

a.s. 2014/2015

Asja Alic'

Lorenzo Paliaga

Fiodor Nicola Misuri



Mohsin Hamid

The Reluctant Fundamentalist

Analysis and interpretation of the novel, The Reluctant Fundamentalist, in two different versions: original and Italian

Index

<u>Chapter 1</u>	.....	p. 3
<u>Chapter 2</u>	.....	p. 6
<u>Chapter 3</u>	.....	p. 9
<u>Chapter 4</u>	.....	p. 12
<u>Chapter 5</u>	.....	p. 15
<u>Chapter 6</u>	.....	p. 18
<u>Chapter 7</u>	.....	p. 21
<u>Chapter 8</u>	.....	p. 24
<u>Chapter 9</u>	.....	p. 27
<u>Chapter 10</u>	.....	p. 30
<u>Chapter 11</u>	.....	p. 33
<u>Chapter 12</u>	.....	p. 36

Chapter 1

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
1.1 «Excuse me sir, but may I be of assistance? Ah, I see I have alarmed you. Do not be frightened by my beard: I am a lover of America» (p. 5)	«Chiedo scusa signore, posso esserle a'aiuto? Oh vedo che l'ho allarmata. Non si faccia spaventare dalla mia barba: io amo l'America.» (p. 3)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The use of language in the sentence puts in evidence a typical difference between Italian and English: The register. Even if in the original text the novelist uses "you" in formal way, it makes you more colloquial and direct than Italian version. it's curious to notice that in the original version the novelist use verb "to be" in order to define the relation between the protagonist and America. In the Italian version the verb "amare" is used. The reader can feel the original sentence more emotional than the Italian version.
Reason for choice: The first sentence introduces the story, in addition the intelligent reader can notice the characterization of two main characters of the novel: the protagonist and the interlocutor.		
Analysis: The narrative technique is the "dramatic monologue". The novelist wants to use the entire book to tell the story from a young Pakistani's point of view. The reader singles out the word "beard" that refers to a typical Western stereotype about Eastern people. Beard has become a symbol of terrorists those radicals Muslims who follow the fundamentals of Al-Qaeda who have attacked the WTC on September 11, 2001. The protagonist says immediately that he is not a terrorist, but a lover of America. Changez wants to explain the interlocutor that not all the Arabs who have beard are possible terrorist, beard is also a sign of personal identify and a symbol of social identity: Pakistan.		
Possible conclusion: Through the novel the protagonist use a formal register of language in order to speak to the interlocutor. He offers to help American man. The intelligent reader can notice that The protagonist is well educated and offers his services even to unknown people.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
1.2 «How did I know you were American? No, not by the color of your skin [...] Instead, it was your bearing that allowed me to identify you, and I do not mean that as an insult, for I see your face has hardened, but merely as an observation» (p. 5)	«Come l'ho fatto a capire che lei è americano? No, non dal colore della pelle [...] È stato piuttosto il suo contegno a permettermi di identificarla, e non lo prenda come un insulto – vedo che la sua espressione si è indurita – una come una semplice osservazione» (p. 3)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the first part of two sentences you cannot find out important difference.
Reason for choice: Changez's ability to observe		
Analysis: He immediately understands that the interlocutor is American not from the color of his skin. He is a keen and intelligent observer because he excludes everything, all the possibilities till he comes to the end and to a solution. The color of the skin, the clothes, the haircut don't make the person's identity and they don't always reveal the nationality of someone. He is able to understand the man's nationality through interlocutor's bearing, his way to carry himself and his attitudes in front of other people. Changez has lived four years in America and he has understood the American's character and behavior. The novelist reveals us that it is quite impossible to recognize someone without stereotypes: the instinct and the ignorance pushes us to judge people by the color of skin or clothes etc.		

Possible conclusion: Through the novel the protagonist use a formal register of language in order to speak to the interlocutor. He offers to help American man. The intelligent reader can notice that The protagonist is well educated and offers his services even to unknown people.

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
1.3 «Princeton inspired in me the feeling that my life was a film in which I was the star and everything was possible.» (p. 7)	«Princeton mi dava la sensazione che la mia vita fosse un film di cui ero la star, e che tutto fosse possibile.» (p. 4)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: There are no big differences between the two sentences and they keep the meaning of the words.
Reason for choice: American dream		
Analysis: Changez is attracted by the America dream. This powerfull country gives to the people the impression of a State where everything is possible. It's a State where you can live in a perfect life, have a perfect house, a perfect family and where your dreams and wishes come true. The protagonist was very attracted by this vision. Princeton University presented him a reality where there are no illness, poverty and failure. But the verb "inspired" shows us that this vision is not valid anymore, is something from the past and doesn't have a sense in the present. Possible conclusion: Now Changez has totally different vision of the things and he has discovered that America is not the State where dreams come true.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
1.4 «His eyes were cold, a pale blue, and <i>judgmental</i> , [...], but in the sense of being professionally appraising, like a jeweler's when he inspects out of curiosity a diamond he intends neither to buy nor to sell.» (p. 11)	«I suoi occhi erano freddi, azzurri e sentenziosi, [...], ma nel senso di qualcuno abituato per mestiere a giudicare, come un gioielliere quando esamina per curiosità un diamante che non intende né comprare né vendere.» (p. 7)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: There are no big differences between the two sentences and they keep the meaning of the words.
Reason for choice: It is the first physical description of Changez's boss, Jim.		
Analysis: It doesn't reveal only his eyes but also his personality. The pale blue is the color of ice, something cold and without feelings. The intelligent reader understands that Jim watches a lot of the talents of the workers. They are <i>judgmental</i> because they find out what they are actually looking for. They study with particular attention the attitudes and the capacities of all the candidates; they are looking for something that will advance the Company's position.		
Possible conclusion: It is the law of the American economy and capitalism: assume someone that will bring you money. Second, those eyes also find out the personality and the inner conflict of someone.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
1.5 «[...] "And are you on financial aid?" [...] "I was the first guy from my family to go to college. [...] You're hungry, and that's a good thing in my book."» (pp. 12-13)	«[...] "E riceve un sostegno finanziario?" [...] "Ero il primo della mia famiglia ad andare al college. [...] Lei ha fame, e questa dal mio punto di vista è una buona cosa."» (pp. 7-8)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The original version emphasizes the Changez's hungriness deduced by Jim, more than Italian version. In addition it is very curious to notice that in the original version there is the word "book" refers to the Jim's opinion ad point of view. The word "book" seems linked to a dynamic idea of point of view. On the contrary in Italian version the use of the word "punto di vista" refers to a static idea, not to a dynamic project of ideas.
Reason for choice: The three sentences are important parts of a dialogue between Jim and Changez.		
Analysis: Jim, thank to judgmental eyes, finds out that Changez has lived and studied thanks financial aid. This is a positive fact for Jim: Changez is a good worker and he has a scholarship for his studies. He understands also that the young Pakistani is very determinate and works hard for what he wants.		
Possible conclusion: This is the attitude that Jim was looking for: he wants someone who works hard and who brings money to the Company's interests. It represents also the typical point of view of America's fundamentalism: capitalism. The two men have in common the past and Jim finds an incarnation of himself in Changez.		

