

Chapter 14

Partial Translation

1. Types of Translation
 - A. Full translation
 - B. Partial translation (edition + translation), usually reduced to 1/3 of the original
2. Reasons for partial translation:
 - A. Limited time for reading (efficiency)
 - B. Publications market demand
 - C. Information explosion
 - D. Copy rights (detouring)
 - E. Fast & efficient communication across different cultures
3. Materials that need partial translation:
 - A. Scientific reports
 - B. Journalist articles
 - C. Corporate and product/service brochures
 - D. Tourists' guidebooks
 - E. Caption of pictures/photos
 - F. Book reviews
 - G. Business correspondence, etc.
4. Advantages:
 - A. Highlighting the main points/ideas/value
 - B. Intensity of information
 - C. Catering for special readership
 - D. Time/space saving
 - E. Cost effective
5. Methodology:
 - A. Strategy -- what to translate
 - Main ideas
 - Subject-related details
 - B. Main methods
 - Abridging/omitting
 - Condensing/merging
 - Summarizing/rewriting, and
 - C. Processing
 - Reading for translation purposes
 - Decision making on what to retain (or omit)
 - Necessary adjustments
6. Requirements:

1. Intimacy with the subject matter
2. Good command of the source and target languages
3. Skillfulness in editing and translating
4. Acquaintance with the market/readership demand

7. Case study:

Sample 1 --abridging

China's Long March to Geneva had taken over 15 years since its original application to become a contracting party to the GATT 1947, the multinational trade pact which served as the predecessor treaty to today's GATT 95 and related agreements, whose implementation and enforcement are now overseen by the secretariat of the global trade body called the WTO.

Full translation:

中国走向日内瓦的长征从开始申请成为 1947 年关贸总协定 (GATT 1947) 缔约方起, 用了 15 年的时间。这项多国贸易条约是现在的 1995 年关贸总协定 (GATT 95) 及其相关协议的前身, 而 1995 年总协定如今则由这个叫做世界贸易组织的全球性贸易团体的秘书处监督实施。(111 words)

Partial translation:

中国申请成为世界贸易组织的缔约方(成员), 前后用了 15 年时间。(30 words)

- Subject: Time taken for China's admission to the WTO
- Methods employed: omitting background knowledge

Sample 2.

The scientists were astounded to find water vapour in the freezing atmosphere of Jupiter, Uranus, Neptune and Saturn. They also revealed yesterday that they had detected water in the atmosphere of Saturn's mysterious moon Titan – which is to be visited by a joint US-Europe probe in 2004. They have even identified a cloud of water, less that a light year across, in the constellation Orion.

Partial translation:

科学家们惊奇地发现木星、天王星、海王星和土星的低温大气层中存在水蒸气。他们还透露已探测到土星的卫星“泰坦”的大气中存在水, 甚至确定猎户座上也存在云状水层。

- Subject: discovery of water in the outer space
- Methods employed: omitting repeated parts

Sample 3 -- condensing

From today's newspaper I have **learned with much delight that you were recently appointed editor-in-chief** of the *Morning Post*. I would like to add my **congratulation** to the many you must be receiving on your promotion.

Partial translation:

欣悉荣升《晨报》主编，谨表祝贺。

- Subject: congratulations on promotion (highlighted parts)
- Methods employed: condensing

Sample 4 -- summarizing

Ugly Is Only Skin-deep

It may not be much to look at. But beneath that humble exterior beats an **air-cooled engine**. It **won't boil over and ruin your piston rings**. It **won't freeze** over and ruin your life. It's **in the back of the car for better traction** in snow and sand. And it will give you **about 29 miles to a gallon of gas**.

After a while you get to like so much about the VW, you even get to like what it looks like.

You find that there's **enough legroom** for almost anybody's legs. Enough **headroom** for almost anybody's head with a hat on it. **Snug-fitting bucket seats**. **Doors that close so well** you can hardly close them. They're so airtight, it's better to open the window a crack first!

Those plain, unglamorous **wheels are each suspended independently**. So when a bump makes one wheel bounce, the bounce **doesn't make the other wheel bump**. It's things like that you pay the **\$4985** for, when you buy a VW. The ugliness doesn't add a thing to the cost of the car.

That's the beauty of it.

Full translation:

车不可貌相

它或许不中看，但不起眼的外表下跳动着一部气冷式引擎。它不会因沸腾而毁了活塞垫，也不会结冰而坏了你的事。它安在汽车后部，能增强车在雪地和沙地上的牵引力；行驶 29 英里仅耗油一加仑。

只要爱上“大众”，用不多久也会爱上它的外表。

钻进车里，再长的腿也能放开，再高的个子戴上帽子也无妨；凹背座椅舒适贴身；车内封闭性太好，关门前最好把车窗开个缝。

车轮朴实无华、毫无魅力，但各自独立悬挂，一只颠起不会殃及其他。您只需付 4985 美元便可买下一辆。丑陋的外表不用您多花一个子儿。

“大众”之美，不在其貌！（242 words）

Partial translation:

“大众”汽车（可能不中看，但）装在后部的气冷式引擎牵引力大、耗油低，不会烧毁活塞垫，也不会结冰。车内空间大、座椅舒适、封闭性好。独立悬挂式车轮能减少颠簸。售价只有 4985 美元。（爱上“大众”，便会爱上其外表。） (102 words)

- Subject: auto ad – VW (highlighted parts)
- Methods employed: summarizing/rewriting

8. Summary