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ARTICOLE – ARTICLES

CHALLENGES AND PROBLEM-SOLVING APPROACHES TO THE TRANSLATION OF TEXTS ON CLINICAL NEUROPSYCHIATRY

Theona BARBU

Abstract: The aim of this paper is to identify specific difficulties in medical translation, namely the field of neuropsychiatry, and propose solutions, which are detailed and documented accordingly with examples from the source text. The paper also underlines the importance of the use of standardized specialised vocabulary for a correct mutual understanding of specific concepts. Furthermore, the purpose of this standardization is to facilitate the use of medical terms in the medical community, aspects which this investigation explores.

Keywords: *medical terminology; standardized specialized vocabulary; neuropsychiatry; translation difficulties; problem-solving*

Introduction

This paper focuses on the translation from English into Romanian of an excerpt from *Textbook of Clinical Neuropsychiatry*, written by David P. Moore, M.D¹. We have been working on a fragment from the second edition of the book, published in 2008. The book is a research-based handbook on neuropsychiatry, designed to help doctors diagnose and treat neuropsychiatric diseases. Our interest in translating from this field is stimulated by the growing number of mental illness cases worldwide and we believe that translations in this specific domain of modern medicine can help raise people's awareness to this alarming medical aspect.

This investigation focuses mainly on the standardization of specialised vocabulary, needed in order to facilitate communication in the medical community. As far as the translation approach is concerned, it is circumscribed to Peter Newmark's taxonomy. Furthermore, our paper also tackles the aspect of false friends in medical terminology, the use and translation of idiomatic phrases and translation procedures such as transference, descriptive equivalence, calques, shifts or transpositions, modulation, compensation, componential analysis, reduction and expansion.

¹ The translation was part of an assignment in preparation for the author's master's dissertation.

1. Generally accepted medical translations

Every text from the technical realm is bound to cause difficulties in terms of terminological choices when it comes to its translation; however, these types of difficulties can be overcome through thorough research, by using relevant terminology management tools and certified online and physical resources.

Due to the fact that our source text pertains to the medical field and tackles aspects of neuropsychiatric nature, specialized medical terms are abundant. Since the medical field represents such a complex area of expertise, efforts have been made in order to standardize the specialized vocabulary, so that all practising professionals have a mutual understanding of the specific concepts.

Therefore, many terms have been translated according to generally accepted standards in the medical industry and many terms are also very similar in translation to their English counterparts. A relevant example in this regard are the designations of the idiopathic psychotic, mood and anxiety disorders.

Source text term	Target text term
schizophrenia	schizofrenie
schizoaffective disorder	tulburare schizoafectivă
delusional disorder	tulburare delirantă
post-partum psychosis	psihoză postpartum (the term "post-partum" is naturalized in Romanian as "postpartum")
bipolar disorder	tulburare bipolară
major depressive disorder	tulburare depresivă majoră
premenstrual dysphoric disorder	tulburare disforică premenstruală
panic disorder	tulburare de panică
agoraphobia	agorafobie (the term is translated using calque or through-translation after the English "agoraphobia")
social phobia	fobie socială
obsessive-compulsive disorder	tulburare obsesiv-compulsivă
post-traumatic stress disorder	tulburare de stres posttraumatic (the term "post-traumatic" is naturalized in Romanian as "posttraumatic")
generalized anxiety disorder	tulburare anxioasă generalizată
alcoholic hallucinosis	halucinoză alcoolică
alcoholic paranoia	paranoia alcoolică
borderline personality disorder	tulburare de personalitate borderline
schizophreniform disorder	tulburare schizofreniformă
olfactory reference syndrome	sindrom de referință olfactivă
post-psychotic depression	depresie post-psihotică

