

Analysis of Referring Expressions in Political Texts
Translated from English to Arabic

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Abstract

This paper focuses on the concept of reference, which is transferred from English (the source language) to Arabic (the target language) differently. The data are from seven different political texts (from different websites; different translators) in order to investigate the notion properly in the target language. The data are classified based on Aziz's (1993) scale of explicitness. The findings show the capability to display various patterns and forms in the target language (TL). The tendency in Arabic is to express more explicit references than the ones in the source language (SL). A total of 377 cases exhibit changes within the degree of explicit references (340 to be more explicit while 37 to be less explicit). In addition, there are 16 tokens that show the transfer of an implicit reference to be explicit. While only one case in the data presents the opposite category.

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List of Abbreviations

1	First person
2	Second person
3	Third person
SG	Singular
DU	Dual
PL	Plural
Masc.	Masculine marker
Fem.	Feminine marker
FOC	Focus marker
FUT	Future marker
NOM	Nominative case
ACC	Accusative case
GEN	Genitive case
NEG	Negative marker
SL	Source language
ST	Source text
TL	Target language
TT	Target text

Chapter 1. Introduction

The term reference is known as the correlation between a nominal expression and its referent which denotes an object or an individual in the world (Aziz 1993: 1). Referring expressions have been investigated by scholars with a variety of backgrounds such as descriptive grammarians, generative syntacticians, scholars of semantics and pragmatics, and discourse and conversational analysts. One of the most studied issues is the relationship between discourse information and speakers' choices of referring expression. It has been thought that the choice of referring expressions depends on the prominence of entities in the discourse (Givón 1983). Therefore, a reference might be applied explicitly or implicitly based on its position in a text. Givón (1995) points out that the reference tends to be in an explicit form when it is presented in a text for the first time. However, it most likely takes an implicit form when it is used to refer to an explicit referent introduced earlier in the text. In addition, referring expressions have a strong correlation with a text's cohesion and coherence. In fact, the repetition of references in various forms explicitly or implicitly is an important element of coherent text. According to Aldilaimy (1998: 26), Halliday and Hasan (1976) defined reference in terms of cohesion since they present the notion as a semantic relation, which holds between the meaning of a reference and the identity of a thing, or concept or a class of things referred to.

Referring expressions have three main types, namely, proper nouns, noun phrases and pronouns (Aziz¹ 1993, Yule 1996). The first two types represent explicitness, while the last type is considered as an implicit form. Explicit referents like proper names and definite descriptions, which are expressed overtly and directly, are often used for two purposes, to introduce new referents to the discourse or to make reference to discourse referents that are not salient.

According to Du Bois (2003: 65) "when there is a new entity to be introduced into a discourse, this will characteristically motivate the use of a full lexical noun phrase of some kind". On the other hand pronouns, which convey limited information about their referents compared to their proper names, are primarily used for referents that are already salient in the discourse. Alzughoul (2014: 170) affirms that "personal reference, demonstrative reference and comparative reference are types of implicit referential meaning". Personal reference involves a pronoun that refers to a particular person, group or a thing. It can take the place of

¹ His scale of explicitness is presented in section (2.3.) in more details.

nouns and noun phrases. A demonstrative reference (e.g. this, that... etc.) provides spatial information because it helps identifying the reference by locating it on a scale of proximity. Finally, the use of words (e.g. the same, the other ...etc.) which exhibit comparison between two things is a type of implicit reference since they refer implicitly to an explicit reference.

In translation, there are two phenomena that can be observed and can be connected to referring expressions: explicitation and implicitation. The former is known as “the shift in translation that makes what is implicit in the source text explicit in the target text” (Murtisari 2013: 315). On the other hand, implicitation is the opposite, that is to say, transferring what is explicit in the source language (henceforth SL) to an implicit form in the target language (TL) (ibid: 2013). Therefore, when a translator translates a text, they might transfer a reference either to its equivalent (the exact form), to a more explicit form, or to a less explicit form. The former is the typical option for a translator if the TL has such an equivalent. However, the translator’s choice of either of the remaining two options (transferring a reference to more explicit form, or to less explicit form) can be triggered obligatorily or optionally. It can be provoked obligatorily if the translator is restricted to using only a certain form which is not as the same form as in the SL because of grammatical constrains, cultural impact, the TL has no equivalent reference, or other factors. On the other hand, the optional choice of a certain form (whether more or less explicit) indicates that the translator is faced with a choice, therefore may express a well-formed referring expression in the TL that differs from the one mentioned in the source language. Put differently, the translator could transfer the same form to the TL as in the SL, but chooses not to. Further explanation about the two phenomena of explicitation and implicitation will be given in chapter 2.

1.1. Research questions

In this research, the primary goal is to investigate the concept of reference (which may be translated differently in the TL) in political texts translated from English to Arabic in order to answer the following questions:

- 1- *What are the reference forms presented in the translation?*
- 2- *What are the factors that prompt translators to prefer one reference expression over another?*
- 3- *And finally, do references tend to be more explicit or implicit when they are transferred to the TL, and why?*

1.2. Objectives of the study

According to the statement of the problems, I aim at the end of this research to accomplish the following objectives:

- 1- to identify all the reference forms (based on Aziz's 1993 explicitness scale) which translated differently in the TL.
- 2- to figure out the general factors that motivate translators to choose one reference over another.
- 3- to determine the translators' tendency towards transferring references to the TL, whether to more explicit forms or less explicit forms.

1.3. Paper organization

This paper is organized as follows. Chapter 2 sets the stage by introducing the referring expressions, and definiteness and indefiniteness in the Arabic language since all the data investigated are translated Arabic texts from English. Additionally, it presents an overview of translation and the concepts of explicitation and implicitation. Also, it describes Aziz's (1993) scale of explicitness because the data for this paper will be presented based on his scale. Chapter 3 explains the data and methodology used in this paper, and chapter 4 shows the analyses of the data. The last chapter, which is chapter 5, exhibits the conclusions and the findings.

Chapter 2. Setting the stage

This chapter introduces referring expressions in Arabic (see section 2.1.). Next, section (2.2.) offers a synopsis of translation and an overview of political translation is given in section (2.2.1). Also in this chapter, sections (2.2.2. and 2.2.3.) discuss the phenomena of explicitation and implicitation in translation respectively. Finally, the last section of this chapter, which is (2.2.3.), introduces Aziz's (1993) explicitness scale since his classification is adopted in this paper.

2.1. Referring Expressions in Arabic

Arabic exhibits the referring expressions in the argument part of a proposition. Aziz (1993: 129) introduces three main types of referring expression which are “proper nouns, noun phrases and pronouns”. Proper nouns are direct and definite, hence they are always explicit, while pronouns are implicit references due to the fact that they refer indirectly to their referents through other expressions. In between these types are noun phrases which are considered less explicit than proper nouns, and more explicit than pronouns.

In both Arabic and English, the two referring expressions (proper nouns and noun phrases) exhibit explicitness although there are a few grammatical differences between the two languages. For instance, Arabic allows the structure ‘demonstrative + article + N, e.g. *hatha al-kitab* ‘this the book’, while this structure is not acceptable in English. Unlike proper nouns and noun phrases, the different structural system between these two languages could be observed in the implicit references, e.g. pronouns. The pronouns of Arabic have two forms; dependent and independent pronouns. Dependent pronouns (DP) possess the same properties of strong (independent) pronouns (Albuhayri 2013). Both of these forms contain subject and object pronouns. DPs can occur as affixes or clitics as in *katab-tu*, ‘I wrote’ (see example 1a), *sa’ala-ni*, ‘he asked me’ (as in 1c). On the other hand, independent pronouns (IP) cannot be attached to word (*ʔanaa* ‘I’, *huwa* ‘he’). In Arabic, the context determines which form of pronouns (independent or dependent) should be used. The case marker of pronouns is affected by their positions in a sentence, therefore they may come as nominative, genitive, or accusative. In addition, in Arabic, there are phrases (such as prepositional and quantifier phrases) that are compatible with only one of the two types of pronouns, which is the DP form (Albuhayri 2013). To illustrate, the following examples present both two types of pronouns: DPs and IPs in subject and object positions.

- (1) a. katab-tu a-taqrera
 write.PST-1SG the-report
 ‘I wrote the report’ [-tu is a dependent subject pronoun]
- b. anta dalebun thakiun
 2SG student smart
 ‘you are a smart student’ [anta is an independent subject pronoun]
- c. sa’ala-ni
 ask.PST-1SG
 ‘he asked me’ [-i is a dependent object pronoun]
- d. la na’abd ela eyaaka
 NEG worship.1PL except 2SG
 ‘it is you who we worship’ [eyaaka is an independent object pronoun]

To conclude, Abbas (1969: 272) states that “if a text needs a certain kind of a pronoun such as a nominative pronoun, or an accusative pronoun, and it accepts the two forms of the pronouns: dependent and independent, then the choice and the preference must be for the dependent pronoun over the independent pronoun which serves its usefulness and indicates its significance due to the fact that the dependent pronoun is more brief in its composition and form, and it is for it easier to fulfill the task of pronoun” (Translated by Albader 2019).

2.1.1. Definiteness and indefiniteness in Arabic

Definiteness and indefiniteness are terms which are usually applied to NPs (e.g. definite and indefinite articles, demonstrative NPs, etc.). In the literature, there are traditions presented by scholars such as Abbot (2006) that aim to differentiate between definiteness and indefiniteness. Abbot (2006) presents two main traditions which differentiate definiteness from indefiniteness. The first tradition is extracted from Bertrand Russell’s classic work on denoting phrases (Russell 1905). In this tradition, uniqueness is the element which distinguishes the definite article *the* from indefinite articles *a/an*. It indicates the existence of one entity which meets the descriptive content of the NP. The other tradition, which was first introduced by Christophersen (1939) links definiteness with presupposition. In Christophersen’s view, what makes the definite different from the indefinite is whether or not the addressee of the utterance is

presumed to be familiar with the referent of the NP. Christophersen (1939: 28) states that “the speaker must always be supposed to know which individual he is thinking of; the interesting thing is that the the-form supposes that the hearer knows it too”.

One of the devices that shows definiteness on NPs in both languages is the use of the definite article ‘the’ in English and its equivalent *al* in Arabic. The definite article *al* is a morpheme which cannot occur by itself, rather it always needs to be attached to words like nouns, adjectives, etc. Indefiniteness, on the other hand, can be exhibited by using the two indefinite articles in English ‘a’ and ‘an’, while in Arabic, there are no specific articles to indicate indefiniteness. However, there are zero articles and “nunation” which both are diacritics to mark indefiniteness in Arabic (aldilaimy 1998: 125). These diacritics are used based on their positions: /-a/ for accusative case, /-u/ for nominative case, and /-i/ for genitive case, as shown in examples (2a, b, and c).

- (2) a. axath-tu ketab-**a** a-taliba
 take.PST-1SG book-ACC the-student
 ‘I took the student’s book’
- b. ketab-**u** sadeq-i mafgood
 book-NOM friend-my lost
 ‘The book of my friend is lost’
- c. fi bayt-**i** Ali fagada al-ketab
 in house-GEN Ali lost the-book
 ‘In the house of Ali, he lost the book’.

Nunations can be expressed by attaching /n/ at the end of the word. They also occur in various forms based on case and the type of noun being affixed to. To illustrate, nunation is shown in nominative (3a), accusative (3b), and genitive (3c) cases.

