Comparative Analysis of Mandarin Chengyu Translations into Indonesian Using DeepSeek and Google Translate

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Keywords	Abstract
chengyu, Deepseek, Google Translate, Mandarin	The translation of chengyu is an essential aspect of Mandarin language studies, as these expressions contain figurative meanings and cultural values that cannot always be interpreted literally. However, users in Indonesia often face difficulties in obtaining accurate chengyu translations, especially when relying on automatic translation tools. This study aims to analyze the comparative results of translating 25 Mandarin chengyu using two AI-based translation tools, Deepseek and Google Translate. Employing a descriptive qualitative analysis method, the data were collected from the translation outputs of both tools and compared based on idiomatic accuracy, cultural contextualization, and translation fluency. The findings indicate that Deepseek tends to produce more natural and accurate translations, as it successfully preserves idiomatic meaning and Mandarin cultural context. In contrast, Google Translate more frequently generates literal and lexical translations, causing several chengyu to deviate from their intended figurative meanings. Of the 25 chengyu analyzed, 17 showed similarities in meaning, while 8 displayed differences, with Deepseek demonstrating superiority in terms of semantic accuracy and word choice. This study concludes that Deepseek is more effective for translating Mandarin chengyu into Indonesian, as it provides translations results that better reflect cultural values ada idiomatic nuances

INTRODUCTION

Mandarin, or *Hanyu* (汉语), is the official language of China and one of the most widely used languages in the world, with more than one billion speakers. In Indonesia, Mandarin has become a widely studied foreign language, especially in the context of formal education in schools and international trade relations. The language uses a character-based writing system known as *Hanzi* (汉字), which is recognized for its complexity and profound meanings (LBI FIB UI, 2025).

One of the most distinctive features of Mandarin is the existence of *Chengyu*, which is closely related to Chinese history. *Chengyu* is commonly used in formal speeches, academic writing, classical literary works, and even daily conversations. Mastery of *Chengyu* is considered an indicator of Mandarin language proficiency because *Chengyu* expressions are not only rich in meaning but also often refer to moral values, historical events, philosophy, or legends that form part of China's cultural heritage (Liu, 2024). Generally, *Chengyu* consists of four characters and carries idiomatic meanings that cannot be interpreted literally. Its unique structure and meaning make *Chengyu* an essential aspect in both learning and translating Mandarin.

Chengyu also frequently uses figurative language, which often creates difficulties for Mandarin learners in understanding its true meaning. The structural differences between Mandarin and Indonesian further add challenges in translating *Chengyu*. Therefore, many students attempt to overcome these difficulties by using machine translation tools to obtain instant translations.

Machine translation refers to the automatic translation of text from one language to another by a computer system, with little to no human intervention. In today's digital era, machine translation has become an essential tool in facilitating cross-language communication. Its role is increasingly important as the demand for fast access to global information grows, particularly in the field of education. Machine translation not only serves as an auxiliary tool for human translators but is also widely used by the general public to understand texts in foreign languages.Recent developments in translation technology are marked by a shift from statistical methods to neural-based translation. The application of neural network models in machine translation systems has led to significant improvements in both translation accuracy and processing efficiency (Koehn, 2017). In this age of digitalization, numerous machine translation tools assist in transferring meaning from a source language to a target language. However, in the context of *Chengyu* translation, machine translation still faces major challenges. This is due to the idiomatic and condensed nature of *Chengyu*, which often cannot be directly translated into the target language. Therefore, this research is important to examine the similarities and differences in translations produced by translation tools such as DeepSeek and Google Translate.

Relevant studies include research by Abdul Azis (2023), which compares the translation results of the Durratuunnasihin text and found that ChatGPT produced more accurate translations than Google Translate, which tended to translate literally and out of context. Another relevant study by Dwi Suci (2025) on comparative analysis of German–English translation using DeepL and Google Translate also highlights the importance of selecting appropriate translation tools to produce accurate and high-quality translations

Based on the background described above, the research problems formulated in this study are as follows: 1. How does DeepSeek translate Mandarin *Chengyu* into Indonesian? 2. How does Google Translate translate Mandarin *Chengyu* into Indonesian? 3. What are the similarities and differences between the DeepSeek and Google Translate translations of Mandarin *Chengyu* into Indonesian? These theories can be described as follows:

1. Translations Mecine

In applied linguistics, translation plays a crucial role as a bridge for cross-linguistic and cross-cultural communication. Translation does not merely transfer linguistic forms but also meaning, messages, and cultural nuances from the source language to the target language. According to Dewi (2020), translation involves conveying meaning and messages comprehensively, while Munday in Nababan (2019) emphasizes that translation takes place within a specific socio-cultural context. Baker and Saldanha (2020) further state that translation entails negotiating meaning shaped by communicative goals and context. House (2021) and Baker (2018) highlight that translation is also a process of interpretation and adaptation according to context. Taber (in Munday, 2018) underscores the importance of producing natural equivalents in the target language.