Table 1. Idiopathic psychotic, mood and anxiety disorders

Schizophrenia is a chronic psychotic disorder which occurs in approximately 1% of the general population and the clinical picture ("tabloul clinic") is usually characterized by pathognomonic ("patognomonic") symptoms, i.e. characteristic of a certain disease, such as hallucinations, delusions, which can be classified in several sub-categories, disorganized speech, characterized by the "loosening of associations" ("slăbirea asociațiilor logice", an interesting example of standardized translation, as it uses expansion as a procedure through the use of the word "logice" in order to further illustrate the meaning and also opts for the term "asociații" instead of "asocieri"), catatonic or bizarre behaviour ("stuporous catatonia" – "stupoare catatonică" and "excited catatonia" – "excitare catatonică", translated using a double shift, as the source text adjectives become nouns and viceversa), as well as negative and other miscellaneous symptoms. Stuporous catatonia is characterized by catalepsy ("catalepsie"), mutism ("mutism"), echolalia ("ecolalia") and echopraxia ("ecopraxia").

Source text term	Target text term
delusions of persecution	iluzii de persecuție
delusions of grandeur	iluzii de grandoare
delusions of reference	iluzii de referință
delusions of influence	iluzii de influență
delusions of control	iluzii de control
delusions of passivity	iluzii de pasivitate
Schneiderian first rank symptoms	simptome de prim rang Schneider
thought broadcasting	difuzarea gândirii
thought withdrawal	retragerea gândirii
thought insertion	insertia gândirii

Table 2. Types of delusions

The age of onset ("debut") in the case of schizophrenia may range from late childhood until the seventh decade of life; schizophrenia has a relatively varied symptomatology ("simptomatologie"), it may or may not be characterized by the presence of a prodrome ("prodrom"), an early symptom indicative of the onset of the disease, the premorbid personality ("personalitate premorbidă"), meaning the patient's pattern of behaviour prior to the onset of the disease, may have been normal or not. Based on the characteristic symptoms ("simptome"), courses ("evoluții") and prognoses ("prognosticuri") exhibited by a patient, there are also several subtypes of schizophrenia.

Source text term	Target text term
'negative' or 'defect' symptoms	simptome "negative" sau "defecte"
flattening of affect / 'blunting' of affect	aplatizare afectivă / "tocire" afectivă
poverty of thought or speech	sărăcirea gândirii sau a discursului
avolition	avoliție
'alogia'	"alogie"
transient disturbances of mood	perturbări temporare ale dispoziției

Table 3. Symptoms characteristic to schizophrenia

Source text term	Target text term
paranoid schizophrenia	schizofrenie paranoidă
catatonic schizophrenia	schizofrenie catatonică
disorganized schizophrenia (hebephrenic schizophrenia)	schizofrenie dezorganizată (schizofrenie hebefrenică)
simple schizophrenia ('simple deteriorative disorder')	schizofrenie simplă ("tulburare deteriorativă simplă")
undifferentiated schizophrenia	schizofrenie nediferențiată
'reactive' schizophrenia ('good prognosis or 'type I' schizophrenia)	schizofrenie "reactivă" (schizofrenie cu "prognostic pozitiv" sau schizofrenie de "tip I")
'process' schizophrenia ('poor prognosis' or 'type II' schizophrenia)	schizofrenie „procesuală” (schizofrenie cu "prognostic negativ" sau schizofrenie de "tip II")

Table 4. Schizophrenic subtypes

The course of the illness may be characterized by exacerbations ("exacerbări") and partial remissions ("remisiuni parțiale"). In the medical world, the term etiology ("etiologie") refers to the study of the causes of diseases; as far as schizophrenia is concerned, the etiology involves the use of both computed tomographic ("computer tomograf" – "CT") and magnetic resonance imaging ("imagistică prin rezonanță magnetică" – "RMN"), which have proved the presence of ventricular dilation and cortical atrophy ("atrofie corticală") in schizophrenic patients. Both terms, "ventricular enlargement" and "ventricular dilation", appear in the text and refer to the same concept. Special attention must be given to their particular translation, as the terms might be easily mistaken for "hipetrofie" instead of "dilatare"; however, further research has shown that the term "hipertrofie" is only used in regard to cardiac diseases, whereas the correct contextual term in this case is "dilatare ventriculară", as it makes reference to issues related to the brain. In differentiating schizophrenia from other diseases, we must note that delusions may also be present in the case of other illnesses, such as depression. However, in depressive patients, the delusions are mood-congruent ("congruente cu dispoziția"), meaning that they match the prevailing mood of the patients,

whereas in the case of schizophrenic patients who exhibit depressive symptoms, the delusions are mood-incongruent ("incongruente cu dispoziția").