Chapter 2

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
2.1 «Do you see those girls, walking there, in jeans speckled with paint? Yes, they are attractive. And how different they look from the women of that family sitting at the table beside ours, in their traditional dresses» (p. 21)	« Vede quelle ragazze che camminano laggiù, in jeans chiazzi di vernice? Sì, sono davvero attraenti. E che aspetto diverso dalle donne della famiglia seduta al tavolo, accanto al nostro, nei loro abiti tradizionali.» (p. 14)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the Italian version it is used the word “davvero” which is not present in the English version. The translator has kept the meaning of the sentence..
Reason for choice: Changez introduces one of the differences between Pakistan and America: the condition of women.		
Analysis: Changez introduces the difference with a question. He invites the interlocutor to pay attention to the two type of women. Then he underlines the main difference: the clothes and the traditional dresses.		
Possible conclusion: Changez is quite sensible to the traditions and invites the interlocutor to think about the two cultures. In Pakistan, girls are modest and wear traditional clothes, they follow not only the culture and the traditions of the country but also the laws and the rules. The American girls instead wear what they want, they think they can do whatever they want, they don't respect traditions and think they are unstoppable. That's why it is very strange to see some girls acting in different way from the one that we are used to see.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
2.2 «[...] I could not prevent myself from offering to carry her backpack-so stunning regal was she. Her hair was piled up like a tiara on her head, [...] » (p. 22)	«[...] non riuscii a trattenermi e le offrii di portarle lo zaino, era così incredibilmente regale. I suoi capelli erano raccolti sulla testa come una tiara, [...]» (p. 15)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: There are no big differences between the two sentences and they keep the meaning of the words.
Reason for choice: Changez introduces us the figure of Erica with a brief description of her bearing.		
Analysis: Changez uses words like "regal" and "tiara" who reminds us to a princess. Her attitude was regal, she was well-educated and her hair was so well keep that they seemed a crown.		
Possible conclusion: Changez introduces us the character of Erica. He describes her physics and her bearing at the same time. She was like a queen. Changez remembers axactly her attitude, expressions, every particular. The young is attracted by her because she is different from the other girls that he used to see. Erica is like the women of the Romantic period, an angel, something celestial but that could never be reached by anyone.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
2.3 «"I'd like to stay here by myself. " she said, "rent a room on one of these islands and just write." [...] "I wouldn't least a week," [...]» (p. 24)	«"Mi piacerebbe restare qui da sola, prendere in affitto una camera su una di queste isole e non far altro che scrivere." [...] "Non durerei una settimana, [...]"» (p. 16)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The original version seems more direct and spontaneous, the sentences are short but direct. The Italian version seems elaborated, something not spontaneous and doesn't give us the same feelings and emotions that the English version does. We feel in the first version the pain and the suffering of Erica.
Reason for choice: It is the first sign of Erica's instability a dialogue between Jim and Changez.		
Analysis: Jim, thank to judgmental eyes, finds out that Changez has lived and studied thanks financial aid. This is a positive fact for Jim: Changez is a good worker and he has a scholarship for his studies. He understands also that the young Pakistani is very determinate and works hard for what he wants.		
Possible conclusion: This is the first sign of Erica's mental instability. Through the conversation Changez slowly finds out her desire to escape from reality. She would like to stay alone, write her novel, enjoy the beauty of Greece but she is too weak to face the world alone. After we will find out that Erica is in reality a very sad person who can easily fell in depression. She would like to escape from the routine, from everyone and that is what she is going to do in the 11th chapter.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
2.4 «I will admit that there were details which annoyed me. The ease with which they parted with money, [...]. Or their self-righteousness in dealing with those whom they has paid for service.» (p. 26)	«Devo ammettere che determinati dettagli mi infastidivano. Ad esempio la leggerezza con cui si separavano dal denaro, [...]. Oppure la presunzione nel trattare con gente che avevano pagato in cambio di un servizio.» (p. 17)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The original version is more direct and more brutal, the Italian one is more delicate , the words are sophisticated and articulated. In Italian it is used the word "determinati" which is not present in the original version.
Reason for choice: Changez is very critical and uses some rough words to underline the arrogance of the Americans like the word "self-righteousness".		
Analysis: Changez is very critical and uses some rough words to underline the arrogance of the Americans like the word "self-righteousness".		
Possible conclusion: Changez analyses the attitudes of the Americans in front of the others. They are disrespectful and arrogant, they think they are the best and it allows them to act like king and queens. They feel superior and the others are considered as an "inferior race". They also spend a lot of money even for stupid things. This is another sign of the idea of "capitalism": buy everything even if you don't need it. The idea of possession is the base, the fundamental of their existence. That is the reason why Changez is so confused: he wasn't habituated to see the world with those eyes. This introduces us to a vision of America: it is a state guided by its arrogance. It is one of the main themes of the whole book and one of the reasons of Changez' future changes.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
2.5 «[...], I said I hoped one day to be the dictator of an Islamic republic with nuclear capability, the others appeared shocked, and I was forced to explain that I had been joking.» (p. 34)	«[...], dissi che avrei voluto diventare il dittatore di una repubblica islamica dotata di un arsenale nucleare; gli altri sembrarono scioccati, e mi toccò spiegare che stavo scherzando.» (p. 23)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The Italian version, this time, gets perfectly what Hamid has tried to explain in his novel. Both sentences underline irony and tragedy at the same time, it is a tragicomic situation that makes feel everyone uncomfortable.
Reason for choice: How a stereotype used in a joke can create a problem.		
Analysis: He uses the reported speech to explain us what he had said during a dinner. He uses all the typical words that are usually reported to the State of Asia "dictator", "Islamic republic", "Nuclear capability". These words make feel his friends uncomfortable. Then he used the verb "forced" to explain that the audience has really believed to his wish.		
Possible conclusion: This is one of the examples of the use of stereotypes. Islamic states have always been seen as states governed by a dictator and were based on Islamic fundamentals. Not all the Islamic states are like that and Changez tried to explain that with a joke. But his friend has taken it seriously. Our word unfortunately is made and seen by stereotypes, judgments that are not necessarily true and everyone believes that things are like that.		

Chapter 3

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
3.1 «On street corners, tourists would ask me for directions. I was, in four and a half year, never an American, I was immediately a new Yorker» (p. 34)	«Agli angoli delle strade i turisti mi chiedevano indicazioni. In quattro anni e mezzo non ero mai stato americano, mi ritrovai ad essere immediatamente newyorkese» (p. 26)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: Even if the Italian version is well translated we can perceive that there is more enthusiasm in the English version. We can feel the happiness and the desire of being a New Yorker . In the Italian version there are no emotions , no emphasis.
Reason for choice: The first Changez’ interior and moral changing.		
Analysis: He underlines the words “American” and “New Yorker” and explains that there is a difference . the words and the expressions used make us understand that the protagonist is happy and enthusiast for his new “nationality”.		
Possible conclusion: New York is a cosmopolitan and multicultural city where there live people from all over the world. There are different ethnic groups, people of all nations ad religions. New York is not America but a little world, made of the fusion of different cultures and traditions. He finds in a street a restaurant with Pakistani’s typical food, he hears a taxi driver speaking Urdu and he feels at home and he doesn’t feel different from the inhabitants and the workers. The senses are the first way that help someone to get habituated to a new situation.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
3.2 «Four thousand years ago, we , the people of Indus Rivers basih, had cities that were laid out on grids [...]. Now our cities were largely unplanned, unsanitary affairs, and America had universities with individual endowments greater than our budget for education» (pp. 39-40)	«Quattro mila anni fa, noi, popolo del bacino del fiume Indo, avevamo città con strutture a griglia [...]. Adesso le nostre città sono ammassi insalubri e perlopiù privi di pianificazione urbanistica mentre gli Stati Uniti hanno università dotate di capitali superiori al nostro budget nazionale per l'istruzione» (p. 27)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: There is a literally translation but the meanings are not exactly the same. Once again, in the English version we can perceive the anger of the protagonist. He is upset because of the social/political and economic situation of his country. In the Italian version this feeling is not so strong and leave the reader neutral.
Reason for choice: The comparison between Pakistan and America and their past.		
Analysis: It is interesting how Changez uses the word “we”. He underlines his origin and his nationality. He uses brutal words to denounce the difference between the two cultures. We can feel some anger and sadness. First he uses the comparison between the two cultures in the past then in the present.		
Possible conclusion: There is a big contrast between the Pakistani and the American civilization. Changez reflects about the history of the two countries . One, thousand years ago, Pakistan was a great and powerful country with a great and a rich culture, efficient streets and roads. America instead was dominated by barbarians who didn't have a magnificent culture. Now the situation is the opposite: America has great Universities, big cities, efficient roads and Pakistan doesn't have any money for education or for the state's development . Changez can't believe to this and tries to find the reason of the situation.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
3.3 «It was a testament to the systematic pragmatism-call it professionalism- that underpins your country's success in so many fields. At "Underwood Samson", creativity was not excised but it ceded its primacy to efficiency. Maximum return was the maxim to which we returned, time and gain» (p. 43)	« Si trattava di un ulteriore dimostrazione del pragmatismo sistematico, potremmo chiamarlo professionalissimo, su cui si fonda il successo del vostro paese in molti campi; alla Underwood Samson la creatività non era esclusa, era pur presente e apprezzata, ma cedeva il primato all'efficienza. Il massimo ritorno era la massima a cui ritornavamo» (p. 29)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the English version it is used "call it" in the Italian one "potremmo chiamarlo". In the English version it seems something direct and concrete, in the Italian version it seems not really convinced. Mohsin uses short but powerful sentences, the Italian version instead make the sentences longer and less powerful.
Reason for choice: Changez understand the motto of the company "Earn as much money as possible".		
Analysis: Changez uses formal and business words to better explain the structure of the company. He uses twice the words "Maximum" to underline this uncontrolled wish to have more money and power. "Professionalism", "pragmatism", "efficiency" are all words which reminds us the fundamentals of capitalism.		
Possible conclusion: For the second time Changez shows us the way of working of his company. Underwood Samson is a meritocracy, where those who work hard and those who gain more money can get a promotion and bring to the company success. The most important thing is the efficiency of the work. The new company workers are trained like soldiers. They are trained every day to work hard and have the maximum of the profits. Money in fact is the base and the fundamentals of America's economy and society.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
3.4 « Two of my colleagues were women; Waitwright and I were no-white. We were marvelously diverse... and yet we were not: all of us, Sherman included, hailed from the same elite universities [...]» (p. 44)	«Due dei miei cinque colleghi erano donne; Waitwright e io non eravamo bianchi. Eravamo meravigliosamente diversi... eppure non lo eravamo: tutti noi, venivamo dalle stesse università di elite [...]» (pp. 29-30)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the English version the novelist uses the word "no-white", in the Italian version we read "non eravamo bianchi". There is a little difference because in English we have a better conception of the "isolation".
Reason for choice: How difference is also present in business.		
Analysis: He makes a fast but particular description of his colleagues... in few words he reveals us important details. He uses a lot of commas and points to create some pauses. He uses the word "marvelously" because for Changez difference is something positive.		
Possible conclusion: The new members of the company have all some different characteristics. Two of them are women; this explains that also women are smart and able to get an important job, they are good, self-confident and determinate just like men. Then two of them are no-white; in business there is no racism. Nobody cares about the skin color, the most important is the way of working. They are different but they come from great universities, they are all smart ambitious.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
3.5 «Nothing troubled me. I was a young New Yorker with the city at my feet » (p. 52)	« Non c'era niente che mi turbasse, ero un giovane newyorkese con la città ai miei piedi» (p. 35)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: This time not only the translation is literal but we can feel the same emotions and feelings in both of them. They inspire us power and self-confidence, the protagonist seems an untouchable superhero.
Reason for choice: A strange changing in Changez' personality, he is slowly adapting some of the America's values.		
Analysis: Only one sentence reveals a lot of things. Mohsin is an able novelist who can say a lot of things in few words. Once again Changez describes himself as a "New Yorker" . The "feet" represent the part of the body who touches the ground and that make us stay up. Just like that, in a rhetorical form, Changez wants to dominate everything		
Possible conclusion: The idea of possibility and the value of capitalism starts to enter the mind of the young Pakistani. During a party at Jim's house in the Hamptons, he meets some members of the company . their values are based on the professionalism and they are all powerful businessmen, rich with big houses and luxurious cars. They convince Changez that he can reach the same level and Changez convinces himself that he can actually do everything. New York seems really a city where dream come true and Changez self-confidence pushes him to start a totally new way of living.		

