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## An Assessment of Interpreting Legal Inquisition Discourse at Iraqi Governmental Institutions

### ABSTRACT

The current study attempts to examine the productivity of legal interpreters in rendering the information from Arabic into English language and vice versa of legal inquisition discourse. It proposes that even though legal interpreters are obliged to convey the legal discourse faithfully and accurately. However, several factors influence the interpreter's productivity which, in turn, provides an inaccurate or unrelated statement. In order to test the validity of the hypothesis of this study, nineteen videos have been analyzed, recorded at Iraqi governmental institutions, e.g. Basrah Federal Appeal Court and Basrah International Airport. These renderings are analyzed according to Daniel Gile's (2009) Effort Model and Alessandra Riccardi's (1999) Error Analysis.

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## تقييم ترجمة خطاب التحقيق القانوني في الدوائر الحكومية العراقية

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### الخلاصة:

تتناول هذه الدراسة فحص إنتاجية المترجمين القانونيين للخطاب القانوني أثناء نقل المعلومات في عملية الترجمة من اللغة العربية إلى اللغة الانجليزية و بالعكس، و تبين هذه الدراسة أنه بالرغم من أن المترجمين القانونيين ملزمين بنقل المعلومات المتداولة بأمانة و دقة، هناك عدة عوامل تؤثر على إنتاجية المترجم ، فقد يقوم بنقل معلومات غير دقيقة أو غير ذي صلة بالموضوع المقصود، و من أجل التحقق من فرضية هذه الدراسة قامت الباحثة بتحليل تسعة عشر فيديو مسجل تم جمعها في المؤسسات الحكومية و بالتحديد محكمة

استئناف البصرة الاتحادية و مطار البصرة الدولي، و قد تم تحليل هذه البيانات وفق نموذج الجهد الذي وضعه دانييل جايل في عام ٢٠٠٩ ونموذج تحليل الخطأ لأليساندرا ريكاردي في عام ١٩٩٩ .

الكلمات المفتاحية: ماهية اللغة القانونية ، أنواع اللغة القانونية ، أهمية اللغة القانونية ، متطلبات اللغة القانونية ، خصائص اللغة القانونية.

## 1. Introduction

Legal interpretation has influenced the daily lives of every human in communities. Human may unconsciously enter into a transaction that is governed by LL, such transactions are writing a will, opening a financial account, buying or selling an estate ...etc. In other words, all social interactions are subjected to legal system.

During the past three decades, linguists and social scientists have shifted their focus of attention towards LL. The main reason that lies behind their interest in LL is that they try to end-up with a better understanding of how LL works. So, it is worthwhile to examine the techniques of this language.

Words are the interpreter's most essential tool. However, it is essential to state that the words used by legal professionals are not considered ordinary ones. Though, it is a fact that an interpreter's profession depends on language and how well equipped the interpreter is in use of the structure and grammar of the language. An interpreter's profession depends on language, interpreters derive from it, and general grammar rules govern their language use and style. So, as the sentence is the style of law executed by judges, words as well are the style of LL used by legal professionals to discuss what the law means, in spite of the fact that English is not the language of the common man in Iraq particularly, in most of Iraqi governmental institutions. In this regard, the need for legal

interpreters noticeably increased which led to admit that LI is a fascinating topic of study.

Before stating legal discourse interpreting, it's important to mention some significant topics, i.e. what is meant by LL, types of LL, a survey of its historical background, its importance and the role it has played in the major of Translation Studies, its requirements, characteristics, and its problems.

## 2. What Is Legal Language?

At first, it is important to state that LL plays a crucial role in the world nowadays. Due to the increasing businesses that have been held recently, none can renounce the use of LL (e.g. legal documentations, contracts, ...etc.). LL is defined as a special kind of language that is being used and applied by a person who works in the legal major. Moreover, it is worth to state that in his work, *Legal Language* Tiersma declares that “ legal language often strives toward great formality, it naturally gravitates towards archaic language”. He intends to say that archaisms add a flavor of formality to the language to which they belong (Tiersma,1999, p.95). Generally speaking, LL is a language that could be used by a lawyer or a governmental employee in drafting a legal document or pleading, as it has become a ritual amongst the lawmen to use the old English which they consider a style of the lawyers (Bahatia 23). Indeed, it becomes a fearful experience for a layman to go through each and every word of the letter which he/she finds beyond his capacity to grasp and answer. In addition to that, it couldn't be used in a daily conversation, due to its nature which is structured by unapproachable, sophisticated and complex characteristics that they seem hard to acquire by lay public. Further, legal documents are carried with a high implication for style and technicalities in order to provide the accuracy. Thus, it is necessary to point out

that LL has its specific terminology and features. As Mellinkoff (1963, p.25) states, one of the most significant characteristics of LL is its vagueness which reflects its complexity. In addition to that, this significant feature distinguishes the use of LL from the use of daily language. Further, Menon (1993, p.iii-iv), one the critics of LL, offers the argument that due to its technicality, the law legal language is different from the ordinarily language, he states that :

The language of the law is not just English as ordinarily understood, but a varietal system of technical terms, situational meanings, complicated procedural arrangements...etc. which communicates, at least among the law men, in a unique style, imperceptibility interwoven with certain juristic traits and judicial qualities.

Such a notion regards that LL cannot be comprehended by common people as it is considered a technical subject, which means that only legal professionals are able to comprehend the technicality of this language, owing to the fact that, they have the skills which the latter enables them to deal with- and comprehend- it.

In this regard, it is worth mentioning that it states that LL has its own users as any other language( Smejkalova, 2009, p. 31). Those users might be judges, lawyers, legal professors or legal interpreters/translators. This means that LL differs from our daily conversation. It's true that LL totally differs from daily language used by ordinary people. Hence, the former involves some exceptional features. They are the following :

- **Terminology** in which foreign words or phrases are used as an alternative of English words or phrases (e.g. Quasi is used instead of As If).
- **Linguistic Structure** which are sentences that possess special structures. Thus, the grammatical structure of French has a great impact.

- **Archaic Use of Words (Archaism)** Tiersma, in his work, *The plain English movement* states that archaism can cause comprehension problems for non-lawyers because it became unfamiliar in modern English usage, except in law, they can be replaced by modern words in compliance with the drive towards plain English in Legal writing. Some examples of archaisms are “aforementioned” , “pursuant to “, and “witnesseth” (Collins, 2005, p.432). Archaism is old English and it is rare in daily modern English but often appears in legal contracts (Hu & Lu, 2017, p.279). This means that “archaism” refers to the use of old words or expressions, that is used in legal documentation till this time, such as hereof, herein, and hereafter. These words are mainly used in order to avoid repetition. However, the interpreter should avoid miscomprehension. In this manner, King, in *What’s It Going to Take for You to Use Plain Language*, pleads for the advantages of plain LL :

It increases effective [sic] and conveyance; it tends to persuade the others; it tends to persuade the Bench; it tends to increase the clientele base; it increases clear communication; it provides a high level of quality legal service to consumer-clients; it tends to help legal accuracy, skill to say in the simplest way in brevity but with clarity; plain legal English is more persuasive; it shows the proof of creativity; it helps to improve document’s substance; it saves time; it helps to lessen the use of “hereby” that adds nothing to the document; it helps to wither legalese habit; and it proves to be productive.

The main reason behind the distinction between LL and ordinary language is that if we go back in time, English lawyers actually have their own language (Law French). Yet, today’s legal interpreters as well use a type of English language that is in some way or another is uncommon to the lay public. Such a distinction is the use of long, complex, redundant sentences, impersonal constructions, .... , and arcane words or phrases as : witnesseth , per annum. However, Tiersma (1999) discloses that the nature of today’s LL is not used for the purpose of monopolizing

the profession. Hence, it is improved by the influence of several languages and cultures.

## 2.1. Types of Legal Language

Bhatia (1987,p.227) distinguishes three main types of LL writing. These types are listed as follows :

**1. The Academic Legal Writing** which involves language that is mainly used in academic researches on law and involves law textbooks.

**2. The Juridical Writing** which is used by lawyers ,judges when issuing their sentences and decrees, books that contain legal issues and legal reports.

**3. The Legislative Writing** which refers to documentation issued by the parliament where the main purpose is to set rules.

According to Kelkar, generally legal communication takes place in one of the five types of situational contexts:

- i. The law-giver to the judge and the counsel-statutes, preamble to statutes.
  - ii. The judge to the counsel, the Counsel to the judge-judgments, briefs, court room exchange, preamble like portions of judgment and briefs.
  - iii. Consultation among judges, among counsels among men of law.
  - iv. The judge to the jury, the counsel to the client, the client to the counsel- the judge's brief, consultations.
  - v. Between ordinary citizens-contracts, testaments, by-laws, notices, and the like.
- The language of law is; however, also subjects to certain other hazards- the hazard of interested disputes as to interpretation and the hazard of interested disputes as to the correct text itself” (Kelkar, 1993, p.369).

As Rodel (1991) states that legal writing suffers from two wrongs. First, its style, and, second, its content. This may seem to be due to a number of unusual features largely relating to terminology, linguistic structure, linguistic conventions and punctuations which have their roots in the development of English as LL. Law French and Law Latin have influenced the development of English as a LL (Williams, 1946, p.61-62). To cut it short, it seems hard to acquire LL without being familiar to its history. So, it is essential to be informed by the historical background of LL.

