

## **A Study of Strategies Used in Translating Idiomatic Expressions In Serial Subtitles from English to Farsi**

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### **Abstract**

Idiomatic expressions are considered as a part of everyday language. In other words, they are the essence of each language and one of the most problematic parts to cope with, especially in the process of inter-lingual translation. Furthermore, there is sometimes no one-to-one equivalent for the idioms of the source language (SL) in the target language (TL). This study aimed at investigating the applied strategies in the translation of idiomatic expressions in two American subtitled serials, namely *Friends* and *The king of queens*, two American sitcoms, through using Baker's (1992) proposed procedures in translating idiomatic expressions in translation studies. To this aim, the idiomatic expressions were extracted from the original versions of the movies and compared with the subtitled translations in Farsi. The first subcategory of audiovisual translation (or screen translation) is subtitling, which is a complex form of translation in which the oral communication (i.e., the SL) of a TV show or film is translated into the written language of the audiences (i.e., the TL).

### **1. Introduction**

Susan Bassnet (2002, p. 12) proposed a definition of translation as follows:

“What is generally understood as translation involves the rendering of a source language (SL) text into the target language (TL)” so as to ensure that (1) the surface meaning of the two will be approximately similar and (2) the structures of the SL will be preserved as closely as possible but not so closely that the TL structures will be seriously distorted.

Jeremy Munday (2008, p. 5) noted that the process of translation between two different written languages involves the translator changing an original written text (the source text or ST) in the original verbal language (the source language or SL) into a written text (the target text or TT) in a different verbal language (the target language or TL).

An idiom (also called idiomatic expression) is an expression, word, or phrase that has a figurative meaning conventionally understood by native speakers. This meaning is different from the literal meaning of the idiom's individual elements. In other words,

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idioms don't mean exactly what the words say. Idioms usually do not translate well in some cases, when an idiom is translated directly word-for-word into another language, either its meaning is changed or it is meaningless. When two or three words are often used together in a particular sequence, the words are said to be irreversible binomials, or Siamese twins. An idiom is a phrase or expression whose meaning can't be understood from the ordinary meanings of the words in it. For example, "Get off my back!" is an idiom, meaning "Stop bothering me!" The idiom "You hit the nail on the head" means "You're exactly right."

Another complex problem may arise from a sentence where ambiguity of meaning may occur. In other words, we may encounter a sentence where we are familiar with all the words in it again; however our interpretation, which may seem perfectly reasonable, does not correspond with the sentences that surround it, for instance when we consider the sentence, I'm just gonna hang out here tonight. The phrase hang out occurs with a different meaning, it does not mean go out, it means stay there!

When learning a foreign language, everyone has confronted a situation where one has been able to understand meanings of all the words in a sentence, though one has not been able to identify the meaning of the whole sentence, as something has obstructed the process of interpretation of meaning. Consequently, it represents a rather demotivating aspect of language learning when one can understand all the expressions in a sentence, though he cannot comprehend its overall meaning, this inability to identify correct meaning of a particular sentence often results from an occurrence of idiomatic expression(s) or phrase(s) within the sentence.

Language, as an effective means of communication, has made a link between nations to solve human problems generally or particularly. To make this discourse, language plays a significant role. Besides, one of the major links between diverse nations is translation. As Newmark (1988) puts it, "translation is a craft consisting in the attempt to replace a written message and/or statement in one language by the same message and/or statement in another language" (p. 190). Translation, as to Pym's (2010) words, can be seen as a "general activity of communication between cultural groups" (p. 143). Considering the concept of translation, one can recognize that the fundamental purpose of translation is to reproduce various kinds of texts in another language, and consequently, converting the text into another understandable text to a wider range of readers.

Gottlieb (1992) explains that the subtitling is faced with formal (i.e., quantitative) and textual (i.e., qualitative) constraints. Textual constraints are those imposed on the subtitles by the visual context of the film, whereas formal constraints are the space factors (a maximum of two lines are allowed, with some 35 characters each) and time factor.

The length of a subtitle depends on the quality and complexity of the text, the speed of dialogues, and the average viewer's reading speed, and therefore the necessary intervals between subtitles.

Delabastita (1989) also mentions that subtitles are constrained as forms of translation because the aural text must be rendered as segments of, sometimes, not more than two lines. Additionally, because of the fact that people read more slowly than they speak, most subtitles represent summaries rather than verbatim accounts of what are said on screen. So, omissions are virtually inevitable. Delabastita states that "the constraints of space and time lead into the problem of selection as the translator has to analyze the ST material carefully to decide what ought to be transferred to the TT and what can or must be left out" (p. 200).

