A Translation of a Compound Sentence 
from English-Thai and its Analyses

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims to study the translation of a compound sentence structure in English and Thai. It analyzes structural difference of compound sentences in English and Thai and provides translation patterns for those compound sentences in order to demonstrate possible alternatives in translation. The texts used in the analysis were selected from the novel, Angels and Demons and Sawasdee Magazine of Thai Airways International Public Company Limited because they are bilingual printings which can represent well a compound structure of English and Thai. After employing translation theories and analyzing structure of the compound sentence in both languages, it was found that there are more possible alternatives patterns for a certain structure in the target language; however, they all may not be effective to their fullest extent and may require some other considerations when translation involves because they may provide different effects to receptors in the target language. It is also noted that the effective alternative patterns can be applied to a translation of other texts with the same structure. The area of this study can be enhanced to other compound sentences in English and Thai and it is certainly beneficial to people who are interested in translation. It is also believed that this study can be, more or less, applicable to a classroom in translation.

Keywords: translation, comparative study of English and Thai, compound

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บทความชิ นนี มุ่งศึกษาการแปลในระดับประโยคของประโยคความรวมในภาษาอังกฤษและไทย โดยการศึกษานี้ได้เน้นความแตกต่างในโครงสร้างประโยคความรวมในภาษาอังกฤษและไทย และได้นำเสนอทางเลือกในการแปลประโยคความรวมนั้นๆเพื่อผู้แปลให้เห็นทางเลือกในแบบแปล ตัวอย่างของประโยคความรวมที่นำเสนอในบทความนี้ได้คัดเลือกมาจากนิยายเรื่องเทวากับซาตาน และนิตยสารสวัสดี ของบริษัท การบินไทย จำกัด (มหาชน) โดยสิ่งพิมพ์ตั้งสองฉบับสองภาษาและสามารถนำมาเป็นตัวอย่างที่ดีของโครงสร้างประโยคความรวมในภาษาอังกฤษและไทยได้ หลังจากที่ได้นำทฤษฎีและความคิดทางการแปลเข้ามาเพื่อวิเคราะห์ประโยคทั้งสองภาษาแล้ว พบว่าทางเลือกในการแปลประโยคความรวมนั้นๆมิได้มีหนึ่งทางเลือกในโครงสร้างนั้นๆในภาษาปัจจุบันอย่างไรก็ตาม ทางเลือกในการแปลแต่ละทางนั้นอาจไม่ได้ก่อให้เกิดความหมายที่ดีที่สุดในภาษาปัจจุบันและอาจมีความจำเป็นต้องพิจารณาองค์ประกอบอื่นๆด้วยเมื่อทำการแปล ซึ่งทางเลือกแต่ละอันนี้ยังมีผลกระทบต่อการรับรู้ของผู้รับสารที่แตกต่างออกไปในแต่ละภาษาปัจจุบันด้วยเช่นกัน และทางเลือกในการแปลที่นำเสนอถึงสามารถนำไปใช้ได้กับการแปลประโยคที่มีโครงสร้างเดียวกันอีกหลายแบบได้ ดังตัวอย่างการศึกษาในเรื่องการแปลโครงสร้างประโยคความรวมในภาษาอังกฤษและไทยนี้สามารถนำไปศึกษาต่อขยายในโครงสร้างประโยคความรวมแบบอื่นๆได้ และยังเป็นประโยชน์ต่อผู้ที่สนใจการศึกษาการแปลและนำไปใช้ในการเรียนการสอนการแปลได้ไม่มากก็น้อย