Nida (1964) introduced the concepts of formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence, emphasizing meaning equivalence and communicative effect. He also assessed translation quality based on accuracy, readability, and acceptability. Newmark (1988) developed eight translation methods, both source-language-oriented and target-language-oriented, including semantic, idiomatic, and communicative translation methods, all of which aim to produce translations acceptable to readers. From these perspectives, translation can be understood as a complex process involving linguistic and cultural transfer to achieve accurate and natural translation outcomes.

With technological developments, machine translation has emerged as a solution for fast and efficient translation needs. Hutchins & Somers (1992) and Zhang & Zong (2020) define machine translation as an automatic process that uses computers to translate natural languages, with neural machine translation as the dominant approach today. This technology enhances access to cross-linguistic communication, saves time and costs, and assists language learners in quickly understanding foreign texts. Thus, machine translation plays an important role in expanding global communication and supporting language learning.

2. Deepseek

Deepseek is an advanced artificial intelligence (AI) model developed by a Chinese company and categorized as a Large Language Model (LLM). Released in 2023, it is designed to understand and generate human-like text. Its capabilities include conversation, programming assistance, document summarization, answering complex questions, and multilingual translation. One of its strengths is supporting up to 128K tokens, allowing it to process and analyze long documents effectively within a single session.

Hutchins & Somers (1992, as cited in Lee, 2024:15) state that *"advanced AI models like Deepseek represent the next evolution of machine intelligence, where neural architectures enable deeper contextual understanding beyond traditional rule-based systems."* Zhang & Wang (2023:7) further explain that *"Deepseek employs a hybrid MoE architecture, enabling efficient processing of large-scale linguistic data while maintaining high accuracy in text generation and comprehension."* This aligns with Chen et al. (2024:3), who argue that Deepseek is one of the most efficient models in modern NLP, combining sparse training and dynamic computation to achieve high performance with lower computational cost.

From these perspectives, Deepseek can be understood as a neural-network-based AI model designed for deep language processing, integrating computational efficiency with advanced contextual comprehension. Although Deepseek is considered a modern translation model, it still has limitations. According to Taia (2025), it lacks essential professional translation features such as Translation Memory and glossaries, resulting in less consistent terminology across texts. In certain contexts, Deepseek may also produce inaccurate translations that require human editing to ensure meaning accuracy. Therefore, despite its advancements, Deepseek remains less optimal than professional translation tools.

3. Google Translate

Google Translate is an automatic language translation service developed by Google. It allows users to translate text, speech, images, websites, and documents from one language to another instantly. Google Translate supports more than 100 languages and is available for free as both a mobile application and a website. Kurniawan (2021) states that *"Google Translate is a machine-based translation service by Google that uses neural machine translation technology to generate translations from one language to another."*

According to Arba et al. (2023), Google Translate is an online translation service that provides convenience for users by enabling quick text translation. However, its output still often lacks accuracy, including incorrect word choices, addition or omission of meaning, and structural inaccuracies in sentences.

Based on these views, it can be concluded that Google Translate is a technology-based automatic translation service developed by Google, capable of translating various forms of input—such as text,

audio, images, and documents—instantly into more than 100 languages. The service offers high accessibility and convenience to users at no cost through both the web and mobile app. Nevertheless, despite improvements driven by neural machine translation, limitations remain, particularly in terms of semantic accuracy and lexical selection. Therefore, translations produced by Google Translate still require human review. Hidayat (2023) notes that Google Translate often produces inaccurate translations, particularly when translating from English to Indonesian. The accuracy rate is relatively low—only around 31% accurate, 54% less accurate, and 15% completely inaccurate. Similarly, Delfani, Orasan, Saadany, and colleagues (2024) found that Google Translate frequently makes errors in specialized fields such as medical terminology, where the output tends to be inaccurate both in terminology and language fluency. Based on these findings, it can be concluded that although Google Translate enables users to obtain translations quickly, its results still exhibit various weaknesses, such as inaccurate word choices, loss of meaning, and inconsistency in sentence structure. As a result, manual correction is still required.

