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EDITED AND REVIEWED BY
Ahmad Mohammad Al-Harashseh,
Yarmouk University, Jordan

*CORRESPONDENCE
Ahmad S. Haider
✉ ah_haider86@yahoo.com

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Correction: Gendering neutrality: a cultural communicative analysis of translating English imperatives into Arabic

Niveen Mohammad Zayed¹, Yousef Sahari²,
Haneen Alrawashdeh¹, Ahmad S. Haider^{1*}, Muneir Gwasmeh¹
and Mohammed Majeed Al-Dulaimi³

¹Department of English Language and Translation, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Applied Science Private University, Amman, Jordan, ²Department of Translation, College of Languages and Translation, King Khalid University, Abha, Saudi Arabia, ³Faculty of Philology, Translation and Communication, University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain

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A Correction on

Gendering neutrality: a cultural-communicative analysis of translating English imperatives into Arabic

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In the abstract, the original text required revision for clarity. The original abstract was published as:

Introduction: The paper examines how gender is encoded in Arabic translations of English imperative clauses, which are grammatically gender-neutral in English. Paying attention to the instruction discourse, the research investigates whether the problem of gender assignment in translation is determined by grammatical necessity or by gender stereotypes in specific domains.

Methods: The sample consisted of 60 students (30 males and 30 females) who completed translation courses at the university level. The participants were instructed to translate 45 English imperative sentences from three categories: maintenance and technical activities and leadership/authority roles (masculine-stereotyped); foods, cleaning, childcare activities, and emotional/ relational work (feminine stereotyped); and educational or skill-based (mixed or neutral-stereotyped).

Results and Discussion: The results of the translation (2,700 translation tokens) were reviewed both quantitatively and qualitatively. The results show that masculine imperatives accounted for approximately 55 per cent of the total translations, serving as the default strategy, particularly in technical and neutral domains. Approximately 30% of the data pertained to feminine imperatives, which were closely linked to domestic and caregiving settings. The rest 15% of reformulation strategies were neutral, meaning they had selective efforts to avoid gender marking. As the results show, the gender of Arabic translations of English imperatives is not inherited from the source text. Still, it is developed in translation through the interplay of grammatical constraints, sociocultural stereotypes, and translators' agency.

The corrected abstract appears below:

Introduction: This study investigates how gender is encoded when grammatically gender-neutral English imperative clauses are translated into Arabic. Focusing on instructional discourse, this article examines whether gender assignment in translation is primarily driven by grammatical requirements or shaped by sociocultural gender stereotypes associated with particular domains.

Method: The study sample consisted of 60 university students, equally divided between males and females, all of whom had completed several university-level translation courses. The participants were asked to translate 45 English imperative sentences representing three discourse categories: masculine-stereotyped domains (e.g., maintenance, technical tasks, and leadership roles), feminine-stereotyped domains (e.g., cooking, cleaning, childcare, and emotional labor), and mixed or neutral domains (e.g., educational and skill-based activities).

Results and Discussion: A total of 2,700 translation tokens were analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. The findings show that masculine imperatives accounted for approximately 55% of the translations and served as the default strategy,

particularly in technical and neutral contexts. Feminine imperatives accounted for around 30% and were strongly associated with domestic and caregiving activities. The remaining 15% consisted of neutral reformulations aimed at minimizing explicit gender marking. This study concludes that gender in Arabic translations of English imperatives is not transferred directly from the source text; rather, it is actively constructed through the interaction of grammatical constraints, sociocultural stereotypes, and translators' agency.

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