

ATINER CONFERENCE PRESENTATION SERIES No: LNG2022-0247

**ATINER's Conference Paper Proceedings Series**

LNG2022-0247

Athens, 9 September 2022

**A Study of Chinese-specific Terms in  
Government Work Report (2017-2019) from  
the Perspective of Relevance Theory**

Jiaxin Shi

Athens Institute for Education and Research  
9 Chalkokondili Street, 10677 Athens, Greece

ATINER's conference paper proceedings series are circulated to promote dialogue among academic scholars. All papers of this series have been presented at one of ATINER's annual conferences according to its acceptance policies (<http://www.atiner.gr/acceptance>).

© All rights reserved by authors.

**ATINER's Conference Paper Proceedings Series**

LNG2022-0247

Athens, 9 September 2022

ISSN: 2529-167X

Jiixin Shi, Graduate Student, Harbin Engineering University, China

**A Study of Chinese-specific Terms in  
Government Work Report (2017-2019) from  
the Perspective of Relevance Theory**

**ABSTRACT**

The Government Work Report is an essential form of the document of the government of the People's Republic of China. It covers all aspects of Chinese society and reflects China's development strategy and trends. There are countless special terms in Government Work Report. Only by understanding Chinese-specific terms can we understand the content of the Government Work Report. Only by accurately translating the Chinese-specific terms can people come from all across the world know the Chinese government work report and understand China. Relevance theory is a popular theory of cognitive pragmatics. Relevance Translation Theory, which is closely related to Relevance Theory, has crucial and major guiding significance for the translation of Chinese-specific terms. Through studying Relevance Theory and researching the translation techniques, strategies and applications in the process of translating Chinese-specific terms from the perspective of Relevance Theory, we can understand the meaning and connotation of Chinese-specific terms, then solve various problems in the process of C-E translation, and strengthen our translation ability.

**Keywords:** government work report, Chinese-specific terms, relevance theory, translation

**Acknowledgments:** Time flies, I have studied at Harbin Engineering University for one year and Minjiang University for four years. I often think about the time I spent at the university and look back on my growth process. At this point, I thank those who once helped me in these four years. First and foremost, I would like to thank my thesis advisor Mrs. Cui Dan and Mrs. Fu Xiaoxia. In the process of writing this paper, they guided me patiently and gave me a host of helpful suggestions. Not only that, in Mrs. Cui Dan's class, she taught me a lot of knowledge about English and Chinese language contrast, and in Mrs. Fu Xiaoxia's writing class, she benefited me a lot with her serious and careful attitude. I am eager to be a person as conscientious and

responsible as them, meanwhile, I hope I could usher in a brighter future. Secondly, I would like to thank Harbin Engineering University and Minjiang University. With so enchanting environment, I could have a comfortable life. I thank Harbin Engineering University and Minjiang University for cultivating each of us, and teaching us true knowledge and the spirit of hard work so that we could learn abundant knowledge before entering the job market. Finally, I would like to thank my parents for their fostering, as well as their support and encouragement whenever I encounter setbacks. I love them forever! In addition, I thank my roommates, because I am lucky to live a happy life accompanied by their laughter every day. I hope that we all have a happier life in the future!

## **Introduction**

### *Research Background*

China is one of the Four Ancient Civilizations boasting a time-honored history of 5000 years. Alongside that, she shares profound language and cultural richness. With the enhancement of its international influence, growing attention coming from across the whole world has been paid to China's political, economic and cultural activities. And the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China has put a premium on China's construction of international broadcasting power and of dialogue theory system. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, many new Chinese-specific terms have appeared, such as "Start all over again (另起炉灶)", "Standing on one side (一边倒)", "Iron rice bowl (铁饭碗)". Therefrom, the Chinese-specific terms are emerging in an endless stream in various fields, such as politics, economy, culture, education, etc. The English translation of publicity documents, especially political documents such as government reports and government websites has served as a bridge for China's international exchange. It reflects the comprehensive influence and international standing on China's path to development. The translation work is imminent.

