩn bị,...
	Willingness	dám, buồn, nỡ, muốn,...

(ii) Illustrative examples

Intention

Ex8: “Trong trường hợp này, Ban Tổ chức đang xem xét rút thăm để xác định xem ai sẽ được phép tới sân theo dõi trực tiếp.” (Source: “2020 Tokyo Olympics: No more than 10,000 spectators can enter the field” - Tuổi Trẻ Online on June 2, 2021)

“In this case, the Organizing Committee is reviewing the draw to determine who will be allowed to come to the field to watch live.”

Willingness

Ex9: “Đó là cuộc gặp gỡ với những người đồng đội, sẵn sàng bỏ qua lợi ích cá nhân để giúp đỡ người gặp nạn.” (Source: “Listening to a technology driver telling a job story” – Thanh Niên Online on July 2, 2021)

“It’s a meeting with teammates willing to put aside personal interests to help those in need.”

The modulation system in Vietnamese can be summarized in the following Figure 2.

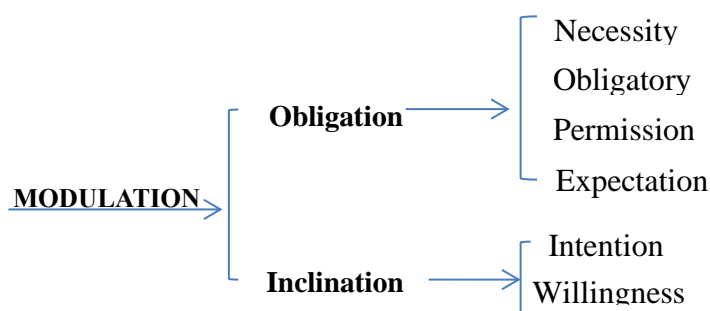


Figure 2. Modulation system in Vietnamese

Some suggestions of English – Vietnamese legal translation

The factor that contributes to the success of translation from the source language to the target one is to determine the equivalence. The determination of equivalence is different, and it depends on the theoretical framework. In legal translation, this is extremely essential. The reason is that the translation version can serve as a basis for determining the rights and obligations of the entities in legal relations. National or international authorized organizations tend to rely on the translated versions in order to make final decisions on resolving some

disputes. For that reason, the determination of equivalence is essential in legal translation.

No matter what the theoretical framework applied to determine the equivalence in translation, the essential element that should be taken into consideration in translation is “*the functions of language*”. In other words, a translation should be based on the functions of language, not forms or semantic meanings of vocabulary. Modulation plays such an important role in legal discourse, especially in contracts or legal documents regarding the rights and duties of related entities. The forms of Modulation will determine the rights and obligations of the parties in the implementation and settlement of disputes related to these types of discourse.

Therefore, the function of language is the factor that translators should be highly aware of in translation. When it comes to translating from English to Vietnamese or vice versa, the components of the Modulation system should be highlighted in order to determine the relevance and the degree of relevance. The recognition of relevant forms of two languages in terms of functions might contribute to the success of the complete translated versions. For example, in the Singapore Companies Act, *Shall* may be an Obligation or an Inclination. In case *Shall* is an Inclination and express the meaning of commitment, *Shall* can be translated into *cam kết*.

For example:

Ex10: *The Authority shall be responsible for the administration of this Act, subject to the general or special directions of the Minister* (Clause 1, Article 8). Translation: *Cơ quan nhà nước có thẩm quyền cam kết chịu trách nhiệm quản lý Đạo luật này, theo chỉ đạo chung hoặc đặc biệt của Bộ* (Khoản 1, Điều 8)

Comparison of the functions of Modulation to determine translation equivalence

The translators' perception of pertinence in terms of a functional level is essential, so the methodology of the determination of relevance in translation from a functional perspective is really important. To do that, the translator needs to determine the functions of the language in both the target language and the source language. However, it is unlikely that there is complete functional equivalence. For that reason, the level of relevance mentioned in this paper is the most likely relevant case by case.

In the scope of this article, we do not aim to give suggestions for all components of the modulation system; we just give some recommendations. The evaluation of the function of language is up to the translator. Specifically, the translator needs to determine the function of an element of Modulation in the target and source languages in advance when performing a legal translation. When the translator has selected the functional equivalence, he should choose the vocabulary in the target language to replace the source language.