Chapter 4

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
4.1 « I spent the afternoon deciding what to wear. I knew her family was wealthy; and I wanted to dress as I imagined they would have be dresses: in a manner elegant but also casual.» (p. 55)	« Passai quel pomeriggio a decidere cosa mettermi. Sapevo che la sua famiglia era ricca e volevo essere vestito nel modo in cui si sarebbero vestiti loro: elegante ma anche casuale.» (p. 37)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: This time we have no differences between the syntax of the sentences and their meanings.
Reason for choice: There is a overturning of roles, Changez is the "woman" of the situation.		
Analysis: It is a simple sentence , there are no rhetorical word or forms, no double meaning verbs.		
Possible conclusion: Changez assumes the behavior of a girl: he is nervous and doesn't know what to wear. He thinks about all the possibilities and tries different looks. He wants to impress Erica and her parents. Finally he decides to wear a pair of jeans and a white kurta. He tries to make a fusion between Pakistan and America through the clothes. He says that it is a testament of the open mindness and cosmopolitan nature of New York .		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
4.2 « I met her eyes and for the first time I perceived that there was something broken behind them, like a tiny crack in a diamond that becomes visible only when viewed through a magnifying lens » (p. 55)	« Incrociai il suo sguardo, e per la prima volta percepì dietro i suoi occhi qualcosa di incrinato, come una minuscola fenditura in un diamante che si riesce a vedere solo con la lente di ingrandimento » (p. 37)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the English version it is used the verb "meet". We have the sense of seeing Erica for the first time. In Italian there is the word "incrociare", it seems something accidental and with not an objective. Then, the Italian version uses the word "fenditura" when it would have been better the noun "spaccatura". It would indicate something deeper and more painful.
Reason for choice: There is a overturning of roles, Changez is the "woman" of the situation.		
Analysis: Hamid uses a brilliant comparison. The emotive crack in Erica's eyes it is like a crack in a diamond, it could never be fixed.		
Possible conclusion: Changez notices the instability and the sensibility of Erica. Even if she is always smiling or joking somewhere deep inside her, she is actually a sad women. We can see again that Changez is a keen observer. He distinguishes a "crack", the young in fact is still in love with Chris and she is still suffering for him. Her eyes change expression when she talks about him. But, this crack, as a crack in a diamond, will never be fixed, on the contrary, it will bring Erica to the suicide.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
4.3 « Economy is falling apart, though no? Corruption, dictatorship, the rich living like princes while everyone else suffers [...] and fundamentalism. You guys have got some serious problems with fundamentalism » (p. 55)	« L'economia è sull'orlo del collasso non è vero? Corruzione, dittatura, I ricchi che vivono come principi mentre gli altri soffrono[...] e poi il fondamentalismo. Laggiu avete seri problemi con il fondamentalismo» (p. 37)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the Italian version misses the word "guys" which tend to give a ironical sense of friendship from Erica's father. But in both cases the tone is adversary which is hiding fear at the same time.
Reason for choice: The vision of Pakistan through stereotypes.		
Analysis: Hamid makes a little monologue , the only who speaks is Erica's father and Changez can't say a word. We can notice a tone of accusation and of defense.		
Possible conclusion: Changez , once again, shows us how Americans see the world through stereotypes. And, once again, there is a comparison between Pakistan and America and their political-economic situation. Erica's father doesn't see Changez, he sees Pakistan and its problems. But Pakistan is not only the State described by the stereotypes, it is much more. Erica's father speaks without knowing what is really going on. He has funded his idea of Pakistan with things that we have heard by someone else. There is no an objective perspective of the situation, everything is too personal and too subjective. This shows us again the arrogance typical of the Americans, but Erica's father is also a little bit afraid and worried for the daughter.		
Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
4.4 « I watched as she attracted people to her, and I was reminded of our trip to Greece, of the gravity she had exerted on our group » (p. 55)	«osservai come attraeva la gente a sé, e ni tornò in mente il viaggio in Grecia, la forza gravitazionale che aveva esercitato sul nostro gruppo» (p. 37)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the English version it is used "gravity", in the Italian one "forza di gravità". The second form doesn't give the idea of something strong and unavoidable. The English form has more power.
Reason for choice: Explication of another face of Erica.		
Analysis: Hamid uses a metaphor to explain better Erica's charm. This one is very efficient because we better understand the reason why Changez has fallen in love with her.		
Possible conclusion: We now see another identity of Erica: the charming one. Erica deep inside is sad and depresses but with the word she shows herself as someone who is happy, confidential with everybody and full of energy. Changez uses the word "gravity". She is like the force of gravity, you are and you will be always attracted by her, even if you don't want and even if you are not close to her. Changez feels connected with her and can't take his eyes off her.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
4.5 « But why do you leap to your feet? Do not be alarmed sir; as I mentioned before, fluctuations and blackouts are common in Pakistan. Really you are overacting; it is not yet so dark » (p. 55)	« Ma perché è scattato in piedi? Non si allarmi signore; come le ho già accennato gli sbalzi di corrente e i blackout sono frequenti in Pakistan. Davvero, sta esagerando non è ancora così buio » (p. 37)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: There is more confidence in the English version and more courteousness . in the Italian version it seems that Changez is a little bit annoyed by the behavior of the American.
Reason for choice: The pathetic and stupid reaction of the American in front of a blackout.		
Analysis: his time Changez is speaking to the American, he is trying to reassure him with soft and gentle words.		
Possible conclusion: There is another comparison between Pakistan and America. In Pakistan, situations as the blackouts and fluctuations are very common, they are not in America. In Pakistan people are habituated to all these situations and they know what to do. Americans, on the contrary , don't seem habituated. The American interlocutor is quite afraid by the darkness. Changez tries to calm him saying that the light will come back soon and there is still the sun lightening them. Americans in all situations act in a strange way, they are paranoic and can't keep calm.		