Thus, this paper applies Relevance Theory, an influential emerging theory in the field of cognitive linguistics, to run an in-depth analysis of the means and meaning of the translation of those Chinese-specific terms in the government reports (2017-2019).

### *Research Design*

This thesis will cover just four parts: Introduction, Theoretical Framework: Relevance Theory, An Introduction to Government Work Report, and C-E Translation of Chinese-specific terms in GWR from the Perspective of Relevance Theory. And the fourth part attempts to produce a qualitative and overall analysis in the light of a combination of descriptive and interpretative methods. It aims to analyze and explore the translation process of Chinese-specific terms with theoretical application and elaboration from the perspective of Relevance Theory. Chinese specific terms include political terms, economic terms, cultural terms, social terms, scientific and technological terms, ecological terms, idioms, and so on. The thesis will classify and study some of these terms according to the following aspects:

1. This paper will describe and analyze the process of C-E translation of Chinese-specific terms under the framework of Relevance Theory.
2. How does Chinese-specific terms translation achieve the optimum following Relevance Theory?
3. What kinds of translation strategies are utilized for C-E translation of terms with Chinese characteristics based on the Relevance Theory?

4. What difficulties and problems are likely to arise in the course of C-E translation of all kinds of Chinese-specific terms?
5. According to this, the thesis will find the most appropriate translation strategies and make a breakthrough in the rendering of Chinese-specific terms in the Government Work Report.

### **Theoretical Framework: Relevance Theory**

In this part, we mainly focus on the theoretical framework of this research, which fully expounds the academic knowledge of Relevance Theory.

#### *Definition of Relevance Theory*

In the late 1980s, Dan Sperber and Deirdre Wilson put forward the basis of cognitive pragmatics, Relevance Theory in their corporate disquisition: *Relevance Communication and Cognition*. It is regarded as one of the earliest, most rapid increasing and most widely used theory in the three pragmatic theories (two other theories is Adaptation Theory and Memetics).<sup>[1](P112)</sup> The kernel of Relevance Theory is communication and cognition, and its role can furnish a sound explanation for the cognition and communication rules of mankind.

#### *Definition of Relevance*

Relevance theory is based on relevance. Different people have various understandings of the meaning of vocabulary as a result of distinct contexts and implications. Meanwhile, it is very often that the listeners might misunderstand partial words or context in a specific situation so that they might only make much of their simple and basic standard, which makes them have difficulty in understanding a certain context. And the standard is relevance.

Human communication is a process of pursuing relevance. Sperber and Wilson believe that “people have intuitions of relevance; they distinguish relevance from irrelevance information, or in some sense, more relevance from less relevance information.”<sup>[1](P119)</sup> And they state that relevance is a matter of degree concerning to the contextual effect of an utterance and effort paid in processing the utterance, so the degree of relevance is decided by two elements: contextual effects (or cognitive effects) and processing effort.

Cognitive effects are brought about when newly-raised information interacts with a context of extant assumption in one of the following three means:

1. to bolster a previous assumption, which signifies the present supposition is reinforced by new information;
2. to contradict and eliminate a previous assumption, namely, the two assumptions don't relate well to each other in the interest of the weaker is abandoned;

3. to combine with a previous assumption to produce a further contextual effect, which is also called contextual implication, and it refers to the more information gained by new information combined with an existing assumption. This means we can achieve contextual effect randomly.<sup>[2](P119)</sup>

According to Sperber and Wilson, the processing effort is linked with the effort of perception, memory, and inference required to present the input, access contextual information and derive cognitive effect. Therefore, even though people can make a processing effort, they may not achieve enough contextual effect. Thus, they elaborate on the extent of relevance and redefine the definition of relevance by employing extent-conditions format as below:

Extent condition 1: an assumption is relevant in a certain context to the extent that its contextual effects in this context are large.

