

**THE CONTRIBUTION OF NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION FOR
EFFECTIVE INTERPRETATION**

**REFERENCES: A CASE STUDY OF THE OBAMA 2004 DEMOCRATIC
CONVENTION SPEECH BY AN INTERPRETER WORKING FROM
ENGLISH TO FRENCH**

BY

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DECLARATION

This project report is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university.

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DR GIDEON MARETE

DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to:

The Most High,

The Beneficent, the Merciful

To whom all praises are due forever.

To my ancestors,

The memory of my late parents,

Alphonse et Alphonsine Kabambay,

My greatest heroes.

To my husband,

James M. Wakaria,

And our children,

Corinne, Rick and Christelle

My greatest pillars.

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ABSTRACT

This study looks at the contributions of the non-verbal components of an oral text to its message and evaluates the extent of what is lost when an interpreted (target) text leaves out paralinguistic and other non-verbal aspects of the source text.

The data was based on the Obama 2004 Democratic Convention Speech. The professional English-French interpreter interpreted from a video clip of the same address. The interpreted (target) text speech was transcribed. The two texts were subjected to a comparative analysis to identify the inaccuracies, the omissions and the paralinguistic features used in Obama's speech as described by Leanne (2009) but left out in the French text that was produced by the interpreter. The speech was also categorized into key thematic areas in order to stress the fact they were better expressed through these features.

The conceptual framework was based on the public communication concept of listenability developed in spoken public communication to parallel the notion of readability in written texts. The key findings revealed that there was a significant loss of the paralinguistic features used by Obama in the delivery of his message. Therefore, we concluded that this loss denies the audience that received Obama's speech through interpretation a chance to fully appreciate his message. This could possibly have a negative impact on the expected feedback.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ENG	:	English
FRE	:	French
ICT	:	Information and Communications Technology
SL	:	Source Language
ST	:	Source Text
TL	:	Target Language
TT	:	Target Text
SS	:	Source Speech
TS	:	Target Speech
TT	:	Target Translation

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the operational definitions used in this work, the background of the study, the statement of the problem, the objectives and the hypotheses, the significance and rationale of the study, the scope and limitation of the study, the literature review, the conceptual framework, and the methodology.

1.1 Operational definitions

- **Interpretation** is the intellectual activity of conveying information from a source language to a target language, verbally or through sign language in order to facilitate communication between two, or several, users of different languages. It is useful to note that interpretation deals with the spoken language, whereas translation relates to the written language. Therefore, interpretation uses specific linguistic resources. The speaker transmits his ideas as spoken words, distinct rhythm and intonation, gestures and rhetorical devices.
- **'A' language.** It is the interpreter's native language. In some instances, the native language is considered to be the language into which the interpreter works from all their other working languages whether in consecutive or simultaneous interpretation. An interpreter usually has an excellent command of their 'A' language and can easily use it to express even complex ideas. It is called the interpreter's active language.
- **'B' language.** It is a language which the interpreter understands perfectly, yet it is not his native language. An interpreter will prefer to work from his working languages into this one in a consecutive mode since, relatively-speaking, it is not so fast and he can take notes, even though he may as well do so in all modes. It also constitutes his active language.
- **'C' language.** It is a language which the interpreter understands very well but into which he does not work. He will interpret from this language into his active languages. It is called the interpreter's passive language.
- **Communication.** It is an immediate interaction in which speakers, listeners and interpreters are engaged.
- **Interpreter:** one who conveys a message in a particular context from one language to another using words. This communication is immediate, and it involves speakers, listeners and interpreters interacting with each other.

- **Conference interpreting:** The need for simultaneous interpretation arose during the Nuremberg trials of 1945. The English language was adopted as the second official language of the League of Nations during the Paris Peace Conference. Conference interpreting was used for the first time during the preliminary deliberations.
- **Teleconferencing:** a live meeting in which participants in different places talk to each other using audio or audiovisual equipment.
- **Remote interpretation:** in remote interpreting, the interpreters and participants are not located in the same place. The interpreters relate with the participants through their voice. This is a serious, viable alternative to in person interpreting provided the technical support meets the relevant ISO standards.
- **Telephone interpreting:** the interpretation is done via telephone for people engaged in a telephone conversation.
- **SL: The language of the original speech.**
- **TL: The language into which the speech is being interpreted.**

1.2 Background to the Study

Generally speaking, interpretation is “the way in which someone explains or understands an event, information, someone’s actions etc....” (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English). More technically, Longman Dictionary of Language Teaching & Applied Linguistics (3rd edition) defines it as follows:

The act of rendering oral language that is spoken in one language SL (SOURCE LANGUAGE) into another language TL (TARGET LANGUAGE) for the benefit of listeners who do not understand (or who understand imperfectly) the source language.

As a profession, interpretation may be defined broadly to include language interpreting as the intellectual activity of conveying information from a source language to a target language, verbally, or through sign language, in order to facilitate communication between two or several users of different languages.

There are various modes of interpretation. The main ones include:

(i) Simultaneous interpretation, in which the interpreter renders the information at the same time as the speaker. In this mode, the interpreter is provided with a booth where they listen to the speech in its spoken language, and continuously speaks their interpretation into a target language with minimal lag. The booth is fitted with interpretation equipment such as headsets

and microphones, and the audience follow the interpretation in the meeting room on their headsets. Simultaneous interpretation is recommended for bilingual or multilingual meetings because it gives the benefit of not lengthening the meeting as speakers do not need to pause. In addition, it promotes lively discussions with spontaneous contributions although it is a highly demanding process for the interpreter, who does several things at once. The interpreter must listen while speaking, analyze the structure of what is being said, and reformulate it in the target language all the while listening to the interpretation to check for its accuracy and coherence. It is estimated that simultaneous interpretation now accounts for 90% of all conference interpretation work and is commonly used not only in international organizations and major multilingual conventions, but also in other high-exposure multilingual public events, such as international courts and live television broadcasts.

(ii) Consecutive interpretation, in which the interpreter renders the message from the source language to the target language intermittently. In this mode, the interpreter begins to relay the message in the target language version once the speaker pauses or stops speaking. The interpreter speaks consecutively after the speaker, as suggested by the name of this mode. The interpreter and the speaker are in the same room. The interpreter follows the speech and takes notes before rendering his interpretation. He may break very long speeches into small parts and make the rendition after each part. However, a trained interpreter is able to render a consecutive interpretation of long speeches. This kind of interpretation does prolong the length of meetings. It may be recommended for interviews or presentations of scientific and technical nature that are given by a single speaker. It can also be used in meetings with a lower number of languages. Consecutive interpretation was the conventional mode before simultaneous interpretation equipment and techniques were introduced in the mid-twentieth century.

The interpreter takes notes during the consecutive interpreting. He notes the logic and the structure of the statement instead of writing down the whole statement.

(iii) Sight interpretation, in which the interpreter sight translates a written document.

(iv) Whispered interpretation (often called by its French name: ‘chuchotage’, even by English speakers) is practically the same as simultaneous interpretation, however, interpretation equipment is not used. This mode of interpretation is typically used only when a handful of the audience does not speak the source language. The interpreter positions themselves either

next to or behind the listeners and renders the interpretation in a lower voice. The practice may be recommended for short meeting. It puts a great deal of strain on the interpreter's voice.

Research in the field of interpretation is relatively young. It can be dated back about half of a century ago. It has focused largely on the cognitive aspects. Yet, it has been noted that culture and nonverbal-bound references, especially when dealing with formal speeches can affect comprehension and production. Nonverbal communication began to be studied in 1872 when the Charles Darwin published *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*. Darwin Upon noticing that the interactions between animals such as lions, tigers, dogs etc. involved gestures and expressions, Darwin developed an interest in nonverbal communication. For the first time, nonverbal communication was studied, and its relevance questioned. Nowadays, scholars argue that nonverbal communication can even convey more meaning than words, and many people tend to trust nonverbal cues more than words spoken out loud.

Nonverbal communication incorporates the conscious and unconscious processes of encoding and decoding. Encoding, in this context, can be explained as the ability to communicate emotions in a manner that can be accurately interpreted by the recipient. Decoding, also referred to as "non-verbal sensitivity", can be explained as the ability to interpret encoded emotions and derive meaning accurately with relation to the sender's intent. Encoding involves generating information using signals such as looks, gestures, postures, and facial expressions. These signals can be considered universal. Decoding then involves the interpretation of the encoded information from the signals received from the encoder. The decoding of information applies individual or social knowledge that we can have of certain signals received.

Interpretation is all about communication, namely, the process by which people share information or express their ideas and feelings. It is a very complex process. The message begins with an information source which is the mind. Our thoughts and feelings are often encoded or put into words, numbers or symbols and can be expressed in oral, written or any other forms. Non-verbal communication does not use words. It is transmitted through other senses, i.e. visual, tone and pitch of voice, smell. Any message – verbal or non-verbal – which is sent and received by one of our senses constitutes what is considered as communication. Our gestures, facial expressions, tone and the pitch of our voice can reveal more information and meaning than the spoken words. When we listen to someone's voice, we are able to instantly know if they are at ease or tense. Our voices always reflect our physical, emotional and mental

states. Our voices are indeed the true mirror of our being. The over-resonant voice, for instance, may indicate a generalized emotional process rather than specific expression of thought or feeling. In most cases, a monotonous or flat tone can be an indication of depression or emotional repression etc. Breathiness usually indicates a degree of anxiety. Wherever physical inaccuracies of voice or speech are present, it signals that we are out of balance. Nonverbal communication is complex, yet it is part of the overall communication process.

Speaking and writing are the major modes of communication. The major difference between them is that the writer, in most cases, doesn't see the readers whereas, speakers can see their listeners. The printed word will, in most cases, simply give us information whereas the spoken word is filled with energy that can be felt as well as heard. However, it should be noted that both speech and writing involve nonverbal elements. In speech, these are known as paralanguage, and they include aspects such as pitch, voice quality, speed, volume, and style of speech. Speech also contains prosodic features such as accent, rhythm, and intonation. Written text contains nonverbal elements such as writing style, spatial arrangement of words, and even the layout of elements on a page. Even so, most research on nonverbal communication is focused on the interaction between individuals.

While the spoken word is very powerful, Cristina Stuart (*Effective Speaking* 1988:4), reported that Professor Albert Mehrabian, a Communications Researcher, estimated that words account only for 7% of the speaker's effect on an audience. The look, the facial expression, the demeanor, the gestures constitute more than 50% of his impact while the voice accounts for almost 40%. The audience measures his trustworthiness through his voice and is more attentive to a varied and interesting voice.

In simultaneous interpretation, some technical equipment is usually used. The speaker uses a microphone, and the interpreter listens through a headset, and, using his microphone, he renders the interpreted message at the same time. The delegates (the audience) use the headsets to hear the interpretation. It is the mode that is most commonly associated with the profession and is mostly used during international conferences.

The introduction of new technologies such as ICT and remote interpretation is revolutionizing the field of interpretation. Teleconferencing, telephone interpreting and remote interpretation are the new trends, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic. They come in various forms and configurations. In most instances, the parties involved, such as speakers, listeners, delegates, interpreters, and meeting hosts, are in different locations. The only link between them is the

“voice” - they can only hear one another. Should we then surmise that the interpreter is but the “voice”? With remote interpreting, interpreters are in different locations. Their only contact with the delegates is through their voices. The interpreter is expected to capture every feature of the message from the speaker, i.e. verbal and nonverbal and find the most adequate ways of conveying them with great effectiveness in the target language. In order to ensure quality interpreting, interpreters need to work under the most favorable conditions. Their success depends on getting the best human talent, being provided with optimal working conditions, and securing the best support team. The preparation phase is very essential. First of all, interpreting, in whatever form it takes, is not simply a matter of knowing languages; this is only a prerequisite for the practice of a profession that consists of transmitting what a speaker says. In the process of communication, a language is only a raw material waiting to be transformed into a finished product, the message. To carry out this task, the interpreter must have a perfect command of the subject as well as the context in which he or she will be working in. To achieve a finished product that is greater than the sum of all its components, many factors are to be considered: knowledge, correct terminology, contextualization, cohesion, analytical speed, nuances in expression, etc. In fact, it may seem that interpreters do overwhelm their clients with requests for documents. Interpreters really need to be prepared; it is part of what their job description is. They are well aware that general and specific knowledge plays an important role in their work. Careful preparation will ensure that interpreters are able to deal with the unexpected, not only during speeches, but also throughout the discussion.

An interpreter with prior context of the meeting and who experiences the proceedings firsthand can communicate better and even come across as a regular participant. Additionally, isolated audio channels and a soundproof booth should be provided to minimize acoustic interference. Unfortunately, conference interpreters sometimes encounter difficulties in obtaining ideal conditions such as prior access to meeting documents, comfortable and well-equipped booths, clear line of sight to the meeting room, and acceptable sound quality. In fact, interpreters were somewhat reluctant to be pressured to use remote interpreting, and they demand that virtual meetings not be too long. Realistically, ideal conditions can be difficult to guarantee given constraints such as budgets, locations, and policies. While interpreters working conditions may vary for any number of reasons including lack of resources, poor planning, or plain ignorance of the requirements, the interpreter are at minimum expected to be accurate and comprehensible. To meet these expectations, the interpreter must be provided with the appropriate working conditions. This would allow them to go beyond and provide additional

requirements such as pleasant demeanor, terminological accuracy, diplomatic tact, and even cultural conciliation with relative ease.

Interpreting studies should not only address the practical part of interpreting, but also the neurocognitive, social, and corporate aspects of the interpreter's tasks and work environment. During virtual meetings, interpreters should strive to maintain a relationship with the 'virtual' audience and their voice is their best ally to realize it. Natural delivery is all about the interpreter's voice, rhythm and intonation.

Furthermore, the interpretation and use of features such as words, gestures, postures, voice inflection are treated differently by different cultures. The interpreter should therefore be aware of the meaning of the nonverbal features of the various cultures and learn to adequately incorporate their nuances in the rendition of the message. Edstrom (1991, p.59) noted that "cultural concepts are embodied in words which we may never fully understand if we are not bred in the culture and society that has moulded and shaped the language".

It is imperative that interpreters master their working languages and have an excellent command of their native language. They need to instantly understand their passive languages. They should express themselves fluently in their own language.

Interpreters should be of good mind. They need to have a high level of general education and develop their analytical capabilities. They should be intellectually flexible and align themselves with the feelings of their audience.

They need a high level of concentration, to have a good memory, a good diction and a pleasant voice. The main reason we communicate is to be understood exactly as we intended and to secure a positive or intended feedback. In her book "Say it like Obama", leadership expert Shel Leanne explains how body language combined with oratory and the persuasive act can build trust and stimulates action. She examined how Obama's "exemplary use of nonverbal language" as well as his "ability to lay meaning beneath his words" work together for striking results. (Leanne, 2009:20).

In this study we have evaluated, on the one hand, the accuracy with which the interpreter rendered the message, the inclusion of the nonverbal components in ensuring effective interpretation, and the extent of lost meaning if the nonverbal elements have not been captured,

and on the other end, we highlighted the various strategies he used to suit the needs of his targeted audience.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

Communication, as stated above (1.1), is a complex process. It is more than talking and writing. The interpreter is often faced with the difficult undertaking of overcoming linguistic, non-linguistic, cultural and many other factors. According to Poyatos (1997:205):

...in both consecutive and simultaneous interpretation, ... we must establish which of those components are available to the speaker, which ones are perceived by the listener(s), through the interpreter, in what ways the interpreter perceives them from both source ... speaker and target listener(s), and how he transmits them between the two.
(Underlining added.)

There have been many studies in the field of effective communication, some within intercultural settings, (cf. Leanne, 2009; O’Hair et al., 1995; Payne, 2001; Mathur, 2001; Jandt, 2001; World Book Encyclopedia, Inc., 1984). For example, on voice characteristics, World Book Encyclopedia, Inc. (1984:89) says “Your voice carries your ideas to your listeners. It also tells them what you are like and what you feel.”

However, most of these studies are limited to matters of style and communication effectiveness in one language. Although Poyatos (1997:249-255) mentions voice factors that interpreters should pay attention to, there has been, to the best of our knowledge, no study that assesses what is lost when speeches such as Obama’s (cf. Leanne, 2009) are interpreted with minimal or no indication of the non-verbal, especially paralinguistic properties of the source text. This research gap has been addressed in this study. Questions arising from the gap included:

- 1) Is there a significant loss in the message received by the addressees who receive a speech through interpretation that ignores the nonverbal properties of the speech?
- 2) What is the message gap between what the interpreters receive and what the target text listeners receive?
- 3) How are the nonverbal properties interpreted to suit the cultural understanding of the target audience?

Overall, the study assessed how much of the effect of the source text as received by those who listen directly to it is lost in the interpretation process that determines what the target text listeners finally receive.

1.4 Objectives

The specific objectives are:

- 1) To categorize the non-verbal, especially paralinguistic features identified by Leanne in Obama's 2004 Democratic Convention speech.
- 2) To determine the value of the categorized features in terms of communicative effect on the audience.
- 3) To establish the communicative consequences, in terms of reduced listenability, of bypassing/ignoring the paralinguistic components in the interpretation.

1.5 Hypotheses

The following are the hypotheses of this study:

- 1) The paralinguistic features in Obama's 2004 Democratic Convention speech can be placed in categories that are significant to the communicative effect of the speech.
- 2) The value of the categorized paralinguistic features can be determined in terms of listenability factors.
- 3) By contrasting the paralinguistic features in the interpreted oral text to those in the source (Obama's) text, we obtain evidence of reduced listenability in the interpreted text.

1.6 Significance and Rationale of the Study

A lot has been said and written about the importance and significance of nonverbal communication in human interactions in general and, to a smaller extent, in translation and interpretation. However, our investigations show practically no evidence of research that attempts to establish the actual loss in communicative effect arising from the work of interpreters. This study is therefore valuable to people in interpretation studies as well as professional interpreters interested in seeing evidence of what ignoring paralinguistic features does to an interpreted text and its receivers/consumers. In that way, the study should make a significant contribution to interpretation studies in general and the provision of interpreting services in particular.