Chapter 5

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
5.1 « But Manila's glittering skyline and walled enclaves for the ultra-rich were unlike anything I had seen Pakistan. I tried not to dwell on the comparison; it was one thing to accept that New York was more wealthy than Lahore, but quite another to swallow the fact that Manila was as well.» (p. 71)	«Ma lo scintillante skyline e i quartieri fortificati per gli straricchi erano diversi da qualunque cosa avessi mai visto in Pakistan. Cercavo di lasciar perdere i confronti; una cosa era accettare che New York fosse più ricca di Lahore, un'altra digerire in fatto che lo fosse anche Manila» (pp. 48-49)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the original version the word "swallow" is used, but in Italian version "swallow" is traduced with the word "digerire". The word "swallow" can refer to an action resolved in little time, but the word "digerire" can refer to an action that lasts for longer time.
Reason for choice: The protagonist's wonder and envy in front of comparison between Manila and Lahore.		
Analysis: When Changez came to Manila he was surprised by its rich and sparkling skyline. In fact he felt envy. He explained himself how New York seemed more rich than Lahore, but he couldn't explain himself how Manila seemed more rich than Lahore too.		
Possible conclusion: The intelligent reader can understand that the patriotic element is very important in the extract. His sense of belonging prompts him to feel envy. The typical human attitude is put into focus. In addition the element of the comparison and of the export of cultures is very important to understand this sentence.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
5.2 « So I learned to tell executives my father's age "I need it now"; I learned to cut to the front of lines with an extraterritorial smile; and I learned to answer, when asked where I was from New York. Did these things trouble me, you ask? Certainly, sir; I was often ashamed. » (p. 72)	«Così imparai a dire "Mi serve adesso" a manager dell'età di mio padre; imparai a tagliare le code piazzandomi davanti con un sorriso extraterrestre; e imparai a rispondere, quando qualcuno mi chiedeva di dov'ero, che ero di New York. Se queste cose mi turbavano, mi chiede? Certo signore; spesso me ne vergognavo.» (pp. 48-49)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the English version it is used the word "extraterritorial" to indicate an foreign aspect of protagonist's face, but in the Italian one the word "extraterrestre" indicate an origin outside the Earth.
Reason for choice: To learn the way of doing of other country in order to be respected.		
Analysis: In the sentence you can notice the protagonist's estrangement from his culture in order to work and to be respected by other colleagues. But this attitude trouble Changez mind, because he is Pakistani and he has to give up your identity to be defined American.		
Possible conclusion: The reader can put into focus the protagonist's attitudes in order to understand how it's difficult carry own culture and own identity in a situation where another culture predominates. Changez feels shame hiding his identity, because he is not American, but he is Pakistani and he carries around his cultures in a country (Philippines) where American culture is very important.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
5.3 «But his dislike was so obvious, so <i>intimate</i> , that it got under my skin. I stared back at him, getting angry my self – you will have notice in your time here that glaring is something we men of Lahore take seriously – and I maintained eye contact until he was obligated by the movement of the car in front to return his attention to the road.» (p. 74)	«Ma la sua antipatia per me era così ovvia, così viscerale, che mi colpì profondamente. Sentendo crescere la rabbia – nel corso della sua permanenza qui avrà notato che noi uomini di Lahore prendiamo molto sul serio le occhiate torve – sostenni il suo sguardo fino a quando un movimento dell'auto che lo precedeva lo obbligò a riportare la sua attenzione alla strada.» (p. 50)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the original version it is used "intimate" and it refers to objective decryption, in the Italian one "viscerale", that refers to a more subjective description. There is also difference in the use of the figure of speech who conveys a more deep meaning than Italian version, where the word "profondamente" is used.
Reason for choice: The fear of difference turns into hatred.		
Analysis: When Changez see other man in his eyes he notices the hatred of this person for him. The use of the words like "intimate", "under my skin", "maintained" refer to discomfort and challenge.		
Possible conclusion: The reader can create a parallelism between the crossing of glances and the clash of two cultures: American and Pakistani. In fact the hatred between people, belonging to two different culture stems from the fear of difference. A group of people is afraid of foreign people, because they see them like a threat.		
Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
5.4 « I stared as one – and then the other – of the twin towers of New York's World Trade Centre collapsed. And then I smiled. Yes, despicable as it my sound, my initial reaction was to be remarkably pleased» (p. 79)	«Vidi crollare prima una poi l'altra delle torri gemelle del World Trade Centre di New York. E allora sorrisi. Sì, per quanto possa apparire deprecabile, la mia prima reazione fu di notevole compiacimento.» (p. 54)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The difference of two versions are in the use of the word "than" and "allora". the Italian word is more specific than the English word, therefore it gives weight to the meaning of consequence. The use of the English word can be interpreted in different way. The use of the word "compiacimento" underlines the duration of action, but in the original version the word "pleased" refers to a past action.
Reason for choice: The turning point		
Analysis: In the sentence the protagonist sees the attacks to the World Trade Centre in New York on TV. When he whatch these images on TV, the instinctive reaction is to smile. The sentence summaries the turning point. In fact from here the situation radically changes. The reader can notice that the protagonist defines his reaction with the word "despicable", underlining the shame that he feels. But the intelligent reader shouldn't think ill, because under this reaction there is a particular reason and aim.		
Possible conclusion: It is more interesting the particular protagonist's reaction than a common reaction, because the writer wants to made the story more curious. In addition It is opportune to say that the protagonist doesn't smile for the human tragedy, buy he smiles for the political and economic meaning of this tragedy.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
5.5 « At the airport, I was escorted by armed guards into a room where I was made to strip down to my boxer shorts [...]. I flew to New York uncomfortable in my own face: I was aware of being under suspicion; I felt guilty; I tried therefore to be as nonchalant as possible; this naturally led to my becoming stiff and self-conscious.» (p. 81)	«All'aeroporto venni accompagnato da guardie armate in una stanza dove mi fecero spogliare lasciandomi in boxer [...]. Volai a New York sentendomi a disagio con me stesso: ero consapevole di essere sospetto, mi sentivo in colpa a cercavo di comportarmi nel modo più naturale possibile, con l'effetto di risultare rigido e goffo» (pp. 55-56)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: This time we have no differences between the syntax of the sentences and their meanings.
Reason for choice: The first different precautionary measures.		
Analysis: The first different precautionary measures arouse discomfort in Changez. For the first time he feels treated in different way because he is Pakistani. In addition he feels guilty for his previous reaction. He tries to behave with nonchalant.		
Possible conclusion: This is the important passage because for the first time the protagonist goes through an experience in contradiction with the way in which he has been treated until now by "America". He doesn't feel good and these feelings change his identity and his attitudes. The protagonist appears confused and lost.		

Chapter 6

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
6.1 «They reminded me of my own uncharitable - indeed, inhumane - response to the tragedy, and I felt from them a constant murmur of reproach.» (p. 86)	«Mi ricordavano la mia impietosa, se non disumana reazione alla tragedia, e avevo l'impressione che ne venisse un costante mormorio di rimprovero.» (p. 59)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: Language differences between the two texts are minimal.
Reason for choice: The sentence expresses the mental state of Changez after the attack of twin towers.		
Analysis: Within himself, he does not feel like all the other Americans after this event, but try a new sensation. it is part of Islamic fundamentalism acting in his unconscious. This feeling will evolve throughout the book, to create the personality of Changez.		
Possible conclusion: The protagonist's inner conflict prompts him to feel shame for his reaction. In fact he considers the tragedy of the attack but on the contrary he considers the paradox of American weakness in front of the attacks and the clash with Eastern cultures.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
6.2 « We are America - not New York, which, in my opinion, means something quite different - the mightiest civilization the world has ever known; you have slighted us; beware our wrath.» (p.86)	« Noi siamo l'America - non New York - che a mio parere significa qualcosa di molto diverso - , la civiltà più potente che il mondo abbia mai conosciuto, adesso ci avete provato, adesso vedrete scatenarsi la nostra ira.» (p. 59)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the first part of the quote Italian version is more exaggerated. you can see the use of word "molto", but in the original version the word used is "quite", that has moderate tone. In the second part of the sentence original version is more direct and personal than that in Italian version, in the use of the words like: "civilization", "slighted".
Reason for choice: This quote is part of an American idea which believes in the mentality of the United States.		
Analysis: Changez feels foreign in that statement because his Eastern culture is very different from the Western one.		
Possible conclusion: The American allegation and reproaches impend on the enemy. The attacks have woke up American giant, and they have woke up American hatred and rancor in front of Eastern extreme doctrine. But this quote generates panic, because the situation can slip out of hand		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
6.3 « We wandered in silence through the night, and as luck would have it- no, I am being dishonest; luck had nothing to do with it- we found ourselves outside my building. » (p. 90)	« Vagammo in silenzio nella notte, e il caso volle... no, sto mentendo, non fu il caso a volerlo, che ci ritrovassimo davanti a casa mia.» (p. 62)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the Italian version is an idea of peace and love, instead of the original one does not transmit the same passions.
Reason for choice: In these sentences, the writer expresses Changez and Erica's carefree.		
Analysis: The protagonist's emotions and the feelings take over. He is with Erica and they wander in the silence, while it was dark. The silence represents something that goes beyond a thousand words. The two characters realized late that they have arrived at Changez's home.		
Possible conclusion: You now see another aspect of relationship between Erica and Changez. Yet in this part of the story the omen of failure of two characters' relationship seem be present. In addition there is Changez hesitancy about fate.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
6.4 «Her eyes were turned inward, and remarks made by her companions would register only indirectly on her face, like the shadows of clouds gliding across the surface of a lake.» (p. 93)	« I suoi occhi erano rivolti all'interno, e le osservazioni fatte da chi la circondava la sfioravano appena, scivolando su di lei come l'ombra delle nuvole sulla superficie di un lago.» (p. 64)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: There aren't significant difference between two version.
Reason for choice: The sentence is a metaphor very significant in order to understand Erica's attitudes.		
Analysis: The intelligent reader can be understood in this way that the writer has a strong command of language. The language used refers to a poetical and romantic language.		
Possible conclusion: The description of Erica's attitudes in front of others' remarks do not touch her. In this quote the intelligent reader can notice the first signs of Erica depression. In addition he can notice Changez incognizance in front of Erica, who started to change.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
6.5 « I told her I had had next to nothing in the way of sex before coming to America, and my relationships hardly amounted to much in the face of what she had just recounted.» (p. 98)	« Le dissi che prima di venire negli Stati Uniti non avevo quasi avuto esperienze sessuali, e che le mie relazioni non erano state nulla in confronto a quello che mi aveva raccontato lei.» (p. 67)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: There aren't significant difference between two version.
Reason for choice: Explication of different sexual customs: in Western an Eastern society.		
Analysis: This quote puts in to focus the reader's attention about the two characters' sexual customs.		
Possible conclusion: The economic and cultural liberalism, typical aspect of Western society, affects the individual customs and attitudes. On the contrary the main mentality in the East is the rigorous customs and the strict respect of rules imposed by family and society. The evident influencing on personal way of life by the society is an important aspect of a culture.		