Extent condition 2: an assumption is relevant in a context to the extent that the effort required to process it in this context is small.<sup>[2](P125)</sup>

From the above definition, we can know that, under the akin conditions, the smaller processing effort of cognitive effect made by the listeners, the greater relevance is brought about. However, the processing effort is also influenced by intelligence elements. So, under the same conditions, the smaller processing effort of discourse made by the hearers, the greater relevance is achieved.

In conclusion, relevance can be expressed by the following formula:

Relevance = contextual effects/processing effort

### *Principle of Relevance*

Sperber and Wilson indicate that communication is relevance-oriented. The two principles of relevance is the cognitive principle and the communicative principle. Definition as follows:

Cognitive principle of relevance: Human cognition would prefer to be geared to the maximization of relevance.

Communicative principle of relevance: Every act of ostensive communication communicates its optimal relevance.<sup>[2](P260)</sup>

The cognitive principle explains how communicators tend to obtain maximal relevance in their exchange activities, that is to say, the hearer attempts to process the utterance as fruitful as possible. The purpose is to acquire as great a cognitive effect as possible with as little as possible a processing cost.

The communicative principle of relevance is based on the cognitive principle, which represents the final sake of communicators to exchange in daily conversation.

These two principles of relevance are two basic rules in human

communication. But, it doesn't mean both communicators should act in the light of the two principles ceaselessly during communication. In reality, communication is a natural physiological behavior and basic instincts of humankind, which is controlled by the human brain. It prefers to find and process the information which has the greatest relevance in the easiest way.

### *Relevance Theory and Translation*

In recent years, many applied searches involved in Relevance Theory has opened up new perspectives for the other linguistic fields, and translation studies are no exception. Even if Relevance Theory isn't a theory concerning translation, it can efficiently explain and direct translation activity.

Ernst August Gutt, a German translation scholar, established a Framework of Translation Theory based on the Relevance Theory and provided a brand new perspective to the study of translation.<sup>[3](P99)</sup> Gutt's Relevance Translation Theory furnishes scientific proof for the fundamental concepts and principles of Relevance Theory and supplies a systematic explication of Relevance Theory's explanatory strength to translation. Thus, it is reasonable that Relevance Theory can be effectively used in the translation study and practice.

In daily life, when people talk with each other, they prefer to use a host of rhetorical devices including metaphor, metonymy, hyperbole, euphemism and so on. Sometimes we say, "you are killing me." It doesn't mean "you kill me", but "you're driving me crazy." However, "these words couldn't prevent us from understanding each other's real meaning."<sup>[4](P35)</sup>

Relevance Theory interprets such dissemination of information as what people say and what they really would like to express in communication are interpretative resemblance.

The translation process consists of two Ostensive-inferential processes.<sup>[5](PP67-70)</sup> The first is the Ostensive-inferential process. The original authors express their communicative intentions to the translator, and the translator understands the communicative intentions in the light of the contextual information of the original text and the Relevance Theory. In this process, translators are "listeners". After finishing the communication process, the translator starts to deal with the second Ostensive-inferential communication stage. At this stage, the identity of the translator is the "speaker". The translator interprets the information to the target reader based on the original context, and his comprehension of the conversational intention of the original discourse.

At the same time, the ideal translation and original text should be a completely interpretative resemblance. The ideal translation should fulfill such conditions: "Translation should convey its all superficial meaning and connotative meaning of the expression of a desire to readers."<sup>[4](P99)</sup>

However, such condition is hard to meet. To succeed in communication, the translator should have a deep understanding of the original text, and provide the target readers with the greatest similarity to the original text under the guidance of the relevance principle. Generally speaking, the translation is assumed to be sufficiently similar to the original in relevant respects and to

produce sufficient contextual effects without much processing effort.

## **An Introduction to Government Work Report**

### *Definition of Government Work Report*

Broadly speaking, the Government work report refers to the work report of provincial and municipal governments. Governments at all levels must issue this report to the Presidium of the General Assembly, deputies to the People's Congress, and members of the Political Consultative Conference at the yearly local People's congresses conference and Political Consultative Conference. This thesis, it refers to the Government Work Report in the People's Republic of China, which is an essential form of official document. The government report requires to be comprehensive and objective, to be focused, to be innovative, and to be simple in its style.

