

Anonymity in Translating English Expository Texts

اختفاء المترجم عند ترجمة النصوص الاخبارية

م. محمود احمد محمود

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Dept. of Translation/ College of Arts/ Mosul University

قسم الترجمة/كلية الآداب/جامعة الموصل

Abstract

This research investigates the impact of concealing a translator's identity on the process of translating English expository texts into Arabic. Through a comprehensive survey of thirty-two professional and academic translators, the study analyzes the effects of anonymity on the quality of the translation, its cultural adaptation, and the level of trust it receives from readers. Findings indicate that requests for anonymity typically originate from clients or institutions, particularly when dealing with politically or culturally sensitive material. A majority of translators reported that this practice helps preserve neutrality and minimize bias, even though it can sometimes restrict their individual style and cultural interpretation. The study also emphasizes that anonymous translations necessitate robust quality assurance measures, including peer review and explicit guidelines. Although certain ethical issues were noted, most respondents considered the use of anonymity to be justified when applied appropriately. The research recommends including anonymity as a topic in translation training and encourages future studies to explore its effects in different types of texts and settings.

Keywords: Translation Anonymity, Translation Ethics, Questionnaire, Expository texts.

المستخلص

تتناول هذه الدراسة تأثير إخفاء هوية المترجم على ترجمة النصوص الاخبارية الإنجليزية إلى اللغة العربية. ومن خلال استبيان مفصل شارك فيه اثنان وثلاثون مترجماً محترفاً وأكاديمي، تستكشف الدراسة ما إذا كان إخفاء هوية المترجم يؤثر على جودة الترجمة، والتكيف الثقافي، وثقة القارئ. تشير النتائج إلى أن طلب إخفاء الهوية غالباً ما يأتي من الجهات الطالبة للترجمة أو المؤسسات، خصوصاً في السياقات السياسية أو الثقافية الحساسة. ويعتقد معظم المترجمين أن إخفاء الهوية يساعد في الحفاظ على الحياد ويقلل من التحيز، رغم أنه قد يحد من الطابع الأسلوبي الشخصي والتعبير الثقافي. كما تبين الدراسة أن الترجمات المجهولة الهوية تتطلب رقابة صارمة على الجودة، مثل المراجعة الجماعية والإرشادات الواضحة. وعلى الرغم من وجود بعض المخاوف الأخلاقية، فإن غالبية المشاركين يرون أن إخفاء الهوية

مقبول إذا استخدم بشكل مناسب. وتوصي الدراسة بإدراج موضوع إخفاء الهوية ضمن برامج تدريب المترجمين، وتشجع على إجراء دراسات مستقبلية لاستكشاف تأثيره في أنواع مختلفة من النصوص والسياقات. الكلمات المفتاحية: إخفاء هوية المترجم، أخلاقيات الترجمة، النصوص الاخبارية، استبيان.

١- Main Hypotheses of the Research

١. Anonymity enhances objectivity and reduces translator bias

Hypothesis: Maintaining translator anonymity in expository texts promotes impartiality, minimizing subjective interference and preserving informational integrity.

٢. Anonymity protects translators in politically or culturally sensitive contexts

- Hypothesis: Concealing translator identity serves as a protective mechanism in environments where attribution may expose translators to ethical, legal, or political risks.

٣. Anonymity encourages focus on content rather than authorship

- Hypothesis: Readers of anonymous translations engage more deeply with the source content, as the absence of a named translator shifts interpretive focus away from authorial mediation.

٤. Anonymity aligns with functionalist and skopos-oriented translation goals

- Hypothesis: In expository genres, anonymity supports the functionalist aim of delivering information efficiently, without distracting from the communicative purpose of the text.

٥. Anonymity reinforces the informational priority of expository texts

- Hypothesis: In translating expository texts, anonymity reinforces the primacy of information delivery by minimizing personal imprint and foregrounding factual clarity over stylistic individuality.

٢- Historical Overview

Before the mid-fourteenth century, most Middle English translations were anonymous. Aside from Richard Rolle (d. ١٣٤٩), cited in (Baker & Saldanha, ٢٠٠٩), whose Psalter remained influential well over a century later, few translators appear to have viewed their work as part of a growing tradition or

reached a broad audience. However, one significant exception is the Auchinleck Manuscript (c. ١٣٣٠), which includes anonymous translations of Anglo-Norman romances. Scholars have attributed greater importance to this work, suggesting it originated in a commercial scriptorium where a general editor oversaw translators and scribes (Pearsall ١٩٧٧:١٤٥-٦). While definitive evidence of such scriptoria in England before the fifteenth century is lacking (Pearsall ١٩٨٩:٤-٦), translation saw a dramatic rise from the late fourteenth century onward, increasingly reflecting the professionalism linked to commercial production.

By the mid-nineteenth century, (Baker & Saldanha, ٢٠٠٩), translators were highly educated individuals with deep knowledge of European cultures. This allowed them to develop personal approaches to their source texts, balancing faithfulness to the original's artistic qualities with the need for readability. Although "Bulgarianization" (adapting texts to local sensibilities) persisted during the Enlightenment, it gradually gave way to other translation methods, aided by the evolving national language. Key contributions came from Bulgaria's Renaissance-era writers—such as P. R. Slaveikov, L. Karavelov, C. Botev, and N. Bonchev—whose skill maximized the expressive potential of Bulgarian.

Scientific and political translations played a crucial role in shaping national consciousness and revolutionary thought. Driven by rising interest in governance, law, economics, and the natural sciences, these translations were always based on original texts, unlike some literary works. Excerpts, rather than full books, were commonly translated, with a growing emphasis on accuracy—though ideological biases often surfaced. The first Bulgarian schoolbook, *The Fish Primer* (١٨٢٤), cited in (Baker & Saldanha, ٢٠٠٩), included translations of Aesop's fables and ancient Greek writings.

Political translations, often anonymous, supported the independence movement. Some adhered closely to the source for factual precision, while others took liberties—adding commentary, explanations to serve specific ideological purposes.

Venuti's concept of "the translator's invisibility" (١٩٩٥), highlights how translation often goes unnoticed. This anonymity is primarily driven by two factors: the translators' approach to 'fluency' and the way translations are perceived by readers. Translators frequently prioritize creating a smooth, idiomatic 'target text', which results in an 'illusion of transparency'-making the translation appear as an original rather than an adapted work. Publishers, critics, and audiences often judge translations based on their readability, expecting them to seamlessly reflect the foreign author's intent without noticeable linguistic differences. Since Dryden's time (١٦٣١-١٧٠٠), English-language traditions have favoured concealing the act of translation, diminishing its recognition in literary scholarship. As a result, translated works are rarely regarded as independent artistic achievements.

٣- The Birth and Growth of 'Anonymity'

Nouns created from adjectives, Ferry (٢٠٠٢), usually keep their original meaning while changing their grammatical form - like "happy" becoming "happiness." When the word 'anonymity' first appeared in English in the early ١٨٠٠s, it was rarely used for over fifty years. At first, it simply described the state of being anonymous - when an author or their work wasn't known by name. In these early days, the noun closely followed the meaning of its root adjective, "anonymous." However, Ferry (٢٠٠٢) goes on, nouns ending in "-ity" (which often come from classical or French origins) are special. Linguists call them more "lexicalized" - they don't just change the word's grammar, they create entirely new concepts that can't be fully understood just by looking at how the word was formed. These words become powerful markers of cultural change because they pack in so much meaning. "Anonymity" is a perfect example - by the early ١٩٠٠s, it had become an established word carrying meanings that went far beyond just "being unnamed."

٤- The Evolution of 'Anonymity'

The adjective anonymous, according to Ferry (٢٠٠٢), entered English from Greek in the late ١٥٠٠s, often appearing in its original form, anonymous, to signal its scholarly origins. Initially, it served a simple purpose: describing a text or author whose name was unknown, staying true to its literal Greek meaning, "without name." For centuries, this definition remained largely unchanged. Yet by the ١٨٣٠s, shifting cultural attitudes toward unnamed works and writers began to reshape the word's implications. By the turn of the ٢٠th century, the term "anonymous" had expanded beyond its original association with unnamed authors, a development influenced by its related noun, "anonymity." As Ferry (٢٠٠٢) notes, this change exemplifies how language dynamically evolves, acquiring new meanings in response to shifting cultural environments.

Within translation studies, the idea of the translator's anonymity is a well-established topic. Scholar Peter Newmark (١٩٩٣) posits that an ideal translation should stand on its own as an independent text, not merely as a derivative work. However, he contends that achieving true anonymity is a complex endeavor.

Newmark (١٩٩٣) advocates for always crediting a translation, stating that the translator's name and information about the source text should be provided. This practice honors the translator's intellectual labor and safeguards the integrity of the original work. He further argues that complete invisibility is often thwarted by unique features of the source language, such as distinctive idioms (e.g., the German "grüne Lungen der Grossstadt"), unusual grammatical constructions, or innovative word usage. Translating these elements can inadvertently reveal the translator's hand, either through inventive solutions or the tell-tale signs of "translationese." Additionally, Newmark points out that an author's unique speech patterns (idiolect) and deep-seated cultural allusions can create a tone in the translated text that feels distinctly foreign, thus breaking the illusion of anonymity.

Despite these nuances, Newmark (١٩٩٣) maintains that translators should strive for anonymity when adhering to standard linguistic and social conventions, ensuring that translations remain natural, fluid, and seamlessly integrated into the target language.

That is, there are certain cases in which translators should be anonymous, as in the translation of expository texts, which is the core issue of the research at hand. For Pym (٢٠١٨) it might be argued that the proper situation for translators is, after all, to be anonymous- *a view this work adopts*- ; unlike children, they should be heard but not seen. The ideal translator remains an anonymous linguistic figure, corresponding to no I-here-now. In terms of the profession, however, the ideal translator is a juridical and fiscal entity who, according to most contemporary ethical codes, should have paratextual and extra-textual presence as the partly responsible source of translated texts. The implicit anonymity of the first level would seem to be overridden by a call to explicit professional presence on the second. Examples of relative correspondence between authors' and translators' anonymity: It seems pragmatically correct that "authorless" genres like information brochures should not name their translators, and that strongly authored texts like poems should always give the translator's name. But there are many genres where authorship bonds are weak and, although ostensible sources are cited, it is very difficult to have a translator's name printed. In Spain, Pym (٢٠١٨), this difficulty concerns political and economic texts, children's literature, encyclopedia articles, how-to-paint books and almost anything else that, in commercial passages from publisher to publisher, can undergo any number of uncontrolled rewrites. In these cases, authors are often named quite independently of their knowledge or desire, and translators tend to become as anonymous as the unscrupulous intermediary agents they work for. For this reason alone, it would be difficult to base translational ethics on criteria of authorship.

For Eliot Weinberger (٢٠٠٠), the translator's anonymity— his role as the Man Without Qualities standing before the scene, a product of the zeit-geist (the

dominant ideas, beliefs, cultural attitudes, and trends) but not a direct maker of it— is the joy of translation. One is operating strictly on the level of language, attempting to invent similar effects, to capture the essential, without the interference of the otherwise all-consuming ego. It is the greatest education in how to write, as many poets have learned. It is a prison in the sense that everything is said and must now be re-said, including all the author's bad moments— the vagaries, the repetitions, the clichés, the clinkers— while strictly avoiding the temptation to explain or improve. It is a prison, or a kind of nightmare, because one is in a dialogue with another person whom you must concede is always right. But it is also a liberation. It is the only time when one can put words on a page entirely without embarrassment (and embarrassment, it seems to me, is a greatly underrated force in the creation of literature). The introspective bookworm happily becomes the voice of Jack London or Jean Genet; translation is a kind of fantasy life.

٦- The stance of Anthony Pym towards Lawrence Venuti's 'The Translator's Invisibility'

Venuti (١٩٩٥) challenges the traditional invisibility of translators in Anglo-American culture, arguing that fluency in translation often minimizes the translator's visibility, perpetuating cultural dominance and undervaluing the translator's authorship. Anthony Pym's review highlights both the strengths and ambiguities in Venuti's arguments, offering a balanced perspective on his contributions and their broader implications.

