Appendices

Appendix 1. Prompt for ChatGPT-4o and DeepSeek-V3

Imagine you are a renowned bilingual author and translator who writes in both English and Chinese. In the 1940s, you were invited by the MOI to deliver speeches about China's anti-fascism war in the UK. While living in the UK, you wrote a novel in English that vividly portrays rural life in China. The novel consists of twelve chapters, offering a unique perspective on the culture, traditions, and daily experiences of the people living in a small Chinese village. The main purpose of writing the novel is to help Western audiences understand the lives, struggles, and destinies of Chinese people during an age of revolution and transformation.

As both the author and a translator, you have been invited to self-translate your novel from English to Chinese approximately 40 years after its publication. Your goal is to provide Chinese audiences and critics with a knowledge of your English writing.

Now, you are going to self-translate this novel, for a total of twelve chapters. Your main strategy for the translation is to remain faithful to the original text, without rewriting or adapting it.

Appendix 2. Syntactic Complexity Measures and Phraseological Diversity, Sophistication, and Complexity Measures Adapted from R. Hu (2021) and Hu et al. (2022)

Level	Measure	Code	Definitions
Sentence-level	Syntactic complexity		
	Mean length of sentences	MLS	# of words / # of sentences
	Mean length of clauses	MLC	# of words / # of clauses
	Mean length of T-units	MLTU	# of words / # of T-units
	Number of clauses per sentence	NCPS	# of clauses / # of sentences
	Number of T-units per sentence	NTPS	# of T-units / # of sentences
Phrase-level	Phraseological diversity		
	RTTR for all types of word combinations	TOTAL_RTTR	$T_{total}/\sqrt{N_{total}}$
	RTTR for word combinations of the four language-specific types	UNIQUE_RTTR	$T_{uniq}/\sqrt{N_{uniq}}$
	RTTR for verb-object word combinations	VO_RTTR	$T_{vo}/\sqrt{N_{vo}}$
	RTTR for subject-predicate word combinations	SP_RTTR	$T_{sp}/\sqrt{N_{sp}}$
	RTTR for adjective-noun word combinations	AN_RTTR	$T_{an}/\sqrt{N_{an}}$
	RTTR for adverb-predicate word combinations	AP_RTTR	$T_{ap}/\sqrt{N_{ap}}$
	RTTR for classifier-noun word combinations	CN_RTTR	$T_{cn}/\sqrt{N_{cn}}$

RTTR for preposition-postposition word combinations	PP_RTTR	$T_{pp}/\sqrt{N_{pp}}$
RTTR for preposition-verb word combinations	PV_RTTR	$T_{pv}/\sqrt{N_{pv}}$
RTTR for predicate-complement word combinations	PC_RTTR	$T_{pc}/\sqrt{N_{pc}}$
Phraseological sophistication		
Ration of low-frequency word combinations	LOWFREQ_RATIO	$N_{low\text{-}freq}/N_{total}$
Phraseological complexity		
Ratio of word combinations of the four language-specific types	UNIQUE_RATIO	N_{uniq}/N_{total}
Ratio of verb-object word combinations	VO_RATIO	N_{vo}/N_{total}
Ratio of subject-predicate word combinations	SP_RATIO	N_{sp}/N_{total}
Ratio of adjective-noun word combinations	AN_RATIO	N_{an}/N_{total}
Ratio of adverb-predicate word combinations	AP_RATIO	N_{ap}/N_{total}
Ratio of classifier-noun word combinations	CN_RATIO	N_{cn}/N_{total}
Ratio of preposition-postposition word combinations	PP_RATIO	N_{pp}/N_{total}
Ratio of preposition-verb word combinations	PV_RATIO	N_{pv}/N_{total}
Ratio of predicate-complement word combinations	PC_RATIO	N_{pc}/N_{total}

T = number of word combination types; N = number of tokens; RTTR = root type-token ratio; total = all combination types; low-freq = word combinations with positive mutual information scores but low frequency; uniq = four categories of language-specific combinations.