### **3. Literature Review**

Legal Language has been developed to meet the demands of legal system. However, this doesn't mean that LL is newly emerged or used. Yet, it has a great history of events date back to thousands of years. It is necessary to light up that the flourishing of legal English is closely connected with the history of Great Britain. In general , legal system in the US arose from the first European Colonies, resulting in a large carryover of Latin legal terms , which are used by those who are engaged with this profession till this time. Over the history of Great Britain , the early inhabitants of Britain spoke a Celtic dialect first. After the Roman invasion in 55BC and due to Tiersma (1999, p.16) the spread of Christianity for the arriving of St. Augustine in 597 AD, English was affected by Latin language. It is still used in the present professional language. Then the Anglo-saxon and Jutes came and left an influence for the Old English which was an offshoot of their language. Next, came the Vikings and their influence which is clearly seen in the names of some places in the northeast of England. After the Norman invasion English was affected by French language(Tiersma, 1999, p.40). Later on, the flourishing and expanding of the British Empire offered chances to the English public to enhance their language with different vocabularies from other language especially French and Latin.

Britain invaders didn't bring their language only, yet they also brought their cultures, traditions, and roles. In this respect, it is worth to state that each through its governing duration left a great influence on legal English (Henceforth LE). Yet , it is necessary to mention that French and English play the most dominant used languages in law at that time.

As it has been mentioned legal English (henceforth LE) was influenced by the invaders who invaded Britain. Currently, LE uses several borrowed words that are mostly derived from French and Latin. Archaic words are being rarely used, and have been abandoned for a long time, so they become obscure in everyday language. The goal of its usage is to imbue the legal English with formal style ( Stanojevic, 2011, p.69).

English remains the spoken language of the majority of the population, whilst all written documents are done in French or Latin. Since that time, LE was influenced by Latin and French. Latin is in evidence everywhere in LE. English legal language is very different and more difficult than general English though based it is an ordinary language (Mattila, 2006, p.3). It is true that Latin had a significant influence and it remained an important LL in England, particularly in its written form, which it can be noted by so many words and phrases that one may or may not already be familiar with like : versus (i.e. against), pro se (for him/herself) ,..etc. LE also borrowed a large number of French words that are used in legal documents such as, contract, proposal, schedule, policy ...etc. (Sabrah,2003.p.46). All these terms remain and they are used till now.

LL is totally different from our daily language for its uniqueness of vocabulary and sentence structure. According to Semjkalova (2009, p.31) LL as any other language has its own specific users. Furthermore , it has some essential requirements such as the accuracy and certainty. It also requires comprehending



the legal discourse in order to communicate its content clearly without any vagueness to its audience. Further, it requires stability and legal terminology that must be relatively stable.

Mellinkoff (1963, p.24) claims that the language of law has a strong tendency towards certain mannerisms such as being wordy, unclear, luxurious, pompous, and so on. Pomposity and wordiness are blended together in a long complex sentence structure and the lack of clarity of expressions contributes to that dullness of legal language. Legal English is different from general English. Legal language is characterized by a complex and specialized lexicon, which requires interpretation to be grasped and often makes the language completely foreign and incomprehensible to the ordinary people.

Legal language due to its nature it is regarded a complex and difficult type of discourse. However, it is important to shed light on the importance of legal language to facilitate the understanding of legal systems and to work out the best equivalence in meaning by increasing the role of “ lawyer linguists”. As Hargitt (2013, p.427) declares that LL didn’t develop recently, yet it has a great and rich history date back to thousands of years. LL is a jargon primarily characterized by a complex and specialized lexicon, which requires interpretation to be grasped by the ordinary people. Hence, the most basic function of language is communication (Hargitt, 2013, p.428). These are one of the most important LL requirements which it will be discussed in detail in the following section.

#### **4. The Importance of Legal Language**

As a matter of fact, the need for LL has increased because its usage facilitates the process of communication among human. Generally speaking, LL is considered an essential and crucial tool of the law in the domain of Translation Studies. Moreover, law has a great impact in the study of LL. The main reason

behind discussing this type of language is basically to enable people who are not mastering the formal language to communicate with the providers of public services as well as to reach a complete access to legal, health, education, government, and social services (Carr et al, 1997).

It has been said that studying law means learning a new language for many reasons; e.g. you will be learning new words and phrases which are not tackled before. These words and phrases require from the ones who engaged with legal profession and law students at the first place to acquire. It is essential to learn and adsorb their legal meaning in order to know how to deal with them. Therefore, there are some vocabularies whose meanings expand and depend on the context or the country that has been used in. In the Arab countries, as an instance , there are several differences among the east and the west , focus on setting a unification of legal terminology. This refers to historical background like the colonization of some European countries to west Arab countries including “Algeria” and “Morocco” in the beginning of the last decade , also because they were nearly connected to Europe exactly France and influenced by the “law of Napoleon”. Thus, they had a great impact on the field of law by creating new legal terminology. In addition to the Othmani colonization, the Orient including Iraq and Syria were using the Othmani rules and its terminology , that is the reason that all lies behind the fact that legal terminologies are so complicated and randomly constructed (Ghebaichi, 2016, p.19).

## **5. Requirements of Legal Language**

First of all, a legal or technical text usually demands more terminological precision than any other type of text which, in turn, demands more concentration on form rather than on the objective facts. So, effective writing skills range from the choice of idioms to the vocabulary, phrasing ... etc. Out of this, it can be

realized that the way used to write the words in any legal documentation is hardly important in the overall effectiveness of the translation. Second ,it is necessary to mention that none can easily acquire LL. Hence, it requires some qualifications and requirements that should be available in the interpreter/translator's acknowledgement. These requirements are listed as follows:

1. **Accuracy** which's considered one of the most stable requirement of LL. Because, accuracy is a foremost feature in applying legal documentation in order to submit legal certainty and equality in law. It must state all the rights and obligations precisely without any addition or deletion.

2. **Transparency** which's one of the most crucial requirements of LL. Thus, legal texts should be transferred clearly and without any vagueness to the receiver. Knapp (1995, p.126) claims that the ideal understandability is to make the addressee of the legal norms understands it in the same way as its creator. Likewise, Hargitt (2013, p.428) insists on the idea of facilitating the legal system and figuring out the best equivalents in meaning.

3. **Stability** which means any term that has been used in the legal text should refer to one and the same thing (Knapp, 1995, p.125). However, Pejovic (2001, p.817) states that there are many situations where the same legal term has different meanings, or a different legal term has the same meaning. This problematic aspect has a great confusion to both legal interpreters/translators and their clients.

It is necessary as well to shed light on the cultural aspect. Legal interpreters/translators should take into consideration the differences among cultures . Hence , they have to bridge the gap of cultural aspect among the parties they are dealing with in a meeting.

Translators in general have to use the words very carefully and precisely by heightening their linguistic proficiency. The main and important reason that lies behind that is the meaning of the words plays a very vital role during the process of transferring. Once interpreter(s)/translator(s) have learned the meaning of legal terms, they are expected to use them accurately.

Finally, to wrap it up , regardless to what is the subject of discussion whether it is a legal , literally , medical, ... etc., it is necessary for any interpreter/translator to meet the same standards of competence no matter what major he/she interprets/translates or works for (Mikkelson, 2010) .This means that all types of interpretation/translation insist on the breadth and depth of linguistic proficiency. Hence , he/she should master the linguistic structure and culture of both languages that are concerned.

## 6. Characteristics of Legal Language

LL is characterized by certain traits. Firstly it is characterized by **complex** and **specialized** terminology. It is the most outstanding and complicated language in the field of Translation Studies at this time. Indeed , it is complicated since it involves a large number of unfamiliar words and phrases. It applies high technical and specialized terms. Further, it uses long sentences which include full details that may take a whole page or more. This causes the difficulty in grasping LL.

Generally speaking, LL is characterized by a complex sentence structure and the use of vague terminology which influence the process of comprehensibility of the receiver. These characteristics need a bit of attention and realization by the interpreter/translator in order to transfer them perfectly without any error. Hence , one of the most important characteristics of interpreter/translator(s) is to be able to express ideas well and accurately.

In fact legal document has been described in terms of its complexity and legal discourse is remarked by complexity in terms of both syntax and structure (Tiersma, 1999, p.51). As he states that “ The language of written statutes and contracts and many other legal documents has been described in terms of its complexity and legal talk is also remarkably complex in terms of syntax and structure ”.

There are lots of people who face some difficulties in grasping legal claims. This issue is not related to the nature of LL. Yet, it is closely related to the nature of law system itself. This complexity implies certain reasons (e.g. pomposity , wordiness , verbosity and what is meant by these terms is being wordy, and finally long sentences). Such examples cause the lack of clarity which leads to vagueness of LL. Secondly, some scholars like (Danet, 1985, p.279; Hiltunen, 1990, p.81; Collins, 2005, p.432; Damova, 2007, p.18; Veretina-Chiriac, 2012, p.103) agree that archaism is regarded as a pioneer characteristic of LE. Crystal & Davy (1969, p.207) demonstrate that most of the archaic words are delivered from old English. They delivered the form of adverbials too in which some prepositions are affixed , as therefrom , thereof , whatsoever, hereinbefore, hereinafter ...and so on. In this regard , it is important to note that archaic use of words adds some sense of formality and authority to legal discourse. As such, Tiresma (1999, p.97) proposes : “ using antiquated terminology bestows a sense of timelessness on the legal system as something .... Deserving of great respect”. Thirdly, it is characterized by the use of passive voice. So, its users tend to use passive voice rather than active voice. Their emphases is shifted on the action instead of the doer of the action. The main reason behind using this strategy is that the doer of the action is able to change , yet the judgement doesn't change. An example is :

- Payment shall be made within seven days.