- (3) a. thahaba sabi-**un** ila al-madrasati
 go.PST boy-NOM to the-school
 ‘a boy went to the school’
- b. axath-tu ketab-**an** min al-maktabati
 take.PST-1SG book-ACC from the-library
 ‘I took a book from the library’

c. marar-tu bi-bayt-**in** mahgor
 pass.PST-1SG in-house-GIN abandoned
 ‘I passed by an abandoned house’

In Arabic, the use of a definite article is more common than in English. Aldilaimy (1998: 9) states that “it has been found out that Arabic tends to use the definite articles more frequently than English to express both specific and generic reference.” For instance, Arabic often uses the definite article with undefined generic or abstract nouns (unlike English), as shown in (4a) & (4b) examples:

- (4) a. al-xodhar wa al-fawakeh
 the-vegetable.PL and the-fruit.PL
 ‘vegetables and fruits’
 b. a-thagafah
 the-culture
 ‘culture’

According to Al-Sulaimaan et al. (2018: 1083), “Arabic uses the definite article with all types of common nouns for expressing the generic reference”. Therefore, based on their statement, one can conclude that generic references in Arabic are always definite since they are preceded by the definite article *-al* ‘the’.

Abdullah and Thabet (2014) present six major uses of the definite article *al* ‘the’ in Arabic which all support Christophersen’s (1939) view since they link the use of definiteness with the speaker’s presupposition of references. These six uses of the Arabic definite article are “textual, situational, cultural, structural, entire class, and individuals of a class” (ibid: 10-12).

First, textual use indicates the use of a definite article with a reference previously mentioned. Example (5) illustrates this use.

- (5) dharaba Sami walad-an fi al-madrasati leanna
 hit.3SG.M Sami boy-ACC in the-school because
 Al-walad-a dharaba axa-hu
 the-boy-ACC hit brother-3SG
 ‘Sami hit a boy in the school because the boy hit his brother’

Next, situational use is when the definite article attached to a noun which refers to an object understood by both the speaker and the addressee. To demonstrate this use, consider example (6), in which the use of the definite article indicates that the object ‘the cup’ is known by the speaker and the addressee.

- (6) a’aten-i al-koba
 give-1SG the-book
 ‘give me the cup’

The third use is the cultural use, and it occurs when the definite article is attached to well-known unique nouns within a community or generally by everyone. A simple example of this use would be example (7).

- (7) al-qamar wa a-shams
 the-moon and the-sun
 ‘the moon and the sun’

The fourth use is structural use, and it occurs when the definite article is used on nouns that are modified by an explanatory modifier. In example (8), *al-ka’akata* ‘the cake’ is modified by the relative clause *alti sana’ataha Sara* ‘that Sara made’, therefore, the structure compelled the speaker to use the definite article in this example.

- (8) ahaba Mohamadun al-ka’akata alti sana’ata-ha Sara
 like.PST Mohamadun the-cake that make.PST-3SG.F Sara
 ‘Muhammad liked the cake that Sara made’.

‘Entire class’ is the fifth usage of the definite article in Arabic. It is used to refer to an entire class of things, as demonstrated in (9).

- (9) al-insan
 the-human
 ‘mankind’

The last usage presented by Abdullah and Thabet (2014) is ‘individuals of a class’ which indicates *al* ‘the’ might be used to include all the individual of a certain class. Example (10) shows this use.

- (10) al-mowasalat al-a;amah
 the-transportation.PL the-puplic
 ‘public transportation’.

Demonstrative NPs are also considered as examples of definiteness in English and Arabic. The main purpose of demonstratives is deictic where referents are located on the scale of proximity. However, the choice of a certain demonstrative can be influenced by the tense of the utterance as indicated by Rabadi (2016: 24) who points out that “it is possible to use ‘that’ to express finished actions or situations, while ‘this’ expresses future actions.” In Arabic, this statement is easily captured with time expressions. Consider examples (11a) and (11b), in which the demonstrative ‘that’ (in 11a) is used to refer to a situation took place in the past, whereas the demonstrative ‘this’ (in 11b) is used with the future tense.

- (11) a. kunto talib-an fi thaleka al-waqet
 be.PST.1SG student.ACC in that the-time
 ‘I was a student at that time’,
 b. sa-aktubo al-wageba fi hatha al-asboa’a
 FUT-write.1SG the-homework in this the-week
 ‘I will do the homework this week’.

2.2. Translation

Since the concentration of this paper is about references in Arabic (the TL), a section on Translation and Political Translation must be added. Therefore, section (2.2.) sheds light on translation and the idea of equivalence which will be strongly attached to the concept of references (in the analysis chapter). Then, I briefly talk, in section (2.2.1.), about political translation since the data of this paper are extracted from political articles and reports. Next, I present the phenomenon of explicitation in translation, in section (2.2.2.), which depends on the idea that the TL tends to be more explicit than the SL. Finally, in section (2.2.3.) I present the other phenomenon which is implicitation in translated texts since this concept is observed in the target language as well.

Translation is understood as transferring a message or a meaning from a written text of a certain language to another. In general, the concept of translation usually is linked to written texts, while translating oral texts is commonly known as interpreting or interpretation (Munday 2008: 5). The term has several meanings: it can refer to the field itself, thus it is a product, or

it can be a process which means the act of producing translation. Many scholars (e.g. Ghazala 1995, Lederer 2003, Hatim and Munday 2004, Munday 2008) focus on the act of producing a translation in their definitions.

The concept of equivalence is an important issue in the domain of translation. It is a notion which used by many translators to describe the extent of the relationships which exist between the source text (ST) and the target text (TT). For decades, the term at hand was considered an important part in any definition of translation (Manfredi 2008). Many scholars (e.g. Catford 1965, Nida and Taber 1969, Koller 1995) present the term of equivalence in their definitions of translation, thus they show a connection between the concept of translation and the notion of equivalence. To illustrate this connection, Nida and Taber (1969: 12) define the concept of translation as:

Translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style. But this relatively simple statement requires careful evaluation of several seemingly contradictory elements (1969: 12).

According to Nida (1964), there are two different kinds of equivalence, formal and dynamic equivalence. Formal equivalence focuses on both the form and the content of the message itself, while the purpose of dynamic equivalence is to produce, for the target reader, an equivalent impact very similar to the one proposed to the source audience. Nida (1964) argues that the formal correspondence consists of a TL token that represents the closest equivalent of a SL word or phrase. Therefore, the translator, in formal equivalence, tries to present in their translation as literally and meaningfully as possible the form and content of the source text. Nida calls this translation a ‘gloss translation’, which aims to allow the reader to understand as much of the SL context as possible (ibid: 159).

Dynamic equivalence, on the contrary, is based upon “the principle of equivalent effect”, that the translator should aim to provide “the closest natural equivalent to the source-language message” (Nida 1964: 166). Therefore, the relationship between the reader of the TL and the TL message should aim at being the same as that between the SL receivers and the SL message (ibid: 159).

2.2.1. Political translation

Political translation is considered as one of the most complicated, sensitive and advanced types of translation since it concerns national interests and foreign relations. The political field

uses a special terminology which serves its purpose properly. Dealing with special terminology is not easy for translators due to the fact that they might have other linguistic preferences, or might reject the literal word-for-word translation (Sárosi-Márdirosz 2014).

Yang (2012) introduces the concept of “Political Equivalence” in translation which is considered as a significant principle for diplomatic translation. Yang’s view toward the term of equivalence differs from Nida’s (1964) theory, which concentrates on equivalence of meaning and style. In Yang’s concept of Political Equivalence, there is an emphasis on the equivalence of political connotations (accuracy, faithfulness, acceptability and dynamicity) (Yang 2012: 5). Since achieving ‘perfect equivalence’ is not easy, Yang (2012: 11) advocates ‘Approximate Equivalence’. On the other hand, he rejects ‘Absolute Literal’ (Foreignisation) and ‘Absolute Free’ (Domestication) methods in political translation because they will raise problems for both sides (the speaker/writer and their audience).

2.2.2. Explicitation in translation

The phenomenon of explicitation has attracted considerable attention in translation studies. It was introduced for the first time by Vinay and Darbelnet (1958), as indicated in Dimitrova (2005). Basically, the concept stands on the idea that translations are generally more explicit than their respective source texts. In translated texts, the explicitness can be triggered by introducing some factors such as the addition of explanatory phrases, connectives, cohesive devices, conjunctions, or (as in this paper) transferring nominal expressions into more explicit forms. Shuttleworth and Cowie (1997: 55) define explicitation as “the phenomenon which frequently leads to TT (Target Text) stating ST (Source Text) information in a more explicit form than the original”. Another definition proposed by Delisle et al. (1999) links the aforesaid concept with the addition of precise semantic details into the TT, either to achieve clarification or due to grammatical and structural constraints of the TL.

Murtisari (2013) proposes two types of explicitation: ‘scalar’ and ‘categorical’. The first type, scalar explicitation indicates shifts of explicitation within the explicature. “In terms of translation, this takes the form of the encoding (in TT) of inferred information from the source text’s explicature” (Murtisari 2013: 330). The reason behind naming this type ‘scalar’ is that the inferred meanings spelled out are already explicit. Therefore, the explicitation in this type occurs in terms of the degree of explicitness (e.g. to be more explicit). On the other hand, the ‘categorical’ explicitation denotes meaning shifts from implicitness to explicitness. Therefore, it is categorical because the shifted meaning is transformed from one category (implicitness)

to another (explicitness).

Blum-Kulka (1986) is another scholar who pays attention to the concept of explicitation. The author proposes the so-called 'explicitation hypothesis', which is defined as "an observed cohesive explicitness from SL to TL texts regardless of the increase traceable to differences between the two linguistic and textual systems involved" (1986: 19). Blum-Kulka's hypothesis is based on the use of cohesive devices in translation. She (1986) notices that a target text may be more redundant than a source text, and this "redundancy can be expressed by a rise in the level of cohesive explicitness" in the target text (Blum-Kulka 2004: 300).

According to Gile (1995: 64), the translator's addition of Secondary Information whether from the SL, the TL, or both "could be part of the explanation of the so-called 'explicitation hypothesis' (Blum-Kulka 1986)". In Gile's (1995) view, the message consists of two parts: Primary Information and Secondary Information. The first is the message itself, or what the speaker aims to convey, while the latter can influence the degree of explicitness in the message by using one (or more) of its three types: Framing information (FI), Personal Information (PI), or Linguistically Induced Information (LII). In this paragraph, the first two types will be introduced only to present properly the whole category of Secondary Information. The third type, however, will be further discussed in the following two paragraphs in more details since it is an important concept in this paper. First, FI is introduced by the speaker to make the message easy to comprehend. For instance, if a Canadian author (who is targeting Canadians), mentions 'dollar' in an article, and in its translated version, a translator (who is targeting foreign readers) transfers 'dollar' to 'Canadian dollar'. By doing that, the translator frames the message and makes it more explicit and easier for his readers to comprehend. Second, PI indicates information which is beyond the message itself, that connected with personal style, habits, etc. of the speaker/ writer. For instance, in a conference or an oral presentation, a person might know where the presenter is from, their level of education, etc., based on some factors such as their accent and their lexical choices.

The third type is Linguistically Induced Information, which arises from language rules. In this type, transferring a text from one language to another is constrained by the rules and the grammar of the language. These language rules determine the choice of a specific structure or a lexical element over another. In translation, the concept LII occurs when a translator mandatorily presents information in the TL because they are induced by the language rules. For instance, English discriminates between singular and plural, and this is also the case with Arabic. However, Arabic has a dual marker which English does not. Thus, for example, if there

is a text that talks about two students and at the end of the text, the writer states a sentence such as “the students passed the exam, and got full marks”, an Arabic translator would obligatorily transfer “the students” to be *a-taleb-an* “the two students”, because the phrase is induced linguistically by the language rules.