คำสำคัญ: การแปล/การศึกษาเปรียบเทียบภาษาอังกฤษและไทย/ประโยคความรวม

1. Introduction

Some may simply think that a translation is merely a process which substitutes one language with the statement of the other language (Catford, 1965: 1, cited in Hatim, 2001: 14). But, often times, a translator finds it difficult to transfer the meaning of one language to the other. The reasons behind that are multiple but one of them is that each language has its own characteristics and structure from word to sentence and above sentence level. Therefore, the process of transferring the meaning of one language to the other language is not only a translation of a text as a unit by unit or word by word but it involves the understanding and interpretation of a unit, sentence and the context of the text as a whole (Baker, 1992, p.6). This confirms that a translation involves a study of grammatical system of the source language and the target language because languages are different in terms of structures (forms), styles,

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favors, naturalness and meaning. When translation is needed for languages, a translation of a
text from English to Thai or vice versa for example, it inevitably involves a changing of language
structures at word, sentence or above sentence level in order to make the meaning be fully
transferred. In other words, we can say that translation is the process of finding the meaning of
the target text and making it close to the source text in terms of meaning, naturalness and favor
of those languages (Newmark, 1988: p.7).

In English and Thai, the languages themselves, of course, are different at word,
sentence and above sentence level. When translation is needed, a good translator shall have to
consider applying good strategies to deal with problems arising from the differences of
language structure in order to make the transferring of meanings as successful as possible.
Considering closely to a compound sentence in English and Thai, this paper aims to discuss in
details as to how the meaning of the text in a compound sentence in English and Thai be
transferred to the target text as close as possible with the least adaptations to the structure of
the source language. Also, it aims to see how the naturalness, styles and favors of the source
text be maintained as fully capable as possible when the translation involves.

1.1 A compound sentence
1.1.1 A compound sentence in English and Thai

In English, a sentence can contain two or more clauses. A compound sentence is a
sentence that is made up of two or more sentences (clauses) joined by a coordinating
conjunction (most commonly and, or, and but). When these clauses are forming, coordinating
conjunction is usually used to combine them together (Altenberg & Vago, 2010, p.210). In case
where a compound sentence contains one subject and two predicates and the subject at both
predicates is the same, the ellipsis of the subject at the second clause can occur or the pronoun
can be introduced. This can be considered as two simple sentences joining by a coordinating
conjunction and falls within the definition and scope of a compound sentence (Chadchaidee,
1997, p.318-319). For example, John is having breakfast and is drinking coffee; that says “John
is having breakfast” is the first clause, and “(John) is drinking coffee” is the second clause,
both have been combined with a coordinating conjunction “and” while the subject is an ellipsis.
To note further, in a compound sentence, three common coordinating conjunctions are
introduced; and, or, but. Each conjunction gives different meaning when combining two clauses.

Below are the examples of how a compound sentence is created in English;

Example 1

Andy is riding a bicycle and he is playing with other friends.

It is noted that the above sentence involves two simple sentences or clauses. The first clause is “Andy is riding a bicycle,” and the second clause is “He is playing with other friends.” Both clauses are combined with a coordinating conjunction “and”.

Example 2

I can go shopping now or I can do it later.

This example shows two simple clauses joining together with a coordinating conjunction “or”. “I can go shopping” is the first clause and “I can do it later” is the second clause.

Example 3

Mari loves roses but she prefers tulips.

The above example shows two simple clauses combining together with a coordinating conjunction “but”. The first clause is “Mari loves roses.” and the other is “She prefers tulips”.

In Thai, there exists the same structure of compound sentence as in English. A compound sentence in Thai is the sentence which contains two or more main sentences or main clauses. When these two clauses are combined together, coordinating conjunctions are introduced into the sentence as well. Most common coordinating conjunctions are แล้ว/และ (so/and), หรือ (or) and แต่ (but) as in English (Panuphong, 1989, p. 17). For example, ผมจะเล่นกอล์ฟแล้วจะไปชมภาพยนตร์ (I will play golf and will see a movie.) The first clause is “ผมจะเล่นกอล์ฟ” and the second clause is “จะไปชมภาพยนตร์”. Both clauses are combined together using a coordinating conjunction “แล้ว”.