٧- Pym's (١٩٩٦) Critique of Venuti

Pym (١٩٩٦) recognizes Venuti's important role in stimulating debate within Anglo-American Translation Studies concerning the politics and aesthetics of translation. While finding Venuti's critique of fluency—which he links to translator invisibility, imperialism, and xenophobia—to be intellectually compelling, Pym questions the lack of clear evidence for these causal relationships. He argues that Venuti's broad claims often lack specificity, making

it difficult to concretely connect specific translation choices to large-scale cultural problems.

Pym challenges several of Venuti's key arguments:

On Translation Statistics: He disputes Venuti's claim that a low *percentage* of translated works in English signifies a "trade imbalance," countering that in absolute numbers, English readers have access to a vast quantity of translations. Pym suggests a more nuanced interpretation of the data is needed.

On Historical and Comparative Context: Pym criticizes Venuti's focus on Anglo-American culture in isolation, noting that translator invisibility is not unique to it (e.g., citing similar cases in Brazil). He advocates for a comparative analysis to test the universality of Venuti's claims.

On Venuti's Proposals: While appreciating Venuti's advocacy for using non-standard language to assert the translator's individuality and resist fluency, Pym is skeptical about its practical feasibility, especially in fields like technical translation.

On Copyright and Translators' Rights: Pym supports Venuti's goal of improving translators' recognition and rights but questions his historical examples, suggesting that cases like Tarchetti's plagiarism require more nuanced analysis than being framed simply as subversive acts.

Pym also identifies a tension in Venuti's ideological stance, which critiques liberal humanism while simultaneously relying on its multicultural ideals to argue for diversity and inclusivity. Ultimately, Pym commends Venuti for raising crucial ethical questions and sparking public debate but calls for greater clarity, empirical support, and a more inclusive comparative approach to strengthen his arguments.

٨- On Translator's Anonymity

Venuti (١٩٩٥) posits that a translator's inclination toward invisibility or anonymity is not a natural condition but a strategic, culturally constructed

ideology. This ideology, he argues, is powerfully enforced by the publishing industry and internalized by translators. Venuti locates the dominance of this practice in contemporary Anglo-American culture, tracing its origins to 17th-century England. He contrasts this with a European tradition that he claims has more often emphasized preserving the foreign character of the source text. For Venuti, this analysis is politically charged, aiming to challenge prevailing norms and advocate for alternative translation practices.

٩- Why do translators strive for Anonymity?

Venuti's research (1995) reveals that this desire arises from the belief—shaped by ideology—that an ideal translation should not appear as a translation at all. Translators aim to create a seamless, fluent text that gives readers the illusion of reading the original work. This requires significant alterations to the source text's syntax and texture to ensure readability in the target language. Paradoxically, the translator's invisibility is achieved through their active presence, as they manipulate the text to make it accessible.

The ideological underpinnings of this anonymity, Venuti (1995: p. 18), become clear when we recognize that the translator's goal of readability often leads to the "domestication" of the foreign text. This process strips the text of its foreignness and reinterprets it according to the cultural norms of the target language. Venuti maintains, 'Translation is the forcible replacement of the linguistic and cultural difference of the foreign text with a text that will be intelligible to the target-language reader'.

While, Venuti (1995: p. 99), acknowledges that some degree of domestication is inevitable in translation, he critiques the extreme approach of rendering the foreign text entirely unrecognizable. Instead, he advocates for an alternative approach, exemplified by Friedrich Schleiermacher's (1813) lecture On the Different Methods of Translating. Schleiermacher argued for a foreignizing translation strategy that enriches the target language while preserving its essence. However, Venuti also notes that this approach carries its own risks, such as

fostering a condescending attitude toward foreign cultures. Lawrence Venuti (١٩٩٥) argues that translators often strive for "invisibility," aiming to make their translations so seamless that readers feel as though they're engaging with the original text. Pym (٢٠١٨) says that although the ideal translation might be thought to be one which is visible, the ideal of equivalence suggests exactly the opposite. Pym (٢٠٠٤: ٧٠) posits that ideal equivalence can function only when the receiver is indifferent to the translator's individuality.

١٠- Expository Texts

Expository, or "informational" texts convey and communicate factual information. These texts contain more unfamiliar vocabulary and concepts, fewer ideas related to the here-and-now, and less information directly related to personal experience.

Generally speaking, according to Meyer & Rice (١٩٨٤), two main types of text can be distinguished-narrative and expository texts. Although some features of these categories coincide, these two types of texts serve special and individual goals. Interestingly they have not the same structural patterns, which signal the organization of ideas in the text besides the relationships that these ideas form to transfer meaning. Both narrative and expository texts have hierarchical structures (Meyer & Poon, ٢٠٠١), however, expository texts differ from narratives in their structural patterns. Narrative texts tend to follow one structural pattern (story grammar), whereas multiple structures are used in expository texts. Basic structural patterns include description, sequence or procedure, enumeration, causation, problem/solution, and compare/contrast (Meyer & Freedle, ١٩٨٤).

١١- Characteristics of Expository Texts

Expository text, according to the Montgomery County Public Schools (٢٠١٢), is a kind of informational writing that conveys factual details about a subject. It is organized in a clear, non-narrative manner, with a central topic supported by details. Here are some characteristics of expository texts according to the (MCPS: ٢٠١٢):

- Expository texts can cover subjects such as historical events, scientific discoveries, or economic concepts.
- These texts are structured with a well-defined organizational format, which may include description, chronology, comparison, cause and effect, or problem and solution.
- The language is precise and subject-specific, utilizing terminology relevant to the topic to explain ideas and provide information clearly.

١٢- Structural and Visual Elements of Texts

Informational texts frequently utilize organizational tools—such as a table of contents, headings, an index, a glossary, a pronunciation guide, and appendices—to improve navigation and clarity. They also commonly incorporate visual aids like photographs, illustrations, charts, diagrams, tables, graphs, and timelines, all of which are supported by captions to aid comprehension. Common examples of this expository format are textbooks, trade books, articles, reports, essays, and interviews.

١٣- Understanding Questionnaires and Their Function

According to Sreejesh (٢٠١٤), a questionnaire is a methodical research instrument consisting of a structured series of questions. It is administered during an interview and includes specific instructions governing the order of questions and the criteria for selecting respondents. This highly versatile tool is used in diverse research areas, from surveys to experiments, providing a systematic approach to gathering data for analysis.

Oppenheim (٢٠٠١) further elaborates on the key roles of questionnaires. They are designed to accurately obtain and document information on specific topics, requiring careful alignment with research goals and clear interpretation of results. Structured questionnaires are primarily used in quantitative research to collect numerical data through various methods, including postal, electronic, in-person, and telephone surveys. Whether completed independently or with an interviewer,

they are essential for capturing factual information, studying behaviors and attitudes, evaluating customer satisfaction, and establishing baseline data for long-term research.

١٤- The use of questionnaires

For many years, Toury (٢٠١٢: ٢٦٣) the most common way of studying aspects of translated texts (or, rather, addressees' responses to them) in an empirical way consisted in devising questionnaires, and having groups of subjects – hopefully big enough as well as controlled for their background variables – react to the texts by answering the questions.

١٥- Data and Population

The questionnaire below has been distributed to thirty-two lecturers and professors of translation in various universities and they have been asked about their perspectives concerning anonymity.

This questionnaire is designed to explore the perceived impact of translator anonymity on translation quality, both in terms of process and product. Its objectives include:

١. Assessing perceptions of whether anonymity influences the accuracy, fidelity, or style of a translation.
٢. Understanding attitudes toward neutrality and personal voice in anonymous translations.
٣. Identifying quality assurance practices that may be more or less effective when the translator's identity is unknown.
٤. Evaluating professional ethics and rights, such as whether translators should have the option to remain anonymous.
٥. Exploring practical challenges, like whether anonymity introduces linguistic difficulties or affects criticism and feedback.

The following is a detailed list of their affiliations:

Department	College	University	Country
Translation	College of Arts	Mosul	Iraq

Translation	College of Arts	Tikrit	Iraq
Translation	College of Arts	Al-Mutansirya	Iraq
Translation	College of Arts	Al-Basrah	Iraq
Translation	College of Al-Noor	Al-Noor	Iraq
English	College of Education	Duhok	Iraq
English	College of Arts	Baghdad	Iraq

١٦- A FIFTY- QUESTIONS QUESTIONNAIRE

Anonymity in Translating English Expository Texts into Arabic

(To the respondents: The following paragraph shows the main idea behind the questionnaire at hand)

Translator's Anonymity: The translator's anonymity in this context refers to the idea that their individual input is hidden or concealed, and they are treated as mediators between the source and target languages. This phenomenon reflects the broader invisibility of the translator. Of the issues tackled by the theme of anonymity in translation are the following:

١. The practice of concealing or omitting identifying information of the translator within the translation process.
٢. Withholding the identity of the translator to avoid bias and maintain focus on the original work.
٣. Protecting the original author's identity, particularly in sensitive texts (e.g., whistleblower documents, confidential reports)

Instructions:- Please choose the most appropriate choice for each question. Your responses will contribute to success of the research.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Section One : Demographics & Professional Background of the respondent:-

١. What is your current professional background in translation?
☐ Freelance Translator
☐ Employed Translator (Company/Agency)
☐ Academic Translator (Research/Teaching)

_ Other : _____

٢. How many years of experience have you spent in translation?

_ ٥-١٠ years

_ ١٠-١٥ years

_ ١٥-٢٠ years

_ More than ٢٠ years

٣. Are you specialized in translating expository texts?

_ Yes

_ No

_ Sometimes

_ When necessary

٤. Have you had a formal training in translation?

_ Yes, with formal certification

_ Yes, yet informal

_ No, self-taught

_ No, yet interested

٥. What is the educational qualification of yours?

_ I have high school diploma

_ Bachelor's degree

_ Master's degree

_ Ph D degree

٦. Are you an associate of a professional translation establishment?

_ I am a university lecturer now

_ I was a university lecturer, a retiree now

_ I am a freelancer

_ I am a translator but do not practise it at the present

٧. Have you ever published a translated work officially?

_ Yes, frequently

_ Yes, but few times

- ☐ No, but intend to
- ☐ No
٨. How often do you translate expository texts?

- ☐ On a regular basis
- ☐ From time to time
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never

٩. What motivated you to be a translator?

- ☐ Passion for language learning
- ☐ Source of income
- ☐ Obligated
- ☐ Other reasons: _____

Section Two: Anonymity in Translation

١٠. Have you ever translated a certain text anonymously?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Do not remember

١١. If the answer is yes then was it voluntary or requested by someone?

- ☐ It was voluntary
- ☐ It was requested
- ☐ Both
- ☐ None

١٢. If yes, why did you choose to be anonymous?

- ☐ For privacy reasons
- ☐ Due to cultural or political considerations
- ☐ Requested by the clients
- ☐ Hobby

١٣. Which texts did you translate anonymously?

☐ Academic ones

☐ Religious or cultural ones

☐ Political ones

☐ All texts

١٤. Does anonymity influence your translation to the text?

☐ Significantly does

☐ Slightly does

☐ It has no influence

☐ I am not sure

١٥. Was your anonymity ever breached or revealed some day?

☐ Yes, deliberately

☐ Yes, unintentionally perhaps

☐ No

☐ I decline to answer

١٦. Have you ever declined to translate anonymously?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Sometimes

☐ Prefer not to answer

١٧. Are you going to translate anonymously in the future?

☐ Yes

☐ Perhaps

☐ No

☐ It would depend on the project

١٨. Do you think, as a translator, that anonymity affects the quality of a translation?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not sure

☐ I decline to answer

Section Three: Translator's Ethical & Cultural Considerations

١٩. Does anonymity affect the translator's ability to adapt a text so as to suit cultural norms?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not sure

☐ I decline to answer

٢٠. Do you think that anonymity is ethical in translation?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ It depends on the situation

