

The Republic of Iraq  
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research  
Mosul University / College of Arts  
Adab Al-Rafidayn Journal



# ***Adab Al-Rafidayn Journal***

**A refereed quarterly scientific journal  
Issued by the College of Arts - University of Mosul**

**Vol. Eighty-Eight/ year Fifty- Second**

**Sha'ban - 1443 AH / March 6/3/2022 AD**

**The journal's deposit number in the National  
Library in Baghdad: 14 of 1992**

**ISSN 0378- 2867**

**E ISSN 2664-2506**

To communicate:

[radab.mosuljournals@gmail.com](mailto:radab.mosuljournals@gmail.com)

URL: <https://radab.mosuljournals.com>

# *Adab Al-Rafidayn Journal*

**A refereed journal concerned with the publishing of scientific researches  
in the field of arts and humanities both in Arabic and English**

**Vol. Eighty- Eight / year Fifty- Second / Sha'ban - 1443 AH / March 2022 AD**

**Editor-in-Chief:** Professor Dr. Ammar Abd Al-Latif Abd Al-Ali (**Information and Libraries**), College of Arts / University of Mosul / Iraq

**managing editor:** Asst.Prof. Dr. Shaiban Adeeb Ramadan Al-Shaibani (**Arabic Language**)  
College of Arts / University of Mosul / Iraq

**Editorial Board Members:**

Prof. Dr.Hareth Hazem Ayoub (**Sociology**) College of Arts / University of Mosul / Iraq

Prof. Dr.Hamid Kurdi Al-Falahi (**Sociology**) College of Arts / Anbar University / Iraq

Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahman Ahmed Abdul Rahman (**translation**) College of Arts / University of Mosul / Iraq

Prof. Dr. Alaa Al-Din Ahmad Al-Gharaibeh (**Arabic Language**) College of Arts / Al-Zaytoonah University / Jordan

Prof. Dr. Qais Hatem Hani (**History**) College of Education / University of Babylon / Iraq

Prof. Dr. Claude Vincents (**French Language and Literature**) University of Chernobyl Alps / France

Prof. Dr.Mustafa Ali Al-Dowidar (**History**) College of Arts and Sciences / Taibah University / Saudi Arabia

Prof. Dr. Nayef Muhammad Shabib (**History**) College of Arts / University of Mosul / Iraq

Prof. Dr. Suzan Youssef Ahmed (**media**) Faculty of Arts / Ain Shams University / Egypt

Prof. Dr. Aisha Kul Jalaboglu (**Turkish Language and Literature**) College of Education / University of Hajet Tabah / Turkey

Prof. Dr. Ghada Abdel-Moneim Mohamed Moussa (**Information and Libraries**) Faculty of Arts / University of Alexandria

Prof. Dr. Wafa Abdul Latif Abdul Aali (**English Language**) College of Arts / University of Mosul / Iraq

Prof. Dr. Asmaa Saud Edham (**Arabic Language**) College of Arts / University of Mosul / Iraq

Asst .Prof. Dr. Arthur James Rose (**English Literature**) University of Durham / UK

Lest. Dr. Hijran Abdulelah Ahmad (**Philosophy**) College of Arts / University of Mosul / Iraq

**Linguistic Revision and Follow-up:**

**Linguistic Revision :** Lect. Dr. Khaled Hazem Aidan

- Arabic Reviser

Asst. Lect. Ammar Ahmed Mahmood

- English Reviser

**Follow-up:** Translator Iman Gerges Amin

- Follow-up .

Translator Naglaa Ahmed Hussein

- Follow-up .

## Publishing instructions rules

1. A researcher who wants to publish in Adab Al-Rafidayn journal should enter the platform of the journal and register by an official or personal activated email via the following link:

[https://radab.mosuljournals.com/contacts?\\_action=signup](https://radab.mosuljournals.com/contacts?_action=signup)

2. After registration, the platform will send to your mail that you registered on the site and a password will be sent for use in entering the journal by writing your email with the password on the following link:

[https://radab.mosuljournals.com/contacts?\\_action=login](https://radab.mosuljournals.com/contacts?_action=login)

3- The platform (the site) will grant the status of the researcher to those who registered to be able in this capacity to submit their research with a set of steps that begin by filling out data related to them and their research and they can view it when downloading their research.

4-File formats for submission to peer review are as follows:

- Fonts: a “standard” type size is as follows: (Title: at 16point / content : at 14point / Margins: at 10 point ), and the number of lines per page: (27) lines under the page heading line with the title, writer name, journal name, number and year of publishing, in that the number of pages does not exceed 25 in the latest edition in the journal free of illustrations, maps, tables, translation work, and text verification, and (30) pages for research containing the things referred to.
- Margins are arranged in numbers for each page. The source and reference are defined in the margin glossary at the first mentioned word. List of references is canceled, and only the reference is mentioned in the first mentioning place, in case the source is repeated use (ibid.)
- The research is referred to the test of similarity report to determine the percentage of originality then if it pass the test it is referred to two referees who nominate it for publication after checking its scientific sobriety, and confirming its safety from plagiarism , and if the two experts disagree –it is referred to a third referee for the last peer review and to decide on the acceptance or rejection of the research .

5- The researcher (author) is committed to provide the following information about the research:

- The research submitted for evaluation to the journal must not include the name of the researcher, i.e. sent without a name.

- A clear and complete title for the research in Arabic and English should be installed on the body of the research, with a brief title for the research in both languages: Arabic and English.

- The full address of the researcher must be confirmed in two languages: Arabic and English, indicating: (the scientific department / college or institute / university / country) with the inclusion of an effective email of the researcher.

- The researcher must formulate two scientific abstracts for the research in two languages: Arabic and English, not less than (150) and not more than (250) words.

- presenting at least three key words that are more likely to be repeated and differentiated in the research.