By way of definition, subtitling may be described as a translation practice that consists of rendering in writing, usually at the bottom of the screen, the translation into a target language of the original dialogue exchanges uttered by different speakers, as well as all other verbal information that appears written on screen (letters, banners, inserts) or is transmitted aurally in the soundtrack (song lyrics, voices off). As opposed to dubbing, which completely erases the original dialogue, subtitling preserves the original text, both aurally and visually, while adding an extra layer of information (Jorge Díaz Cintas, 2017).

A particularly interesting and rich area for research is the subtitling of culture-bound terms (Santamaria, 2001; Ramière, 2007). Known also as extra-linguistic cultural references (Pedersen, 2007-2011), these lexical items refer to people, gastronomy, customs, places and organizations that are embedded in the other's cultural capital and may be completely unknown to the target viewer. To deal with them, the strategies on offer range from very literal renditions to complete recreations, though the former seem to be the most common in subtitling – particularly when working from English – so as to avoid any clashes between soundtrack/images and written text. Leaving aside the translational wisdom of such an approach, it certainly raises questions about the power of subtitling in the dissemination and entrenchment of certain concepts and realities in other cultural communities. Commercial forces and colonizing practices cannot be excluded from this debate, and what is alien to the receiving culture at a particular moment in time can easily become commonplace after its reiterative presence through translation (Jorge Díaz Cintas, 2017).

Pre-recorded programs tend to make use of pop-on or pop-up subtitles, which can appear anywhere on the screen as a block and remain visible for a certain time before they disappear to give way to a new subtitle. Live events, on the other hand, resort to roll-up or scroll subtitling, a method in which the words appear from left to right and

when the line is filled it scrolls up to make way for a new line, and the top line is erased to give way to a new bottom line. This continuous rolling up tends to allow for greater speed in presenting the information but has the drawback of making reading more difficult. From a technical standpoint, subtitles are open when they are an integral part of the audiovisual program, usually burned onto the images, and cannot be turned off, as in the cinema. The opposite is closed subtitles, which are not an integral part of the program and can be added to the program at the viewer's will, as on most DVDs. The process of merging the subtitles with the images has evolved considerably over the years (Ivarsson & Carroll, 1998, pp. 12–19) and today's main methods are laser and electronic. The former consists in burning the subtitles onto the celluloid, whereas the latter projects the subtitles onto the screen without damaging the original copy and is widely used at film festivals.

The wide spread of audiovisual media is possible thanks to its capacity for swift exchange, its appealing nature and its potential to reach large audiences anywhere in the world, traditionally mainly through the television and cinema, but nowadays increasingly through the Internet and mobile devices. This basic need to communicate involves, obviously, the production, distribution and consumption of information among people who may speak different languages in the same or in different parts of the world. To overcome linguistic barriers, translation and interpreting are imperative and have been practiced for centuries as a means of fostering communication and dialogue across different linguistic and cultural communities (Jorge Díaz Cintas, 2017).

## **2. Statement of the Problem**

All languages have phrases and sentences that cannot be understood literally. Knowing a language includes knowing the morphemes, simple words, compound words, and their meanings. Even if we know the meaning of all the words in a phrase and understand the grammar completely, the total meaning of the phrase may still be confusing. Not all individuals may have a true understanding of the meaning of an idiom “since the true meaning of an idiom generally cannot be determined by knowledge of its constituent parts” (Collis, 1994, p. v). Translating idioms is a crucial issue in literary translation; sometimes it either leads to the increase of cultural gaps or it doesn't let these gaps to be filled. Many idioms offer this kind of problem and all languages contain many such expressions. A phrase and sentence of this type is said to be idiomatic. English has many thousands of such idiomatic expressions, which are suitable for expressing speaker's intentions in different situations. Idiomatic expressions play role in the construction of

interpersonal meanings, in the formation of coherent text, and in the creation of stylistic effects. cause some problems for translators or learners of that language. In Baker's (1992) view, "the main problems that fixed and idiomatic expressions pose in translation relate to two main areas which are the ability to identify and interpret an idiom correctly and the difficulties in rendering different aspects of meaning that an idiom or a fixed expression represents into the target language" (p. 65). Also, as Straksiene (2009) mentioned, lack of equivalence on the idiom level is one of the problems a translator faces in translating idioms. According to Ahdillah et al. (2020, p. 481) "Idiom is a group of words, established by usage, as having a meaning not understandable from those of the individual words". In other words, idiom refers to any expression composed of two or more words the meaning of which cannot be understood from the meaning of individual words (Baker, 1992). Understanding the meaning of an idiom is not an easy task because it is not grammatically well-formed and does not have a clear literal meaning. Another thing, which makes understanding the meaning of an idiom a difficult thing for non-native speakers and learners is that idioms, cannot be translated word for word; but they should be expressed in target equivalent concepts so that the same meaning is conveyed and the same effect is produced on the readers (Dewi, 2016). The complexities of idioms make the translation of idioms from the source language into a target language so complicated and problematic at the same time (Shanti Manipuspika & Winzami, 2021). Awwad (1990) recognized two main difficulties in translating idioms. The first is a misinterpretation of the purpose of the author or speaker and the second is the identification of cultural differences between languages concerning traditional idioms and innovative idioms.