Below are the examples of how a compound sentence is created in Thai;

Example 4

เสรีรับประทานอาหารเย็นแต่พythee ล้างรถ
(Seri has dinner but Patee washes the car.)
It is clear that the sentence structure of the above sentence consists of two clauses. The first clause is “เสรีรับประทานอาหารเย็น” (Seri has dinner) while the second clause is “พาทีล้างรถ” (Patee washes the car). Both clauses are combined with the coordinating conjunction “แต่ (but)”.

Example 5
เธอจะไปกับฉัน หรือเธอจะไปกับเขา
(Do you want to come with me or do you want to go with him?)

This example shows that the compound sentence contains two main clauses; the first clause “เธอจะไปกับฉัน” (Do you want to come with me?) combines with the second clause “เธอจะไปกับเขา” (Do you want to go with him?). Both clauses are joined by using a coordinating conjunction “หรือ” (or).

Example 6
ผมขับรถและฟังเพลงระหว่างเดินทาง
(I drive and listen to the music while travelling.)

This example shows the use of coordinating conjunction “และ” or “and” to combine two main clauses. The first clause is “ผมขับรถ” (I drive) while the second clause is “ผมฟังเพลงระหว่างเดินทาง” (I listen to the music while travelling).

1.1.2 The translation mismatch of a compound sentence in English and Thai

We have noted from the above examples that the compound sentence structures in both English and Thai are somehow pretty close to each other and some common coordinating conjunctions are used. To some extents, it requires an adaptation which involves changes in the sentence structure when a text in English has been translated into Thai and vice versa in order that the meaning of the source text has been fully transferred (Nida and Taber, 1969: 201 cited in Hatim, 2001: 20).

The problem in the translation can be found below and each example is accompanied with a back translation which is a literal translation of the Thai text.

Example 7: A translation mismatch from English to Thai
Source language
Langdon emerged from his daydream and looked up. (Brown, 2009, p. 131)

(clause 1) (clause 2)
Langdon emerged from his daydream and looked up.

(s) (v1) (v2)

Target language
แลงดอนเงยหน้าขึน หลุดจากภวังค์ (บราวน์, 2009, หน้า 125)
(clause 2) (clause 1)
แลงดอนเงยหน้าขึ้น หลุดจากภวังค์
(s) (v2)(o) (v1) (o)

Back translation of the target text
Langdon looked up, emerged from his day dream.

In terms of communication, the target language has somehow conveyed the meaning of the source language but the idea presented in the sentence is different to the source text. It is found that the compound sentence of the target language does not keep the form of the source language; firstly, the target text has moved the first clause of the source language to the second clause in the target language. Secondly, it dropped the coordinating conjunction “and”.

When looking more closely at the analysis of the sentence structure, it is also found that there are some adaptations made to the target text. In the source text, there is one subject and two verbs in the sentence. That is; “Langdon” functions as the subject who does two actions in separated clauses; the first action was to “emerge from his daydream” while the second action was to “look up”. Both verbs are intransitive verbs. So when comparing this to the target language, it is found that the target language structure is different. The target language has introduced the objects for its two transitive verbs; 1. The verb “เงย” is the first action which comes with “หน้า” as an object, and 2. The verb “หลุดจาก” is the second action which comes with “ภวังค์” as an object.

Example 8: A translation mismatch from Thai to English
Source language
ผมก็ขับรถกลับไปที่ย่านเมืองเก่าและไปจอดแถวถนน Hang Bo (โฮง, 2012, หน้า 65)
(s) (v1)(o) (v2)

Literal translation of the Thai text
I drove my car back to the Old Quarter and parked around Hang Bo Street.
Target language

*I drove back to the Old Quarter and stopped at Hang Bo Street.* (Hoang N., 2012, p.64)

\( (s)(v1) \) \( (v2) \)

From the above example, the source text presents the full structure of a compound sentence which consists of two clauses joining by a coordinating conjunction. The first clause presents a simple structure of the sentence which consists of S+V+O while the second clause has omitted the subject but introduced the verb after the coordinating conjunction “and” referring to the same subject in the first clause. The meaning in the source text has been fully transferred to the target text with the structure of a compound sentence but the structure of the target language has been slightly changed. That is; the object “รถ” in the first clause of the source language has been omitted in the first clause of the target language as the verb “drive” in the target language is an intransitive verb. When considering the meaning of the target text, it is found that the meaning has been fully transferred and the structure of the target language is close to the structure of the source text.