6-The researcher must observe the following scientific conditions in writing his research, as it is the basis for evaluation, otherwise the referees will hold him responsible. The scientific conditions are shown in the following:

- There should be a clear definition of the research problem in a special paragraph entitled: (research problem) or (problem of research).

- The researcher must take into account the formulation of research questions or hypotheses that express the problem of research and work to achieve and solve or scientifically refute it in the body of the research.

- The researcher works to determine the importance of his research and the goals that he seeks to achieve, and to determine the purpose of its application.

- There must be a clear definition of the limits of the research and its population that the researcher is working on in his research.

- The researcher must consider choosing the correct methodology that is appropriate to the subject of his research, and must also consider the data collection tools that are appropriate for his research and the approach followed in it.

- Consideration should be given to the design of the research, its final output, and the logical sequence of its ideas and paragraphs.

- The researcher should take into consideration the choice of references or sources of information on which the research depends, and choose what is appropriate for his research taking into account the modernity in it, and the accuracy in documenting , quoting form these sources.

- The researcher should consider taking note of the results that the researcher reached, and make sure of their topics and their rate of correlation with research questions or hypotheses that the researcher has put in his research.

7- The researcher should be aware that the judgment on the research will be according to a peer review form that includes the above details, then it will be sent to the referee and on the basis of which the research will be judged and weights will be given to its paragraphs and according to what is decided by those weights the research will be accepted or rejected. Therefore; the researcher must take that into account in preparing his research.

### **Editor-in-chief**

## CONTENTS

Title	Page
<b>Context Impact in Translating Sport Idiomatic Expressions from English into Arabic with Regard to Type of Game</b> <b>kasim Muhammad Basil Al-Azzawi</b> <b>Luqman A. Nasser</b>	1 - 24
<b>Problems of Translating I'na and its Sisters in the Glorious Quran into English</b> <b>Radwan Nafie Hamid</b> <b>Abdul Rahman Ahmed Abdul Rahman</b>	25 - 40
<b>The Most Prominent Difficulty the M.A. Students of Translation Encounter in Translating Mosuli Food and Drink Proverbs into English</b> <b>Muhammad Faiq Al-Azzawi</b> <b>Hala Khalid Najim</b>	41 - 82
<b>Some Problems of Translating Metaphorical Expressions in the Shakespearean Tragedy Macbeth into Arabic</b> <b>Misbah M.D. Al-Sulaiman</b> <b>Atheel Abd Elkhalek Al Hayaly</b>	83 – 106
<b>Text typology and Lexical Problems in Machine Translation</b> <b>Yasir Najm Abdullah</b> <b>Luqman A. Nasser</b>	107 – 130
<b>The Influence of Social Variables on the Use of Hedging in Mosuli Arabic</b> <b>Thikr Salim Al-Ahmad</b> <b>Eba Mudhafar Al-Rssam</b>	131 – 158
<b>Some Syntactic Variations in Modern Standard Arabic Proverbs</b> <b>Sundus Falah Al-Obaidi</b> <b>Iman Hamid Al-Hasnou</b>	159 – 178
<b>Impact of War in Yasmina Khadra's The Sirens of Baghdad and Kevin Powers' The Yellow Birds</b> <b>Mahmood faez Gaddawi</b>	179 – 192

***Context Impact in Translating Sport Idiomatic Expressions from English into Arabic with Regard to Type of Game***

**kasim Muhammad Basil Al-Azzawi \***

**Luqman A. Nasser \***

تأريخ القبول: ٢٠٢٠/٩/١٢

تأريخ التقديم: ٢٠٢٠/٩/٩

**Abstract**

This study aims at showing the impact of context in translation sport idiomatic expressions from English into Arabic. These expressions have always been a difficult task to perform because idioms are cultural-specific. Some have translated sport idiomatic expressions in isolation or decontextualized of their different situational sport or non-sport contexts. But these contexts have an essential role impact in translating and understanding them by the speakers of Arabic. The study hypothesizes that the context is indispensable in translating idioms as bound expressions and that the type of game affects in giving appropriate or inappropriate translations. The data used for analysis comprise 10 sport idiomatic expressions which are carefully selected from 10 different familiar and less familiar types of game. These expressions are given to 10 teachers from the Department of Translation, College of Arts, University of Mosul, in the form of two tests with an interval of one week after another: decontextualized and in everyday language context. Chief among the findings of the study is that appropriate translations of sport idiomatic expressions are provided within the context. Also the findings reveal that the type of game plays an essential and effective role in providing such appropriate translations.

**Keywords:** Context, Translation, Sport Idioms, Type of Game.

---

Master's Student / Dept. of Translation/ College of Arts / University of Mosul.

Prof/ Dept. of Translation/ College of Arts / University of Mosul.

## **Statement of the Problem**

The translation of idiomatic expressions among them, sport idioms, has always been a difficult task to perform, because they are cultural-specific expressions. When sport idiomatic expressions are translated from English into Arabic, they may lose their features at the semantic, syntactic and other levels. Various strategies for translating such idiomatic expressions are suggested, most of which translate these idioms in isolation or decontextualized of their different situational sport or non-sport (everyday language context). So, these contexts have an impact on the way these sport idiomatic expressions are translated and understood by the speakers of Arabic. Context has an essential role or impact in translating sport idiomatic expressions and it is very important for translators. This study attempts to pinpoint the impact of the non-sport (everyday language) context in translating sport idiomatic expressions from English into Arabic, in addition, to pinpoint the role of the type of game in translating such type of idioms.

## **Aims of the Study**

The study aims at finding the impact of context in translating different sport idiomatic expressions which represents ten types of sport games. The study attempts to apply a pre and post-test approach to translating these sports idioms to find out the impact of context on the understanding of the meaning of these idioms by translators and whether they can produce the required appropriate meaning of these expressions.