Chapter 7

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
7.1 « I ignored as best I could the rumours I overheard at the Pak-Punjab Deli: Pakistani cabdrivers were being beaten to within an inch of their lives; the FBI was raiding mosques, shops, and even people's houses» (p. 101)	« Ignorai per quanto potevo le voci che giravano al Pak-Punjab Deli: tassisti pakistani quasi ammazzati di botte; incursioni dell'Fbi nelle moschee, nei negozi, addirittura nelle case private;» (p. 70)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the original version the subject was put into the centre. The different syntaxes emphasize the difference of perception. In fact the original syntax made the sentence more personal and emotional. On the contrary the Italian version doesn't hint with the same intensity.
Reason for choice: This quote describes the protagonist's attitudes in front of the rumours.		
Analysis: In Pak-Punjab Deli a lot of rumors run far and wide about violence, FBI raids etc. It is the representation of a dramatic situation in America after the attacks, when there is an evolution of the previous encounter in a tragic clash of culture. The fear, the terror, the racism the prejudgments and stereotypes dominate American society.		
Possible conclusion: He tries not to see what is happening to his countrymen after the attack. This is a form of defence by Changez. He does not want to accept that these bad things are happening in perfect nation.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
7.2 « Often I would emerge into the car park to find that one of the tires of my rental car was punctured – far too often for it to be mere coincidence.» (p. 102)	«Spesso arrivando nel parcheggio scoprivo che una delle gomme della mia auto a noleggio era stata tagliata, troppo spesso perché si trattasse di una coincidenza.» (p. 71)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the original version the modal verb "would" is used, but in Italian version you can notice the use of the verb in gerund "arrivando". In the original version the reader can perceive impediment and discomfort, in Italian version the reader perceives more detachment and objectivity.
Reason for choice: Act of vandalism against Changez.		
Analysis: The protagonist is a victim of vandalism. He understand that it is not a coincidence. The violence against the Eastern people is frequent after the attacks.		
Possible conclusion: The clash between two culture pipes up and Changez is one of many victims. The human nature leads ud to have a judgment/prejudice in order to catalog the different people and to defend own identity. This represents an human instinct that a lot of people doesn't control.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
7.3 «Focus on the fundamentals. This was Underwood Samson’s guiding principle, drilled into us since our first day at work.» (p. 105)	«Concentrati sui fondamentali. Era il principio guida della Underwood Samson, inculcato dentro di noi fin dal primo giorno di lavoro.» (pp. 72-73)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: There aren’t significant difference between two version.
Reason for choice: The fundamentals of the capitalism		
Analysis: In the sentence a lot of important aspect are underlined, in order to increase the reader’s curiosity. The use of the word “fundamentals”, “guiding principle”, “drilled” can be referred to two different aspect of a culture: Economy and Religion.		
Possible conclusion: This aspect of society and economy is very important because the reader can create the link with the strict rules of religious fundamentalism. The metaphor refers to the doctrine that in America it is an economic doctrine and in Pakistan is a religious doctrine. In order to live in this two different reality the people have to learn the fundamentals of two doctrine.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
7.4 « But listen! Did you hear that, sir, a muffled growl, as if of a young lion held captive in a gunnysack?» (p. 107)	«Ma ascolti! L'ha sentito, signore, quel brontolio soffocato, come un leoncino prigioniero in un sacco di iuta?» (p. 74)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: There aren't significant difference between two version.
Reason for choice: Pakistani traditions and the recall to the sense of hearing.		
Analysis: In order to understand this quote you have to understand the words written: A gunnysack, also known as a "gunny shoe" is an inexpensive bag made of hessian usually formed from jute or other natural fibers.		
Possible conclusion: The protagonist has the intelligence and the culture to use a particular metaphors, recalling also the typical materials of East and the exotic animals.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
7.5 « I felt something I have not felt before or since; I remember it well: I felt at once both <i>satiated</i> and <i>ashamed</i> . My satiation was understandable to me; my shame was more confusing» (p. 113)	« Provavo una sensazione che non avevo mai provato prima, e che non ho mai più provato; me la ricordo bene: mi sentivo nello stesso tempo <i>sazio e pieno di vergogna</i> . La sazietà era comprensibile, la vergogna più disorientante.» (p. 78)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: It is very curious to notice the number of the subject, pronoun and possessive attributes. In Italian version the reader can notice two explicit subject/pronoun ("me" and "mi"). in the original version the reader can notice seven subject / pronoun / possessive adjective.
Reason for choice: An important crack in the relationship between Erica and the protagonist.		
Analysis: This quote puts in to focus the reader's attention about the contradictor feelings in the protagonist's inner part.		
Possible conclusion: The parallelism between the relationship with Erica and the Relationship with America is evident. The attacks open large wound in America, who loses herself in a tragic nostalgia, like the Chris's death and his momery open a psychological wound in Erica, who loses herself in a tragic nostalgia.		

Chapter 8

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
8.1 «Is he preying, you ask? No, sir, not at all! his recitation – rhythmic, formulaic, from memory, and so, I will concede, not unlike a prayer – is in actually an attempt to transmit orally our menu, much as in your country one is told the specials.» (p. 115)	«Vuol sapere se sta pregando? No, signore, niente affatto! La sua cantilena – ritmica rituale, a memoria, e per ciò lo ammetto, non troppo diversa da una preghiera – è un tentativo di comunicare oralmente il menù, un po' come nel vostro paese quando il cameriere elenca i piatti del giorno» (p. 80)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The use of the verb "ask" in the original version makes the question more direct than in Italian version. In Italian version the use of the word "cantilena" has a melodic significant. On the other hand in English version the use of the word recitation puts in evidence the boredom of the action.
Reason for choice: The quote refers to religion and prays in Pakistani culture.		
Analysis: The use of a question leads the reader to know the answer. The words "praying", "recitation", "rhythmic", "formulaic" and "memory" refers to a different way of doing and seeing the religion. It is very curious to notice that the protagonist use very well his formal register in order to deny the interlocutor's statements.		
Possible conclusion: Through the quote the reader understand that people use associations to recollect and link typical aspect of a culture. The interlocutor shows his immature "association".		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
8.2 «How can I describe to you, sir, how much her words disturbed me? She glanced away, and I saw her recede into her mind. [...] When Erica's mother entered shortly thereafter, I did not feel she was interrupting. No, she was not preventing the continuation of a discussion between daughter and myself; she was merely bringing to an end my intrusion on a conversation Erica was having with Chris – a conversation occurring on some plane that I could not reach of even properly see.» (pp. 118-119)	«Come spiegarle, signore, quanto le sue parole mi turbano? Erica distolse lo sguardo e la vidi sprofondare negli abissi della propria mente. [...] Quando poco dopo entrò sua madre, non ebbi la sensazione che ci avesse interrotto. No, non stava impedendo il proseguimento di una conversazione tra me e la sua figli; stava solo ponendo termine alla mia intrusione in una conversazione tra Erica e Chris, una conversazione che si teneva su un piano a cui io non avevo accesso, e che nemmeno riuscivo a percepire» (pp. 82-83)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The use of the verb "describe" in original version puts in evidence the concreteness of English language. In the Italian version the word "sprofondare" is more sentimental and dramatic than the verb "recede". The different syntax puts in evidence the importance of the subject in the English Language.
Reason for choice: In the quote the protagonist underlines the psychological aspect of human nature.		
Analysis: The use of the expression "recede into her mind" is very significant and pragmatic. Changez puts into focus the exchange of dialogue between Erica and Chris. and It is very curious to notice that the protagonist feels intruder.		
Possible conclusion: The psychological aspect of human nature seem to be one of the most mysterious and disquieting aspect. The parallelism between Erica and America is very evident. Both realities close them self in order to defend them self.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
8.3 «I never came to know what triggered her decline – was it the trauma of the attack on her city? the act of sending out her book in search of publication? the echoes raised in her buy our lovemaking? all of these things? none of them? – but I think I knew even then that she was disappearing into a powerful <i>nostalgia</i> , one from which only she could choose whether or not to return.» (pp. 118-119)	«Non sono mai riuscito a capire cosa abbia messo in moto il suo declino: il trauma dell'attacco subito dalla sua città? l'aver cercato di far pubblicare il suo libro? gli echi suscitati in lei dal nostro fare l'amore? tutte queste cose insieme? nessuna di esse? Credo comunque di aver saputo già allora che Erica stava scomparendo in una possente <i>nostalgia</i> , da cui poteva solo scegliere se fare o meno ritorno» (p. 83)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: It is curious to notice that there are two different uses of the word "come to know" and "sono riuscito a capire". In original version the past simple is used, but in Italian version the "past perfect" is used, putting into evidence the different time in which this action happen. The word "powerful" can be traduced with the word "potente", but in Italian version the Italian translator uses the word "possente". The word doesn't give only an idea of force but also an idea of greatness.
Reason for choice: The possible links between Erica's state of mind and the condition of America.		
Analysis: The use of a lot of questions puts into focus the different protagonist's doubts. The word "nostalgia" refers to a past situation that was changed by the crucial events.		
Possible conclusion: Changez tries to find out the reason of Erica's decline.		
The nostalgia represents the past situation in which Erica wants to take refuge. But this attitude isolates Erica from the word that surround her. There is a clear parallelism between Erica's situation and American situation. Both take refuge in the past, and use the isolation like an arm in order to defend them self.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
8.4 «Still, I remained concerned for Erica's well-being – and remained also in the grip of a certain, probably irrational, <i>hope</i> – [...] Possibly this was due to my state of mind, but it seemed to me that America, too, was increasingly giving itself over to a dangerous nostalgia at that time. [...] I had always thought of America as a nation that looked forward; for the first time I was struck by its determination to look <i>back</i> .» (pp. 120-121)	«Tuttavia continuavo a preoccuparmi per la sua salute e rimanevo anche nelle grinfie di una certa, forse irrazionale, <i>speranza</i> , [...] 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. [...] Avevo sempre visto gli Stati Uniti come una nazione che guardava avanti; per la prima volta fui colpito dalla sua determinazione a guardare <i>indietro</i> » (p. 84)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The use of the word "continuavo" in Italian version does not correspond with the original version in which the writer uses the verb "remained". Italian verb is linked with a continuity of the action in the past. On the other hand the English verb "remained" has not got the same meaning. The different syntax puts in evidence the importance of the subject in the English Language.
Reason for choice: the explicit parallelism between Erica and America's situations.		
Analysis: the protagonist quotes the hope like an irrational force that give life to his expectations. The use of the word "possibly" refers to a lot of doubts about his life and her life. The word "too" refers to a comparison between Erica and America.		
Possible conclusion: Erica reactions and the attitudes can be linked with the reactions and attitudes of America. This represents a doubt for Changez.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
8.5 «[...] when I was approached by a man I did not know. He made a series of unintelligible noises [...] and pressed his face alarmingly close to mine. [...] 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 said. I am not, of course, an Arab. Nor am I, by nature, a gratuitously belligerent chap. But my blood throbbed in my temples, [...]» (p. 123)	«[...] quando venni avvicinato da uno sconosciuto che si mise a fare dei versi inintelligibili [...] e avvicinò la faccia alla mia in modo allarmante.[...] 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. Ovviamente io no sono arabo. E neppure sono per natura un tipo bellicoso. Ma mi salì il sangue alla testa, [...]» (p. 86)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The different syntax puts in evidence the importance of the subject in the English Language.
Reason for choice: the evident clash between two people of two different culture and the different reactions.		
Analysis: It is curious to notice that the use of the word "unintelligible" puts in to evidence the American's mental backwardness. The illiteracy of American person is underlined by the protagonist with the use of word "Arab". In fact he is not an Arab, because Pakistan is not an Arab country, it is an Indian country.		
Possible conclusion: For the first time Changez comes across the particular situation. The situation represents the clash between two different cultures. But it also puts into evidence American's illiteracy.		