(Alcaarez,E&Hughes,B., 2002, p.20)

Another feature of LL is the use of long sentence structure , the use of declarative type of sentences and the use of present simple tense. As Vachek (1974) depicts that the sentences that are used in legal text/discourse are characterized by the use of long and complex structure. However, they are clearly well-formed and built up. Moreover, LL is characterized by the use of formal tone and the third person rather than first person perspective. LL users avoid using pronouns as “we” , “he” or “she” ... and so on. Yet , they prefer using such words and phrases as “the said” , “the aforesaid”, “the aforementioned” , “the same” and so on instead of using explicit pronouns. Such a fact is clarified in the following example:

The Lessee shall pay to the Lessor at the office of the lessor.

يدفع المستأجر إلى المؤجر في مكتب المؤجر.

Sabrah(2003,p.37)

As it is clearly shown in the above example, the whole emphasis is shifted towards the word "المؤجر" in both sentences instead of using the appropriate pronoun "مكتبه" to avoid confusion, as in the second example below:

The Lessee shall pay to the Lessor at his office.

يدفع المستأجر إلى المؤجر في مكتبه.

Sabrah(2003,p.38)

As it is mentioned in this example, the phrase "في مكتب المؤجر" is replaced by "في" which may make the reader confused whether the payment shall be done at the lessor's office or at the lessee's office. Hence, the significance of not using personal pronouns is obvious.

Finally , LL is characterized by the use of doublets. It is familiar that ELL uses more than one synonym or word that hold the same or nearly the same meaning

one directly after the other in the same sentence for the sake of precision of meaning. As in the following example:

This establishment announces and declares.

إن هذه المؤسسة تعلن وتصرح.

Alcaraz&Brian(2002, p.9)

## **7. Problems of Legal Language**

As it has been cited before, the use of LL should not be considered the same as the use of ordinary language. Hence ,interpreters/translators are very familiar with the misconception that the lay public have about their profession. They tend to be unaware that each type of the translation profession has its own myths which differs from the other types of translation , like legal translation have to be concerned with ethical consideration. However , ethics are a major consideration for all interpreters/translators. Yet, the situation differs when the interpreter/translator deals with law. This is regarded as a common topic of the interpreter's/translator's interest which is the need for client education : “ we need to educate our clients so that they understand how specialized our work is ; we are not like those other so-called interpreters”(Mikkelson, 2010).

A large number of previous studies has made a tangible clue to the fact that LL causes problems in comprehension , especially for the ordinary people. The main reason behind this dilemma is the use of rhetoric language by the governmental employees and the judgments of courts. The use of technical terms , unusual , and archaic words/phrases , impersonal construction , modals , long and complex sentences are all considered a problematic aspect of LL.

Gonzalez et al, (1991, p,384) add that : what makes the court interpreter's job much more difficult than other types of translation is that legal interpreters cannot

entirely be able to discard non-semantic information, i.e. anything even a tiny detail, such as pauses and hedges because it must be involved in the TL's version to achieve a legal equivalent of the SL message . In some situations interpreters/translators may find themselves in a linguistic dilemma. So, while using LL, there might be some problems raised. These problems can be summarized as follows :

**1. Uncertainty :** There is a large number of words whose meaning can be expand (interchangeable) or uncertain which leads to raise some problems in this range. For example, the word (RIGHT) is cited as an example on this point. It has a lot of meanings ; further , in LL (RIGHT) counts as a vague word.

**2. Language Deficiency :** There are many problems related to language deficiency. This dilemma affects the language's expressions which lead to misinterpretations, e.g. lack of linguistic knowledge, lack of cultural knowledge and so on.

**3. Unfixed Meaning of Words :** There are some words whose meanings change through the time. For example, the word (ASYLUM) is used before to refer to such a kind of shelter. However , it is used now to refer to a place where mentally sick people stay for treatment. It is important to state that its old meaning has not disappeared yet.

**4. Special Words :** The label of these words is put under this title on purpose, because there are so many words which are used by legal professionals. Those words have different meanings from what they are used to refer to. For example, the word (SENTENCE) is not used in the sense in which ordinarily its meaning.

**5. Archaism :** There are some observations made by Crystal & Davy (1969, p.207) stating that : “ it is especially noticeable that any passage of legal English is usually



well studied with the archaic words and phrases of a kind that could be used by no one else but lawyers.” Archaism is a significant feature of LL that adds some sense of originality and continuity (Oruma, 1983, p.20). Due to Veretina-Chiriac (2012, p.53) archaism are the standard forms of legalism and lawyerism belonging to a formal style and making concise and precise documents. In other words, archaism can be defined as old words that are generally uncommon nowadays in English ; yet , still used in LE. This leads to increase some comprehension problems for non-legal professionals. For example, the words (HEREAFTER) is used to refer to (after this place). This may be easy to grasp. However, there are some words that may not be easy to grasp their meanings as (FORTHWITH) which means(at once or immediately).

It is necessary to point out that Tiersma (94) says that “words like ‘herein’ and ‘therein’ may sometimes lead to economy of expression when they replace a longer phrase like ‘in this document’ or ‘in that clause’ ”. To sum up , the use of archaism decreases wordiness and verbosity.

## **8. Relationship between Legal Language and Law**

At first , the relationship between LL and law is mutual. LL’s style is closely connected to the law system in question. To dig deep inside, law is any system of regulations that are used to rule up a specific group of people who live in a community or a society or a nation in terms of organizing their life for regularity and justice. In other words, law is a system which is limited to a specific country. Language passing through the time and the advancement of science and technology is due to the fact that a plenty of new vocabularies see the light. These vocabularies are based on several different fields. As a result , the idea of each field has its own language is released. For instance , legal commercial language has its own features which distinguishes it from the ordinary language used in the daily conversation.

In this manner, it is worth to declare that every filed of expertise has its own language features (Gibbson, 2003, p.36). Language in general is a process of writing and adopting fixed terms to express certain ideas in a particular domain. In the light of Chauhaan's perspective, "the survival of any language depends on its adaptability and effective understanding" (2013, p.334). It's regarded as a dominant tool for human interactions. Through language, human beings are able to express their feelings, discuss their thoughts, and share their opinions. All these activities lie under the communication process which is covered by language. Bearing in mind that communication is the core of language, the main intent behind using language is to communicate. Language is defined as a form of social interaction and law is a mechanism which regulates social relationships (Agha 2007). In the words of Lewis(2016), language is a dynamic phenomenon which refers to one thing that is language flourishing. As it has been mentioned previously, the nature of law system influences the style of LL. LL plays a vital role in law system because it is regarded as a trade tool of legal profession.

It is worth mentioning that LL has notorious features for its usage of archaic terms and formulaic expressions. Those are regarded as the most crucial mode of LE. This means that LL grew up by its own as a specialized language who has special features and used by a specific category of people (e.g. judges, lawyers, governmental employees, and legal translators) when communicating a legal matter. However, LL should communicate with the lay public and it shouldn't be limited to a specific category of people. Once a person understands the legal speech, which are regarded as key words in LC, it will be easier to understand and conform the contractual agreement.

Out of these features, it can be easily realized that LL is basically based upon law system on one hand, and at the other hand law system relies on legal system in question. Law is indeed a complex system. Since, it has developed its terminology

and its style apart and without any interference of other majors. This is actually the main reason behind LL's complexity. So, because of its complexity, LL requires some degree of realization of law and legal terms.

## 9. Methodology

This section is mainly concerned with providing the methodology of the study. It also states whether it's based on a qualitative or a quantitative or a mixed method. As well, it implies the model on which the data analysis of this study is based. Besides, it outlines the authentic procedures followed to fulfill the current study.

Bearing into mind the aim of the study, this study is expected to assess the interpreter's productivity and the affective factors that may have a great impact on his/her productivity-whether he/she is simultaneously or consecutively interpreting- during the process of interpretation session.

This study adopts a mixed-method approach. Hence, it considers as the best and most modern method that combines and integrates qualitative and quantitative methods. Further, it's highly recommended to involve two consecutive stages (i.e. quantitative and qualitative) to be able to capture more details of the problem of the research (Ivankova, 2015, p.2). In their editorial book of *designing and conducting mixed methods research*, Creswell and Plano Clark also add that mixed methods has become a popular research approach due to its ability to address the research problem more comprehensively.

As an approach, mixed methods research has unique procedural characteristics, designs, strategies for integrative data collection and analysis, and validation techniques; all aimed at generating quality "meta-inferences"(Teddlie and Tashakkori, 2009, p.152). As Padgett(2009, p.104) observed, mixed methods

studies offer possibilities for "synergy and knowledge growth that mono-method studies cannot match".

Moreover, it is necessary to state that by conducting a mixed methods study, researchers can obtain statistical trends and patterns in the data and get individual perspectives that help explain these trends (Ivankova,2015, p.4).