In addition, since Linguistically Induced Information can be found in the SL, the TL or both, the attempt to maintain the LII from the SL "can be awkward, or even distort the message in the TL" (Gile 1995:64). To support this statement, Gile (1995) presents the Japanese words (*ani*) and (*otooto*) which mean an elder brother and a younger brother, respectively. Therefore, when addressing someone's brother, in Japanese, a choice between these two words would be mandatory. Therefore, when translating these words into English, the best option for a translator would be to write, for example, "his brother", as opposed to "his elder/younger brother". Otherwise, the readers might consider the age difference has some sort of meaning, which it does not.

There are many studies (e.g. Baker 1992, Ehrensverd 2007, and Al-Khafaji 2007) conducted on English texts translated into Arabic in order to examine explicitation phenomenon. In her book *In Other Words*, Baker (1992: 194) states that translators who translate texts into Arabic tend to express more conjunctions in their translation “to make it smoother, even when no conjunctions are used in the source text”. By doing that, a translator makes his translation more cohesive, thus more explicit for their audience.

Furthermore, Ehrensverd (2007) analyzes English-Arabic texts (the original text is English whereas the target text is Arabic). He presents his analysis based on Aziz's scale of explicitness. In all the patterns he introduces (for example Demonstrative NP => Definite article NP, Definite article NP => Indefinite NP, etc.), Ehrensverd (2007) finds that the TL is more explicit than the source language.

Al-Khafaji (2007: 84) examines the validity of explicitation strategy by using an English source text and its translation into Arabic and an Arabic source text and its translation into English. He notices a number of explicitation techniques are used to help the readers to understand the target texts. Some of these techniques are: substitution, addition, paraphrasing, lexicalization, and adding connectors to link two sentences and to make the translated texts more cohesive and explicit.

In conclusion, Baker's (1992), Ehrensverd's (2007), and Al-Khafaji's's (2007) findings confirm the fact that Arab translators tend to express their translations more explicitly,

compared to the original texts. This paper comes to either concur or disagree (with respect to references) with their findings since it is also conducted on English texts translated into Arabic.

2.2.3. Implication in translation

The concept of implication, as indicated earlier, is transferring what is explicit in the source language to less explicit form into the TL (Murtisari 2013). Although it is widely known that a translated text tends to show a higher degree of explicitness than the non-translated TL texts of a similar type (Blum-Kulka 1986), the phenomenon of implication, on the other hand, is also observed frequently in translated TL texts, and this can be motivated by various factors, as indicated by Dósa (2009).

In his work, Dósa (2009) conducts a study on explicitation and implication in translated accounting texts from Hungarian into English. On the contrary of Heltai (2003; cited in Dósa 2009: 26) who studied translated texts from English into Hungarian and found that the SL (English) had shorter content (fewer words) than the TL (Hungarian). These data therefore prove “the explicitation hypothesis, along with Heltai’s finding that the English language uses shorter words than the Hungarian language” (Dósa 2009: 27). Back to Dósa’s (2009) work, the author conducts the contrary direction to Heltai’s (2003) study, where he analysed the original English text compared to its translation into Hungarian, in order to investigate the explicitation (as well as the implication) tendency found in the TT (English). His study was built on a special language, which is accounting. According to Dósa’s (2009) findings, it is the source text (Hungarian) which “uses more extensive, more precise terms than English, where shorter words and phrases of several short words are used” (Dósa 2003: 30). At the end, the author exhibits several reasons which might explain why his findings contradict several authors (for instance, Blum-Kulka 1986) who have shown that in the translation process a general tendency of explicitation can be observed, “during which the translator gives a more explicit, more detailed version in the target text” (Dósa 2003: 30). The following five reasons are taken from Dósa (2003: 30).

- 1- A shortening, simplifying tendency characteristic of the English common language, which is similar in case of the language of accounting.
- 2- Compound words typical of the Hungarian language.
- 3- Differences in grammar and sentence construction.

- 4- The Hungarian Law on Accounting, the formulation of which determines the acceptable terminology, sentence construction, as opposed to the English accounting, where there are no laws only directives.
- 5- No need for explicitness or explanation as the topic is well known for the reader.

A reason or two of Dósa's (2003) could explain why some translators in few cases in the data of this paper choose to express implicit form in their translated texts although in some of these cases, they could present more explicit forms.

The following section presents a synopsis of Aziz's (1993) explicitness scale because the analysis in this paper is built on it.

2.3. Aziz's (1993) explicitness scale

In this section, I explain the explicitness scale of Aziz (1993) since the classifications and the presentation of the data are built on it. It is worth mentioning that I choose Aziz's (1993) scale because it exhibits various patterns (from most explicit to least explicit) which are all found in the data. In addition, his scale focuses only on references which are the topic of this paper.

As indicated earlier, Aziz (1993) introduces three main types: proper nouns, noun phrases, and pronouns which he lists from the most explicitness to the least explicitness (or implicit) respectively, as indicated in Figure 1 (Aziz 1993: 130).

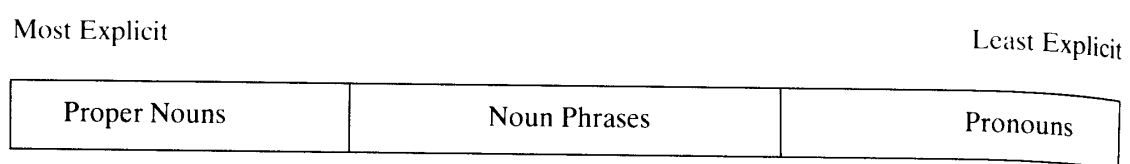


Figure 1: Scale of Explicitness for the Main Types of Referring Expressions

Under each main type, he presents patterns and structures and explains their level of explicitness. To start with proper nouns, according to Aziz, there are two sub-classes which satisfy this category: names (e.g. Tom, Sara, etc.) and titles (the trustee, the prince, etc.). Aziz (1993: 130) classifies titles as less explicit than names since “a title refers slightly more obliquely to its object than a name”. On the scale of explicitness, noun phrases come after proper nouns, therefore they are the second most explicitness type. Aziz (1993) classifies noun

phrases into definite and indefinite, and he puts definite noun phrases as more explicit than indefinite noun phrases because indefinite noun phrases do not provide much information concerning the object to which they refer. Consider *a book* and *this book*, the indefinite noun phrase gives a general information about the object ‘book’ because it only indicates the existence of the object. *This book*, on the other hand, gives a signal as to where it is (spatial information), thus it is more explicit than the indefinite NP.

Under the category of definite noun phrases, Aziz exhibits three sub-classes: possessive NP, demonstrative NP, and definite article NP, which he categorizes from the most explicit to the least explicit respectively. According to Aziz (1993), a possessive NP is the most explicit compared to the other two sub-classes because it consists of the features +human and +possessive. Human relations (whether in the zone of kinship, friendship, or any other relations) come prior any other relations (as indicated by Aziz), therefore the phrase *my father’s car* is more explicit than *this car* or *the car*. After the possessive NP comes the demonstrative NP because it carries spatial features which can give clues about the object’s position. Therefore, he considers them as more explicit than the definite article NP because in the case of the definite article the addressee is only given the clue that s/he can find the object somewhere in the context (Aziz, 1993). In other words, the definite article contains no features beside its definiteness (as the other two sub-classes), therefore Aziz puts it as the least explicit class after possessive and demonstrative NPs in the category of definite NP, as indicated in Figure 2 (Aziz 1993: 131).

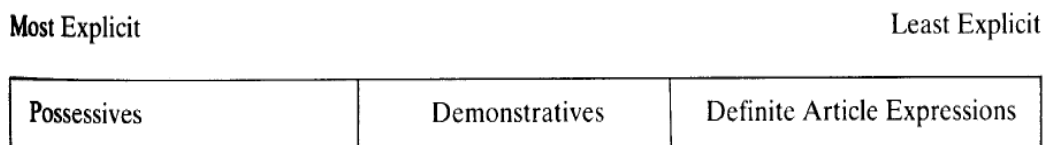


Figure 2: Scale of Explicitness for Definite Noun Phrases

The third main type (pronouns) is considered as the least explicit type (implicit) since it violates the principle of explicitness ‘referring directly’. Based on this principle, a pronoun has indirect reference because it refers to an object through another expression (Aziz, 1993).

To conclude this section, there are some studies that have been conducted that support Aziz’s scale of explicitness (e.g. Ehrensvärd 2007) or part of it (e.g. El-Nashar 2016). Ehrensvärd (2007) presents his analysis based on Aziz’s scale of explicitness and finds that the TL is more explicit than the source language. Also, El-Nashar (2016) conducts a study on English-Arabic texts where the original text is English and the target text is Arabic. He lists a total of ten

techniques such as expletive paraphrase, conjunction, lexical repetition, amplification, substitution, and reference to achieve more explicitness in the TL. The author (2016) divides the reference technique which is the focus in this paper into three types of references, namely, ‘replacing pronouns with nouns’, ‘adding demonstratives’, and ‘addition of referential clitics and/or pronouns’ (ibid: 304). The last two techniques support the distinction of definite NP presented by Aziz (1993). Although the data (of the SL) provided by El-Nashar (2016) show indefinite and definite NPs (because he focuses generally on explicitation techniques, not references), his claim that the addition of demonstratives and referential clitics and/or pronouns (e.g. possessives) to the reference makes it more explicit supports Aziz’s scale of explicitness (1993) at least within the types of NPs .

Chapter 3. Data and methodology

This chapter shows the methods that are used in doing the analysis. Additionally, it presents the list of sources where I extract the data from.

The methodology used in this paper is simply extracting referring expressions from the target texts and comparing them with their equivalence in the original texts. The analysis focuses only on references presented differently in the TL because I aim to investigate the explicitness scale (of the TL) and compare it with the original text. In other words, I avoid analyzing references transferred by using the same form (e.g. definite article NP → definite article NP, pronoun → pronoun, etc.) because they add nothing to the explicitness scale of Aziz (1993). However, both types of references (translated similarly and differently) will be counted for the purpose of reaching an overall percentage of translators' tendencies and preferences toward transferring references.

In the rest of this chapter, I present three sections: data, data collection techniques, and data analysis techniques to show where I got the data from and to display the used techniques for collecting and analyzing the data.

3.1. Data

The original data of this research are extracted from seven different political texts from various websites. Almost all of the seven source texts are taken from websites of well-known international newspapers such as *The New York Times*, *The Hill*, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, and *The Levant News*, while the remaining two texts are extracted from RAND Corporation and ROAR magazine. RAND Corporation is a non-profit research organization that aims to make the global communities safer, healthier and more prosperous. It talks about all topics that fulfill their goals whether in science, health, and/or foreign affairs. ROAR magazine is an online magazine that focuses on political and social topics. Based on the ROAR website², "ROAR is a magazine of the radical imagination that aims to provide grassroots perspectives from the front-lines of the international struggle for real democracy". The target audiences of all the seven source texts are primarily westerners (Americans and Europeans) who are interested in global politics. The first three newspapers alongside RAND Corporation are published in the USA. The other two newspapers (*The Guardian*, and *The Levant News*) are published in the UK, while the last source which is ROAR magazine is published in the

² Check <https://roarmag.org/about/>

Netherlands. All the seven texts are written in English because the majority of their audiences (westerners) speak English as their first language.

