FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND VIETNAMESE

LANGUAGE OF APPRECIATION IN THE NOVEL *TWILIGHT* AND ITS VIETNAMESE TRANSLATION

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ABSTRACT: This study investigates the language of Appreciation in the novel *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer and its Vietnamese translation through Martin and White's (2005) Appraisal framework. Adopting a descriptive qualitative approach supported by quantitative analysis, the study identifies and compares Appreciation resources in the English source text and their Vietnamese translational equivalents. The findings show that Reaction is the dominant Appreciation subtype. Positive and negative Appreciation occur in relatively balanced proportions, while inscribed Appreciation considerably outnumber invoked ones. In the Vietnamese translation, 79.4% of Appreciation instances are preserved, whereas 13.2% are modified and 7.4% are omitted. The modifications involve distortion of evaluative meaning, shifts in polarity and shifts in mode of realisation. The study contributes to research on Appraisal Theory and literary translation by demonstrating the applicability of employing the Appraisal framework to evaluate the transfer of interpersonal meanings across languages.

KEY WORDS: Appraisal theory; appreciation; evaluative meaning; literary translation; *Twilight.*

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1. Introduction

Literary translation is a complex form of translation in which the translator is expected not only to convey the propositional content of the source text (ST) but also to reproduce its stylistic, interpersonal, and aesthetic effects in the target text (TT). Unlike many forms of technical or informational translation, literary texts frequently communicate meanings through subtle linguistic choices, including descriptions, metaphors, evaluative expressions, and representations of characters' emotions and attitudes. Such choices contribute to the way readers perceive characters, settings, events, and relationships constructed in a literary work. Consequently, literary translation involves the negotiation of multiple layers of meaning, among which evaluative meaning is particularly significant because it enables writers and narrators to position themselves and their readers toward the entities and phenomena represented in the text.

Developed from Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), Martin and White's (2005) Appraisal theory provides a comprehensive framework for investigating evaluative language. As an extension of Halliday's interpersonal metafunction, the Appraisal framework provides systematic tools for examining how speakers and writers express attitudes, negotiate positions, and grade the force or intensity of their evaluations. The framework consists of three major systems, namely Attitude, Engagement, and Graduation. Among these, Attitude is concerned with the expression of feelings, the evaluation of human behaviour, and the assessment of things and phenomena. It is further divided into three subsystems: Affect, Judgement, and Appreciation. While Affect concerns emotional responses and Judgement evaluates human behaviour, Appreciation concerns the evaluation of things, phenomena, products, processes, and states of affairs (Martin & White, 2005).

Within the Appraisal framework, Appreciation is particularly relevant to literary discourse because literary texts frequently construct evaluative meanings through descriptions of people, places, objects, events, and experiences. Appreciation can be realised explicitly through lexical items that directly encode evaluation or implicitly through descriptions and contextual configurations that lead readers to infer an evaluative position (Martin & White, 2005). This distinction is particularly

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important in literary texts, where evaluation is not necessarily expressed through overtly evaluative adjectives but may emerge indirectly from the way characters, settings, objects, and events are represented.

The transfer of Appreciation across languages, therefore, constitutes an important issue in literary translation. A translator may reproduce an evaluative expression directly, replace it with another linguistic realisation, weaken or strengthen its evaluative force, or omit the evaluative element altogether. Such changes may affect the interpersonal and aesthetic meanings of the TT even when its basic experiential content remains relatively similar to that of the ST. Examining Appreciation in both the ST and TT can consequently provide insights into how evaluative meanings are preserved, modified, or omitted in translation. From this perspective, an Appraisal-based analysis can contribute to a more systematic understanding of translation shifts involving evaluative language in literary texts.

One literary work that provides rich material for such an investigation is Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight*, a contemporary novel which has attracted worldwide popularity since its publication in 2005. The present study focuses specifically on Chapter one, "First Sight," of the novel *Twilight* and its Vietnamese translation, "Ánh nhìn đầu tiên". This chapter is particularly relevant to the investigation because it introduces the central setting of the narrative and establishes Bella's perceptions of Forks, her surroundings, and the people she encounters. The chapter contains numerous descriptions of the landscape, weather, physical appearance, objects, and social environment. Through these descriptions, evaluative meanings are constructed both explicitly and implicitly. Such linguistic choices provide a productive context for examining how Appreciation is realised in the English ST and subsequently rendered in the Vietnamese TT.