### *Main Contents of Government Work Report*

#### Work Review of Last Year

Review and summarize the previous year's government work. Reporting the attainments of the government and the accomplishment of the main economic indicators, and then dividing the government work into several major categories (such as economy, social undertakings, labor and so on.), elaborating on the work initiatives and achievements.

#### Work Tasks of This Year

Summarizing the work of the government and reporting the work plan and objective of the government in the current year. First, explain the fundamental ideas and major tasks of the government's work this year. Then dividing the government work into several major categories (including economy, social undertakings, people's livelihood, labor and so on.), and the measures and work planned to be adopted are elaborated in detail.

#### Government Self-construction

Elaborating the steps and work plans to be adopted in terms of government functions, administration and so on within the government.

#### Something Else

Generally speaking, the Premier of State Council's government work report includes the diplomacy and the international situation, etc. Every Five-year Plan begins with a summary of the past five years and a general plan for the subsequent five years. At the end of some government work reports, there are some new nouns and proper nouns and its explanation.



*Government Work Report and its Translation*

The government work report is a significant window for rest countries around the planet to get to learn more about China and it is quite necessary to ensure the accurate translation of the Government work report. However, because of its momentous Chinese flavor, such as four-character phrases, idioms, and parallel structures and that imbued with unique Chinese characteristics, it is an obviously difficult task to obtain exact equivalents in English. Newmark once said,

“All translation remains a craft requiring a trained skill, continually renewed linguistic and non-linguistic knowledge and a deal of flair and imagination, as well as intelligence and above all common sense. Semantic translation, basically the work of one translator, is an art. Communicative translation, sometimes the product of a translator’s team, is a craft.”<sup>[6](P53)</sup>

German translation theorist Neubert has separated the translation of totally different texts into the following situations:

1. Focusing on the original text in the field of scientific research.
2. Focusing mainly on the original text, such as literary works.
3. Both the original and the translated versions should be taken into account in the field of professional literature.
4. Focusing mainly or exclusively on the translation, such as Policy propaganda translation.<sup>[7](P10)</sup>

According to Newmark and Neubert, Policy Propaganda Translation should focus mainly or exclusively on the target text, namely, the translation should conform to the habit of the target parole in terms of expression, format, and wording. Their viewpoint is in line with the actual situation of policy propaganda work and provides a theoretical basis for our translation work in this field.<sup>[8](P75)</sup>

In addition, we should know that the translation version of political documents differs from other types of translations (like literary translation), and it has relatively strict timeliness restrictions. For example, the“四大”(即“大鸣、大放、大字报、大辩论”)was affirmed before the 1970s and it can be translated as “speak out freely, airing one’s view fully, writing big-character posters and holding great debates”. However, with the changes of the time, “四大” was denied. So it is impossible to translate them in this way.<sup>[9](P50)</sup> This shows that the times are changing and the translations should change accordingly. People who translate political documents should keep abreast of the times, otherwise, they will make political mistakes.

“Chinglish” is also more likely to appear in the translation of “Government Work Report”. There are three reasons for this: First, it is extremely hard for new words and phrases with Chinese characteristics to find ready-made equivalents in English dictionaries. Second, it requires a stricter requirement

for faithfulness to the original text, which makes it easy to apply the Chinese structure for political security. But this leads to rigid translation. Third, the government work reports have lots of compound predicates, short sentences, a single sentence, abstract words, and repetitive words so as the translation is easier to be loosely structured, dull and obscure. In short, in C-E translation Chinglish is a problem that is mostly hard to overcome and fixed. If we want to solve this problem fundamentally, we need to master some skills to reduce “Chinglish” and gain more knowledge and strengthen the cultivation of both Chinese and English.