In terms of treatment, almost all cases of schizophrenia require supportive care ("îngrijire paliativă") and the use of an antipsychotic drug ("medicament antipsihotic"). Antipsychotic drugs may be categorized as follows: first-generation agents ("agenți de primă generație") and second-generation agents ("agenți de a doua generație"). First-generation agents are further divided into three other sub-categories, namely high-potency ("medicamente cu potență ridicată"), medium-potency ("medicamente cu potență medie") and low-potency ("medicamente cu potență scăzută") agents. Patients who are prescribed high-potency drugs must be closely supervised, as this type of medication is more likely to cause extrapyramidal side-effects ("efecte secundare extrapiramidale"), such as parkinsonism ("parkinsonism"), dystonia ("distonie"), akathisia ("acatizie") and akinesia ("akinezie"). After treatment, psychotic symptoms may partially remit, in which case post-psychotic depression might occur. The treatment of this disease consists in the administration of anti-depressants ("antidepresive"), such as a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor – SSRI ("inhibitor selectiv al recaptării serotoninei" – "ISRS"). In severe cases, treatment with electroconvulsive therapy – ECT ("terapie electroconvulsivă" – "TEC") might also be considered. In the case of schizophrenic patients, insight-oriented or psychodynamically oriented psychotherapy ("psihoterapia analitică sau psihoterapia psihodinamică") are usually advised against, as they may worsen the patients' state.

First-generation agents					
High-potency drugs	Medicamente cu potență ridicată	Medium-potency drugs	Medicamente cu potență medie	Low-potency drugs	Medicamente cu potență scăzută
haloperidol	haloperidol	loxapine	loxapină	chlorpromazine	clorpromazină
fluphenazine	flufenazină	molindone	molindonă	thioridazine	tioridazină
perphenazine	perfenazină				
trifluoperazine	trifluoperazină				
thiotixene	tiotixenă				
Second-generation agents					
clozapine		clozapină			
olanzapine		olanzapină			
risperidone		risperidonă			
quetiapine		quetiapină			
aripiprazole		aripiprazol			

ziprasidone	ziprasidonă
Additional drugs used in the treatment of schizoaffective disorder	
lithium	litium
carbamazepine	carbamazepină
divalproex	valproat de sodiu

Table 5. Antipsychotic drugs

2. False friends

False friends are defined as words from a foreign language which are similar in sound and spelling to certain words from the source language, therefore they are often mistakenly thought to have the same meaning. The source text also provides some examples in this regard, words which have a certain meaning when used in LGP, but shift to a different definition when used in the context of an LSP. For instance, the word "intimations" may sound to suggest an aspect of intimate nature, however in the current context it is used with the meaning of "reference", "hint", and should therefore be translated as "aluzie". In general terms, the word "history" is used to designate the study of past events, however, in the medical industry, it is a specialized term defined as the "information obtained from the patient to aid in establishing a medical diagnosis and developing a treatment plan" (history, 2020). Consequently, the correct contextual translation is "istoric", and not "istorie". In some circumstances, the word "conditions" may be translated as "condiții", in the sense of requirements; nonetheless, in the context of "medical conditions", the term will be translated as "afecțiuni". Insults, widely understood as disrespectful remarks, are also used with the meaning of causes.

Source text	Target text
The mechanism underlying such a failure of normal migration, although not clear, may involve one or more environmental <u>insults</u> acting on a genetically determined vulnerability.	Deși nu este clar, mecanismul din spatele unui asemenea eșec în ceea ce privește migrarea normală poate implica una sau mai multe <u>cauze</u> de mediu acționând pe baza unei vulnerabilități determinate genetic.
Eventually, the disparity between the magnitude of the patients' sense of being unjustly harmed and the trivial, insignificant nature of the original inciting <u>insult</u> to their sense of justice brings to light the pathologic nature of their behavior.	În cele din urmă, disparitatea dintre magnitudinea simțului pacienților de a fi vătămați în mod nejustificat și natura trivială, nesemnificativă a <u>insulte</u> i originale la adresa simțului justiției pe care aceștia îl dețin clarifică natura patologică a comportamentului lor.

