

Chapter 8

Translation Research of English Conditional Sentences in the Work: The Last Lecture Into Its Version Bai Giang Cui Cung

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ABSTRACT

This study explores the translational aspects of English conditional sentences in Randy Pausch's work 'The Last Lecture' and its Vietnamese version focusing on their adaptation and implications for teaching. The study identifies challenges encountered in the translation process and proposes strategies to overcome these challenges while maintaining fidelity to the source text. Furthermore, the study investigates the pedagogical

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implications of teaching conditional sentences in both languages. Findings indicate significant variations in the syntactic and semantic features of conditional sentences between the two languages, emphasizing the need for translators and educators to navigate these differences sensitively. The research contributes insights into optimizing translation practices and advancing language teaching methodologies, promoting cross-cultural understanding. This study offers valuable contributions to the fields of translation studies and language education, emphasizing the importance of context-aware approaches in linguistic and educational practices.

INTRODUCTION

In today's increasingly interconnected world, education is not confined to national borders. The movement of students, educators, and knowledge across cultures has made it essential to understand how language can act as both a bridge and a barrier to effective learning. Translation plays a crucial role in this cross-cultural communication, particularly when it involves key linguistic structures that vary significantly between languages. Among such structures, conditional sentences—those expressing hypothetical situations and their outcomes—present unique challenges to both translators and educators due to their complexity in conveying subtle meaning and nuance. This chapter delves into the intricacies of translating conditional sentences, using Randy Pausch's globally renowned work *The Last Lecture* and its Vietnamese adaptation, *Bài Giảng Cuối Cùng*, as a case study.

The motivation for this study stems from the growing recognition that linguistic structures like conditional sentences are not only crucial for effective communication but also deeply embedded in cultural contexts. As Vietnam continues to expand its engagement with the global economy and international education systems, there has been a surge in demand for proficiency in foreign languages, particularly English. English serves as a lingua franca in academic and professional settings, making the accurate and culturally relevant translation of educational materials a critical need. However, translating complex linguistic constructs such as conditional sentences from English into Vietnamese introduces several challenges due to the inherent differences between the two languages. English, with its rigid

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