### **3. Research Questions of the Study**

The research questions of this study are as follow:

RQ1: What are the strategies used in translating idiomatic expressions in serial subtitles from English to Persian in FRIENDS serial?

RQ2: What are the strategies used in translating idiomatic expressions in serial subtitles from English in Persian in THE KING OF QUEENS serial?

### **4. Review of the Literature**

Idiomatic Expressions in Translation; There is no language without its own collection of idiomatic expressions. They are expressions with a figurative meaning different from its literal meaning. Idiomatic expressions play a very important role in the establishment of rapport. They are two or more words syntactically related, with a meaning like a single syntactic unit whose meaning is not predictable from its component words. It is said that without a sound knowledge of idioms one's language will remain foreign. Idiomatic expression is a universal feature of language though different languages may use literally different idiomatic expressions serving the same function. Owing to these complexities, rendering the idiomatic expressions from a source into a target language has always been problematic.

An idiom is a phrase or a fixed expression that has a figurative, or sometimes literal, meaning. An "idiom's figurative meaning is different from the literal meaning" (McArthur, 2008, p.495). They occur frequently in all languages. Idioms fall into the category of formulaic language. Trask (2007) asserts that an "idiom is "an expression whose meaning cannot be worked out from the meanings of its component words". It is "a sequence of words which semantically and often syntactically restricted, so that it functions as a single unit"(Crystal, 1992). For Matthews (2007), an idiom is "a set of expression in which two or more words are syntactically related, but with a meaning like that of a single lexical unit". In other word idiom is "an expression which functions as a single unit and whose meaning cannot be worked out from its separate parts" (Richards and Schmidt, 2002, p. 246).

Linguistically speaking, "idioms are usually presumed to be figures of speech contradicting the principle of compositionality"(Jurafsky and Martin, 2008, p. 597). According to the "principle of compositionality, the meaning of sentence is compositional, either hypothetically or by definition, if considered in abstraction from particular occasion on which they are uttered"(Matthews, 2007, p.70). The principle states that the meaning of a whole should be constructed from the meanings of the parts that make up the whole. In other words, one should be in a position to understand the whole if one understands the meanings of each of the parts that make up the whole. In phraseology, "idioms are defined as a sub-type of phrase, the meaning of which is not the regular sum of the meanings of its component parts"(Leaney, C. 2005, p. 121). This collocation of words redefines each component word in the word-group and becomes an idiomatic expression. Idioms usually do not translate well; sometimes, when an idiom is translated directly word-for-word into another language, either its meaning is changed or it is meaningless. A literal translation of opaque idioms will most likely not convey the same meaning in other languages. The idiomatic expression to kick the bucket would best illustrate this.

Idioms are popular expressions that explain something by using examples and figures of speech. They still belong exclusively to human communication, but their beauty is also their limit. They are expressions of each culture, sometimes specific to a tiny geographical area or a specific city. They are culturally-bound, that is why it is so hard to export them to another context, because the translator needs to find other cultural references. Baker (1992, p. 68) Idioms and fixed expressions which contain culture-specific items are not necessarily translatable. It is not the specific items of expression contain but rather the meaning it conveys and its association with culture-specific context which can make it untranslatable or difficult to translate. Baker (1992, p. 65) also implies the major problems of dealing with idiom are the ability to recognize and interpret and idiom correctly. The translation of idiomatic expressions needs particular efforts and for that reason idiom requires certain method of translation. One problem with sentences that contain idioms is that they are typically ambiguous.

In the sense that either literal or idiomatic translation is possible, to deal with such problem, Newmark has some method of translation including a method called idiomatic translation. Once an idiom is recognized and interpreted correctly, there will be other difficulty. That is the process of finding the equivalent expression in the target language. Here, the writer tries to emphasize the obstacles in translating idiom based on Baker's summary (1992, pp. 68-71) as follows.