Table 6. The use of the term "insult" in two separate contexts

Similarly, the text also contains several other tricky words; for instance, the verb “to complain” is generally understood as the action of expressing feelings of dissatisfaction; in the current context, the action is associated with certain illnesses (e.g. “Patients may complain of depressive symptoms.”) and, as a result, the translation becomes: “Pacienții pot acuza simptome depresive.”, instead of the more frequently utilized “a se plânge”. The word “host” is not used with its general meaning, but as a part of the idiom “a host of”; therefore, the structure “a host of disorders” will be translated as “multe boli”.

3. Idioms and cultural equivalence

Cultural equivalence is referred to as the method which uses an equivalent cultural structure from the target language in order to translate a cultural element from the source language. Although the source text pertains to the medical field, there are certain cultural idioms present, as in the case of schizophrenic and mentally-challenged people there might be several courses of the diseases which imply the patients’ unexpected behaviour; in order to describe such potential events, the author sometimes makes use of cultural phrases, which have been translated through the use of cultural equivalence to their closest match in meaning; in the case of certain other idioms, the most used translation procedure is functional equivalence, a method which uses a culture-neutral term or phrase for the translation of a culture-specific item.

Source text	Target text
Another <u>guiding light</u> in the elucidation of the disease was the German psychiatrist Kurt Schneider [...].	O altă <u>forță călăuzitoare</u> în procesul de elucidare a tulburării a fost psihiatrul german Kurt Schneider [...].
[...] one finds a disconnection between what the patient feels and what <u>'shows'</u> on his face [...].	[...] se poate observa o deconectare între ceea ce simte pacientul și ceea ce <u>„se poate citi”</u> pe fața acestuia [...].
In the grandiose subtype, the dominant theme of grandiosity <u>may come to light</u> in a variety of ways.	În cazul subtipului grandios, tema dominantă a grandorii <u>poate ieși la lumină</u> într-o varietate de feluri.

Table 7. Cultural equivalence

Source text	Target text
[...] clozapine is clearly <u>head and shoulders</u> above all other antipsychotics in treatment-resistant cases [...].	[...] clozapina este <u>net superioară</u> tuturor celorlalte antipsihotice în cazurile rezistente la tratament [...].
[...] its side-effect profile <u>gives pause</u> to many patients and physicians.	[...] profilul efectelor secundare <u>reprezintă un semn de întrebare</u> pentru mulți pacienți și medici.
[...] once the mood episode <u>has run its course</u> .	[...] odată ce episodul <u>s-a consumat</u> .

[...] in many cases, <u>it may give way</u> [...] to a stable chronicity.	[...] în multe cazuri, <u>poate fi înlocuită</u> de o cronicitate stabilă [...].
The findings [...] <u>are consistent with</u> the hypothesis of a failure of normal migration in schizophrenia.	Descoperirile [...] <u>corespund</u> ipotezei eșecului migrării normale în cazul schizofreniei.
[...] until a specific degree and type of 'pruning' <u>has cleared the way</u> .	[...] până când un nivel și un tip specific de "uscare" " <u>a eliberat calea</u> ".
[...] olanzapine <u>may have an edge</u> in terms of overall effectiveness [...].	[...] se pare că olanzapina <u>are un avantaj</u> în ceea ce privește eficiența per ansamblu [...].
In treatment-naive patients [...] other considerations <u>come into play</u> .	În cazul pacienților cărora nu li s-a mai administrat tratament anterior [...] <u>se iau în calcul</u> și alte considerente.
[...] there is a dearth of meaningful content and speech is often composed of <u>stock phrases</u> .	[...] există un sentiment de lipsă a conținutului cu semnificație și discursul este adesea compus din <u>fraze repetate</u> .
[...] there are two side-effects that <u>must always be kept in mind</u> [...].	[...] există două efecte secundare care <u>trebuie mereu avute în vedere</u> [...].

