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| **Quotations**  Original version (pg 120) | **Quotations**  *Italian translation* | Comparative analysis |
| “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”. | “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”. | From the linguistic point of view, there is no literal translation (in the indirect interrogative sentence “possibly” does not exactly means “forse”, for the reason that a possibility emplies a choise, while “forse” seems only to describe a fact, is more indirect and does not express so well the meaning like in the original quotation). In the Italian version the subject is omitted according to the rules of the Italian system; on the contrary, the English quotation provides the subject (this) that is an anaphoric reference to what is said before. In addition, in the Italian version you don’t have “America” but “United States”; it is a big different point of view that marks the differences of the two cultures.  Moreover, the whole syntax changes in the two quotations, and this is implied by the fact that English language has a different register. On the other hand, the verbs remain the same.  Moreover, the intelligent reader should notice that the original quotation is arranged into three commas while the Italian one with just one comma. This make the reader read into a different ways the two versions, because the commas stop the reader to make him a pause in the reading, and this creates a different phonological effect in the two quotations. |
| Reason for choice: The quotation provides an example of a similarity between America and Erica, for the reason that Erica seems to break down like United States. Moreover the two quotations create a different effect in the reader and this marks the difficulty to make a good translation form a language to another, and once more it highlights how is difficult to really understand a different culture (for the reason that it is impossible to make a perfect and total correct translation). | |
| **Analysis**:  Anaphoric reference: “this” referes to the struggle (the task of abstaining from communication). From the quotation the reader can understand that Changez was realizing that American were changing by the anxiety after the attack. They were becoming rude and oppressive. | |
| **Possible conclusion:**  Even if the sense of the quotations is the same, it is possible to notice that the Italian version is not so clear like the original one. It could not be literally translated and this implies some differences.  In addition, the intelligent reader should notice that the original version is more direct than the Italian one, that seems to dampen the effect of the sentence in the American-English language. | |