

## Research on the Rewriting and Adaptation in the English Translation of the Analects

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**Abstract :** The Analects (Lunyu) is one of the most recognized Confucian classics and one of the earliest Chinese classics that have been translated into English and known to the West. Research on the translation of The Analects has witnessed a transfer from the comparison of the text and language to a wider description of social and cultural contexts. Mainly on the basis of Legge and Waley's translations of The Analects, this paper integrates Lefevere's theory of rewriting and Verschueren's theory of adaptation and explores the influence of ideology and poetics on the translation. It analyses how translators make adaptive decisions in the manipulation of ideology and poetics. It is proved that the English translation of The Analects is the translators' initiative rewriting of the original work, which is a selective and adaptive process in the multi-layered contexts of the target language. The research on the translation of classics should include both the manipulative factors and translator's initiative as well.

**Keywords :** The Analects, ideology, poetics, rewriting, adaptation

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