1.7 Scope and Limitations of the Study

This study investigates the role played by nonverbal communication, especially paralinguistic features, in enhancing the communicative effect of a conference speech and the consequences of not capturing such features in the target language in the process of interpretation. It focuses on the segments of the selected speech (in this case, Obama's 2004 Democratic Convention speech) where the source text benefits from identifiable paralinguistic features. Such features include pitch range, articulation, vocal lip, glottis, articulation control and voice quality among others. This study is essentially a case study of how these considerations apply to Obama's 2004 Democratic Convention speech. Therefore, its results are treated with the usual reservations applying to a case study. Barack Obama's 2004 National Convention speech was a powerful address that made use of a range of nonverbal and vocal cues to convey its message:

- **Tone of voice:** Obama' tone of voice was calm, measured and confident throughout the speech. He used a conversational tone that made it easy for his audience to connect with him and feel engaged.
- **Facial expressions:** Obama made use of a range of facial expressions, including smiles, nods, and raised eyebrows, to convey his emotions and engage with his audience. These expressions helped to build rapport with the crowd and make his message more compelling.
- **Body language:** Obama used a range of body language cues to convey his confidence and energy, including standing tall and using expansive gestures with his hand.
- **Eye contact:** Obama maintained steady eye contact with his audience throughout the speech, which helped to build trust and establish a connection with them.
- **Pauses:** Obama used pauses strategically throughout his speech to emphasize key points, give his audience time to process his message, and build suspense.
- **Rhythm:** Obama used a rhythmic speaking style that helped to make his message more memorable and engaging. He varied his pace and pitch to keep his audience's attention and convey his emotions.

A further limitation will be in the fact that the study will not cover all aspects of nonverbal communication, since the non-paralinguistic ones cannot realistically be transmitted by an interpreter. It shall also be noted that the interpreter did not enjoy the optimal and appropriate working conditions as mentioned previously.

1.8 Literature Review

The literature review in this section includes: literature on effective/competent communication, literature on nonverbal communication in translation (and interpretation), literature on listenability, and literature on intercultural communication.

1.8.1 Literature on nonverbal communication in translation (and interpretation)

The key text in this section is Payatos (1997). This publication contains a wide range of contributions on the subject of “Nonverbal Communication and Translation.” Although the title mentions only translation, a number of individual contributions (especially that in Part 6) touch on matters concerning interpretation. Of particular interest to our study is the contribution by Payatos on “The reality of multichannel verbal-nonverbal communication in simultaneous and consecutive interpretation” (pp 249-282), in which he discusses various nonverbal aspects of a speech and their role in communication. This study will benefit particularly from his diagrammatic representation of nonverbal features for purposes of analysis. Van Doorslaer’ Translation Studies (Van Doorslaer, 2007) gives us insightful concepts on the various strategies that interpreters relied upon to adapt the nonverbal features of the source language to the target language and culture.

1.8.2 Literature on listenability

Listenability is a relatively new term. It refers to the quality of a text that makes it easy and enjoyable to listen to, particularly when it comes to spoken or auditory forms of communication.

The major publications on listenability are Hamlin (1998; 2006) and Wolvin et al (2005). Hamlin’s “How to Talk So People Listen” (1998/2006) is the most elaborate piece of literature on listenability. It outlines the major considerations in communication regarding what makes people want to listen to a speaker and thus easily understand what is being said. It therefore provides the key definitions and considerations necessary for the work done in this study. Wolvin et al enrich Hamlin’s study by defining the term listenability and outlining some more considerations in the whole science and art of making one’s speech listenable. This study depends fundamentally on these publications for its conceptual framework and the justification of the research effort that goes into identifying paralinguistic features and evaluating the effect of their absence in an interpreted text.

1.8.3 Literature on effective/competent communication

There is a wide range of literature on effective communication. In this study, we have made special use of Verderber and Verderber (2003)'s publication "The Challenge of Effective Speaking", World Book Encyclopedia (1984)'s "Winning with Words", O'Hair et al (1995)'s "Competent Communication", and Payne (2001)'s "Applications. Communication for Personal and Professional Contexts". Verderber and Verderber (2003) provides a comprehensive coverage of what is required in effective communication, including indications of what constitutes nonverbal cues and why they need attention in communication. It strengthens the messages of Hamlin (1998; 2006) and Wolvin et al (2005) regarding what listeners value in a speech. World Book Encyclopedia (1984)'s "Winning with Words" has a good coverage of the voice features that contribute to effective communication, including those voice characteristics such as pitch, intensity, rate, etc., which have a direct bearing on the concerns of this study. O'Hair et al (1995)'s "Competent Communication" has one of the best treatments of paralinguistic features. This provides a great resource for our research in terms of both definitions and identification of voice features relevant to our study. The study will rely significantly on their lists of voice features and the descriptions of what characterizes them in speech. Payne (2001), apart from providing useful information on various aspects of effective communication, devotes a significant part of his text (Chapter 5) to nonverbal communication and explains various concepts related to paralanguage. He points out that "paralinguistic cues are the vocal clues such as volume, rate, or inflection that tell a receiver how to interpret spoken words." Such explanations are particularly useful in clarifying concepts that may be confusing in the rest of the literature. The study will use them from time to time as the need arises.

1.8.4 Literature on intercultural communication

Intercultural communication writers give attention to nonverbal communication because it is one of the elements of communication on which cultures may show significant differences. For example, Jandt (2001) discusses nonverbal communication extensively (Chapter 5) and clarifies various relevant concepts including, especially, factors that fall within the domain of paralanguage, which he says (p.114) include:

Vocal characterizers, such as laughter and sobs; vocal qualifiers, such as intensity (loud/soft), pitch (high/low), and extent (drawl and clipping); vocal segregates, such as "uh," "um," and "uh-huh".

Such publications are useful because they strengthen the core literature used in the conceptual framework (1.8).

1.8.5 Literature on Obama’s 2004 Democratic Convention Speech

For Obama’s 2004 Democratic Convention Speech, this study makes significant use of Leanne’s (2009) publication “Say It Like Obama,” in which she describes the stylistic features (verbal and nonverbal) which gave Obama’s speech the effectiveness for which it is widely acclaimed. This book has an important role to play in this study since it is the source of the secondary data used in the study.

1.8.6 Other types of literature

Other types of literature relevant to this study fall especially in the category of publications on voice characteristics, especially Jacobi’s 1996 publication “How to Say it with Your Voice” and Pearce’s 2005 book “The Alchemy of Voice.” These publications provide useful information on a wide range of voice features that will be of particular significance to this study as rich sources of concepts and related explanations.

1.9 Conceptual Framework

In the absence of an elaborate theory that is directly relevant to the issues addressed in this research, this study is guided by a conceptual framework based on the public communication concept of listenability as expounded by Hamlin (1998; 2006), Wolvin et al (2005), and related works (e.g. O’Hair et al, 1997). According to Wolvin et al (2005:69), the idea of listenability was developed in spoken public communication to parallel the notion of readability in written texts, a relationship that they explain as follows:

Just as writers must be concerned for the readability of their messages, so, too, should speakers be concerned for the listenability – the ease of comprehension – of their presentations.

Hamlin (2006:48) identifies “the three basic motivating factors that stimulate anyone to listen to any speaker” in terms of the following concerns of the listener:

- What is in it for me?
- Who is telling it?
- How do you tell it?

The concern with “What’s in it for me?” is about the listener’s interests. The speaker should be able to connect with his audience by identifying the problems they most care about and

addressing them. This requires good understanding of a speaker's audience and what motivates them to take action.

The concern with "Who's telling it?" is about the speaker's credibility. The speaker should ensure that he relates with his audience as a human being and that he be recognized as such. He is not a mere message-giver. He must be able to convey vision, a feeling of trust, inspire confidence, and admiration, persuade and motivate his audience (Hamlin (2006:51).

This requirement is about the speaker's personality, reputation, and ability to establish a rapport with the audience.

The concern regarding "How do you tell it?" is about style and/or technique. Once the rapport is established, the speaker should be able to catch the attention of his audience and keep them tuned in by carefully selecting the techniques to deliver his message (Hamlin 2006:58).

This is the part of the concept of listenability that is directly relevant to our study. Wolvin et al (2005:75) explain it as follows:

A listenable message is also characterized by support. Because listeners have such limitations of attention, it is important to engage them in the message. Good speakers rely on a variety of visual and non-verbal supporting materials to get listeners' attention and keep that attention throughout the presentation.

To ensure listenability, the speaker must be clear, concise and colorful in his usage of verbal and nonverbal elements. The nonverbal elements relevant to this study are those that relate to the voice, usually referred to as paralinguistic features, as explained by O'Hair et al (1997:203). The speaker shall always keep in mind that listening is an active process. It is a demanding and difficult job. And above all, when someone is really listening, it consumes his/her time, and it takes his/her focus away from himself or herself.

Reference is made here to features such as vocal cues which constitute a strong aid support for persuasion and comprehension. Features of voice qualities such as pitch range, tempo, resonance, rhythm, articulation, and vocal control of glottal structures are closely related to communication competence. These include the degree of hoarseness in a voice, the sharp or smooth transition in the pitch, whether the speech is precise or slurred, the level of smoothness,

the thickness or thinness of tone, the ability to vary the range of pitches and the rate of the speech.

It is such features that are usually lost (or altered) in an interpreter's rendering of a speech. This study analyses an interpreted version of Obama's 2004 Democratic Convention speech to establish what the audience misses in terms of the impact of a speech when such features are left out in the process of interpretation.

The listeners may receive significantly different messages from the speech and the speaker, according to the tone and content of the different TTs. Monotonous speakers turn the already passive state of listening into a sluggish one. Remember the nature of listening: Listeners have to work to maintain their attention, since they are not doing anything active. Being trapped by boring speakers causes them to seek the nearest escape, which is to tune out.

Put yourself in the shoes of a delegate who depends on interpretation. He or she is listening to that same voice for half an hour or so, no matter how many different speakers there are in the room. And if it's an unpleasant voice, or a high-pitched voice, it's going to get very tiring.

Regarding the handling of paralinguistic features in interpretation, Poyatos (1997:250) went as far as mentioning the quasi-paralinguistic sounds. However, in this study, we did not include the quasi-paralinguistic sounds instantiated by body movements such as finger-snapping or impatient rapping on a table as he did. Rather, we concentrated on paralinguistic features related to the voice.

Our study will also rely on some features from the theory of translation. The theory of translation is a broad framework that covers a wide range of translation and interpretation practices and encompasses a variety of topics, including the linguistic, cultural, and social factors that influence the translation and interpretation process. It studies the principles, methods, and techniques used to translate and interpret text and speech from one language to another.

A central tenet in the theory of translation is that translation, as a scientific process, can be analyzed and explained using linguistic and cultural theories. It should be noted that the interpreter's personal interpretation and cultural background plays a critical role in the interpreting process and that a good interpreter must strike a balance between fidelity to the source text and listenability in the target language.

Another important concept in the theory of translation is the principle of equivalence. The principle of equivalence refers to the idea that a translated text or speech would have to be equivalent to the original text in their meaning, style and tone. But achieving complete equivalence is often difficult, if not impossible. Good interpreters strive as much as possible to achieve functional equivalence that would carry the same message in the target language as the original text.

In the context of interpretation, the theory of translation can be applied to explain how interpreters use different approaches to convey meaning from one language to another and from one culture to another. In our study, we shall focus on strategies of ‘naturalization’, ‘domestication’ and ‘foreignizing’ that the interpreter may have used and to analyze if he managed to adapt the nonverbal features of the source language to the target language and culture.

Naturalization, which is sometimes referred to as cultural adaptation, is the process of ensuring that the speech sounds natural into the target language. This means that the translator or interpreter should take into account not only the literal meaning of the words, but also how they are used and how they are likely to be understood by a native speaker. This technique is particularly important in instances where the original text or speech may use idiomatic language that would sound too literal if translated.

Domestication is the process of making a text or speech familiar and understandable to the target audience. This technique is often used when the source language may include cultural, social, or linguistic references or concepts that are unfamiliar to the target audience. The translator or interpreter may choose to replace them with similar concepts or references which may feel more familiar and natural to the target audience. Admittedly, it will be difficult to guarantee that cultural nuances will faithfully preserve non-verbal characteristics in the rendition. However, these gaps must not fall below a certain threshold.

Foreignization is a translation strategy in which the translator seeks to retain the foreignness of the source text, rather than trying to make the translation read as if it were originally written in the target language. This approach emphasizes fidelity to the source text rather than the fluency and the listenability of the target language. Interpreters who use this approach are more focused on preserving the source language cultural context, to the point of deliberately subverting the target language’s conventions to the effect of preserving the original meaning.

All of these techniques require, of course, a very high familiarity with the source and target language and culture, as well as the ability to make careful and innovative choices in order to convey meaning effectively. Skilled translators and interpreters will use a combination of these techniques to produce the most accurate and effective interpretation possible.

As mentioned earlier, nonverbal communication is an important factor in interpretation because it can convey meaning and cultural context that is not expressed in words. For example, the speaker's facial expressions, gestures, and tone of voice can provide important clues to his or her emotions, intentions, and cultural context. Nonverbal features are often culture-specific. The interpreter interprets the culturally specific meaning of a particular gesture or tone by replacing it with an equivalent that is used in the culture of the target audience.

In summary, the Theory of Translation provides a useful framework for understanding how interpreters use different approaches to convey the message across languages and cultures, and how nonverbal communication plays a crucial role in this process.

1.10 Methodology

The data used in this study include extracts from Leanne's "Say it like Obama" (Leanne, 2009). The extracts were used as secondary data to show indications of Obama's non-verbal communication during his 2004 Democratic Convention keynote address. Our primary data is based on an interpretation of the same speech by an interpreter who has no background knowledge of this study. The chosen professional English-French interpreter interpreted from a video clip of the same address.

1.10.1 Data collection

The data for this study consisted of extracts from Obama's Democratic Party Convention Speech as recorded by Leanne (2009) and the corresponding interpreter's oral text. Obama's text was purposely selected because of its suitability for the goals of this project. Identified paralinguistic features from both texts are recorded for purposes of description, comparison and analysis.

1.10.2 Data presentation and analysis

The paralinguistic data obtained as explained above (1.9.1) were tabulated using a simplified version of the system used in Poyatos (1997:250/251) and in Van Doorslaer' translation strategies (Van Doorslaer, 2007). The data were then subjected to a comparative analysis to identify the paralinguistic features used in Obama's speech as described by Leanne (2009), but

which were left out in the audio French text that was produced by the chosen interpreter. The occurrence of the relevant paralinguistic features was captured in written texts using both Leanne's and Poyatos' systems with appropriate modifications where necessary. We have transcribed, heard and analyzed the rendition of these two speeches with a focus on how the interpreter dealt with the paralinguistic features of the source texts. In addition, the data were further analyzed using Van Doorslaer's strategies of translation to analyze the different approaches used by the interpreter to convey the message and determine whether he managed to reconstitute the nonverbal features in the target speech.

Our study will particularly focus on figuring out whether the interpreter used naturalization, domestication and foreignizing strategies and to establish whether he managed, throughout, to capture the nonverbal features in his rendition.

We did an assessment in a sentence-by-sentence form, to investigate how the interpretation was carried out and to detect omissions. The sentence-by-sentence investigation approach is considered to observe the level of accuracy and the extent of omissions and the effects of the loss of the paralinguistic features contained therein.

Much communication takes place in settings involving people from multiple cultures who speak in different languages and gesture in varied ways. As such, the need for a professional interpreter or translator arises - someone who can bridge the cultural and lingual divide effectively without omission or addition resulting from these differences in culture. Nevertheless, it should be noted that interpreters sometimes may deliberately adopt omissions as a key interpretation strategy, for example, when the speed of the speech is too fast.

CHAPTER TWO

CLASSIFICATION AND GENERAL PRESENTATION OF DATA

2. DATA SET ON PARALINGUISTIC FEATURES IN OBAMA'S SPEECH

This chapter focuses on the classification and general presentation of data. We shall first present the transcriptions of the source speech in English and the target speech in French translation. We will then present the transcription of the interpreter target speech in French and capture the level of accuracies and omissions. We shall then emphasize the essence of this message through the subtitles and provide relevant paralinguistic features.

2.1. Transcription and translation from English to French

The sentences from the transcripts with the corresponding translations are presented in this section.

Sentence 1

ENG ST: On behalf of the great state of Illinois, crossroads of a nation, Land of Lincoln...

FRE TT: Au nom du grand état d'Illinois, croisement d'une nation, terre de Lincoln,

FRE TS : Au nom du grand état de l'Illinois, carrefour d'une nation, pays de Lincoln...

Sentence 2

ENG ST: Tonight, is a particular honor for me because, let's face it, my presence on this stage is pretty unlikely.

FRE TT: Ce soir est un honneur particulier pour moi car, avouons-le, ma présence sur cette scène est peu probable.

FRE TS : Ce soir est un honneur particulier pour moi parce que ma présence sur cette tribune était improbable.

Sentence 3

ENG ST: Through hard work and perseverance my father got a scholarship to study in a magical place: America...

FRE TT: Grâce à son assiduité et à sa persévérance, mon père a obtenu une bourse pour aller étudier dans un endroit magique : l'Amérique...

FRE TS : Il a obtenu une bourse pour étudier en Amérique....

Sentence 4

ENG ST: ...that shone as a beacon of freedom and opportunity to so many who had come before.

FRE TT: ...qui symbolisait le flambeau de liberté et d'opportunités pour tant d'autres qui l'ont précédé.

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 5

ENG ST: Back home, my grandmother raised a baby and went to work on a bomber assembly line.

FRE TT: Et à la maison, ma grand-mère élevait leur fils et travaillait dans une usine de bombardiers.

FRE TS : Et à la maison, ma grand-mère élevait leur fils....

Sentence 6

ENG ST: My parents shared not only an improbable love; they shared an abiding faith in the possibilities of this nation.

FRE TT: Mes parents partageaient non seulement un amour invraisemblable, mais aussi une foi inébranlable dans les opportunités que cette nation avait à offrir.

