

YOUNGJUN PARK

Seoul, S. Korea | (Mobile) +821056503032
(Email) rhynodon@gmail.com, cracksa@naver.com

QUALIFICATIONS

Specialized in EN<>KO Translation, Editing and Proofreading (TEP) of Video Subtitle and Video Games

EXPERTISE

- | | | |
|---------------------|--|--------------------------|
| ▪ English to Korean | ▪ Audiovisual Translation + Time Coding | ▪ Hermes Code: H4032**** |
| ▪ Korean to English | ▪ Video Games Translation using CATs
(Trados 2024, spreadsheet, etc.) | |

EDUCATION

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| ▪ Korea University, bachelor's degree
(Food Chemistry, Korean Literacy) | ▪ KBS Academy translator's course |
|--|-----------------------------------|

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Tapas Localization, Portugal, 2023~

Freelance Translator

- § Translation of EN<>KO video subtitles
- § Translation of EN<>KO video games

Deluxe Localization, California, 2023~

Freelance Translator

- § Translation of EN<>KO video subtitles

Reverso SAS, France, 2022~2023

Freelance Translator, Advisor

- § TEP and Advisory Service of EN<>KO language data analyzation

Finesse Media Services, India, 2021~2024

Freelance Translator

- § Translation of EN>KO video subtitles

Day Translations, USA, 2021~

Freelance Translator

- § Translation of KO<>EN Audiovisual Files
 - § Translation of KO<>EN Documents (Public, Medical, etc.)
-

Date: June 15th, 2026

Author: Youngjun Park

Topic: Youngjun Park's Translation Career and Methodology of Writing

0. Goal

- I'm writing this to introduce myself and share my translation history & methodology.

1. Career

- Since 2017, I've been practicing various EN<>KR translation projects as a freelancer.

1-1. Representative works: Frankenstein (movie, 2021), Chained Echoes (video game, 2022), History: The Interesting Bits (Documentary, 2022), Discovery Documentary Series (2023-2025), Clarkson's Farm S5 (2026)

2. Methodology

- After years of providing EN<>KR subtitle TEP, I chose three factors to focus on for quality translation; Connotation, Continuity and Trend.

2-1. Connotation

2-1-1) EN>KO

Korean characters can imply multiple notions at once.

(i.e., character “성[Seong]” can imply following items contextually; Castle, Star, Sexuality, Growth, Sacred, Characteristic, etc)

Their meanings can be changed when combined with other character and makes a syllable, whilst syllables can also be homophonous; For instance, a syllable “성채(Seong-Chae)” could define a fortress, an adult, a sacrament and etc. As you can see from the “성(Seong)” itself, prime meaning did not change as that new syllable is mostly about Castle; Growth and Sacred, which are “성(Seong)”'s basic ideas. This principle works similar on other characters; which relieves you from the hardship of memorizing every Korean syllable, possible compound words and their meaning without losing the track of language.

But there's one thing you need to care about; the rarity. I would say “time” in this case, as more dated the term is, more chance it gets more rarity of usage, and people could find it hard comprehending old and rare items compared to new / trendy ones.

My advice on providing catchy / legible subtitle is keep tracking on the Sino-Korean words that are used by schools and public journals. Let's look at an example of making a Korean subtitle below;

Event 1)

A: I've never thought of myself being an NCO at this age.

Event 2)

B: You happened to being picky all of sudden? Quit your whinging.

A: But...

Event 3)

B: Oh come on, everybody knew you're about to be here.

Nobody thinks you're planted.

Event 4)

A: I know, but...

Let's dig up these sentences one by one. Let's look at the Event 1.

“I've never thought of myself being an NCO at this age.”

Let's go literal first. I(내가, 나는) have(했었다) never(아니다) thought (생각하다) of myself (나 자신을) being an (되는 것을) NCO (부사관) at this age (지금 나이에).

Sequencing these sentence fragments in natural order should be looking like this;

나는 내가 지금 나이에 부사관이 되는 것은 생각도 안 해봤다.

Translation of the terms are derived directly from Korean dictionary. And they are correct with its meaning.

However, when it comes to display a subtitle in a limited time, you'll have to polish them little bit; for both the colloquial style and choose of words. Let's say this event (I've never thought of myself being an NCO at this age.) lasts no longer than 3 seconds.

It's possible to speak in English, but how about reading it in Korean?

You may manage to read it in time, taking core keywords like 부사관이 되는 것은 (being an NCO), 생각도 안 해봤다 (never thought of my self) and 이 나이에 (at this age). But say, do you need "subject" comprehending the meaning and vibe of this, like "I" and "myself"? Those "casual English" do use that type of technique to make the conversation more colloquial and efficient. Let's follow that trail, negating those keywords to buy us some reading time. See the modified translation below.

“지금 나이에 부사관이 되는 것은 생각도 안 해봤다.(Never thought of being an NCO at this age.)”

Does the compressed English source sound/look natural to you? You ask me, possibly. Does it delivers the “vibe” of character correctly? I'd also say possibly, like if the character is very grammar-strict or never an short tongue, that wouldn't be something that can come out of the character. But let's take it aside for a while. Let's look at the Korean sentence.