Table 8. Idioms translated through the use of functional equivalence

Some cases also call for different translations of the same structure depending on the context; for instance, the idiom "to run true" may be interpreted either as an action which follows an expected course or as the action of inheriting a certain feature. Therefore, the following source text phrase "by contrast, the paranoid and simple subtypes tend to 'run true'" (Moore, 2008: 610) is translated as "prin comparație, subtipurile paranoid și simplu tind 'să nu se abată de la evoluția așteptată'".

4. Translation procedures

In his theory of translation formulated in the 1988 book *A Textbook of Translation*, Peter Newmark identifies a number of procedures, namely: transference, naturalisation, cultural equivalence, functional equivalence (both cultural and functional equivalence have been discussed in a previous subchapter), descriptive equivalence, synonymy, calque (through-translation), shifts or transpositions, modulation, recognized translation, translation label, compensation, componential analysis, reduction and expansion, paraphrase, couplets, notes, additions, glosses (Newmark, 1988: 81-93). Translation procedures refer to mechanisms applied to smaller units of text. In the following subchapter we will be analyzing the translation choices we have made by illustrating the different procedures we have made use of throughout the translation process.

4.1. Transference

Transference is the process through which a foreign word or structure is borrowed as such in the target language. Since the meaning of certain transferred terms is explained further within the pages of the textbook, there was no need for additional clarifications. In some other cases, the borrowed terms represent frequently used elements in the medical slang, reason for which we have decided to transfer them unchanged in the target text. Naturalisation is similar to transference in that it still borrows foreign elements, however, it also adapts them to the pronunciation and orthography of the target language, for instance, the words "post-partum" ("post-partum psychosis") and "post-traumatic" ("post-traumatic stress disorder") are translated into Romanian as "postpartum" and "posttraumatic", where the two elements of the compounds are joined together directly, rather than through the use of a hyphen. Another example is the adaptation of the Latin plural "decubiti" to the norms of Romanian grammar; thus, in translation, the term becomes "decubituri".

Source text	Target text	Language of origin
This illness was first noted by Morel [...], who referred to it as <u>démence précoce</u> .	Boala a fost remarcată pentru prima dată [...] de către Morel, care s-a referit la aceasta denumind-o <u>démence précoce</u> .	French
Kraepelin, who latinized the name to <u>dementia praecox</u> , was a German psychiatrist [...].	Kraepelin, cel care a latinizat denumirea în <u>dementia praecox</u> , a fost un psihiatru german [...].	Latin
In this regard one may recall Bleuler's opinion (Bleuler 1950) that a full cure, a <u>restitutio ad integrum</u> , never occurs; [...].	În acest sens, ne putem aminti opinia lui Bleuler (Bleuler 1950), potrivit căreia un remediu complet, un <u>restitutio ad integrum</u> , nu are loc niciodată; [...].	Latin
Several have been proposed, including [...] <u>in utero</u> exposure to certain viral illnesses [...].	Au fost propuși numeroși, inclusiv [...] expunerea <u>in utero</u> la anumite boli virale [...].	Latin
[...] after many years of alcoholism with repeated episodes of <u>delirium tremens</u> , then a case may be made for an alcoholic psychosis; [...].	[...] după mulți ani de alcoolism, cu episoade repetate de <u>delirium tremens</u> , atunci poate fi cazul unei psihoze alcoolice; [...].	Latin
<u>Borderline</u> personality disorder is characterized by a chronic	Tulburarea de personalitate <u>borderline</u> se caracterizează printr-o instabilitate	English

instability in all aspects of the patient's life [...].	cronică în toate aspectele din viața pacientului [...].	
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Table 9. Transference

4.2. Descriptive equivalence

Descriptive equivalence, as the name suggests, is used to provide a brief description of certain terms when needed, rather than translate them by using single words. We have made use of this procedure for cases when we found it most fit in order to preserve the natural sounding flow of the Romanian language.

