

SUMMARY

Translation is a multidimensional and multifaceted process determined by the System and norm of the two languages, the two cultures, the two communicative situations (the primary and the secondary), the referential situation, the functional parameters of the source text and the translation norm. The conflict between the determinants is mirrored in the 'paradoxes of translation'. The interdisciplinary status of translation studies, their close links with contrastive and text linguistics, socio- and psycholinguistics and semiotics, arise from the very nature of translation as not only a speech act but also an act of cross-cultural communication.

Linguistic and extralinguistic determinants of translation form a series of filters underlying the strategy of decision making. A major role is played by presuppositions and implications based on background knowledge.

A semiotic typology of equivalence levels with the primacy of the pragmatic level of equivalence over the semantic — componential and referential — sub-levels could be supplemented by a functional typology based on the functional dominants of a text. As distinguished from equivalence based on the reproduction of the communicative effect, adequacy stresses adaptation to factors arising from the secondary situation. While equivalence regards translation as a result, adequacy tends to view it as a process.

Translatability is treated as a relative concept. Essential translatability recognizes the possibility of partial losses not affecting the major elements of a text. Distinction is drawn between the translatability of text elements and that of whole texts.

In the course of translation linguistic meanings are variables. It is the sense determined by the context and the Situation that remains invariant. The context and the situation make it possible to neutralize the difference between non-identical meanings and use the latter to convey the same sense.

The componential sub-level of semantic equivalence is characterized by structural transformations changing the formal structure of an utterance while the set of semes constituting its sense remains unchanged. These transformations include changes in the morphological structure, use of syntactic devices instead of morphological ones, changes in the syntactic structure, replacement of grammatical devices by lexicophrasological ones.

At the referential sub-level the motive forces are the selectivity of languages vis-a-vis the features of the extralinguistic world, differences in the structure of semantic fields, in the semantic interpretation of the referential situation, in the modes of presenting the functional sentence perspective, etc. The basic types of transformations are hyeronymic, hyponimic, interhyponimic, synechdochal, metonymic, metaphoric, etc.

The pragmatic factors include communicative intention, orientation towards the receptor and the translator's personality. The transformations are replacement, addition, omission, explanatory translation and compensation.

The problems of text linguistics relevant to translation are primarily those of cohesion and text types.

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