An idiom or fixed expression may have no equivalent form in the target language. The way a language chooses to express, or not express, various meanings cannot be predicted and only occasionally matches the way another language chooses to express the same meanings. One language may express a given meaning by means of a single word, another may express it by means of a transparent fixed expression, and a third may express it by means of an idiom, and so on. It is therefore unrealistic to expect to find equivalent idioms and expressions in the target languages as matter of course. Like single words, idioms and fixed expressions may be culture-specific. Formulae such as Merry Christmas which relate to specific social or religious occasions provide good examples. Idioms and fixed expressions which contain culture-specific items are not necessarily untranslatable. It is not the specific items an expression contains but rather the meaning it conveys and its association with culture-specific contexts which can make it untranslatable or difficult to translate. For example, the English expression he doesn't care a fig. An idiom or fixed expression may have a similar counterpart in the target language, but its context of use may be different; the two expressions may have different connotations, for instance, or they may not be pragmatically transferable. To sing a different tune is an English idiom which means to say or do something that signals a change in opinion because it contradicts what one has said or done before. An idiom may

be used in the source text in both its literal and idiomatic senses at the same time. Unless the target-language idiom corresponds to the source-language idiom both in form and in meaning, the play on idiom cannot be successfully reproduced in the target text. E.g. he was deaf to his father's advice or I ran short of money last week. The very convention of using idioms in written discourse, the contexts in which they can be used, and their frequency of use may be different in the source and target languages. English uses idioms in many types of text, though not in all.

An idiom is a word or, more commonly, a phrase in which the figurative meaning is different than the literal meaning of the grouping of words. There are approximately 25,000 idioms in the English language alone. For example, there is a common saying in English. You've probably heard it. If I were to say, "Fred kicked the bucket," what would you think? Now, you could take this literally, in that Fred actually walked up to and kicked a bucket in his path. However, those familiar with the English language would not take this sentence literally, knowing that this is a common saying or idiom that conveys a different meaning implying that a person has died. This idiom has a rather dark origin. It came from a reference to someone hanging himself by standing on a bucket and then kicking it away, thus "kicking the bucket." It is interesting to note that while there are different idioms for each individual language, many languages have equivalent idioms found in their respective languages.

Researchers of idiomatic expressions in English in the past, for example, Makkai (1972), Weinreich (1969), Fraser (1970), have largely focused on the typology, semantics, and syntactic behavior of such expressions, to the neglect of their functions in discourse, with a few exceptions, notably Strässler (1982), Fernando (1996), and Moon (1998), who analyze English idioms from pragmatic, functional and corpus-linguistic approaches respectively. As Carter (1998, p. 80) argues, lexical items require to be constantly interpreted and re-interpreted in discourse, and the values of lexis become significant once we move beyond constructed examples and take real texts into consideration, Following a functional tradition.

Translation has been defined in many ways by different writers in the field, depending on how they view language and translation. In line with Wills in Cholimudin (2007, p. 3), translation is a procedure which leads from a written source language text to an optimally equivalent target language text and requires the syntactic, semantic, stylistic and text pragmatic comprehension by the translator of the original text.

Besides, Nida and Taber (1982, p. 12) give the statement that translating consists in the reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, firstly in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style. Both definitions above imply that translation involves two languages: the source language (SL)



and the target or receptor language (TL or RL), and that an act of translating is an act of reproducing the meaning of the SL text into that of the TL text. One of the most important aspects of language is idioms. They are frequently used in a wide variety of situations, from friendly conversations to more formal conversations and written contexts.

Hornby (1995: 589) mentions that an idiom is a phrase or sentence whose meaning is not clear from the meaning of its individual words and which must be learnt as a whole unit, for instance, the idiom *spill the beans* means to reveal secret information, especially without intending to do so. Carter (1993, p. 65) defines idioms as special combinations with restricted forms and meanings that cannot be deduced from the literal meanings of the words which make them up.

Accordingly, an idiom is learned and used as a single unit. It should not be analyzed into its constituents; it is unchangeable and always carries figurative meaning. In accordance with Oxford Advanced Learner Dictionary, movie is a series of moving pictures recorded with sound that tells a story, shown at the cinema / movie theatre. Furthermore, Cambridge Advanced Learner Dictionary gives the similar definition about movie that is a film shown in a cinema or on television and often telling a story.

Therefore, movie can be defined as a “film made to be shown at the cinema, movie theatre or television, use a moving picture recorded with sound (visual and audiovisual element) and usually it tells a story.” The visual element of movie gives motion pictures a universal power of communication. Some movies have become popular worldwide attractions by using dubbing or subtitles that translate the dialogue.