Source text	Target text
[...] there may be fleeting, <u>whispering</u> auditory hallucinations, vague intimations, or strange occurrences.	[...] pot exista halucinații auditive trecătoare, <u>sub formă de suierături</u> , insinuări vagi sau întâmplări ciudate.
[...] one must also explain <u>why</u> the onset of the disease is delayed until the late teenage or early adult years.	[...] trebuie explicat și <u>motivul pentru care</u> debutul bolii întârzie până în perioada adolescenței târzii sau până la începutul perioadei adulte.
High-potency drugs require <u>lower milligram doses</u> [...].	Medicamentele cu potență ridicată necesită <u>dozaje mai mici, de ordinul miligramelor</u> [...].
[...] <u>importantly</u> , there is no evidence of any genetic relationship with schizophrenia [...].	[...] <u>este important faptul că</u> nu există nicio dovadă de relație genetică cu schizofrenia [...].
avolitional patients	pacienții care prezintă avoliție
chronic aloofness	senzația de răceală cronică
posturing	menținerea unei posturi

Table 10. Descriptive equivalence

For cases in which we could not find perfect target language equivalents for certain specialized terms in the source text, we have made use of synonymy, a procedure which prompts the use of the nearest equivalents; although a useful and indispensable procedure, one should never take advantage of it and use it excessively.

Source text	Target text
[...] there is a wide-ranging and far-reaching <u>impoverishment</u> of their entire thinking [...].	[...] are loc o <u>secătuire</u> pe scară largă și cu efecte extinse a întregii lor gândiri [...].
[...] avolitional patients simply do not experience any impulses, desires, <u>stirrings</u> or inclinations.	[...] pacienții care prezintă avoliție pur și simplu nu au niciun impuls, nicio dorință, niciun <u>stimul</u> sau înclinație.
Avolition [...] <u>is allied to</u> poverty of thought [...].	Avoliția [...] <u>se împletește cu</u> sărăcirea gândirii [...].

During normal childhood and adolescence there is a progressive and selective 'pruning' of dendrites [...].	Pe parcursul copilăriei și adolescenței normale, are loc o "uscare" progresivă și selectivă a dendritelor [...].
In mania, mood symptoms, namely <u>heightened mood</u> [...] occur first [...].	În cazul maniei, simptomele dispoziției, și anume <u>agitația</u> [...] apar prima dată [...].
Low-potency drugs [...] are prone to cause <u>sedation</u> [...].	Medicamentele cu potență scăzută [...] pot cauza <u>calmare</u> [...].
With each failed legal maneuver, patients may become more convinced that the legal system as a whole is conspiring in the <u>denial</u> of justice.	Cu fiecare manevră juridică eșuată, pacienții pot deveni din ce în ce mai convingși că sistemul judiciar, ca întreg, conspiră în <u>detrimentul</u> justiției.
Over long periods of time, there is a very gradual progression, after which many patients eventually 'burn out' with no further changes.	Există o progresie foarte graduală de-a lungul unor perioade lungi de timp, după care mulți pacienți "se epuizează" în cele din urmă, fără modificări ulterioare.
some <u>hints</u> of auditory hallucinations	niște <u>urme</u> de halucinații auditive
a relatively brief drinking <u>career</u>	o <u>istorie</u> relativ scurtă de băutură
neuronal disarray	dezorganizare neuronală

Table 11. Synonymy

4.3 Calques

Calques, also known as loan translations or through-translations represent "the literal translation of common collocations, names of organisations, the components of compounds" (Newmark, 1988: 84) and are used only sparingly throughout the translation, in instances such as: "non-compliance" – "non-complianță", "underlying disease" – "tulburare subiacentă", "in marked contrast" – "în contrast marcat", "Patients with paranoid personality disorder are [...] quick to take offense and to read malevolence into what others do [...]." – "Pacienții cu tulburare de personalitate paranoidă [...] sunt ofenșați ușor și citesc repede rea-intenție în acțiunile altora [...].", "In the grandiose subtype, the dominant theme of grandiosity may come to light in a variety of ways." – "În cazul subtipului grandios, tema dominantă a grandorii poate ieși la lumină într-o varietate de feluri."