FRE TS : Mes parents partageaient, non seulement un amour improbable, mais aussi une foi en des possibilités de ce pays.

Sentence7

ENG ST: ...believing that in a tolerant America your name is no barrier to success.

FRE TT: ... croire que dans une Amérique tolérante, votre nom ne soit un obstacle à la réussite.

FRE TS : ...en croyant qu'en Amérique, votre nom ne peut pas être un obstacle à la réussite.

Sentence 8

ENG ST: I stand here today, grateful for the diversity of my heritage, aware that my parents' dreams live on in my two precious daughters.

FRE TT: Aujourd'hui, je me tiens ici, reconnaissant de la diversité de mon héritage, consciente que les rêves de mes parents se perpétuent à travers mes deux précieuses filles.

FRE TS : Et je suis devant vous aujourd'hui, fier de la diversité de mon héritage et je suis sûr que le rêve de mes parents vit dans mes filles.

Sentence 9

ENG ST: ...that I owe a debt to all of those who came before me, and that, in no other country on earth, is my story even possible.

FRE TT: ...que je me sens redevable envers tous ceux qui m'ont précédé et que mon histoire ne peut même pas être possible nulle part ailleurs sur terre.

FRE TS: Je dois beaucoup à tous ceux qui m'ont précédé et que mon histoire n'est même pas possible dans aucun pays du monde.

Sentence 10

ENG ST: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal..."

FRE TT: "Nous tenons ces vérités pour évidentes, à savoir que tous les hommes sont créés égaux....".

FRE TS : Nous tenons cette vérité comme évidente que tous les hommes sont créés comme égaux ...

Sentence 11

ENG ST: That *is* the true genius of America....

FRE TT: C'est là le véritable génie de l'Amérique....

FRE TS : C'est là le vrai génie de l'Amérique....

Sentence 12

ENG ST: ...and that our votes will be counted—at least, most of the time.

FRE TT: ...et que nos votes seront pris en compte - du moins, dans la plupart du temps.

FRE TS: et nos voix seront comptés – du moins, la plupart du temps.

Sentence 13

ENG ST: And fellow Americans - Democrats, Republicans, Independents - I say to you tonight: we have more work to do.

FRE TT: Et chers compatriotes américains - démocrates, républicains, indépendants - je vous le dis ce soir : nous avons encore du pain sur la planche.

FRE TS : Aux démocrates et aux républicains et aux indépendants, nous avons beaucoup de choses à faire.

Sentence 14

ENG ST: ...and now are having to compete with their own children for jobs that pay seven bucks an hour.

FRE TT: ...et doivent maintenant rivaliser avec leurs propres enfants pour des emplois payés sept dollars de l'heure.

FRE TS:

Sentence 15

ENG ST: ... wondering how he would pay \$4,500 a month for the drugs his son needs without the health benefits that he counted on.

FRE TT: ... se demandant comment il pourrait payer 4 500 dollars par mois pour les médicaments dont son fils a besoin sans les assurances maladie sur lesquelles il comptait.

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 16

ENG ST: ...and thousands more like her, who has the grades, has the drive, has the will, but doesn't have the money to go to college.

FRE TT: ...et des milliers d'autres comme elle, qui ont les bonnes notes, le dynamisme, la volonté, mais qui n'ont pas les moyens d'aller à l'université.

FRE TS : qui est brillante et déterminée et qui n'a pas l'argent pour aller à l'université

Sentence 17

ENG ST: ... and now are having to compete with their own children for jobs that pay seven bucks an hour.

FRE TT: ... et doivent maintenant rivaliser avec leurs propres enfants pour des emplois payés sept dollars de l'heure.

FRE TS : ... et ont peur de compétir avec les enfants...

Sentence 18

ENG ST: They know they have to work hard to get ahead, and they want to.

FRE TT: Ils savent qu'ils doivent travailler dur pour avancer, et ils le veulent.

FRE TS : Ils savent qu'ils doivent travailler très dur

Sentence 19

ENG ST: Go into the collar counties around Chicago, and people will tell you they don't want their tax money wasted by a welfare agency or by the Pentagon.

FRE TT: Visitez les quartiers périphériques de Chicago, et les gens vous diront qu'ils ne veulent pas que l'argent de leurs impôts soit gaspillé par une agence d'aide sociale ou par le Pentagone.

FRE TS : Et allez dans tous les quartiers de Chicago et ils disent qu'ils ne veulent pas que leur argent des impôts ne soient pas gaspillés par des agences de sécurité ou par le Pentagone.

Sentence 20

ENG ST: They know, we can do better, and they want that choice.

FRE TT: Ils savent que nous pouvons être plus performants, et ils revendiquent ce choix.

FRE TS : Ils savent que nous pouvons faire mieux ... et ils veulent ce choix.

Sentence 21

ENG ST: Our party has chosen a man to lead us who embodies the best this country has to offer.

FRE TT: Notre parti a choisi, pour nous diriger, un homme qui incarne ce que notre pays a de mieux à offrir.

FRE TS: Notre parti a choisi un homme pour nous diriger, qui représente le meilleur de ce pays.

Sentence 22

ENG ST: And that man is John Kerry.

FRE TT: Et cet homme, c'est John Kerry.

FRE TS : Cet homme, c'est John Kerry...

Sentence 23

ENG ST: His values and his record affirm what is best in us.

FRE TT: Ses valeurs et son bilan confirment justement ce qui nous caractérise le mieux.

FRE TS : Et ces valeurs réaffirment le meilleur de nous-mêmes.

Sentence 24

ENG ST: ...but it should never be the first_option.

FRE TT: mais elle ne devrait jamais être la première option.

FRE : Mais elle ne doit pas être la première option.

Sentence 25

ENG ST: He was a good-looking kid, six-two, six-three, clear-eyed, with an easy smile...

FRE TT: C'était un beau garçon, de 1,80 m, aux yeux clairs, au sourire facile...

FRE : Un jeune homme grand, avec un bon sourire...

Sentence 26

ENG ST: ...I thought this young man was all that any of us might ever hope for in a child

FRE TT: ... Je pensais que ce jeune homme incarnait parfaitement ce que tout le monde peut espérer d'un enfant...

FRE TS : ...cet enfant est le rêve de tout parent

Sentence 27

ENG ST: but still lacked long-term health benefits because they were reservists.

FRE TT: mais ne bénéficiaient toujours pas de régime d'assurance maladie à long terme parce qu'ils étaient réservistes.

FRE TS : Mais qui n'ont pas droit à un dédommagement parce qu'ils sont réservistes.

Sentence 28

ENG ST : ...to tend to the soldiers upon their return, and to never ever go to war without enough troops to win the war,

FRE TT: ...de s'occuper des soldats à leur retour, et de ne jamais partir en guerre sans avoir suffisamment de troupes pour gagner la guerre,

FRE TS : ne jamais aller à la guerre sans assez de troupes pour gagner la guerre, ...

Sentence 29

ENG ST: ... secure the peace and earn the respect of the world.

FRE TT: ... assurer la paix et gagner le respect du monde.

FRE TS : ...le respect du monde.

Sentence 30

ENG ST: These enemies must be found.

FRE TT: Il faut retrouver ces ennemis.

FRE TS : Nous devons les trouver.

Sentence 31

ENG ST: And just as Lieutenant Kerry did not hesitate to risk his life to protect the men who served with him in Vietnam....

FRE TT: Par ailleurs, le lieutenant Kerry n'a pas hésité à risquer sa vie pour protéger les hommes qui ont servi avec lui au Viêt Nam....

FRE TS : Et quand il était lieutenant, il n'a pas hésité à risquer sa vie pour protéger les hommes qui servaient avec lui au Vietnam

Sentence 32

ENG ST: ... President Kerry will not hesitate one moment to use our military might to keep America safe and secure.

FRE TT: ... Le président Kerry n'hésitera pas un instant à recourir à notre puissance militaire pour assurer la sécurité de l'Amérique.

FRE TS: Président Kerry ne va pas hésiter à user de la force militaire pour protéger l'Amérique.

Sentence 33

ENG ST: John Kerry believes in America.

FRE TT: John Kerry croit en l'Amérique.

FRE TS : Il croit fermement en l'Amérique.

Sentence 34

ENG ST: For alongside our famous individualism, there's another ingredient in the American saga.

FRE TT: Car outre notre célèbre individualisme, il existe un autre ingrédient de la saga américaine.

FRE TS : Parce qu'à côté de notre individualisme fameux, il y a un autre ingrédient du rêve américain.

Sentence 35

ENG ST: A belief that we're all connected as one people.

FRE TT: La conviction que nous sommes tous liés les uns aux autres comme un seul peuple.

FRE TS : La croyance que nous sommes tous connectés comme un peuple.

Sentence 36

ENG ST: If there's a child on the south side of Chicago who can't read, that matters to me, even if it's not my child.

FRE TT: Si un enfant des quartiers sud de Chicago ne sait pas lire, cela m'importe, même si ce n'est pas mon enfant.

FRE TS: S'il y a un enfant de l'autre côté de Chicago qui ne peut pas lire, cela me chagrine même s'il n'est pas mon enfant.

Sentence 37

ENG ST: If there's an Arab American family being rounded up without benefit of an attorney or due process

FRE TT: Si on arrête une famille arabo-américaine sans qu'elle ait pu bénéficier des services d'un avocat ou des garanties d'une procédure régulière

FRE TS: Cela me chagrine quand des familles américaines sont arrêtées sans que la procédure soit suivie....

Sentence 38

ENG ST: ...that threatens my civil liberties.

FRE: ...qui menace mes libertés civiles.

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 39

ENG ST: It is that fundamental belief - I am my brother's keeper –

FRE TT: C'est cette conviction fondamentale : je suis le gardien de mon frère.

FRE TS : Je suis fermement convaincu que je suis le protecteur de mon frère.

Sentence 40

ENG ST: ...and yet still come together as one American family

FRE TT: ... Et pourtant, ils demeurent une famille américaine unie.

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 41

ENG ST: "E pluribus unum."

FRE TT: "E pluribus unum."

FRE TS: "E pluribus unum."

Sentence 42

ENG ST: "E pluribus unum."

FRE TT: "E pluribus unum."

FRE TS:

Sentence 43

ENG ST: Out of many, one.

FRE TT: L'unité de la diversité

FRE TS : Un à partir de plusieurs.

Sentence 44

ENG ST: Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a conservative America

FRE TT: Eh bien, je leur dis ce soir qu'il n'y a pas d'Amérique libérale et d'Amérique conservatrice

FRE TT : Il n'y a pas d'Amérique libérale, d'Amérique conservatrice.

Sentence 45

ENG ST: Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a conservative America

FRE TT: Eh bien, je leur dis ce soir qu'il n'y a pas d'Amérique libérale et conservatrice

FRE TS:

Sentence 46

ENG ST: Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a conservative America

FRE TT: Eh bien, je leur dis ce soir qu'il n'y a pas d'Amérique libérale et conservatrice

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 47

ENG ST: ...there is the United States of America.

FRE TT: ...il n'y a que les États-Unis d'Amérique.

FRE TS : Il n'y a qu'une seule Etats-Unis d'Amérique.

Sentence 48

ENG ST: There is not a black America and white America

FR TT: Il n'y a pas d'Amérique noire et d'Amérique blanche

FRE TS : Il n'y a pas d'Amérique noire, d'Amérique blanche....

Sentence 49

ENG ST: ...there's the United States of America.

FRE TT: ...il n'y a que les États-Unis d'Amérique

FRE TS : Il n'y a que les *Etats-Unis d'Amérique*.

Sentence 50

ENG ST: The pundits like to slice and dice our country into red states and blue states.

FRE TT: Les experts aiment découper notre pays en États rouges et États bleus.

FRE TS : Les experts divisent notre pays en états rouges et bleus.

Sentence 51

ENG ST: We worship an awesome God in the blue states....

FRE TT: Nous adorons un Dieu merveilleux dans les états bleus....

FRE TS : Nous prions un Dieu merveilleux dans les états bleus...

Sentence 52

ENG ST: We worship an awesome God in the blue states....

FRE TT: Nous adorons un Dieu merveilleux dans les états bleus....

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 53

ENG ST: ...and we don't like federal agents poking

FRE TT: ...et nous n'aimons pas voir des agents fédéraux fouiner

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 54

ENG ST: around in our libraries in the red states.

FRE TT: dans nos bibliothèques des États rouges.

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 55

ENG ST: We are one people...

FRE TT: Nous sommes un même peuple...

FRE TS : Nous sommes un seul peuple....

Sentence 56

ENG ST: ...all of us pledging allegiance to the stars and stripes...

FRE TT: ...nous prêtons tous allégeance au drapeau étoilé...

FRE TS : et nous prêtons allégeance à notre drapeau

Sentence 57

ENG ST: Do we participate in a politics of cynicism?

FRE TT: Participons-nous à une politique du cynisme ?

FRE TS : Est-ce que nous participons dans une politique de cynisme ?

Sentence 58

ENG ST: ...or do we participate in a politics of hope?

FRE TT: ou participons-nous à une politique de l'espoir ?

FRE TS: ou nous participons dans une politique de l'espoir?

Sentence 59

ENG ST: I'm talking about something more substantial.

FRE TT: Je parle de quelque chose de plus réel.

FRE TS : Je parle de quelque chose de plus substantielle.

Sentence 60

ENG ST: It's the hope of slaves sitting around a fire singing freedom songs

FRE TT: Il s'agit de l'espoir d'esclaves assis autour d'un feu et chantant des chants de liberté.

FRE TS: Il s'agit de l'espoir de l'esclave....

Sentence 61

ENG ST: the hope of immigrants setting out for distant shores...

FRE TT: l'espoir des immigrants en route vers des côtes lointaines...

FRE TS: ...de l'espoir de l'immigrant qui rêve des côtes lointaines....

Sentence 62

ENG ST: ...the hope of a young naval lieutenant bravely patrolling the Mekong Delta;

FRE TT: ...l'espoir du jeune lieutenant de marine qui patrouille vaillamment dans le delta du Mékong ;

FRE TS : ... de l'espoir d'un jeune lieutenant brave qui fait la patrouille sur le fleuve Mekong

Sentence 63

ENG ST: ...the hope of a mill worker's son who dares to defy the odds;

FRE TT: ...l'espoir d'un fils d'ouvrier qui ose déjouer les pronostics ;

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 64

ENG ST: ...the hope of a skinny kid with a funny name

FRE TT: ...l'espoir d'un enfant maigre avec un drôle de nom

FRE TS : L'espoir d'un enfant maigre avec un nom bizarre

Sentence 65

ENG ST: Hope in the face of difficulty

FRE TT: L'espoir face aux difficultés

FRE TS : ... l'espoir face à la difficulté

Sentence 66

ENG ST: Hope in the face of uncertainty.

FRE TT: L'espoir face à l'incertitude.

FRE TS: L'espoir face à l'incertitude....

Sentence 67

ENG ST: The audacity of hope!

FRE TT: L'audace de l'espoir !

FRE TS: La percité de l'espoir ! ...

Sentence 68

ENG ST: ... the bedrock of this nation...

FRE TT: ... le fondement de cette nation...

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 69

ENG ST: ...a belief in things not seen...

FRE TT: ...une croyance en des choses invisibles...

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 70

ENG ST: ...a belief that there are better days ahead.

FRE TT: ...une croyance en des choses invisibles...

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 71

ENG ST: I believe that we can give our middle-class relief...

FRE TT: Je suis convaincu que nous sommes en mesure de soulager notre classe moyenne...

FRE TS : Je suis convaincu que nous pouvons donner à la classe moyenne

Sentence 72

ENG ST: I believe we can provide jobs to the jobless....

FRE TT: Je suis convaincu que nous pouvons créer des emplois pour les chômeurs....

FRE TS : Je suis convaincu que nous pouvons donner des emplois aux chômeurs...

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Sentence 73

ENG ST: I believe that we have a righteous wind in our backs...

FRE TT: Je suis convaincu qu'un vent de justice souffle dans nos dos...

FRE TS: ...

Sentence 74

ENG ST: America! Tonight!

FRE TT : Amérique ! Ce soir !

FRE TS : L'Amérique ! Ce soir !

Sentence 75

ENG ST: If you feel the same energy that I do....

FRE TT: Si vous ressentez comme moi la même énergie....

FRE TS : Si vous sentez la même énergie que moi....

Sentence 76

ENG ST: if you feel the same urgency that I do...

FRE TT: si vous éprouvez comme moi le même sentiment d'urgence...

FRE TS : Si vous sentez la même urgence que moi

Sentence 77

ENG ST: if you feel the same passion that I do...

FRE TT: si vous partagez la même passion que moi...

FRE TS : La même passion que moi...

Sentence 78

ENG ST: if you feel the same hopefulness that I do...

FRE TT: si vous nourrissez le même espoir que moi...

FRE TS : Le même espoir que moi....

Sentence 79

ENG ST: if we do what we must do...

FRE TT: si nous faisons ce ce qu'il faut faire...

FRE TS : Si nous faisons ce que nous devons faire....

Sentence 80

ENG ST: then I have no doubt that all across the country

FRE TT: alors je ne doute pas que dans tout le pays

FRE TS: Alors, je n'ai aucun doute qu'à travers tout le pays....

Sentence 81

ENG ST: ...from Washington to Maine

FRE TT: ...de Washington au Maine

FRE TS: ...de Washington à Maine

CHAPTER THREE

ANALYSIS OF PARALINGUISTIC FEATURES

The analysis is done by regrouping sentences from the transcripts with subtitles and relevant paralinguistic features are pointed out and presented in Tables 1 – 8.

3.1.1. Breaking Down Barriers

From the onset, Obama addressed his unconventional background. With tact, he talked about his trajectory as a history of the American immigration and hard work.