## **10. The Model of the Study**

“A model is a representation of the ‘reality ’of your research topic or domain” (Saldanha and O’Brien, 2014, p.12). After a lot of searching and reading processes, it has been decided that the most convenient model of the analyzing the data of this study is an eclectic model of analysis which are Gile’s Effort Model and Riccadi’s Error Analysis Model. It’s worth stating that this model totally fits the analysis purposes, since in the late 1970 and the early 1980s Gile observes that the interpreters, whether ordinary or professional, face some challenges and difficulties. As a result he started searching in the literature of cognitive psychology and proposed his model which’s called (Effort Model).

The main intent of this model is to help the interpreters realize and grasp the challenges and difficulties the may face, and how to tackle them by selecting the most appropriate strategies and tactics to overcome the obstacles the face (Gile, 1992, p.191). Thus each interpreting phase implies an effort and the interpreter should be able to balance between them. Gile develops a set of models called as “ Effort Model” of interpreting, which it consists of four “ Efforts” listed as follow; the reception effort, the production effort, the memory effort, and the coordination effort (158). Later on, two more efforts were added. They are basically concerned into sign language(deaf people). The first one is called SMS Effort which stands for “Self-management in Space”. The second one is called ID Effort which stands for “ Interaction with the deaf audience”. To sum it up, all these efforts include

non-automatic components. This means that each interpreting stage involves an effort. Hence, they required attentional resources. The main purpose behind setting out this model is to account for the problems that occur during the process of interpreting. As long as, it requires paying attention to both speeches at the same time. So, the simultaneousness of speaking and listening during the process of interpreting would be stressful for the interpreter (Gile,2018, p.531-561).

However, these two efforts will be adapted from spoken language into body language (hearing people) to meet the specific needs of the current study. Hence, there are various methodologies and theoretical frameworks borrowed from different disciplines are adapted or reassessed to meet the specific needs of translation scholars(Baker, 1998, p.279). The following model shows what has been mentioned.

### **10.1. Gile's Effort Model**

Such a model implies six categories of efforts. They are stated in the following subsections:

#### **10.1.1. The Reception Effort**

It involves listening and analyzing effort. It encompasses all mental operations involved in perceiving and understanding the source original speech as it unfolds, including the perception of the speech sound- or signs when working from a signed language- and of other environmental input such as documents or reactions of other people present, the identification of linguistic entities from these auditory or visual signals, their analysis leading to a conclusion about their meaning.

#### **10.1.2. The Production Effort**

It is the actual production of the speech in TL. It encompasses all mental operations leading to decisions on ideas or feelings to be expressed (generally on

the basis of what was understood from Source Speech (henceforth SS) to the actual production of the Target Speech (henceforth TS), be it spoken or signed, including the selection of words or signs and their assembly into a speech, self-monitoring and correction if required.

### **10.1.3. The Memory Effort**

It is about storing the information from a short period of time, up to a few seconds- from the source original speech which has been already understood and awaits further processing or needs to be kept in the memory until it's either discarded or reformulated into TL.

### **10.1.4. The Coordination Effort**

It involves allocating attention to the other three efforts relying on the needs as the SS and TS unfold. The Coordination Effort plays a fundamental role. Even if sometimes these efforts overlap, coordination actually finds a balance between all the efforts (Kriston, 2012, p.81).

### **10.1.5. SMS Effort**

First "SMS" stands for Self-Management in Space Effort. Beside paying attention to the incoming speech and its own target language speech, interpreters need to be aware of spatial constraints and position themselves physically so as to be able to hear the speaker and see materials on the screen if available.

### **10.1.6. ID Effort**

Deaf people often sign while an interpreter, for instance asking him/her to repeat or explain or make a comment about the speech being interpreted. This is a disturbance factor for the interpreter whose attention is distracted from focusing on the incoming speech and outgoing speech.

## **10.2. Riccardi's Errors Analysis Model**

Riccardi's (1999) model is an error analysis one. It investigates two basic parts which are discontinuities in terms of meaning (intertextual) and disfluencies (fluency errors). It is a two-part model that is designed to measure errors at different levels which are the intertextual level and the disfluency level. The former involves omission, addition, and substitution. The latter involves two main categories which are filled pause which's of four subcategories they are: hesitation, repetition, correction, and a false start, and unfilled pause which's the clear silences. The latter is neglected in this study for there is no needed to mention.

### **10.2.1. Intertextual Errors**

Errors at the intertextual level, as it has been mentioned previously, include omission, substitution, addition, and logical-time sequence. In this study, the whole focus is shifted toward the first three types of errors, i.e., as they are omission, substitution, and addition. They are either manipulated positively or negatively by the legal interpreter and figured out if it does affect the procedure or not.

## **11. Data Collection**

First of all, it is worth mentioning that the direction of data collection is the basis of this study. The outputs of legal interpreters at Iraqi governmental institutions will be used. For the main intent of the study, the primary source data has been derived for the first time from Iraqi governmental institutions, e.g. Basrah Federal Appeal Court and Basrah International Airport as live recorded videos to meet the specific needs of the current study.

In their book, *Research Methods; A Practical Guide for the Social Sciences*, Bob Matthews and Liz Ross state that the primary data is “ the data that a researcher gathers specifically for their [sic ]own research”(2010, p.51). The researcher has

collected the data (i.e. gathered the SSs and their TSs) and converted to plain texts to make them comparable and to prepare them to the analysis phase.

Then, the second phase of data collection process is the jury evaluations in which there is a directed questionnaire to the professors of Department of Translation to find out the acceptability of the audience.

## **12. Data Analysis**

This section is devoted to analyzing a number of samples that include interpreted legal extracts in terms of Gile's Effort Model and Riccardi's Error Analysis. The samples collected are nineteen as live recorded videos each of which contains a number of interpreted extracts related to a legal matter. The following are the analyses of the extracts implied in these videos arranged in tables according to the subject matter concerning the hypothesis of this study.

It is worth mentioning that each speech is transcribed in a table. Each table consists of several extracts. The number of extracts of each statement have been modified and shown under each table. The same division process repeated in the other recorded videos. Then all errors from the nineteen recorded videos are combined in one main table.

The assessment of this study is both comparative and contrastive. Four-word format tables have been initiated, the first is for the governmental employee, the second is for the interpreter renders the employee's utterance, the third is for the defendant or participant, and the fourth is for the interpreter's rendering the defendant/participant's utterance. Moreover, it is important to mention that all outputs were written including hesitations, stops, silence...etc.

## **13. The Researcher's Analysis**



This section, i.e., the researcher's analysis, is divided into three main phases which are : the first phase is surveying of all recording videos and noticing if the interpreter activates all efforts during the interpreting session or not. The second phase is comparing the TS to its SS. Through the comparison process, the researcher has found the gaps between SS and the TS and determined the type of errors (i.e. deletion , addition or substitution). The comparison between SL and TL is regarded as the core of the analysis process of the study. The third and last phase is identifying and classifying the type of errors ( i.e. deletion , addition or substitution) by following Riccardi's (1999) Model of Error Analysis.

#### **14. Pre-Assessment Conditions**

Assessing outputs includes interdisciplinary processes. The researcher has to verify various related issues before choosing this topic, to mention but few logistic materials, availability and information about the study ... etc. All these have to be taken into consideration before diving in the study. Though, everything seems possible and approachable to go on in this study.

#### **15. Validity and Reliability of Assessment**

Saldanha and O'Brien (2013:28) assert that when the findings of a research are real and related to the way others do in social atmosphere, then it is a valid one. According to this, the researcher attempts to validate the study by assessing the samples that have been diagnosed. The process of assessment is a valid theory. Hence, many studies use an assessment environment to target the same goal.

Reliability in research assessment is a necessity that any researcher should take into consideration. In this regard, Sawyer (2004, p.101) speaks of the consistency of the results when replicating a study by other examiners or researchers for the whole assessment.

## 16. Characteristics of Speech

Wu (2010, p.102) uses three minutes as a test in his Ph.D. dissertation which is entitled *Assessing Simultaneous Interpreting*. He justifies that many examiners do not object to test length as long the test achieves the purpose of the study. He adds that there are some studies that need to investigate some items like “sustaining ability” and “gritting power”; in such cases a lengthy test is required to provide sufficient data. In this study, neither the researcher nor the jury evaluation member required a lengthy test.

The researcher has collected 19 interpretation sessions as data due to the hypothesis of this study. The interpretation of the first four inquisition sessions held at Basrah Federal Appeal Court. It covers the statements of four Pakistani citizens who entered the country with illegal visa. The interpretation of the rest sessions held at Basrah International Airport. It covers the nature of passengers' entry procedure done at this airport.

In other words, the participants involved in this work are of two types. The former type implies defendants sentenced at Basrah Federal Appeal Court. The latter implies passengers arrived legally at Basrah International Airport (they will interchangeably be called as participants). They have agreed to take part in this work and their participation would be used for academic purposes only. Participants at Basrah International Airport were chosen randomly. Age and gender are disregarded. Participants' identity (i.e. their names are mentioned as initials only to keep the passenger's privacy) is not shown, neither on transcript tables nor recording videos. Therefore, they have signed a permission letter (see Appendix D) to use their information for research purposes only. All participants are from foreign countries such as UK, Canada, Philippines, Italy, India, ...etc.