## **Hypotheses**

The study hypothesizes that:

1. The context in which sport idioms are used; significantly affects the degree of understanding of their meanings by translators.
2. The type of game plays an essential role in facilitating the understanding of their meaning with context and in translating them.

## **Procedure and Data Collection**

The data for analysis in this study comprise 10 sport idiomatic expressions (Henry, 2016, P. 7-132). These expressions are selected from 10 different sport games which are: Tennis, Football, Basketball, Baseball, Boxing, Golf, Swimming, Track & Field, Hunting and Fishing. In addition, the choice of these game types was to ensure that some of them are familiar to the subjects who participated in the tests of translating them and some others are less or unfamiliar to them. Ten teachers from the Department of Translation, College of Arts, University of Mosul voluntarily agreed to take the two translation tests of the selected 10 sport idiomatic expressions. The two tests are given as follows: in the first test, the 10 sport idiomatic expressions were given in decontextualized lists and the ten subjects were asked to translate them in a classroom in the department. They were requested not to consult dictionaries and to do the translations on their own. The test lasted for a little less than half an hour. A week after that, the subjects went into the classroom again to do the second test. The same 10 sport idiomatic expressions were given to the subjects in an everyday language context to translate, and again, they were requested not to negotiate their meanings with others or to look up dictionaries. It took the subjects about an hour to finish the translations.

## **The Reliability of the Tests**

The reliability of these tests was achieved by the fact that the subjects voluntarily agreed to do the translations without seeking help from each other or resorting to dictionaries. They simply used their ability to infer the meaning of each idiom depending on their background cultural knowledge or their familiarity with the meanings of these idioms.

## **Limitation of the Study**

This study is limited to investigating the impact of the context, sport or non-sport, in translating such expressions. It is limited to only the type of games. The study focuses on the semantics of these idioms with regard to translating them. Their syntax or structural

characteristics are not part of this study nor are the type of strategies followed by the subjects who participated in this study.

## **Idioms**

Idioms are an integral part of language i.e. humans across the world use idioms widely in their daily life whether in their spoken or written language. Idioms are unlike other structures of language, as their meanings are not always predictable from their words themselves. (Juma'a, 2014:3-4). Langlotz (2006:2) describes idioms as a group of words which are semantically ambiguous and have fixed structure. Likewise, Palmer (1976:98) describes idioms as a special kind of words that mostly have an opaque meaning. He states that, grammatically, idioms are not single grammatical units, and semantically cannot be described as single words i.e. it is wrong to analyze them into their individual units. Hence, idioms are specific cultural expressions and their meanings cannot be known from their words themselves i.e. idioms have meanings which differ from their words themselves (Bouarroudj, 2010:7).

## **Types of Idioms**

Generally, idioms involve classes and sub-classes that were placed among many approaches by linguists and scholars. Idioms, for instance, may have the same meanings as implied by their words, share various senses from their composed units, or slightly carry the same sense with their words themselves. So, the degree of idiomaticity, that the idioms hold, is the only way used to distinguish the different kinds of idioms whether they are transparent or totally opaque (Al Zahrani, 2018:4). Moon (1998:4) classifies idioms into four types:

### **1- Transparent idioms**

The meaning of idioms in this type is very near to the literal meaning of the idioms' combinations themselves, i.e. the meaning of idioms can conclude from the meaning of their constituents. For example: "See the light" means 'To understand'.

### **2- Semi-transparent idioms**

In this type, the meaning of idioms tends to have a metaphorical meaning i.e. the meaning of their constituents contributes less in understanding the whole meaning of the idiom. For example, “break the ice” means ‘To relief the tension’.

### 3- Semi opaque idioms

This type of idioms has unrelated sense to the meaning of their constituents. The meaning of idioms here involves two parts, the first one has literal meaning, and second one has a figurative meaning. For example, “to know the ropes” means ‘To know how a particular job should be done’.

### 4- Opaque idioms

The meaning of the idioms in this type is not very easy to understand, because idioms’ constituents have cultural denotation and not close to the literal meaning. For example, “to burn one's boat” means ‘To make retreat impossible’.

Moreover, Fernando (1996:35) distinguishes three sub-classes of idioms:

- 1- Pure Idioms: Fernando (1996:36) defines pure idiom as “a type of conventionalized, non-literal multiword expression”. Pure idioms are always non-literal, but they may either be static or have a slight difference (ibid). In addition, Fernando (1996:32) states that pure idioms are said to be non-transparent. For example, the pure idiom ‘to spill the beans’ has nothing to do with ‘beans’ (Strakšienė, 2009:14).
- 2- Semi-idioms: idioms here have one or more literal constituent and one with non-literal sub-sense. Fernando (1996:60) describes this type of idioms as partly opaque idioms. For example, the Semi-idioms ‘foot the bill’ means ‘pay’ the bill (Strakšienė, 2009:14).
- 3- Literal idioms: this type of idioms is either invariable or allow little variation. Besides, literal idioms are said to be transparent because their meaning can understand from their parts. For example, the literal idioms ‘of course’, in any case, for certain (Strakšienė, 2009:14).

## **Translation, Language and Culture**

Translation can be considered as the only way which makes humans around the world able to communicate with each other and to share knowledge, culture and news among others. But, translation in general, is a difficult task especially in translating idioms and cultural-bound expressions because their translation needs a good knowledge of the culture of both source and target languages, and to follow appropriate strategies to be used in translating and transferring the same effect of the original text (Dweik & Thalji, 2016:120).

Jiang (2000:328) claims that “Language and culture make a living organism; language is flesh, and culture is blood. Without culture, language would be dead”. Jiang stresses that language and culture are tightly linked i.e. it is impossible to understand language without the culture and vice versa. Language and culture are an integral part i.e. the understanding of any culture means understanding its language (Min, 2007:223). Ivir (1987:208) states that “language is a part of culture and, therefore, translation from one language to another cannot be done adequately without knowledge of the two cultures as well as the two languages structures”.