Although Appraisal theory has been increasingly employed in literary studies (Dong & Lin, 2018; Fan & Miao, 2020; Nguyen & Nguyen, 2023) and translation research (Li et al., 2025; Imamovic et al., 2025), studies focusing specifically on the transfer of Appreciation in English-Vietnamese literary translation remain relatively limited. In particular, there is a need for closer examination of how the different subtypes of Appreciation are linguistically realised in an English literary text and how their evaluative meanings are reproduced or transformed in Vietnamese. A detailed comparison of source-text and target-text realisations can therefore shed light on the extent to which translation preserves the evaluative positioning established by the original text. Against this background, the present study investigates the language of Appreciation in Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight* and its Vietnamese translation *Chạng vạng*, with particular attention to Chapter one, "First Sight." Drawing on Martin and White's (2005) Appraisal framework, the study addresses the following research questions:

(1) How are the different types of Appreciation (Reaction, Composition, Valuation) distributed in the English source text?

(2) How are the Appreciation resources identified in the English source text rendered in the Vietnamese target text?

(3) What translation shifts, if any, occur in the realisation of Appreciation resources in the Vietnamese target text?

2. Theoretical background

2.1. Appraisal theory

Appraisal theory, developed by Martin and White (2005), extends Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) by providing a systematic account of how language is used to express evaluation, negotiate interpersonal positions, and construe relationships between speakers/writers and their audiences. Building on Halliday's interpersonal metafunction, the Appraisal framework focuses on the linguistic resources through which speakers and writers express attitudes, engage with alternative viewpoints, and adjust the degree of their evaluations.

Appraisal is organised into three interconnected systems: Attitude, Engagement, and Graduation, as presented in Figure 1. Attitude is concerned with the expression of feelings, the evaluation of

human behaviour, and the assessment of things and phenomena. Engagement deals with the ways in which speakers/writers position themselves with respect to other voices. Graduation concerns the scaling of interpersonal meanings according to force or focus, allowing evaluations to be intensified, softened, sharpened, or blurred (Martin & White, 2005).

Attitude comprises three subsystems: Affect, Judgement, and Appreciation. Affect is concerned with emotional responses. Judgement evaluates human behaviour according to socially constructed norms and expectations. Appreciation evaluates things, objects, phenomena, and processes. This paper employs Appreciation as the analytical framework; therefore, other subcategories will not be elaborated here.

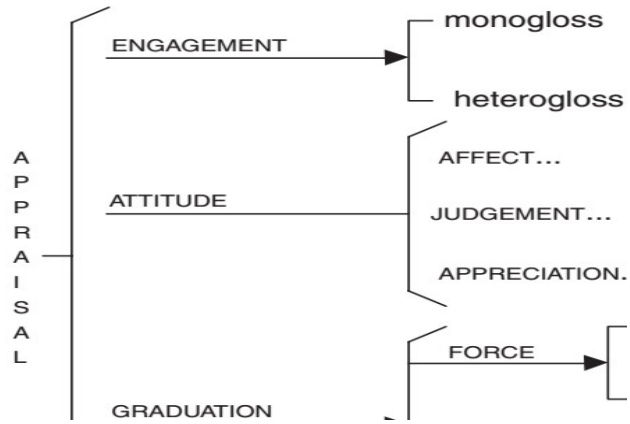

Figure 1. *An overview of appraisal resources (Martin & White, 2005, p. 38)*

2.2. Appreciation

Within the Attitude system, Appreciation refers to evaluations of things, natural phenomena, and processes. In literary discourse, Appreciation is particularly significant because writers and narrators frequently construct characters, settings, objects, events, and experiences through evaluative descriptions. Such descriptions do more than provide information about what is represented; they also guide readers towards particular ways of perceiving and interpreting the represented world. Martin and White (2005) distinguish three subtypes of Appreciation: Reaction, Composition, and Valuation. These categories represent different dimensions along which an entity or phenomenon may be evaluated.

Reaction concerns the extent to which a phenomenon attracts attention, produces an emotional response, or has an impact on the observer. It can be broadly associated with evaluations of whether something is aesthetically pleasing, engaging, striking, boring, or otherwise affecting. Expressions such as *beautiful, fascinating, boring,* and *striking* may function as Reaction resources when they construe the evaluated entity in terms of its impact on an observer. Reaction is divided into two sub-categories which are Impact (*Did it grab me?*) and Quality (*Did I like it?*).