### **C-E Translation from the Perspective of the Relevance Theory**

In the process of C-E translation of Chinese-specific terms, the most common mistake we made is to translating literally. However, this translated version will not only appear “Chinglish” but also cause the target reader to misunderstand the real meaning behind the terms. To reduce “Chinglish”, we can use two techniques based on a thorough understanding of the original text:

1. Substitution, the main methods are substituting pronoun, narrowing modifiers, exploiting general nouns, and changing words.
2. Use subject-subordinate structure, including clauses, participle phrases, prepositional phrases, etc.<sup>[10](26)</sup>

Mastering these two skills can help overcome a host of Chinglish and boost the quality of translation. And to convey the real meaning of the Chinese-specific terms more faithfully, we can use Relevance Translation Theory to search for the best-fitting translation of the original text.

#### *C-E Translation of Political terms*

There are various political terminologies in Government Work Reports, of which the core is the terms related to national development strategies and initiatives. Most of these terms are abbreviations of specific political strategies, so the translation is easy to be Chinglish. Therefore, the difficulty in translating these terms is that we should not only translate the meaning of the terms but also reflect the real meaning behind the terms. We will analyze the translation process of the following terms to avoid Chinglish by using Relevance Theory, and then explain why we translate the terms in this manner in the two stages of the ostensive-inferential process. Finally, we can achieve the most suitable translation.

#### “四个全面” the Four-pronged Comprehensive Strategy

We can translate “四个全面战略布局” into “four overall strategic layouts”. But with a little analysis, we will find that “four” and “comprehensive” are in conflict. This is a very typical Chinglish and will entail the target audience misread the real content of this strategy. But as Chinese, we all know that “全面” in this

term is not an adjective, but a noun. Thus, we can analyze the translation process of this term through Relevance Theory.

In the first stage of the ostensive-inferential process, the original author summarized the new strategic move put forward by the Party Central Committee with “四个全面战略布局”. The original author makes manifest communicative intention through the Chinese-specific term “四个全面” as an ostensive stimulus to the translator. However, in the translator’s point of view, to reach the stage of mutual manifestness with the original author, he needs to seek more information to translate the word. The translator needs to search for extremely accurate author-intended assumptions or implicature of “四个全面” through the communicative clues provided by the original author, and all the relevant information stored in the translator’s cognitive environment and the information acquired from the outside world. “四个全面” is an important strategic move under the firm leadership of the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core proposed, including finishing building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, deepen reform, advance law-based governance, and strengthen Party self-governance. “四个全面” strategic move is not a simple parallel relationship but is linked with one another to developing China on full scale. Therefore, the translator translates “四个方面” into “the four-pronged comprehensive strategy”, and achieved the optimal relevance and confirmed his assumption. “Pronged” means having prongs or tines, usually used in combination. “Comprehensive” means including all or everything and is broad in scope. Such as querying various literature, we have learned that Comrade Xi Jinping revised the previous “三个全面” into the present “四个全面” during the visit to Jiangsu Province in November 2014, that is, increased “strengthen Party self-governance”. This also confirmed what Chen Zhenqiu said that political document has a strict timeliness restriction. With the change of the times, the corresponding terminology translation changes.

At the second stage of the ostensive-inferential process, the translation’s identity has been changed as a speaker. In consideration of the target reader’s physical environment and cognitive abilities and expectations, the main task of the translation course is to pass on the original author’s information and communicative intention by properly applying translation tactics. To the target English reader, producing the best relevant stimulus means maximal contextual effects but minimum processing effects. Therefore, by using literal translation, the target reader can understand the meaning of “四个全面” literally, that is using the minimum processing effect to achieve maximum relevance. However, “the four-pronged comprehensive strategy” can not make the target readers fully understand the content of “四个全面” strategic move. Therefore, translators need to add its footnote after “the four-pronged comprehensive strategy”, namely “to finish building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, deepen reform, advance law-based governance, and strengthen Party self-governance”. In this way, the smaller processing effort made by the target readers, the cognitive effect is greater, and the greater relevance between the source text and the translation is achieved. Finally, the target English reader accurately obtain the author’s real intention from

the translation and understood the true meaning of “the four-pronged comprehensive strategy”. The whole process is successfully finished.