4. Chengyu

Chengyu are Mandarin idioms typically consisting of four characters, carrying deep cultural, moral, and philosophical meanings rooted in Chinese tradition. They are not merely lexical items but concise expressions that convey wisdom and are widely used in daily communication and literary works. Saragupita and Zhang (2023:45) describe Chengyu as fixed four-character expressions that cannot be interpreted literally. This view aligns with Sanjaya (2024:23), who notes that Chengyu are common idiomatic forms encountered in Mandarin learning. Aurellia Crisstela (2023:60) adds that Chengyu often contain historical meaning derived from classical Chinese stories. Ayesa and Sutami (2022:91) emphasize the cultural significance of Chengyu, stating that they reflect Chinese ways of thinking, worldview, and long-standing cultural wisdom. Nurul (2017) further explains that Chengyu have fixed structures that have been preserved for generations, representing an essential aspect of Chinese linguistic and cultural heritage. Overall, Chengyu can be understood as four-character idioms that carry not only literal meaning but also profound cultural, moral, and historical values that have been embedded in Chinese society for centuries.

Chengyu play a crucial role in Mandarin communication by enriching linguistic expression with concise, elegant, and meaningful phrases. According to Alifiyah (2017), Chengyu enhance the beauty and depth of utterances while supporting learners' understanding of Chinese culture. Saragupita and Zhang (2023) highlight that Chengyu enable speakers to convey complex ideas briefly yet effectively. Their use also signals a high level of linguistic competence and cultural literacy, reflecting the intellectual identity of the speaker. In conclusion, Chengyu serve not only as linguistic expressions but also as cultural preservation tools, moral symbols, and markers of intellectual identity in Mandarin. Mastery of Chengyu enriches language proficiency and demonstrates a deeper understanding of Chinese history and cultural wisdom.

Several researchers and scholars in Chinese language and literature have classified Chengyu into different types, summarized as follows:

a)   Historical Chengyu (历史成语 / lìshǐ Chengyu)

Historical Chengyu originate from historical events, famous figures, or classical Chinese stories. Zhang (2019) notes that this type is commonly found in classical textbooks and often reflects moral values and life strategies in Chinese society.

b)   Literary Chengyu (文学成语 / wénxué Chengyu)

Literary Chengyu are derived from classical literary works such as poetry or novels, often poetic and rich in symbolic meaning. Liu (2020) observes that literary Chengyu can be more difficult to understand due to their reliance on literary context.

c)   Philosophical Chengyu (哲理成语 / zhélǐ Chengyu)

Philosophical Chengyu convey teachings or life principles, often rooted in Confucianism, Daoism, or Buddhism. He (2021) emphasizes that this type delivers wisdom in a concise and meaningful form.

d)   Descriptive Chengyu (描写成语 / miáoxiě Chengyu)

Descriptive Chengyu are used to depict scenes, characters, or physical and psychological conditions. Chen & Wang (2022) highlight that these idioms create vivid expressions in daily language.

e)   Humorous and Satirical Chengyu

Although rare, some Chengyu are used humorously or satirically. Sun (2018) explains that this type appears in speeches, dramas, or folk tales to convey subtle messages.

In conclusion, Chengyu represent a rich and diverse form of expression encompassing Chinese history, literature, philosophy, and descriptive language. Each type not only serves as an efficient means of communication but also reflects cultural depth, traditional wisdom, and the Chinese worldview. This diversity makes Chengyu an essential component in learning Mandarin, as mastery of Chengyu enhances vocabulary while demonstrating a deeper understanding of social and cultural contexts.

5．Comparative method

The comparative method is a research approach used to systematically compare two or more research objects to identify similarities, differences, or relationships between them. These objects may include concepts, theories, methods, policies, events, or products such as Deepseek and Google Translate. Sugiyono (2023) defines it as a method that compares one or more variables across different samples or times to find similarities or differences. Similarly, Kumar (2022) states that the comparative method involves the systematic comparison of two or more entities to draw conclusions about their characteristics, performance, or impact.

In this study, the comparative method is applied to systematically examine and compare the translation results of Chengyu produced by Deepseek and Google Translate.