Appendix 3. Descriptive Statistics of Syntactic and Phraseological Complexity Measures across the Corpus

Measure	Self	HeJin	4o	V3
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)
MLS	20.34 (3.21)	19.46 (3.04)	18.37 (2.60)	16.40 (2.92)
MLC	10.02 (0.97)	10.75 (1.05)	8.78 (0.75)	8.70 (0.86)
MLTU	11.64 (1.15)	12.18 (1.33)	10.28 (0.98)	10.07 (1.17)
NCPS	2.01 (0.22)	1.79 (0.17)	2.07 (0.20)	1.86 (0.19)
NTPS	1.73 (0.18)	1.58 (0.14)	1.77 (0.15)	1.60 (0.14)
TOTAL_RTTR	17.23 (0.63)	16.58 (0.50)	17.24 (0.88)	16.59 (0.69)
UNIQUE_RTTR	7.49 (0.66)	7.40 (0.62)	7.13 (0.71)	6.69 (0.66)
VO_RTTR	7.43 (0.52)	7.21 (0.57)	7.79 (0.61)	7.79 (0.63)

SP_RTTR	6.86 (0.55)	6.48 (0.51)	6.81 (0.72)	6.75 (0.63)
AN_RTTR	3.67 (0.59)	3.72 (0.58)	4.00 (0.69)	4.07 (0.71)
AP_RTTR	10.54 (0.65)	9.93 (0.56)	10.48 (0.68)	9.79 (0.61)
CN_RTTR	3.86 (0.61)	3.96 (0.62)	3.81 (0.71)	3.65 (0.60)
PP_RTTR	2.25 (0.49)	2.28 (0.43)	2.22 (0.51)	2.28 (0.49)
PV_RTTR	3.88 (0.52)	3.58 (0.62)	3.34 (0.65)	3.46 (0.53)
PC_RTTR	5.84 (0.60)	5.83 (0.62)	5.66 (0.66)	5.07 (0.62)
LOWFREQ_RATIO	0.13 (0.02)	0.11 (0.02)	0.15 (0.02)	0.15 (0.02)
UNIQUE_RATIO	0.25 (0.03)	0.27 (0.04)	0.23 (0.03)	0.23 (0.03)
VO_RATIO	0.18 (0.02)	0.18 (0.03)	0.20 (0.02)	0.21 (0.03)
SP_RATIO	0.15 (0.02)	0.14 (0.02)	0.15 (0.02)	0.16 (0.02)
AN_RATIO	0.05 (0.01)	0.05 (0.02)	0.06 (0.02)	0.06 (0.02)
AP_RATIO	0.37 (0.04)	0.35 (0.04)	0.37 (0.04)	0.34 (0.04)
CN_RATIO	0.05 (0.02)	0.06 (0.02)	0.05 (0.02)	0.05 (0.01)
PP_RATIO	0.03 (0.01)	0.04 (0.01)	0.03 (0.01)	0.04 (0.02)
PV_RATIO	0.05 (0.01)	0.05 (0.02)	0.04 (0.01)	0.04 (0.01)
PC_RATIO	0.11 (0.02)	0.12 (0.02)	0.11 (0.02)	0.10 (0.02)

SD = standard deviation.

Appendix 4. Results of Kruskal-Wallis Tests and ANOVA Tests

Measure	Kruskal-Wallis H/ANOVA F value	df	*p*-value
MLS	62.063*	3	<0.001
MLC	146.421*	3	<0.001
MLTU	112.100*	3	<0.001
NCPS	80.264*	3	<0.001
NTPS	68.176*	3	<0.001
TOTAL_RTTR	65.874*	3	<0.001
UNIQUE_RTTR	48.972*	3	<0.001
VO_RTTR	49.973*	3	<0.001
SP_RTTR	23.197*	3	<0.001
AN_RTTR	8.068*	3	<0.001
AP_RTTR	76.462*	3	<0.001
CN_RTTR	7.738	3	0.052
PP_RTTR	0.828	3	0.843
PV_RTTR	33.842*	3	<0.001
PC_RTTR	52.459*	3	<0.001
LOWFREQ_RATIO	149.959*	3	<0.001
UNIQUE_RATIO	48.884*	3	<0.001
VO_RATIO	54.631*	3	<0.001
SP_RATIO	10.048*	3	<0.001
AN_RATIO	26.418*	3	<0.001
AP_RATIO	24.406*	3	<0.001

CN_RATIO	20.171*	3	<0.001
PP_RATIO	18.265*	3	<0.001
PV_RATIO	25.458*	3	<0.001
PC_RATIO	36.998*	3	<0.001

*indicates statistically significant differences at 0.05.