4.4 Shifts or transpositions

Shifts or transpositions propose a change in the grammatical structure when making the transfer from the source into the target language; the change may either be from singular to plural, in the position of the adjective, from active to passive voice or vice versa or from a grammatical category to another. Transpositions are useful in situations in which they are required by the grammatical norms of the target language and the translator is left with no other choice, when certain structures from the source language do not exist in

the target language and in order to preserve the natural flow of the target language, therefore used for stylistic purposes. Along with modulation, transposition is one of the most frequently used procedures in our translation.

Source text	Target text	Observations
[...] whose <u>work</u> remains a guiding force for <u>modern psychiatry</u> .	[...] ale cărui <u>lucrări</u> încă reprezintă un reper în <u>psihiatria modernă</u> .	necessary shifts from singular to plural and in the position of the adjective, required by Romanian grammar.
[...] thoughts are juxtaposed that have no <u>conceivable</u> connection [...].	[...] gândurile se juxtapun, nu se poate <u>concepe</u> nicio legătură între acestea [...].	shift from adjective to verb, required by the context.
[...] they make little, if any, effort at <u>clarification</u> .	[...] depun un efort foarte mic sau nu depun niciun efort <u>să clarifice</u> situația.	shift from noun to verb, as the source language structure is not possible in Romanian.
[...] <u>lasting</u> only hours or days [...].	[...] cu o <u>durată</u> de doar câteva ore sau zile [...].	shift from gerund to noun made for stylistic purposes.
[...] most patients suffer considerable <u>disability</u> throughout their lives [...].	[...] majoritatea pacienților suferind de <u>dizabilități</u> considerabile pe parcursul vieții [...].	shift from singular to plural required in order to preserve the natural flow of the language.
<u>Importantly</u> , this sustained depressive episode must not be confused with [...] minor depressive symptoms [...].	<u>Este important</u> ca acest episod depresiv susținut să nu fie confundat cu simptomele depresive minore [...].	shift from adverb to verb required by the context and for stylistic purposes.
[...] <u>it is strongly suspected</u> that they represent a disorder of neuronal migration.	[...] <u>există o bănuială puternică</u> potrivit căreia acestea reprezintă o tulburare de migrare neuronală.	shift from verb in passive voice and adverb to verb in active voice and noun followed by adjective, made for stylistic purposes.
[...] <u>consideration might be given</u> to a diagnosis of hebephrenic, catatonic or paranoid schizophrenia.	[...] <u>se poate considera</u> un diagnostic de schizofrenie hebefrenică, catatonică sau paranoidă.	shift from noun and verb in the passive voice to verb in the reflexive voice, characteristic to the Romanian language.
However, there is a debate as to whether such disorders actually <u>exist</u> .	Totuși, există o dezbatere cu privire la <u>existența</u> unor astfel de tulburări.	shift from verb to noun, made for stylistic purposes.
Two atypical variations on this subtype deserve <u>mention</u> [...].	Două variații atipice pe marginea acestui subtip merită <u>a fi menționate</u> [...].	shift from noun to verb, made for stylistic purposes.

Mood and affect may be <u>unremarkable</u> [...].	Dispoziția și afectul pot <u>să nu se remarce</u> [...].	shift from adjective to verb.
In some cases, however, <u>it may be difficult to differentiate</u> paranoid schizophrenia from the persecutory subtype of delusional disorder.	În unele cazuri, totuși, <u>diferențierea</u> între schizofrenia paranoidă și subtipul persecutoriu al tulburării delirante <u>poate fi dificilă</u> .	shift from the impersonal structure and from verb to noun.

Table 12. Shifts/Transpositions

4.5 Modulation

Modulation proposes a change in perspective compared to the source language and, in Newmark's opinion, the most important variation in this regard is the "negated contrary", in other words, the shift made from a positive statement in the source text to its negative counterpart in the target language or vice versa. Modulation is mandatory in various cases in which the translation does not sound natural without it, however, in other circumstances, the translator may opt for modulation to the detriment of other procedures. Throughout the translation process, we have mostly made use of modulation for stylistic purposes and for cases in which no other choice was possible.