METHOD

This study employs a qualitative descriptive method with a comparative approach to identify the similarities and differences in translations produced by two machine translation tools, namely Deepseek and Google Translate. The qualitative approach aims to gain an in-depth understanding of social phenomena through descriptive data, emphasizing interpretation and meaning (Waruwu, 2024). The comparative descriptive method allows the researcher to systematically analyze differences and similarities in translations (Sugiyono, 2022; Kumar, 2022).

The primary data sources of this research are Chengyu, Chinese four-character idioms, translated from Mandarin (Hanzi) into Indonesian by Deepseek and Google Translate. These Chengyu were selected from textbooks widely recognized by Indonesian society. Each Chengyu was translated using both tools and then analyzed according to sentence structure and word choice to identify similarities and differences. Secondary data sources include scholarly articles, journals, books, literature related to machine translation, translation theories, Chengyu studies, as well as technical documentation on Deepseek and Google Translate.

Data collection was conducted in several stages. First, 25 Chengyu were selected. Next, these idioms were translated using Deepseek and Google Translate. The translations were then organized into a table containing the original Chengyu, Deepseek translations, and Google Translate translations. Analysis was conducted based on two main criteria: accuracy of meaning and word choice. Subsequently, the similarities and differences between the two sets of translations were identified.

Data analysis involved a structured and systematic process. The first step was to describe the translations generated by Deepseek and Google Translate. The second step was to identify differences and similarities, particularly in terms of meaning accuracy and word selection. Finally, conclusions were drawn regarding the strengths and weaknesses of both translation tools based on the comparative data. This approach ensures a clear understanding of the translation quality produced by AI-based tools and highlights the nuances in rendering Chengyu from Mandarin into Indonesian.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 The translation of 25 Chengyu using Deepseek and Google Translate

No	Chengyu	Terjemahan Deepseek	Terjemahan Google Translate
1	哭笑不得 kū xiào bù dé	Semoga perjalananmu lancar (dengan angin yang baik)	Selamat Perjalanan

No	Chengyu	Terjemahan Deepseek	Terjemahan Google Translate
2	入乡随俗 rù xiāng suí sú	masuk ke suatu desa ikuti kebiasaannya atau masuk ke wilayah lain, ikuti adatnya	Ketika di Roma, lakukanlah seperti yang dilakukan orang Romawi
3	一模一样 yī mú yī yang	sama persis atau sama sekali	persis sama
4	半真半假 bàn zhēn bàn jiǎ	Sebagian benar, sebagian palsu	setengah kebenaran
5	不约而同 bù yuē ér tóng	tanpa janji sebelumnya, namun bersamaan	Secara kebetulan
6	持之以恒 chí zhī yǐ héng	melakukan sesuatu dengan ketekunan yang konsisten	Kegigihan
7	此起彼伏 cǐ qǐ bǐ fú	yang ini bangkit, yang itu turun	Satu demi satu
8	化险为夷 huà xiǎn wéi yí	mengubah bahaya menjadi kedamaian	Hindari bahaya
9	画蛇添足 huà shé tiān zú	menggambarkan ular menambahkan kaki	tak berguna
10	坚持不懈 jiān chí bù xiè	tekun dan pantang menyerah atau gigih tanpa henti	kegigihan
11	见钱眼开 jiàn qián yǎn kāi	melihat uang mata terbuka lebar	Haus uang
12	见仁见智 jiàn rén jiàn zhì	orang yang bijak melihatnya sebagai kebijakan, orang yang cerdas melihatnya sebagai kecerdasan."	Itu tergantung pendapat masing-masing
13	见义勇为 jiàn yì yǒng wéi	tindakan berani dan spontan untuk membela keadilan atau menolong orang yang sedang dalam kesulitan	berani dan benar
14	刻舟求剑 kè zhōu qiú jiàn	mencatat di perahu lalu mencari pedang	Mengukir perahu untuk mencari pedang
15	哭笑不得 kū xiào bù dé	tidak tahu apakah harus menangis atau tertawa	Mencengangkan
16	水落石出 shuǐ luò shí chū	air surut batu muncul	Kebenaran terungkap
17	美中不足 měi zhōng bù zú	dalam keindahan ada kekurangan	lalat dalam salep
18	恰如其分 qià rú qí fèn	tepat sesuai kadarnya	Tepat sekali

