

Summaries in English

Mátyás BÁNHEGYI

Political Texts and Translation Studies Part 2: Text Linguistic Trends in the Study of Political Discourse

Abstract: The study describes the text linguistic research of political texts in the field of Translation Studies and presents an overview of critical discourse analysis-based studies in this research field. First, the relationship between text, power and ideology and its implications on the role of translation are explored. The aspects of this question with relevance to the current state of Translation Studies are also elaborated on. This is followed by a review of studies on the translation of political texts and on the power relations involved. The paper classifies such studies into the following six research fields: translators' professional roles and politics; translators acting as mediators in situations of political conflict; translators' professional responsibilities and the strategies they apply; the inference of translators' own historical, social and cultural backgrounds; manipulation in the translation of literary texts and other text types; and critical discourse awareness in translation. Next, the most recent studies in the above research fields and their results are presented. It is concluded that these approaches exhibit quite varied research methods and their results cannot be compared. With a view to the future development of this research field, it seems expedient to introduce a unified research method and tool, or at least to develop such to serve as a potential alternative in future research.

Keywords: political discourse, ideology, power, critical discourse analysis, text linguistic trends

Ildikó HARSÁNYI

Metaphor as an Instrument of Alternative Construals in Translation

Abstract: This paper gives an analysis of the translation of metaphor systems in journalistic texts concerning politics, using French-Hungarian examples, on the basis of the cognitive metaphor theory.

The issue of translating metaphors remained peripheral in translation studies for a long time. According to cognitive theories, metaphorical expressions which are considered as linguistic mappings of our conceptual structures can also be the instruments of the so-called alternate construal within a language and in the transactions between languages, meaning that they can function as the interpretation of the same fragment of reality from different aspects. Most of our conceptual metaphors are universal, but the metaphorical linguistic expressions based on them can depend on languages and cultures.

Based on that, I reviewed the translation of some conceptual metaphors that form a coherent network in the text, such as ABSTRACT SYSTEMS, EVENT STRUCTURE or POLITICS IS WAR. The main object of my research is the question to what extent and why translators make use of alternate construals in those cases where the linguistic realisation of a conceptual metaphor in the target language could have been achieved by an equivalent metaphorical expression in the source language.

Keywords: conceptual metaphor, alternate construal, metaphor system, metaphorical expression, translation of metaphors

Anikó MAKKOS

Translation and use of text organising grammatical items in language learners' translations

Abstract: The present paper shows the difference between the translation behaviour of language learners and professional translators in the use of basic text organising items. The study of translated references, conjunctions and other translation-independent referential items in translations by 12 language learners and one professional translator sheds light on some important translation techniques which students obviously do not use, however, the quality of their translation products would definitely benefit from it. The obligatory implicitation of personal pronouns in English to Hungarian translations belongs to this category.

At the same time the paper makes it clear that translation is not only the question of language knowledge but it needs a kind of translator's attitude and way of thinking. We assume that explicitation, which is characteristic of the process of translation due to different reasons, is more typical of translators than of language learners. It seems that mother tongue norms, which would lead to more explicit structures, are not as strong as the influence of the source text's surface structures in the translations of language learners. Furthermore, language learners do not have the motivation which urges professional translators to adjust the target language text to the needs of target text users. The final conclusion of the study is that translations produced by language learners are quasi correct products.

Keywords: text linguistics, translation behaviour, language learners, explicitation/implicitation, mother tongue norms

Andrea Ágnes REMÉNYI

Corpus-Based Research of Collocations

Abstract: Computer-based corpora have facilitated the collection and analysis of frequently occurring multi-word semantic items. In this paper these are primarily defined according to quantitative and grammatical criteria, while semantic criteria are used only for subcategorisation. With the help of the collocational occurrences of a randomly chosen lemma in two large Hungarian corpora (Hungarian Historical Corpus, Hungarian National Corpus) those quantitative tools of analysis are described which can support the selection of the lexicographically relevant multi-word items.

Keywords: collocations, multi-word semantic items, classification criteria, Hungarian Historical Corpus, Hungarian National Corpus

Edina ROBIN

Explicitation in Edited Translations

Abstract: Researchers testing Blum-Kulka's (1986) initial explicitation hypothesis do not normally take into account that their examined corpora often contain edited translations. These texts are not simply results of the translator's transfer operations, but were also affected by the editor's modifications. The question arises therefore whether the explicating shifts attributed to the translator are universal features of translations only, or may belong to the editorial process. The main aim of the present study was to form hypotheses which can serve as a basis for further research on the relation between draft and edited translations, transfer and editorial operations. Particular emphasis was put on the examination of explicating shifts as a universal phenomenon of translation. During the analysis draft Hungarian translations of contemporary English novels were compared to their edited Hungarian versions – mainly on the basis of Klaudy's (1997) and Gumul's (2006) categorization – to determine whether editors use explicating shifts while modifying translated texts. The result of the study seems to ascertain that editors do perform explicitation in the editorial process.

Keywords: translation universal, explicitation, draft translation, edited translation, editing operations, editorial corpus