Translators have to deal with the shift in mode from speech to writing and subtitling is unique in this respect. As Díaz Cintas and Remael (2007, p. 61) note, “there are two basic types of speech in film: scripted and spontaneous speech”. Scripted speech is usually more structured and thus easier to translate, whereas spontaneous speech which occurs in documentaries and live interviews is much more challenging in this respect. The change in mode entails the disappearance of some features of spoken language, regardless of the subgenre the dialogue belongs to. Hesitations and repetitions are avoided, grammar errors are usually corrected and lexis is standard and often simplified. Sometimes, the translator has to recur to rewriting and interpretation in order to produce coherent and logical subtitles. Another reason why interpretation and rewording are necessary has to do with the constraints of time and space. As Díaz Cintas and Remael (2007, p. 82) explain, in the world of digital video any picture is made up of individual dots known as pixels. Written text and graphics shown on screen may get distorted if they appear too close to the edges because TV manufacturers deal with screen edges differently. This is why all text must be centrally positioned within a safe area and this safe area is usually 10% with each frame edge.

The number of characters and lines is directly related to the notion of reading speed. It is considered that “the average viewer is able to read 70 to 74 characters in 6 seconds and from this main rule we can then calculate the amount of text we can write in shorter subtitles” (Díaz Cintas and Remael, 2007, p. 23). Figurative language is an umbrella term for words and phrases that are used with another meaning than their literal one, in order to create different effects (McArthur, 1998, pp. 230-32).

Jeremy Munday (2008, p. 5) noted that the process of translation between two different written languages involves the translator changing an original written text (the source text or ST) in the original verbal language (the source language or SL) into a written text (the target text or TT) in a different verbal language (the target language or TL).

However, the main objective of translation is to deliver the message from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL). Problems usually arise when people deal with idiomatic expressions, especially idiomatic expressions in movies. It is simply because they are spoken, not written and the conversation among the casts happens so fast that the viewer barely captures the whole line of the conversation. The differences of culture in which the movie is produced also influence the meaning of each idiomatic expression. Christine Ammer (1997, p. iii) noted that —An idiom is a set phrase of two or more words that means something different from the literal meaning of the individual words.

Susan Bassnett (2002, p. 36) noted that James Holmes, for example, feels that the use of the term equivalence is perverse, since to ask for sameness is to ask too much. Equivalence in translation, then, should not be approached as a search for sameness, since sameness cannot even exist between two TL versions of the same text, let alone between the SL and the TL version. Baker (1992, p. 65) also implies the major problems of dealing with idiom are the ability to recognize and interpret and idiom correctly. The translation of idiomatic expressions needs a particular effort and for that reason idiom requires certain method of translation.

There are several definitions of the word idiom. For instance, according to McCarthy and O’Dell (2002), “Idioms are expressions which have a meaning that is not obvious from the individual words”. Providing the example “to drive somebody round the bend”, having the meaning “to make someone angry”, it is suggested that idioms are usually impossible to predict their meanings based merely on the knowledge of the separate words. More likely they are understood when being placed in context. Similarly, Swan (2005) claims some phrases are difficult to comprehend as their meaning differs from the meaning of the individual words. These are referred to as idioms, being generally unique to one language implying the complications connected with a word-for-word translation. Nevertheless, there are some related languages using the same or very similar idioms. Another clarification of idioms presents an idiom as an expression or a phrase being used

in a language that is strange to itself either grammatically or in having a meaning that cannot be understood directly from the conjoined meanings of its elements ("idiom from Merriam-Webster," 2009). In other words, an idiom is a group of words in which the meaning of this group is different from what would be expected.

## 5. Method

### 5.1. Design of the Study

This study followed a descriptive design. Having introduced definitions and different stages of the assessment process, the researcher selected some samples of source text and analyzed their translation by using Baker's (1992) model of translation.

As Baker (1992) considers the five following characteristics for idioms, the word order in idiomatic expressions is fixed. In other words, the way words are put together is fixed, and they cannot change their place. For instance, go to ruin and rack cannot be used instead of go to rack and ruin. No omission; the words in an idiomatic expression can't be omitted. It is not possible to use shed tears instead of shed crocodile tears, for example. No addition, No extra words can be added to the string of an idiomatic expression. One cannot, therefore, employ have a narrow quick escape with have a narrow escape. No replacement, as the name indicates, no word can be replaced with another in an idiomatic expression. The word heart, for example, cannot be replaced with sight or mind in out of sight, out of mind. Fixed grammatical structure, No change is allowed in the grammatical structure of idioms. The bell was ringed cannot be replaced with ring the bell, for example.