Table 1: Breaking Down Barriers

ENGLISH SOURCE TEXT	FRENCH SOURCE TEXT
1. On behalf of the great state of Illinois, crossroads of a nation [<i>pause</i>], Land of Lincoln...	1. Au nom du grand état de l'Illinois, croisement d'une nation [<i>pause</i>], Terre de Lincoln...
2. Tonight is a particular honor for me because, let's face it, my presence on this stage is pretty unlikely. [<i>His intonation underscores the irony of the circumstances.</i>]	2. Ce soir est un honneur particulier pour moi parce que ma présence sur cette tribune était improbable.
3. Through hard work and perseverance my father got a scholarship to study in a <u>magical</u> place: America... [Underlining shows emphasis]	3. Il a obtenu une bourse pour étudier en Amérique....
4. ...that shone as a beacon of freedom and opportunity to so many who had come before. [His inflection conveys patriotic pride]	4.

Obama managed to establish a strong first impression with his audience. He pronounced the word Illinois, his homestead, with great pride in his voice and his intonation stressed the irony of the circumstances surrounding his family.

3.1.2. Reclaiming the American dream: Obama’s Grandparents’ and Parents’ Dream

Obama shared the experiences of his family. He demonstrated that they were pursuing the same dreams as most Americans did. His ability to establish these common grounds helped to capture the attention of his audience.

Table 2: Reclaiming the American dream: Obama’s Grandparents’ and Parents’ Dream

ENGLISH SOURCE TEXT	FRENCH SOURCE TEXT
5. Back home, my grandmother raised a baby <u>and</u> went to work on a bomber assembly line. <i>[Underlining shows emphasis]</i>	5. <u>Et</u> à la maison, ma grand-mère élevait leur fils.... <i>[Underlining shows emphasis]</i>
6. My parents shared not only an improbable love; they shared an <i>abiding</i> faith in the possibilities of this nation. <i>[Obama speaks the words with pride and reverence.]</i>	6. Mes parents partageaient, non seulement un amour improbable, mais aussi une foi en des possibilités de ce pays. <i>[pride in the voice]</i>
7. ...believing that in a <u>tolerant</u> America your name is no barrier to success. <i>[Underlining shows emphasis]</i>	7. ...en croyant qu’en Amérique, votre nom ne peut pas être un obstacle à la réussite. <i>[underlining word not captured]</i>

The patriotic pride and reverence reflected in the inflection of his voice, as he described America as a beacon of hope and opportunities, generated applause from the audience.

3.1.3 A More Perfect Union: The Genius of the American Dream

Obama made references to biblical truths, lauding them as “simple truths”, reaching across all sorts of divisions. He tapped into the patriotic pride to make a call for unity.

Table 3: A More Perfect Union: The Genius of the American Dream

ENGLISH SOURCE TEXT	FRENCH SOURCE TEXT
<p>8. I stand here today, grateful for the diversity of my heritage, aware that my parents' dreams live on in my two precious daughters. [<i>Sincerity rings in his tone.</i>]</p>	<p>8. Et je suis devant vous aujourd'hui, fier de la diversité de mon héritage et je suis sûr que le rêve de mes parents vit dans mes filles.</p>
<p>9. ...that I owe a debt to all of those who came before me, and that, in no other country on earth, is my story even possible. [<i>pride in his voice</i>]</p>	<p>9. Je dois beaucoup à tous ceux qui m'ont précédé et que mon histoire n'est même pas possible dans aucun pays du monde.</p>
<p>10. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal..." [<i>voice slightly amplified</i>]</p>	<p>10. Nous tenons cette vérité comme évidente que tous les hommes sont créés comme égaux ... [<i>voice amplified</i>]</p>
<p>11. <u>That</u> is the true genius of America.... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis</i>]</p>	<p>11. <u>C'est</u> là le vrai génie de l'Amérique.... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis</i>]</p>
<p>12. ...and that our votes will be counted—at least, most of the time. [<i>His tone falls flat.</i>]</p>	<p>12. ...et nos voix seront comptés – du moins, la plupart du temps.</p>

Obama expressed these words with sincerity in his voice, at time amplifying it slightly to underscore his patriotic pride. He does however use a flat tone to express disapproval, when referring to the 2000 U.S. presidential election results. The audience responded with jeers.

3.1.4 Take Back America: The Challenges Facing the Nation

Obama’s ability to recount anecdotes helped him connect with the audience. He demonstrated that he intimately understood their challenges.

Table 4: Take Back America: The Challenges Facing the Nation

ENGLISH SOURCE TEXT	FRENCH SOURCE TEXT
<p>13. And fellow Americans—Democrats, Republicans, Independents— I say to you tonight: we have more work to do. [<i>Most or all words stressed</i>]</p>	<p>13. Aux Démocrates et aux Républicains et aux Indépendants, nous avons beaucoup de choses à faire.</p>
<p>14. ...and now are having to compete with their own children for jobs that pay seven bucks an hour. [<i>Disapproval in his tone</i>]</p>	<p>14.</p>
<p>15. ... wondering how he would pay \$4,500 a month for the drugs his son needs without the health benefits that he counted on. [<i>Tone conveys great empathy.</i>]</p>	<p>15. ...</p>
<p>16. ...and thousands more like her, who <u>has the grades</u>, has the drive, has the will, but doesn’t have the money to go to college. [<i>Underlining shows emphasis with slight pauses</i>]</p>	<p>16. ...qui est brillante et déterminée et qui n’a pas l’argent pour aller à l’université</p>
<p>17. ... and now are having to compete with their own children for jobs that pay seven bucks an hour. [<i>Disapproval in his tone</i>]</p>	<p>17 ... et ont peur de compétir avec les enfants</p>

<p>18. They know they have to work hard to get ahead, and <u>they want to</u>. [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>19. Go into the collar counties around Chicago, and people will tell you they don't want their tax money wasted by a welfare agency <u>or by the Pentagon</u>. [<i>Amplification of last three words makes a negative reference to the Iraq War</i>]</p> <p>20. <u>They know</u>, we can do better [<i>a brief pause</i>], and they want that choice. [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>18. Ils savent qu'ils doivent travailler très dur</p> <p>19. Et allez dans tous les quartiers de Chicago et ils disent qu'ils ne veulent pas que leur argent des impôts ne soient pas gaspillés par des agences de sécurité ou par le Pentagone.</p> <p>20. Ils savent que nous pouvons faire mieux et ils veulent ce choix.</p>
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Obama drove his message home by varying the tone of his voice to express disapproval and amplifying it to make a negative reference to the Iraq War. His tone rang as a challenge when speaking about reaffirming the American values. His tone reflected disapproval and great empathy when describing the situation in the job market.

3.1.5 A New Beginning: The Choice for a New Candidate

Obama introduced John Kerry as someone who embodies the American values.

Table 5: A New Beginning: The Choice for a New Candidate

ENGLISH SOURCE TEXT	FRENCH SOURCE TEXT
<p>21. Our party has chosen a man to lead us who embodies the best this country has to offer. [<i>Tone reflects pride</i>]</p>	<p>21. Notre parti a choisi un homme pour nous diriger, qui représente le meilleur de ce pays.</p>
<p>22. And that man is John Kerry. [<i>Tone firm and resolute</i>]</p>	<p>22. Cet homme, c'est John Kerry... [<i>Tone firm</i>]</p>
<p>23. His values and his record affirm what is best in us. [<i>Tone varied</i>]</p>	<p>23. Et ces valeurs réaffirment le meilleur de nous-mêmes.</p>

Obama used a firm tone to drive this point home. He passionately appealed to his party members and his countrymen to endorse John Kerry as the candidate for the high office.

3.1.6 An Honest Government: Changes We Can Believe In

Throughout his political career, Obama’s favorite theme was about “change we can believe in”. His message conveyed a sense of momentum and urgency.

Table 6: An Honest Government: Changes We Can Believe In

ENGLISH SOURCE TEXT	FRENCH SOURCE TEXT
24. ...but it should never be the <u>first</u> option. <i>[Underlining shows emphasis.]</i>	24. mais elle ne doit pas être la <u>première</u> option. <i>[Underlining shows emphasis]</i>
25 He was a good-looking kid, six-two, six-three, clear-eyed, with an easy smile <i>[texture of tone is wistful, conveying admiration]</i> .	25. Un jeune homme grand, avec un bon sourire... <i>[texture of the tone convey admiration]</i>
26 ...I thought this young man was all that any of us might ever hope for in a child <i>[words spoken with tender affection]</i> .	26 ...cet enfant est le rêve de tout parent
27 ...but still lacked long-term health benefits because they were reservists. <i>[Voice indicates disappointment.]</i>	27 Mais qui n’ont pas droit à un dédommagement parce qu’ils sont réservistes.
28 ...to tend to the soldiers upon their return, and to <u>never</u> , <i>[pause]</i> ever, go to war without enough troops to win the war,	28 ne jamais aller à la guerre sans assez de troupes pour gagner la guerre, ...

When mentioning the young man he met who expressed faith in the American cause, Obama used a wistful tone, to convey admiration and tender affection. Disappointment rang in his voice when explaining the conditions under which they served. He amplified his voice greatly urging America never to go to war if the win is not assured.

3.1.7 A Sacred Trust: Protecting the American Values

Obama has demonstrated his ability to rally fellow Americans behind their shared values. Here, he taps in the sentiments of Americans who were tired of the divisive politicking.

Table 7: A Sacred Trust: Protecting the American Values

ENGLISH SOURCE TEXT	FRENCH TARGET TEXT
<p>29. ... <u>secure</u> the peace, and earn the respect of the world. [<i>Underlined word is stressed and amplified and built to a high</i>]</p>	<p>29le respect du monde.</p>
<p>30. These enemies must be <i>found</i>. [<i>A slight pause to give gravity to the words.</i>]</p>	<p>30 Nous devons les trouver.</p>
<p>31. And just as <u>Lieutenant</u> Kerry did not hesitate to risk his life to protect the men who served with him in Vietnam,.... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>31 Et quand il était lieutenant, il n’a pas hésité à risquer sa vie pour protéger les hommes qui servaient avec lui au Vietnam</p>
<p>32. ...<u>President</u> Kerry will not hesitate <i>one</i> moment to use our military might to keep America safe and secure. [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>32 President Kerry ne va pas hésiter à user de la force militaire pour protéger l’Amérique.</p>
<p>33. John Kerry <u>believes</u> in America. [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>33 Il <u>croit</u> fermement en l’Amérique. [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>
<p>34. For alongside our famous individualism, there’s another ingredient in the American saga. [<i>Tone conveys a challenge beneath the words.</i>]</p>	<p>34 Parce qu’à côté de notre individualisme fameux, il y a un autre ingrédient du rêve américain.</p>

<p>35. A belief that we're all connected as one people. [<i>Tone filled with wistful, patriotic pride.</i>]</p> <p>36. If there's a child on the south side of Chicago who can't read, that <u>matters to me</u>, even if it's not my child. [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>37. If there's an Arab American family being rounded up <u>without benefit of an attorney or due process</u> [<i>Tone amplified</i>]</p> <p>38. ...that threatens <u>my</u> civil liberties. [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>39. It is that fundamental belief—I <u>am my brother's keeper</u> [<i>Volume raised louder</i>]</p> <p>40. ...and yet still come together as one American family [<i>Tone becomes reflective.</i>]</p> <p>41. "E pluribus unum." [<i>Each word enunciated carefully</i>]</p> <p>42. "E pluribus unum." [<i>Dramatic pause.</i>]</p> <p>43. Out of many, one. [<i>Voice lowered</i>]</p>	<p>35 La croyance que nous sommes tous connectés comme un peuple.</p> <p>36 S'il y a un enfant de l'autre côté de Chicago qui ne peut pas lire, cela me chagrine, même s'il n'est pas mon enfant.</p> <p>37 Cela me chagrine quand des familles américaines sont arrêtées sans que la procédure soit suivie....</p> <p>38</p> <p>39 Je suis fermement convaincu que je suis le protecteur de mon frère.</p> <p>40 ...</p> <p>41 "E pluribus unum."</p> <p>42 ...</p> <p>43 Un à partir de plusieurs.</p>
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<p><i>to emphasize the translation]</i></p> <p>44. Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a <u>liberal</u> America and a <i>conservative</i> America <i>[Underlining shows emphasis.]</i></p> <p>45. Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a <u>conservative</u> America <i>[Underlining shows emphasis.]</i></p> <p>46. Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a <u>liberal</u> America and a <u>conservative</u> America <i>[Tone mocking underlined ideas.]</i></p> <p>47. ...there is the <u>United States of America</u>. <i>[Each word enunciated carefully]</i></p> <p>48. There is not a black America and <u>white America</u> <i>[Underlining shows emphasis.]</i></p> <p>49. ...there's the <u>United States of America</u>. <i>[Each word enunciated carefully again]</i></p> <p>50. The pundits like to slice and dice our country into red states and blue states. <i>[Tone mocking the practice.]</i></p>	<p>44 Il n'y a pas d'Amérique libérale, d'Amérique conservative (Not accurate)</p> <p>45</p> <p>46.</p> <p>47. Il n'y a qu'une seule <u>Etats-Unis d'Amérique</u>. <i>[Each word enunciated carefully again]</i></p> <p>48. Il n'y a pas d'Amérique noire, d'Amérique blanche....</p> <p>49. Il n'y a que les <u>Etats-Unis d'Amérique</u>.</p> <p>50. Les experts divisent notre pays en états rouges et bleus.</p>
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<p>51. We worship an <u>awesome</u> God in the blue states....[<i>word stressed</i>]</p> <p>52. We worship an <u>awesome</u> God in the blue states....[<i>Voice amplified to signify God's greatness</i>]</p> <p>53. ...and we don't like federal agents poking</p> <p>54. around in our libraries in the red states. [<i>Cadence (rise and fall of voice) dramatically increased</i>].</p> <p>55. We are <u>one</u> people,... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>56. ...<u>all of us</u> pledging allegiance to the stars and stripes... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>51. Nous prions un Dieu <i>merveilleux</i> dans les états bleus...</p> <p>52.</p> <p>53.</p> <p>54.</p> <p>55. Nous sommes <i>un seul peuple</i>....</p> <p>56. ...et <i>nous</i> prêtons allégeance à notre drapeau</p>
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Obama used a tone of challenge when speaking about individualism in America. His tone became wistful and full of pride as he expressed his belief in the oneness of the American people. His tone grew reflective and he used dramatic pause to state: “E plubirus unum”. He did amplify his voice to signify God’s greatness.

3.1.8 A Hopeful Future: Avoiding Cynicism

Finally, Obama issued a call to action. He conveyed a sense of urgency. And this powerful ending helped to energize the audience, eliciting a positive response, crowned with an outstanding ovation.

Table 8: A Hopeful Future: Avoiding Cynicism

ENGLISH SOURCE TEXT	FRENCH TARGET TEXT
<p>57. Do we participate in a politics of <u>cynicism</u>... [<i>Underlining shows voice falling flat, signaling disapproval</i>]</p>	<p>57. Est-ce que nous participons dans une politique de <i>cynisme</i> ou nous participons dans une politique de l'espoir.....?</p>
<p>58. ...or do we participate <u>in a politics of hope</u>? [<i>Underlining shows rising pitch so sound hopeful and expectant</i>]</p>	<p>58. ...</p>
<p>59. I'm talking about something <u>more substantial</u>. [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>59. Je parle de quelque chose de <i>plus substantielle</i>.</p>
<p>60. It's <i>the</i> <u>hope</u> of slaves sitting around a fire singing freedom songs [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>60. Il s'agit de l'espoir de l'esclave....</p>
<p>61. <i>the</i> <u>hope</u> of immigrants setting out for distant shores.... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>61....Il s'agit de l'<i>espoir</i> de l'immigrant qui rêve des côtes lointaines....</p>
<p>62. ...<i>the</i> <u>hope</u> of a young naval lieutenant bravely patrolling the Mekong Delta; [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>61. ... de l'<i>espoir</i> d'un jeune lieutenant brave qui fait la patrouille sur le fleuve Mekong</p>

<p>63. ...<u>the hope</u> of a mill worker's son who dares to defy the odds; [Underlining shows emphasis.]</p> <p>64. ...the <u>hope</u> of a <i>skinny kid</i> with a funny name [Underlining shows emphasis.]</p> <p>65. <u>Hope</u> in the face of difficulty [Underlining shows emphasis/amplification.]</p> <p>66. <u>Hope</u> in the face of uncertainty. [Underlining shows volume for a powerful voice.]</p> <p>67. <u>The audacity of hope!</u> [Underlining shows more volume/power.]</p> <p>68. ... the <u>bedrock</u> of this nation... [Underlining shows emphasis.]</p> <p>69. ...a <u>belief</u> in things not seen... [Underlining shows emphasis.]</p> <p>70. ...a <u>belief</u> that there are better days ahead. [Underlining shows emphasis.]</p>	<p>62.</p> <p>63.</p> <p>64.... L'<i>espoir</i> d'un enfant nègre avec un nom bizarre</p> <p>65... l'<i>espoir</i> face à la difficulté</p> <p>66. L'<i>espoir</i> face à l'incertitude.....</p> <p>67. La <i>percité</i> de l'<i>espoir</i>!....</p> <p>68.</p> <p>69. ... la <i>croyance</i> dans quelque chose qui ne s'est pas encore matérialisée</p> <p>70.</p>
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<p>71. <u>I believe</u> that we can give our middle class relief... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>72. <u>I believe</u> we can provide jobs to the jobless.... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>73. <u>I believe</u> that we have a righteous wind in our backs... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>74. <u>America!</u> Tonight! [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>75. If you feel the <u>same energy</u> that I do.... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>76. if you feel the <u>same urgency</u> that I do... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>77. if you feel the <u>same passion</u> that I do ... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p> <p>78. if you feel the <u>same hopefulness</u> that I do... [<i>Underlining shows emphasis.</i>]</p>	<p>71. <i>Je suis convaincu</i> que nous pouvons donner à la classe moyenne</p> <p>72. <i>Je suis convaincu</i> que nous pouvons donner des emplois aux chômeurs....</p> <p>73. ...</p> <p>74. <i>L'Amérique!</i> Ce soir!</p> <p>75. Si vous sentez la <i>même énergie</i> que moi....</p> <p>76. Si vous sentez la <i>même urgence</i> que moi</p> <p>77. La <i>même passion</i> que moi...</p> <p>78. Le <i>même espoir</i> que moi....</p>
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<p>79. if we do what we <u>must</u> do... [Underlining shows emphasis.]</p> <p>80. then I have <u>no doubt</u> that all across the country [Underlining shows emphasis.]</p> <p>81. ...<u>from Washington to Maine</u> [Underlining shows rising and falling inflections to convey the breadth of the geography]</p>	<p>79. Si nous faisons ce que nous <u>devons faire</u>....</p> <p>80. Alors, je n'ai <u>aucun doute</u> qu'à travers tout le pays.....</p> <p>81. ...<u>de Washington à Maine</u></p>
82.	