No	Chengyu	Terjemahan Deepseek	Terjemahan Google Translate
19	同舟共济 tóng zhōu gòng jì	berada dalam perahu yang sama, bersama-sama menyebrangi sungai	Kita berada di perahu yang sama
20	亡羊补牢 wáng yáng bǔ láo	Memperbaiki kandang domba setelah ada yang hilang	memperbaiki kandang setelah domba-domba hilang
21	新陈代谢 xīn chén dài xiè	pergantian yang lama dengan yang baru dan metabolisme	metabolisme
22	有口无心 yǒu kǒu wú xīn	ada mulut tidak ada hati	Katakan satu hal, tapi maksudnya lain
23	以身作则 yǐ shēn zuò zé	menggunakan diri sendiri sebagai teladan	Pimpin dengan memberi contoh
24	一毛不拔 yī máo bù bá	sehelai bulu pun tidak rela dicabut	Pelit
25	有声有色 yǒu shēng yǒu sè	ada suara dan ada warna	menakjubkan

Based on the translation of 25 Chengyu using Deepseek and Google Translate, differences were observed in terms of accuracy, word choice, and the way cultural nuances were conveyed. For instance, the Chengyu 一路顺风 (yī lù shùn fēng) was translated by Deepseek as "may your journey go smoothly (with favorable winds)," while Google Translate rendered it as "have a good trip." Deepseek's translation is more accurate in capturing the function of the Chengyu as a form of well-wishing, whereas Google Translate, although practical, lacks the original cultural nuance. Deepseek's use of "may" reflects a cultural context appropriate for Chinese, while Google Translate is simpler and less idiomatic.

For the Chengyu 入乡随俗 (rù xiāng suí sú), Deepseek produced a literal translation, "enter a village and follow its customs," while Google Translate used a Western cultural equivalent, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do." Both translations accurately convey the core meaning—adapting to local customs—but Deepseek is more literal, while Google Translate employs a cross-cultural translation strategy.

Chengyu 一模一样 (yī mú yī yàng) was translated by Deepseek as "exactly the same or identical," while Google Translate produced "exactly the same." Both translations are accurate, but Deepseek adds "or identical" to emphasize the extreme similarity in form or appearance.

For 半真半假 (bàn zhēn bàn jiǎ), Deepseek translated it as "partly true, partly false," whereas Google Translate used "half true." Both translations convey the main meaning, but Google Translate omits some literal nuances, while Deepseek preserves all elements of the Chengyu.

Chengyu 不约而同 (bù yuē ér tóng) was rendered by Deepseek as "without prior agreement, yet simultaneously," and by Google Translate as "coincidentally." Both are accurate, but Deepseek is more literal, emphasizing the chronological aspect, while Google Translate is simpler and idiomatic.

Chengyu 持之以恒 (chí zhī yǐ héng) was translated by Deepseek as "doing something with consistent perseverance," whereas Google Translate rendered it as "persistence." Both translations are accurate, but Deepseek emphasizes the ongoing process literally, while Google Translate uses a concise term.

Chengyu 此起彼伏 (cǐ qǐ bǐ fú) was translated by Deepseek as "this rises, that falls," while Google Translate produced "one after another." Deepseek is more precise in depicting the recurring rise and fall, aligning with the original meaning, whereas Google Translate emphasizes sequence, losing the dynamic and repetitive aspect.

For 化险为夷 (huà xiǎn wéi yí), Deepseek translated it as "turning danger into safety," while Google Translate simply said "avoid danger." Deepseek is more accurate as it conveys the core meaning of transforming a dangerous situation into a safe one, whereas Google Translate only captures the avoidance aspect.

Chengyu 画蛇添足 (huà shé tiān zú) was translated by Deepseek as "drawing a snake and adding legs," whereas Google Translate used "useless." Deepseek preserves the literal and idiomatic story, highlighting the act of overdoing something that spoils the result, while Google Translate only emphasizes the outcome without the excess action.

Chengyu 坚持不懈 (jiān chí bù xiè) was rendered by Deepseek as "persistent and unyielding," and Google Translate as "perseverance." Both are accurate, but Deepseek emphasizes active diligence, while Google Translate uses a general term.

Chengyu 见钱眼开 (jiàn qián yǎn kāi) was translated by Deepseek as "eyes widen at the sight of money," whereas Google Translate produced "money-minded." Deepseek retains the visual and literal nuance of the idiom, while Google Translate is more succinct.

Chengyu 见仁见智 (jiàn rén jiàn zhì) was translated by Deepseek as "wise people see it as wisdom, intelligent people see it as cleverness," while Google Translate said "it depends on individual opinions." Deepseek provides a more contextual and nuanced translation, whereas Google Translate is simpler.