### 5.2. Instruments

The subjects of the study were the subtitle of serial entitled Friends and The King of Queens. These serials have been chosen, since there is significant evidence that they may contain plenty of the desired idiomatic expressions. These serials were selected from the 21st Century Visual and Media Company, which is an audiovisual translation company in Iran with Iranian native translators. Therefore, the materials used in this study were two American subtitled serials whose brief introductions are listed in Table 5.2.1:

Table 5.2.1. A Brief Introduction of the Two Selected American Subtitled Serials

<b>No (min)</b>	<b>Original Title</b>	<b>Release Year</b>	<b>Run Time</b>	<b>Director</b>
1	Friends	1994	20- 22(per episode)	James Burrows
2	The king of queens	1998	21-22(per episode)	Rob Schiller

After gathering the subtitled American movies by 21st Century Visual and Media Company, which is a well-established audiovisual translation company, the original

versions were compared with their subtitled ones to record the idiomatic expressions in the original versions and the translation of the same frozen chunks in the subtitled versions.

The technique of data collection is as follows

- . Downloading the serials entitled Friends and The King of Queens from internet with the computer storage device where the data is saved.
- . Downloading the movie script (English) wrote by its movie script writers, as the source language.
- . Writing subtitle (Farsi) based on the movie as the target language.
- . Watch the serials from the beginning to take a good comprehension between the script and the subtitle.
- . Do an independent study on the movie script (English) as the source language, and the video subtitle (Farsi) as the target language.
- . Use several dictionary of idiom to know the meaning idiomatic expression found in the movie script.

#### **6. Data Analysis and findings**

For doing a detailed analysis, after the data were collected, they were analyzed. First three episodes of the Friends Serial subtitles were selected. Then they were studied several times carefully and every supposed idiomatic expression was looked up so that it was made certain that all the idiomatic expressions had been identified and included in the analysis. In his analysis there was no trace of common phrases which are among collocations and can be regarded as idiomatic expressions. After identifying each idiomatic expression, its definition was written beside it. Then the Persian translations were studied in order to find the corresponding translations for the identified idiomatic expressions. When a Persian idiomatic expression was found in each of the translation, its English correspondent was found to see what strategy has been employed in rendering it.

The researcher used the following steps to analyze the strategies of translation. To recognize the applied strategies in the translation of the idiomatic expressions, the collected idioms—both the subtitled and original versions—were compared with Baker's (1992) model of translation. Then, these frozen chunks were presented in separate tables for each movie, and they were compared with Baker's (1992) strategies in translating idiomatic expressions in translation studies. The steps are as follow; Identifying and analyzing the translation strategies by using Baker's theory of translation strategy of idioms. There are four translation strategies used, first, translation by using idiom of similar meaning and form, Second translation by using idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, Third translation by paraphrasing, and the last translation by omission.

Calculating the data in order to get the number and the percentage of each translation strategy; employed by the translator. Presenting and discussing the data findings of translation strategies of idioms to give more detail information of translation strategy frequently found in the serials used by translator. Drawing conclusion; after the data being analyzed. The aim was to provide an explanation about introduction of methodology and design of this study. Then subjects of the study were explained in detail, an explanation about Instruments which used in this study and make everything as clear as possible. Finally methods of analyzing data explained and stated.

The movie script that will be analyzed was taken and downloaded from the internet. To analyze the data, the writer will compare the data in the source language and that in the target language. From the comparison, some data will be found and the writer tries to analyze whether the idiomatic translations of the subtitle are suitable with the context or there is any misleading translation of the idiomatic expression of the movie script. The following are some idiomatic expressions found in the script and presented in the form of a list. However, the writer does not claim that it is an exhaustive list, because of the writer's insufficient mastery of English and the ability to understand idioms which are bound to culture. Some idioms are easily found and understood by the Iranian speaking audience and some others are not.

The purpose of listing is to choose the idiomatic expressions to be analyzed. In the final, the researcher made a table from the list of idiomatic expressions in the serials. The table uses to help the researcher to analyze the translated idiomatic expressions, all the translations were categorized using Baker's (1992, pp. 71-78) classification of strategies for translating idioms: translation using an idiom of similar meaning and form, translation using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, paraphrase, translation by omission. Since there were also some examples which did not make use of any of the strategies mentioned above, another category had to be introduced, namely the category of direct transfer. In order to determine to which of these categories a certain translation belongs, it was necessary to check all the translations against various dictionaries.