On the other hand, the translated texts are all made by either a professional center or translator. First, Alaa Ghazala is a professional Libyan translator. In his blog, He translates numerous foreign articles and he pays more attention to political topics. He translates the *A Deadly Mix in Benghazi* article which is one of the texts used in this paper. Second, *Center for Political & Development Studies* is the center that translates the *The End of the End of the History* article. It is a Palestinian website that focuses primarily on the Palestinian issue locally and globally. The Center's website contains a section on foreign articles and it provides a credential translation for them. Third, *Center for Kurdish Studies website* is another center which introduces qualified translations (by the center itself) on texts and topics that talk about Kurdistan issues. The Center translates one of the articles used in this paper which is *The Perils and Promise of Self-determination*. Fourth, *Almayadeen* is a Lebanese media net which focuses on almost all topics worldwide. It also provides professional translations for many foreign texts and articles. In this paper, the professional translator of *Almayadeen*, Dr. Haiytham Mozahim is the one who translates the article *Trump: Lurching Towards a new Foreign Policy*. Fifth, The Translation Center of *Umayya Center for Research & Strategic Studies* provides a professional translation on many foreign texts. *Umayya Center* translates the article *Gina Haspel Should be arrested- not Put in Charge of the CIA*. *Umayya Center* is located in Turkey and it concentrates on political and social topics. The last two centers that provide qualified translations are *The Washington Institute for Near East Policy* and *Carnegie Middle East Centre*. These two centers are the only centers (out of the seven) that are located inside a western community (the USA). The former center translates the article *Is Chechnya Putin's blueprint for Syria?* while the latter provides a professional translation of the article *What's behind Libya's spiraling violence*. The translations of all the above seven centers and individuals, target Arab people who are interested in politics whether globally or locally. Additionally, since all the texts are translated by a different person or organization, this will help to reach some general findings. A list of the abbreviated titles, and original and translation links is found in Appendix A. The following is the list of the texts (the abbreviated titles are in square brackets);

- 1- *The End of the End of the History*, [End of the End]. The article is translated by *RAND Corporation*.

- 2- *A Deadly Mix in Benghazi*, [A Deadly Mix]. It is translated by *Alaa Ghazala*.
- 3- *The Perils and Promise of Self-determination*, [Self-determination]. The article is translated by *Center for Kurdish Studies website*.
- 4- *Is Chechnya Putin's blueprint for Syria?*, [Putin's blueprint]. It is translated by *The Washington Institute for Near East Policy website*.
- 5- *Trump: Lurching Towards a new Foreign Policy?*, [Trump]. The article is translated by *D. Haiytham Mozahim, Almayadeen website*.
- 6- *Gina Haspel Should be arrested- not Put in Charge of the CIA*, [Gina Haspel]. It is translated by *Umayya Center for Research & Strategic Studies*.
- 7- *What's behind Libya's spiraling violence?*, [Spiraling Violence]. It is translated by *Carnegie Middle East Centre*.

3.2. Data collection techniques

In order to collect the data, I use the observation and documentation method. The research uses certain steps for collecting references. First, I run a search online for political texts which are translated professionally into Arabic. After finding the texts, I read the texts in the SL and their translated texts in the TL. Third, I then mark the referring expressions which are translated differently in the TL and then I list them on a notepaper. Fourth, I collect and count the referring expressions and then make another list of the data in tables but this time I classify them based on their patterns. The purpose of doing this step is to answer the question: What are the reference forms presented in the translation?

3.3. Data analysis techniques

In analyzing the data, I use three steps. The first step is classification. In this step, I categorize, based on Aziz's (1993) classification, the data related to the references to show which reference is transferred to which form (whether to more explicit form or implicit form). After identifying the form of referring expression which translated into the TL differently, I compare the translated references with their equivalences in the SL, and then create two categories: references transferred to more explicit forms and references translated to less explicit forms. The aim of this step is to answer the following research question: Do references tend to be more explicit or implicit when they are transferred to the TL? Next, I investigate all the instances of each form in each category (more or less explicit), and then I present examples in the analysis chapter. The goal of this step is to figure out the main reasons (e.g. cultural

impact, no equivalent in the TL, etc.) behind the translator's choice. By fulfilling this goal, I will be able to answer the following two questions: Why do references tend to be more explicit (or implicit) when they are transferred to the TL? And what are the factors that prompt translators to prefer one referring expression over another?

Chapter 4. Analysis

In this chapter, I first show in section (4.1.) a detailed distribution of all references (in the TL) in the seven texts, and demonstrate their total occurrences and percentages whether they transferred differently or remained unchanged from the STs. In addition, I display and classify the occurrence of references based on their patterns (e.g. definite article NP to be indefinite article NP, proper noun to be definite article NP, etc.). After I show the distribution and display references' occurrences and percentages, I analyze references which show different levels of explicitness or implicitness in the TL. First, I create two main categories: analysis of explicit references (section 4.2.) and analysis of implicit references (section 4.3.). The first category breaks down into two main sections: explicit references showing more explicitness in the TL (section 4.2.1), and explicit references exhibiting less explicitness in the TL (section 4.2.2). Less explicitness can be described as inserting a reference which is considered less explicit (compared to the reference in the SL) based on Aziz's (1993) scale, or by presenting an implicit reference. The second category presents transferring various types of implicit references in the SL (e.g. pronouns, pronominal, and comparative references) explicitly in the TL. In both categories, I present patterns (e.g. definite NP, poss.NP, definite PP, indefinite PP, pronoun, etc.) and classify them (in the sub-sections) based on Aziz's (1993) scale of explicitness.

4.1. Distribution of References in the TL

In the TL, a total of 3395 references are found in all the seven texts. Only 397 (11.6%) references are transferred differently (more or less explicitly) in the TL, while 88.4% (2998 cases) of references presented with the same pattern as in the original texts. Among the references exhibited differently in the TL, there are 359 references presented more explicitly (in the two columns of Table 1: transferring explicit references to be more explicitness and transferring implicit references to explicit form), whereas only 38 cases show transferring the references to be less explicit in the TL. The data show that 37 of the references are transferred to less explicit forms (within the explicitness domain), and only one example is transferred to an implicit form. Table 1 below presents these findings.

Articles	Total number of references in the TL	Transferring explicit references to be more explicit	Transferring explicit references to be less explicit	Transferring explicit references to implicit form	Transferring implicit references to explicit form	percentage of changed references	percentage of references remained unchanged
Gina Haspel	243	28	3	-	4	14.4%	85.6%
End of the end	189	24	-	-	1	13.2%	86.8%
A Deadly Mix	399	54	3	-	3	15.3%	84.7%
Putin's blueprint	269	13	2	-	1	5.9%	94.1%
Self-determination	983	103	14	-	2	12.1%	87.9%
Trump	466	36	5	-	2	9.2%	90.8%
Spiraling violence	846	83	10	1	5	11.7%	88.3%
	3395	341	37	1	18	11.6%	88.4%

Table 1: Distribution of Referring expressions in the TL

As shown by Table 1, the translator of *Gina Haspel* displays a total of 243 references in the article. There are 35 (14.4%) cases which exhibit a different level of explicitness compared to the references presented in the original text. Only 3 references are transferred (in the TL) less explicitly, while 33 tokens presented more explicitly. On the other hand, there are 208 (85.6%) references transferred by using the same level of explicitness presented in the SL. Then, *End of the end* has 25 (13.2%) references (out of 189) which are transferred to be more explicit in the TL, while 164 (86.8%) references exhibited as they are in the original text. In *A Deadly mix*, the translator expresses a total of 399 references. 339 (84.7%) cases remained unchanged, whereas 60 (15.3%) references are presented differently (57 toward more explicitness, while 3 references toward less explicitness). Furthermore, the translator of *Putin's blueprint* presents only 16 (5.9%) references (out of 269) which are transferred differently (14 references to be more explicitness in the TL, and 2 cases to be less explicitness), while the rest of references (253 reference, 94.1%) presented as they are in the original text. Moreover, the longest text in all the data *Self-determination* reveals 983 references. A total of 864 (87.9%) references are transferred with no change in their scale of explicitness, while 119 (12.1%) cases demonstrate different level of explicitness in the TL (104 references to be more explicitness, and 14 tokens transferred less explicitly). In the *Trump* article, the translator presents 466 references. The

references transferred with no changes in their patterns are 423 (90.8%) cases, while the remaining 43 (9.2%) references are expressed differently in the TL (38 toward more explicitness, and 5 toward less explicitness). The last article, which is *Spiraling violence*, reveals 846 references. 746 (88.5%) references (out of the 846) remained unchanged when they transferred, whereas the total number of references which transferred in different forms are 99 (11.7%). There are 88 references transferred to more explicit forms, and 11 references to less explicit forms. Based on these numbers, we reach the conclusion that the percentage of all references that remained unchanged is 88.4% (2999 references). On the other hand, the data displays that 397 references, which represents 11.6% (out of the total references counted in the data, which is 3395), are altered to more or less explicit forms in the TL.

To sum up this section, Table 1 displays the fact that the translators tend heavily to present in their translated texts, whether optionally or obligatorily, the same nominal expression as the one presented in the SL.

4.2. Analysis of explicit references

In this category, section (4.2.1.) presents nominal expressions that show greater explicitness in Arabic (the TL), then section (4.2.2.) introduces nominal expressions which are transferred to less explicit forms in the TL. Each section displays various patterns which are used by translators to present either more or less explicit references in the TL. For every pattern, I display the number of occurrences in the TL, and I also provide a detailed analysis of the subcategory.

4.2.1. References Presenting Greater Explicitness in the TL

The data reveals the tendency to express more explicit form when the reference transferred differently in the TL. Among 397 references which presented in different forms in the TL, there are 341 cases transferred to more explicit forms as indicated in Table 2. Before I present Table 2, it is important to list the abbreviations used in it along with what they stand for since they will appear frequently in the discussion, through the thesis.

- NP_{def} = definite article noun phrase
- NP_{indef} = indefinite article noun phrase
- [Dem NP] = demonstrative + noun phrase
- [PP P NP_{def}] = preposition + definite article noun phrase
- [PP P NP_{indef}] = preposition + indefinite article noun phrase

- [PP P [Dem NP]] = preposition + demonstrative + noun phrase
- NP+poss.clitic (for Arabic) = noun phrase + possessive clitic
- poss NP (for English) = possessive +noun phrase

	Gina Haspel	End of the end	A Deadly mix	Putin's blueprint	Self-determination	Trump	Spiraling violence	total
NP _{indef} → NP _{def}	17	18	40	5	45	23	52	200
[PP P NP _{indef}] → [PP P NP _{def}]	7	5	10	5	54	10	28	119
NP _{indef} → NP+poss.clitic	1	-	-	1	2	-	1	5
NP _{indef} → [Dem NP]	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
NP _{def} → [Dem NP]	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	5
[PP P NP _{def}] → [PP P [Dem NP]]	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	3
[PP P NP _{def}] → [PP P [NP+poss.clitic]]	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	4
NP _{def} → [PP P [NP+poss.clitic]]	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
NP _{def} → Proper Noun	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3
total	28	24	54	13	103	36	83	341

Table 2: Referring Expressions Presenting Greater Explicitness in the Target Text

As demonstrated by Table 2, the most common and preferable pattern is transferring indefinite article NPs to be definite article NPs since it is the only pattern which is found in all the seven texts. It is a combination of the first two rows and it shows a total of 319 tokens that support this pattern. Out of the 319 tokens, there are 119 references preceded by prepositions. Next, the pattern Indefinite article NP to be [NP+poss.clitic] is found 5 times in four texts (*Gina Haspel*, *Putin's blueprint*, *Self-determination*, and *Spiraling violence*). Moreover, there is only one reference, which is presented in *Self-determination*, that exhibits the transferring of NP_{indef} to be [Dem NP]. Also, the data contain transferring references from the pattern NP_{def} to [Dem NP] in the TL. There are 8 references (mentioned in *Gina Haspel*, *A Deadly mix*, and *Putin's blueprint*) that support this pattern. Three references (out of the 8) are preceded by prepositions.