Talking of cynicism, Obama's voice fell flat to signal his disapproval. His pitch rose and sounded hopeful and expectant as he urged the crowd to believe in the audacity of hope. Passion resonated in his voice throughout his call for hope. He kept his volume powerful. The intensity of his voice reached a crescendo. The energized audience rose in a standing ovation.

There is no doubt that Obama's choice of words in this speech is excellent. His words are descriptive, multi-dimensional, and rich with corollary meaning. Nevertheless, it is worth noting that key messages, as highlighted above, are best captured in the skillful usage of the paralinguistic features.

CHAPTER FOUR

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

4.1 Analysis of the use of paralinguistic features from the source (english) into the target (french) texts

3.1.1 Introduction

This chapter examines the results of the study in detail and relates them to the theories applied in the study. It analyzes the use of paralinguistic features in the enhancement of listenability in Obama's text (the source text) and the corresponding French text (the target text). The analysis starts with the isolation of the paralinguistic features used in the source text and an indication in a frequency table (table xx) of the frequency of their occurrence in both the source text ($f(s)$) and the corresponding target text ($f(t)$). The analysis then proceeds by focusing on each paralinguistic feature to determine its communicative function in the source text and weighs both quantitatively and qualitatively the extent to which the established communicative functions are relayed to the audience by the target text (French text). Finally, the analysis examines the strategies used by the interpreter in relation to paralinguistic features.

4.2 Occurrence of Paralinguistic Features in the Two Texts

Table 9 below shows the frequency of the use of paralinguistic features in the two texts indicated as $f(s)$ for source text and $f(t)$ for target text.

Table 9: The frequency of the used paralinguistic features in the source and target texts

Paralinguistic features	$f(s)$	$f(t)$	<i>Fidelity(%)</i>
Voice of suspense (Pause)	6 x	1 x	16
Voice of disapproval	2	0	0
Voice of admiration/affection	2	1	50
Voice of disappointment	1	0	0
Voice of pride and reverence	5	1	20
Voice of firmness/ resoluteness	1	1	100
Voice (tone) of sincerity	1	0	0
Voice (intonation) of irony	1	0	0
Voice dropped for attention	1	0	0
Voice of sarcasm (emphasis)	1	0	0

Voice (tone) varied for attention	1	0	0
Voice (tone) for challenge	1	0	0
Voice (tone) for reflection	1	0	0
Voice (tone) for mockery	2	0	0
Voice (tone/emphasis) for prominence	36	6	16
Voice (tone) for cadence			
Voice (volume) for power	3	0	0
Voice of hope/expectation	12	1	8
Voice (tone) of flatness	1	0	0
	1	0	0
Total occurrences:	81	11	14

4.3. Evaluating the Loss of Listenability in Relation to Individual Voice Features:

This sub-section undertakes a dominantly qualitative evaluation of the loss of listenability attributable to the individual voice features identified in Table xx.

4.3.1 Voice of Suspense (Pause)

Out of the 6 pauses noted in the source text, the interpreter rendered only one (1). This amounts to a rendering of about 16 % of this paralinguistic feature, representing a quantitative loss of 84% in its listenability value.

Qualitatively, this feature (the pause) represents a voice of suspense, which enhances the speaker's listenability by making the audience pay more attention in order to get what comes after the pause. Obama uses it strategically in utterances such as the following:

1) ST: On behalf of the great state of Illinois, crossroads of a nation [*pause*], Land of Lincoln...,

TT : Au nom du grand état de l'Illinois, croisement d'une nation [*pause*], Terre de Lincoln...,

2) ST: ...and thousands more like her, who has the grades, has the drive, has the will, but doesn't have the money, to go to college. [*Underlining shows emphasis with slight pauses*]

TT : ...qui est brillante et déterminée et qui n'a pas l'argent pour aller à l'université

- 3) ST: They know, we can do better [*a brief pause*], and they want that choice.
 [Underlining shows emphasis.]
 TT : Ils savent que nous pouvons faire mieux et ils veulent ce choix.
- 4) ST: ...to tend to the soldiers upon their return, and to never [*pause*] ever, go to war without enough troops to win the war...
 TT : Ils savent que nous pouvons faire mieux et ils veulent ce choix.
- 5) ST: These enemies must be *found*. [*A slight pause to give gravity to the words.*]
 TT : Nous devons les trouver.
- 6) ST: “E pluribus unum.” [*Dramatic pause.*]
 TT: ...

As we may see in (1), for example, Obama uses this feature to draw attention to what comes after the pause, thereby enhancing his listenability to the audience. This is the communicative effect that the audience misses in 84% of the cases rendered in the target text.

4.3.2 Voice of Disapproval

Quantitatively, this feature was used only twice in the source text (as shown in examples (7) and (8) below.

- 1) ST: ...and now are having to compete with their own children for jobs that pay seven bucks an hour. [*Disapproval in his tone*]
 TT : ... et ont peur de competir avec les enfants...
- 2) ST: Do we participate in a politics of cynicism... [*Underlining shows voice falling flat, signaling disapproval*]
 TT : Est-ce que nous participons dans une politique de *cynisme* ou nous participons dans une politique de l'espoir... ?

The feature was entirely left out in the target text, representing 100% loss of its contribution to Obama's listenability. As may be seen in the examples, the words used do not adequately signal Obama's intended disapproval of the situations he is describing. The listeners' ability

to detect the disapproval depends largely on the voice feature, which is lost in the target text. One may conclude, that this loss denies the audience that receives Obama's speech through interpretation a chance to fully appreciate his disapproval of the situation that he is describing.

4.3.3 Voice of Admiration/Affection/Empathy

This category of features was captured once in the target text, representing 50% of its contribution to Obama's listenability, and a similar magnitude of contribution to its loss to the audience receiving the speech through interpretation. Examples (9) and (10) show the contexts in which it was used.

1) ST: He was a good-looking kid, six-two, six-three, clear-eyed, with an easy smile
[*texture of tone is wistful, conveying admiration*].

TT : Un jeune homme grand, avec un bon sourire...

[*texture of the tone conveys admiration*]

2) ST: ...I thought this young man was all that any of us might ever hope for in a child
[*words spoken with tender affection*].

TT : ...cet enfant est le rêve de tout parent

As we can see in the examples, Obama's words are positive, but could be treated as simply descriptive. It is the features of the voice that show us his feelings (admiration/affection/empathy). This is what is lost in the communicative effect of the interpreted text.

4.3.4 Voice (tone) of Disappointment

This voice feature was used once in Obama's speech, as shown in example (11). However, it is noteworthy that its non-representation in the target text represents 100% loss of its contribution to Obama's listenability.

1) ST: ...but still lacked long-term health benefits because they were reservists. [*Voice indicates disappointment*].

TT : Mais qui n'ont pas droit à un dédommagement parce qu'ils sont réservistes.

Barack Obama achieves this sort of impact through skillful use of his voice and intonation, which reinforces the substance of his messages

4.3.5 Voice of Pride/Reverence

This voice feature was not captured at all, leading to a loss of a 100%.

- 1 ST: ...that shone as a beacon of freedom and opportunity to so many who had come before. [*His inflection conveys patriotic pride*]
TT:
- 2 ST: My parents shared not only an improbable love; they shared an *abiding* faith in the possibilities of this nation. [*Obama speaks the words with pride and reverence.*]
[rise in the voice of the interpreter]
TT : Mes parents partageaient, non seulement un amour improbable, mais aussi une foi en des possibilités de ce pays.
[pride in the voice]
- 3 ST: ...that I owe a debt to all of those who came before me, and that, in no other country on earth, is my story even possible. [*pride in his voice*]
TT : Je dois beaucoup à tous ceux qui m'ont précédé et que mon histoire n'est même pas possible dans aucun pays du monde.
- 4 ST: Our party has chosen a man to lead us who embodies the best this country has to offer. [*Tone reflects pride*]
TT : Notre parti a choisi un homme pour nous diriger, qui représente le meilleur de ce pays.
- 5 ST: A belief that we're all connected as one people. [*Tone filled with wistful, patriotic pride.*]
TT : La croyance que nous sommes tous connectés comme un peuple.

In the first two instances, Obama asserts that despite his unconventional background, he was proud to pursue his dream just like every American. In sentences (3) and (4), he touches on the American shared values.

Obama's patriotic pride and reverence are certainly described in his words but are better reflected in the inflection in his voice, which usually evokes applause from the audience. This feature was completely left out in the four instances cited above. Quantitatively and qualitatively, this represents a 100% loss to Obama's listenability. A slight rise in the interpreter's voice was noted and it can be largely attributed to his attempt to keep pace with

the speaker.

4.3.6 Voice of Firmness/Resoluteness

The interpreter was able to render this feature in the target text.

1. ST: And that man is John Kerry. [*Tone firm and resolute*]

TT: Cet homme, c'est John Kerry...

[*Tone firm*]

Obama used his commanding baritone that sound authoritative to drive this particular point home. The interpreter was able to capture this feature in his rendition, thus contributing fully to Obama's listenability.

4.3.7 Voice (tone) of Sincerity

Qt loss: 100%

1 ST: ...I stand here today, grateful for the diversity of my heritage, aware that my parents' dreams live on in my two precious daughters. [*Sincerity rings in his tone.*]

TT : Et je suis devant vous aujourd'hui, fier de la diversité de mon héritage et je suis sûr que le rêve de mes parents vit dans mes filles.

The sentence was entirely left out, leading to a 100 % loss of the content and its listenability.

4.3.8 Voice (tone) of Irony

Qt loss: 100%

1. ST: Tonight is a particular honor for me because, let's face it; my presence on this stage is pretty unlikely. [*His intonation underscores the irony of the circumstances.*]

TT : Ce soir est un honneur particulier pour moi parce que ma présence sur cette tribune était improbable.

Obama was referring to his diverse heritage. He went on to talk about his parents: his father, a black African from Kenya and his mother, a white American from Kansas. The feature that was supposed to convey the irony of the situation was completely left out. We shall therefore assume that its contribution to Obama's listenability was completely lost.

4.3.9 Voice Dropped for Attention

Qt loss: 100%

1. ST: Out of many, one. [*Voice lowered to emphasize the translation*]
TT : Un à partir de plusieurs.

As shown in example (1), Obama used this feature to signal that he was translating what he had just said in Latin: “E pluribus unum.” He wanted his audience to focus on that particular word. Unfortunately, the feature was entirely lost in the rendition, thus affecting Obama’s listenability.

4.3.10 Voice of Sarcasm (Emphasis)

Qt loss: 100%

1. ST: ...and that our votes will be counted—at least, most of the time. [*His tone falls flat.*]
TT : ...et nos voix seront comptés – du moins, la plupart du temps.

Obama used a flat, disapproving tone, in reference to the disputed US 2000 presidential election results. The audience responded with jeers, signaling that they shared his disapproval. The audience receiving the message through interpretation might have missed his disapproval which could only be captured through the tone of his voice.

4.3.11 Voice Varied for Attention

Qt loss: 100%

1. ST: His values and his record affirm what is best in us. [*Tone varied*]
TT : Et ces valeurs réaffirment le meilleur de nous-mêmes.

By varying his tone, Obama intended to make his remark more notable. The interpreter could not render this feature. In so doing, there was a 100 % loss to Obama’s listenability.

4.3.12 Voice of Challenge

Qt loss: 100%

1. ST: For alongside our famous individualism, there’s another ingredient in the American saga. [*Tone conveys a challenge beneath the words.*]

TT : Parce qu'à côté de notre individualisme fameux, il y a un autre ingrédient du rêve américain.

Obama used this specific example to illustrate one of the challenges that Americans have to face. He went on exhorting the audience to keep their faith and hope in order to overcome the challenges. This feature was used to help him connect more intimately with his audience. It was lost in the target text.

4.3.13 Voice of Reflection

Qt loss: 100%

1. ST: ...and yet still come together as one American family [*Tone becomes reflective.*]
TT: ...

Obama used this voice for reflection in order to exhort his audience to reflect on their shared values. The feature was used once, yet the interpreter was unable to capture it in his rendition.

4.3.14 Voice (Tone) of Mockery

Qt loss: 100%

1. ST: Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a conservative America [*Tone mocking underlined ideas.*]
TT: ...
2. ST: The pundits like to slice and dice our country into red states and blue states. [*Tone mocking the practice.*]
Les experts divisent notre pays en états rouges et bleus.

Throughout his speech, Obama invited his audience to focus on the values that unite the American people. In these two statements he disapproved and mocked any notion that divides the Americans. This mockery was not directly expressed in the words he used. It was effectively conveyed through the intonation of his voice. The feature was not captured in the target text. This represented a 100 % loss of Obama's listenability.

4.3.15 Voice of Hope/Expectation

Qt loss: 100%

1. ST: ...or do we participate in a politics of hope? [*Underlining shows rising pitch so sound hopeful and expectant*]
TT: ...

In this circumstance, Obama used a hopeful voice to drive this message of hope home. This voice feature was not captured in the target text, thus contributing to a 100 % loss of Obama's listenability.

4.3.16 Voice (Tone/Emphasis) for Prominence

Qt loss: the interpreter managed to capture about 11%, leaving out 89%.

1. ST: Through hard work and perseverance my father got a scholarship to study in a magical place: America... [*Underlining shows emphasis*].
TT : Il a obtenu une bourse pour étudier en Amérique....
The word “magical” is missing in the interpreter rendition.
2. ST: Back home, my grandmother raised a baby and went to work on a bomber assembly line. [*Underlining shows emphasis*]
TT : Et à la maison, ma grand-mère élevait leur fils....
[*Underlining shows emphasis*]
[*Underlining marked a pause, not so much to show emphasis, but more likely so that his audience would listen to the next line*]
3. ST: ...believing that in a tolerant America your name is no barrier to success. [*Underlining shows emphasis*]
TT : ...en croyant qu'en Amérique, votre nom ne peut pas être un obstacle à la réussite.
[*underlining word not captured*]
[*Underlining word not captured in the interpretation*]
4. ST: That is the true genius of America.... [*Underlining shows emphasis*]
TT : C'est là le vrai génie de l'Amérique....
[*Underlining shows emphasis*]
5. ST: They know they have to work hard to get ahead, and they want to. [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT : Ils savent qu'ils doivent travailler très dur
6. ST: ...but it should never be the first option. [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

- TT : Ils savent qu'ils doivent travailler très dur
[Emphasis on the word be, rather than first]
7. ST: And just as Lieutenant Kerry did not hesitate to risk his life to protect the men who served with him in Vietnam.... [*Underlining shows emphasis*]
TT : Et quand il était lieutenant, il n'a pas hésité à risquer sa vie pour protéger les hommes qui servaient avec lui au Vietnam
8. ST: ... President Kerry will not hesitate *one* moment to use our military might to keep America safe and secure. [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT : President Kerry ne va pas hésiter à user de la force militaire pour protéger l'Amérique.
9. ST: John Kerry believes in America. [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT : Il croit fermement en l'Amérique. [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
10. ST: If there's a child on the south side of Chicago who can't read, that matters to me, even if it's not my child. [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT : S'il y a un enfant de l'autre côté de Chicago qui ne peut pas lire, cela me chagrine même s'il n'est pas mon enfant.
11. ST: Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a conservative America [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT : Il n'y a pas d'Amérique libérale, d'Amérique conservatrice.
12. ST: There is not a black America and white America [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT : Il n'y a pas d'Amérique noire, d'Amérique blanche....
13. ST: We are one people... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT : Nous sommes *un seul peuple*....
14. ST: ...all of us pledging allegiance to the stars and stripes... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT : et *nous* prêtons allégeance à notre drapeau
15. ST: ... all of us... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT:
16. ST: ...defending the [*pause*]...United States of America [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT: ...
17. ST: I'm talking about something more substantial. [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
TT: ...
18. ST: It's *the* hope of slaves sitting around a fire singing freedom songs [*Underlining*

shows emphasis.]

TT : Il s'agit de l'espoir de l'esclave....

[Underlining shows emphasis]

19. ST: the hope of immigrants setting out for distant shores.... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : ...de l'*espoir* de l'immigrant qui rêve des côtes lointaines....

20. ST: ...the hope of a young naval lieutenant bravely patrolling the Mekong Delta; [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : ... de l'*espoir* d'un jeune lieutenant brave qui fait la patrouille sur le fleuve Mekong

21. ST: ...the hope of a *skinny kid* with a funny name [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : L'*espoir* d'un enfant nègre avec un nom bizarre

ST: ...a belief in things not seen... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : ... la *croyance* dans quelque chose qui ne s'est pas encore matérialisée

22. ST: ...a belief that there are better days ahead. [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT: ...

23. ST: I believe that we can give our middle class relief.... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : *Je suis convaincu* que nous pouvons donner à la classe moyenne

24. ST: I believe we can provide jobs to the jobless.... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : *Je suis convaincu* que nous pouvons donner des emplois aux chômeurs....

25. ST: I believe that we have a righteous wind in our backs... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT: ...

26. ST: America! Tonight! [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT: *L'Amérique!* Ce soir!

27. ST: If you feel the same energy that I do.... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : Si vous sentez la *même énergie* que moi....

28. ST: if you feel the same urgency that I do... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : Si vous sentez la *même urgence* que moi

29. ST: if you feel the same passion that I do... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : La *même passion* que moi...

30. ST: if you feel the same hopefulness that I do ... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

TT : Le *même espoir* que moi....