☐ I decline to answer

Section Four: Ethical Considerations

٢١. Is anonymity ethical in translation?

☐ Yes, always

☐ Yes, in certain cases

☐ No, never

☐ I have no idea

٢٢. How does anonymity impact copyright issues in translation?

☐ It creates complications

☐ It simplifies processes

☐ It has no impact

☐ I have no idea

٢٣. Would anonymity protect the translator from political backlash (reaction)?

☐ Yes, effectively

☐ Yes, but not always

☐ No

☐ I have no idea

٢٤. Should professional translation establishments regulate anonymity?

☐ Yes, strictly

☐ Yes, but with flexibility

☐ No

☐ I have no idea

٢٥. Are ethical standards affected when the translator works anonymously?

☐ Yes, significantly affected

☐ Yes, slightly affected

☐ Not affected at all

☐ I have no idea

٢٦. Are there any situations where anonymity becomes ethically questionable?

☐ Yes, frequently

☐ Yes, rarely

☐ No

☐ I am not sure

٢٧. Is the presence of the translator's name influential with regards to readership trust?

☐ Yes, significantly

☐ Yes, slightly

☐ No, not at all

☐ I can not tell

Section Five: Cultural and Linguistic Impact

٢٨. Does anonymity impact cultural adaptation?

☐ Yes, positively

☐ Yes, negatively

☐ No impact

☐ Not sure

٢٩. Are anonymous translators able to transfer cultural nuances effectively?

☐ Yes, always

☐ Yes, sometimes

☐ Rarely

☐ No

٣٠. Does anonymity hinder the preservation of cultural identity?

☐ Yes

☐ Yes, but not always

☐ No, not at all

☐ Not sure

٣١. Are certain cultural issues more challenging to translate anonymously?

☐ Yes, significantly

☐ Yes, slightly

☐ No

☐ I am not sure

٣٢. Does anonymity promote or hinder linguistic creativity in translations?

☐ It strongly does

☐ It strongly hinders

☐ It has no impact

☐ I have no idea

٣٣. Can anonymity affect the translator's understanding of cultural context?

☐ Yes, significantly

☐ Yes, to some extent

☐ No

☐ Not sure

٣٤. Does anonymity result in more neutral cultural translations?

☐ Yes, always

☐ Yes, often

☐ Rarely

☐ No

٣٥. Can anonymity lead to cultural misrepresentation in translated texts?

☐ Yes, often

☐ Yes, but minimally

☐ No

☐ Not sure

٣٦. Are cultural differences harder to address when translating anonymously?

☐ Yes, significantly

☐ Yes, slightly

☐ No

☐ I have no idea

٣٧. Are anonymous translations treated differently across cultures?

☐ Yes, significantly

☐ Yes, slightly

☐ No

☐ I have no idea

Section Four: Addressee Perception

٣٨. What are your general thoughts towards anonymous translators?

☐ Absolutely positive

☐ Positive to some extent

☐ Neutral

☐ Negative

٣٩. How do you view an anonymously translated work compared to another attributed to a translator you know?

☐ Both are of the same degree of reliability

☐ The first is more reliable than the second

☐ The second is more reliable than the first

☐ I am not sure

٤٠. Does anonymity have an influence on how readers interpret the translated work?

☐ Absolutely yes

☐ Absolutely No

☐ I can not tell

☐ In certain cases

Section Six: Impact of Anonymity on Translation Quality

٤١. Does anonymity impact the accuracy of a translation?

☐ Yes, in a positive manner

☐ No, it distorts translation

☐ I have no idea

☐ It depends on the text

٤٢. Do anonymous translated texts tend to be neutral in tone?

☐ Yes, always

☐ Yes, sometimes

☐ I have no idea

☐ Never

٤٣. Are anonymous translated texts less likely to reflect the translator's personal style?

☐ Always

☐ Sometimes

☐ Never

☐ Rarely

٤٤. How can you gauge quality in anonymous translations?

☐ Through collaborative reviews

☐ By strict adherence to source text

☐ Depending on self-revision techniques

☐ Through feedback from the client

٤٥. Does anonymity encourage or discourage free translation?

☐ Strongly encourages

☐ Strongly discourages

☐ No impact

☐ I do not know

٤٦. Do anonymously translated texts require more criticism?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ It depends

☐ I have no idea

٤٧. Is fidelity to the source material maintained thoroughly in anonymous translations?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ It depends

☐ I have no idea

٤٨. Do anonymous translations exhibit unique linguistic challenges?

☐ Yes, significant ones

☐ Yes, minor ones

☐ No

☐ I have no idea

٤٩. What quality assurance measures are required for anonymous translations?

☐ Peer reviews

☐ Translators' self-assessment

☐ Clear guidelines from the client

☐ All the above

٥٠. Should translators have the right to remain anonymous?

☐ Yes, always

☐ Yes, yet with restrictions

☐ No

_I have no idea

١٧- SPSS Results and Analysis

32 responses

Summary Question Individual

amwajhadyt40@gmail.com

1 of 32

0 of 0 points

Score released May 12 2:16 AM

Release score

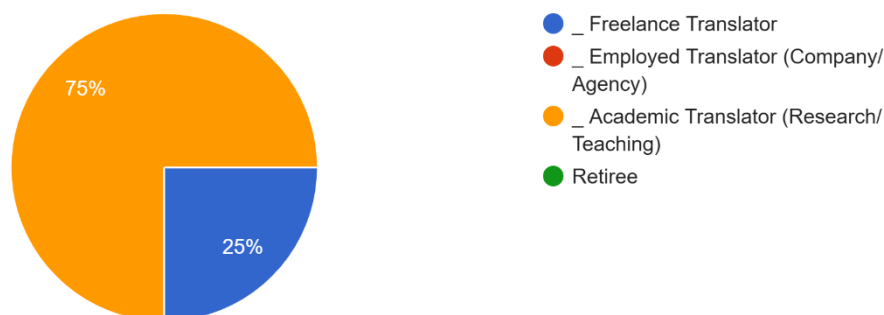
Anonymity in Translating English Expository Texts into Arabic

Dear Professors of translation, could you please state your answers to the items of the questionnaire below?

(To the respondents: The following paragraph shows the main idea behind the questionnaire)

Section One : Demographics & Professional Background of the respondent:- 1. What is your current professional background in translation?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Most respondents are institutionally employed, suggesting structured workflows, team-based translation environments, and possible exposure to formal ethical guidelines.

Implication: - Pedagogy: Training should simulate agency/company settings, emphasizing collaborative editing, client confidentiality, and traceability.

- Corpus: Expect interventions shaped by institutional norms, standardized style guides, and accountability mechanisms.

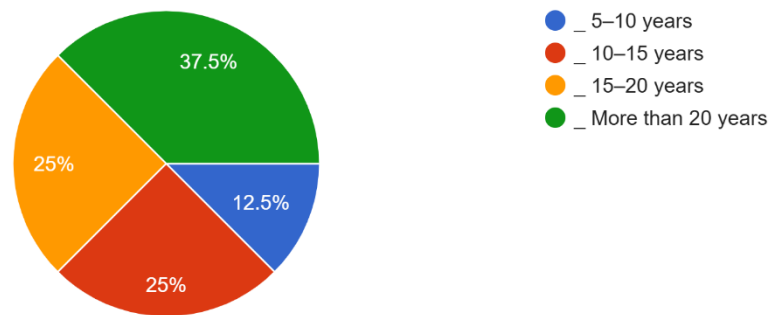
Analysis: - Employed Translator (Company/Agency) – ٧٥% → dominant group; likely adheres to organizational protocols

- Freelance Translator – ٢٥% → minority; may show more individualized strategies

- Academic/Retiree – ٠% → negligible influence in this sample

2. How many years of experience have you spent in translation?

32 responses



Hypothesis: The majority of respondents have extensive translation experience, indicating deep professional exposure and long-term engagement.

Implication: Training should leverage veteran insight, focusing on reflective practice, ethics, and evolving norms.

- Corpus: Annotation may reflect mature strategies, genre familiarity, and nuanced decision-making.

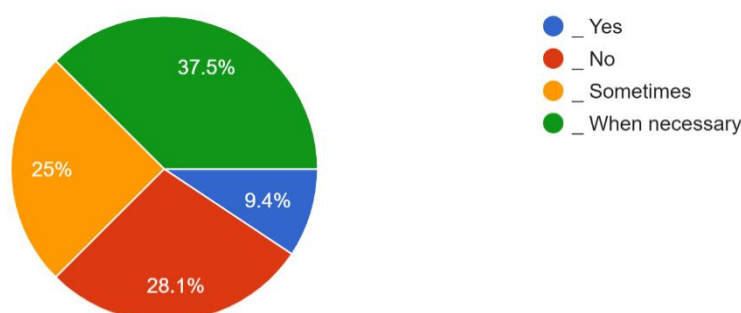
Analysis: - More than ٢٠ years (٣٧,٥%) → dominant veteran group

- ١٠–٢٠ years (٥٠%) → substantial mid-career cohort

- ٥–١٠ years (١٢,٥%) → smaller early-career segment

3. Are you specialized in translating expository texts?

32 responses



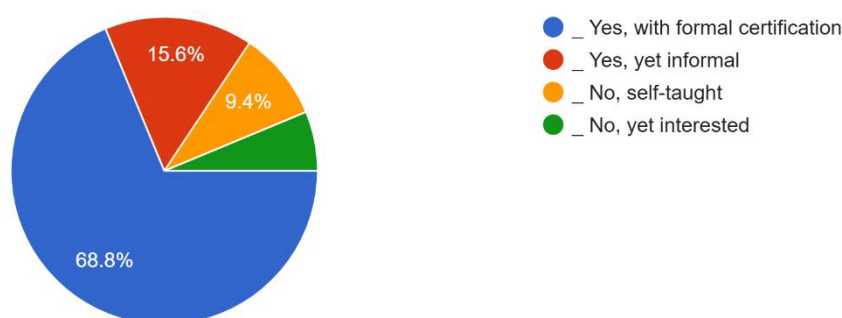
Hypothesis: Translators are more likely to view expository text translation as a common necessary task.

Implication: Assessing specific experience is more reliable.

Analysis: Most translators (٦٥,٦٪) work with expository texts, but only ٣٧,٥٪ consider themselves specialized. This gap shows that proficiency often comes from practical necessity, not formal specialization.

4. Have you had a formal training in translation?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Most respondents have undergone formal translation training, suggesting structured exposure to professional standards and ethics.

Implication: - Pedagogy: Curriculum can build on certified foundations, emphasizing advanced skills and ethical nuance.

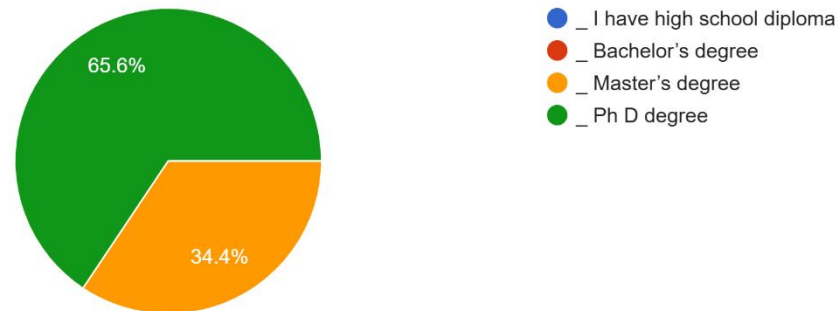
- Corpus: Annotation may reflect formal training influences—terminology control, genre awareness, and attribution norms.

Analysis:

- Formal certification (٦٨,٨%) → dominant, institutionally trained group
- Informal/self-taught/aspirational (٣١,٢%) → minority, may show diverse workflows or ethical interpretations

5. What is the educational qualification of yours?

32 responses



Hypothesis: The majority of respondents hold advanced academic degrees, indicating a highly educated translator cohort.

Implication: - Pedagogical: Training can assume high baseline literacy and focus on advanced ethical and theoretical frameworks.

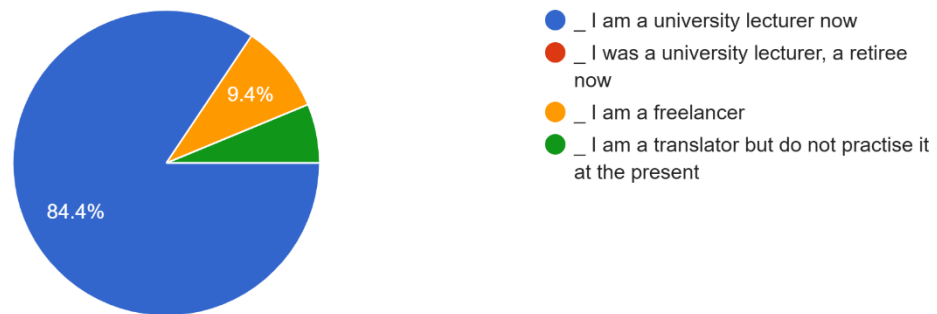
- Corpus: Annotation may reflect academic register, citation norms, and formal translation strategies.