Chengyu 见义勇为 (jiàn yì yǒng wéi) was translated by Deepseek as "acting courageously and spontaneously to uphold justice or help those in difficulty," while Google Translate produced "brave and righteous." Deepseek is more accurate as it includes the actual action and social context, whereas Google Translate captures only part of the meaning.

Chengyu 刻舟求剑 (kè zhōu qiú jiàn) was translated by Deepseek as "carving a mark on a boat to retrieve a sword," while Google Translate said "carve the boat to find a sword." Deepseek emphasizes the critical marking action, which is central to the story, while Google Translate loses the nuance of the mark as a key point.

Chengyu 哭笑不得 (kū xiào bù dé) was translated by Deepseek as "not knowing whether to laugh or cry," while Google Translate produced "bewildering." Deepseek accurately conveys mixed emotions, whereas Google Translate loses the sense of dilemma.

Chengyu 水落石出 (shuǐ luò shí chū) was translated by Deepseek as "when the water subsides, the rocks appear," and by Google Translate as "the truth comes out." Both translations are accurate, but Deepseek is more literal and visual, while Google Translate is idiomatic.

Chengyu 美中不足 (měi zhōng bù zú) was translated by Deepseek as "there is a flaw in something beautiful," whereas Google Translate used "a fly in the ointment." Both convey meaning, but Deepseek is literal and easy to understand.

Chengyu 恰如其分 (qià rú qí fèn) was translated by Deepseek as "just right in proportion," and by Google Translate as "exactly right." Deepseek emphasizes proportionality and balance, while Google Translate focuses only on correctness.

Chengyu 同舟共济 (tóng zhōu gòng jì) was translated by Deepseek as "in the same boat, crossing the river together," while Google Translate said "we are in the same boat." Deepseek more fully describes cooperation in facing difficulties, while Google Translate is less specific.

Chengyu 亡羊补牢 (wáng yáng bǔ láo) was translated by Deepseek as "repair the sheep pen after losing some sheep," while Google Translate said "repair the pen after the sheep are lost." Both preserve the metaphorical meaning.

Chengyu 新陈代谢 (xīn chén dài xiè) was translated by Deepseek as "replacement of the old with the new and metabolism," while Google Translate used "metabolism." Deepseek includes both literal and figurative meaning, whereas Google Translate only captures the biological aspect.

Chengyu 有口无心 (yǒu kǒu wú xīn) was translated by Deepseek as "having a mouth but no heart," while Google Translate rendered it as "saying one thing but meaning another." Deepseek more accurately emphasizes unintentional and spontaneous speech, while Google Translate misrepresents the Chengyu as intentional.

Chengyu 以身作则 (yǐ shēn zuò zé) was translated by Deepseek as "setting an example with one's own

actions," while Google Translate said "lead by example." Both are accurate, but Deepseek is literal and closer to the idiomatic meaning, whereas Google Translate is more communicative.

Chengyu 一毛不拔 (yī máo bù bá) was translated by Deepseek as "not willing to pluck even a single hair," while Google Translate used "stingy." Deepseek retains the metaphor, while Google Translate simplifies it to a personality trait.

Chengyu 有声有色 (yǒu shēng yǒu sè) was translated by Deepseek as "having sound and color," while Google Translate said "spectacular." Deepseek is literal and visual, while Google Translate conveys the effect idiomatically.

Overall, Deepseek tends to provide literal translations, preserving cultural and idiomatic nuances, whereas Google Translate is simpler, idiomatic, and sometimes adapts to Western cultural equivalents or more common expressions. Deepseek is more suitable for understanding deep meanings and cultural nuances, while Google Translate is more practical for everyday communication.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of 25 Mandarin Chengyu translated using Deepseek and Google Translate, three main findings can be concluded. First, Deepseek tends to translate literally while preserving idiomatic meaning and cultural context, resulting in translations that are more natural and easily understood. Second, Google Translate often translates idiomatically but frequently neglects cultural values and figurative meaning, leading to less accurate resultsinstead of the correct idiomatic meaning. Third, although both tools can convey the basic meaning of simple Chengyu, Deepseek is more accurate, contextual, and superior in word choice while maintaining the cultural nuance of Mandarin. Among the 25 Chengyu, 17 showed similarity in meaning, 8 showed differences in meaning, 17 differed in word choice, 6 were nearly similar, and 2 were similar in word selection

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