Another pattern presented in the data is transferring NP_{def} to be [NP+poss.clitic] in the TL. A total of five examples (in *End of the end*, *Putin's blueprint*, and *Trump*) display this pattern. Four tokens (out of the five) are preceded by prepositions in both SL and TL, while the fifth reference is mentioned in the SL in NP_{def} pattern (not preceded by preposition). However, in the translation, the translator transfers this pattern by inserting a preposition before the NP+poss.clitic reference. Finally, the last pattern found which shows transferring references to more explicit forms is NP_{def} to be a Proper Noun in the TL. Three references (in *Self-determination* and *Spiraling violence*) reinforce this pattern.

4.2.1.1. Indefinite NP → Definite article NP

This pattern is by far the most frequent in all the seven texts (compared to other patterns). The data show that there are (319) tokens translated from NP_{indef} to be NP_{def} in the TL. The following example (12) illustrates the transfer of the indefinite NP 'past bargains' to be definite article NP in the TL *a-safaqat al-madhiya* 'the past bargains'.

"These and other steps to undo **past bargains** represent a significant retreat from the norm-based, democratically inclined, open-market-based order that the U.S. largely invented beginning in 1945 and has championed since." [End of the End]

(12) Tomathel hathehe wa ghairo-ha le-ilgha'e **a-safaqat al-madhiya**
 Represent this and other-3rd.sg.fem for-undo the-bargains the-past
 trago'an kaberan min nedham qa'am ala al-ma'ayeer
 retreat big from order stand on the-norms
 wa ala osis demogratiyah, wa al-mabni ala a-soq
 and on standards democratic, and the-built on the-market
 al-maftohah, wa alathi ibtakarat-hu al-welay-at al-mutahedah
 the-opens, and that invented-3rd.sg.masc the-state-PL the-united
 bedayatan min a'am 1945, wa dafa'at a'an-hu montho
 starting from year 1945, and defend on-3rd.sg.masc since
 thalika al-hein.
 that the-time.

"تمثل هذه الخطوات وغيرها لإلغاء الصفقات الماضية تراجعاً كبيراً من نظام قائم على المعايير وعلى أسس ديمقراطية، والمبني على السوق المفتوحة، والذي ابتكرته الولايات المتحدة بداية من عام ١٩٤٥، وقد دافعت عنه منذ ذلك الحين."

Although the translator of this text can transfer the indefiniteness of the NP to the TL, he chooses to make the nominal definite to satisfy the textual use. Abdullah & Thabet (2014) point out that the Arabic definite article /al/ has six major uses and one of these uses is when a reference is mentioned a second time in the discourse or the text. In this example, the nominal expression *a-safaqat* ‘the bargains’ was mentioned previously for the first time (four sentences earlier). Therefore, it satisfies the use of the definite article in this context.

The data show that there are cases where the definite article can occur optionally or obligatory in the TL. It is usually determined by the structure and the context that the translator adopts and because of the word itself. In (12), the translator’s choice of attaching the definite article, in the TL, to the indefinite NP *past bargains* is optional because he can present the indefiniteness (by not attaching the definite article *al* ‘the’) in his translation without violating the meaning nor the construction of the sentence as indicated in (13).

- “These and other steps to undo **past bargains...**” [End of the End]
 (13) Tomathel hathehe wa ghairo-ha le-ilgha’e **safaqat madhiya**
 Represent this and other-3rd.sg.fem for-undo bargains past
 "تمثل هذه الخطوات وغيرها لإلغاء الصفقات الماضية.."

An explanation for the translator’s preference to express the NP_{def} form (as in 12) might be because he was eager to express the nominal expression in more explicit form for the sake of his readers. However, there are some cases where a translator has no other choice except to definitize the NPs. For instance, the nominal expression ‘people’ is always translated as *a-nnas* ‘the people’ because it illustrates the use of definite article with ‘Entire class’ (Abdullah & Thabet 2014). Finally, this pattern (NP_{indef} → NP_{def}) occurs frequently within prepositional phrases which generally occur sentence-finally as indicated in example (14).

- “now, I am well aware of Trump’s ignorance about **foreign affairs.**” [Trump]
 (14) Ala’an, ana ala derayah tamah bi-gahal Trump
 Now, I on awareness complete in- ignorance Trump
bi-a-shoa’on al-xaregyah
 in-the-affairs the-foreign

"الآن، أنا على دراية تامه بجهل ترامب بالشؤون الخارجية."

In (14), the NP ‘foreign affairs’ is preceded by the preposition ‘about’. In the TL, the translator represents the nominal expression ‘foreign affairs’ by using the definite article NP

bi-a-shoa'on al-xaregyah 'in the foreign affairs'. This pattern [PP P NP_{indef}] → [PP P NP_{def}] appears in 119 cases (out of 319) which show the high frequency of using the definite article with references in Arabic because it appears commonly with NPs and PPs.

4.2.1.2. Indefinite NP → NP possessive.clitic

The occurrence of this pattern is low compared to the previous pattern. It occurs only five times in four texts: *Gina Haspel, Spiraling Violence, Self-determination, and Putin's blueprint*. Example (15) exhibits the translator's preference to present the NP_{indef} 'a clearly determined mission' to be the NP possessive.clitic *muhemate-ha mohadadh be-sorah wadhehah* 'its clearly determined mission'.

"They must ensure that the new force is defined by civilian oversight, broad regional representation in the rank-and-file and officer corps, and **a clearly determined mission.**" [Spiraling violence]

(15) wa yageb a'n tat'kad hathehe al-qowa min a'n
 and must that ensure this the-force from that
 al-gowah al-gadedah taxdha'a ela al-ishraf al-madani
 the-force the-new subject to the-oversight the-civilian
 wa tandhawi ala tamtheel manategi wase' fi sofof
 and involve on representation regional broad in ranks
 al-afraad wa al-dhobadh, wa anna **muhemate-ha mohadadh**
 the-individuals and the-officers, and that mission-its determined
be-sorah wadhehah
 in-image clear

"ويجب أن تتأكد هذه القوى من أن القوة الجديدة تخضع إلى الإشراف المدني، وتنطوي على تمثيل مناطقي واسع في صفوف الأفراد والضباط، وأن مهمتها محددة بصورة واضحة."

In (15) (as well as all the other four tokens under this pattern), the translator definitizes the NP_{indef} by using an NP possessive.clitic. Despite the fact that the NP can be transferred indefinitely (as in the SL), or definitely (by using the definite article), the translator chooses the NP possessive.clitic form to make the clause definite as well as to make it more cohesive (because of retrieving the nominal expression 'the new force' by using the possessive pronoun).

Finally, the form adopted by the translator indicates more explicitness (compared to the NP presented in the SL) because of the definiteness and the presence of a possessor.

4.2.1.3. Indefinite NP → Dem NP

In all the seven texts, there is only one case supports this pattern. In example (16), the translator transfers the NP_{indef} ‘threats’ to be a definite NP preceded by the free morpheme, the demonstrative *hathehe* ‘this’ to form *Hathehe a-tahded-at* ‘(lit.) this threats³’.

“The Turkish authorities threatened to block oil exports and even close the borders in the wake of the referendum. (**Threats** that, if fulfilled, would certainly bring the Barzani regime to its knees).” [Self-determination]

(16) hathehe	a-tahded-at	min	sha’ne-ha	an	tugthe	nedham
This	the-threat-PL	from	concern-its	that	put	order
the-Barzani	ala	rokba-tay-he				
Al-Barzani	on	knee-DUAL-its				

"هذه التهديدات من شأنها أن تجثي نظام البرزاني على ركبتيه."

In (16), the translator makes the NP definite because the reference is introduced one sentence before. By using the verb ‘threatened’ followed by a list of threats (e.g. block oil exports and close the borders), the translator chooses to co-refer to this list of threats by using *hathehe a-tahded-at* ‘this threats’. In this context, this form of definiteness is more acceptable than other forms because the use of demonstrative NP makes the context more cohesive. Also, it indicates relative proximity to the topic since the nominal expression *hathehe a-tahded-at* ‘this threats’ refer to the two actions: blocking oil export and closing the borders which were mentioned in the first sentence of example (16). To sum up, the translator’s choice shows a greater explicitness compared to the form used in the SL (NP_{indef}).

4.2.1.4. Definite article NP → Dem NP

The data exhibit 8 cases (from *A Deadly Mix*, *Putin’s blueprint*, and *Gina Haspel*) that belong to this category. In these examples, the translator transfers definite article NPs to be [Dem NPs] in the TL. To clarify, example (17) presents the translator’s preference to express the NP_{def} ‘the group’ to be *tilka al-magmao’ah* ‘that group’.

³ It is grammatical to say this phrase in Arabic.

“Republicans have accused the Obama administration of covering up evidence of Al Qaeda’s role to avoid undermining the president’s claim that **the group** has been decimated, in part because of the raid that killed Osama bin Laden.” [A Deadly Mix]

(17) wa itahama al-gumhoriyon idarata Obama be-l-qeyam
 and accuse the-Republicans administration Obama in-the-doing
 be-a-taghteyah ala al-adelah alati tosheer ela dor al-Qa’edah
 in-the-cover.up on the-evedince that signal to role AL-Qaeda
 le-tafadi al-had min edea’a a-ra’ees be-a’ana
 to-avoid the-undermining from claim the-president in-which
tilaka Al-magmao’ah gad tafakakt gozeian be-feal al-gharah
 that the-group already decimated partly in-doing the-raid
 Alati qatalat Osama Bin Laden.
 that killed Osama Bin Laden.

"واتهم الجمهوريون ادارة اوباما بالقيام بالتغطية على الادلة التي تشير الى دور القاعدة لتفادي الحط من ادعاء الرئيس بان تلك المجموعة قد تفككت، جزئيا بفعل الغارة التي قتلت أسامة بن لادن."

Based on Aziz’s (1993) scale, this pattern shows greater explicitness in the TL since the use of a definite article does not provide as much information as the use of demonstratives. The use of a definite article indicates that the referent is to be found in the context of utterance (Ehrensverd 2007). In contrast, information, such as spatial and temporal information can only be extracted from the use of demonstratives. In example (17), the translator transfers the NP_{def} ‘the group’ to be *tilka al-magmao’ah* ‘(lit.) that the group’ although he could use only the definite article in this context. The insertion for the first time in the text the new lexical ‘the group’ to co-refer to its antecedent *Al Qaeda*, promotes the use of the demonstrative since it could help the readers to identify the antecedent faster than the definite article.

There are three examples (out of eight in this category) preceded by prepositions. All the three cases involve time expressions (e.g. ‘at the time’ (twice), and ‘the age’). In example (18), the NP_{def} ‘the age’ is preceded by the preposition ‘of’, thus forming the full PP ‘of the age’. This phrase is presented in the TL as *fi hatha al-aser* ‘of this age’.

“The Unsung heroes **of the age** will be those who said no to a Trump administration job offer in the first place.” (Gina Haspel)

(18) Sa-yakono al-abtal al-magholon **fi hatha al-aser**, hum
 FUT-be the-heroes the-unsung in this the-age, they
 olaeka alathen galo la le-'i 'ardh amal le-edarah
 those who said no to-any offer job of-administration
 Trump fi al-magam al-awal
 Trump in the-place the-first

"سيكون الأبطال المجهولون في هذا العصر، هم أولئك الذين قالوا لا لأي عرض عمل لإدارة ترامب في المقام الاول."

First, the translator uses the demonstrative *hatha* 'this' with the time expression to make it more explicit as well as to frame it. On the other hand, he avoids transferring the same form (PP NP_{def}], as in the original text, because the time expression *al-aser* 'the age' needs to be modified by either a demonstrative (as in this example) or an adjective (e.g. *al-asar al-hali* 'the current age'). Otherwise, it could cause vague reading if the translator transfers the same form to the TT, because when the time expression is attached with the definite article *al-aser*, it can also mean 'the afternoon' period. In addition, it is noticeable (based on the three cases) that the choice of a certain demonstrative is affected by spatial and temporal factors. In two texts (*A Deadly Mix in Benghazi, and Putin's blueprint*), the demonstrative 'that' which conveys distance is used with an action or event that took place in the past (not near). Put differently, the demonstrative 'that' is attached to time expressions when the sentence is expressed in the past tense. On the other hand, the demonstrative 'this', as in example (18), is used to indicate a current and near future time. This result concurs with Rabadi's (2016: 24) statement which is "it is possible to use 'that' to express finished actions or situations, while 'this' expresses future actions." Finally, the use of the demonstrative conveys a greater explicitness compared to the use of the definite article because it can show spatial and temporal spaces.