Analysis: - PhD (٦٥,٦%) + Master's (٣٤,٤%) → ١٠٠% postgraduate-level respondents

- No responses for BA or below → suggests academic exclusivity or sampling bias.

6. Are you an associate of a professional translation establishment?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Most respondents are currently embedded in academia, suggesting institutional influence on translation norms and ethics.

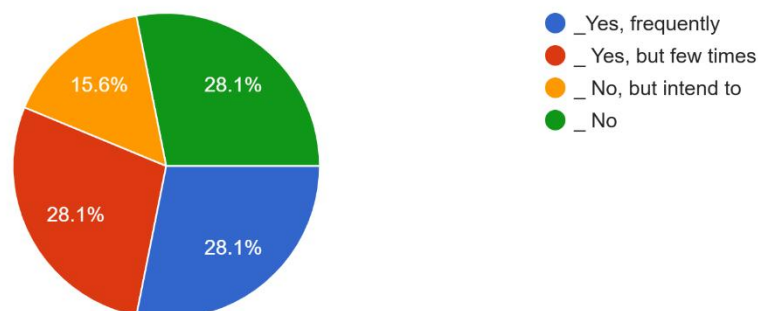
Implication: Corpus and pedagogy should reflect academic translation practices, with attention to institutional constraints and attribution models.

Analysis: - ٨٤,٤% university lecturers → dominant academic affiliation

- ١٥,٦% non-academic (retirees, freelancers, inactive) → minority, may reflect varied ethical stances or workflows

7. Have you ever published a translated work officially?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Over ٤٠% of respondents lack frequent publication experience, indicating limited formal engagement.

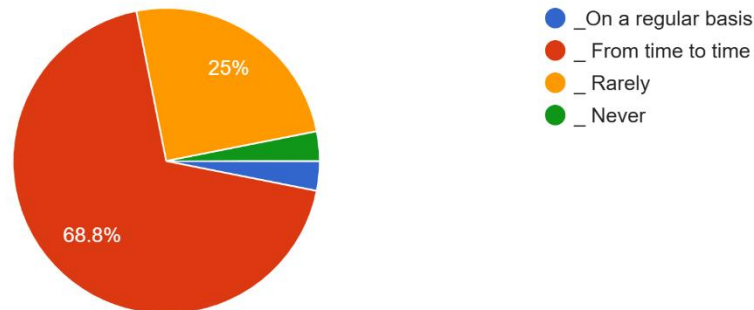
Implication: Translation pedagogy should address publication pathways and ethical attribution.

Analysis:- ٥٦,٢% published (frequently or few times)

- ٤٣,٧% unpublished (intentional or not) → signals barriers or informal practice

8. How often do you translate expository texts?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Most translators rarely or never engage with expository texts, indicating limited exposure or demand.

Implication: Pedagogical frameworks should increase practice with expository genres, and corpus design must reflect their underrepresentation.

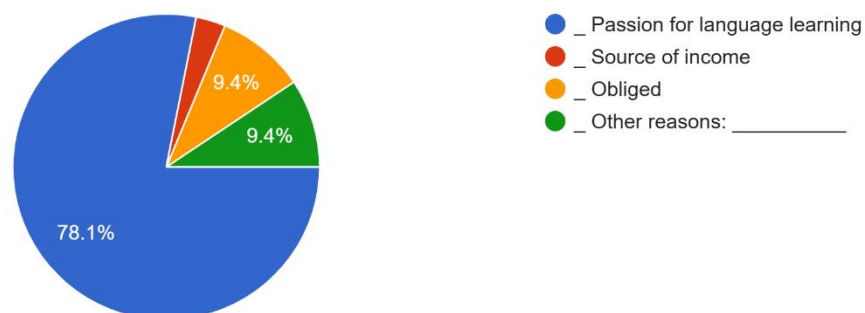
Analysis: - Never (٦٨,٨%) → dominant response; suggests genre avoidance or lack of access

- From time to time (٢٥%) → occasional engagement

- Regular/Rarely → minimal or negligible frequency

9. What motivated you to be a translator?

32 responses



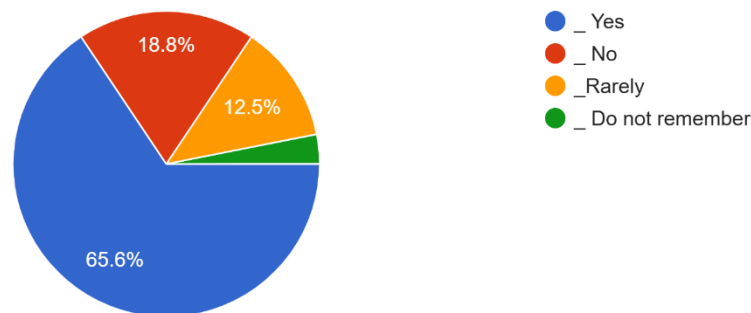
Hypothesis: Translators are primarily motivated by a passion for language learning.

Implication: Training and recruitment should emphasize intrinsic motivation over financial or external pressures.

Analysis:

- Passion: ٧٨,١% → dominant
- Income: ٩,٤% → minor
- Obligation: ٩,٤% → external
- Other: unspecified

Section Two: Anonymity in Translation 10. Have you ever translated a certain text anonymously?
32 responses



Hypothesis: Most translators engage in anonymous translation deliberately.

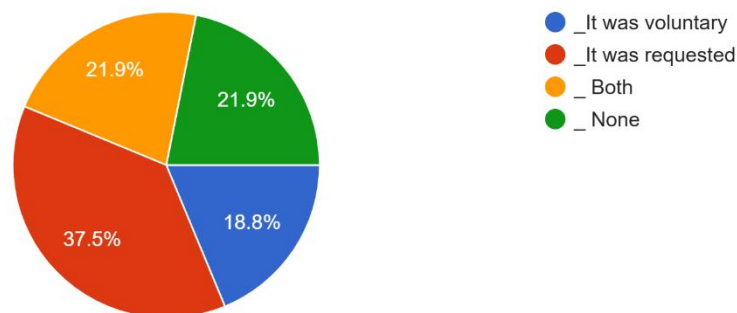
Implication: Anonymity should be addressed in training, corpus annotation, and policy design.

Analysis:- Yes (٦٥,٦%) → Common, intentional practice

- No (١٨,٨%) → Minority avoid anonymity
- Rarely (١٢,٥%) → Context-dependent use
- Don't remember (٣,١%) → Low awareness or documentation

11. If the answer is yes then was it voluntary or requested by someone?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Anonymity in translation is often externally requested.

Implication: Corpus tags should distinguish voluntary, requested, mixed, and unclear motives; pedagogy must address agency vs. pressure.

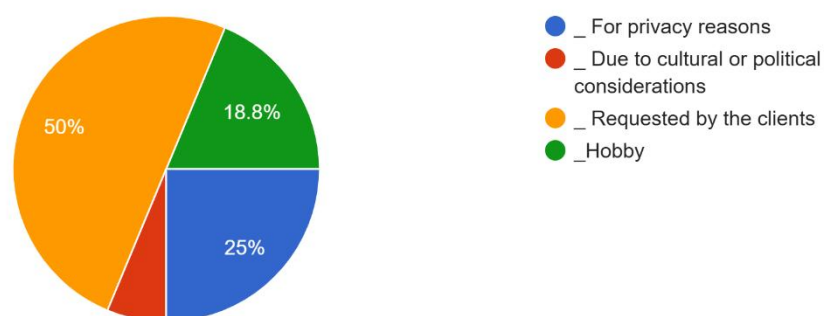
Analysis:- Requested (37.5%) = dominant driver

- Voluntary (21.9%) = minority agency

- Both/None (21.9% each) = mixed or ambiguous contexts

12. If yes, why did you choose to be anonymous?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Anonymity in translation is primarily externally imposed, with client-driven requests outweighing personal or contextual motivations.

Implication:

- Pedagogy: Ethics modules must address client confidentiality, contractual obligations, and translator agency.

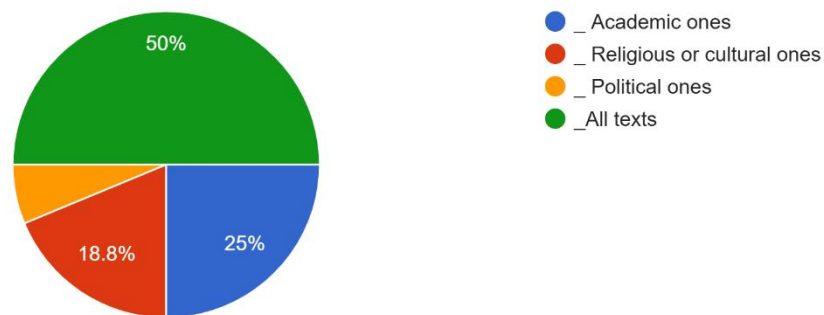
- Corpus: Anonymity metadata should distinguish between voluntary and externally mandated cases, with legal annotation layers.

Analysis:

- Requested by clients – ٥٠% → dominant driver; suggests institutional/legal constraints
- Cultural/political considerations – ٢٥% → context-sensitive; may reflect risk mitigation
- Privacy reasons – ١٨,٨% → personal choice; possibly linked to identity protection
- Hobby – ٦,٣% → marginal; likely informal or non-professional contexts

13. Which texts did you translate anonymously?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Translators tend to be anonymous in all kinds of texts, showing considerable concerns over identity.

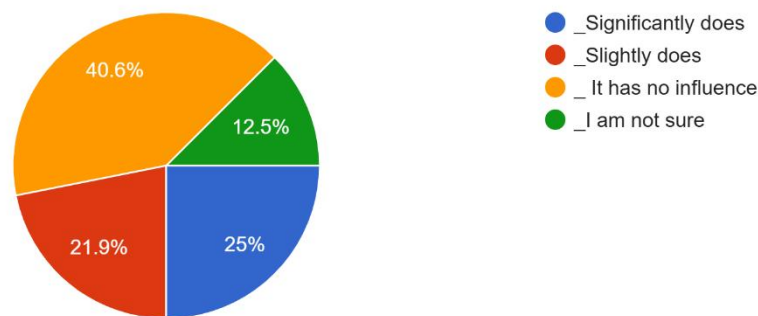
Implication: Anonymity, in translation, is often precautionary.

Analysis:

- _ ‘All texts’ dominance (٥٠%) suggests systemic / habitual anonymization.
- _ Academic / cultural texts show sensitivity to some extent.

14. Does anonymity influence your translation to the text?

32 responses



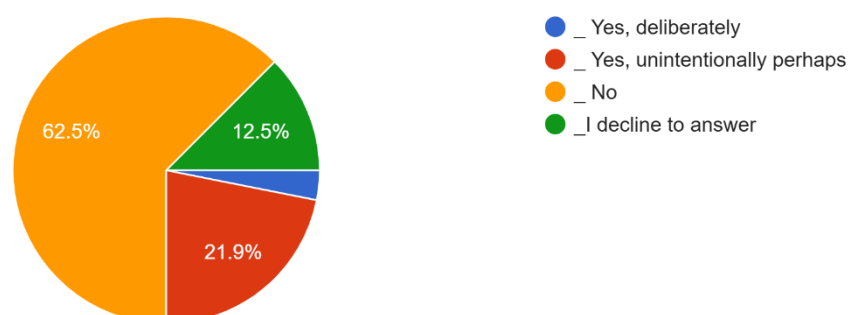
Hypothesis: Anonymity in translation is preserved but breaches, especially unintentional, happen and stir ethical concerns.

Implication: Translation must include safeguards against both intended and accidental breaches, with vivid protocols for ethical authenticity and translator protection.

Analysis: As anonymity is mostly supported, both accidental / deliberate breaches underscore the need for strong ethical safeguards in translation practice. Almost the majority of the respondents admit anonymity does not affect their workflow.

15. Was your anonymity ever breached or revealed some day?

32 responses



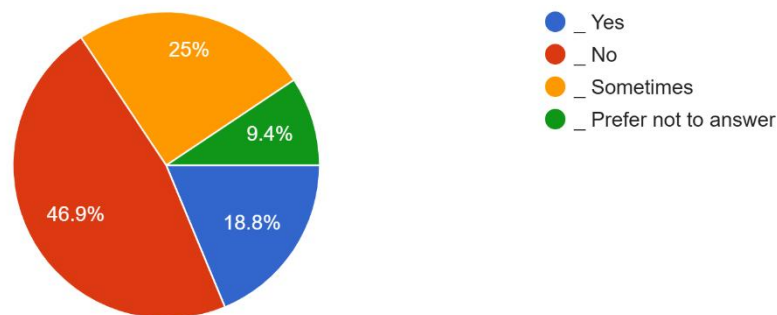
Hypothesis: Intended action is the main cause of anonymity breaches.