Chapter 9

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
9.1 «I was struck at first by how shabby our house appeared, [...]. I was saddened to find it in such a state – no, more than saddened, I was shamed. <i>This</i> was where I came from, this was provenance, and it smacked of lowliness. But as I reacclimatized and my surroundings once again became familiar, it occurred to me that the house had not changed in my absence. I had changed; I was looking about me with the eyes of a foreigner, [...]» (pp. 129-130)	«Sulle prime fui colpito da come appariva squallida la nostra casa, [...]. Ero rattristato dal trovarla in quella condizione, non, più che rattristato, mi vergognavo. Da lì venivo, era quella la mia origine, e da tutto emanava un sentore di mediocrità. Ma mentre mi riacclimatavo e l'ambiente circostante tornava ad essermi familiare, mi resi conto che non era la casa ad essere cambiata durante la mia assenza; ero io che mi guardavo attorno con gli occhi di uno straniero, [...]» (p. 91)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The different syntax puts in evidence the importance of the subject in the English Language.
Reason for choice: The difference between the American luxuries and the Pakistani lowliness and the protagonist's new point of view of Pakistani reality.		
Analysis: In this quote Changez discusses about the different between Pakistan and America with an evident reference to a new point of view. He defines his original house "shabby". But then he reiterates his origin, underlining the "lowliness" of his country.		
Possible conclusion: when someone life for long time in other country he receives the culture and habit of the country in which he lives. But when he returns in his origin country he occurs to him the difference between two countries. Therefore he see the world of his origin from another point of view.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
9.2 «Indeed, I would soon be gone, leaving my family and my home behind, and this made me a kind of coward in my own eyes, a traitor. What sort of man abandons his people in such circumstances? And what was I abandoning them for? A well-paying job and a woman whom I longed for but refused even to see me? I grappled with these questions again and again.» (p. 133)	«Inoltre presto me ne sarei andato, lasciandomi alle spalle casa e famiglia, e ai miei occhi ciò faceva di me un codardo, un traditore. Che uomo è uno che abbandona la propria gente in circostanze simili? E per cosa li abbandonavo? Un lavoro ben pagato e una donna che mi mancava, ma rifiutava di vedermi? Ero ossessionato da queste domande.» (p. 94)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The two sentences are equivalent. Both come to express a feeling profound and direct. The Italian translation has successfully kept the denotative meaning which is expressed in the original.
Reason for choice: Changez feels shame to leave his origins behind.		
Analysis: The use of a lot of words and expressions (like "leaving my family and my home behind", "coward", "traitor" and "abandons") puts into evidence the protagonist's change of mind. In the second part of the quote the reader's attention is put on the protagonist's American illusions through the words: "well-paying", "woman" and "refused".		

Possible conclusion: The feeling he has now Changez will evolve during the story. our origins are increasingly influencing the way we think and act.

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
9.3 « When the time came for me to return to New York I told my parents I wanted to stay longer, but they would not hear of it » (p. 134)	« Quando venne il momento di tornare a New York, dissi ai miei che volevo restare ancora, ma non ne vollero sentir parlare.» (p. 94)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the Italian translation the feeling of nostalgia is expressed in a more direct way than the quote in the original language.
Reason for choice: The feeling of homesickness expressed in this situation		
Analysis: This quote Changez refers to that mentioned above. He is clearly influenced everything from the culture that has given the family.		
Possible conclusion: The feeling of nostalgia expressed in this quote makes it clear to the intelligent reader that feelings like these affect us again in our lifetime.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
9.4 « I appreciated my friend's concern, but I did not take his suggestion » (p. 136)	« Apprezzai l'interessamento del mio amico, ma non seguii i suoi consigli.» (p. 96)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The quote in the original language is much more direct than that in a version translated into Italian. The style denoting remains unchanged.
Reason for choice: The stubbornness that pervades many times.		
Analysis: Changez realizes that is wrong but he continues on his way, his origins influenced him every second of his life. He does not come to focus more on the job and the only thing that stands out is Erica.		
Possible conclusion: Although this behavioral characteristic distinguishes us again in our lifetime, considering it is not a very difficult thing that only a few people get to do that.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
9.5 « I cut a desolate figure in the office after that, angry and preoccupied with thoughts of Erica and of home.» (p. 141)	« Dopo quella giornata, le mie prestazioni in ufficio cominciarono a calare di brutto, preoccupato com'ero per Erica e per casa mia.» (p. 100)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: in this quote can be identified very easily change the language. Between the Italian version and the original word order is reversed, just because the English linguistic style is distinguished significantly from the Italian.
Reason for choice: This sentence concludes the chapter directly. Sums up perfectly everything said in the previous verses.		
Analysis: This quote expresses the effects of all those feelings analyzed before in the other citations that have marked Changez.		
Possible conclusion: This is only the beginning of all the changes that are going to mark the character and actions of Changez.		