4.2.1.5. Definite article NP → NP possessive.clitic

A total of five examples are found within three articles (*End of the end, Putin's blueprint, and Trump*) that changed from a definite article NP in the ST to NP possessive.clitic in the TT. In four examples, in both languages, the references (NP_{def} and NP possessive.clitic) are preceded by prepositions, hence the full structure is to be called PP. In example (19), the translator translated the PP 'to the present day' to be *hata yawm-na hatha* 'until our day, this'.

“His effort to achieve balanced trade one nation at a time runs counter to the core principles of the postwar trading system and to the economic consensus from John Stuart Mill and David Ricardo **to the present day.**” [End of the End]

(19) Fa-gohod-eh fi tahqeq tegarah mutawazenah, ma'a kul
 And-efforts-his in achievement trading balanced with all
 dawlah ala heda, yata'ardh ma'a al-mabade' al-asasyah
 nation on own, contradict with the-principle the-core
 le-mandhomah a-tegarah ba'ad al-harb, wa al-egma'a
 for-system the-trading after the-war and the- consensus
 al-eqtasadi wa min John Stuart Mill David Ricardo
 the-economic and from John Stuart Mill David Ricardo
hata yawm-na hatha
 until day-IPL this

"فجهوده في تحقيق تجارة متوازنة، مع كل دولة على حدة، يتعارض مع المبادئ الأساسية لمنظومة التجارة بعد الحرب، والإجماع الاقتصادي من جون ستيوارت ميل وديفيد ريكاردو حتى يومنا هذا."

In example (19), the translator chooses to translate the phrase by using its dynamic equivalent (Nida 1964), instead of translating it literally (formal equivalent). Despite the fact that the author's option is acceptable (in the TL), the translator forgoes transferring the same level of explicitness (by maintaining the definite article NP). By adopting a NP possessive.clitic form, the translator shows greater explicitness compared to the NP_{def} since the possessive pronoun exhibits more information than the definite article. To clarify, the use of this pattern [NP possessive.clitic] indicates the involvement of the translator and his readers within the expressed time. Thus, positioning himself and his readers as being within the time of the time expression displays stronger connection and more explicitness compared to mentioning the definite article NP. This concurs with Ehrensward (2007: 2) who states that “the possessive contains information as to the relation of the NP”.

The fifth example in this pattern presents the transfer of full NP (in the SL) to full PP, in the TL. In example (20), the translator transfers the NP_{def} ‘the meeting’ to the PP *bi-egtema'ah* ‘in his meeting’ since he precedes the reference (NP possessive.clitic) with a preposition. By using this pattern, the translator makes the whole sentence (not only the phrase) more cohesive, smooth, and explicit because s/he mentions both sides of the meeting (‘his’ co-refers Trump and North Korea’s leader).

“Typically, so far **the meeting** with North Korea’s leader has been widely denounced as unproductive and naive.” [Trump]

(20) Wa a’adatan ma yatim a-tashheer ala netaq was’e
 And usually what does the- denounced on range wide
bi-egtema’a-h ma’a za’eem Korea a-shamalyah be-koneh
 in-meeting-3SG.M with leader Korea the-north F.marker-being
 ghayer munteg wa satheg
 Neg.marker productive and naive

"وعادة ما يتم التشهير على نطاق واسع باجتماعه مع زعيم كوريا الشمالية بكونه غير منتج وساذج."

4.2.1.6. Definite article NP→Proper Noun

This category occurs three times in the two articles *Spiraling violence* and *Self-determination*. In the following example, the translator transfers the NP_{def} ‘the country’ to be *Libya*.

“And both Misrata and Zintan need to recognize that neither town alone will thrive in a zero-sum contest that is making a shambles of the Tripoli airport and, increasingly, of **the country** itself.” [Spiraling violence]

(21) Wa ala Misrata wa a-Zintan an todre-ka be-ana
 And on Misrata and a-Zintan that recognize-dual in-that
 aian min-huma lan yazdahera wahdah
 which from-dual NEG thrive alone
 Fi munafasah la ghaleba fe-ha wa la maghlob taga’al
 In contest no winner in-it and no loser make
 Matar tarablus wa **Libya** nafsa-ha fi halah min al-fawdha
 Airport Tripoli and Libya self-its in situation from the-mess

"وعلى مصراتة والزنتان أن تدركا بأن أيًا منهما لن يزدهر وحده في منافسة لا غالب فيها ولا مغلوب تجعل مطار طرابلس، وليبيا نفسها، في حالة من الفوضى."

The translator, in this example, presents a more explicit reference by introducing the proper noun ‘Libya’ instead of maintaining the same NP presented in the original text. Although transferring the same NP does not violate the structure of the sentence, the translator prefers to

use the proper noun for two reasons. The translator aims to avoid repetition of the same reference twice in a row since he expresses the NP *a-ddawlah* ‘the country’ in the sentence before this example. Also, in my opinion, mentioning three cities (*Misrata, Zintan, and Tripoli*) in the sentence, might motivate the translator to use the proper noun ‘Libya’, instead of ‘the country’ to exhibit a stronger connection between the country and its cities.

4.2.1.7. Summary

As indicated earlier, this category (references presenting greater explicitness in the TL) consists of the majority of references that are transferred differently in Arabic (the TL). The most frequent pattern is transferring indefinite NPs to definite article NPs. A total of 319 instances (out of 341) support this pattern in all seven texts. The data shows that transferring references into more explicitness occurs more likely within NPs (e.g. indefinite NPs → definite article NPs, Definite article NP → Dem. NP, Indefinite NP → NP possessive.clitic, etc.) since they are presented 338 times (out of 341). Therefore, this tendency shows ‘scalar explicitation’ of Murtisari (2013) since the references spelled out are already explicit, therefore the explicitation, in this type, occurs in terms of explicitness degree (e.g. to be more or less explicit). On the other hand, only three instances are found in the pattern definite article NP → Proper Noun that exhibit the type of ‘categorical explicitation’ since they display the shift from one category to another.

4.2.2. References Presenting Less Explicitness in the TL

In this section, a total of 38 references are expressed, in the TL, in less explicit forms, as shown by Table 3.

	Gina Haspel	End of the end	A Deadly mix	Putin's blueprint	Self-determination	Trump	Spiraling violence	Total
NP _{def} → NP _{indef}	2	-	-	-	7	4	4	17
[PP P NP _{def}] → [PP P NP _{indef}]	1	-	2	-	5	-	2	10
[POSS NP] → NP _{def}	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3
[pp P[POSS NP]] → [PP P NP _{def}]	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	5
Proper Noun → NP _{def}	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
NP _{indef} → pronoun	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	3	-	3	2	14	5	11	38

Table 3: Referring Expressions Presenting Less Explicitness in the Target Text

The most frequent pattern in this category is transferring NP_{def} to be NP_{indef}. There are 27 tokens (out of 38) that exhibit this pattern (in five out of seven texts, excluding *End of the end* and *Putin's blueprint*). Among these 27 cases, there are 10 references preceded by prepositions in both the SL and TL. The second pattern in this category is translating [poss NP] to be NP_{def} in the TL. This pattern occurs 8 times (in *Putin's blueprint*, *Self-determination*, *Trump*, and *Spiraling violence*). Out of the 8 times, there are five tokens are that preceded by prepositions. The final pattern in this category which appears only in one case (in *Spiraling violence*) is the transferring of NP_{indef} to be a pronoun in the TL.

4.2.2.1. Definite article NP → Indefinite NP

This pattern is the most common within the category of *References presenting less explicitness in the TL*. It appears 27 times in five texts (*Gina Haspel*, *Spiraling violence*, *Self-determination*, *Trump*, and *A Deadly*). In example (22), the translator transfers the NP_{def} 'the latest hot button issue' to be *ahdathu qadheyatin saxenah* 'latest hot issue'.

“Syria is **the latest hot button issue** in Washington in which conservatives, most liberals and foreign policy professionals seem to unite in condemning Trump's decision to pull out America's small number of troops from the Syrian morass.” [Trump]

(22) Enna Soriya hia **ahdathu qadheyat-in** **saxenah** fi Washington
 Foc Syria she latest issue-GEN hot in Washington
 haythu yabdu anna al-muhafedh-en wa mua'dham a-liberal-yeen
 where seem that the-conservative-PL and most the-liberal-PL
 wa al-muhtarif-en fi a-seyasah al-xaregyah yatawahd-on
 and the-professional-PL in the-policy the-foreign unite-PL
 fi edanate qarar Trump be-sahab al-a'adad al-qalel
 in condemnation decision Trump in-pull.out the-number the-few
 min al-qow-at al-imrekiah min al-mustanga'a a-sori
 from the-troop-PL the-American from the-morass the-Syrian
 "إن سوريا هي أحدث قضية ساخنة في واشنطن حيث يبدو أن المحافظين ومعظم الليبراليين والمحترفين في السياسة
 الخارجية يتوحدون في إدانة قرار ترامب بسحب العدد القليل من القوات الأمريكية من المستقبل السوري."

In (22), the translator starts the phrase with the adjective followed by the noun 'issue' as in the SL. This structure restricts him to use the definite article NP because the grammar of Arabic does not allow attaching the definite article to the adjective in this order (Ehrensverd 2007). The only option for the translator to maintain the definiteness of this phrase is to start with the noun 'issue' followed by the adjectives to form a sentence like *Al-qadheyah al-ahdathu saxonah* '*the issue the latest hot'. Furthermore, a total of 5 examples (in three articles), involve superlatives. In all these examples, the translators transfer definite article NPs to be Indefinite NPs by using the same structure presented in the example above. In contrast, the data also exhibits many superlative constructions that show the opposite pattern. For instance, the translator of *End of the End* transfers the NP_{indef} 'an even worse outcome' to be *takon a-nategah al-aswa'a* (*takon*=to be, *a-nategah*= the-outcome, *al-aswa'a*= the-worst). Therefore, we may conclude that the translators' preference of adopting a certain superlative construction (e.g. definite or indefinite) depends primarily on the context since the data exhibits the transfer of both patterns (Definite article NP → Indefinite NP and Indefinite NP → Definite article NP)

In addition, in this pattern (Definite article NP → Indefinite NP), there are 10 references that are preceded by prepositions. Four instances (out of the 10), which are found in the article *Self-determination*, are attached by a preposition (*bi-* or *ka-*), as a prefix on nouns. Hence, the construction compelled the translator to use the NP_{indef} instead of NP_{def} mandatorily. For instance, 'the decisive factor' is translated to be *ka-a'amil hasim* 'as decisive factor'. To conclude, in all the instances in this category (excluding the four references which are preceded

by the prepositions *bi-* and *ka-*), translators could have used the definite article, but they did not. By choosing not to express the definiteness, the TL texts show less explicitness.

4.2.2.2. Possessive NP → Definite article NP

This pattern, which indicates less explicitness in the TL, occurs eight times (5 cases occurred within PPs). In the following example, the translator chooses to transfer the possessive pronoun NP ‘its chosen leader’ to be *a-za'em* ‘the leader’.