Composition concerns the evaluation of the Balance (*Did it hang together?*) and Complexity (*Was it hard to follow?*) of things. Composition is particularly relevant when the evaluated entity is represented in terms of how its parts are organised or how well they form an integrated whole. A phenomenon may be construed as *harmonious, balanced, simple, complex,* or *disorganised*, for example.

Valuation concerns the social, cultural, functional, or aesthetic significance and worth of things. It addresses questions concerning whether something is valuable, important, worthwhile, appropriate, useful, or significant. Valuation differs from Reaction in that it is less concerned with the immediate

impact of an entity on an observer and more concerned with its perceived value or significance within a particular social or cultural context.

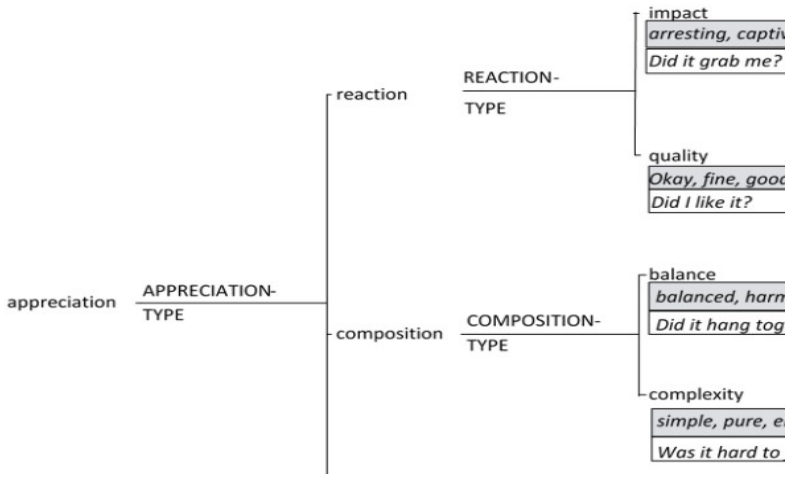

Figure 2. *Lexical instantiations of Appreciation (Martin & White, 2005 in Ngo, 2013, p.30)*

Appreciation can be distinguished according to polarity, namely positive and negative evaluation. Positive Appreciation presents an entity or phenomenon as desirable, attractive, valuable, coherent, or otherwise positively evaluated, whereas negative Appreciation constructs it as undesirable, unattractive, problematic, disordered, or lacking in value. Polarity is important in literary analysis because positive and negative evaluations contribute to the construction of contrasts among characters, settings, objects, and experiences.

Another important distinction is between inscribed and invoked evaluation. Inscribed Appreciation is explicitly encoded through linguistic expressions that directly signal an evaluative position. Words such as *beautiful, ugly, fascinating,* or *worthless* can, depending on context, explicitly construe positive or negative Appreciation. Invoked Appreciation, by contrast, is not directly encoded as an evaluative judgement but is evoked through the contextual interpretation available to readers (Martin & White, 2005). For instance, a detailed description of darkness, disorder, decay, or confinement may invite a negative appreciation of a setting without containing an overt evaluative adjective such as *ugly* or *unpleasant*.

In the context of translation, Appreciation provides a useful analytical perspective because evaluative meaning may undergo various forms of translation shift. An Appreciation resource can be preserved with substantially the same evaluative orientation, omitted from the target text, added where no explicit counterpart exists in the source text, or modified in terms of subtype, polarity, explicitness, or evaluative force. A translation may also strengthen or weaken an evaluation while maintaining its general orientation. Such shifts are particularly relevant to literary translation because even relatively small changes in evaluative wording can affect the characterisation of people, the representation of settings, and the emotional or aesthetic atmosphere of a narrative.

3. Research methodology

3.1. Research method

The present study adopts a descriptive qualitative approach to examine Appreciation in the English ST and its Vietnamese TT. A qualitative approach is appropriate for the study because the analysis requires the identification, categorisation, interpretation, and comparison of evaluative resources within their textual contexts (Bowen, 2009). Quantitative information, including frequencies and percentages, is also employed to describe the distribution of Appreciation resources.

However, these numerical data are used primarily to support and complement the qualitative analysis rather than to constitute the main analytical method.