Although languages do not determine culture, idioms can express society’s beliefs, practices and thoughts, because their meaning derives from the culture of that society (Juma’a, 2014:11). According to British culture, for example, the reason behind the famous idiom “it is raining cats and dogs” is because it belongs to a story that occurred in England. It narrates that there are big holes all over the unpaved roads in old England. A number of cats and dogs were playing around the road. A heavy rainstorm suddenly started and filled these holes with water, which would lead cats and dogs to fall into them. This is where this idiom came from. (Al Zahrani, 2018:3).

The role of culture in translation is clear and it should be taken into consideration by translators when translating idiomatic expressions (Min, 2007:215). Therefore, translators should focus on the issue of culture to get the meaning when translating from one language to

another. The translator should do his/her best to replace the textual materials with their equivalent in the target language, because the translation of such culture-bound items like idioms into the target language is highly important (Ali & Al-Rushaidi, 2016:188).

### **Translation of Idioms**

Pedersen (in Trosborg, 1997:109) states that: “The translation of idioms is as difficult as it is central”. On the other hand, Larson (1984:143), argues that “idioms should be translated with great care”. The translator should carefully find the meaning of the idiom at first, then try to find a suitable equivalent that holds nearly the same meaning of the idiom in the target language. Generally, idioms should not be translated in a literal way. Newmark (1988:125) argues that “these (idioms) are never translated word for word”. Larson (1984:20) also states that “The real danger comes in translating an idiom literally, since the result will usually be nonsense in the receptor language”. Nevertheless, this does not mean to translate the idioms in isolated way; but the translator should find the real meaning of that idiom to fit in the target language (Khalil, 2010:4).

The translation of idioms highly depends on their culture, because idioms are culture-bound which makes them opaque and not easy to understand or to translate (Howwar, 2013:2). The differences between any two languages such as English and Arabic would harden the process of translating idioms because each language has its own cultural issues that affect the translation of idioms (Ali & Al-Rushaidi, 2016:188).

### **The Role of Context in Translating Idioms**

Context has an essential role in explaining the intended meaning of idioms (Alqahtni, 2014:43). Ullmann (1957:63) defines context as “a set of entities i.e. things or events which are related in a certain way; these entities have individual characters such that other sets of entities occur having the same characters and related by the same relations; and these occur nearly uniformly”. Crystal (1997:87) defines context as “a general term used in linguistics to refer to

specific parts of an utterance (or text) near or adjacent to a unit which is the focus of attention”.

Context is an essential factor that contributes in decoding and overcoming the difficulties that face the translators in translating idioms (Colin, 2005:11). Sköldbberg (2004:308) states that the whole meaning of the idioms cannot be recognized till they are put in context. Furthermore, Colin (2005:11-12) claims that knowing the origin of an idiom and its cultural significance makes us recognize the reason of using the idiom in that way, however the meaning of an idiom and the development of its metaphorical meaning cannot be followed back in time.

In summation, the role of context in translation is very important because it helps the translators to not convey codes or forms only, but to convey the meaning or sense as well. Context helps to interpret the source codes that stand within their specific context. Hence, it is not easy to mark the intentional meaning without understanding the context. For example, the Arabic word “حفظ” has many different possibilities of translation into English, it may refer to “memorizing”, “keeping”, “preserving” or “saving”. Therefore, the context can only determine the intended meaning of the word what it refers to (Idlibi, 2018:32-33).

### **Test One (Decontextualized Sport Idiomatic Expressions)**

As mentioned earlier, the first test consists of 10 decontextualized sport idiomatic expressions. The 10 subjects have been asked to translate them in test one. Diagram (1) shows the total average of the translation of these idiomatic expressions and whether the translation is appropriate or not:



**Diagram (1) Appropriate and Inappropriate Translations**

The above diagram shows that 63% of the subjects achieved appropriate translations in translating sport idiomatic expressions from English into Arabic. For others, on the other hand, the diagram shows that 37% of the subjects presented inappropriate translations. The assessment of the renditions depends on reproducing the same intended meaning of the idiom. So those renditions that achieved the same intended meaning have been considered appropriate.

### **Analysis and Results of Test One**

The researcher analyzed each idiom by using SPSS and Microsoft-Excel. This process can be represented by table (1) which involves: types of games, the idioms that are listed in test one, and the number and the percentages of the appropriate and inappropriate translations for each idiom.

Sport Idioms			Appropriate Translation		Inappropriate Translation	
No.	Type of Game	Idiom No.	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Tennis	Idiom 1	10	100%	0	0%
2	Football	Idiom 2	5	50%	5	50%

3	Basketball	Idiom 3	4	40%	6	60%
4	Baseball	Idiom 4	5	50%	5	50%
5	Boxing	Idiom 5	8	80%	2	20%
6	Golf	Idiom 6	4	40%	6	60%
7	Swimming	Idiom 7	9	90%	1	10%
8	Track & Field	Idiom 8	3	30%	7	70%
9	Hunting	Idiom 9	7	70%	3	30%
10	Fishing	Idiom 10	8	80%	2	20%

**Table (1) The Numbers and the Percentages of the Appropriate and Inappropriate Translations of each Idiom**

1) The first game, tennis, involves the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
1	The Ball is in Your Court	الكرة في ملعبك

Table (1) indicates that in idiom (1), “The Ball is in Your Court”, all the subjects achieved an appropriate translation, as in the following:

**Appropriate Translation**

الكرة في ملعبك  
 القرار قرارك

2) The second game, football, consists of the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
2	Playbook	الاحكام

