



Ain Shams University
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**A Multimodal Discourse Analysis of the Rendition of
Humor in English/Arabic Subtitling: A Case Study of
Mrs. Doubtfire, Father of the Bride I and *Father of the
Bride II***

PhD Thesis

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Abstract

Ibrahim, Passant Hamed Ismail. A Multimodal Discourse Analysis of the Rendition of Humor in English/Arabic Subtitling: A Case Study of *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *Father of the Bride I* and *Father of the Bride II*.

The present study proposes a comprehensive multimodal approach for the analysis of subtitled humor from English into Arabic. The analysis is based on the taxonomy of humorous elements proposed by Martínez-Sierra (2006) who studied the dubbing of humor from Spanish into English in the animated series *The Simpsons*. Applying Martínez-Sierra's taxonomy to English-Arabic subtitling of humor is intended to test its reliability and reveal its strengths and weaknesses. The findings show that different elements of humor were used in the selected data and were rendered into Arabic using a variety of translation strategies. Overall, the target versions contained less humorous elements than the source versions. The present study should contribute to filling the gap in research into the subtitling of humor in the Arab world, as this field is relatively new and the literature on the challenges and tendencies involved in subtitling between English and Arabic, and particularly the subtitling of humor, is scant.

Key words: *Audio-visual translation, Subtitling, Humor taxonomy, Translation strategies, English-Arabic translation, Multi-modal texts.*

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List of Abbreviations

A: Absent

AD: Audio Description (for the blind and the partially-sighted)

AVT: Audiovisual Translation

FOB I: Father of the Bride I

FOB II: Father of the Bride II

MDA: Multimodal Discourse Analysis

MDF: Mrs.Doubtfire

P: Present

PP: Partially present

SDH: Subtitling for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing

SL: Source Language

ST: Source Text

TL: Target Language

TT: Target Text