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| **Quotations:**Original version | **Quotations:**Italian translation | Comparative analysis |
| “ […] and I began to travel down the shaft, alone.” | “e io iniziai la mia discesa solitaria.” | The English text differs from the Italian translation for “To travel down the shaft, alone”. In the original text, alone is referred to Changez and used as an adjective. In the Italian transcript, “solitaria” is the adjective referred to “discesa” and not to Changez. |
| **Reason for choice:**Changez is **alone**. He lost Erica. |
| **Analysis:**The sentence gives an idea of sadness and solitude. The word “alone”, at the end of the quotation, adds a sense of aloneness.  |
| **Possible conclusion:**Changez understands that he is losing what he had obtained before. He lost Erica that is taken by a sense of nostalgia, therefore he is alone.  |
| “ [...] I knew even then that she was disappearing into a powerful nostalgia, one from which only she could choose whether or not to return” | “Credo di aver saputo già da allora che Erica stava scomparendo in una possente nostalgia, da cui poteva solo scegliere se fare o meno ritorno” | The two versions are similar and there are not differences. |
| **Reason for choice:**There is one of the most important themes: **nostalgia**.  |
| **Analysis:**The adjective “powerful” linked to nostalgia strengthens the perception of the sentence. The sentence explains that Changez is immobilized in front of Erica’s nostalgia: “one from which only she could choose whether or not to return”. |
| **Possible conclusion:**Changez becomes awareness of Erica’s problems and he can not react or help her because only she can escape from this state of mind. He can only wait. This is a bad position for a man because he can not control what surrounds him. |
| “Possibly this was due to my state of mind, but it seemed to me that America, too, was increasingly giving itself to a dangerous nostalgia at that time.” | “Forse era dovuto al mio stato mentale, ma mi sembrava che anche gli Stati Uniti in quel periodo si stessero lasciando andare a una pericolosa nostalgia.” | The two versions are similar, there are not differences.  |
| **Reason for choice:**America and Erica are linked to **nostalgia**. |
| **Analysis:**The adverb “Possibly” and the verb “to seem” may signify that Changez is not sure of what he says. America “was giving itself to a dangerous nostalgia”; therefore Changez associates America with Erica. The two names, Erica and America, are very similar.The adjective “dangerous” makes the reader feel that it could be a menace. |
| **Possible conclusion:**America was one of the mightiest state of the world, but the Twin Towers attack changes its “spirit”. The American fall coincides with the Erica’s one and this is a symbolism. Erica represents America and both are linked to Changez.  |
| “I had always thought of America as a nation that looked forward; for the first time I was struck by its determination to look back.” | “Avevo sempre pensato agli Stati Uniti come a una nazione che guardava avanti; per la prima volta fui colpito dalla sua determinazione a guardare indietro.” | The English text and the Italian translation are similar.  |
| **Reason for choice:**The sentence is about the **America’s fall**. America, a country accustomed to have the total control in all situations and used to look forward; now is blocked.  |
| **Analysis:**America was not the same after the attack. It fall in pieces, took by nostalgia. America was not cosmopolitan, multicultural and a nation that looked forward. It changed.  |
| **Possible conclusion:**Changez is astonished in front of this “new country”. The American development was stuck. |
| “Just then another man appeared; he, too, glared at me, but he took his friend by the arm and tugged at him, saying it was not worth it. Reluctantly, the first allowed himself to be led away. “Fucking Arab,” he says.” | “Proprio allora apparve un altro uomo; anche lui mi guardò male, ma prese l’amico per il braccio e lo trascinò via, dicendo che non ne valeva la pena. Riluttante, il primo si lasciò condurre via. “Arabo del cazzo” disse.” | There are not many differences between the two texts. While in the Italian version, the intelligent reader can find the adjective “riluttante”, in the original text there is an adverb “reluctantly”.  |
| **Reason for choice:**The narrator tells about an episode of **discrimination**. |
| **Analysis:**The adverb “reluctantly” has a strong significance, reinforced also by the offence at the end of the quotation.Changez is discriminated by two men; this is explained by the sentence “he, too, glared at me”. Discrimination is one of the most important themes. |
| **Possible conclusion:**Changez is discriminated by Americans because he is Pakistani. People base their ideas on prejudices and stereotypes. Indeed, the man, that Changez found, discriminated him even if he did not do anything.There is a kind of fear and reluctance towards people with different culture, tradition, colour of the skin or ethnicities. |