## **17. Video 1 : Interpretation of the First Inquisition Sessions Held at Basrah Federal Appeal Court**

The following four samples were derived from Basrah Federal Appeal Court and Basrah International Airport. The analysis of the interpretation shows how the interpreter is used to do such procedures. Hence, it is derived from Iraqi governmental institutions with which interpreters are acquainted. Furthermore, all interpreters seem very familiar to the procedure. Since, the inquisition session is held, he takes the role of asking the foreign speaker. The vocabulary used in both languages is not complex. Yet, from the performances of the interpreter some failures done have been noticed during the inquisition sessions. Although, they are not intentional. They may occur as a result to work load -which it considered as an affective factor- (i.e., external factor) or the interpreter may not follow any strategies or tactics while the process of transferring (i.e. internal factor).

### **1-Table**

#### **Interpretation of the Third Inquisition Session Held at Basrah Federal Appeal Court**

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Interpreter (English)</b>	<b>Defendant</b>	<b>Interpreter (Arabic)</b>	<b>Time</b>

-اسمه و اسم والدته	- Full name	-S. Y.A.	-س. ي. ا.	
	-His Mother name	-B. L.	-ب. ل.	<b>00:16</b>
-ماذا اسم والدته؟	-and his age	-25	-----	<b>00:27</b>
-دعه يتكلم ما هو موضوعه؟			-ب. ل.	<b>00:30</b>
				<b>00:51</b>
			-عمره خمسة وعشرين سنة	<b>00:52</b>
	-Why you came to Iraq?	-I came to zyhara	-----	<b>00:54</b>
	-Why you came to Basrah?	-Incomprehensible Words Masjid Khitwa Imam Ali	-لزيارة مسجد خطوة الامام علي(عليه السلام)	<b>1:00</b>
-كم بقي بين كربلاء و نجف؟	-How many days you spend in Najaf and Karbala?	-Thirteen days(x2)		<b>1:10</b>
	-Thirteen days?	-Yes		
	-Spend in Karbala and Najaf thirteen days?	-No		<b>1:45</b>

<p>-هل قادمين سويا؟</p>	<p>-----</p> <p>-Two days spend in Karbala?</p> <p>-Previously, he was work in Iraq right?</p> <p>-In the past,he was working in Iraq?</p> <p>-So, what's this two years?</p> <p>-Two days!</p> <p>-So, are you came together in / to Baghdad?</p> <p>-Togther? All of you</p>	<p>-----</p> <p>-Two days</p> <p>-Two days in Karbala and Najaf to Basrah</p> <p>-Sign Language (misunderstanding)</p> <p>-No</p> <p>-Two days</p> <p>-Two days</p> <p>-Yes</p> <p>-All of...</p>	<p>-----</p> <p>-Two days</p>	<p><b>2:03</b></p> <p><b>2:14</b></p> <p><b>1:18</b></p> <p><b>2:23</b></p> <p><b>2:28</b></p> <p><b>2:45</b></p>
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<p>- اسأله هل يعرف من اين حصل على هذه السمة؟</p>	<p>-Did you know where this Visa ticket? -This is a name of company, do you work for this company? -Who you can take him in Iraq to get this visa? -Pakistani guy? -Do you know his name? -He is working in Basrah or Baghdad? -When you came/landed in Baghdad Airport did you meet any Iraqi guy or Pakistani guy host you or accept you? -What's his</p>	<p>-Yes -I don't know -Pakistani guy -Yes -Z. H. -No, he is Pakistan -Yes</p>	<p>-ز. ح. باكستان</p>	<p>2:49 3:05 3:25 3:37</p>
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<p>name?</p> <p>-What is the name of the guy who metted you in Baghdad Airport? Do you know his name? Is he Iraqi guy?</p> <p>-Did you pay him money? How much/Did you gave money to this guy/Iraqi guy -seventy five, Police man or Iraqi guy?</p> <p>-وضع شنو يعني؟</p>	<p>-No</p> <p>-Yes</p>	<p>-عن طريق شخص باكستاني اسمه ز. ح. هو الذي اخبرهم بالقدوم الى البصرة "وهيچ الوضع مالتكم"</p> <p>-يعملون في هذه الشركة</p> <p>-واحد عراقي بالمطار وجدهم ومسويلهم هذه</p>	<p><b>3:52</b></p> <p><b>3:59</b></p> <p><b>4:04</b></p>
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<p>-كم دفعوا تكاليف؟</p>	<p>-seventy five</p>	<p>-Yes, Iraqi guy seventy five dollar</p>		<p><b>4:17</b></p>
<p>-كم؟</p>	<p>-Do you know his name? Do you have his picture?</p>	<p>-Iraqi guy</p>	<p>تطلع seventy five خمسة و سبعين دولار يمكن اي خمسة وسبعين دولار اعطاه للعراقي</p>	<p><b>4:33</b></p>
<p>-خمسة وسبعين دولار؟</p>				<p><b>4:35</b></p>
				<p><b>4:38</b></p>
<p>-ما اسم الشخص الباكستاني؟</p>	<p>-Do you pay/gave money to Sayed Z. H.?</p>	<p>-No</p>	<p>-الباكستاني ز. ح. ز. ح. سيد ز. ح. الباكستاني</p>	<p><b>4:43</b></p>
<p>-زاكي؟</p>	<p>-How much? -One thousand?</p>	<p>-Sayed Z. H.</p>		<p><b>4:53</b></p>
	<p>-For each one?</p>			<p><b>4:56</b></p>
<p>- اعطوا فلوس لسيد</p>	<p>-So, the purpose</p>			



<p>ز.؟</p> <p>- زين هو منطي الف دولار بس حتى يزور لو المن؟ الالف دولار هو اي عندهم الباكستانيين</p>	<p>of your visit to Iraq to just visit the Holy places why you gave him Sayed Z. H. this amount of money why you gave him one thousand dollar, you can officially come</p> <p>-Sayed Z. is Basrain? What is his job?</p> <p>-Did he tell you to work here in Iraq? Go to visit Holy places and then go to Basrah to work?</p>	<p>-Yes</p> <p>-One thousand dollar</p> <p>-One man</p> <p>-I came to zyhara</p> <p>-No</p>	<p>-الف دولار</p> <p>-كل واحد الف دولار يقول اتي للزيارة</p> <p>-لا هو موظف حكومي ولا شي بس هو يجي للعراق و يعرف</p>	<p><b>5:11</b></p> <p><b>5:30</b></p> <p><b>6:36</b></p>
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		Pakistan come to Iraq he sent people to zyhara  -No, I go to Pakistan. I have return ticket.	-بِس زيارَة	<b>7:48</b>
				<b>8:30</b>

**1: Extract**

Employee : اسمه و اسم والدته :

Interpreter : Full name

Defendant : S.Y. A.

Interpreter : س. ي. ا.

Interpreter : His mother name

Defendant : B. L.

Interpreter : ب. ل.

**Analysis :**

The process of interpretation requires serious practice and preparation. The interpreter should be careful dealing with foreign people especially, when they speak English as a second language, not their first language (mother tongue). Foreign's language such as the choice of words, the tone of voice, the accent and, so on, are undoubtedly have a direct influence on the interpreter. So, some unfamiliar words or expressions used by the defendant are not clear sometimes. Poor preparation may lead to bad production during the process of transferring. As it has been mentioned in the above extract, the defendant uttered "B. L." the interpreter thought that his mother's name is "لي لاه" as uttered by the interpreter. In this situation the interpreter misheard the defendant's utterance. Obviously, the interpreter committed a phonetic error as he rendered the name "لي لاه" instead of "ليلي".

**Extract 2 :**

Employee : دعه يتكلم ما هو موضوعه

Interpreter : Why you came Iraq?

Defendant : I came to zyhara.

Interpreter : Why you came to Basrah?

Defendant : Masjid Khitwa Imam Ali

Interpreter : لزيارة مسجد خطوة الامام علي (عليه السلام)

Employee : كم بقي بين كربلاء و نجف؟

**Analysis :**

The interpreter's SS and TS versions are complete and he provided the defendant's statement "Masjid Khitwa Imam Ali". Yet, there is something missing

"الزيارة" في البصرة" "خطوة الامام علي (عليه السلام) في البصرة". But, what is worth to examine here in this statement is the employee's ignorance of the lexical term "الخطوة" which means that the defendant came to Basrah to visit "خطوة الامام علي (عليه السلام)". But, what happened is the following :

"دعه يتكلم" The interpreter took the role of investigating due to the employee's order "دعه يتكلم". So, he, the interpreter, started by asking the defendant some related questions as " Why you came to Iraq?" and "Why you came to Basrah?" in order to know what is the main reason that lies behind the defendant's visit to Iraq in general and to Basrah in particular. After all, it seems that the defendant came to Basrah to visit Masjid Khitwa Imam Ali. So, the interpreter transferred to the employee that the main reason behind the defendant's visit is to ziyhara Masjid Imam Ali.

In this rendition, there is an omission represented by the interpreter's utterance "مسجد خطوة الامام علي (عليه السلام)" the interpreter has to locate Masjid Imam Ali in Basrah. What the employee thought was that the defendant were in Najaf to visit Masjid Imam Ali. Hence, the interpreter rendered "الزيارة مسجد خطوة الامام علي (عليه السلام)" as he didn't mention in Basrah. As a result, this led to asking further questions by the employee to the defendant as " كم يوم بقي بين كربلاء و نجف؟". Such an error might attributed to the interpreter's short term memory.

