

Systemic Functional Linguistics and the Functionalism Theory in Translation: Convergences for Pedagogical Perspectives

Introduction

The transposition of registers, i.e. functional varieties of language shaped according to the situational context of communication [1], in specialised translation from English into French may appear to be problematic for students in translation. Given the lack of pedagogical theoretical paradigm in the consulted course books, it seems to be relevant to examine this issue in more detail.

The Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) and the Functionalism Theory (FT) in Translation appear appropriate to give some answers to this issue since they both underline the importance of taking account of the communicational context during the translation process [2]. Therefore, a comparison between SFL (linguistic approach) and FT (translation approach) seems to be of great interest in order to analyze how languages work and what kinds of translation mechanisms operate from a register point of view.

State of the art

SFL and FT are based on a similar principle:

Language is shaped so that it fulfils a communicational purpose [1,3].



Analysis of:

- metalinguistic features (*Field, Tenor, Mode*)
- extralinguistic features (context and culture of reception → conventions → genres + registers)
 - cohesion and coherence of the text
- function of communication (*Loyalty and Fidelity*)

Research on register transposition (PhD project*):

➤ Methodology

Corpus linguistics seems relevant to carry out this study because it analyses language use (= register) [4] and it considers language as a social phenomenon, based on actual data → a functionalist approach [5].

➤ Plan / Next steps

What types of corpora to compile ?

- Context → Degrees of specialization (i.e. specialized and popular texts) [6] and Mode of texts (i.e. written and sight translations) [7].
- What kind of linguistic features to investigate ? *In progress.*



REFERENCES: [1] Halliday, M.A.K. & C.M.I.M. Matthiessen. 2014. *Halliday's Introduction to Functional Grammar*. Oxon/New York: Routledge. [2] Munday, J. 2012. *Introducing Translation Studies (Third Edition)*. Oxon/New York: Routledge. [3] Nord, C. 2005. *Text Analysis in Translation. Theory, Methodology, and Didactic Application of a Model for Translation-Oriented Text Analysis (Second Edition)*. Amsterdam/New York: Rodopi. [4] Neumann, S. 2016. "Cross-linguistic registers", in M.-A. Lefer & S. Voegelé, *Genre- and Register-related Discourse Features in Contrast*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Company. [5] Zanettin, F. 2012. *Translation-driven Corpora: Corpus Resources for Descriptive and Applied Translation Studies*. Oxon/New York: Routledge. [6] Pignataro, C. 2012. "Terminology and Interpreting in LSP Conferences: A Computer-aided vs. Empirical-based Approach", in: C.J. Kellett Bidoli, *Interpreting across Genres : Multiple Research Perspectives*. Trieste: Edizioni Università di Trieste. [7] Dragsted, B. & I.G. Hansen. 2009. "Exploring translation and interpretation hybrids. The case of sight translation", *Meta* 54: 3.