This feature can be demonstrated more clearly by an example in the Singapore Companies Act. Through a semantic investigation of the word “*shall*” in the Act, it can be seen that *Shall* can be used for various meanings. Not only does it refer to a sense of Obligation, *Shall* can be also interpreted as Must, May, Will (future meaning), or present simple tense. Thus, these various meanings should be taken into consideration in translation. Specifically, when *Shall* demonstrates duty or Obligation, it can be translated into *phải, có trách nhiệm, có nghĩa vụ* in

Vietnamese.

For example:

Ex11: *Upon the application of a company and payment of the prescribed fee, the Registrar shall issue to the company a certificate of confirmation of incorporation.* (Clause 9, Article 17) can be translated into: *Sau khi hoàn tất thủ tục đăng ký thành lập công ty và thanh toán phí theo quy định, Cơ quan đăng ký phải / có nghĩa vụ / có trách nhiệm cấp cho công ty giấy chứng nhận đăng kí kinh doanh.*

The relevance in the context of culture and the context of a situation

It seems to be fundamental for the translator to recognize the function of language and determine functional equivalence. More importantly, the context of a culture of genres of discourse should be highly taken into consideration. Genre and Register are two contexts that strongly govern language usage. The language representation will be different when located in the contexts of a situation (register) and the context of culture (genre). Therefore, the translator also needs to investigate and comprehend these contexts when choosing vocabulary during language translation.

During the translation process, the translator tends to translate the discourse as a whole rather than just a few sentences in a discourse. Thus, the context of the situation will directly affect the translator; as a result, the translator seems to automatically adjust the language of the translation to suit the context of the situation. However, the cultural context needs to be given more attention in the language translation process. The reason is that the cultural context often does not directly and strongly influence the use of language in discourse in comparison with the context of the situation. Thus, it is necessary for the translator to be aware of this and to pay attention in the process of making choices in the target text. The below sentence is a typical example that indicates the influence of cultural context and situational context on language usage.

Ex12: *“A director of a company who makes a solvency statement without having reasonable grounds for the opinions expressed in it shall be guilty of an offense and SHALL be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both. (Point 6, Article 7A, the Singapore Companies Act).*

The Registrar SHALL keep a record whenever the electronic transaction system or the registers are altered under subsection (2).”

The realization of the Modulation in these two examples is the finite modal operator "SHALL". In Vietnamese, when translating SHALL, we will have a variety of different options: sẽ (will), có nghĩa vụ (be obliged to), phải / cần phải / buộc phải (must), etc. However, if we take a look at the context in Vietnamese legal discourses, we can see that only some meanings are used to express obligations in these texts. We propose to translate the above two examples into Vietnamese as follows:

Ex12: *“Giám đốc của một công ty đưa ra tuyên bố về khả năng thanh toán mà không có căn cứ hợp lý cho các ý kiến được trình bày trong đó sẽ bị phạm tội và PHẢI bị kết án*

với mức phạt tiền không quá 100.000 đô la hoặc bị phạt tù có thời hạn không quá 3 năm hoặc cả hai. (Điểm 6, Điều 7A, Đạo luật Công ty Singapore).

Cơ quan đăng ký kinh doanh CÓ NGHĨA VỤ lưu hồ sơ bất cứ khi nào hệ thống giao dịch điện tử hoặc sổ đăng ký được thay đổi theo tiểu mục (2).”

Conclusion

This article has contributed to introducing and explaining a small aspect of the interpersonal meta-function, which is the Modulation system in the Vietnamese. The Modulation system in Vietnamese is composed of two subcategories: Inclination and Obligation. The obligation is divided into four small subcategories: necessity, Obligation, permission, and expectation. Inclination consists of two small subcategories: Intention and Willingness. Obligation and inclination are both realized by finite modal operators, most of which are quite similar to modal verbs in traditional Vietnamese grammar.

As mentioned above, although SFG has been studied for many years in Vietnam, the number of research is still quite modest in comparison with traditional grammar due to its complexity. Therefore, when we study the Modulation system in Vietnamese, we still have many suspicions and unsatisfactory points of view. This article might still be unable to solve all the issues of the Modulation system in Vietnamese, which is an isolated language typology. Through this article, we hope that there will be more scholars and researchers interested in Modality in Vietnamese from the SFG perspective.

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