### **Extract 3 :**

Employee : كم بقي بين كربلاء و نجف؟

Interpreter : How many days you spend in Najaf and Karbala?

Defendant : Thirteen days.

Interpreter : .....

**Analysis :**

As represented in the aforementioned extract, the interpreter omitted that last utterance uttered by the defendant “Thirteen days”. There is no rendition (i.e. omission) to the defendant’s last statement. This definitely influenced the quality of the interpreter’s production which, in turn, influenced the legal matter.

**Extract 4 :**

Interpreter : Spend in Karbala and Najaf thirteen days?

Defendant : No, two days

Interpreter : Previously, he was work in Iraq right?

Defendant : No

Interpreter : In the past, he was working in Iraq?

So what this two years?

Defendant : Two days

Interpreter : Two days

**Analysis :**

Interpreters are human beings depend on their memory to do such a process. As we all know that human memory is of two types, i.e. long-term memory and short-term memory. The former allows the interpreter to store information for long duration, including information that can be restored consciously or unconsciously. The latter type refers to information processed by the interpreter for short duration. For several reasons like stress or work load, the interpreter’s memory might shut down and fail to memorize or render the defendant’s utterance “Two days”.

Numerals (e.g. days, months, years) had a very deep impact on the interpreter's productivity as s/he may face problematic issues in concentration. Such a thing has a bad influence on the interpreter's understanding at the first place and the quality of the interpreter's productivity, in turn, influences the acuteness of rendering the information. Due to the cognitive load the interpreter forgot to render this tiny detail which in fact had a great impact on the legal matter.

**Extract 5 :**

Employee : هل قادمين سويا؟

Interpreter : So, are you came together in/to Baghdad?

Defendant : Yes

Interpreter : Together all of you

Defendant : All of

Interpreter : .....

**Analysis :**

Again, there was no rendition done by the interpreter in this extract. The interpreter omitted the defendant's statement of the officer's main question "هل قادمين سويا؟". Although, the interpreter rendered the officer's question "Are you came together in/to Baghdad?". Regardless, the grammatical errors occurred in the interpreter's utterance, the interpreter didn't transfer the defendant's statement "Yes" into "نعم" or "قادمين سويا". Such an incomplete rendition of the information will negatively affected the acuteness of transferring the information which, in turns, affected the target listener's understanding.

**Extract 6 :**

Interpreter : What is the name of the guy who meted you in Baghdad Airport?

Do you know his name?

Is he Iraqi?

Defendant : Yes

Interpreter : ... واحد عراقي بالمطار وجدهم

### **Analysis :**

The interpreter's linguistic competence includes the ability to comprehend the SS and apply this knowledge to render the message into TS is weak. This means that the interpreter should have wide knowledge and understanding of both languages s/he deals with. Therefore, the interpreter must be very careful of grammatical errors such as sentence structure, wrong use of tense, and so on, of both languages. It can be noticed clearly in the above mentioned extract the influence of the aforementioned errors on the interpreter's productivity. Grammatical errors such as misuse of tense, inappropriate sentence structure, improper preposition ... etc. committed by the interpreter. As it has been mentioned previously, the interpreter must take into consideration the use and function of tense. Notably, the interpreter rendered the lexical term "meeted". Besides, he used the wrong form of the verb (meet) in the past tense. Such an error is due to the interpreter's lack of knowledge in tenses. The interpreter rendered (meeted) instead of the past form of the verb (meet) which is (met). The problematic issue is with the grammatical error, the past form of the infinitive verb (meet) is (met). Such a form "meeted" rendered by the interpreter is incorrect due to the acceptability of past form of the verb. In this extract, it can be stated that the main reason behind this error might be related to the interpreter's lack of knowledge of past system tense in English language.

It is worth to mention that, in the same extract the interpreter unsuccessfully rendered (in) instead of (at). The reason lies behind such an error might be related to the interpreter's lack of how to render the most appropriate preposition in English language. This means that the interpreter has followed a third person singular.

In addition to that, in this extract we can observe distinctly that the interpreter added some extra information which are not uttered by the defendant himself. This addition had a bad consequence. The interpreter's rendition "واحد عراقي بالمطار" "....هم" has clearly influenced negatively on both the defendant's situation and affected the employee's understanding by rendering such information that led to a bad decision done by the court.

#### **Extract 7 :**

Employee : كم دفعوا تكاليف ؟

Interpreter : Did you pay him money?

How much?

Did you gave him money to this Iraqi guy?

Defendant : Yes, Iraqi guy seventy five dollar

Employee : كم؟

Interpreter : seventy five ...تطلع خمسة وسبعين دولار تقريبا..

#### **Analysis :**

An investigation of this extract reveals that the interpreter was unsure about the amount of money that the defendant paid even though he rendered it exactly as uttered by the defendant "75 dollars". This lies behind the interpreter's lack of



concentration. As it can be represented, the interpreter used the Arabic lexical term "يمكن" which refers to uncertainty. That is to say, stress could be the reason that lies behind the interpreter's inability to provide the exact amount of money that the defendant paid for the visa. In the past, studies of translation shed light on the process while the physical and psychological factors of interpreters at work have been comparatively neglected (Riccardi,1989). One of these factors is work load or stress. Stress is indeed one of the most effective factors that lead to errors committed by the interpreters. Due to the long interpreting sessions, the interpreter, of our case, seemed to be under the pressure. This may be the main reason behind his uncertainty of the approximate cost of 75 USD into IQD ( how much does 75 dollars equal in Iraqi dinar). This extract represents the lack of concentration when the interpreter rendered "يمكن".

#### **Extract 8 :**

Interpreter : S. Z. is Basrain?

#### **Analysis :**

As it is simply represented in the above mentioned extract, the interpreter committed a lexical error when he used a wrong word as an equivalent for the Arabic expression "بصري". Such rendering of inappropriate lexical item is not acceptable especially when dealing with legal discourse. The interpreter failed to render the Arabic word "بصري" in English language. Although, there is no equivalence in English language for the Arabic lexical term "بصري", the expression (بصري) is a poor choice of word used by the interpreter while he was trying to deliver a message. Yet, it does confess that he has chosen inappropriate word.

## **2- Table**

## Interpretation of the Fourth Inquisition Session Held at Basrah Federal Appeal Court

Employee	Interpreter (English)	Defendant	Interpreter (Arabic)	Time
	-Your Full name	-H. A.	-ح.ع.	
	-Father name	-H. H.	-ح.ح.	
	-Mother name	-B. A.	-ب.ا.	<b>00:28</b>
- ما هو اسم والدته؟	-Mother name	-B. A.	-ب.ا.	<b>00:36</b>
				<b>00:43</b>
-اسأله هل يعرف ز.؟	-Why he came to Basrah?	-To Zyhara	-نفس الشيء قادم للبصرة زيارة	<b>00:58</b>
	-do you know Sayed Z. H.?	-No	-----	<b>1:15</b>
-ما يعرف سيد ز.؟			Yeah	<b>1:25</b>
	-How many money you gave him?	-Twelve hundred dollar	-Twelve hundred اثني عشر ورقة لسيد ز.	<b>1:28</b>

	<p>-He told you to come to Iraq? Z.</p> <p>-To work?</p>	<p>-Yeah, to work</p> <p>No, to work/zyhara</p>	<p>-نفس الشبي</p>	<p>1:45</p>
	<p>-Are you Muslim?  -Muslim? You will swear on Holy Qura'n you are here just to visit</p>	<p>-Yeah</p> <p>-Yeah</p>	<p>-نفس الشبي نفس الاقوال</p>	<p>2:12</p>

**Extract 1 :**

Employee : اسأله هل يعرف س. ز. ؟

Interpreter : Do you know S .Z. H. ?

Defendant : No

Interpreter : .....

Employee : ما يعرف س. ز. ح. ؟

Interpreter : Yeah

**Analysis :**

As it can be noticed, the interpreter started the investigation session by asking the defendant some legal questions. Yet, he, the interpreter, took the role of investigation. He may generate ambiguity because there is no rendition to the defendant's statements. At the same time, the employee wanted to ask the defendant whether the defendant knows S. Z. or not. Although, the interpreter interrupted the employee by asking the defendant "Why you came to Basrah?".

The interpreter rendered the employee's question "Do you know S. Z.?" and as shown in the aforementioned table, the defendant replied "No". The interpreter omitted the defendant's statement "No" and replaced it by "Yeah" when the employee asked him again if the defendant know S.Z. . Such an omission led to confusion, the employee might think that the defendant knows S. Z. which is not in fact. Moreover, he might think that there is a relation or bond between the other three defendants. But, the truth is that the defendant doesn't know S. Z.. In addition to that, if we go back to the other three defendants, we can see that one of them is the only one who knows S. Z.. So, here the interpreter not only produced inaccurate rendering but, he made the situation of the defendant unclear by rendering "نفس الشيء نفس الاقوال".

**Extract 2 :**

Interpreter : How many money you gave him?

Defendant : Twelve hundred dollars

Interpreter : اثني عشر ورقة لسيد ز.