“In Chechnya the Kremlin installed **its chosen leader**, while in Syria it sees no alternative to the one who was there from the beginning.” [Putin’s blueprint]

(23) Fa-fi a-chechan, nassaba al-kremlin **a-za'em** althe ixtar-h
 and-in the-Chechnya installed the-Kremlin the-leader that chose-it
 baynama fi Syria la yora badelan a'n a-shaxs
 while in Syria no see alternative about the-person
 althe kan honak montho al-bedayah
 that was there since the-begining

"ففي الشيشان، نصّب الكرملين الزعيم الذي اختاره، بينما في سوريا لا يرى بديلاً عن الشخص الذي كان هناك منذ البداية."

In example (23), the translator avoids using the same form (possessive NP) as in the original text, because it will make the structure ambiguous. In Arabic, the ambiguity occurs since the possessive NP can co-refer to either ‘Chechnya’ or ‘Kremlin’. To fix the issue, the translator chooses the NP_{def} and follows it with a modifying clause to form the structure *nassaba al-kremlin a-za'em althe ixtar-h* ‘the Kremlin installed the leader that it chose’. By using the modifying clause to modify the definite article NP, the translator links clearly the co-reference and its antecedent. Therefore, we can conclude that the structure of the sentence constraints the translator to choose the form (definite article NP) which indicates less explicitness (of the reference) compared to the structure of the SL based on Aziz’s (1993) scale.

It is true that the use of a relative clause, in this example, displays explicitness (El-Nashar 2016) which may indicate a higher level of explicitness overall. However, as indicated earlier⁴, I only concentrate on references (not clauses) and build up his analysis based on Aziz’s (1993) scale which does not display relative clauses. Therefore, the addition of this example within this pattern is because the two references (in the SL and the TL) satisfy the pattern.

⁴ See page 15, 18 and 22.

4.2.2.3. Proper Noun → Definite article NP

This pattern contains only two tokens from two sources *Putin's blueprint* and *A Deadly mix*. The translator, in example (24), replaces the proper noun within a modifier 'Twinkie-style cakes' with the definite NP *al-ka'ak* 'the cake'.

"Yet as the militiamen snacked on Twinkie-style cakes with their American guests."

[A Deadly Mix]

(24) Wa ma'a thalek tanawala regal al-meleshia al-ka'ak ma'a
 And with this consumed men the-militia the-cake with
 dheyofe-him min al-amrekeian
 guests- their from the-Americans

"ومع ذلك، تناول رجال الميليشيا الكعك مع ضيوفهم من الاميركيين"

In example (24), the translator has two options: either exoticizing the NP or expressing the NP by using its hypernym. The translator chooses to exhibit the form of NP_{def} by using its hypernym *al-ka'ak* 'the cake' because there is no an equivalent word of 'Twinkie-style cakes' in Arabic and its culture. On the other hand, he avoids the first because his readers may not understand the exoticized word as well as they might find it confusing since it is not a common word in their community. Therefore, by adopting the definite article NP, the translator presents the less explicit form.

In the second case of this pattern, the translator transfers 'Putin' by using his title 'The Russian's president'. Therefore, he chooses to express the less explicit form 'the title', although he has no constraints. His way of presenting the proper noun by using its title is uncommon since this case is the only example out of all the seven texts. The following example illustrates that.

"**Putin** oversaw a scorched earth campaign in Chechnya, razing the capital city Grozny to the ground."

[Putin's blueprint]

(25) Ashrafa a-raesu a-rosi ala hamalatu al-ardh al-mahrogah
 Oversaw the-president the-russian on campaign the-earth the-scorched
 fi a-sheyshan, alati damarat al-a'asemah Grozny wa
 in the- Chechnya, that destroyed the-capital Grozny and

aswat-ha be-l-ardh
 flattened-it in-the-ground.

"أشرف الرئيس الروسي على حملة الأرض المحروقة في الشيشان، التي دمرت العاصمة غروزني وأسوتها بالأرض"

4.2.2.4. Indefinite NP→pronoun

This category shows only one example which supports this pattern. In (26), the translator transfers the explicit nominal expression ‘town’ implicitly *min-huma* ‘from-dual (both)’.

“And both Misrata and Zintan need to recognize that neither **town** alone will thrive”

[Spiraling Violence]

(26) Wa	ala	Misrata	wa	a-Zintan	‘an	tudreka	be’an
And	on	Misrata	and	the-Zintan	that	recognize	that
ayan	min-huma	lan		yazdaher	wahdah		
any	from.DU	NEG		thrive	alone		

"وعلى مصراة والزنتان أن تدركا بأن أيّاً منهما لن يزدهر وحده"

The translator chooses not to maintain the explicit reference, although he could. His preference might be because the pronoun co-refers ‘Misrata and Zintan’ which is located only four words before (a very short distance). Therefore, he must have thought that the use of an implicit form would not cause difficulties for his readers.

4.2.2.5. Summary

As indicated above, a total of 38 are found that belong to this category. The frequent pattern is transferring definite article NPs to be Indefinite NPs (27 out of 38). Most of the cases, in this category, exhibit ‘scalar explicitation’ of Murtisari (2013) since 35 references (out of 38) are transferred within the same category (NP’s, e.g. NP_{def} → NP+Poss.clitic, NP_{indef} → NP_{def}, etc.). The remaining 3 cases, which are classified under the two patterns: Proper Noun → Definite NP and Indefinite NP → pronoun, show the type of ‘categorical explicitation’ because the transfer occurs from one category to another.

4.3. Analysis of Implicit References Transferred Explicitly in the TL

References classified in this category are considered the fewest compared to the previous two categories. In all the data, a total of only 18 cases fall under this category, as indicated in the following table.

	Gina Haspel	End of the end	A Deadly mix	Putin's blueprint	Self-determination	Trump	Spiraling violence	The total
Pronoun→NP _{def}	2	1	3	1	1	1	2	11
Pronominal→NP _{def}	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Pronoun→NP+poss.clitic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pronoun→[Dem NP]	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
Comparative→NP _{def}	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
The Total	4	1	3	1	2	2	5	18

Table 4: Implicit References in the SL Transferred Explicitly in the TL

As demonstrated by table 4, the common pattern (in this category) which is found in all the texts is transferring pronouns to definite article NPs. This pattern occurs 11 times. In the data, another pattern is found which is transferring pronominals to be Def. article NPs. There are two cases that support this pattern (in *Self-determination*, and *Spiraling violence*). In addition, the translator of *Gina Haspel* transfers a pronoun to be NP+Poss.clitic. This pattern is uncommon since it occurs only once. Furthermore, the data exhibits another pattern which appears three times in *Gina Haspel*, *Trump*, and *Spiraling violence*. This pattern is transferring pronouns to be [Dem. NPs]. The last pattern found in this category is transferring the implicit comparative reference to NP_{def}. This pattern appears only once in *Spiraling violence*.

4.3.1. Pronoun→Definite article NP

This category shows a total of eleven cases in all the seven texts. Example (27) shows the translator's preference to transfer the pronoun 'it' to be the NP_{def} *al-hogom* 'the attack' in the TL.

“The attack was led, instead, by fighters who had benefited directly from NATO’s extensive air power and logistics support during the uprising against Colonel Qaddafi. And contrary to claims by some members of Congress, **it** was fueled in large part by anger at an American-made video denigrating Islam.” [A Deadly mix]

(27) Badalan min thalek, fagad gada al-hugom mogatil-on estafad-o
 Instead from that, FOC led the-attack fighter-PL benefited-PL
 mobasharah min al-qodrah al-gaoiah al-mokathfah le-helf a-NATO
 direct from the-ability the-air the-extensive for-alliance the-NATO
 wa a-da’am al-logesti xelal al-entefadhah dhed al-qathafi
 and the-support the-logistic during the-uprising against Al-Qaddafi
 wa ala a-dhed min edea’at ba’adh a’adha al-kongress
 and on the-contrary from claims some members the-congress
 fagad estamada **al-hogom** woqod-eh fi al-goz’e al-akber
 FOC derived the-attack fuel-its in the-part the-largest
 Min al-ghadab hawla al-vedio al-mose’ le-Islam
 From the-anger about the-video the-denigrating to-Islam
 Al-montag fi Amerika
 The-produced in America

"بدلاً من ذلك، فقد قاد الهجوم مقاتلون استفادوا مباشرة من القدرة الجوية المكثفة لحلف الناتو والدعم اللوجستي خلال الانتفاضة ضد القذافي. وعلى الضد من ادعاءات بعض اعضاء الكونغرس، فقد استمد الهجوم وقوده في الجزء الاكبر من الغضب حول الفيديو المسيء للإسلام المنتج في اميركا."

In (27), the translator chooses to express the explicit nominal expression *al-hogom* ‘the attack’ instead of maintaining the implicit nominal ‘it’. He prefers to retrieve the explicit reference because the last explicit antecedent is separated by other nominal expressions (e.g. fighters). In addition, expressing the NP explicitly helps to make the readers to read smoothly and quickly. Although the NP could be expressed by a different form of NP (e.g. Dem NP), the choice of the definite article is triggered because it is the same form of its antecedent. In this pattern, the data exhibit various forms of pronouns which transferred to be definite article NPs. The list of pronouns contains personal pronouns, demonstratives, relatives, and indefinite. The personal pronouns which transferred to definite article NP come first with 5 examples. Then, both indefinite and demonstratives pronouns come next with two cases for each. Only one case is found which exhibits the transfer of a relative pronoun to be a definite article NP.

4.3.2. Pronominal → Definite article NP

This category contains two cases extracted from two articles (*Spiraling violence*, and *Self-determination*). In the following example, the translator transfers the nominal expression ‘the one’ to be definite article NP *al-munagashah* ‘the discussion’.

“and yet, the discussion has been even more oversimplified and misleading than **the one** about Catalonia.” [Self-determination]

(28) Wa ma’a thalik, fagad tamma tabseet **al-munagashah** akthar
And with that, FOC finished simplified the- discussion more
min a-nigash a’an Catalonia.
from the-discussion on Catalonia.

"ومع ذلك، فقد تم تبسيط المناقشة أكثر من اللازم وتضليلها أكثر من النقاش عن كتالونيا."

The translator of this example as well as the other example (in this pattern) are compelled to express the implicit nominal expression ‘the one’ explicitly because Arabic does not have an equivalent word for the pronominal ‘the one’. As a result, the concept of Gile (1995), which is ‘Linguistically Induced Information’, is triggered in this example because transferring ‘the one’ explicitly in the TL is induced linguistically by the rules of Arabic. Thus, the translator has no choice unless he presents the pronominal in explicit form.

Also, in (28), the translator tries to avoid repeating the same explicit reference within a short sentence by expressing *a-nigash* ‘the discussion’ which carries the exact meaning as *al-munagashah* ‘the discussion’ since they both are derived from the root *naqash*. Finally, this structure indicates more explicitness in the TL since it shows definite article NP.

4.3.3. Pronoun → NP+possessive.clitic

There is only one example in the data which satisfies this category. In the following example, the translator transfers the possessive pronoun ‘mine’ explicitly to be *monadhamat-i* ‘my organization’.

“Torture is illegal under US and international law in all circumstances, and human rights organizations like **mine** have been strongly pushing for those who ordered or committed torture after 9/11”.