“지금 나이에 (at this age) 부사관이 되는 것은 (being an NCO) 생각도 안 해봤다 (never thought of).”

It does look/sound like a natural Korean sentence, from my verdict. But given the time short and for the visual-wise, this sentence still needs some fixing from my perspective. Let's try making a box out of it, shall we?

We have two choices. One, [long side up + short side down.]

00:14:51.33 – 00:14:53.87

지금 나이에 부사관이 되는 것은
생각도 안 해봤다

In my opinion, this doesn't look too bad. You can read it in 3 seconds (burrowing Netflix guide, 12 characters per second for an adult program- and this lengths 23 including spaces), and it is in proper line break; first line is a subject. Let's define it to pieces.

㉔ 지금 나이에 (at this age) – Adverbial Phrase

㉕ 부사관이 되는 것은 (being an NCO) – [be--] (되는데, gerund) + --[ing] (것+은, bound noun + special particle) + an NCO (부사관, complement of [being])

This two fragments compound an initiative subject. Where's the second and terminal subject, you may ask?

We(Koreans) do not include that as visible in our sentences. Look at the second sentence.

생각도 안 해봤다 (never thought of.)

As we've mentioned above, like the “casual” English, we may skip the subject when it comes to make the sentence compact and colloquial. “I” never thought of, and in this case, “I” is missing in translation; but just like English, it's totally natural.

So yes, I'd say that translation/ and its box shape looks/sounds natural to Korean viewers.

And I would enjoy the show with the lines like those. However, there's one improvement we might add like a cherry on top.

Look at the box shape. What do you see it from there?

I would say, its' upper line looks bit long and heavy. It might cover the character's mouth in scene, if there is one. To avoid situations like those, I always try to make box with [short side up + long side down.]

If the character's not in the scene like doing a narration or something, we could go the first one. Let's say it's different in this scenario.

What would you do with this, without.. you know. Remember; we need to keep the vibe of the character as well.

Below is my version of this; cannot provide reasoning here, as it would be way too long.

00:14:51.33 – 00:14:53.87

이 나이에 부사관 째라니

2-1-2) KO>EN

Things get reversed in KO>EN. Now you need to explain every meaning of Korean characters to deliver the correct meaning, but still without making it too long. In this area, I usually detour or skip less-crucial content of the speech. I call this task as the “branching.” Without this, subtitles would get too long thus hard to read. Let’s see another example for this category.

Event 1) 00:00:11.04 – 00:00:13:50

A: B 너는 진짜 철 좀 들어야 돼.

Event 2) 00:00:13.58 – 00:00:16:13

A: B 야 나도 이런 이야기 진짜 하기 싫어!

2 seconds gap between events. In this case, I’d write like this;

Event 1) 00:00:11.04 – 00:00:13:50

A: B 너는 진짜 철 좀 들어야 돼.

A: You should grow up, B. (I’ve omit the “진짜” here.)

Event 2) 00:00:13.58 – 00:00:17:13

A: B 야 나도 이런 이야기 하는 거 진짜 싫어!

A: You really think I enjoy doing this?

2-2. Continuity

People do understand circumstances and logics inside the scenes. Thus, we do not have to translate literally 100% of texts in order to induce the proper understanding as people can make analogy between scenes. If the translator gives enough time to people for catching the needy information in scenes, chances of misunderstanding or focus lost might get way lower. This may open a window of leeway to omit certain details or subsidiaries in sentences such as; subject, object, sometimes even a whole Sentence (if you’ve decided to include two sentences in one subtitle for timing or other factors) especially in Korean language to earn the reading time and deliver the better viewing experience (that is to say, a good Korean to English translator should be good at speculating the omitted subject or other components to make a better delivering). Nowadays, I’m trying to make my words with super-compact or detailed manner, as I believe there are two ways; you, the writer to be the ardent explainer or make your readers indulge in more intellect interaction. Either of them is never an easy way though, I believe there’s an indomitable beauty in this method, while you can save your time (effort) with getting better customer experiences.

2-3. Trends

Trying to make myself a timeless writer, but there’s a huge advantage of using the current terms and memes. Which memes or terms should I use is the question, except there is no such thing as an answer here. Everyone thinks they’re running this wild ride. Youngsters and old schools, they just don’t fit each other for most of the time. The best option I have is, trying to hide myself somewhere between those two; not too old, not too young; or should I put it as “Little High, Little Low”?

This isn’t something that I can explain with simple terms. It is a huge flow of data, decades old themes and arguments forlorn and forgone. But you know what I’m saying, right? It’s THE trend. It is not a trend once you fix something close to it as the trend. You’re like a surf guy, trying to catch the ride with stumbling focus. What am I to be the one who defines it? Only thing I can say about this here is, “I’m trying hard to catch it as best as I could. Please do consider this before making evaluations over me.”

3. Summarize

I do believe there’s a golden value in subtitle translation; something vague, but one that you can notice after just one glance. That says, if your texts are ironically compact; symbolic; but informative all at once, they would be able to explain anything to anyone flawlessly. I’m sure that such value exists. Still trying to find it though, I do hope that our collaboration may help us to reach there and possess the great skill of language; raise our sales and make money, after that.

Thank you for reading this so far. I hope this helps you to understand my capability, character and decide our future relationship.