Table 6.1. Data Analysis and Findings in Friends Serial

<b>Idiom strategy</b>	<b>subtitle</b>	
I can get a message to her	میتونم پیامت رو بهش برسونم	Semantic
If I'm going down, I'm taking everybody with me	اگه بیوقتم تو چاه همه رو میکشم با خودم پایین	Communicative

That is wild shifting	خیلی باحاله	Semantic
I'm going to have to get over it synthesis	باید بیخیالش بشم	Idiomatic-
Hey come on, cut it out	هی بسه، ول کن دیگه	Idiomatic
I'm gonna get changed	میخوام لباس عوض کنم	Semantic
I don't want to put it off shifting	نمیخوام بیخیالش بشم	Wrong
I'm moving on	دارم فراموشش میکنم/باهاش کنار میام	Semantic shifting
You are so yum shifting	تو خیلی خوبی	Stylistic
I'm over you semantic	بیخیالت شدم	Wrong
Help me "put together" my new furniture idiomatic	کمکم کن که وسایلمو جمع و جور کنم	Wrong
How did you "get through" it? shifting	چطور آن را گذراندی؟	Wrong semantic
I "went for" the watch	من ساعت رو انتخاب کردم	Wrong idiomatic
I take credit for Paul	من بخاطر پاول به خودم افتخار میکنم	Semantic
It's hard "being on your own" for the first time	خیلی سخته که برای اولین بار مسئول کارهای خودت باشی	(Ambiguous)
We "ran into" her parents at the club	خیلی شانسی خانوادشو تو کلوب دیدیم	Semantic
So, well, "here's the deal"	خب برنامہ اینہ	Communicative
this "broken shell of a man"	قلب شکسته یه مرد	Analysis

Table 6.2. Data Analysis and Findings in The King of Queens Serial

Idiom strategy	subtitle
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I'm in	پایه ام	Idiomatic
They just pulled into you	اونها جذبیت شدن	Communicative
she's stepping out	اون داره بهت خیانت میکنه	Communicative
it's pretty damn nice of you	از خوبیه	Wrong Deletion
he's throwing a big concert next week	داره بزرگ اجرای	یه آینده هفته
Semantic		
She's quite a looker	اون خیلی زیباست	Shifting
For God's sake	محض رضای خدا	Idiomatic
you're missing the point.	نگرفتی قضیه چی شد	Idiomatic
you've been in a funky mood all night.	بود خراب حالت	شب کل
Semantic		
What are you all wound up about?	شما از چی ناراحتین؟	Shifting
I'm trying to figure out	دارم سعی میکنم که سر در بیارم	Idiomatic
I feel blue	ناراحتم	Wrong Deletion
I am down	حالم گرفتست	Idiomatic
I wrapped up in this new job	به شغل جدیدم خاتمه دادم	Wrong
Shift		
Get out of here	شوخی نکن	Idiomatic
They're dead asleep	اونا تخت خوابیدن	Wrong Idiomatic
What a pity	حیف شد	Idiomatic
What`s cooking here?	چه خبره	Deletion
Touch wood!	بزنم به تخته	Semantic

Table 6.3. Identification of serial Friends

Serial	Style	Method	Genre	Number of Episode
<b>Idioms</b>				
Friends	Neutral	Communicative	Comedy	3 (90 Min)
60		But Semantic	(Literary)	

Table 6.4. Identification of serial The King of Queens

Serial	Style	Method	Genre	Number of Episode
<b>Idioms</b>				
The King of 20	Formal	Communicative	Comedy	2 (60 Min)
Queens		And Semantic	(Literary)	

## 7. Discussion

Idioms are the gems of a language, they can be considered as a part of everyday language. Language is a tool that is used to communicate with other people. It is used to convey messages to others in oral or written way. It is obvious that every country has their own different languages, but English is the most used one in the world as the international language. English has become one of the most important aspects to master in order to survive nowadays. It means we have to know how to translate well in order to be able to communicate in English properly. A subtitle is a textual version of the dialogue in movies and the likes, usually displayed at the bottom of the screen. They can be in a written form of translation of a dialogue, or literally the dialogue in the same language with purpose to help deaf or non-native audience. The significance of idioms and idiomatic expressions in English can be understood from their appearance in all types of discourse ranging from every day conversations to scientific texts. So, the present study deals with the translation of idioms and idiomatic expressions from English into Persian focusing on the procedures involved. Baker's model (1992), which groups possible procedures into some strategies were chosen as the theoretical framework of this research. This study is an attempt to investigate strategies used in translating and also to find out which strategy is mostly used. To do so, a total number of 80 idioms and idiomatic expressions were extracted from two American Serials. This study was carried out through a comparative study of idioms and idiomatic expressions from English into Persian. The findings of the research indicated that some strategies were used in translating idioms and idiomatic expressions and their frequency of being used is different and also it was revealed that most of the data were translated by paraphrase.