Chapter 10

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
10.1 «We again flew in the relative comfort of first class, but I was no longer excited by the luxuries of our cabin; [...]» (p. 144)	«Volavamo di nuovo nel relativo comfort della prima classe, ma non ero più eccitato del lussi che ci potevamo permettere, [...]» (p. 102)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: the substantial difference between the original version and the Italian version is the use of the term “our cabin” in the original version and the expression “che ci potevamo permettere” in the Italian version.
Reason for choice: the change in the protagonist’s perceptions		
Analysis: The protagonist shows his low enthusiasm after the different events happened with the attacks of Twin Towers. The protagonist has seen what is America. His delusion is put into focus by the word “again”, “relative”, “but” and “no longer excited”. The reader can see America from the new point of view. The illusion and the American dream are ready to go out.		
Possible conclusion: He is lost in his thoughts and he doesn’t give importance to the luxuries and comforts that was an important part of his life before the attacks and the secondary events.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
10.2 «These thoughts preoccupied me when I should have been gathering data and building my financial model. Moreover, Valparaiso was itself a distraction: the city was powerfully atmospheric; a sense of melancholy pervaded its boulevards and hillsides. I read online about his history and discovered that it had been in decline for over a century; [...]» (p. 115)	«Quei pensieri mi distraevano mentre avrei dovuto raccogliere dati e costruire il mio modello finanziario. Inoltre Valparaiso era di per sé una distrazione: aveva un’atmosfera particolare; un senso di malinconia pervadeva i viali e le colline. Leggevo on-line della sua storia, e scoprii che era in declino da più di un secolo; [...]» (p. 105)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The different terms used in the Italian version, “distraevano” create a different perception in the reader than the original version. In the original version the thoughts is not only the distraction from the work, but they represented the power of the mind in front of the duties. In addition only in when the protagonist defines Valparaiso he uses the word “distraction”, differently to the Italian version.
Reason for choice: The parallelism between Valparaiso and America.		
Analysis: The melancholy is the feeling express in the quote. This sense of melancholy doesn’t help the protagonist to do his work. He is lost in his thoughts and he finds to think on your work. But the “atmosphere” is “powerful” and the place leads tho protagonist to reflection.		
Possible conclusion: He doesn’t find a sense of his work and he put into focus the history of Valparaiso that leads the protagonist to fell a sense melancholy.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
<p>10.3 «He suggested that I visit the house of Pablo Neruda, [...] The house itself was compact and beautiful, reminiscent of a boat jutting out over the bay; [...] and behind the bar was a convex mirror, which Neruda had employed to convince his guests that they were drunk. I lingered of the terrace and watched the sun dip lower in the sky. In the distance, some was playing the guitar; it was a delicate melody, a song with no words.</p> <p>I thought of Erica. It occurred to me that my attempts to communicate with her might have failed in part because I did not know where I stood on so many issues of consequence; I lacked a stable <i>core</i>. I was not certain where I belonged – in New York, in Lahore, in both, in neither – and for this reason, when she reached out to me for help, I had nothing of substance to give her. Probably this was why I had been willing to try to take on the persona of Chris, because my own identity was so fragile.» (pp. 150-152)</p>	<p>« [...] Lui mi consigliò di andare a visitare la casa di Pablo Neruda, [...]. La casa era compatta e bella, sembrava una barca protesa sulla baia; [...] e dietro il mobile bar c'era uno specchio convesso che Neruda usava per convincere gli ospiti che erano ubriachi. Indugiai sulla terrazza osservando il sole che calava nel cielo. In lontananza qualcuno suonava la chitarra; era una melodia delicata, una canzone senza parole.</p> <p>Pensai ad Erica. Pensai che forse i miei tentativi di comunicare con lei erano falliti anche perché non avevo una posizione chiara su tante questioni fondamentali; mi mancava un <i>nucleo</i> stabile. Non sapevo quale fosse la mia vera casa – New York, Lahore, entrambe, nessuna delle due – e per tale ragione, quando lei aveva teso la mano in cerca di aiuto, non avevo avuto niente di solido da offrirle. Probabilmente per la stessa ragione, perché la mia identità era così fragile, avevo accettato di personificare Chris.» (pp. 106-108)</p>	<p>The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The first difference between the Italian version and the original version consists of the use of gerund "osservando" introducing a sense of concurrence. But in the original version the sense of concurrence is more weak, while the sentence puts the attention on the action. Another difference is the use of the expression "It occurred to me" in the original version. In the Italian version this expression corresponds with the verb "Pensai". This is a particular use of language, because usually the English language uses less words than Italian language.</p> <p>It is curious to notice that the English expression "I did not know where I stood on" is traduced in Italian with the expression "non avevo una posizione chiara su" because the literal translation in Italian form would lose the sense of the sentence.</p> <p>The difference of the use of the English expression "I was not certain where I belonged" and the Italian expression "Non sapevo quale fosse la mia vera casa" is evident. In addition the reader can notice the Italian word "stessa" that is not present in the original version. The reader can notice also an inversion at the end of the quote.</p>
<p>Reason for choice: very important and significant "monologue" about the identity.</p>		
<p>Analysis: In the quote a lot of metaphors and references to images are used, like "boat jutting out over the bay", "convex mirror, which Neruda had employed to convince his guests that they were drunk", "the sun dip lower in the sky", "a song with no words", "I did not know where I stood on so many issues of consequence", "a stable <i>core</i>", "nothing of substance to give", "my own identity was so fragile". All of these expressions refers to identity and to the protagonist's sense of bewilderment.</p>		
<p>Possible conclusion: The identity represents the only stable thing in our life. But the protagonist has a lot of doubts about it too. The protagonist underlines the errors made because of his fragile identity ("to try to take on the persona of Chris").</p>		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
10.4 « "[...] May I ask you a rather personal question?" "Certainly," I said. "Does it trouble you," he inquired, "to make your living by disrupting the lives of others?" [...] Then he asked, Have you heard of the janissaries?" "No," I said. "They were Christian boys," he explained, "captured by the Ottomans and trained to be soldiers in a Muslim army, at that time the greatest army in world. [...]"» (p. 155)	« "[...] Posso farti una domanda personale?" "Certo", dissi. "Non ti turba - indagò lui - guadagnarti da vivere rovinando le vite degli altri?" [...] Poi domandò: "Hai mai sentito parlare dei giannizzeri?" "No", dissi io. "Erano ragazzini cristiani - spiegò, - catturati dagli ottomani e addestrati per essere soldati di un esercito musulmano, a quel tempo il più potente esercito del mondo. [...]"» (p. 110)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the Italian version the word "rather" is not traduced. Juan-Bautista's question is an affirmative question in the original version. On the contrary in Italian version Juan-Bautista's is a negative question. This puts in evidence the being direct of English language.
Reason for choice: the parallelism between janissaries and the servants of America.		
Analysis: Juan-Bautista ask the protagonist if he can ask him a personal question. The intelligent reader can understand that the question would be impertinent. In fact the question is very malicious, judgmental and critical. In addition Juan-Bautista's statements lead the protagonist and the reader to the reflection about the meaning of Changez's job, seen by Juan-Bautista like an evident "slavery" to American state.		
Possible conclusion: Juan-Bautista tries to open the protagonist's eyes in front of America that raises its "civil soldiers" who are disposed to serve America to the economic conquest of the world.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
10.5 «In any case, Juan-Bautista's words plunged me into a deep bout of introspection. I spent that night considering what I had become. There really could be no doubt: I was a modern-day-janissary, a servant of the American empire at the time when it was invading a country with a kinship to mine and was perhaps even colluding to ensure that my own country faced the threat of war.» (p. 156)	«Comunque, le parole di Juan-Bautista mi precipitarono in una profonda crisi introspettiva. Trascorsi quella notte a riflettere su ciò che ero diventato. Non c'erano dubbi: ero un moderno giannizzero, un servitore dell'impero americano in un momento in cui stava invadendo un paese consanguineo al mio, e forse stava addirittura complottando perché anche il mio si trovasse di fronte alla minaccia della guerra» (p. 111)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the Italian version the word "introspection" is use like an adjective: "introspettiva". The terms "really" is not traduced in the Italian version.
Reason for choice: the protagonist's doubts and report.		
Analysis: The use of the terms "plunged", "deep bout" is dramatic and it lead the reader to feel apprehension. But the only certainty is his awareness that he was a servant/soldier of the United States.		
Possible conclusion: He considers himself like "a modern-day-janissary" who has served American, in the right and wrong situation. He becomes aware that the American "virtues" don't correspond with his "virtues".		

Chapter 11

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
11.1 «I reflected that I had always resented the manner in which America conducted itself in the world; you country's constant interference in the affairs of the others was insufferable [...] in each the major conflicts and standoffs that ringed my mother continent of Asia, America played a central role » (p. 160)	«Riflettevo su quanto mi avesse sempre urtato il modo in cui gli Stati Uniti si comportavano nel mondo; la continua intromissione del vostro paese negli affari degli altri è insopportabile [...] in ognuno dei grossi conflitti e delle prove di forza che hanno dilaniato l'Asia, mio continente natale, gli USA hanno giocato un ruolo centrale» (pp. 113-114)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In both versions we can see the hanger and the disgust for the America's attitude in foreign policy.
Reason for choice: The foreign policy of America		
Analysis: this time is Changez who is speaking with a monologue. He is not interrupted and uses strong words to criticize the interlocutor and his country.		
Possible conclusion: America has always showed herself to the world with arrogance, presented herself as the most powerful and the best State in the world. America can do whatever she wants and nobody can stop her. America has always taken decisions for the other States, and for its interest. America thinks only about herself and doesn't leave anything for the others. Changez has finally understood the real face of America . While he was working for the Samson company he didn't really noticed it, it was normal because it used to bring money to the society. But now, when he is in Pakistan, far from the American corruption and capitalism he realizes how bad and shameful is the behavior of America in front of the others.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
11.2 «There is in such situations usually a moment of passion, during which the unthinkable is said; this is followed by a sense of euphoria at finally being liberated; the world seem for the first time; then comes the inevitable period of doubt, the desperate and doomed backpedaling of regret; and only later, once emotions have recede, is one able to view with equanimity the journey through which one has passed» (pp. 161-162)	«Di solito in queste situazioni c'è un momento di passione durante il quale viene detto l'impensabile; segue un senso di euforia dato dal sentirsi finalmente liberi, il mondo appare fresco, come visto per la prima volta, la disperazione e la tragica retromarcia del rimpianto; e solo in seguito, una volta che le amozioni si son acquietate , si è in grado di guardare con obbiettività al percorso compiuto» (p. 115)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In English the word uses is "liberated", we don't have chains anymore, the feelings left us leaving us alone and finally we are free. In the Italian form there is no sense of being released, it looks like we have just decided to not think about anything . then the word "journey" reminds us to a moral trip where we slowly change. "Percorso" instead , it is like we have been guided by someone and we haven't done it by ourselves.
Reason for choice: Interesting reflection about human's nature		
Analysis: makes a long reflection studying gradually the behaviors of the human being. He starts from the general till he comes to the particular		
Possible conclusion: In some situations, when we don't have the control of ourselves we say everything we think. First we experience freedom and liberation after saying something that have tormented us for a long time. Then we realize what we have just done and we have so many doubts about our actions. Only in the end, when our emotions are down, we understand what we		

have just lived and experienced and we see the world in an objective way without personal influences.