It is clear from the examples of the translation mismatch that when a translation from a source language to a target language involves, some adaptations such as a change in the clause position, and the omission of subject, verb and object have to be taken into consideration. Therefore, it is possible that the structure of a target language is changed in order to give the fullest extent of the meaning, favor and naturalness to the target language (Nida and Taber, 1969: 201 cited in Hatim, 2001: 20).

The question is that “*can this omission or change of a clause position be occurred anywhere in the sentence*?”. The present article shall explore the structure of the compound sentence of the source and target language closely to see if an omission and change of a clause position can occur to both compound sentences in the source and target language. Also, the analyses aim to clarify whether the meaning in its fullest extent is survived when a translation causes adaptations to structures in a target language and whether the source text saves its structure (form).

The examples used in these analyses have been excerpted from the novel by Dan Brown, Angels & Demons (Brown, 2009) and the Sawasdee Magazine (Hoang, 2012) by Thai Airways International Public Company Limited.
2. The Comparative Analysis of a Translation of Compound Sentence in English and Thai

The analysis below explored possible translation patterns and analyses when a compound sentence has been translated from English to Thai and vice versa. Each translation pattern demonstrated the sentence structure of both source and target language and its adaptations at sentence level to make the target text sound familiar to the receptors in the target language in terms of meaning, naturalness and favor (Saibua, 2007, p. 71).

2.1 The translation of a compound sentence from English to Thai

The translation of the compound sentences below is made by looking at the sentences in both English and Thai. Then, comparatively study the difference in terms of language structure in the source and target texts. After that, each translation pattern is applied to the target text in order to clarify if such pattern is applicable and be able to convey the meaning to the target text.

2.1.1 Possible of translation patterns in English to Thai

Pattern 1
(s)+(v1)+(o1) (and) (v2)+(o2)

Source language
Langdon emerged from his daydream and looked up. (Brown, 2009, p. 131)

(s) (v1) (v2)

Target language
แลงดอนหลุดจากภวังค์และเงยหน้าขึ้น (บราวน์, หน้า 2552, หน้า 125)

(s) (v1) (o1) (v2) (o2)

Back translation of the target text
Langdon emerged from his daydream and looked up.

Pattern 1 offers a full translation of the source language into the target language which the structure (form) of the sentence is the closest as possible to the source language structure. This pattern presents the same position of the subject, and the first and the second verb. However, the objects in the first and second clauses are added as the target text contains transitive verbs at both clauses. It is also considered that the meaning of the translation of pattern 1 is fully transferred to the target language. Furthermore, naturalness and favor are also maintained in the target language.
Pattern 2

\[(s)+(v_1)+(o_1) \text{ (and) } (s)+(v_2)+(o_2)\]

Source language

*Langdon emerged from his daydream and looked up.* (Brown, 2009, p. 131)

\[(s) \quad (v_1) \quad (v_2)\]

Target language

แลงดอนหลุดจากภวังค์และแลงดอนเงยหน้าขึ้น

\[(s) \quad (v_1) \quad (o_1) \quad (s) \quad (v_2)(o_2)\]

Back translation of the target text

Langdon emerged from his daydream and Langdon looked up.

