



# Interlingual Translation of Literature

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## Purpose

To bring the meaning of a children’s folklore book written originally in Spanish to readers of the English language through interlingual translation.

## What is Interlingual Translation?

Prefix “inter”= between  
**Interlingual translation:** between languages, or from one language to another

**You do not need to be bilingual to be an interlingual translator!**

## Translation

**Translation is mostly invisible:**  
unbeknownst to us, numerous pieces of literature that we interact with are translations

Translations can be in the form of poems, stories, instruction manuals, movies, and more.

**Is not just substituting words for one another-**  
it is bringing the meaning of the original text in the source language to that of the target language.

Translation can be interlingual or intralingual.

### Intralingual examples:

Shakespeare’s writing to Modern English  
“The Canterbury Tales” to Modern English

### Interlingual examples:

The Bible, Anne Frank’s Diary, Metamorphosis, Don Quixote, Adventures of Tintin

## “La Llorona: The Crying Woman”

**Original Spanish:** Rudolfo Anaya

**Illustrations:** Amy Córdova

**Primary English Translation:** Enríque Lamadríd

## Foreignization

Preserving the source language and its surrounding culture in the translation

### Advantages:

Keeps the authentic meaning from the source language

Provides the reader with a new perspective on the culture surrounding the language

Makes translation more visible and easier to identify

### Disadvantages:

Which words should be foreignized?

## Domestication

Aligning the text more closely with the target language

### Advantages:

Makes reading easier for the target audience

### Disadvantages:

Makes translation even more invisible and harder to identify

Could prevent cultures from being shared

Easier to misconstrue meaning

### Works Cited

- [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/thumb/7/74/Lindenwood\\_Lions\\_logo.svg/400px-Lindenwood\\_Lions\\_logo.svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/thumb/7/74/Lindenwood_Lions_logo.svg/400px-Lindenwood_Lions_logo.svg.png)
- Venuti, L. (2013). How to Read a Translation. In *Translation changes everything: Theory and practice* (pp. 1-7). London: Routledge.

## Foreignizing “La Llorona”

### “Fiesta del Sol”

It is an aspect of Mexican-American culture

### “Niños” & “Hija”

These Spanish words (children, daughter) are vital parts of the story

### “Parents of Maya”

Spanish sentence structure was preserved

### “Serpiente” & “Tocolota”

These are the names of animals, but are also the names of characters

## Domesticating “The Crying Woman”

### “Beautiful feathers”

Changed from ‘feathers beautiful’ to the English sentence structure

### “Village”

Changed from ‘pueblo’ since the meaning of this word is not obvious

## Creative Translation Choices

I used the primary English translation provided in the story after completing my own. I compared phrases and words to determine **which were more effective at conveying the meaning** of the text.

At times, I analyzed the story one word at a time, such as choosing between **“jungle”** and **“rainforest”**.