**Analysis :**

In this extract, the interpreter’s wrong use of question is obvious by rendering “How many money...”. The rendering would be better and more grammatically acceptable if the interpreter had used “How Much did you pay?”. Here, the interpreter made the statement more vague. The defendant’s statement is “Twelve hundred dollars” while the interpreter transferred it into "اثني عشر ورقة لسيد ز." which is not. The defendant didn’t mention that he paid the money to S. Z. as he uttered “Twelve hundred dollars”. Previously, according to the defendant’s statement when the interpreter asked the defendant “Do you know S. Z.?” the defendant replied “No”. This means that the defendant neither knew S. Z. in person nor he said literally that he paid twelve hundred dollars to S. Z.. Misinterpretations of this kind led to bad and serious consequences. Further, it might affect the defendant’s situation. That is to say, the interpreter added some extra details in his rendering of the defendant’s statement which affected the output accuracy. In other words, the interpreter has misinterpreted the statement uttered by the defendant which would definitely influence the employee’s understanding.

In addition, the interpreter here misinterpreted the defendant’s statement “Twelve hundred dollars” into "اثني عشر ورقة", a more acceptable rendition could be "الف ومئتان دولار". One of the most crucial issues that interpreters must take into account is how to render English numerals precisely into Arabic. It seems very easy but, some interpreters fail to provide the exact equivalence.

### 3-Table

#### Interpretation Session Held at Basrah International Airport

Employee	Interpreter (English)	Participant	Interpreter (Arabic)	Time
----------	--------------------------	-------------	-------------------------	------

-ما هو اسمك؟	-What is your name?	-Z.B.	-ز.ب.	<b>00:02</b>
-ما هي جنسيتك؟	-What is your nationality?	-I am from Brazil.	-برازيل	<b>00:09</b>
-ما هو تاريخ تولدك؟	-The date of your birth?	-Twenty first, January,1976	-الخامس والعشرين من يناير 1956	<b>00:15</b>
-ما هي طبيعة زيارتك للعراق؟	-What the kind of your visit to Iraq?	-I am here for business.	-هنا للعمل	<b>00:29</b>
-ما هي الوجهة التي قدمت منها؟	-What is the destination you came from?	-I came from “Rio” through Doha.	-قدم من قطر الدوحة	<b>00:38</b>
-ما هي مدة صلاحية الفيزا الممنوحة اليك في مطار البصرة؟	-What is your expirer of your visa in Basrah airport?	-Uh, 14, January,2023	-الرابع و عشرين من يناير 2023	<b>1:01</b>
-هل سبق و زرت العراق؟	-Did you visit Iraq before?	-No, never first time?	-هذه اول مرة	<b>1:26</b>
-ما هي تكلفة الفيزا؟	-What is the cost of visa in Iraq?	-205USDs	-مئتان و خمسين دولار	<b>1:34</b>
-هل لديك تذكرة				

<p>طيران عودة الى بلدك؟</p>	<p>-Do you have flight ticket to come back to your country?</p>	<p>-Sorry, a flight ticket? Yes, I do.</p>	<p>-----</p>	<p><b>1:44</b></p>
<p>-على متن اي طائرة قدمت الى العراق؟</p>	<p>-On which flight you came to Iraq?</p>	<p>-Qatar Airways</p>	<p>-الخطوط الجوية القطرية.</p>	<p><b>1:53</b></p>
<p>-نعنذر لتأخيرك بسبب طبيعة الاجراءات</p>	<p>-We are very sorry for make you lating</p>			<p><b>2:10</b></p>

**Extract 1:**

Officer : ما هو تاريخ تولدك؟

Interpreter : The date of your birth?

Participant : Twenty first, January, 1976

Interpreter : الخامس والعشرين من يناير 1956

**Analysis :**

It is obvious from the aforementioned extract that the interpreter committed a substitution error rendering the participant's utterance. Such a kind of error resulted from providing unrelated information into the rendition. In this extract, the interpreter's unintentionally substituted the participant's statement "Twenty first, January, 1976" with "الواحد والعشرون" and "الف و تسعمائة و" instead of "الخامس والعشرين" instead of "الف و تسعمائة وستة وسبعون". Such replacement shifted the participant's accurate statement. In other words, the interpreter changed the birth date of the participant. Such an inaccurate rendition would lead to a problematic issue to both the officer who supposes to refill all these information in visa and the participant since he has no idea what the interpreter rendered.

**Extract 2 :**

Officer : ما هي الوجهة التي قدمت منها؟

Interpreter : What is the destination you came from?

Participant : I came from Rio through Doha

Interpreter : قدم من قطر الدوحة

**Analysis :**

The interpreter omitted some details, such an omission would influence the process of transferring the information accurately which led to affect the quality of speech production. Subsequently, the interpreter provided incomplete rendition.



The participant states “ I came from Rio through Doha”. As for the extract above, the participant mentioned that he came from “Rio through Doha” (i.e. Rio de Janeiro). Yet, the interpreter omitted “Rio” and rendered that he originally flew from Doha. It is evident that the interpreter committed an omission error; hence, he rendered "قدم من قطر الدوحة".

This is an obvious proof that the interpreter might drop “Rio” from his rendering of the participant’s to the officer due to the lack of cultural knowledge of proper nouns, cities or countries. This is regarded as one of the most influential factors that affected the interpreter’s productivity.

### **Extract 3 :**

Officer : ما هي مدة صلاحية الفيزا الممنوحة اليك في مطار البصرة الدولي؟

Interpreter : What is your expirer of your visa in Basrah airport?

Participant : 14, January,2023

Interpreter : الرابع وعشرين من يناير الفين و ثلاثة وعشرين

### **Analysis :**

In this extract, the interpreter committed a substitution error. Such a kind of errors comes from rendering unrelated statement while rendering the speaker’s utterance. As it is represented in the above extract, the interpreter substituted the participant’s rendition as he uttered “14,January,2023”. The interpreter substituted the participant’s statement with "الرابع وعشرين من يناير ...." rather than "الرابع عشر". This shows that the interpreter transferred this statement inaccurately by rendering different information which influenced the procedure of legal matter.

### **Extract 4 :**

Officer : ما هي تكلفة الفيزا؟

Interpreter : What is the cost of your visa in Iraq?

Participant : 205 USDs

Interpreter : مئتان وخمسين دولار

### **Analysis :**

Again, as it can be seen clearly the interpreter's rendering of the participant's statement "205 USDs" into "مئتان وخمسين دولار" rather than "مئتان وخمسة دولار" implied a substitution error by rendering "205USDs" into "مئتان وخمسين". This commitment proved that the interpreter is unaware of rendering numerals and they do play a crucial role especially while dealing with legal discourse.

### **Extract 5 :**

Officer : هل لديك تذكرة طيران عودة الى بلدك؟

Interpreter : Do you have a flight ticket to come back to your country?

Participant : Sorry! A flight ticket?

Yes, I do

Interpreter : .....

### **Analysis :**

The interpreter's rendering of "come back" instead of "go back" is linguistically not acceptable. Further, the interpreter omitted the participant's respond to the officer's main question. If we examine the above extract, we can notice the interpreter's deletion (i.e. no rendition) of the participant's statement "Yes, I do". He should have rendered it into "نعم لدي تذكرة طيران عودة".

**Extract 6 :**

Officer : نعتذر لتأخيرك بسبب طبيعة الاجراءات :

Interpreter : We are very sorry for make you lating

**Analysis :**

The interpreter's rendition of the English lexical term "lating" is not suitable. He misused the word(late) and rendered it as mentioned in the above extract. Out of this, interpreters should know how to render the appropriate lexical term while transferring the speech from SL into TL and vice versa in order to render the meaning or information appropriately among the parties.

**Table -4-****Interpretation Session Held at Basrah International Airport**

Employee	Interpreter (English)	Participant	Interpreter (Arabic)	Time
تأريخ تولدك؟	-Birth of your date?	-?!  -5 <sup>th</sup> , February,1958	-الخامس من الشهر الثاني 1985	<b>00:10</b>
ما هي طبيعة الزيارة عمل ام زيارة؟	-What kind of your visit work or visit?	-It's a work visa for couple of days  -Come from	-عمل لمدة قصيرة	<b>00:20</b>
ما هي الوجهة التي				

قدمت منها؟	-What is the destination you came from?	Dubai.	-----	<b>00:29</b>
كم مدة بقاءك في العراق؟	-How long you will stay here in Iraq?	-Two days.	-يومان	<b>00:36</b>
ما مدة صلاحية الفيزا الخاصة بك؟	-What is the expire of your visa?	-Visa?!		<b>00:41</b>
	-Yes	-It's gonna be valid for two months.	-صالحة لمدة شهرين	
هل قمت بملئ استمارة الدخول؟	-Did you fill the entry form?	-Sure.	-----	<b>00:52</b>
هل صادفتك عوائق او صعوبات معينة للوصول لوجهتك الحالية؟	-Did you face some difficulties to get here in Iraq your destination.	-Absolutely nothing thanks to the lady she was helpful.	لم اصادف اي عواقب شكرا للسيدة الجميلة التي ساعدتني	<b>00:59</b>
في حال مواجهتك	-If got some difficulties the help you to	-----		

صعوبات هل قدم لك موظفي المطار بعض الخدمات لتسهيل مهمتك؟ -ما هي تكلفة التأشيرة؟	immigration  -What is the cost of the visa?  -Have you have a flight ticket to come back to your country?	77	-----  -سبعة وسبعين دولار	<b>1:18</b>  <b>1:33</b>
-هل لديك تذكرة طيران عودة الى بلدك؟	-Which airplane?	-Sure	-----	<b>1:40</b>
-على متن اي شركة طيران؟		-Fly Dubai	-فلاي دبي	<b>1:47</b>

**Extract 1 :**

Officer : تاريخ تولدك؟

Interpreter : Birth of your date

Participant : ?!