This research follows a qualitative approach and aims to propose the integrated translation method, one indispensable and important tactic to translation of English idioms into Persian is based on Baker's strategies which then becomes a reasonable choice and the quality of translation decided by the translator's cultural awareness and creativity. In this particular section of the research, the writer delivers the research finding from the analyzed data of serials entitled Friends and The King of Queens and



their subtitles. The findings deal with types of the idioms, and with the accuracy of the subtitling in these serials. Translating subtitle of a movie needs special skill and insight, since there are several aspects that can affect the result of the translated text, such as the background of the conversation, the limited space and time of the appearing subtitle and the most important is the differences between the source language and the target language. To translate idioms, the translator should identify them from those expressions which are not idioms, then, investigates the classification to which that particular idiom belongs and selects the suitable strategy for his translation.

To translate idioms, the translator should identify them from those expressions which are not idioms, then, investigates the classification to which that particular idiom belongs and selects the suitable strategy for her translation. During this process, the translator should be careful of the naturalness and readability of her text. She would better try her best to find equivalences to transfer both the form and the meaning and be thoughtful of not deleting the whole or eliminating the un-corresponding part of the idiom. The translator also needs to develop sensitivity to the use of idioms in the receptor language and uses them naturally to make the translation lively and keep the style of the source language. There will often be words in the source language which are not idioms but are best translated with an idiom. In translating the idiomatic expressions in these movies, the translator should take into account about the background of the conversation and the true meaning of the idiomatic expression. Consequently the subtitle will correspond with the visual image and the speaker's utterance. Since no languages are the same with others, idioms in every language are different.

### **8. Implications of the Study**

After conducting this research, the researcher would like to give some suggestions as follows

#### **8.1. Implication for students**

For students whose major is English Department, studying English not only to study about four skills, also they must study other language aspect. Moreover, we have to know about other aspects such as structure, contextual meaning and other literary sources. One of them is idiomatic expression. By means of learning idiomatic expression, it can especially help the readers or listeners to deeply understand what the speaker wants to express in his utterances/dialogue. For English learners, it can be used as a guidance to understand the meaning of idiomatic expressions and to help the students in translating the written or spoken text.

#### **8.2. Implications for lecturers**

The writer wishes that they will be mentors/tutors for other researchers in idiomatic expressions aspect. The writer also hopes that the lecturer may give more understanding

about idiomatic expression especially how to translate the idiomatic expressions so that it will be easy to understand by the reader/audience dealing. Therefore, this study will help them to design creative teaching strategy in learning idiomatic expressions and translation subject.

### 8.3. Implications for Teachers

It will be the guidance for the teacher to choose the media in teaching English Translation, so that their students/learner never be bored when learn translation and idiomatic expressions. For the institution, it is suggested to encourage the students to conduct research in the field of subtitle translation because it is a wide and interesting area to observe and analyze.

### 8.4. Implications for Other Researchers

For other researchers who want to conduct the same research, it is suggested that the analysis be conducted in a more profound way and broaden the scope of the research area in order to find other yet unidentified linguistic cases. For general readers who do not have sufficient knowledge about the translation of a movie subtitle, they need to be more careful in absorbing the linguistic aspect from subtitle since not all the translations in subtitle are correct.

## 9. Limitations of the Study

Translating subtitle of a movie needs special skill and insight, since there are several Aspects that can affect the result of the translated text, such as the background of the conversation, the limited space and time of the appearing subtitle and the most important is the different language between the source language and the target language.

## 10. Suggestions for further Research

The writer also hopes that the further research especially dealing with idiomatic expressions translation, it can give a great contribution in terms of English language teaching and learning. The other researchers had also better in analyzing the translation of written and spoken English text, especially in form idiomatic expressions. Hopefully, the further researcher will find another object of the research, and they will find better ideas to improve better findings in English language teaching and learning process. For people who are learning English or interested in the English, the researcher suggests to try in developing translation skill. It can be applied in every field. English students can apply their knowledge and skill into translation product like movie subtitle, novel, short story etc. It can be useful to help other people in understanding English everywhere. It can be useful to student in collecting money for themselves. The researcher fully realizes that this paper is still far from being perfect, therefore any constructive criticisms will be highly appreciated. Further research that this study has opened up would be how idioms are used in other kinds of media, such as television and newspapers, or a comparative

study of several different media. The researcher hopes that this research will be useful for both theoretical and practical source in learning how to translate English idioms and also for those who further study about translation of English idioms. Translating English subtitle into Persian needs a lot of works and understanding about both culture in the source language and the target language. It is empirical that the meaning of an idiom is complicated and multileveled, a network of relations as devious as the channels of mind in the brain. The more communication happens, the more generalization. Moreover for translating idioms, it is arguably the most complex and problematic task of translation. The translation should also have aesthetic value besides being of reference for generations to come who conduct more advanced study in translation.

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