Interlingual Subtitling: A Cognitive Approach in Translating Metaphors

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Introduction

Interlingual subtitling is among the most outstanding branches of Audiovisual Translation (AVT) which has been widely focused and analyzed in the past decade. This type of translation involves a shift from the oral to the written form as well as a transfer from one language to another. Despite the various strategies which are applied to perform interlingual subtitling, the author has never reached a common attitude regarding the number and labels of such strategies. This lack of uniformity has resulted in considering the concept and taxonomies of strategies as vague. However, subtitling has always been accepted by different scholars as a series of losses, overlooking or forgetting strategies and omissions. Studies on interlingual subtitling are mostly founded on a film, a director or a specific issue such as translation, adaptation of cultural references, humour, taboo language, socio-dialects or the like. The present book is among the very few investigations which considers the matter of subtitling metaphors based on a cognitive approach and with cultural concerns.

Chapter one starts with defining Audiovisual Translation (AVT) and the way interlingual subtitling as one of the most prominent sub-branches of AVT derives from it. Later, it investigates the rules, constraints and influencing parameters of subtitling.

Chapter two discusses the matter of metaphor on the basis of the congnitive approach (such as the role of metaphor in our system of thought and behavior) as well as the influential role of a culture on its metaphors. In the mean time, the matter of differences between the Source Culture and the Target culture as well as the possible problems that such differences may cause for the translation of metaphors from the Source Language into the Target Language will be focused.

Chapter threé presents a list of the most common metaphors in American English and their suggested subtitles which have been provided by the author of the book.

These metaphors have been collected from among twenty American movies whose titles have been mentioned in the very same chapter. In order to facilitate the learning of these metaphors, they have been presented on flash-cards as apart of chapter thre. Besides, the required software of subtitling for those who would like to start translating movies can be found on the attached CD.