Pattern 2 introduces the full structure of the first clause and the second clause combining by using a coordinating conjunction “and”. This structure in the target language introduces the repetition of the subject in both clauses, even the subject in the first clause and the second clause is the same. The structure (form) of the target language is different from the source language. It is quite unusual in the target language that the same subject is repeated in a compound sentence as it is not necessary and it can be considered redundant. Even the meaning of the source text has been fully transferred, but the subject in the second clause can be omitted in order to give naturalness in the target language or the subject in the second clause can be changed into pronoun “he” instead.

Pattern 3

\[(v_1)+(o_1) \text{ (and) } (v_2)+(o_2)\]

Source language

*Langdon emerged from his daydream and looked up.* (Brown, 2009, p. 131)

\[(s) \quad (v_1) \quad (v_2)\]

Target language

แลงดอนหลุดจากภวังค์และเหยตัวขึ้น

\[(v_1)(o_1) \quad (v_2)(o_2)\]

Back translation of the target text

Emerged from his daydream and looked up.
Pattern 3 introduces the structure of the target language which omits the subject both at the first clause and the second clause. The structure (form) of the target language is not equivalent to the source language as the subject of the compound sentence has been omitted. The meaning of this sentence in the target language is neither equivalent nor transferable closely to the source text as the sentence does begin with a verb. The meaning from this kind of structure sounds more imperative rather than affirmative. For example, Shut the door! Be quiet! If we consider this as an imperative sentence in the target language, it does not sound natural to the target language receptor.

**Pattern 4**

(s)+(v2) (and) (s)+(v1)

**Source language**

Langdon emerged from his daydream and looked up. (Brown, 2009, p. 131)

(s) (v1) (v2)

**Target language**

แลงดอนเงยขึ้นและแลงดอนหลุดจาก

(S) (v2) (s) (v1)

**Back translation of the target text**

Langdon looked up and Langdon emerged.

This pattern has omitted the object at both first clause and the second clause. It seems to be able to convey the message but not a complete one. In the first clause, by saying “แลงดอนเงยขึ้น”, the message does seem to be able to convey the meaning that the subject has an action of raising his head from something because “เงย” is an intransitive verb. However, the second clause does not seem to present the intending message of the source text at all. By saying “หลุดจาก”, readers are not able to know the complete action of the subject. As a whole, the target text of this compound sentence fails to communicate in major details as it cannot clearly tell the reader of the event in the second clause. The naturalness and favor of this text are the issue to be considered as well. It is clear that the message does not sound familiar to the reader in the target language at all.
Pattern 5
(v2)+(o1) (and) (s)+(v1)+(o2)

Source language
Langdon emerged from his daydream and looked up. (Brown, 2009, p. 131)
(s) (v1) (v2)

Target language
แลงดอนเงยหน้าขึ้นและหลุดจากภวังค์
(v2)(o1) (s) (v1) (o2)

Back translation of the target text
Looked up and Langdon emerged from his daydream.

This pattern presents the text by omitting the subject in the first clause but remains the subject in the second clause. This is unlikely of a sentence in the target language as a normal sentence usually introduces a subject at the beginning of the sentence. The message in the target language is somewhat communicative at some certain level if readers have punctuated the sentence correctly. For example, those who punctuate the sentence as "แลงดอนเงยหน้าขึ้น / และหลุดจากภวังค์" are highly likely to assume that the subject in the second clause is the same subject as appeared in the first clause. It is also possible to accept that this text appears in a novel, so readers may find it strange but accept it as a style of a novel text. The text of the target language does sufficiently convey the message from the source text but the naturalness and style may seem odd.