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
11.3 « I was an incoherent and emotional madman, flying off into rages and sinking into depressions. Sometimes I would lie in bed, thinking in circles, asking the same questions[...]; sometimes I would find myself walking the streets, flouting my beard as a provocation; craving conflict with anyone foolhardy enough to antagonize me » (p. 170)	«Ero sull'orlo della follia, in un continuo alternare di emozioni, mi accendevo di rabbie improvvise per poi sprofondare nella depressione. A volte restavo nel letto in preda a pensieri ossessivi [...] a volte mi ritrovavo a camminare per le strade esibendo la mia barba come provocazione, pronto ad attaccare briga con chiunque fosse stato abbastanza sconsiderato da mettersi contro» (p. 121)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The Italian version is way too formal and doesn't underline the real feelings of the protagonist. In the English version we can feel his pain and his hanger.
Reason for choice: Change's moral and psychological situation.		
Analysis: this time is Changez who is speaking with a monologue. He is not interrupted and uses strong words to criticize the interlocutor and his country.		
Possible conclusion: Sometimes the young Pakistani was incoherent and in depression, other times the emotions were too strong and used to think constantly about his life in New York, his situations and his new values. Other times he was aggressive and bully, he used to exhibit his beard as sign of provocation. America has taken away everything he had. He has lost the American values, Erica and the beard represents a sign of personal and cultural identity.		
Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
11.4 «And so I left my jacket on the curb as a sort of offering, as my last gesture before returning to Pakistan, a wish of warmth for Erica-not in the way one leaves flowers for dead, but rather as one twirls rupees above living» (p. 171)	«Così lasciai la mia giacca sul marciapiede come una sorta di offerta, come un ultimo gesto prima di tornare in Pakistan, un augurio di calore per Erica, non come si lasciano dei fiori per i morti ma piuttosto come si agitano le rupie sopra i vivi» (p. 122)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: Both versions leave us the sense of nostalgia and sadness, but also hope and desire.
Reason for choice: The last gesture before leaving forever (Am)Erica		
Analysis: This time words are soft and don't have anything negative but leave us a sense of sadness.		
Possible conclusion: Changez finally realizes that his life in America is over. He is conscious that it is the end of his dreams. He leaves his jacket in the memory of Erica and because he still hopes that she is alive somewhere. It is not a flower and a sign of "goodbye" but a possible help to her cold and wet body. He is still sensible and his emotions are still there even if he has a new vision of the world.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
11.5 «[...] and besides we are both fortunately possessed of those aspects of stature and appearance that tend to give ruffians pause» (p. 172)	«[...] inoltre per fortuna possediamo entrambi quelle caratteristiche di stazza e parvenza che tendono a tenere a distanza i malintenzionati» (p. 123)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the English version it is used the passive form, in the Italian one the active. Then in English it's used the noun "ruffian" someone who is a criminal, in the Italian version the word used is "malintenzionati" someone who has , sometimes, a negative thinking.
Reason for choice: The similarity between Changez and the American.		
Analysis: Changez assures the American .		
Possible conclusion: This time we see a similarity between Changez and the American. They are both well shaped and can stop anyone. They can be feared and can't be touched .		

Chapter 12

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
12.1 « Observe how often the words brothers and son appear in their signage; there are family – run establishments, passed gently from generation to generation » (p. 173)	« Ha notato con quanto frequenza appaiono la parole fratelli e figli in quelle insegne? Sono negozi a conduzione familiare, tramandati di generazione in generazione? » (p. 124)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In English the word uses is "observe" and it is an imperative form. Changez pushes the American to see one of the typical traditions. It is like the American has never payed attention on it. In the Italian form , it's the opposite: it is like the American has being watching all the time and that Changez is asking him his opinion on it. In the English version there is the adjective "gently", in the Italian version it is absent. This adjective exalts in a positive way the passage of the firm from the family to the other, in Italian it sound like something forced and negative
Reason for choice: The big sense of the family in the Pakistani culture		
Analysis: Changez pushes the interlocutor to think about a tradition in Pakistan using a question. He underlines the words "bothers" and "sons" to explain the strict bond between the members of the family.		
Possible conclusion: The family is very important in the life of every Pakistani. The bonds and the raltions between all the members of the family are strong and they support each other. Changez had supported the family with financial aids and his parents had supported him emotionally. It is also true that , in arab states, there is a strong bond between fathers and sons. The sons are the "future" boss of the family and, one day, they will acquire all the powers and will be the new leaders. That is the reason why many shops are run by more members of the same family, they help each other for the same interest, they support each other.		

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
12.2 « What do you mean sir, I did give them signal? Of course not! I have as little insight into their motivations and identities as you do » (p. 179)	« Cosa intende signore, se ho dato loro un segnale? Certo che no! Le loro motivazioni e identità mi sono scure quanto a lei » (p. 128)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The last sentence is completely different traduced. In the English version Changez claims that he knows maybe something but not everything, he is able, as a keen observer, to deduce some particulars. In the Italian version it looks like he doesn't know anything and doesn't have any.
Reason for choice: The America has always suspects on Changez		
Analysis: We notice that Hamid uses many expressions of surprise. Makes some exclamations and questions (we seem the marks "!" and "?") but he is still using a formal language		
Possible conclusion: The American has some suspects on Changez, and it is not the first time that we notice it. In the other chapters too the American has accused the young Pakistani of treason. The American has never been persuaded by the words of Changez and maybe never believed to his story. He has been on the defense the whole time, suspecting of everyone and everything. He is the typical American who believes only to his own ideas and words, his vision of the things is the right one, the others are wrong.		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
12.3 «[...] it was not difficult to persuade them for merits of participating in demonstrations for greater independence in Pakistan's domestic and international affairs, [...]» (p. 181)	«[...] non era difficile persuaderli dell'opportunità di partecipare alle manifestazioni per una maggiore indipendenza del Pakistan negli affari interni ed internazionali, [...]» (p. 80)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: In the English version the word used is "merit", in the Italian version is "occasione" but they have totally different meanings. A merit is something that deserves praise, akin to recompense for something good that has been done. "Occasione" it's an opportunity, an occasion without having done something positive.
Reason for choice: Changez convinces the young students of the importance of the independence of Pakistan		
Analysis: Changez is self-confident and says clearly what he thinks		
Possible conclusion: Here we see Changez' final position and the values for which he is fighting for. Pakistan wants the independence, the freedom of taking own decisions and the possibility to become a better place, rich of civilization and education. For years Pakistan has been ruled by other hands and the State has never expressed its needs and interest. Changez wants Pakistan to be a little bit like America: free and independent with its own government and rules		
Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
12.4 «It seems an obvious thing to say, but you should not imagine that we Pakistani are all potential terrorists, just as we should not imagine that you Americans are all undercover assassins » (p. 186)	«Sembra una cosa ovvia da dire, ma non deve pensare che noi pakistani siamo tutti potenziali terroristi, così come noi non dobbiamo immaginare che voi americani siate tutti assassini sotto copertura » (p. 133)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: The Italian version is well translated and in both versions we understand what is going on. Both versions leave us in an atmosphere of mystery and fear, we don't know what is going to happen ..
Reason for choice: We finally understand what was going on all the time		
Analysis: Changez accuses indirectly that the American but still using gentle and kind words. There are no accusations or reprimands. It leaves us a sense of suspicion and fear. With the rhetorical sentence Changez makes the American understand that he has actually unmasked him.		
Possible conclusion: This is one of the most important sentences of the whole book. In just one sentence we find many details and many truths not only about the American but about Changez too. Changez starts saying what he has been announcing during the whole conversation: not all the Pakistanis are terrorists. The stereotypes are worthless and the world shouldn't be seen by judgments that have no foundations. But Changez reveals us another interesting thing: he has understood from the beginning the purpose of the American and his mission. All the questions, the nervous ticks have revealed to Changez that the unknown was really on a mission. And it seems that Changez has started to study the American even before the meeting, he has observed his movements and he has arrived to the conclusion that the American is really a spy of the American government		

Index

Quotations Original version	Quotations Italian translation	Comparative analysis
12.4 «Perhaps our waiter wants to say goodbye as well, for he is rapidly closing in. Yes, he is waving at me to detain you. I know you have found some of my views offensive [...] . But why are you reaching into your jacket, I detect a glint of metal» (p. 186)	«Forse anche il nostro cameriere vuole dirle addio, perché si sta avvicinando a grandi passi. Sì, mi fa cenno di trattenerla. Ma perché si fruga nella giacca signore? Ho visto balenare un riflesso metallico» (pp. 133-134)	The difference between the two versions mainly affects syntax: Even if the Italian version is correctly translated the English one creates deeper and stronger emotions. We are a little frightened and left in doubt.
Reason for choice: The final part leaves the reader to find a personal		
Analysis: Changez is self-confident and says clearly what he thinks.		
Possible conclusion: This is the clue part of the entire story. Some of our suspects are finally revealed but there are also some dramatic turns of event. The American was really an undercover assassin, solved to kill Changez, in fact he has a gun in his jacket and wants to shoot down. But it is also true that Changez too was acting the whole time. The intelligent reader should have noticed that the waiter was constantly near the table of Changez and constantly followed his eyes and movements. We can deduce that Changez has solved the waiter as a bodyguard and as a killer. In the end the waiter follows the American and Changez till the hotel where he wants to stop the American. There is a kind of double role played by Changez and, in the end, we don't really get what is actually his position. The reader is left in an atmosphere of suspense and we are free to create a personal ending		