Going back to table (1), it indicates that in idiom (2), “Playbook”, 50% of the subjects achieved an appropriate translation and 50% did not, as in the following:

**Appropriate Translation**

خطة اللعب  
 كتاب القوانين

**Inappropriate Translation**

سجل اللعبة  
 دفتر الإنذارات

3) The third game, basketball, comprises the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
3	A Jump Ball	فرص متكافئة

Depending on table (1), it is shown that in idiom (3), “A Jump Ball”, 40% of the subjects achieved an appropriate translation and 60% provided an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation	Inappropriate Translation
كرة يرميها الحكم بين فريقين لبدء اللعبة	كن ذئبا قبل ان تأكلك الذئاب
رمي الكرة في الهواء بين لاعبين	كرة ساقطة

4) The fourth game, baseball, consists of the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
4	Get to First Base	تحقيق الهدف

Table (1) shows that in idiom (4), “Get to First Base”, 50% of the subjects provided an appropriate translation and 50% gave an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation	Inappropriate Translation
تمكن من الوصول الى الملعب الاول	العودة الى المربع الاول
الوصول الى البداية	افتخر بإنجازاته

5) The fifth game, boxing, comprises the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
5	A One-Two Punch	تلقي ضربتين في آن واحد

Depending on table (1), it is shown that in idiom (5), “A One-Two Punch”, 80% of the subjects achieved an appropriate translation and 20% provided an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation	Inappropriate Translation
ضربة ثنائية	ضربة تليها ضربة
المصائب لا تأتي فرادى	لكمة بلكمتين

6) The sixth game, golf, consists of the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
6	Hole in One	حقق نجاحا كبيرا

Table (1) shows that in idiom (6), “Hole in One”, 40% of the subjects provided an appropriate translation and 60% gave an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation	Inappropriate Translation
اصابة الهدف بضربة واحدة	يضرع عصفورين بحجرة واحدة

شُق في واحد أدخل الكرة في الحفرة برمية واحدة

7) The seventh game, swimming, includes the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
7	Lightweight	ليس له مكانة او اهمية

According to the table (1), it is shown that in idiom (7), "Lightweight", 90% of the subjects presented an appropriate translation and 10% failed to present an appropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation

وزن خفيف  
وزن الخفيف

Inappropriate Translation

غير ناجح

8) The eighth game, track and field, consists of the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
8	A Head Start	بداية مبكرة

Table (1) shows that in idiom (8), "A Head Start", 30% of the subjects provided an appropriate translation and 70% gave an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation

انطلاقة ذات افضلية  
بداية متقدمة

Inappropriate Translation

بداية قوية  
بداية بالراس

9) The ninth game, hunting, comprises the sport idiomatic expressions:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
9	Bark up the Wrong Tree	يبحث في المكان الخطأ

According to the table (1), it is shown that in idiom (9), "Bark up the Wrong Tree", 70% of the subjects presented an appropriate translation and 30% failed to present an appropriate, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation

يطلق على الهدف الخطأ  
أخطأ الهدف

Inappropriate Translation

السير بالاتجاه الخاطئ  
تجاه الشجرة الخاطئة

10) The tenth game, fishing, consists of the sport idiomatic expressions:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
10	Fish or Cut Bait	قم بالعمل او انسحب منه

Table (1) shows that in idiom (10), “Fish or Cut Bait”, 80% of the subjects provided an appropriate translation and 20% gave an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation

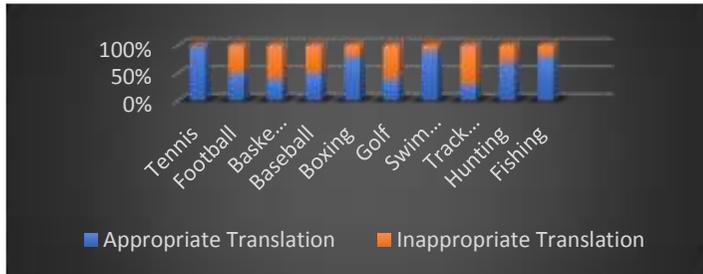
اصطد او توقف عن رمي الطعم  
اصطد او اقطع الطعم

Inappropriate Translation

ان يصطاد او ان يكسر السنارة  
-----

### Analysis and Results at the Level of Game Type in Test One

The researcher also conducts another analysis for the collected data at the level of the game type as an attempt to make a comparison among these types in order to find out the impact of the context of which ones scored high percentages of appropriate and inappropriate translations by the subjects. Some subjects achieved appropriate translations in some games like tennis, boxing, fishing and swimming. Others provided inappropriate translations in others games like basketball, golf, and track and field. Diagram (2) and table (2) reveal in detail these percentages.



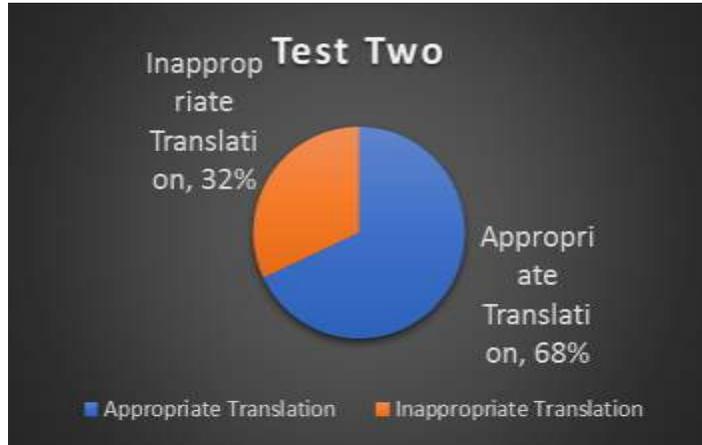
**Diagram (2) Appropriate and Inappropriate Translations at the Level of Game Type**