Implication: Community trust is a major vulnerability. Security focus must be on internal threats.

Analysis: The high rate of intended breaches (٦٢,٥%) shows the major risk is not accidental leaks.

16. Have you ever declined to translate anonymously?

32 responses



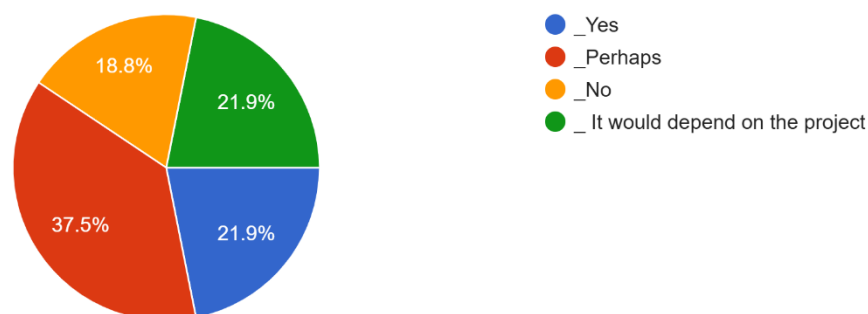
Hypothesis: Translators are largely inclined to work anonymously.

Implication: Translation workflows ought to respect individual boundaries concerning anonymity, especially in ethically sensitive issues.

Analysis: As most translators are willing to be anonymous, a significant minority adopt ethical filters or decline based on context.

17. Are you going to translate anonymously in the future?

32 responses



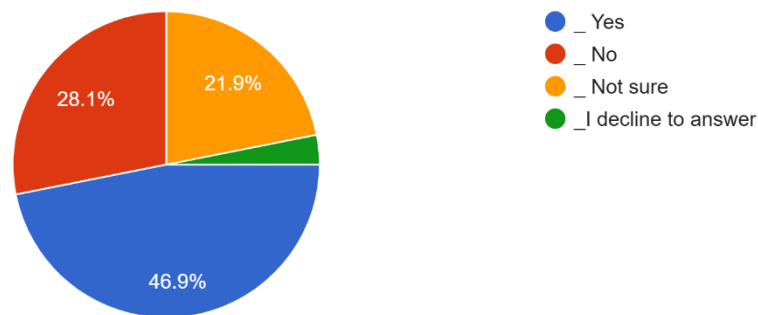
Hypothesis: Future use of anonymity is shaped by ethical concerns, project type, and contextual sensitivity.

Implication: Pedagogical and workflow models must be tackled when anonymity is appropriate, stressing ethical reasoning and situational assessment.

Analysis: Translators show nuanced, conditional attitudes towards anonymity, stressing the need for flexible ethical frameworks both in training and corpus annotation.

18. Do you think, as a translator, that anonymity affects the quality of a translation?

32 responses



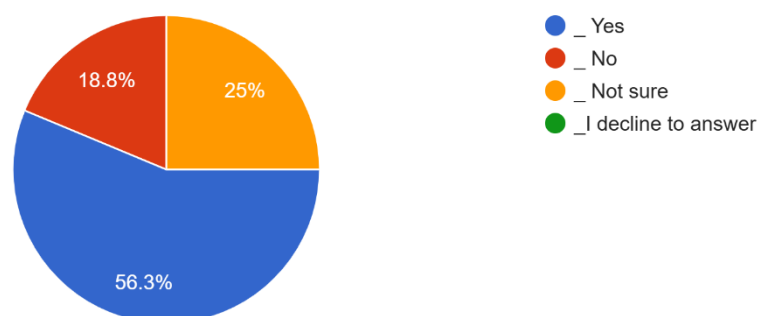
Hypothesis: Anonymity might passively influence translation quality by limiting translators' engagement, accountability or contextual sensitivity.

Implication: Translation workflows ought to be considered when anonymity compromises quality especially in culturally or technically demanding texts.

Analysis: The data reflect a divided stance, with a significant inclination towards viewing anonymity as a quality risk. This supports integrating ethical awareness into translators' training and corpus annotation.

Section Three: Translator's Ethical & Cultural Considerations 19. Does anonymity affect the translator's ability to adapt a text so as to suit cultural norms?

32 responses



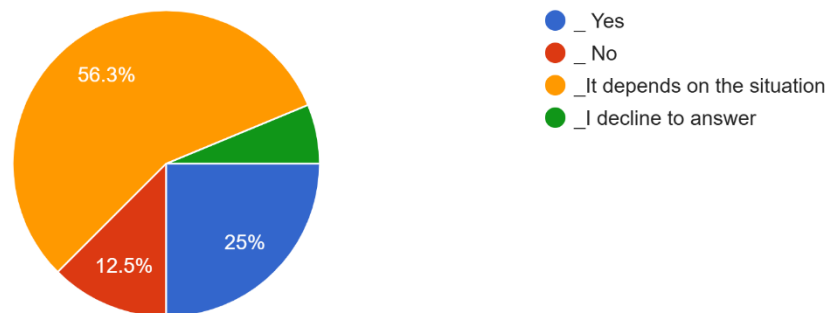
Hypothesis: Anonymity reduces translators' ability to adapt texts culturally.

Implication: Translation workflows must balance anonymity with cultural fidelity.

Analysis: Anonymity is perceived to limit translators' ability to tailor texts to cultural expectations. This supports embedding ethical and cultural awareness in translator training and corpus annotation.

20. Do you think that anonymity is ethical ?

32 responses



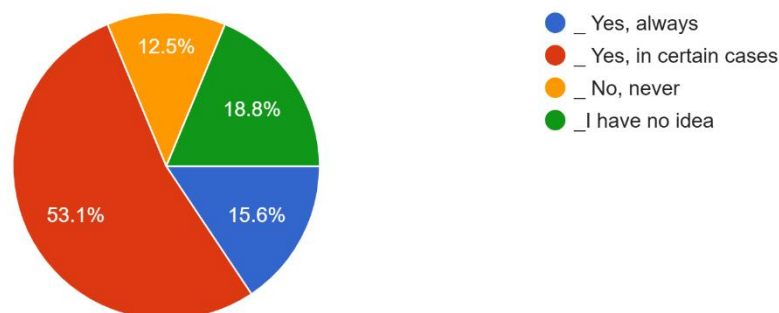
Hypothesis: Ethical views on anonymity in translation are primarily context-dependent.

Implication: Translation frameworks should allow flexible anonymity, guided by situational ethics and transparency needs.

Analysis: Most respondents (56.3%) view anonymity as ethically situational. A quarter (25%) support it outright, while 12.5% oppose it. A small group (4.2%)

21. Is anonymity ethical in translation?

32 responses



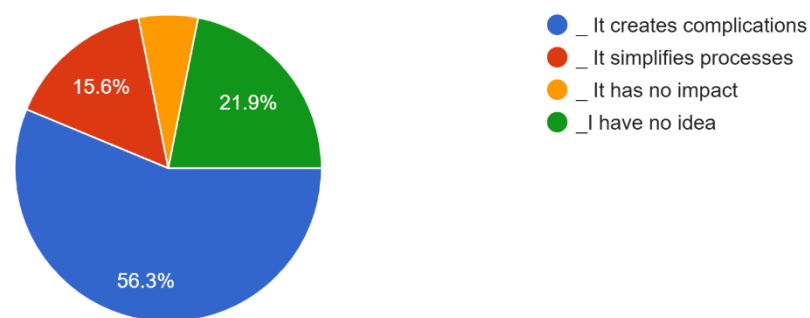
Hypothesis: Most translators view anonymity as ethically acceptable.

Implication: The ethics of anonymity in translation are context-dependent.

Analysis: The ethics of anonymity in translation are context-dependent. Most participants believe anonymity can be ethical—but only in specific situations that likely involve safety, neutrality, or objectivity. Professionals may need flexible ethical frameworks rather than rigid rules when it comes to translator identity disclosure.

22. How does anonymity impact copyright issues in translation?

32 responses



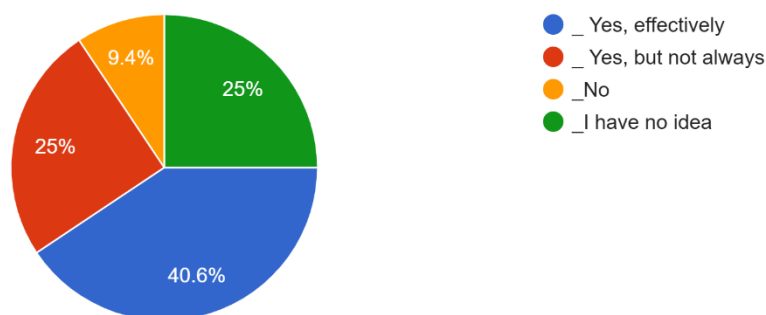
Hypothesis: Anonymity complicates copyright issues in translation.

Implication: Translation training and policy should clarify legal risks tied to anonymous work.

Analysis: Most respondents (56.3%) believe anonymity complicates copyright in translation, likely due to unclear ownership and attribution. A smaller group (21.9%) sees no impact, while very few (7.3%) think it simplifies matters. The 15.6% unsure reflects a gap in legal awareness among translators.

23. Would anonymity protect the translator from political backlash (reaction)?

32 responses



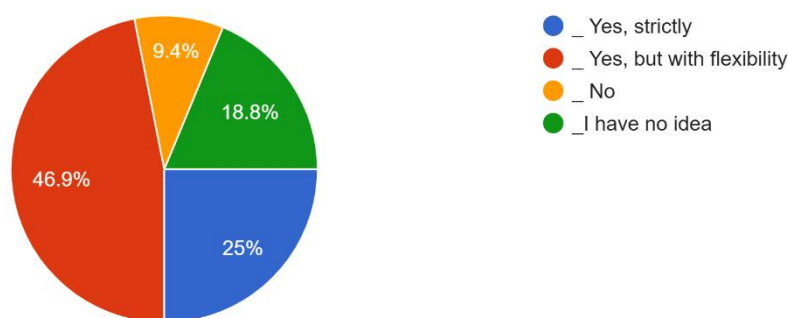
Hypothesis: Anonymity is a protective tool in politically sensitive translation.

Implication: Anonymity significantly reduces the risk of political backlash faced by translators.

Analysis: Concealing the translator's identity serves as a protective mechanism against potential political consequences, especially in sensitive or controversial contexts. About two-thirds (٦٥,٦%) believe anonymity is useful to some degree. The ٢٥% uncertainty suggests a potential gap in awareness or understanding, and the ٩,٤% opposition introduces a critical minority voice.

24. Should professional translation establishments regulate anonymity?

32 responses



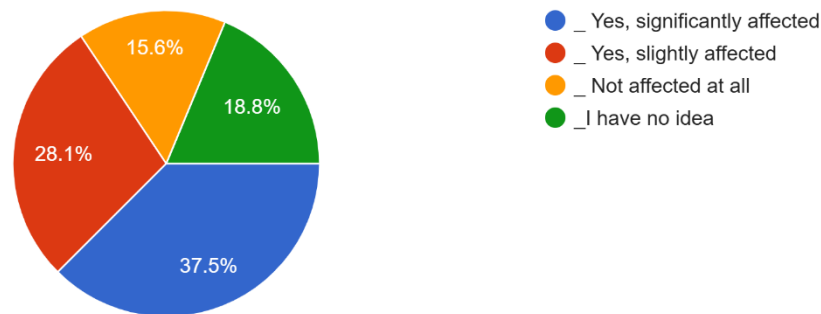
Hypothesis: Some translators support regulating anonymity.

Analysis: Majority (٧٢%) support regulating anonymity, mostly with flexibility—indicating a preference for ethical guidance over rigid control.

Implication: There are rules that govern how translation is conducted.

25. Are ethical standards affected when the translator works anonymously?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Ethical standards are not affected in anonymity.