3.2. Data collection tools

The data were manually extracted from the texts and systematically recorded and organised in Microsoft Excel. The software was used as a data management and coding tool because its tabular format enables the researcher to document, classify, and compare Appreciation resources in the ST and their corresponding expressions in the TT. It also facilitates the calculation of frequencies and percentages, thereby providing a systematic overview of the distribution of different Appreciation categories.

The organised dataset provided the foundation for both the qualitative interpretation and the quantitative description of the data. The frequency counts and percentage figures generated from the Excel dataset were used to demonstrate the distributional patterns of Appreciation resources and to identify notable tendencies in their translation into Vietnamese.

3.3. Research procedure

The analysis was carried out in several sequential stages.

First, the researcher examined the novel *Twilight* to identify the chapter containing the highest number of Appreciation expressions. This chapter, together with its corresponding Vietnamese translation, was subsequently selected as the textual data for the study.

Second, all linguistic expressions that realise Appreciation in the ST were identified based on the Appraisal framework proposed by Martin and White (2005).

Third, the identified Appreciation resources were entered and coded into Microsoft Excel. Each instance was classified according to its Appreciation subtype, namely Reaction (Impact and Quality), Composition (Balance and Complexity), and Valuation, as well as its polarity (positive or negative) and mode of realisation (inscribed or invoked). The corresponding Vietnamese translation of each Appreciation instance was then identified and aligned with the English ST item to enable systematic comparison between the two texts.

Finally, the Vietnamese translational equivalents were examined in relation to their corresponding ST expressions. The analysis focused on whether the evaluative meaning was retained in the TT and whether any changes occurred during translation. Particular attention was given to cases in which Appreciation was preserved, omitted, or shifted in translation.

4. Findings and Discussion

4.1. Linguistic realisations of Appreciation in the English source text

A total of 68 Appreciation instances were identified from chapter one of the novel *Twilight*, indicating that the evaluative meaning of Appreciation constitutes an important interpersonal feature of the narrative. As the chapter is narrated from Bella Swan's first-person perspective, the frequent occurrence of Appreciation resources enables readers to access her evaluation of the unfamiliar surroundings and the uncertainty of moving to Forks.

Table 1. *Distribution of Appreciation subtypes*

Appreciation resources		**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Reaction	Impact	15	22.1
	Quality	38	55.9
Composition	Balance	6	8.8
	Complexity	2	2.9
Valuation		7	10.3
Total		**68**	**100**

As shown in Table 1, all the three Appreciation subtypes, Reaction, Composition and Valuation, are presented in the ST although their distribution is uneven. Among these, Reaction accounts for the largest proportion, with 53 instances (78.0%), followed by Valuation with 7 instances (10.3%) and

Composition with 8 instances (11.7%). Within the Reaction category, Quality is by far the most frequently occurring subtype, comprising 38 instances (55.9%), whereas Impact occurs 15 times (22.1%). This indicates that the appreciation of entities in the ST is predominantly realised through evaluations of their perceived quality rather than through their impact on the evaluator. This can be seen in some of the typical examples as follows.

(1) ST *He said hastily in a voice **like velvet**.* (Reaction - Quality)
TT *Edward nói vội, giọng **êm mượt như nhung.***

(2) ST *Charlie gave me an **awkward**, one-armed hug when I stumbled my way off the plane.* (Reaction - Quality)
TT *Sau khi rời khỏi máy bay, bước chân của tôi có phần lảo đảo, ba vội đưa một tay ra ôm lấy tôi - một cái ôm **vụng về và lóng ngóng**.*

(3) ST *It was **beautiful**, of course; I couldn't deny that*. (Reaction - Quality)
TT **Đẹp quá, thật là đẹp**, tôi không thể phủ nhận điều đó.

***Table 2.** Distribution of positive and negative Appreciation resources*

Polarity	Frequency	Percentage
Positive	37	54.4
Negative	31	45.6
Total	**68**	**100**

The evaluation landscape of the English ST is further demonstrated by the distribution of positive and negative Appreciation resources, as presented in Table 2. Of the 68 Appreciation instances, 37 (54.4%) are positive, while 31 (45.6%) are negative. The difference between the two categories is relatively small, indicating a fairly balanced distribution of positive and negative evaluations in the ST. This relatively narrow difference suggests that the ST is characterised by a mixed evaluative landscape, in which favourable and unfavourable assessments coexist. This pattern is consistent with Bella's transitional experience. She is initially alienated from her new surroundings while simultaneously encountering people and objects that arouse her interest and admiration. Let us consider the following examples:

(4) ST *It was from this town and its **gloomy**, omnipresent shade that ...* (Reaction -ve)
TT *Từ thị trấn này cùng vẻ **ảm đạm chán chường** của nó ...*

(5) ST *That was comforting ... and **boring**.* (Reaction -ve)
TT *Thật nhàn hạ ... đến **phát chán**.*

(6) ST *The antique radio worked, **a plus** that I hadn't expected*. (Valuation +ve)

(7) ST ..., *all their features, were straight, **perfect**, angular*. **(Reaction +ve)**
TT ..., *gương mặt của họ rất cân đối, xương xương và **hoàn hảo***.

***Table 3.** Distribution of inscribed and invoked Appreciation resources*

Appreciation resources		Inscribed		Invoked	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Reaction	Impact	8	11.7	7	10.3
	Quality	30	44.1	8	11.8
Composition	Balance	5	7.4	1	1.5
	Complexity	2	2.9	0	0
Valuation		5	7.4	2	2.9
Total		**50**	**73.5**	**18**	**26.5**

Another notable finding is concerned with the mode of Appreciation realisation. As shown in Table 3, of the 68 Appreciation resources identified in the ST, 50 instances (73.5%) are inscribed whereas 18 instances (26.5%) are invoked. The clear predominance of inscribed Appreciation

indicates that evaluative meanings in the ST are more frequently realised explicitly through linguistic expressions that directly encode evaluation, rather than being inferred primarily from the contextual or experiential meanings of the descriptions. This pattern provides an important basis for examining the Vietnamese translation, since the distinction between inscribed and invoked Appreciation may be affected when descriptive or evaluative meanings are transferred from English into Vietnamese. Some examples of inscribed and invoked Appreciation resources in the ST and TT are illustrated below.

(8) ST *My mom and I had pooled our resources to supplement my winter wardrobe, but it was still* ***scanty***. (Reaction - Inscribed)
TT *Mẹ và tôi đã chắt chiu từng thứ để bổ sung vào tủ đồ mặc đông của tôi mà vẫn* ***chẳng thấm vào đâu cả***.

(9) ST *The room was cut in half by a long counter,* ***cluttered*** *with wire baskets full of papers and brightly colored flyers.* (Reaction - Inscribed)
TT *Văn phòng được ngăn ra làm hai bởi một kệ tủ dài,* ***để bừa bãi*** *các sọt lưới chứa đầy giấy cùng đủ loại tờ rơi có màu sắc sặc sỡ.*

(10) ST *You could never see the sky here; it was* ***like a cage***. (Reaction - Invoked)
TT *Không thể nhìn thấy bầu trời đâu nữa, tất cả* ***chẳng khác chi một cái lồng***.

In examples (8) and (9), the evaluative meanings are inscribed through explicit evaluative lexis, namely "*scanty*" and "*cluttered*", which directly encode negative Reaction. Their Vietnamese equivalents, "*chẳng thấm vào đâu cả*" and "*bừa bãi*", likewise convey explicit negative evaluations. In contrast, example (10), "*like a cage*," realises invoked Appreciation, as the negative evaluation is not directly stated but inferred from the metaphorical image of a "*cage*", which suggests confinement and oppr ession. The Vietnamese translation "*chẳng khác chi một cái lồng*" retains this metaphor and therefore preserves the invoked mode of realisation.

Overall, the findings indicate that the language of Appreciation in the ST is characterised by a clear predominance of Reaction. Positive Appreciation slightly exceeds negative Appreciation, suggesting a relatively balanced evaluative pattern in the ST, with favourable and unfavourable assessments coexisting. In terms of mode of realisation, inscribed Appreciation is considerably more frequent than invoked Appreciation, indicating that evaluations are more often expressed explicitly through evaluative lexical choices than indirectly through descriptions or figurative language. These linguistic characteristics form the basis for examining how the interpersonal meanings of Appreciation are rendered in the Vietnamese translation.

4.2. Rendering of Appreciation in the Vietnamese target text

The analysis of the Vietnamese translation reveals that the translator generally succeeds in conveying the interpersonal meanings encoded by Appreciation resources in the ST. As presented in Table 4, of the 68 Appreciation instances identified in the English ST, 54 instances (79.4%) are translated with their evaluative meanings preserved. Nine instances (13.2%) undergo modification, while five instances (7.4%) involve complete omission of Appreciation.