<b>Comparing the Translations at the Level of Games</b>					
<b>Seq.</b>	<b>Type of Game</b>	<b>Appropriate Translation</b>		<b>Inappropriate Translation</b>	
		<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Tennis</b>	10	100%	0	0%
<b>2</b>	<b>Football</b>	5	50%	5	50%
<b>3</b>	<b>Basketball</b>	4	40%	6	60%
<b>4</b>	<b>Baseball</b>	5	50%	5	50%
<b>5</b>	<b>Boxing</b>	8	80%	2	20%
<b>6</b>	<b>Golf</b>	4	40%	6	60%
<b>7</b>	<b>Swimming</b>	9	90%	1	10%
<b>8</b>	<b>Track &amp; Field</b>	3	30%	7	70%
<b>9</b>	<b>Hunting</b>	7	70%	3	30%
<b>10</b>	<b>Fishing</b>	8	80%	2	20%

**Table (2) The Percentages and the Numbers for the Appropriate and Inappropriate Translation at the Level of Game Type**

**Test Two (Sport Idiomatic Expressions in Everyday Language Context)**

The second test comprises the same 10 sport idiomatic expressions that were included in the first test but this time they are put within non-sport contexts. The same 10 subjects have been asked to translate the listed sport idiomatic expressions in test number two. Diagram (3) shows the total average of the translation of these idiomatic expressions, in test two, and whether the translation is appropriate or not:



### Diagram (3) Appropriate and Inappropriate Translations

The above diagram shows that 68% of the subjects provided an appropriate translation in translating sport idiomatic expressions from English into Arabic. It also shows that 32% of the subjects failed to achieve appropriate translations.

### Analysis and Results of Test Two

Likewise, the researcher analyzed the data in the second test i.e. for each idiom by using SPSS and Microsoft-Excel. This process can be represented in table (3) which includes: type of game, the whole idioms that are listed in test three, types of idioms, and the numbers and the percentages of the appropriate and inappropriate translations for each idiom.

Sport Idioms			Appropriate Translation		Inappropriate Translation	
No.	Type of Game	Idiom No.	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Tennis	Idiom 1	10	100%	0	0%
2	Football	Idiom 2	6	60%	4	40%
3	Basketball	Idiom 3	6	60%	4	40%
4	Baseball	Idiom 4	6	60%	4	40%
5	Boxing	Idiom 5	9	90%	1	10%
6	Golf	Idiom 6	6	60%	4	40%
7	Swimming	Idiom 7	8	80%	2	20%
8	Track & Field	Idiom 8	4	40%	6	60%
9	Hunting	Idiom 9	6	60%	4	40%
10	Fishing	Idiom 10	7	70%	3	30%

**Table (3) The Numbers and the Percentages of the Appropriate and Inappropriate Translations of each Idiom**

1) The first game, tennis, involves the sport idiomatic expressions:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
1	"Do you think I should accept the job offer?". "Don't ask me. <u>The ball is in your court</u> now".	انت المسؤول عن القرار

Table (3) shows that in idiom (1), "The Ball is in Your Court", all the subjects achieved an appropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation

القرار قرارك

انت صاحب القرار

2) The second game, football, consists of the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
2	This <u>playbook</u> , by our political consultants, is for the 2014 legislative campaign. It describes the strategy for the campaign, play by play.	خطة

Going back to the table (3), it indicates that in idiom (2), "Playbook", ٦٠% of the subjects achieved an appropriate translation and ٤٠% did not, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation

خارطة الطريق

الإستراتيجية

Inappropriate Translation

اللعبة

جدول الاعمال

3) The third game, basketball, comprises the sport idiomatic expressions:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
3	It is <u>a jump ball</u> . The two proposals are so close.	حيرة

Depending on table (3), it is shown that in idiom (3), "A Jump Ball", ٦٠% of the subjects achieved an appropriate translation and ٤٠% provided an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

## Appropriate Translation

نحن ازاء موقف متكافئ  
امر محير

## Inappropriate Translation

فوق العادة  
قفزة جيدة

4) The fourth game, baseball, consists of the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
4	I wish I could <u>get to first base</u> with my boss.	ادراك المبتغى

Table (3) shows that in idiom (4), “Get to First Base”, ٦٠% of the subjects provided an appropriate translation and ٤٠% gave an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

## Appropriate Translation

أكن في الصدارة  
أدرك ما اتمناه

## Inappropriate Translation

أبقى على تواصل  
أحرز الرمية الأولى

5) The fifth game, boxing, comprises the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
5	I got <u>a one-two punch</u> before the election: Two important groups were against me. I lost.	معضلتين متتاليتين

Depending on table (3), it is shown that in idiom (5), “A One-Two Punch”, 90% of the subjects achieved an appropriate translation and 10% provided an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

## Appropriate Translation

تلقيت ضربة موجعة  
تلقيت ضربتين متتاليتين

## Inappropriate Translation

ضربة مقابل ضربتين

6) The sixth game, golf, consists of the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
6	He got <u>a hole in one</u> with that sale. He sold a house in ten minutes.	نجاح غير متوقع

Table (3) shows that in idiom (6), "Hole in One", 60% of the subjects provided an appropriate translation and 40% gave an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation	Inappropriate Translation
أحرز صفقة خاطفة	سد رمية في قلب الهدف
حقق نجاحا باهرا وسريعا	توصلت الى اتفاق

7) The seventh game, swimming, includes the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
7	He can't help you. He is a <u>lightweight</u> in this corporation.	قليل الشأن

According to the table (3), it is shown that in idiom (7), "Lightweight", 80% of the subjects presented an appropriate translation and 20% failed to present an appropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation	Inappropriate Translation
ليس لديه منزلة او شأن كبير	وزن خفيف
ليس لديه قرار	لا يصلح