Analysis: - 37.5% believe ethical standards are significantly affected

- 28.1% say they are slightly affected

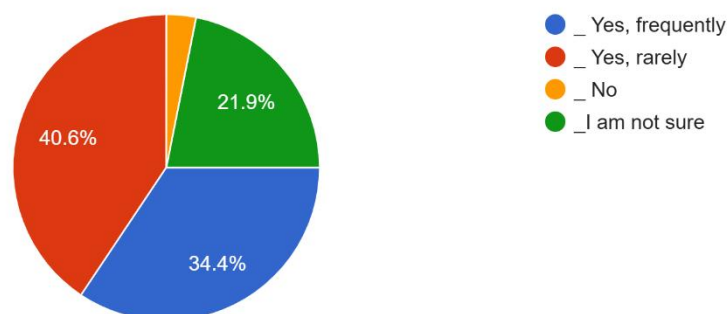
- 15.6% feel they are not affected at all

- 18.8% responded with “I have no idea”

Implication: Transparency and accountability are viewed as important factors in ethical translation practices.

26. Are there any situations where anonymity becomes ethically questionable?

32 responses



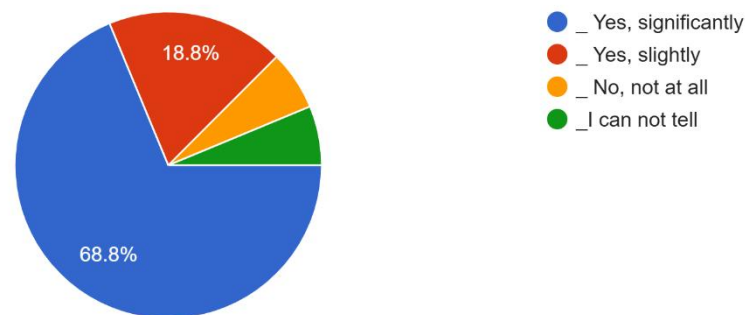
Hypothesis: Ethical considerations are an issue in anonymity.

Analysis: Most respondents (75%) believe anonymity in translation can be ethically questionable, with 40.6% saying rarely and 34.4% saying frequently. Only 3.1% see no issue, while another 21.9% are unsure—highlighting both concern and ambiguity around ethical boundaries.

Implication: There is a general consensus on the importance of accountability—even in spaces designed to protect identity.

27. Is the presence of the translator's name influential with regards to readership trust?

32 responses



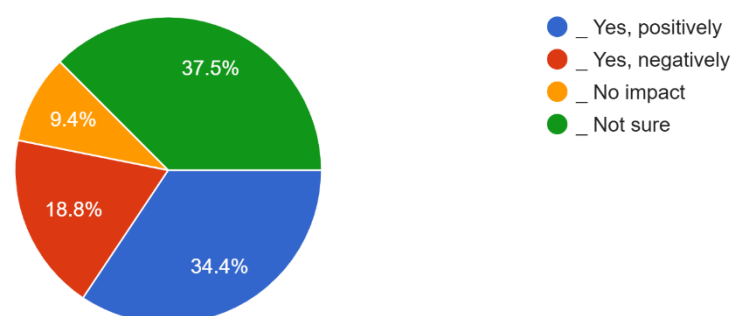
Hypothesis: Naming the translator affects readership.

Implication: The presence of the translator's name significantly influences readers' trust in translated works.

Analysis: Consensus highlights the value of attribution in translation ethics.

Section Four: Cultural and Linguistic Impact 28. Does anonymity impact cultural adaptation?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Anonymity affects cultural adaptation.

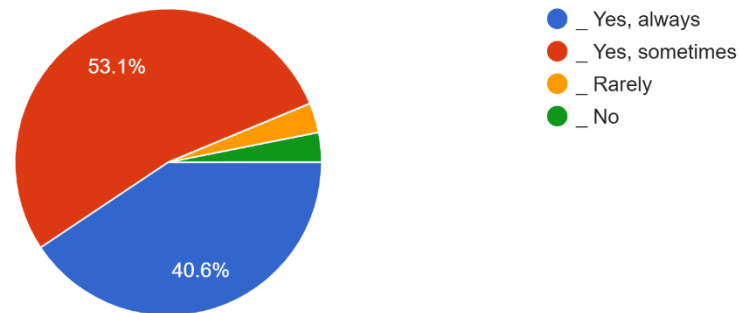
Analysis: - A portion of 37.5% of respondents are 'Not sure'. This reflects a general uncertainty or lack of clear consensus concerning the relationship between anonymity & cultural adaptation.

- ٣٤,٤% of the respondents believe that anonymity affects adaptation positively. This means that hidden identities may encourage open-mindedness as well as reduce fear of judgment when indulging in cultures.

Implication: This may empower or may hinder translators.

29. Are anonymous translators able to transfer cultural nuances effectively?

32 responses



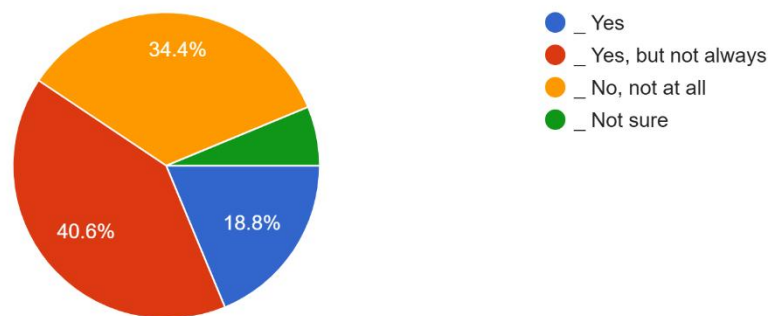
Hypothesis: No difficulties are faced by translators when dealing with culture.

Analysis: Anonymous translators may have various degrees of effectiveness when conveying cultural differences in translation. - ٥٣,١% of the respondents say 'Yes, sometimes'. These responses mean skepticism towards the ability of anonymous translators to fully understand or express nuanced, culture-specific meaning.

Implication: If anonymity affects a translator's ability to render cultural subtleties, it could influence how audiences understand and engage with the translated content, specially in literature, media or diplomacy.

30. Does anonymity hinder the preservation of cultural identity?

32 responses



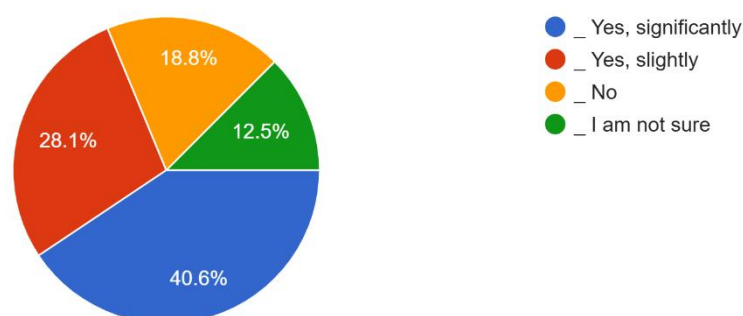
Hypothesis: Anonymity does not considerably hamper the preservation of cultural identity.

Implication: Cultural fidelity is maintained regardless of translator anonymity which indicates that identity preservation is less dependent on the author.

Analysis: This implies that knowing the original or author is still considered important for preserving cultural context as well as authenticity.

31. Are certain cultural issues more challenging to translate anonymously?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Anonymity overrides cultural issues.

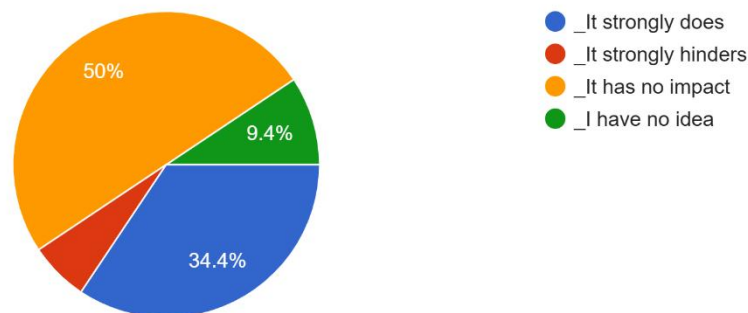
Implication: Translating cultural references—idioms, metaphors, humor, religious or political cues—often demands visible translator agency, as these elements can't always be mechanically transferred.

Analysis: Translator anonymity has no effect on the difficulty of addressing cultural issues in translation. Translator anonymity increases the difficulty of addressing certain cultural issues in translation.

- A clear majority (٦٨,٧٪) agree to some extent (significantly or slightly) that anonymity makes cultural translation more challenging.
- Only ١٢,٥٪ reject this notion outright, while a considerable minority (١٨,٨٪) remain undecided—

32. Does anonymity promote or hinder linguistic creativity in translations?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Anonymity is not a limiting factor for linguistic creativity.

Implications: Anonymity may be ideal for technical clarity, but ill-suited for literary or expressive texts.

Analysis: Anonymity in translation has no significant effect on linguistic creativity.

٣٤,٤٪ ١١ Seen as a motivator for expressive freedom

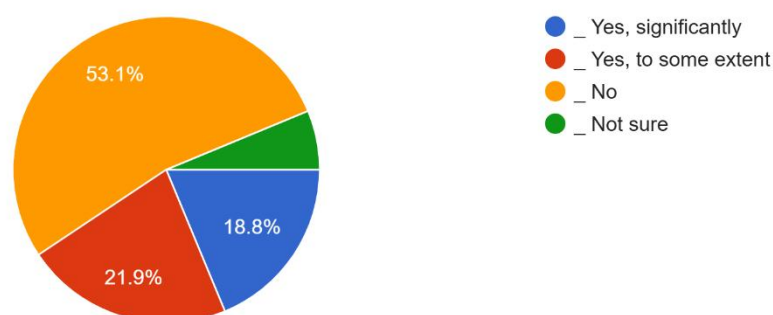
٩,٤٪ ٣ Indicates suppression of creativity

٥٠,٠٪ ١٦ Perceived neutrality

٦,٣٪ ٢ Lack of clarity or knowledge

33. Can anonymity affect the translator's understanding of cultural context?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Culture comprehension is almost no barrier for anonymity.

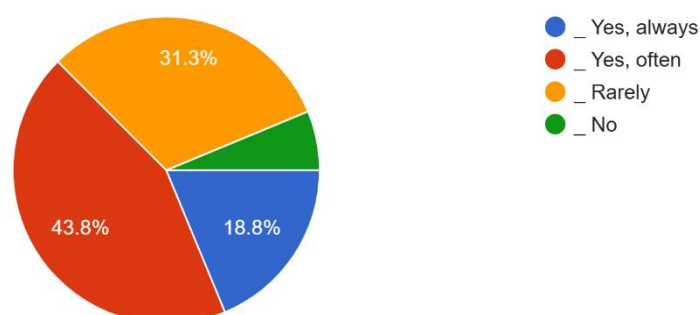
Analysis: - ٥٣,١% said No, suggesting that for most respondents, anonymity doesn't obstruct cultural comprehension—perhaps because experienced translators can navigate cultural layers without needing direct identity exposure.

- ٢١,٩% said Yes, to some extent, and ١٨,٨% said Yes, significantly, meaning that ٤٠,٧% see at least some negative impact of anonymity on cultural understanding.

Implication: While translator anonymity can be valuable for safety, it may introduce subtle barriers, for some, to cultural nuance—especially in translations involving idioms, social dynamics, or localized references.

34. Does anonymity result in more neutral cultural translations?

32 responses



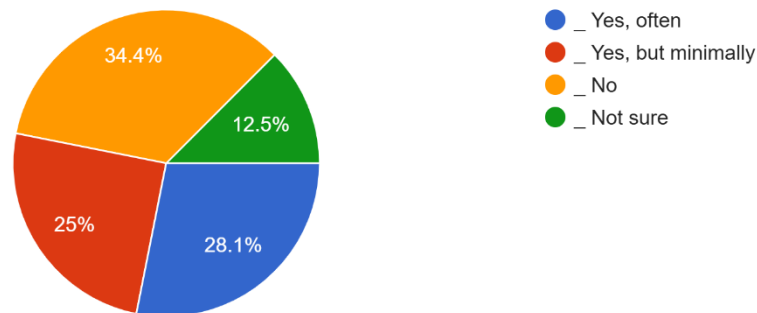
Hypothesis: Anonymity comes up with neutral cultural translated texts.