Table 4. *Distribution of manifestation of Appreciation in the Vietnamese translation*

Manifestation via Translation	Frequency	Percentage
Preservation of Appreciation	54	79.4
Omission of Appreciation	5	7.4
Modification of Appreciation	9	13.2
Total	**68**	**100**

The high proportion of preserved Appreciation indicates in most cases, the translator successfully retains not only the polarity of Affect but also its evaluative force and contextual function, allowing Vietnamese readers to experience evaluative meanings comparable to those conveyed in the original

text. Despite this overall equivalence, several instances exhibit meaning loss or modification. Two examples of omission of Appreciation are illustrated below:

(11) ST *It rains on this* ***inconsequential*** *town more than any other place.*
TT *Mưa ở* ***thị trấn này*** *lúc nào cũng nhiều hơn ở bất cứ vùng nào khác thuộc nước Mỹ.*

(12) ST *After he left, I sat at the old square oak table in* ***one of the three unmatching*** *chairs ...*
TT *Ba rời khỏi nhà trước. Còn lại tôi ngồi một mình giữa* ***một trong ba chiếc ghế****, bên chiếc bàn vuông làm bằng gỗ sồi ...*

In example (11), the adjective "*inconsequential*" realises negative Valuation, presenting the town as insignificant or lacking importance. However, this evaluation is omitted in the Vietnamese translation, "*thị trấn này*", which refers to the town without conveying its negative evaluative meaning. Similarly, in example (12), "*unmatching*" expresses negative Composition, evaluating the three chairs as lacking harmony or uniformity. In the Vietnamese version, "*một trong ba chiếc ghế*", the adjective "*unmatching*" is omitted, leaving only the factual reference to the chairs. Thus, in both cases, the omission results in a loss of explicit Appreciation, making the TT less evaluative than the ST.

There are nine Appreciation instances whose evaluative meanings are modified in translation. Example (13) illustrates a shift in the polarity of Appreciation. In the ST, "*hair black as an oil slick*" uses a comparison with "*an oil slick*" to evoke an unfavourable evaluation, whereas "*tóc đen nhánh*" in the TT carries a favourable aesthetic connotation. This represents a shift from negative to positive Appreciation, showing that translation may substantially reshape the evaluative meaning encoded in the ST.

(13) ST *a gangly boy with skin problems and* ***hair black as an oil slick*** *leaned across the aisle to talk to me.*
TT *có một anh chàng lênh khênh, ốm nhom,* ***tóc đen nhánh****, nhoài người sang bắt chuyện với tôi.*

Another form of modification is shift in the mode of Appreciation realisation. Consider the following example:

(14) ST *It was seventy-five degrees in Phoenix, the sky a* ***perfect****,* ***cloudless*** *blue.*
TT *Hiện giờ, ở Phoenix đang là 24°C, bầu trời* ***xanh ngắt không có lấy một gợn mây****.*

In example (14), the phrase "*a perfect, cloudless blue*" contains an explicit positive evaluation through the adjective "*perfect*", representing an inscribed Appreciation. The Vietnamese translation, "*bầu trời xanh ngắt không có lấy một gợn mây*," omits the explicit evaluative adjective and instead creates a favourable impression through descriptive imagery, resulting in a shift from inscribed to invoked Appreciation. This shift may reduce the directness and assertiveness of the evaluation compared with the ST, as the positive value is no longer explicitly stated but is instead constructed through the reader's interpretation of the description.

There are also distortions of Appreciation, whereby the TT conveys a different evaluative meaning from that of the ST. For instance:

(15) ST *Forks High School had a* ***frightening*** *total of only three hundred and fifty- seven - now fifty-eight students.*
TT *Trường trung học Forks sở hữu một sĩ số học sinh* ***lạ thường****, trước kia là ba trăm năm mươi bảy học sinh - bây giờ thành ba trăm năm mươi tám học sinh.*

The adjective "*frightening*" explicitly realises negative Reaction, evaluating the small number of students at Forks High School as unexpecting and unsettling. However, the Vietnamese translation "*lạ thường*" does not convey the negative evaluative force of "*frightening*". The translation, therefore, results in a distortion of the original evaluative meaning, with the negative impact being considerably weakened. Another example is found in:

(16) ST *I stared because their faces, so different, so similar, were all* ***devastatingly, inhumanly beautiful****.*