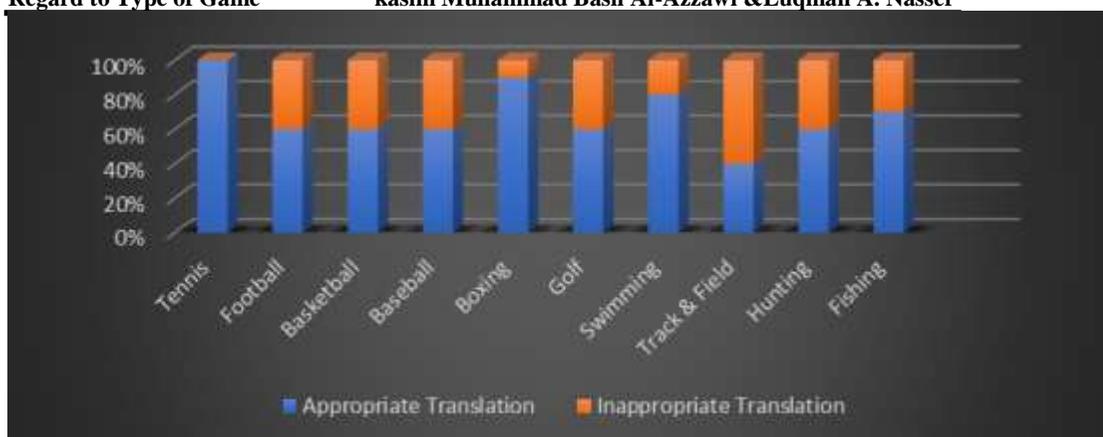
8) The eighth game, track and field, consists of the sport idiomatic expression:

No.	Sport Idiomatic Expression	Proposed Translation
8	We have a <u>head start</u> , because they faxed their contract to us and mailed it to the others.	البدء مبكراً

Table (3) shows that in idiom (8), "A Head Start", 40% of the subjects provided an appropriate translation and 60% gave an inappropriate translation, as in the following:

Appropriate Translation	Inappropriate Translation
اسبقية	كلمة الفصل
لنا الاولوية	على عجلة





**Diagram (4) Appropriate and Inappropriate Translations at the Level of Game Type**

Comparing the Translations at the Level of Games					
Seq.	Type of Game	Appropriate Translation		Inappropriate Translation	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	Tennis	10	100%	0	0%
2	Football	6	60%	4	40%
3	Basketball	6	60%	4	40%
4	Baseball	6	60%	4	40%
5	Boxing	9	90%	1	10%
6	Golf	6	60%	4	40%
7	Swimming	8	80%	2	20%
8	Track & Field	4	40%	6	60%
9	Hunting	6	60%	4	40%
10	Fishing	7	70%	3	30%

**Table (4) The Percentages and the Numbers for the Appropriate and Inappropriate Translation at the Level of Game Type Discussion**

The analysis includes all the sport idioms involved using SPSS and Microsoft Excel. The translation in test one of the decontextualized idioms, as it is shown in diagram (1), reveals that only 63% gave appropriate translations, while 37% of the subjects gave inappropriate translations. Table (1) page (11) gives details of the

percentages and numbers of the appropriateness and inappropriateness of the subjects' translations in relation to the type of game. Appropriate translations mean that the subjects produced the same intended meaning of the idiom. The analysis shows that the type of game is effective in giving the appropriate translations. A comparison between the types of games involved in this study reveals that more subjects achieved high percentages of appropriate translations in some types of games like tennis, football, boxing and swimming since these games are more familiar in our country. Other subjects provided low percentages of appropriate translations in other games like golf, hunting, fishing and basketball since these games are less familiar in our country or perhaps the subjects do not have good cultural background about them as shown in diagram (2) and table (2) page (15).

In test two, the same idioms are included but are put within everyday language contexts and are given to the same subjects to translate. The analysis of their translations reveals that 68% of the translations are appropriate and 32% are inappropriate. Table (3) page (17) gives details of the percentages and numbers of the appropriateness and inappropriateness of the subjects' translations in addition to the type of game. The analysis of the results of test two above in relation to the impact of everyday language context reveals that the impact of context has greater significance and it is closely related to the type of game.

### **Conclusions**

The analysis shows that the translation of the decontextualized idioms included in this study varies between providing appropriate or inappropriate translations depending on whether the subjects have some cultural background knowledge about them, and also depending on the type of games involved. The analysis shows that the type of game is more effective in giving a more appropriate translation. It also reveals that the translators achieved high percentages of appropriate translations in some types of games such as football, tennis, boxing and swimming. The reason is that these games are more popular to the translators, and so are their idioms than other games like golf, hunting or fishing which scored lower percentages of appropriate translations, and perhaps the translators

do not have good cultural background about them. Despite the general agreement on the significance of the context in providing or facilitating appropriate translations for sport idioms, it is not sufficient for effective translation sometimes. There are other factors such as the familiarity with idioms, and the cultural knowledge of both the source and target languages involved in translation which in our case are Arabic and English.

