

## Abstract

The main purposes of this research are to study the strategy of translating idioms in English screenplays to Thai, and to study the meanings of English idioms and Thai translated expressions. The data were collected from nine English screenplays which are selected to be the best original screenplay winners from the Academy Awards since 1994-2004: 1. Pulp Fiction; 2. The Usual Suspects; 3. Fargo; 4. Good Will Hunting; 5. American Beauty; 6. Almost Famous; 7. Gosford Park; 8. Lost in Translation; 9. Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind. The concepts of strategy in translation are based on Newmark's work (1981). The Methodology of analysing idiomatic expression is from componential analysis by Nida (1975).

From the translation theory, the findings demonstrate that there are five strategies for translation of English idioms to Thai: 1. Word for word translation; 2. Idiomatic translation; 3. Free translation; 4. Transcription, and 5. Deletion. The study further shows that the strategies used the most are free translation, idiomatic translation, word for word translation, deletion, and transcription respectively.

Considered in the componential analysis theory, analysis of data shows that translators translate the main meaning of English idioms to Thai. English idioms and Thai translated expressions have shared semantic components that are the main meaning of English idioms. This shows that translators try to translate by preserving the main idea of English idioms, that is the common way of translation.