Interpreter : Date of your birth

Participant : 5<sup>th</sup> , February, 1958

Interpreter : الخامس من الشهر الثاني الف و تسعمائة وخمسة وثمانون

### **Analysis :**

First, the interpreter rendered “Birth of your date” which is not a well-formed sentence structure. The interpreter offered incomprehensible utterance that influenced the participant’s understanding at the first place. Yet, he replaced it immediately by rendering “Date of your birth”. Second, he incorrectly substituted the participant’s birth date as it was uttered by the participant “ 5<sup>th</sup> , February, 1958”. The interpreter substituted “1958” with " الف وتسعمائة وخمسة وثمانون " rather than " الف وتسعمائة وثمانية وخمسون ". As a result, this type of error would provide a different statement which would influence the accurateness of rendering the information from SS into TS.

As it represented in this extract, the interpreter rendered “1958” into “1985”. He wrongly substituted the numerals “58” with “85”. This would of course affect the participant to accomplished the legal procedure of filling the information.

### **Extract 2 :**

Officer : ما هي طبيعية الزيارة عمل ام زيارة؟

Interpreter : What kind of your visit work or visit?

Participant : It’s a work visa for couple of days

Interpreter : عمل لمدة قصيرة

### **Analysis :**

As in the previous extract, the interpreter here committed a substitution error. He substituted some accurate information by others which are not related to the

exact rendition uttered by the participant. The interpreter substituted the participant's statement "for couple of days" with "المدة قصيرة" instead of "العدة ايام". if we dive deep inside, the interpreter's rendition of "المدة قصيرة" was not acute which would affect or confused the officer's understanding. Rending "عمل لمدة قصيرة" may refer to more than one week or month. Yet, the participant's statement indicated that he is here for work purpose and the time he would spend here was less than a month and more than one week(3-9days).

### **Extract 3 :**

Officer : ما هي الوجهة التي قدمت منها؟

Interpreter : What is the destination you come from?

Participant : Come from Dubai

Interpreter : .....

### **Analysis :**

It is obvious in the above extract that there was no rendition done by the interpreter to the participant's statement "Come from Dubai". The interpreter omitted this statement, he ignored the participant's utterance as a whole which affected the quality of the output. He should have rendered "اقادم من دبي".

### **Extract 4 :**

Officer : هل قمت بملئ استمارة الدخول؟

Interpreter : Did you fill the entry form?

Participant : Sure

Interpreter : .....

**Analysis :**

Again, in this extract there is no rendition which is regarded as an omission error. As represented, the interpreter has dropped the participant's utterance "Sure". He should render the participant's utterance "Sure" into "بالطبع" or "بالتأكيد". Such an omission affected both the participant and the officer's comprehending at the first place which he might think that the participant didn't fill the visa application form.

**Extract 5 :**

Officer : في حال مواجهتك هل قدم لك موظفي المطار بعض الخدمات لتسهيل مهمتك؟

Interpreter : If you got some difficulties they help you to immigration

Participant : .....

Interpreter : .....

**Analysis :**

It is clearly shown that the interpreter addition of the word "immigration" generated some sense of confusing to the participant's misunderstanding. Hence, rendering such a word would add some vagueness to the participant's comprehending of the interpreter's rendition. In order to provide a well formed utterance, the interpreter's rendition of the word "immigration" must be deleted in order to get rid of any misunderstanding and to convey the meaning accurately to the participant.

**Extract 6 :**

Officer : ما هي تكلفة التأشيرة؟

Interpreter : What is the cost of your visa?



Participant : Seventy seven

Interpreter : سبعة وسبعين دولار

**Analysis :**

The interpreter's addition in the aforementioned extract can be observed. He added the word "دولار" in his rendition of the participant's statement. Yet, the interpreter decided to add the Arabic lexical term "دولار" in his rendering of the participant's utterance. Though, this might be right or wrong addition; hence, payment of visa at Basrah International Airport is either by USD or Iraqi Dinar. Out of this, we can assume that "Seventy seven" may be IQD not USD. So, an interpreter should be careful in rendering such information.

**Extract 7 :**

Officer : هل لديك تذكرة طيران عودة الى بلدك؟

Interpreter : Have you have a flight ticket to come back to your country?

Participant : Sure

Interpreter : .....

**Analysis :**

As it has been mentioned in the extract above, the interpreter's rendition of the officer's was very weak but, at least he tried to convey the intended meaning regardless the grammatical errors occurred in his rendering. Moreover, the interpreter omitted the participant's statement "Sure". He could rendered it as "نعم" or "بالتأكيد" in order to preserve the participant's utterance. Such an omission is not acceptable as long as it is concerned with rendering legal matters.

**Extract 8:**

على متن اي شركة طيران؟ : Officer

Interpreter : Which airplane?

Participant : Fly Dubai

Interpreter : فلابي دبي

### **Analysis :**

It is obvious in this extract that the interpreter adopted a transliteration strategy as he rendered the participant's utterance "Fly Dubai" into "فلابي دبي" which is improper for a professional legal interpreter to utter such rendition. He could transfer it into "شركة طيران دبي للخطوط الجوية".

### **18. Conclusions**

In this study, the researcher has arrived at certain conclusions which imply that the errors, i.e. omission, addition, and substitutions made by the legal interpreter during the rendering process, influenced the accuracy of the information conveyed. By assessing those extracts particularly in the omission situation is mostly unacceptable for its importance to convey the acuteness of the information of SS and TS vice versa. Throughout applying Gile's Effort Model and Riccardi's Errors Analysis Model, the analysis phase of SS and TS done by comparing them with each other, the questionnaire of jury evaluation, the following points have been concluded :

1. committing a lot of omission, addition, and substitution affects the quality of the interpreter's productivity and deforms the acuteness of rendering the information. Regarding the numerous number of errors that have occurred in the SSs and TSs, it can be considered that reinterpreting or paraphrasing occurred more than rendering them into TL.

2. Though many transliteration strategies are acceptable and justifiable to clarify the ambiguity or to avoid unfilled pauses, yet, most of them are still unacceptable as long as, discussing legal matters is concerned. In other words, in the interpreting sessions, the legal interpreter used foreignization as a strategy to transfer the foreign party's utterance (e.g. proper nouns like villages, cities, and countries). There is a clear bias towards certain proper nouns that legal interpreters rendered. These nouns have been preserved as they were pronounced in the SS while other interpreters transferred them properly into TS.

3. Omitting bits of information uttered by the foreign speaker is not acceptable as legal interpreter is considered to be a mediator between the two parties. In other words, an interpreter is considered a linguistic transformer who has to convey even the smallest tiny detail especially in rendering legal discourse to avoid misunderstanding and to accomplish the legal procedure perfectly.

## **19. Recommendations**

A number of recommendations for interpreters can be put forward on the basis of the conclusions :

1. Activating all efforts of Gile's Model is a good strategy to provide a faithful and accurate interpreted work that consists of the exact information and meaning of the statement uttered by the speaker.

2. The interpreter is a mediator among the two parties. So, s/he needs to be accurate while rendering both speeches without any addition, omission or substitution.

3. Though, the legal interpreters feel free to use informal language when they render the legal discourse; yet, they have to remember how acute and adequate the speech is.

4. The legal interpreter should not bias to transliterate names or proper nouns. Such a rendition should be formally transferred as “Emirates Airlines” into "الخطوط الاماراتية" not "الاماراتية".

5. Though, the legal interpreter should commit to render the information, s/he needs to keep in mind that s/he is an interpreter and legal interpretation aims to deliver the meaning accurately.

6. There must be professional legal translators in every governmental institution to deal with legal matters that need to be transferred.

7. It is necessary to enhance the interpreters' productivity by offering intensive courses.

## **20. Suggestions for Further Studies**

The current study suggests the following topics to be examined :

1. Assessment of interpreting Legal Commercial Discourse.
2. Examine the affective factors that affect the interpreter's output.
3. A comparison of professional interpreters and trainee students may add a possibility for further studies in the major of Legal Interpretation.
4. Using Gile's Effort Model to examine the process of the trainee students and outlines the main tactics that students adopt to avoid misinterpretation.

### **Notes :**

1. All videos were transcribed to keep the privacy of Iraqi governmental institutions' security.

2. The researcher has underlined the extracts that imply the samples to be analyzed.

3. The transcripts of the videos are taken live directly from the Iraqi governmental institutions, i.e. official sectors. Any grammatical or linguistic mistakes are attributed to the source itself.

4. Some parts of the interpreted source discourses are incoherent and out of place. These parts are conceived as they are uttered.

5. In order to give much credibility to the analytical part and provide more information and details about the derived material, the researcher has contacted all the videos used in the data section .

6. The researcher has focused on the errors committed by the legal interpreter as they influenced the quality of the output and the acuteness of transferring the information. Though, there are grammatical and syntactical errors occurred among the contrasted transferred extracts mentioned in the live recorded videos, the researcher hasn't mentioned or highlighted them as they do not serve the hypothesis of the study and went far from its main focus.

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