### **References**

- Al-Zahrani, H. (2018). Idiomatic Translation Between English and Arabic: Cultural Differences. *Journal of Language, Linguistics and Literature, American Institute of Science*, 4 (1), 3-5.
- Ali, H. & Al-Rushaidi, S. (2016). Translating Idiomatic Expressions from English into Arabic: Difficulties and Strategies. *Arab World English Journal*, 7 (4), 188-194.
- Alqahtni, H. (2014). *The Structure and Context of Idiomatic Expressions in the Saudi Press* (Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK). Retrieved from: <https://www.academia.edu/38579595/>
- Bouarroudj, A (2010). *Problems and Strategies of Translating Idioms from English into Arabic: A Case Study of Third Year Students of Applied Language Studies* (M.A. Thesis, Mentouri University of Constantine, Constantine, Algeria). Retrieved from: <https://bu.umc.edu.dz/theses/anglais/MEZ1146.pdf>
- Colin, N. (2005). *English and Swedish Animal Idioms: A Study of Correspondence and Variation in Content and Expression* (B.A. Thesis, Karlstad University, Karlstad, Sweden). Retrieved from: <http://kau.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:5163/FULLTEXT01.pdf>
- Crystal, D. (1997). *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language* (2<sup>nd</sup>ed). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Dweik, B & Thalji, M. (2016). Strategies for Translating Proverbs from English into Arabic. *Academic Research International*, 7 (2), 120.
- Fernando, C. (1981). *On Idiom: Critical Views and Perspectives (Exeter Linguistic Studies)*. Exeter: Exeter University Press.
- Henry, J. (2016). *How to Play the Game, American English Sports & Games Idioms*. New Jersey: Book Baby Publisher.

- Howwar, M. (2013). Seeking the Nature of Idioms: A Socio-Cultural Study in Idiomatic English and Arabic Meanings. *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*, 3 (2), 2.
- Idlibi, D. (2018). *The Importance of Context in Translation: A Study of Some Selected English and Arabic Terms and Concepts* (M.A. Thesis, Al-Baath University, Homs, Syria). Retrieved from: <https://www.academia.edu/39167511/>
- Ivir, V. (1987). *Procedures and Strategies for the Translation of Culture*. New Delhi: Bahri Publications Ltd.
- Jiang, W. (2000). The Relationship Between Culture and Language. *ELT Journal*, 54 (4), 328.
- Juma'a, O. (2014). *Translating Idiomatic Expressions from English into Arabic* (MA Thesis, Middle East University, Amman, Jordan). Retrieved from: [https://meu.edu.jo/libraryTheses/5870cd9386929\\_1.pdf](https://meu.edu.jo/libraryTheses/5870cd9386929_1.pdf)
- Khalil, Gh. (2010). Overcoming Difficulties in Translating Idioms from English into Arabic. *Mustansiriyah Journal of Arts*, (٥٣), 4-13.
- Langlotz, A. (2006). *Idiomatic Creativity*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing.
- Larson, M. (1984). *Meaning- Based Translation: A Guide to Cross – Language Equivalence*. Lanham / New York / London: University Press of America.
- Min, F. (2007). Cultural Issues in Chinese Idioms Translation. *Perspectives: Studies in Translatology*, 15 (4), 215-223.
- Moon, R. (1998). *Fixed Expressions and Idioms in English*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Newmark, P. (1988). *A Textbook of Translation*. New York: Prentice Hall.
- Palmer, F. (1976). *Semantics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Pedersen, V. (1997). Description and Criticism: Some Approaches to the English Translations of Hans Christian Andersen. In: A. Trosborg, eds. *Text Typology and Translation*. Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company, Amsterdam, Netherlands, ISBN 9027216290 – p. 109.
- Sköldberg, E. (2004). *The Cards on the Table-Content and Expressive Variation among Swedish Idioms* (Unpublished Ph.D. Dissertation). University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden.

- Strakšienė, M. (2009). Analysis of Idiom Translation Strategies from English into Lithuanian. *Studies About Languages Journal*, (14), 14-30.
  - Ullmann, S. (1957). *The Principles of Semantics* (2<sup>nd</sup>ed.). Oxford: Published by Jackson, Son & Co. /Glasgow University Publications.
- تأثير السياق في ترجمة التعبيرات الاصطلاحية الرياضية من الإنجليزية إلى العربية من

### حيث نوع اللعبة

قاسم محمد باسل قاسم \* ولقمان عبدالكريم ناصر \*

### المستخلص

تهدف الدراسة إلى إظهار تأثير السياق في ترجمة التعبيرات الاصطلاحية الرياضية من اللغة الإنجليزية إلى اللغة العربية؛ إذ تُعدُّ ترجمة هكذا نوع من التعبيرات مهمة صعبة التحقيق؛ لأنها ترتبط بثقافة تلك اللغة؛ إذ قام بعض المترجمين بترجمة التعبيرات الاصطلاحية الرياضية بمعزل عن السياق سواء كان رياضياً أو غير رياضي، لكن يبقى للسياق تأثير أساسي في ترجمة هذه التعبيرات وفهمها من المتحدثين باللغة العربية؛ إذ تفترض الدراسة أنَّ السياق لا يمكن الاستغناء عنه في ترجمة التعبيرات الاصطلاحية الرياضية، وتفترض هذه الدراسة أنَّ نوع اللعبة يؤثر في تحقيق تراجم صحيحة أو غير صحيحة، وتتألف البيانات في تحليل هذه الدراسة من ١٠ تعابير اصطلاحية رياضية؛ إذ اختيرت من ١٠ أنواع مختلفة من الألعاب الرياضية المألوفة وغير المألوفة؛ إذ أعطيت هذه التعبيرات لعشرة مدرسين من قسم الترجمة، كلية الآداب، جامعة الموصل، على شكل اختبارين لتترجم إلى اللغة العربية؛ فوضعت هذا التعبيرات في سياقين: بدون سياق وفي سياق اللغة اليومية، وتظهر نتائج الدراسة أنَّ السياق له تأثير إيجابي في تحقيق تراجم صحيحة، كما تظهر النتائج أيضاً أنَّ نوع اللعبة تؤدي دوراً أساسياً وفعالاً في تقديم تراجم صحيحة ولاسيماً في ترجمة هكذا نوع من المصطلحات.

الكلمات المفتاحية: السياق، الترجمة، التعبيرات الرياضية، نوع اللعبة.

---

طالب ماجستير/قسم الترجمة/كلية الآداب/جامعة الموصل .

أستاذ مساعد/قسم الترجمة/كلية الآداب/جامعة الموصل .