Pattern 6
(s)+(v2)+(o2) (and) (v1)+(o1)

Source language
Langdon emerged from his daydream and looked up. (Brown, 2009, p. 131)
(s) (v1) (v2)

Target language
แลงดอนเงยหน้าขึ้นและหลุดจากภวังค์
(s) (v2)(o2) (v1) (o1)

Back translation of the target text
Langdon looked up and emerged from his daydream.
This pattern does not seem to present a good sequence of idea in the target language. By switching the position of verb 1 to the position of verb 2, and vice versa, the message in the target language does convey the message from the source language but the idea presented is not according to the source text. Therefore, the sequence of action does not seem right because the event “emerged from his day dream” is clear to happen before the second action “looked up” in the second clause. This pattern is grammatical but does not show the idea of the source text well in terms of sequence of actions. This pattern is close to that of the translation as stated in “Example7: A translation mismatch from English to Thai”, therefore, it can be considered that the target text fails to transfer the sequence of the source text.

Now, we shall see that pattern 1 is likely to be the most practical patterns when translating a compound sentence in this analysis. Accordingly, we shall apply the above effective pattern to the below text to clarify if the patterns are applicable;

Source language

I wash my car and sing a song.

(s) (v1) (o1) (v2) (o2)

Pattern 1

(s)+(v1)+(o1) (and) (v2)+(o2)

Target language

ฉันล้างรถ และร้องเพลง

(s)(v1)(o1) (v2)(o2)

When we consider the above pattern and analysis, it is clear that pattern 1 is the most practical pattern in translating the compound sentence in English into Thai as it is well communicated in that the meaning has been conveyed fully from the source language to the target language. The favor of the source text remains while it presents the naturalness in the target text as well.

However, it also notes that in case where the sequence of actions in the first and second clauses in the source text does not pay attention to the sequence of the actions in the compound sentence. Pattern 6 is acceptable and communicates well in this context. See the following example;
Source language

I wash my car and sing a song.

(s) (v1) (o1) (v2) (o2)

Pattern 6

(s)+(v2)+(o2) (and) (v1)+(o1)

Target language

ฉันร้องเพลงและล้างรถ

(s)(v2)(o2) (v1)(o1)

It is clear that if the compound sentence of the source language does not have any significance in terms of sequence of actions in the sentence, the ideas in the first and the second clauses can be presented either at the first clause or the second clause in the target text. Thus, the meaning of the compound sentence in the target language remains the same.

2.1.2 Possible translation patterns in Thai to English

In analyzing the translation of compound sentence from Thai to English, the analyzing process is the same as the analyses stated in 2.1.1. First, the researcher considers the sentences in both Thai and English and comparatively studied the differences in terms of language structure in the source and target texts. After that, each translation pattern is applied to the target text in order to clarify if such pattern is applicable and be able to convey the meaning from the source to the target text successfully.

Pattern 1

(s)+(v1)+(o1) (and) (v2)+(o2)

Source language

ผมก็ขับรถกลับไปที่ย่านเมืองเก่าและไปจอดแถว Hang Bo

(s) (v1)(o) (v2)

Literal translation of the Thai text

I drove my car back to the Old Quarter and parked around Hang Bo Street.
Target language

*I drove back to the Old Quarter and stopped at Hang Bo Street.*

\[(s)(v1) \quad (v2)\]

This pattern presents a full structure of a compound sentence in the target language that the subject “I” is an ellipsis at the second clauses. This structure is fully translated according to the structure of a compound sentence of the target language that it contains two simple clauses with a coordinating conjunction “and”. As the subject at both clauses is the same, the subject in the second clause has been omitted. When consider the meaning of the target text, it is found that the meaning is fully transferred from the source text. However, it is also to be noted that the objects at both clauses are not necessary because the verbs in the target language are intransitive verbs.