“三大攻坚战”，“五位一体”总体布局，坚决纠正“四风”，“双拥”

Similar to “四个全面” and “约法三章”，“三大攻坚战”，“五位一体”总体布局，坚决纠正“四风”，“双拥” can also be analyzed through the above process.

The original author regards “三大攻坚战”，“五位一体”总体布局，坚决纠正“四风”，“双拥” as the ostensive stimulus conveyed to the translator. The translator searches for the author-intended assumption according to the communicative clues provided by the original author and the relevant information stored in the translator’s cognitive environment, then convey the original author’s informative and communicative intentions by applying literal translation and word-adding skills. After that, the greatest relevance is achieved. Finally, “三大攻坚战”，“五位一体”总体布局，坚决纠正“四风”，“双拥” is translated into “the three critical battles”，“the five-sphere integrated plan (to promote coordinated economic, political, cultural, social, and ecological advancement)”，“took firm action to address formalism, bureaucratism, hedonism, and extravagance”，“promote mutual support between the military and civilians”.

*C-E Translation of Social terms*

Social terms appear in the course of Chinese social development. Most of these terms are closely related to our lives. In the process of translation, we should attach great importance to the features and symbols of Chinese social life.

棚户区Rundown Urban Areas

“棚户区” is a very representative social term. In our life, we often hear about the topic of “棚户区”，but there are still many people who don’t understand the meaning of “棚户区”. Its meaning is close to “贫民窟”. But we can’t translate it into “slums”，because “棚户区” in China has different historical causes from “slums” in many developed countries. “Slums” are mostly simple housing communities built by farmers in suburban areas or on both sides of roads, because these countries neither have a strict household registration systems to restrict farmers to enter the city nor prohibit peasants to build houses outside the city center. China is different, they not only have a strict household registration system, but also doesn’t allow peasants to enter cities or build houses in the suburbs. As a result, “棚户区” is different from “贫民窟”. Therefore, in the process of translation, we need to find the connection between the source version and the translation version according to the specific meaning behind the terms.

In the ostensive-inferential process, the original author regards “棚户区” as an ostensive stimulus to express manifest communicative intention. The translator immediately received the original author’s intention and began to translate the term. To establish the maximum greatest relevance between the original text and the translated text and convey this explicit stimulus to the target readers, the author

master the real meaning of “棚户区” according to the searched literature. “棚户区” refers to areas within built-up urban areas, with a high density of bungalows, poor quality of houses, small per capita building area, inconvenient transportation, dirty, chaotic and poor environment. Finally, the translator finds the best-fitting word in English, “rundown urban area”.

In the process of translating such social terms, we mustn't interpret them without the real understanding of our knowledge. Instead, we should deeply analyze a real meaning behind them and use appropriate translation strategies to achieve the maximum relevance between the translated text and the original text to avoid misreading the reader.

#### 城乡居民基本医保

Similar to “棚户区”, “城乡居民基本医保” can also be translated by using the above method. But the difficult point is how to translate “城乡居民”. China put forward the integration of “城镇居民医保” and “新农合”, and established a unified basic medical insurance system for rural and non-working urban residents to solve the problems that insured, invest repeatedly and the treatment is unsatisfactory on January 3, 2016.

“城乡居民基本医保” is an ostensive stimulus. The translator searches for author-intended assumptions based on the communicative clues provided by the original author and the relevant information stored in the translator's cognitive environment. Finally, using literal translation and word-adding skills to reproduce the author's informative and communicative intention, in the interest of achieving maximum relevance. Finally, “城乡居民基本医保” is translated into “basic medical insurance for rural and non-working urban residents”.

#### *C-E Translation of Idioms*

It turns out that leaders of all countries are accustomed to using idioms to express their views in their speech, and China is no exception. However, translating Chinese idioms and poems into English is not easy. Chinese poetry stresses antithesis and rhyme, so its translation should also show the characteristics of its original text.