Implication: Neutrality could increase linguistic objectivity yet risk erasing culturally rich or context-specific elements.

Analysis: With ٦٢,٦% affirming neutrality via anonymity, the data suggest a dominant perception that removing translator identity reduces cultural bias.

35. Can anonymity lead to cultural misrepresentation in translated texts?

32 responses



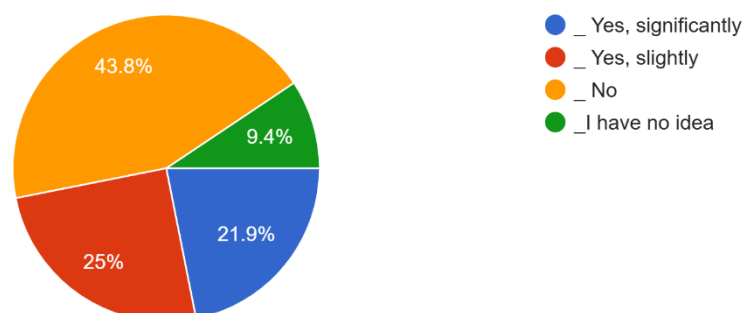
Hypothesis: Anonymity in translation workflows may participate in cultural misrepresentation because of reduced accountability and contextual sensitivity.

Implication: Translation processes, lacking authorial or translator attribution, risk overlooking cultural nuances.

Analysis: Some believe that anonymity may lead to cultural misrepresentation by reducing a translator's accountability and incentive to deeply research and accurately convey nuanced cultural contexts, idioms, and references.

36. Are cultural differences harder to address when translating anonymously?

32 responses



Hypothesis: It harder to be anonymous when facing differences across cultures.

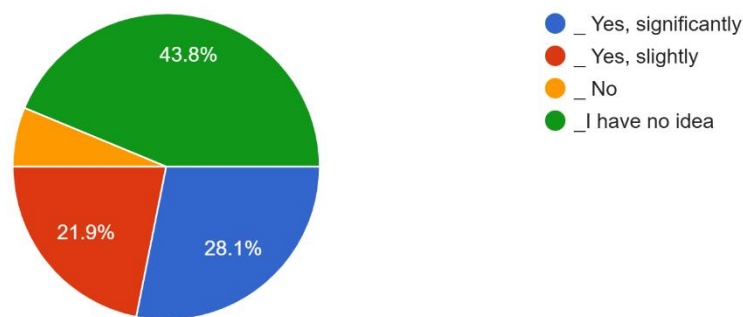
Implication: In general, anonymity doesn't pose cultural obstacles.

Analysis: Anonymity in translation makes it harder to address cultural differences effectively, as it may reduce context awareness and limit accountability.

- ٤٣,٨٪ responded No, indicating a belief that anonymity does not hinder addressing cultural nuance—perhaps trusting in translators' adaptability and training.
- ٢٥٪ said Yes, slightly, and ٢١,٩٪ said Yes, significantly, meaning ٤٦,٩٪ acknowledge at least some added difficulty when anonymity is present.
- ٩,٤٪ were uncertain, revealing a small but relevant level of ambiguity or lack of insight.

37. Are anonymous translations treated differently across cultures?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Anonymity influences how cultural differences are received.

Implication: Anonymous translations are perceived and treated differently across cultures due to varying norms around authorship, credibility, and accountability.

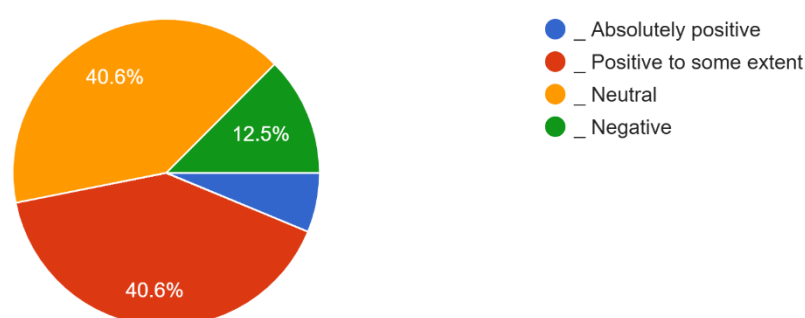
Analysis: More than half the respondents (٥٠٪) believe cultural differences influence how anonymous translations are received. However, the high uncertainty rate (nearly ٤٤٪) signals a need for more discourse, case studies, or cross-cultural research on this topic.

- ٢٨,١٪ answered Yes, significantly, indicating strong belief that anonymity impacts reception across cultures.

- ٢١,٩% said Yes, slightly, supporting a more moderate but noticeable cultural difference.
- ٦,٣% responded No, suggesting uniform treatment regardless of anonymity.
- A significant ٤٣,٨% selected I have no idea, revealing widespread uncertainty or lack of exposure to such distinctions.

Section Five: Addressee Perception 38. What are your general thoughts towards anonymous translators?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Anonymity does not undermine trust.

Implication: Public perception of anonymous translators is generally positive, reflecting trust in their capabilities regardless of identity disclosure.

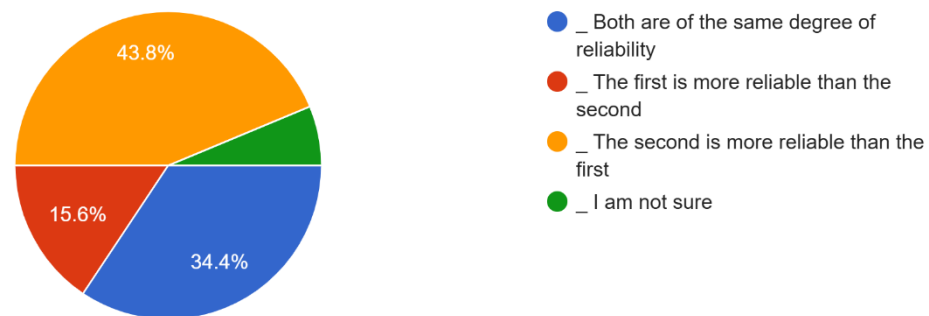
Analysis: A clear majority (٥٣,١%) have a favorable opinion, reinforcing the idea that anonymity doesn't significantly damage credibility or perceived quality. The large neutral segment (٤٠,٦%) hints at opportunity: translators and institutions could build further trust and recognition through clearer messaging about the reasons and safeguards behind anonymity.

- ١٢,٥% view them as absolutely positive, reflecting strong support and perhaps admiration.
- ٤٠,٦% are positive to some extent, indicating conditional approval or cautious optimism.
- ٤٠,٦% are neutral, showing neither favor nor disapproval—perhaps due to unfamiliarity or indifference.

- ٦,٣% hold negative views, suggesting concerns about transparency, trust, or quality.

39. How do you view an anonymously translated work compared to another attributed to a translator you know?

32 responses



Hypothesis: In anonymous translations, fidelity is a condition.

Implication: The credibility of a translated work is influenced by whether the translator's identity is known, with attributed translations perceived as more reliable than anonymous ones.

Analysis: The largest segment favors transparency, reinforcing the value of a translator's identity in establishing trust. Still, over a third of respondents don't equate credibility with identity—highlighting a shifting perspective that quality can stand alone.

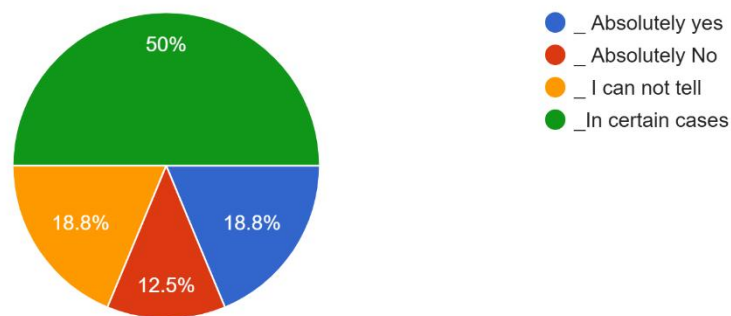
- ٤٣,٨% rated the translation by a known translator as more reliable—indicating trust is strengthened by transparency or reputation.

- ٣٤,٤% saw both as equally reliable, suggesting that for some, the quality of translation overrides identity factors.

- ١٥,٦% considered the anonymous translation more reliable, possibly viewing anonymity as a sign of impartiality or humility.

40. Does anonymity have an influence on how readers interpret the translated work?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Anonymity does not have an impact on readership interpretation.

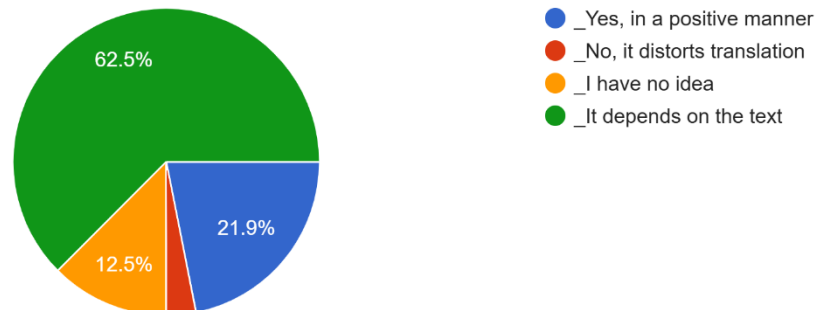
Implication: Reader interpretation of a translated work is influenced by the anonymity of the translator, with identity disclosure affecting perceived meaning, intent, or trust.

Analysis: Most respondents (٦٨,٨٪) either firmly or conditionally believe that anonymity does affect reader interpretation. This underscores the importance of context—anonymity may shape how a text’s purpose, bias, or authority is perceived.

- ٥٠٪ believe that anonymity matters “in certain cases”—suggesting a nuanced view tied to context (e.g., political content, cultural tone, or controversial themes).
- ١٨,٨٪ say “Absolutely yes”, affirming a strong, consistent influence.
- Another ١٨,٨٪ responded “I cannot tell”, showing uncertainty or ambivalence.
- ١٢,٥٪ answered “Absolutely no”, dismissing any impact.

Section Six: Impact of Anonymity on Translation Quality 41. Does anonymity impact the accuracy of a translation?

32 responses



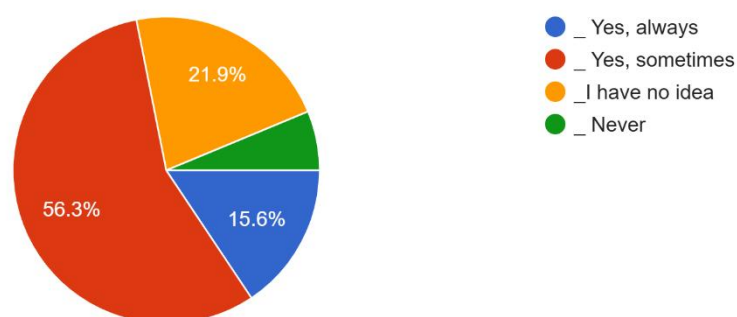
Hypothesis: In translation anonymity does not affect accuracy.

Implication: The effect of anonymity on translation accuracy is not absolute but differs depending on the nature and requirements of the text being translated.

Analysis: The dominant conditional view stresses that translation accuracy isn't universally impacted by anonymity however, may fluctuate based on content type. This validates the need for adaptive translation practices-where anonymity is permitted in contexts that support.

42. Do anonymous translated texts tend to be neutral in tone?

32 responses



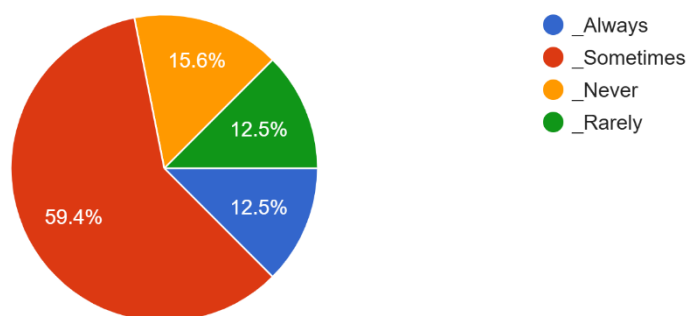
Hypothesis: There is no room for partiality.

Implication: Anonymous translators tend to have a more neutral air; the absence of personal identity may reduce subjective expression / bias.

Analysis: With over ٧٠٪ acknowledging at least occasional neutrality, the data support the hypothesis. The majority see that neutrality is a trend, not a guarantee.