**Pattern 2**

\[(s)+(v1)+(o1) \quad (and) \quad (s)+(v2)+(o2)\]

Source language

ผมก็ขับรถกลับไปทีย่านเมืองเก่าและไปจอดแถวถนน Hang Bo

\[(s) \quad (v1) \quad (o) \quad (v2)\]

Literal translation of the Thai text

*I drove my car back to the Old Quarter and parked around Hang Bo Street.*

Target language

*I drove back to the Old Quarter and I stopped at Hang Bo Street.*

\[(s)(v1) \quad (s) \quad (v2)\]

This pattern presents a full structure of a compound sentence in the target language that repeats the subject “I” at both clauses. This structure is fully according to the structure of a compound sentence of the target language that it presents two simple clauses with a cooordinial conjunction “and”. When consider the meaning of the target text, it is found that the meaning is fully transferred from the source text, however, the naturalness in the target language has not been very much achieved because of the repetition of the subject in the second clause. However, it is also to be noted that the objects at both clauses are not necessary because the verbs in the target language are intransitive verbs.
Pattern 3
(v1)+(o1) (and) (v2)+(o2)

Source language
ผมก็ขับรถกลับไปที่ย่านเมืองเก่าและไปจอดแถวถนน Hang Bo

Literal translation of the Thai text
I drove my car back to the Old Quarter and parked around Hang Bo Street.

Target language
Drove back to the Old Quarter and stopped at Hang Bo Street.

This pattern presents a compound sentence which the subject in both clauses has been omitted. This structure is not often found in the target language as it sounds more imperative than affirmative; for example, Shut the door! Therefore, this pattern seems ineffective as it cannot transfer the meaning to the target language fully and efficiently because the subject at both clauses is missing. The meaning of the target text is different from the source language and is unclear whether it is an imperative sentence or not. Furthermore, it is also to be noted that the objects at both clauses are not necessary because the verbs in the target language are intransitive verbs.

Pattern 4
(s)+(v2) (and) (s)+(v1)

Source language
ผมก็ขับรถกลับไปที่ย่านเมืองเก่าและไปจอดแถวถนน Hang Bo

Literal translation of the Thai text
I drove my car back to the Old Quarter and parked around Hang Bo Street.

Target language
I stopped at Hang Bo Street and I drove back to the Old Quarter.

This pattern introduces a compound sentence structure which is not equivalent to the structure of the source text as the position of the verb in the first clause has been switched to
the second clause and vice versa. When the verb (v1) in the first clause has been switched to the second clause, it is seen that the meaning of this compound sentence in the target language is not equivalent to the source text. The meaning is in a reverse order, therefore it does not make sense in terms of consequence of the actions. It is odd that the subject stops at the place before he/she drives back to it. Thus, this option is not effective in terms of meaning. Also, it is to be noted that the objects at both clauses are not necessary because the verbs in the target language are intransitive verbs.

Pattern 5
(v2)+(o1) (and) (s)+(v1)+(o2)

Source language
ผมก็ขับรถกลับไปที่ย่านเมืองเก่าและไปจอดแถวถนน Hang Bo
(s) (v1)(o) (v2)

Literal translation of the Thai text
I drove my car back to the Old Quarter and parked around Hang Bo Street.

Target language
Stopped at Hang Bo Street and I drove back to the Old Quarter.
(v2) (s) (v1)

This pattern is somewhat not applicable to the target text as the meaning is not consistent to that of the source text. The compound sentence in the target language has omitted the subject in the first clause. Furthermore, it has switched the idea of the second clause in the source language into the first clause in the target text and vice versa. This is highly likely that the meaning of the source text is not well transferred to the target text because the first clause does begin with a verb and sounds more imperative rather than an affirmative clause which affects the meaning of the whole sentence. It is to be noted that the objects at both clauses are not necessary because the verbs in the target language are intransitive verbs.

Pattern 6
(s)+(v2)+(o2) (and) (v1)+(o1)

Source language
ผมก็ขับรถกลับไปที่ย่านเมืองเก่าและไปจอดแถวถนน Hang Bo
(s) (v1)(o) (v2)
Literal translation of the Thai text

I drove my car back to the Old Quarter and parked around Hang Bo Street.

Target language

I stopped at Hang Bo Street and drove back to the Old Quarter.