31. ST: if we do what we must do... [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
 TT : Si nous faisons ce que nous devons faire....
32. ST: then I have no doubt that all across the country [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]
 TT : Alors, je n'ai aucun doute qu'à travers tout le pays....
33. ST: ...and thousands more like her, who has the grades, has the drive, has the will, but doesn't have the money to go to college. [*Underlining shows emphasis with slight pauses*]
 TT:...
34. ST: ...and thousands more like her, who has the grades, has the drive, has the will, but doesn't have the money to go to college. [*Underlining shows emphasis with slight pauses*]
 TT : ...qui est brillante et déterminée et qui n'a pas l'argent pour aller à l'université
35. ...believing that in a tolerant America your name is no barrier to success. [*Underlining shows emphasis*]

Obama makes an extensive usage of this feature throughout his speech. Quantitatively, it was used 40 times. Qualitatively, this feature represents a voice for prominence, which enhances the speaker's listenability. Obama uses it strategically to make the audience pay more attention to the stressed words.

Out of the 40 times noted in the source text, the interpreter was able to capture the feature 4 times (2), (4), (6), (9). This amounts to a rendering of about 10 % of this paralinguistic feature, representing a quantitative loss of 90% in its listenability value.

4.3.17 Voice (Tone) of Cadence

Qt loss: 100%

1. It is that fundamental belief—I am my brother's keeper [*Volume raised louder*]
- 2...and we don't like federal agents poking around in our libraries in the red states. [*Cadence (rise and fall of voice) dramatically increased*].
- 3...from Washington to Maine [*Underlining shows rising and falling inflections to convey the breadth of the geography*]

Obama increases and decrease his cadence to enable him to draw listeners' attention to his most significant points like the above underlined key words, thus enhancing the

effectiveness of his communication. This voice feature was used thrice in the target text and was completely left out in the target text.

4.3.18 Voice (Volume) of Power

1. Hope in the face of uncertainty. [*Underlining shows volume for a powerful voice.*]
2. The audacity of hope! [*Underlining shows more volume/power.*]
3. “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal....” [*voice slightly amplified*]
4. Go into the collar counties around Chicago, and people will tell you they don’t want their tax money wasted by a welfare agency or by the Pentagon. [*Amplification of last three words makes a negative reference to the Iraq War.*]
- 5... secure the peace, and earn the respect of the world. [*Underlined word is stressed and amplified and built to a high*]
6. If there’s an Arab American family being rounded up without benefit of an attorney or due process [*Tone amplified*]
7. We worship an awesome God in the blue states.... [*Voice amplified to signify God’s greatness*]
8. Hope in the face of difficulty [*Underlining shows emphasis/amplification.*]
9. And fellow Americans—Democrats, Republicans, Independents— I say to you tonight: we have more work to do. [*Most or all words stressed*]
10. “E Pluribus Unum.” [*Each word enunciated carefully*]
- 11...there is the United States of America. [*Each word enunciated carefully*]
- 12...there’s the United States of America. [*Each word enunciated carefully again*]

Quantitatively, this feature representing the voice for power featured 13 times in the source text. It was used in various contexts. It conveyed hope (1,2,8). It asserted values (3,7,10). It was a call for action (9). It described challenges (4,6)

Obama also puts power in his volume when he wanted a powerful delivery. As a matter of fact, the audience usually responded with cheers.

4.3.19 Voice (Tone) of Flatness

1...and that our votes will be counted—at least, most of the time. [*His tone falls flat.*]

Qt loss: 100%

Obama used a flat, disapproving tone, in reference to the disputed US 2000 presidential election results. The audience responded with jeers, signaling that they shared his disapproval. The audience receiving the message through interpretation might have missed his disapproval which could only be captured through the tone of his voice.

4.4 Analysis based on the Theory of Translation

As mentioned earlier in our theoretical framework, interpreters can use different strategies to cope with various challenges. Naturalization, localization, domestication, strategic omission, addition, compression, paraphrasing, approximation etc.... are among the strategies that interpreters adopt to connect with the target audience and convey the message.

In this section, we attempt to analyze the various strategies used by the interpreter and to establish whether paralinguistic features were nevertheless captured, albeit in a different way or whether they have been omitted altogether.

3.4.1 Omissions

In simultaneous interpretation, the interpreter's version may deviate from the original version in various ways. The interpreter may omit, add or substitute certain elements. He may skip words or short sentences. This is acceptable in most cases, as long as it does not alter the meaning of the original version.

There have been 16 occurrences of clear omissions and 10 instances where part of the omitted bits of sentences led to inaccuracies. The 16 omissions lead to a definite loss of meaning and, of course, a loss of the nonverbal elements they contain.

Sentence 4

ENG ST: ...that shone as a beacon of freedom and opportunity to so many who had come before.

FRE TS: ...[*Omission*]

Sentence 14

ENG ST: ...and now are having to compete with their own children for jobs that pay seven bucks an hour.

FRE TS:[*Omission*]

Sentence 15

ENG ST: ... wondering how he would pay \$4,500 a month for the drugs his son needs without the health benefits that he counted on.

FRE TS: ... [*Omission*]

Sentence 38

ENG ST: ...that threatens my civil liberties. [*Underlining shows emphasis.*]

FRE TS: ... [*Omission*]

Sentence 40

ENG ST: ...and yet still come together as one American family

FRE TS : ... [*Omission*]

Sentence 42

ENG ST : “E pluribus unum.”

FRE TS: [*Omission*]

Sentence 45

ENG ST: Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a conservative America

FRE TS: [*Omission*]

Sentence 46

ENG ST: Well, I say to them tonight, there is not a liberal America and a conservative America

FRE TS : ... [*Omission*]

Sentence 52

ENG ST: We worship an awesome God in the blue states....

FRE ST: ... [*Omission*]

Sentence 53

ENG ST: ...and we don't like federal agents poking

FRE TS: ...[*Omission*]

Sentence 54

ENG ST: around in our libraries in the red states.

FRE TS: ...[*Omission*]

Sentence 63

ENG ST: ...the hope of a mill worker's son who dares to defy the odds;

FRE TS: ...[*Omission*]

Sentence 68

ENG ST: ... the bedrock of this nation...

FRE TS: ...[*Omission*]

Sentence 69

ENG ST: ...a belief in things not seen...

FRE TS: ... [Omission...]

Sentence 70

ENG ST: ...a belief that there are better days ahead.

FRE TS ...[*Omission*]

Sentence 73

ENG ST : I believe that we have a righteous wind in our backs...

FRE TS: ...[*Omission*]

The meaning of the sentences, in these cases, have been somewhat altered.

4.4.2 Omissions/Inaccuracies

Partial omissions, which account for 12% of texts, in some instances lead to inaccuracies of meaning.

Sentence 3

ENG ST: Through hard work and perseverance my father got a scholarship to study in a magical place: America...

FRE TS : Il a obtenu une bourse pour étudier en Amérique.... (*Not accurate...*)

ENG Reconstruction : *He got a scholarship to study in America*

TT : À force de travail et de persévérance, mon père a obtenu une bourse pour étudier dans un endroit magique : l'Amérique...

Sentence 5

ENG ST: Back home, my grand-mother raised a baby and went to work on a bomber assembly line.

FRE TS: Et à la maison, ma grand-mère élevait leur fils.... [*Not accurate...*]

ENG Reconstruction : *And at home, my grandmother was raising their son....*

TT : Au pays, ma grand-mère a élevé un bébé et travaillait sur une ligne d'assemblage de bombardiers.

Sentence 7

ENG ST: ...believing that in a tolerant America your name is no barrier to success.

FRE TS : ...en croyant qu'en Amérique, votre nom ne peut pas être un obstacle à la réussite.

TT : ... croire que dans une Amérique tolérante, votre nom ne constituerait en rien une barrière à la réussite.

Sentence 17

ENG ST: ... and now are having to compete with their own children for jobs that pay seven bucks an hour.

FRE TS : ... et ont peur de compétir avec les enfants... [*Not accurate...*]

ENG Reconstruction : *and are afraid to compete with children...*

TT : ENG : ... et doivent maintenant rivaliser avec leurs propres enfants pour des emplois à 7 dollars de l'heure.

Sentence 18

ENG ST: They know they have to work hard to get ahead, and they want to.

FRE TS : Ils savent qu'ils doivent travailler très dur

In this case, the sentences have a slightly modified meaning, although the essence of what was said is maintained. However, we established that non-verbal features relied on the omitted words, which seriously affected their restitution.

Sentence 29

ENG ST: ... secure the peace, and earn the respect of the world.

FRE TS : ...le respect du monde. [*Not accurate...*]

ENG Reconstruction : *respect for the world.*

TT : ... assurer la paix et se faire respecter par le monde entier.

Sentence 60

ENG ST: It's the hope of slaves sitting around a fire singing freedom songs

FRE TS : Il s'agit de l'espoir de l'esclave.... [*Not accurate...*]

TT : C'est l'espoir des esclaves se rassemblant autour d'un feu et chantant des chants de liberté.

ENG Reconstruction: *It is the hope of the slave....*

In these instances, it was apparent that the interpreter did not seem to understand, or was unable to interpret, a portion of the speech. The omission results in a definite loss of meaning and, of course, a loss of the nonverbal features therein. It also resulted in disjointed speech, consisting of bits and pieces of the speech in the interpretation.

Sentence 16

ENG ST: ...and thousands more like her, who has the grades, has the drive, has the will, but doesn't have the money to go to college.

FRE TS : qui est brillante et déterminée et qui n'a pas l'argent pour aller à l'université [*Not accurate...*]

TT : et des milliers d'autres comme elle, qui ont les bonnes notes, le dynamisme, la volonté, mais qui ne disposent pas des moyens financiers nécessaires pour aller à l'université.

Sentence 25

ENG ST: He was a good-looking kid, six-two, six-three, clear-eyed, with an easy smile

FRE TS : Un jeune homme grand, avec un bon sourire... [*Not accurate...*]

TT : C'était un beau garçon, de 1,80 m, aux yeux clairs et au sourire facile

In the type of omission of these sentences, although the speech has been disjointed, the logic of the text has not been altered. Obama varied the tone of his speech to express disapproval on the job market and great admiration for the young man.

Sentences 37

ENG ST: If there's an Arab American family being rounded up without benefit of an attorney or due process

FRE TS : Cela me chagrine quand des familles américaines sont arrêtées sans que la procédure soit suivie.... [*Not accurate...*]

ENG Reconstruction : *It saddens me when American families are arrested without due process....*

TT : Si une famille arabo-américaine est arrêtée sans avoir à recourir aux services d'un avocat ou à une procédure régulière

This not disjointed content, because the delivery is rather smooth. The omitted element does convey a somewhat different meaning to the sentence. Here, Obama used a tone of challenge while referring to the Arab family and stressed that their rights should be defended with the help of an attorney. The omitted verbal and nonverbal elements had adversely impacted the rendition.

Sentence 28

ENG ST: ...to tend to the soldiers upon their return, and to never ever go to war without enough troops to win the war,

FRE TS: ne jamais aller à la guerre sans assez de troupes pour gagner la guerre, ...[*Not accurate...*]

ENG Reconstruction : *never go to war without enough troops to win the war,*

TT : ...de s'occuper des soldats à leur retour, et ne jamais faire la guerre sans avoir suffisamment de troupes pour la remporter,

Sentence 71

ENG ST: I believe that we can give our middle class relief...

FRE TS: Je suis convaincu que nous pouvons donner à la classe moyenne [Not accurate...]

TT : Je suis convaincu que nous pouvons soulager la classe moyenne...

It was apparent that the interpreter did not seem to understand, or was unable to interpret, a portion of the speech. Obama's voice expressed disappointment when explaining the conditions under which soldiers are serving and his pitch rose when talking of the middle class to reflect his willingness to improve things.

NATURALIZATION

Naturalization, which is sometimes referred to as cultural adaptation, is the process of rendering natural text or speech into the target language. This means that the translator or interpreter must take into account not only the literal meaning of the words, but also how they are used and how they are likely to be understood by a native speaker. This technique is particularly important where the original text or speech may use poetic or idiomatic language that would sound too literal if translated. We should also bear in mind that political discourses in many cases, are often too layered with nuances to be adequately conveyed in another language in real time.

Sentence 56

ENG ST: ...*all of us* pledging allegiance to the stars and stripes...

FRE TS: et nous prêtons allégeance à notre drapeau

ENG Reconstruction : and we pledge allegiance to our flag

TT : ...nous prêtons tous allégeance à la bannière étoilée...

We tried to establish whether the interpreter had managed to capture the nonverbal features contained therein, namely the speaker's prideful, wistful tone when expressing his belief in the oneness of the American people with particular emphasis on the words "All of us". The interpreter manage to 'domesticate' the cultural concept of the expression 'Stars and stripes' but miss out on expressing it with any kind of passion and pride.

FOREIGNIZATION

Foreignization is the strategy of retaining information from the source text and involves deliberately breaking the conventions of the target language to preserve its meaning.

Sentence 50

ENG ST: The pundits like to slice and dice our country into red states and blue states.

FRE TS : Les experts divisent notre pays en états rouges et bleus.

Sentence 51

ENG ST: We worship an awesome God in the blue states....

FRE TS : Nous prions un Dieu merveilleux dans les états bleus...

In these cases, the interpreter could have referred to the traditionally Republican-led and Democrat-led states, but he preferred to stick with the phrases "red states" and "blue states". He was able to convey the emphasis implied in the second sentence.

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION

This chapter focuses on the summary of findings, outlines recommendations as well as suggestions for further research and winds up the study.

5.1 Summary

Obama is definitely a great speaker. His persuasion strategies relied heavily on the style of his delivery. Obama made a good use of his voice and intonation to sway his listeners in order to embrace his ideas. He knew when to quicken his cadence to suit his needs and to drive points home. He is able to control his voice, amplifying it when appropriate, letting it fall flat to signal disapproval, varying the texture of his tone to make it wistful, or affectionate. He intensifies his tone to make it ring as a challenge. He expresses disappointment by coloring his tone. He adds volume to highlight key points. At times, he altered his tone to sound unwavering and firm, hopeful or indignant.

His message of shared dreams was felt in the way he sounded. He used the voice (tone) of pride and reverence, admiration/affection, hope/expectation in 20 instances for this purpose. Proud of his heritage, he expressed his patriotic pride, describing the country as a beacon of hope and opportunity, and exhorted the audience to believe in the audacity of hope. With a feeling of urgency, Mr. Obama appealed for action. Obama's favorite theme has been "change we can believe in" right through his political career.

He was able to rally his fellow citizens around shared values. As it happened, he reached out to Americans who had had enough of divisive politics. In a tone of defiance, Obama spoke of individualism in America and urged the people to avoid cynicism. He challenged the results of the disputed 2000 presidential election. He was particularly concerned about the fact that the military were often deployed under unsatisfactory conditions.

Obama made extensive use of the voice of prominence throughout his speech. It was used 40 times. This feature reinforces audience listenability. He uses it strategically to make the audience pay more attention to the highlighted words

Overall, Obama's words were well-crafted, descriptive, multi-faceted and meaningful. It's worth noting, however, that key messages were better expressed through the skillful use of paralinguistic features.

The main reason we communicate is to be understood and to secure a positive or intended feedback. In his keynote address during the 2004 Democratic convention, Obama's main objective was mostly to persuade the electorate to participate in the election process and garner votes for the Democratic Party candidate. We might assume that he was particularly targeting the new recruits and the undecided voters.

People have been amazed by Obama's public speaking skills ever since he stepped into the spotlight. This speech in particular wowed many. His tone was firm as he made an impassioned plea to members of his party and his fellow citizens to support John Kerry as a candidate for the supreme office. Although John Kerry, then Democratic candidate for President of the United States in the 2004 elections, lost to incumbent President George W. Bush, this speech was the catalyst that propelled Mr. Obama into the limelight.

John Kerry, the then democratic nominee for president of the United States in the 2004 election lost to incumbent President George W. Bush. However, this speech made a lasting impression on many people, especially young people. The message he put across continued to resonate throughout his political career. Obama was determined to break down barriers and share his personal story, which helped him connect with his audience and win their trust. Like all Americans, he was proud to pursue his dream. He went on to become the Democratic candidate in the US 2008 presidential election, winning two consecutive terms as president. His public speaking skills captivated many people, but particularly young people, many of whom volunteered their services in his campaign. This helped him win a majority of the popular vote in two consecutive elections.

The interpreter's job entails his ability to understand the spoken words so he can accurately convey the meaning of the message. This is in fact the aim of every interpreter at all times. However, it is no easy feat to achieve such an aim. One of the greatest challenges that the interpreter faces occurs when a speaker is reading a speech and doing it fast. When the speaker

speaks too fast, the interpreter does not have enough time to comprehend and interpret the sentences into another language. Sometimes, it may happen that conference speakers are not well versed in public speaking, and this could make the interpreter's job more challenging. The interpreter may adopt the strategy of either omitting, or skipping some details or whole ideas in his delivery, as noted during this particular case. The interpreter seemed unable to keep up with the speaker. The paralinguistic features in these omissions are also lost and have a direct impact on the speech listenability.

In his article published in the International Review of Studies in Applied Modern Languages, Roderick Jones stated:

“One of the hardest things for an interpreter – what differentiates in my opinion the outstanding interpreter from the merely “good” interpreter – is the ability to interpret correctly while sounding absolutely normal. Natural delivery is not just a question of syntax – respecting the syntax of the target language and not suffering from interference from the source language syntax – but also of rhythm, intonation and use of one’s voice. Our interpretation sounds more authentic and is more convincing if we can identify with the speaker, feel ourselves part of the dialogue between participants”. (Jones, 2014, p. 11)

The speaker relies heavily on the interpreter to help him persuade his audience. Our analysis has shown that the fidelity rate of incorporating the paralinguistic features in the target text was only 14%, which is not very convincing! 50% might have been more acceptable.

5.3 Recommendations

Communication is certainly a complex process. As mentioned above, the interpreter's proficiency must in many cases consist of course of his knowledge of the language; a good level of general knowledge; a good memory; but mostly his ability to capture the non-verbal features of the message and to make his rendition in a pleasant voice.

The training institutions should, therefore, strengthen the aspect of the nonverbal features in the curriculum and extend this specific ability beyond the program.