Appendix 5. Examples for Syntactic Comparison across Four Sub-corpora

Text	Example
Source text	I liked to stir it up with my bare feet, and today I went to do it again. The fine sand at the bottom whirled upwards like a spiral of smoke, as I swung one of my feet, obscuring the clear water.
Target text (Self)	我有时喜欢打着赤脚去搅乱它几下。这天就是如此，我走到它旁边去，把脚伸进水里，把它搅混，于是沙子便从河底盘旋地往上浮，像一柱旋转的烟。 [Back translation: I sometimes liked to stir it up a bit with my bare feet. That day was no different. I walked over to it, stretched my foot into the water, stirred it up, so the sand swirled up from the riverbed, rising like a spinning column of smoke.]
Target text (HeJin)	我便爱把我的赤脚去搅它一阵，今天我又要去搅一下了。当我把一只脚搅着把水搅混了的时候，那溪底的细沙便往上翻腾起来，如同一缕盘旋的烟。 [Back translation: I love to stir it with my bare feet for a while, and today I want to stir it again. When I stirred the water with one foot to stir it up, the fine sand at the bottom of the stream churned upward, like a wisp of swirling smoke.]
Target text (4o):	我喜欢用赤脚搅动它，今天又去做了同样的事。细沙随着我的脚旋转上升，像一缕烟雾，模糊了清澈的水面。 [Back translation: I liked to stir it with my bare feet, and today I did the same thing again. The fine sand rose swirling with my foot, like a wisp of smoke, blurring the clear surface of the water.]
Target text (V3):	我喜欢用赤脚搅动它，今天我又去做了。当我摆动一只脚时，底部的细沙像螺旋状的烟雾一样向上旋转，模糊了清澈的水面。 [Back translation: I liked to stir it with my bare feet, and today I went and did it again. As I moved one foot, the fine sand at the bottom spiraled upward like swirling smoke, blurring the clear surface of the water.]

Appendix 6. Examples for Phraseological Comparison across Four Sub-corpora

Text	Example
Source text	She was often like that, mooing without a cause, staring hazily at the water which flowed down west rhythmically, day and night, always in its own peaceful way. So I found nothing new in that direction either, except that the stream made a slight bend round a terrace in front of the town.

Target text (Self)	她常常是这个样儿，无缘无故地叫几声，然后就像在梦乡里一样，凝视着那日夜不停地、有节奏地、平静地、向西方流去的河水。我从她所凝视的那个方向望去，也没有发现什么新鲜的东西，只看见河流在村前的一个土丘那儿拐了一个弯。[Back translation: She was often like that, calling out a few times for no reason, and then as if in a dream, she stares at the river that day and night, rhythmically, peacefully flows to the west. I looked in the direction she was gazing at, but didn't find anything new. I only saw the river making a turn at a hill in front of the village.]
Target text (HeJin)	它常常是这个样子的，没来由地啼叫，朦懂地望着那朝朝夜夜老是走着它自己的平静的路途的，有节奏地流向西去的水流。我在那一个方向也同样没有看到什么新奇的东西，只除却那条江微微地绕过了一条城前的堑壕。[Back translation: It was often like this, crying out for no reason, vaguely gazing at the water that, day and night, always followed its own calm path, rhythmically flowing westward. I saw nothing new in that direction, except that the river gently wound past a trench in front of the city.]
Target text (4o)	它经常这样，莫名地哞叫，呆呆地望着河水，那水日夜不停地朝西流淌，总是以自己平静的方式前行。所以，我朝那个方向看去，也没有发现什么新奇之处，除了河流在前方一个平台处稍稍拐了个弯。[Back translation: It often did this, mooing for no reason, staring blankly at the river, which flowed day and night to the west, always in its own calm way. So, when I looked in that direction, I didn't find anything new either, except that the river made a slight bend at a platform ahead.]
Target text (V3)	她经常这样，无缘无故地哞哞叫，茫然地盯着水，水日夜有节奏地向西流去，总是以它自己平静的方式。所以我在那个方向也没有发现什么新东西，除了溪流在城镇前的一个台地处稍微弯曲。[Back translation: She often did this, mooing for no reason, staring blankly at the water, which flowed rhythmically day and night to the west, always in its own calm way. So, in that direction, I also didn't find anything new, except that the stream curved slightly at a terrace in front of the town.]