This pattern does present the target text in a reverse order of that the source text. The idea in the second sentence of the source text has been switched to the first idea in the target text and the same occur to the first idea in the source text. This is grammatical according to the sentence structure of the target text, however, the meaning in the target text may not be accurate according to the source text because the source text does present the idea that the speaker “drove back to the Old Quarter” first and later “stopped at Hang Bo Street”. Therefore, this pattern present the target text in a grammatical order but the meaning in terms of the sequence of the action is not quite accurate to the source text. Furthermore, it is to be noted that the objects at both clauses are not necessary because the verbs in the target language are intransitive verbs.

For the analyses above, we see that pattern 1 is likely to be the most practical pattern when translating a compound sentence from Thai to English which is consistent to the analysis of the translation of a compound sentence from English to Thai. So we shall apply the above effective patterns to the below text to clarify if the patterns are applicable;

Pattern 1

(s)+(v1)+(o1) (and) (v2)+(o2)

Source language

ฉันไปดูภาพยนตร์และเลือกซื้อเสื้อผ้า

(s) (v1) (o1) (v2) (o2)

Literal translation of the Thai text

I went to see a movie and shopped for clothes.

Target language

I went to see a movie and shopped for clothes.
When we consider the above patterns and analyses, it is clear that the above pattern is a practical pattern in translating the compound sentence in Thai into English. It is well communicated in that the meaning has been conveyed fully from the source language to the target language. The favor of the source text remains while it presents the naturalness in the target text as well.

However, it also notes that in case where the sequence of actions in the first and second clauses in the source text is not important in the compound sentence, pattern 6 is acceptable and communicates well in this context. It also maintains the naturalness well in the target language. See below the example;

**Source language**
ฉันร้องเพลงและล้างรถ
(s)(v1)(o1)     (v2)(o2)
**Pattern 6**
(s)+(v2)+(o2) (and) (v1)+(o1)

**Target language**
I wash my car and sing a song.
(s) (v2) (o2)     (v1)     (o1)

It is clear that this compound sentence of the source language does not have any significance in terms of sequence of actions in the sentence. Therefore, the idea in the first and the second clauses can be presented either at the first clause or the second clause. The meaning of the compound sentence in the target language remains the same.

3. Conclusion

The analysis above shows that translation does not only require the strictness to the form of the languages as it may distort the meaning of the text in a target language. The ultimate success of the translation is that the text in the target language creates as much as possible the same response to receptors in the source text (Nida and Taber, 1969: 201, cited in Hatim, 2001: 20). The above six patterns introduced are the results of the analyses of English and Thai compound sentences which aim to clarify that not all patterns are applicable when it comes to a translation. These analyses above only focus on the compound sentence which contains two clauses with the same subject for both clauses and they show that the pattern 1 are most
applicable when it comes to a translation of a compound sentence with this structure as the meaning and the structure of the source text have been maintained to its fullest extent. Furthermore, it also proves that the example 7: A translation mismatch in English and Thai used by the translation of Angels & Demons are ineffective as the sequence of the action in the target language has somehow deviated. It is also to note further that when the subject in the first clause and the second clause is not the same, different patterns/strategies may be applied.

From the analyses above, it is also noted further that when the sequence of actions in the first and second clauses of the compound sentence in the source text is not important, pattern 6 is acceptable and communicates well in the context. It also maintains the naturalness well in the target language.

Because the sentence structure of a compound sentence in English and Thai is different to some certain extents, a shifting or modification of sentence structure (form) is required in some situations to make the target text be as much as sensible to receptors in the target text. Therefore, it is the duty of a translator to analyze and exercise his/her own judgment in transferring the meaning of a text from the source to target language in a suitable structure and fullest favor and naturalness of a target language as possible.

Lastly, these analyses shall be more or less beneficial to the translation study of a compound sentence. It is also believed that this study can be enhanced to further study in a compound sentence of different structures, for example; the compound sentence which contains more than two clauses with different subjects, etc. Those shall have areas to explore further.

References


