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Snell-Hornby, Mary, *Translation Studies: An Integrated Approach* - revised edition, Amsterdam/Philadelphia, John Benjamins Publishing Company, 1995. First Edition 1988.

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*Translation Studies: an integrated approach* is a very good study in the theory and practice of trans-

lation. It presents an integration of approaches, methods, and concepts grounded in linguistics, which are relevant for theory, practice and analysis of literary translation. In this approach the translation criterion proposed by Honig and Kussmaul, which relates the source text to the communicative function of the target text, and (which it is also the theoretical basis of) Vermeer's

*Skopostheorie* and Holz-Mantari's *Translatorisches Handeln* have been integrated.

The book is organized in five chapters, plus appendix, lists of source texts and of dictionaries, bibliography, indexes of names and of key terms. The first chapter presents a particular conception of text, language and categorization as the basis for an independent and integrated discipline of translation studies. It is presented a diagram with the prototypology of text-types (whether ordinary, literary, special or general) and criteria for translation.

The second chapter deals with the notion of translation as a cross-cultural event. It shows the interdependence of culture and translation. New ideas and concepts about language as a spectrum of system, norm and text are discussed. Special attention is given to the problem of translating metaphor, which, according to the author, depends on its structure and function within the text.

The third chapter presents the relationship between translation and language-in-text. The richness of this chapter is due to the examples presented to illustrate a method of text analysis for the

translator, text production, contrastive grammatical analysis and aspects of contrastive lexical analysis.

In the fourth chapter, Snell-Hornby returns to the spectrum of text-types. The salient points of the theories discussed in the second chapter, situation and function are relativized and modified to account for literary translation. The relationship between text-type and individual style against group convention is shown to be more decisive in literary translation than the relationship with other languages.

Finally, Snell-Hornby, in her first edition, made a prognosis for the future of translation studies. In the fifth chapter of this second edition, she comments on how far it has been fulfilled. First, she sees translation as an independent discipline — a discipline of the future, a prognosis that has been confirmed all over the world in new schools, though it remains unchanged in old ones, at least in the German area, which has suffered from the constraints of bureaucracy and prejudice. Second, as a specialized activity, translation has to have specialists to deal with it, instead of being left

to native speakers or to anyone who has a dictionary. Nowadays, the job profile of the translator demands more than mere language competence, it requires cultural and encyclopaedic knowledge and expertise in specific areas.

Both the first and the second editions of this book have several quotations and examples in German. However, this second edition was revised in order to make the German quotations more transparent to the English readers. In order to achieve this, paraphrase and translation have been used. Even so, for a greater understanding of some examples, a certain knowledge of the German

language would be useful.

The strongest point of this book, I should say, is the fact that it deals with translation, not only with reference to literary texts but to any kind of text. Also, the author's style, clear language, abundant examples, and the organization of chapters in items and sub-items makes the book easily understood. It is therefore recommended for those who are interested in translation studies and have a grounding in this discipline.

Dóris Regina Maes

UFSC

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