TT *Sở dĩ tôi không thể rời mắt khỏi năm học sinh nọ là bởi gương mặt của họ quá khác biệt nhau, nhưng đồng thời lại rất giống nhau, tất cả đều mang một vẻ* ***hoang dại đến ấn tượng****.*

In example (16), the expression "*devastatingly, inhumanly beautiful*" presents an extremely strong positive evaluation of the characters' appearance, with the adverbs "*devastatingly*" and "*inhumanly*" intensifying the evaluation. In the Vietnamese translation, "*hoang dại đến ấn tượng*" conveys a positive evaluation but reconstructs it through a different lexical image and evaluative emphasis. Thus, although the positive polarity is retained, the quality and intensity of Appreciation are modified in translation.

Overall, the findings demonstrate that the Vietnamese translation largely preserves the Appreciation resources in the English ST. The preserved cases indicate a high degree of continuity in the evaluative meanings between the ST and TT. However, the modified instances reveal several types of shifts, including distortion of evaluative meaning, changes in polarity or mode of realisation. These changes suggest that although the translation generally maintains the evaluative dimension of the original, some Appreciation meanings are reconstructed through different lexical or descriptive choices in Vietnamese. Such shifts may alter the explicitness, intensity, direction of evaluation and consequently influence how target readers perceive the people, objects, and settings described in the ST.

5. Conclusion

This study has examined the language of Appreciation in chapter one of the novel *Twilight* and its Vietnamese translation through the Appraisal framework of Martin and White (2005). By combining quantitative and qualitative analyses, the study has explored both the linguistic realisations of Appreciation in the English ST and the ways in which these interpersonal meanings are rendered in the Vietnamese TT. The findings show that Reaction is the most frequently occurring Appreciation subtype in the English ST. Positive and negative Appreciation are relatively balanced, although positive evaluations occur slightly more frequently. In terms of realisation, inscribed Appreciation considerably outnumbers invoked Appreciation, indicating a preference for explicit evaluative expression in the ST.

The comparison between the source and target texts further reveals that Appreciation is largely preserved in the Vietnamese translation, with almost 80% of Appreciation instances retaining their evaluative meanings. Nevertheless, some instances are omitted or modified, resulting in shifts in evaluative meaning, polarity, and mode of realisation. These findings suggest that while the Vietnamese translation generally maintains the evaluative dimension of the original, certain translation choices reconstruct Appreciation through different linguistic and descriptive resources, potentially affecting the explicitness and direction of evaluation perceived by target readers.

Overall, the study demonstrates the usefulness of Appraisal Theory in revealing subtle evaluative shifts in English-Vietnamese literary translation. By focusing specifically on Appreciation, it contributes to a more detailed understanding of how literary evaluation is maintained and reshaped across languages.

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Ngôn ngữ thẩm giá trong tiểu thuyết *Twilight* và bản dịch tiếng Việt

Tóm tắt: Nghiên cứu này khảo sát ngôn ngữ Thẩm giá (Appreciation) trong tiểu thuyết *Twilight* của Stephenie Meyer và các tương đương dịch thuật trong bản dịch tiếng Việt *Chạng vạng* dựa trên khung lý thuyết Đánh giá của Martin và White (2005). Nghiên cứu sử dụng phương pháp định tính mô tả kết hợp với phân tích thống kê định lượng để xác định, phân loại và đối chiếu các nguồn lực Thẩm giá trong nguyên bản và bản dịch. Kết quả cho thấy Phản ứng (Reaction) là tiểu loại Thẩm giá chiếm ưu thế nhất. Thẩm giá tích cực và Thẩm giá tiêu cực có sự phân bố tương đối cân bằng, trong khi Thẩm giá hiển ngôn xuất hiện nhiều hơn Thẩm giá hàm ngôn. Trong bản dịch tiếng Việt, 79,4% nguồn lực Thẩm giá được bảo toàn, 13,2% bị biến đổi và 7,4% bị lược bỏ. Các biến đổi Thẩm giá chủ yếu liên quan đến biến đổi nghĩa đánh giá, thay đổi cực tính (tích cực hoặc tiêu cực) hay phương thức hiện thực hóa (hiển ngôn hoặc hàm ngôn).

Từ khóa: Ngôn ngữ đánh giá; thẩm giá; nghĩa đánh giá; dịch văn học; *Twilight.*