Student interpreters must understand the crucial role of paralinguistic features and must develop effective strategies to use in order to stay tuned with the speaker and to overcome any challenge.

Interpreters should strive for self-assessment of their interpretation, practice breathing and

related exercises that will help them to develop a strong, clear voice that projects an aura of confidence and persuasiveness. They should also aim to articulate clearly in order to overcome challenges such as monotonous delivery among others. They can also seek the services of a voice coach if deemed necessary.

Guidelines on the provision of optimal working conditions for the interpreter must be developed.

More in-depth research on this subject should be carried out.

5.2 Conclusion

It is imperative that the interpreter familiarizes himself with the speaker and the audience. He should understand their respective self-interests. This preparation will enable him to establish a relationship with the audience and to stay tuned with the speaker's mood. As stated earlier, the interpreter is usually not seen. His voice is his greatest ally in his function as a communicator because it is indeed the quintessential aspect of the being that connects us with others and enable us to freely and fully convey information. Anyone can gain a competitive edge by fully using his/her natural speaking qualities.

The interpreter's proficiency must in most cases comprise his ability to accurately convey the speaker's message and to be able to capture the paralinguistic features in his delivery of the message. Features such as inflections are the tonal patterns and are used to convey sense through the stressing of words.

We have noted that, out of the selected 80 occurrences drawn from Leanne's "Say it like Obama" extracts (Leanne, 2009), the interpreter has omitted 16 of them (12%) and has rendered 10 inaccurately (20%). The interpreter was able to include the paralinguistic features in 11 extracts (less than 15%). And in some instances, the interpreter sparingly used features such as pauses as a strategy to give him time to understand the next statement, rather than to create the intended effects.

We shall mention here that this particular speech was rather fast and the background noise also made it difficult for the interpreter to secure a good audition. This may explain the rise in the voice of the interpreter in his attempt to catch up with the speaker. Unfortunately, speeches which are read fast during meetings have become the order of the day! And in most cases, interpreters are not given the opportunity to access the speeches beforehand or to do research on the subject matter. They are often left with no choice but learn how to deal with the situation.

We would like to point out that this speech was not interpreted live. If it had been, and if part of the audience had had to depend on the interpreter to form an opinion, it is highly unlikely that Obama would have had a positive impact on the electorate. Since the interpreter was unable to include these highlighted non-verbal features in his rendition, we can surmise that this would have considerably reduced Obama's chances of achieving his goal - pursuing and realizing his political aspirations.

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Appendixes

Appendix 1: Keynote Address 2004 Democratic National Convention

Complete Text

On behalf of the great state of Illinois, crossroads of a nation, land of Lincoln, let me express my deep gratitude for the privilege of addressing this convention. Tonight is a particular honor for me because, let's face it, my presence on this stage is pretty unlikely. My father was a foreign student, born and raised in a small village in Kenya. He grew up herding goats, went to school in a tin-roof shack. His father, my grandfather, was a cook, a domestic servant.

But my grandfather had larger dreams for his son. Through hard work and perseverance my father got a scholarship to study in a magical place: America, which stood as a beacon of freedom and opportunity to so many who had come before. While studying here, my father met my mother. She was born in a town on the other side of the world, in Kansas. Her father worked on oil rigs and farms through most of the Depression. The day after Pearl Harbor he signed up for duty, joined Patton's army and marched across Europe. Back home, my grandmother raised their baby and went to work on a bomber assembly line. After the war, they studied on the GI Bill, bought a house through FHA, and moved west in search of opportunity.

And they, too, had big dreams for their daughter, a common dream, born of two continents. My parents shared not only an improbable love; they shared an abiding faith in the possibilities of this nation. They would give me an African name, Barack, or "blessed," believing that in a tolerant America your name is no barrier to success. They imagined me going to the best schools in the land, even though they weren't rich, because in a generous America you don't have to be rich to achieve your potential. They are both passed away now. Yet, I know that, on this night, they look down on me with pride.

I stand here today, grateful for the diversity of my heritage, aware that my parents' dreams live on in my precious daughters. I stand here knowing that my story is part of the larger American story, that I owe a debt to all of those who came before me, and that, in no other country on earth, is my story even possible. Tonight, we gather to affirm the greatness of our nation, not because of the height of our skyscrapers, or the power of our military, or the size of our economy. Our pride is based on a very simple premise, summed up in a declaration made over two hundred years ago, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.

That they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights. That among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

That is the true genius of America, a faith in the simple dreams of its people, the insistence on small miracles. That we can tuck in our children at night and know they are fed and clothed and safe from harm. That we can say what we think; write what we think, without hearing a sudden knock on the door. That we can have an idea and start our own business without paying a bribe or hiring somebody's son. That we can participate in the political process without fear of retribution, and that our votes will be counted ...or at least, most of the time.

This year, in this election, we are called to reaffirm our values and commitments, to hold them against a hard reality and see how we are measuring up, to the legacy of our forbearers, and the promise of future generations. And fellow Americans...Democrats..Republicans, Independents...I say to you tonight: we have more work to do. More to do for the workers I met in Galesburg, Illinois, who are losing their union jobs at the Maytag plant that's moving to Mexico, and now are having to compete with their own children for jobs that pay seven bucks an hour. More to do for the father I met who was losing his job and choking back tears, wondering how he would pay \$4,500 a month for the drugs his son needs without the health benefits he counted on. More to do for the young woman in East St. Louis and thousands more like her, who has the grades, has the drive, has the will, but doesn't have the money to go to college.

Don't get me wrong. The people I meet in small towns and big cities, in diners and office parks, they don't expect government to solve all their problems. They know they have to work hard to get ahead and they want to. Go into the collar counties around Chicago, and people will tell you they don't want their tax money wasted by a welfare agency or the Pentagon. Go into any inner-city neighborhood, and folks will tell you that government alone can't teach kids to learn. They know that parents have to parent, that children can't achieve unless we raise their expectations and turn off the television sets and eradicate the slander that says a black youth with a book is acting white. No, people don't expect government to solve all their problems. But they sense, deep in their bones, that with just a change in priorities, we can make sure that every child in America has a decent shot at life, and that the doors of opportunity remain open to all. They know we can do better. And they want that choice.

In this election, we offer that choice. Our party has chosen a man to lead us who embodies the best this country has to offer. That man is John Kerry. John Kerry understands the ideals of community, faith, and sacrifice, because they've defined his life. From his heroic service in Vietnam to his years as prosecutor and lieutenant governor, through two decades in the United States Senate, he has devoted himself to this country. Again and again, we've seen him make tough choices when easier ones were available. His values and his record affirm what is best in us.

John Kerry believes in an America where hard work is rewarded. So instead of offering tax breaks to companies shipping jobs overseas, he'll offer them to companies creating jobs here at home. John Kerry believes in an America where all Americans can afford the same health coverage our politicians in Washington have for themselves. John Kerry believes in energy independence, so we aren't held hostage to the profits of oil companies or the sabotage of foreign oil fields. John Kerry believes in the constitutional freedoms that have made our country the envy of the world, and he will never sacrifice our basic liberties nor use faith as a wedge to divide us. And John Kerry believes that in a dangerous world, war must be an option, but it should never be the first option.

A while back, I met a young man named Shamus at the VFW Hall in East Moline, Illinois. He was a good-looking kid, six-two or six-three, clear-eyed, with an easy smile. He told me he'd joined the Marines and was heading to Iraq the following week. As I listened to him explain why he'd enlisted, his absolute faith in our country and its leaders, his devotion to duty and service, I thought this young man was all any of us might hope for in a child. But then I asked myself: Are we serving Shamus as well as he was serving us? I thought of more than 900 service men and women, sons and daughters, husbands and wives, friends and neighbors, who will not be returning to their hometowns. I thought of families I had met who were struggling to get by without a loved one's full income, or whose loved ones had returned with a limb missing or with nerves shattered, but who still lacked long-term health benefits because they were reservists. When we send our young men and women into harm's way, we have a solemn obligation not to fudge the numbers or shade the truth about why they're going, to care for their families while they're gone, to tend to the soldiers upon their return, and to never ever go to war without enough troops to win the war, secure the peace, and earn the respect of the world.

Now let me be clear. We have real enemies in the world. These enemies must be found. They must be pursued and they must be defeated. John Kerry knows this. And just as Lieutenant

Kerry did not hesitate to risk his life to protect the men who served with him in Vietnam, President Kerry will not hesitate one moment to use our military might to keep America safe and secure. John Kerry believes in America. And he knows it's not enough for just some of us to prosper. For alongside our famous individualism, there's another ingredient in the American saga.

A belief that we are connected as one people. If there's a child on the south side of Chicago who can't read, that matters to me, even if it's not my child. If there's a senior citizen somewhere who can't pay for her prescription and has to choose between medicine and the rent...that makes my life poorer, even if it's not my grandmother. If there's an Arab American family being rounded up without benefit of an attorney or due process...that threatens my civil liberties.

It's that fundamental belief: I am my brother's keeper, I am my sister's keeper, ...that makes this country work. It's what allows us to pursue our individual dreams, yet still come together as a single American family. "E Pluribus Unum." Out of many, one.

Yet even as we speak, there are those who are preparing to divide us, the spin masters and negative ad. peddlers who embrace the politics of anything goes. Well, I say to them tonight, there's not a liberal America and a conservative America; there's the United States of America. There's not a black America and white America and Latino America and Asian America; there's the United States of America. The pundits like to slice-and-dice our country into Red States and Blue States: Red States for Republicans; Blue States for Democrats. But I've got news for them, too. We worship an awesome God in the Blue States, and we don't like federal agents poking around our libraries in the Red States. We coach Little League in the Blue States and have gay friends in the Red States. There are patriots who opposed the war in Iraq and patriots who supported it. We are one people, all of us pledging allegiance to the stars and stripes, all of us defending the United States of America.

In the end, that's what this election is about. Do we participate in a politics of cynicism or a politics of hope? John Kerry calls on us to hope. John Edwards calls on us to hope. I'm not talking about blind optimism here, the almost willful ignorance that thinks unemployment will go away if we just don't talk about it, or the health care crisis will solve itself if we just ignore it. No, I'm talking about something more substantial. It's the hope of slaves sitting around a fire singing freedom songs; the hope of immigrants setting out for distant shores; the hope of a

young naval lieutenant bravely patrolling the Mekong Delta; the hope of a millworker's son who dares to defy the odds; the hope of a skinny kid with a funny name who believes that America has a place for him, too. The audacity of hope!

In the end, that is God's greatest gift to us, the bedrock of this nation; the belief in things not seen; the belief that there are better days ahead. I believe we can give our middle-class relief and provide working families with a road to opportunity. I believe we can provide jobs to the jobless, homes to the homeless, and reclaim young people in cities across America from violence and despair. I believe that as we stand on the crossroads of history, we can make the right choices, and meet the challenges that face us. America!

Tonight, if you feel the same energy I do, the same urgency I do, the same passion I do, the same hopefulness I do, if we do what we must do, then I have no doubt that all across the country, from Florida to Oregon, from Washington to Maine, the people will rise up in November, and John Kerry will be sworn in as President, and John Edwards will be sworn in as Vice-President, and this country will reclaim its promise, and out of this long political darkness a brighter day will come.

Thank you and God bless you.

Appendix 2: Translated Text of Obama Speech

Au nom du grand État de l'Illinois, carrefour d'une nation, terre de Lincoln, permettez-moi d'exprimer ma profonde gratitude pour le privilège qui m'est accordé de m'adresser à cette convention. Ce soir est un honneur particulier pour moi car, avouons-le, ma présence sur cette scène est peu probable. Mon père était un étudiant étranger, né et élevé dans un petit village du Kenya. Il a grandi en gardant des chèvres et est allé à l'école dans une cabane au toit de tôle. Son père, mon grand-père, était un cuisinier, un domestique.

Mais mon grand-père caressait de plus grands rêves pour son fils. À force de travail et d'assiduité, mon père a obtenu une bourse pour aller étudier dans un endroit magique : L'Amérique, qui symbolisait le flambeau de la liberté et des opportunités pour tant d'autres qui y étaient venus avant lui. C'est au cours de ses études que mon père a rencontré ma mère. Elle est née dans une ville à l'autre bout du monde, au Kansas. Son père a travaillé dans des installations pétrolières et des fermes pendant la majeure partie de la Grande Dépression. Le lendemain de Pearl Harbor, il s'est engagé, et a rejoint l'armée de Patton, qui a traversé

l'Europe. A la maison, ma grand-mère a élevé leur bébé et est allée travailler sur une chaîne de montage de bombardiers. Après la guerre, ils ont poursuivi leurs études grâce au GI Bill, ont acheté une maison grâce à la FHA et ont déménagé sur la côte ouest, à la recherche d'opportunités.

Eux aussi avaient de grands rêves pour leur fille, un rêve commun, né de deux continents. Mes parents ne partageaient pas seulement un amour invraisemblable, ils partageaient aussi une foi inébranlable dans les possibilités que cette nation avait à offrir. Ils m'ont donné un nom africain, Barack, ou "béni", convaincus que dans une Amérique tolérante, le nom n'est pas un obstacle à la réussite. Ils m'imaginaient dans les meilleures écoles du pays, même si elles n'étaient pas riches, parce que dans une Amérique généreuse, il n'est pas nécessaire d'être riche pour réaliser son potentiel. Ils sont tous deux décédés aujourd'hui. Pourtant, je sais qu'en cette nuit, ils me regardent avec fierté.

Je suis ici aujourd'hui, reconnaissante de la diversité de mon héritage, consciente que les rêves de mes parents se perpétuent à travers mes précieuses filles. Je me tiens ici en sachant que mon histoire fait partie de la grande histoire américaine, que j'ai une dette envers tous ceux qui m'ont précédé et que mon histoire n'est possible dans aucun autre pays au monde. Ce soir, nous nous réunissons pour affirmer la grandeur de notre nation, non pas en raison de la hauteur de nos gratte-ciel, de la puissance de notre armée ou de la taille de notre économie. Notre fierté repose sur une prémisse très simple, résumée dans une déclaration faite il y a plus de deux cents ans : "Nous tenons ces vérités pour évidentes, à savoir que tous les hommes sont créés égaux. Ils sont dotés par leur Créateur de certains droits inaliénables. Parmi ces droits figurent la vie, la liberté et la recherche du bonheur".

C'est là le véritable génie de l'Amérique, la foi dans les rêves simples de ses habitants, l'insistance sur les petits miracles. Nous pouvons border nos enfants le soir et savoir qu'ils sont nourris, vêtus et à l'abri du danger. Nous pouvons dire ce que nous pensons, écrire ce que nous pensons, sans que l'on frappe soudainement à la porte. Que nous puissions avoir une idée et créer notre propre entreprise sans payer de pot-de-vin ou embaucher le fils de quelqu'un. Que nous pouvons participer au processus politique sans crainte de représailles et que nos votes seront pris en compte ? ...ou du moins, la plupart du temps.

Cette année, lors de cette élection, nous sommes appelés à réaffirmer nos valeurs et nos engagements, à les confronter à la dure réalité et à voir si nous sommes à la hauteur de l'héritage de nos ancêtres et de la promesse des générations futures. Et chers compatriotes

américains ? Démocrates, Républicains, Indépendants ? Je vous le dis ce soir : nous avons encore du pain sur la planche. Plus à faire pour les travailleurs que j'ai rencontrés à Galesburg, dans l'Illinois, qui perdent leurs emplois syndiqués dans l'usine Maytag délocalisée au Mexique, et qui doivent maintenant rivaliser avec leurs propres enfants pour des emplois payés sept dollars de l'heure. Il faut faire plus pour le père que j'ai rencontré, qui perdait son emploi et étouffait ses larmes, se demandant comment il pourrait payer 4 500 dollars par mois pour les médicaments dont son fils a besoin, sans les prestations de santé sur lesquelles il comptait. Il faut faire davantage pour la jeune femme d'East St. Louis et des milliers d'autres comme elle, qui a de bonnes notes, qui est motivée, qui a la volonté, mais qui n'a pas l'argent nécessaire pour aller à l'université.

Ne vous méprenez pas. Les gens que je rencontre dans les petites villes et les grandes villes, dans les restaurants et les parcs de bureaux, n'attendent pas du gouvernement qu'il résolve tous leurs problèmes. Ils savent qu'ils doivent travailler dur pour avancer et ils veulent le faire. Allez dans les comtés autour de Chicago et les gens vous diront qu'ils ne veulent pas que l'argent de leurs impôts soit gaspillé par une agence d'aide sociale ou par le Pentagone. Allez dans n'importe quel quartier de la ville et les gens vous diront que le gouvernement ne peut pas à lui seul apprendre aux enfants à apprendre. Ils savent que les parents doivent être des parents, que les enfants ne peuvent pas réussir si nous n'élevons pas leurs attentes, si nous n'éteignons pas les téléviseurs et si nous n'éradiquons pas la calomnie qui consiste à dire qu'un jeune noir avec un livre se comporte comme un blanc. Non, les gens n'attendent pas du gouvernement qu'il résolve tous leurs problèmes. Mais ils sentent, au plus profond d'eux-mêmes, qu'avec un simple changement de priorités, nous pouvons faire en sorte que chaque enfant américain ait une chance décente dans la vie et que les portes de l'opportunité restent ouvertes à tous. Ils savent que nous pouvons faire mieux. Et ils veulent avoir le choix.

Dans cette élection, nous offrons ce choix. Notre parti a choisi, pour nous diriger, un homme qui incarne ce que notre pays a de mieux à offrir. Cet homme, c'est John Kerry. John Kerry comprend les idéaux de la communauté, de la foi et du sacrifice, car ils ont défini sa vie. Depuis son service héroïque au Viêt Nam jusqu'à ses années en tant que procureur et lieutenant-gouverneur, en passant par deux décennies au Sénat des États-Unis, il s'est consacré à ce pays. À maintes reprises, nous l'avons vu faire des choix difficiles alors que des choix plus faciles s'offraient à lui. Ses valeurs et son parcours confirment ce qu'il y a de meilleur en nous.