#### 安不忘危，兴不忘忧

“安不忘危，兴不忘忧” is a quotation in Government Work Report (2008). The report said: “安不忘危，兴不忘忧. We are sober-minded that our country is still in and will remain in the primary stage of socialism for a long time to come. China is still the largest developing country across the world and its some prominent problems of inadequate development have not yet been solved.” In the course of translation, the translator, whether or not he is a native Chinese speaker, can roughly understand the meaning of this sentence. This is a processing effort that the translator did to establish the maximum relevance between the source version and the target version. However, considering the readers' cognitive environment and to make them understand the true meaning of this sentence, the

translator learns from the materials that the Chinese meaning of “安不忘危,兴不忘忧” means “安定的时候不能忘记潜在的危險, 兴盛的时候不能忘记时时刻刻忧国忧民。我们要有备无患, 防患于未然。” Accordingly, the author confirms the previous assumption of “安不忘危,兴不忘忧”. It can be translated as, “When we are stable, we should not forget the potential dangers. When we are prosperous, our country and people should not slip from our memory at every moment.” However, ancient Chinese poetry always pays attention to rhyme and antithesis. The translator should not only convey its true meaning to the target reader but also attach great importance to the role of this sentence as a quoted idiom in the Government Work Report. The original rhetoric effect can be achieved by adjusting the words and grammatical structure of the sentence. Eventually, “安不忘危,兴不忘忧” is translated as “As the Chinese saying goes, when all is calm forget not danger; when all is well be awake to woes.” This is the translator’s processing efforts for achieving the maximum relevance.

Same as its meaning is “思危方能居安”, which means “Only alertness to danger will ensure safety.”

### 开源节流

“开源节流”, a four-character idiom, is the same as the translation method of the previous idiom. It is one of the fundamental principles of financial management in China. About such words, the translator should analyze them word by word. “开” refers to “develop and increase”. “源” refers to “headwaters”. “节” means “saving”. “流” is “water”. “开源” refer to opening up financial income source, and “节流” refer to reducing unnecessary expenditure as much as possible, or doing more with less money. However, to achieve maximum relevance and reflect its conciseness, the translator must simplify the translation to the greatest extent. Therefore, it can be translated into “increase revenue and reduce expenditures”.

### **Conclusion**

Different Chinese-specific terms have different translation methods. We should be careful with the political meaning behind the abbreviations in political terms and prevent Chinglish from happening. Social terms should be in close relation to China’s social life and grasp the accuracy of words. Idioms should not only understand the real meaning behind them but also be careful about the form of Chinese traditional poetry and its rhetorical devices. Most importantly, we should learn to apply relevance theory to analyze the process and method of translation to achieve the maximum accuracy of the translation.

## References

- [1] Sperber, D., & D. Wilson. *Relevance: Communication and Cognition* [M]. Oxford: Blackwell, 1986.
- [2] Sperber, D., & D. Wilson. *Relevance: Communication and Cognition* [M]. Beijing: Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press, 2001.
- [3] Gutt, E. A. *Translation and Relevance: Cognition and Context* [M]. Shanghai: Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press, 2004.
- [4] Gutt, E. A. *Translation and Relevance: Cognition and Context* [M]. Manchester: St. Jerome Publishing, 1991.
- [5] 顾韵. 从关联理论解读翻译策略[J]. 大连大学学报(社会科学版),2006,(3).
- [6] Newmark, Peter. *Approaches to Translation* [M]. Shanghai: Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press, 2001.
- [7] 刘慧梅. 从文化角度看旅游资料的英译[J]. 中国翻译,1996,(5).
- [8] 袁晓宁. 外宣英译的策略及其理据[J]. 中国翻译,2005,(1).
- [9] 陈镇球. 政治文献的翻译[J]. 中国翻译, 2004, (1).
- [10] 贾毓玲. 从《政府报告的翻译》谈如何克服中式英语的倾向[J]. 上海科技翻译, 2003, (4).