[Gina Haspel]

(29) a-ta’atheebe ghair qanoni be-mogab al-qanon al-emreki wa
the-torture NEG legal in-accordance the-law the-American and
al-qanon a-dowali fi gameea’ a-dhorof, kama a’ana
the-law the-international in all the-circumstances, as that
monadham-at hoqq al-insan methel **monadhamat-i** hia
organization-PL rights the-human like organization-1SG she
alati tadfa’a be-gowah ela olaieka althena amar-o aw
that push in-strong to those who ordered-PL or
ertakab-o a’amal ta’theb ba’ad 11 September
committed-PL works torture after 11 September

"التعذيب غير قانوني بموجب القانون الأمريكي والقانون الدولي في جميع الظروف، كما أن منظمات حقوق الإنسان مثل منظمتي هي التي تدفع بقوة إلى أولئك الذين أمروا أو ارتكبوا أعمال تعذيب بعد ١١ سبتمبر"

The translator in example (29) was restricted grammatically to transferring the implicit nominal ‘mine’ explicitly *monadhamat-i* ‘my organization’. Unlike English, Arabic has only one form of possessive pronouns that is dependent possessive pronouns. Therefore, the translator has only the choice of reviving the reference explicitly in order to apply the possessive marker. By doing that, the translator evokes the concept “Linguistically Induced Information” of Gile (1995) since *monadhamat-i* ‘my organization’ was induced mandatorily based on the rules of Arabic (the TL). Finally, the translation shows more explicitness despite the fact that the translator was obliged to exhibit the poss.pro. NP.

4.3.4. Pronoun → Dem NP

This pattern contains a total of three examples from three texts *Trump*, *Spiraling violence*, and *Gina Haspel*. In example (30), the translator transfers the pronoun ‘they’ explicitly to be *hatheh al-moshkilat* ‘these problems’.

“Such focus on his personal failings fosters the illusion that Trump himself is basically the problem and that his departure will thus lead to fixing these problems. (It will not. Their roots

lie far deeper. In foreign policy **they** trace back at least to the collapse of the Soviet Union).”

[Trump]

(30) Hatha a-tarkez ala ixfaq-at-h a-shaxseyah yoa'zez al-waham
This the-focus on failing-PL-his the-personal foster the-illusion
be-anna Trump nafsuh howa fi al-asas al-mushkilah wa anna
in-that Trump himself he in the-basis the-problem and that
raheel-h sa-yoa'di be-tali ela islah hatheh al-mashakil.
departure-his will-lead in-thus to fix this the-problems.
la lan yoa'adi ela thalik. Enna gothore-ha a'amag
No NEG.marker lead to that. FOC roots.its deeper
be-kather min thalik. fi a-seyasah al-xaregyah, ta'aod **hatheh**
in-more from that. in the-policy the-foreign return this
al-moshkilat ala al-agal ela inhyar al-etehad a-Sofyti.
the-problems on the-least to collapse the-union the-Soviet.

"هذا التركيز على إخفاقاته الشخصية يعزز الوهم بأن ترامب نفسه هو في الأساس المشكلة وأن رحيله سيؤدي بالتالي إلى إصلاح هذه المشاكل. لا لن يؤدي إلى ذلك. إن جذورها أعمق بكثير من ذلك. في السياسة الخارجية، تعود آثار هذه المشكلات على الأقل إلى انهيار الاتحاد السوفياتي"

The translator, in (30), chooses to revive the reference explicitly because he inserts two demonstratives pronouns between the dem. NP *hatheh al-moshkilat* ‘these problems’ and its last explicit antecedent (*la lan yoa'adi ela thalik. Enna gothore-ha a'amag be-kather min thalik* ‘no, it will not lead to that. Their roots lie far deeper than that). On the one hand, the addition of the two demonstratives pronouns made the text more explicit thus more cohesive, as Blum-Kulka (1986) indicated. On the other hand, the separation that the two demonstrative pronouns made encourages the translator to use the explicit form *hatheh al-moshkilat* ‘these problems’ because he wants his reader not to lose track of the idea. In addition, the structure of the sentence allows only two types of references, either NP (which the translator chooses) or possessive pronoun. The translator avoids choosing the second option because it could co-refer with another reference, which is ‘foreign policy’. Hence it may cause ambiguity.

4.3.5. Comparative reference → Definite article NP

The data show only one example that belongs to this category. In (31), the translator transfers the comparative nominal expression ‘the others’ explicitly *al-fasa’el al-oxra* ‘the other factions’.

“There is not one faction strong enough to coerce or compel **the others**.”

(Spiraling violence)

(31) Wa laysa honaka faseel wahid gawi be-ma yakfi
And NEG there faction one strong in-what enough
le-ekrah **al-fasa’el** **al-oxra** aw egbare-ha.
to-coerce the-factions the-other or compel-it

"وليس هناك فصيل واحد قوي بما يكفي لإكراه الفصائل الأخرى أو إجبارها."

The translator, in this example, does not express the comparative reference implicitly as in SL because the nominal expression ‘the others’ might be widened to include factions and non-factions. To avoid the slightest chance of confusing the readers, the translator chooses to express the comparative reference explicitly because it is the most appropriate option in this context.

4.3.6. Summary

A total of 18 (out of 397) references are found in this category which make them the fewest compared to the other two categories that are mentioned above. In all the instances, the references’ transfer is presented from one category (pronoun) to another (NPs). Thus, all the references in this category show ‘categorical explicitation’ of Murtisari (2013).

Chapter 5. Conclusion

In this paper, the data shows that all the translators tend to adopt ‘scalar’ type of explicitation, not ‘categorical’ (Murtisari 2013). A total of 378 references are found that confirm this preference. In the scalar type, out of the 378 references, there are 341 explicit references transferred to a more explicit form (e.g. NP_{indef} to NP_{def}, etc.), while the remained 37 explicit references are transferred to a less explicit form in the TL (for example, NP_{def} to NP_{indef}, etc.). On the other hand, in the data, there are few transferred references which are considered categorical, that is, they are transferred from a category to another (e.g. transferring an implicit reference, as a pronoun, to an explicit reference, as a definite article NP). Under this type, only 19 references are found in all the seven texts.

Additionally, analyzing references, which transferred differently, confirms the translators’ tendency to exhibit more explicit references in the TL. These findings concur with many studies (e.g. Al-Khafaji’s 2007, Aziz 1993, Ehrensverd 2007) that show the preference of expressing a more explicit text in the TL as compared to the original SL. To clarify, the following table displays this tendency.

References transferred to more explicit forms in the TL	References transferred to less explicit forms in the TL
359 (90.5%)	38 (9.5%)
397	

Table 5: The Overall Percentage of References Transferred to More & Less Explicit Forms in the TL

As shown by Table 5, a total of 397 references are found in the data that are transferred differently in terms of the degree of their explicitness. 359 (90.5%) instances are transferred into more explicit forms, while only 38 (9.5%) references are presented in the TL in less explicit forms. As indicated earlier, this result agrees with Aziz’s (1993) findings in terms of the tendency toward explicitation in the TL. However, it shows a wide gap between the occurrences of the two categories mentioned in Table 5, whereas Aziz’s (1993) study does not. In Aziz’s (1993) work, his findings are built based on three classes: Proper Nouns, Noun Phrases and Possessive Phrases. He does not provide a detailed result for pronouns because “they represent the lower end of the scale and are therefore subsumed within the aforesaid three

classes” (Aziz 1993: 147). From the data, he lists patterns under each class that support the class and their instances from both languages. The result shows that the patterns within both classes Proper Nouns and Possessive Phrases exhibit more explicitness in the TL, which is English. On the other hand, most of the patterns within the class of Noun Phrases reveal more explicitness in the SL (Arabic). For example, the author found 151 definite article NPs that are transferred into less explicit forms (e.g. pronouns) in the TL (English), compared to only 31 instances that show the reversed pattern, which indicates transferring toward more explicitness in the TL. Finally, he presents the total instances of references in all the three classes. A total of 991 (54.5%) instances are transferred to more explicit forms in the TL (English), while 829 (45.5%) tokens are presented in less explicit forms.

Aziz’s (1993) overall findings show a slight preference toward explicitation in the TL, unlike the findings of this paper which display a huge preference to present more explicit references in the TL (Arabic), in all the three main classes that are proposed by Aziz’s (1993). In my opinion, since political texts (the data of this paper) are complicated and sensitive texts, the translators’ attempts to make their translated texts as clear as possible for their readership, prompt them to choose more explicit references, in contrast to Aziz (1993) who extracted his data from a novel. In addition, the frequent use of the definite article in Arabic has also an influence on the preference for explicitation. In this paper, a total of 319 (out of 397) references are transferred from indefinite NPs in the SL to definite article NPs in the TL. This tendency is also found in Aziz’s (1993) study where Arabic is the SL.

To conclude, there are also several reasons that prompt the translators to express more explicit references in the TL. First, the translator wants to make his translation understandable in order to avoid confusion which might be encountered by his readers, as in examples (20) and (31). Second, the translator’s preference of transferring an implicit reference into an explicit one is because s/he wants to revive the reference especially if its co-reference is mentioned earlier in the text (as in examples 30 & 27). Also, in order to make the context understandable and coherent in the TL, a translator sometimes decides to go with this option (e.g. examples 23 and 30). In addition, the translator sometimes is grammatically restricted (as indicated by Gile 1995) to exhibit the reference overtly as in (28) and (29). Furthermore, due to the culture restrictions, the translator in (24) is compelled to provide a hypernym word because there is no equivalent word in Arabic for ‘twinkie-style cake’. Also, transferring a different sentence order (changing the structure of the sentence) to the TL might prompt the translator to provide a certain pattern that is not similar to the one presented in the original text.

For instance, the SL clause “making a shambles of the Tripoli airport and, increasingly, of **the country** itself” in example (21), is translated into Arabic literally as “making the Tripoli airport and **Libya** itself in a shambles situation”. Another possible explanation for exhibiting the proper noun ‘Libya’ in the TL (in 21), could be that the translator wants to show more cohesion and a stronger connection by providing only proper nouns in the list (the Tripoli airport and Libya).

An observation that should be further addressed in future research is regarding the kind of procedures used by translators to translate referring expressions. By adopting Newmark’s (1988) translation procedures, for instance, one can explore various procedures that are used by translators to translate the referring expressions. Newmark’s (1988) translation procedures would introduce many procedures and techniques used for translating references, such as literal translation, naturalization, modulation, paraphrasing, transference, using synonyms, adaptation, reduction and expansion, transpositions, equivalents and many more. Although some of these procedures (for instance equivalents, synonyms, and literal translation) were discussed in this paper, many other procedures were not presented in this paper (e.g. modulation, paraphrases). Therefore, applying Newmark’s (1988) translation procedures would give us an indication of the translator’s tendencies and the reasons behind their preferences and choices.

Another issue that could be investigated in the future is testing other special target texts (in Arabic) instead of political texts. Such special texts as economic, social or religious texts might confirm or contrast with the findings and conclusions of this paper.

Additionally, analyzing translation data that are in the opposite direction to the data for this paper, where the source language is Arabic and the target language is English, could lead to some interesting conclusions. The findings would either support the explicitation hypothesis of Blum-Kulka (1988) or they would stand with Dósa’s (2009) findings, who conducts a study (which is opposed to Heltai’s⁵ 2003 work) where the source text was Hungarian and the target text was English. Dósa’s (2009) findings indicate that the source text (Hungarian) is more explicit than the target text (English).

⁵ Cited in Dósa’s (2009) paper.

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Appendix:

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Translation: <http://trans-pol.blogspot.com/>

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Translation: <http://www.almayadeen.net/press/foreignpress/929394/%D9%87%D9%84-%D8%A8%D8%AF%D8%A3-%D8%AA%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%85%D8%A8-%D9%81%D9%8A-%D8%A5%D9%86%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%A1->

[%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%87%D9%8A%D9%85%D9%86%D8%A9%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A3%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%B1%D9%83%D9%8A%D8%A9/](#)

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Translation:<https://carnegiemec.org/2014/07/28/%D9%85%D8%A7%D8%B0%D8%A7%D9%88%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%A1%D8%AA%D8%B5%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%AF%D8%A3%D8%B9%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D9%86%D9%81%D9%8A%D9%84%D9%8A%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A7/hju6>