John Kerry croit en une Amérique où le travail acharné est récompensé. Ainsi, au lieu d'offrir des allègements fiscaux aux entreprises qui délocalisent des emplois à l'étranger, il les offrira aux entreprises qui créent des emplois chez nous. John Kerry croit en une Amérique où tous les Américains peuvent bénéficier de la même couverture médicale que celle dont bénéficient les hommes politiques à Washington. John Kerry croit en l'indépendance énergétique, afin que nous ne soyons pas les otages des profits des compagnies pétrolières ou du sabotage des champs pétrolifères étrangers. John Kerry croit aux libertés constitutionnelles qui ont fait de notre pays l'envie du monde entier, et il ne sacrifiera jamais nos libertés fondamentales ni n'utilisera la foi pour nous diviser. Enfin, John Kerry estime que dans un monde dangereux, la guerre doit être une option, mais qu'elle ne doit jamais être la première option.

Il y a quelque temps, j'ai rencontré un jeune homme nommé Shamus au VFW Hall d'East Moline, dans l'Illinois. C'était un beau garçon, de six-deux ou six-trois ans, aux yeux clairs et au sourire facile. Il m'a dit qu'il s'était engagé dans les Marines et qu'il partait pour l'Irak la semaine suivante. En l'écoutant expliquer les raisons de son engagement, sa foi absolue en notre pays et en ses dirigeants, son dévouement au devoir et au service, j'ai pensé que ce jeune homme était tout ce que chacun d'entre nous pouvait espérer d'un enfant. Mais je me suis ensuite interrogée : Servons-nous Shamus aussi bien qu'il nous a servis ? J'ai pensé à plus de 900 militaires, hommes et femmes, fils et filles, maris et femmes, amis et voisins, qui ne retourneront pas dans leur ville natale. J'ai pensé aux familles que j'ai rencontrées et qui luttent pour s'en sortir sans le revenu complet d'un être cher, ou dont les proches sont revenus avec un membre en moins ou des nerfs brisés, mais qui ne bénéficient toujours pas de prestations de santé à long terme parce qu'ils sont réservistes. Lorsque nous envoyons nos jeunes hommes et femmes au front, nous avons l'obligation solennelle de ne pas truquer les chiffres ou de ne pas cacher la vérité sur les raisons de leur départ, de prendre soin de leurs familles pendant leur absence, de soigner les soldats à leur retour et de ne jamais partir en guerre sans disposer de suffisamment de troupes pour gagner la guerre, garantir la paix et gagner le respect du monde.

Soyons clairs. Nous avons de vrais ennemis dans le monde. Ces ennemis doivent être trouvés. Il faut les poursuivre et les vaincre. John Kerry le sait. Et tout comme le lieutenant Kerry n'a pas hésité à risquer sa vie pour protéger les hommes qui ont servi avec lui au Viêt Nam, le président Kerry n'hésitera pas un instant à utiliser notre puissance militaire pour assurer la sécurité de l'Amérique. John Kerry croit en l'Amérique. Et il sait qu'il ne suffit pas que

certains d'entre nous prospèrent. Car à côté de notre célèbre individualisme, il y a un autre ingrédient dans la saga américaine.

La conviction que nous sommes liés les uns aux autres en tant que peuple. S'il y a un enfant dans le sud de Chicago qui ne sait pas lire, cela m'importe, même si ce n'est pas mon enfant. S'il y a une personne âgée quelque part qui ne peut pas payer son ordonnance et qui doit choisir entre les médicaments et le loyer... cela rend ma vie plus pauvre, même s'il ne s'agit pas de ma grand-mère. Si une famille arabo-américaine est arrêtée sans pouvoir bénéficier d'un avocat ou d'une procédure régulière, cela menace mes libertés civiles.

C'est cette croyance fondamentale ? Je suis le gardien de mon frère, je suis le gardien de ma soeur ? ...qui fait fonctionner ce pays. C'est ce qui nous permet de poursuivre nos rêves individuels, tout en restant unis en tant que famille américaine. "E Pluribus Unum". De plusieurs, un seul.

Pourtant, à l'heure où nous parlons, certains se préparent à nous diviser, les maîtres de l'image et les colporteurs de publicités négatives qui embrassent la politique du n'importe quoi. Eh bien, je leur dis ce soir qu'il n'y a pas une Amérique libérale et une Amérique conservatrice, il y a les États-Unis d'Amérique. Il n'y a pas d'Amérique noire, d'Amérique blanche, d'Amérique latine ou d'Amérique asiatique ; il y a les États-Unis d'Amérique. Les experts aiment diviser notre pays en États rouges et États bleus ; les États rouges pour les républicains, les États bleus pour les démocrates. Mais j'ai aussi des nouvelles pour eux. Nous adorons un Dieu puissant dans les États bleus et nous n'aimons pas que des agents fédéraux fouillent dans nos bibliothèques dans les États rouges. Nous entraînon des joueurs de Little League dans les États bleus et nous avons des amis homosexuels dans les États rouges. Il y a des patriotes qui s'opposent à la guerre en Irak et d'autres qui la soutiennent. Nous sommes un seul peuple, nous prêtons tous allégeance à la bannière étoilée, nous défendons tous les États-Unis d'Amérique.

En fin de compte, c'est l'enjeu de cette élection. Participons-nous à une politique du cynisme ou à une politique de l'espoir ? John Kerry nous invite à l'espoir. John Edwards nous appelle à l'espoir. Je ne parle pas ici d'un optimisme aveugle, de l'ignorance presque volontaire qui pense que le chômage disparaîtra si nous n'en parlons pas, ou que la crise des soins de santé se résoudra d'elle-même si nous l'ignorons. Non, je parle de quelque chose de plus substantiel. C'est l'espoir d'esclaves assis autour d'un feu et chantant des chants de liberté ; l'espoir d'immigrants partant pour des rivages lointains ; l'espoir d'un jeune lieutenant de

marine patrouillant courageusement dans le delta du Mékong ; l'espoir d'un fils d'ouvrier qui ose défier les probabilités ; l'espoir d'un enfant maigre avec un drôle de nom qui croit que l'Amérique a une place pour lui, aussi. L'audace de l'espoir !

En fin de compte, c'est le plus grand cadeau que Dieu nous ait fait, le fondement de cette nation ; la croyance en des choses que l'on ne voit pas ; la croyance en des jours meilleurs à venir. Je crois que nous pouvons soulager notre classe moyenne et offrir aux familles de travailleurs une voie vers les opportunités. Je crois que nous pouvons fournir des emplois aux chômeurs, des maisons aux sans-abri et arracher les jeunes des villes américaines à la violence et au désespoir. Je crois qu'à la croisée des chemins de l'histoire, nous pouvons faire les bons choix et relever les défis qui se présentent à nous. L'Amérique !

Ce soir, si vous ressentez la même énergie que moi, la même urgence que moi, la même passion que moi, le même espoir que moi, si nous faisons ce que nous devons faire, alors je n'ai aucun doute que dans tout le pays, de la Floride à l'Oregon, de Washington au Maine, le peuple se lèvera en novembre, et John Kerry prêtera serment en tant que président, et John Edwards prêtera serment en tant que vice-président, et ce pays reprendra sa promesse, et de cette longue obscurité politique sortira un jour plus lumineux.

Merci et que Dieu vous bénisse.

Appendix 3: Interpretation Transcripts Text of Obama speech

Au nom du grand état d'Illinois, croisement d'une nation, terre de Lincoln, permettez-moi d'exprimer ma profonde gratitude pour le privilège de m'adresser à cette nation.

Ce soir est un honneur particulier pour moi parce que ma présence sur cette tribune était improbable. Mon père était un étudiant étranger qui est né et qui a grandi dans un petit village au Kenya. Il a grandi en gardant les chèvres et son école était une cabane.

Mon grand-père était un cuisinier, un domestique des britanniques, mais il avait un rêve pour son fils, et grâce à son acuité et sa persévérance, il a obtenu une bourse pour étudier en Amérique, une terre qui représentait l'opportunité et la liberté pour ceux qui sont venus avant lui. En étudiant ici, il a rencontré ma mère qui était née à l'autre bout du monde, à Kansas. Son père travaillait dans une exploitation pétrolière pendant la dépression, et le lendemain de Pearl Harbour, il s'est engagé dans l'armée de Patton et s'est battu en Europe. Et à la maison, ma grand-mère élevait leur fille et travaillait dans une usine de bombardiers. Et de retour, ils ont étudié grâce au GI bill et ont acheté une maison et se sont installés à Hawaï à la poursuite de l'opportunité.

Mes parents partageaient non seulement un amour improbable, mais aussi une foi en des possibilités de ce pays. Ils m'ont donné un nom africain "Barack Obama", en croyant qu'en Amérique, votre nom ne peut pas être un obstacle à la réussite. Ils s'imaginaient que j'irai dans une bonne école même s'ils n'étaient pas riches. Mais dans une Amérique généreuse, on ne devait pas être nécessairement riche pour réaliser votre rêve. Tous les deux sont décédés maintenant, mais je suis convaincu que ce soir ils me regardent avec fierté.

Et je suis devant vous aujourd'hui, fier de la diversité de mon héritage, et je suis sûr que le rêve de mes parents vit dans mes filles. Je dois beaucoup à ceux qui m'ont précédé et mon histoire n'est même pas possible dans un autre pays du monde.

Ce soir, nous nous rassemblons pour affirmer la grandeur de notre pays, non pas à cause de la hauteur de nos gratte-ciels ou bien la puissance militaire ou à cause de l'état de notre économie, mais basé sur un simple principe, basé sur une déclaration qui avait été faite il y a 200 ans: "Nous tenons cette vérité comme évidente que tous les hommes sont créés comme égaux, qu'ils sont dotés par le créateur de certains droits inaliénables parmi lesquels la vie, la liberté et la poursuite du Bonheur ". C'est ça le vrai génie de l'Amérique : la foi en de simples rêves et une insistance sur de petits miracles et que nous pouvons coucher nos enfants le soir, sachant qu'ils

ont bien mangé, qu'ils sont bien habillés et qu'ils sont en sécurité. Et nous pouvons dire ce que nous voulons, et écrire ce que nous voulons sans rien craindre. Nous pouvons avoir une idée et lancer une entreprise sans payer de pots de vin. Et nous pouvons participer dans un processus politique sans la peur de châtement et nos voix seront comptés, du moins la plupart du temps.

Cette année, dans cette élection, nous sommes interpellés pour réaffirmer nos valeurs et voir si nous sommes à la hauteur de l'attente de notre héritage, des générations futures. Aux Démocrates, aux Républicains et aux Indépendants, nous avons beaucoup de choses à faire. C'est ce que je vous dis ce soir... du pain sur la planche. A cause de ces travailleurs qui perdent de l'emploi parce que leur entreprise va délocaliser au Mexique, et ont peur de compatir avec les enfants, et ce monsieur que j'ai rencontré qui retenait ses larmes parce qu'il ne peut pas payer les médicaments de son père, et cette fille qui est brillante et qui est déterminée et qui n'a pas l'argent pour aller à l'université. Comprenez-moi bien : les gens que je rencontre ne s'attendent pas à ce que le gouvernement résolve leur problème. Ils savent qu'ils doivent le résoudre, qu'ils doivent travailler très dur. Et allez dans tous les quartiers de Chicago... et ils disent qu'ils ne veulent pas que leur argent des impôts ne soient pas gaspillés par des agences de sécurité sociale ou par le Pentagone. Allez dans n'importe quel quartier et les gens vous diront que le gouvernement à lui seul ne peut pas éduquer nos enfants. On sait que les parents doivent éduquer leurs enfants et qu'ils doivent relever la barre de leur attente, éteindre la télévision et surmonter l'idée qu'un enfant noir qui lit, imite les blancs. Les gens ne s'attendent pas à ce que le gouvernement résolve leurs problèmes. Mais ils sentent du fond de leur cœur qu'un changement de priorité peut donner l'espoir à tous les enfants. Ils savent que nous pouvons faire mieux. Et ils veulent ce choix.

Notre parti a choisi un homme pour nous diriger et qui représente le meilleur de ce pays. Et cet homme, c'est John Kerry. John Kerry comprend les idéaux de la communauté de la foi et de la communauté parce qu'il représente son salut. Depuis qu'il était au Vietnam, quand il était vice-gouverneur, sénateur, il s'est dévoué pour ce pays. Et souvent, nous l'avons vu opérer des choix qui étaient difficiles et ses valeurs réaffirment le meilleur de nous-mêmes.

Il croit au travail et au lieu de donner des exonérations aux sociétés qui délocalisent, il les donne plutôt à celles qui créent de l'emploi. Il est convaincu que nous pouvons donner une couverture médicale à tous les citoyens, au même titre qu'à tous les citoyens de Washington. Il croit en l'indépendance énergétique et que nous ne devons pas rester otages des sociétés pétrolières. Il croit aux libertés constitutionnelles qui ont fait que notre pays est l'envi du monde.

John Kerry croit fermement que dans un pays... dans un monde dangereux, la guerre peut-être une option mais quelle ne doit pas être la première option. Vous savez... il y a quelque temps... j'ai rencontré un jeune homme qui s'appelle Chanoise... de l'Illinois, un jeune homme grand avec un bon sourire. Il m'a dit qu'il avait rejoint les marines et qu'il allait en Irak la semaine suivante. Quand j'ai suivi son explication pourquoi il va en Irak, et la foi qui l'a en notre pays et ses leaders, cet enfant est le rêve de tout parent. Mais je me suis demandé si nous servons Chanoise autant qu'il nous sert ? Et j'ai pensé aux 900 hommes et femmes, filles qui ne pourront jamais rentrer chez eux. J'ai pensé aux familles qui se débattent sans les revenus de leurs membres de famille, ou qui ont été blessés mais qui n'ont pas droit à des dédommagements parce qu'ils sont réservistes.

Quand nous envoyons nos enfants à se battre, nous avons l'obligation de nous assurer que nous avons les troupes suffisantes et que ne jamais aller à la guerre sans assez de troupes pour gagner la guerre, est-ce que ... et le respect du monde.

Nous avons de vrais ennemis dans le monde. Nous devons les trouver. Nous devons les poursuivre et nous devons les vaincre. John Kerry sait cela. Et quand il était lieutenant, il n'a pas hésité à risquer sa vie pour protéger les hommes qui servaient avec lui au Vietnam. Et de la même manière, le Président John Kerry ne va pas hésiter à user de la force militaire pour protéger l'Amérique. Il croit fermement en l'Amérique et il sait que ça ne suffit pas que seulement quelques-uns d'entre nous prospèrent.

Parce qu'à côté de notre individualisme fameux, il y a un autre ingrédient du rêve américain, la croyance que nous sommes tous connectés comme un peuple. Et que s'il y a un enfant de l'autre côté de Chicago qui ne peut pas lire, cela me chagrine même s'il n'est pas mon enfant. Et que s'il y a une personne âgée qui ne peut pas se permettre les médicaments, cela me chagrine même si elle n'est pas ma grand-mère. Ça me chagrine que des familles américaines sont arrêtées sans que la procédure ne soit suivie.

Je suis fermement convaincu que je suis le protecteur de mon frère, le protecteur de ma sœur et c'est ça qui fait marcher l'... (Afrique)...Amérique. C'est ça qui nous permet de suivre nos rêves individuels et aussi de travailler ensemble comme un seul peuple. "Et pori bus ununs"... un à partir de plusieurs. Au moment où nous parlons... en ce moment même, il y en a ceux qui veulent nous diviser, les maîtres de la manipulation, les colporteurs du mensonge, et qui croient que tout peut passer. Il n'y a pas d'Amérique libéral, d'Amérique conservateur, il n'y a qu'une seule "Etats-Unis d'Amérique". Il n'y a pas d'Amérique noire, d'Amérique blanche,

d'Amérique asiatique ou latine, il n'y a que les "Etats-Unis d'Amérique. Les experts divisent notre pays en états rouges et bleus : les rouges pour les Républicains et les bleus pour les Démocrates. Mais j'ai des nouvelles pour eux : nous prions un Dieu merveilleux dans les états bleus et nous avons des amis merveilleux dans les états rouges. Il y a des patriotes qui se sont opposés à la guerre en Irak et ceux qui l'ont soutenue. Nous sommes un seul peuple, nous prêtons allégeance à notre drapeau et nous défendons les Etats-Unis d'Amérique.

Au final, c'est ça le fond de notre élection : est-ce que nous participons dans une politique de cynisme où nous participons dans une politique de l'espoir.

John Kerry nous interpelle pour espérer. John Edwards nous appelle à espérer. Je ne parle pas d'un optimisme aveugle..., de l'ignorance, disant que le chômage va partir si on n'en parle pas, si la crise de la santé publique va se résoudre d'elle-même. Je parle de quelque chose de plus substantielle. Il s'agit de l'espoir de l'esclave, de l'espoir de l'immigrant qui rêve des côtes lointaines, de l'espoir d'un jeune lieutenant brave qui fait la patrouille sur le fleuve Nekong, l'espoir d'un enfant nègre avec un nom bizarre, qui croit fermement que l'Amérique a une place pour lui aussi. L'espoir face à la difficulté, à l'incertitude... la percité de l'espoir.

Au final, c'est ça le plus grand cadeau de Dieu : la croyance dans quelque chose qui se n'est pas encore matérialisée. Je suis convaincu que nous pouvons donner de l'espoir à la classe moyenne, donner des emplois aux chômeurs, et le logement aux sans-abris. Je suis convaincu que nous pouvons, au moment où nous nous tenons à la croisée des Chemins, nous pouvons relever tout défi. L'Amérique... ce soir, si vous ressentez la même énergie que moi, si vous sentez la même urgence, la même passion que moi, le même espoir que moi, si nous faisons ce que nous devons faire, alors je n'ai aucun doute que tout à travers le pays : de Floride, de l'Oregon à Washington, à Maine, le peuple va se lever en Novembre et John Kerry prêtera serment comme Président et que John Edwards comme Vice-Président et ce pays va réclamer sa promesse et sortir de cette obscurité politique. Qu'un jour tout lui reviendra.

Que Dieu vous bénisse !