43. Are anonymous translated texts less likely to reflect the translator's personal style?

32 responses



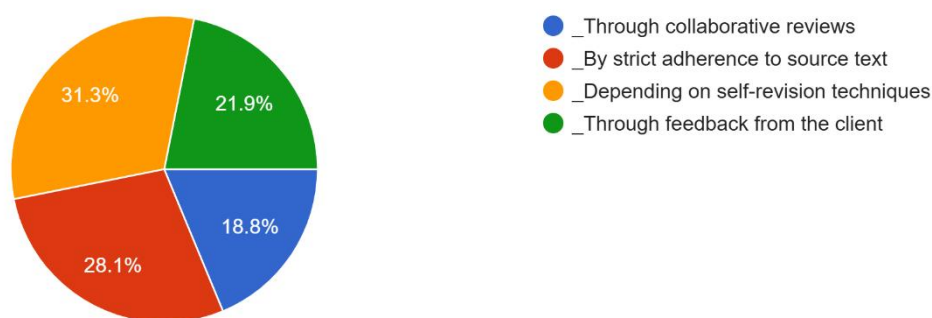
Hypothesis: Translators' style may be seen anonymous.

Implication: Anonymous translations are less likely to show the personal style of the translator, as the removal of identity can encourage neutral or standardized expression.

Analysis: This implies that while anonymity may promote objectivity it might strip away some of the linguistic flair or signature techniques a translator brings.

44. How can you gauge quality in anonymous translations?

32 responses



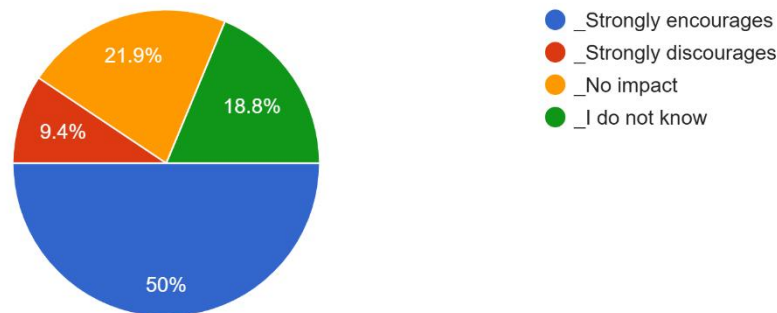
Hypothesis: Measuring quality is largely subjectively based.

Implication: In the absence of known authorship, the quality of anonymous translations is assessed primarily through objective standards and collaborative mechanisms rather than perceived reputation.

Analysis: The responses show a multifaceted approach to quality assurance that doesn't depend on knowing translators' identity.

45. Does anonymity encourage or discourage free translation?

32 responses



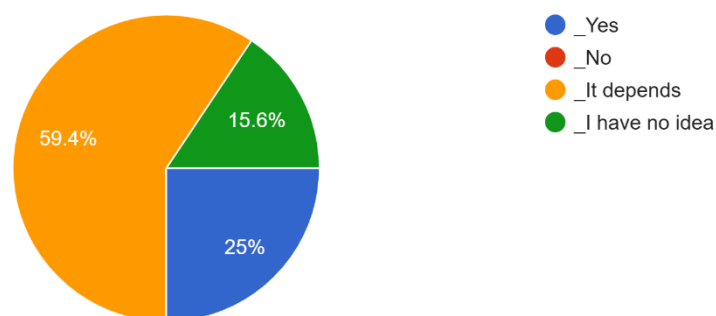
Hypothesis: When being anonymous, translators are unrestricted-free.

Implication: Anonymity may facilitate freer translation practices via minimizing external pressures and allowing translators greater creative area.

Analysis: Half of respondents associate anonymity with increased translational freedom. However, the presence of neutrality and cautionary views highlights that the effect can vary based on context, such as genre, audience or institutional guidelines.

46. Do anonymously translated texts require more criticism?

32 responses



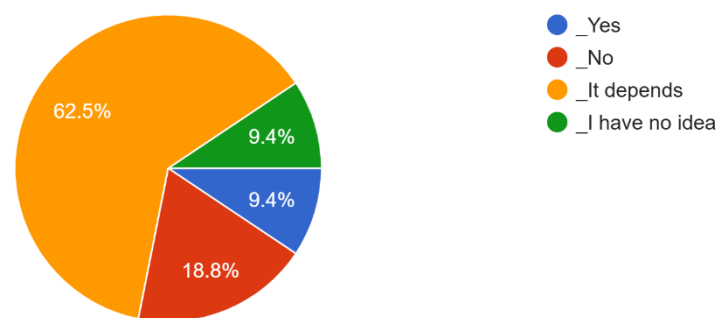
Hypothesis: In anonymous translations criticism is justified.

Implication: Anonymously translated texts are subject to increased scrutiny because of the lack of identifiable accountability, prompting a perceived need for more critical evaluation.

Analysis: The majority emphasize conditionality, affirming that criticism isn't universally required but should be contextually assessed. However, with a quarter of respondents advocating more criticism, the hypothesis holds partial validity.

47. Is fidelity to the source material maintained thoroughly in anonymous

32 responses



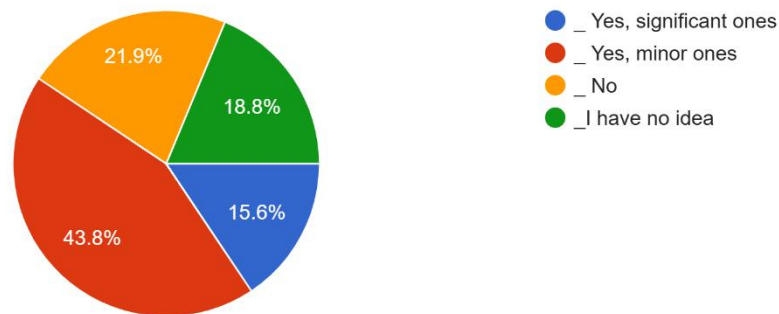
Hypothesis: Translator anonymity compromises consistent fidelity to the original material in English to Arabic expository translation.

Implication: Translation fidelity in anonymous conditions is not guaranteed and may differ depending on context, translator ethics, and institutional oversight.

Analysis: ٦٢,٥% of respondents believe fidelity “depends” on specific factors, while only ٩,٤% affirm that fidelity is thoroughly maintained in anonymous translations. A notable ١٨,٨% explicitly reject the idea that fidelity is preserved, and another ٩,٤% are uncertain. This distribution means that fidelity is understood as conditional rather than inherent in anonymous translation.

48. Do anonymous translations exhibit unique linguistic challenges?

32 responses



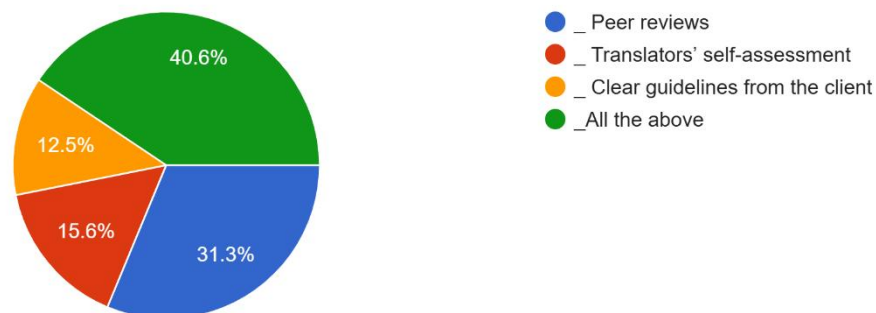
Hypothesis: Challenges are existed in anonymous translations.

Implication: Anonymously translated texts put forth distinct linguistic challenges due to the translator's detachment from audience expectations, source intent, or cultural alignment.

Analysis: A combined ٥٩,٤% of respondents recognize that anonymity presents at least some unique linguistic difficulties which supports the hypothesis.

49. What quality assurance measures are required for anonymous translations?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Comprehensive quality assurance is needed.

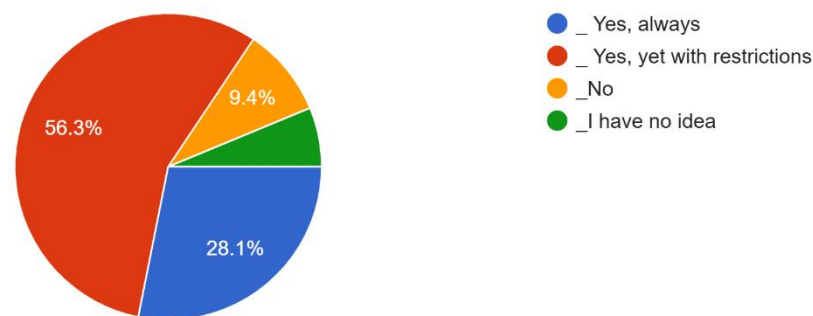
Implication: The strong preference for a multi-pronged approach suggests that when identity is concealed, credibility must be rebuilt through process integrity. Anonymous translations require a comprehensive quality assurance framework,

as the absence of identified authorship necessitates robust checks to maintain trust and accountability.

Analysis: - ٤٠,٦% chose 'All the above' indicating that no single method is sufficient-peer reviews, self-assessment, and client guidelines should work in tandem.

50. Should translators have the right to remain anonymous?

32 responses



Hypothesis: Translators tend to be anonymous.

Implication: Translators should have the right to remain anonymous, but with contextual limitations to ensure accountability and appropriateness.

Analysis: There is a strong lean toward supporting translator anonymity, but most respondents favor a conditional approach rather than a blanket right.

- ٥٦,٣% believe translators should have that right with restrictions, indicating a preference for balanced, situational application.
- ٢٨,١% support the right to anonymity always, strongly emphasizing personal safety and freedom of expression.
- ٩,٤% oppose anonymity outright, possibly prioritizing transparency, authorship, or legal accountability.
- ٦,٢% express uncertainty, suggesting the issue is either too complex or unfamiliar to form a clear stance.

١٨- Main Hypotheses Validation

١. Anonymity enhances objectivity and reduces translator bias

Validated: ٧١,٩% agreed that anonymous translations are less likely to reflect personal style, supporting neutrality and reduced bias.

٢. Anonymity protects translators in politically or culturally sensitive contexts

Validated: ٦٥,٦% confirmed anonymity as protective in sensitive contexts.

٣. Anonymity encourages focus on content rather than authorship

Validated: ٦٨,٨% agreed anonymity influences reader interpretation, shifting focus to content.

٤. Anonymity aligns with functionalist and skopos-oriented translation goals

Validated: ٦٢,٦% affirmed that anonymity promotes neutrality, aligning with the communicative purpose of expository texts.

٥. Anonymity reinforces the informational priority of expository texts

Validated: ٧١,٩% noted reduced stylistic imprint in anonymous translations, supporting factual clarity over personal expression.

١٩- Findings

The study confirms that keeping translators anonymous when working on English expository texts for Arabic audiences helps to ensure neutrality and objectivity. This approach reduces the influence of an individual's personal style and keeps the focus on the original content. Most participants agreed that anonymity is ethically permissible, especially for politically or culturally sensitive material. To maintain quality without the incentive of personal recognition, this method requires strong quality control measures, such as peer reviews and strict guidelines. Ultimately, anonymity supports the core purpose of expository writing—to inform with clarity and factual accuracy.

٢٠- Conclusion

This research has established that translator anonymity is a common, strategically beneficial, and ethically justified practice in the professional translation of

English expository texts into Arabic. Data analysis and survey responses from seasoned translators, particularly those in institutional and academic roles, show broad acceptance of this practice. Anonymity is not seen as a detriment to quality but rather as a means to promote neutrality, objectivity, and precision.

Translators generally support the right to anonymity for reasons of privacy, professional ethics, and the avoidance of bias. Most respondents also reported that it does not hinder cultural adaptation or faithfulness to the source text; instead, it acts as a protective measure that sharpens focus on the original content and limits personal influence. Furthermore, the practice fosters a collaborative environment with robust review processes and a commitment to standardized guidelines, which strengthens the overall integrity of the translation. In summary, anonymity is not a concession but a reinforcement of ethical practice, cultural sensitivity, and professional rigor. Future studies should investigate its application across different text types and institutional settings, and translation training programs should incorporate its principles to reflect its importance in modern translation.

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