Source text	Target text
Often <u>they are poorly formed</u> [...].	De multe ori, <u>acestea nu au o formă clară</u> [...].
Gustatory and olfactory hallucinations <u>are uncommon</u> [...].	Halucinațiile gustative și olfactive <u>nu sunt comune</u> [...].
Typically, patients <u>are unconcerned</u> with their incoherence [...].	În mod normal, pacienții <u>nu sunt preocupați</u> de incoerența lor [...].
[...] <u>it is not uncommon</u> to see individual patients [...] exhibit both forms at different times [...].	[...] <u>este comun</u> ca pacienți individuali [...] să afișeze ambele forme în momente diferite [...].
[...] if left <u>undisturbed</u> they may spend hours or days in quietitude, <u>doing nothing</u> .	[...] dacă <u>nu sunt deranjați</u> , aceștia pot petrece ore sau zile în liniște, <u>nefăcând nimic</u> .
Few thoughts, desires or inclinations <u>disturb</u> them [...].	Aceștia <u>nu sunt mișcați</u> de foarte multe gânduri, dorințe sau înclinații [...]. *this example illustrates a double modulation applied to the same structure: the "negated contrary" procedure, as well as a change in the perspective of the verb.
This is an <u>uncommon disorder</u> , with a lifetime prevalence falling between 0.01 and 0.05 percent.	Această tulburare <u>nu este comună</u> , având o prevalență a duratei de viață cuprinsă între 0.01% și 0.05%.

During the onset of the illness, patients are typically involved in legal proceedings <u>that go badly</u> for them.	Pe parcursul debutului bolii, pacienții sunt, de regulă, implicați în proceduri judiciare <u>care nu au un rezultat favorabil</u> pentru aceștia.
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Table 13. “Negated contrary” modulations

Source text	Target text
If the response to the first agent is <u>poor</u> , [...].	Dacă răspunsul la primul agent este <u>negativ</u> , [...].
In a <u>minority of cases</u> , [...].	Într-un <u>număr redus</u> de cazuri, [...].
[...] it may be possible to taper the dose to <u>almost nothing</u> [...].	[...] este posibil ca dozajul să fie <u>reduc aproape complet</u> [...].
Although the mechanism <u>underlying</u> these anatomic changes is not known with certainty [...].	Deși mecanismul <u>din spatele</u> acestor modificări anatomiche nu este cunoscut cu certitudine [...].
Delusions of grandeur are also common and <u>may coexist</u> with delusions of persecution.	Iluziile de grandoare sunt, de asemenea, comune și <u>se pot manifesta simultan</u> cu iluziile de persecuție.
They may appear <u>shiftless</u> [...].	Pot părea a fi <u>lipsiți de vlagă</u> [...].
early adult years	începutul perioadei adulte

Table 14. Modulations achieved through a change in the point of view

4.6 Compensation

According to Newmark, **compensation** occurs when “loss of meaning, sound-effect, metaphor or pragmatic effect in one part of a sentence is compensated in another part, or in a contiguous sentence.” (Newmark, 1988: 90) The instances in which we have made use of compensation are few; in this context, compensations mark a procedure used for the purpose of preserving the stylistic character of the text as a whole and stem from the tendency towards choosing the most natural sounding option for the Romanian phrases. Two relevant examples in this regard are as follows: “Certain auditory hallucinations, included among the Schneiderian first rank symptoms although not specific for schizophrenia, are highly suggestive [...].” – “Anumite halucinații auditive, incluse în rândul simptomelor de prim rang Schneider, sunt foarte sugestive, în ciuda faptului că nu sunt specifice schizofreniei [...].”, “Here, in the middle of speaking, patients abruptly cease talking and become silent [...].” – “În acest caz, pacienții încetează brusc să mai vorbească și tac în mijlocul discursului [...].”

4.7 Componential analysis

Componential analysis is a procedure in which the translation of a certain structure takes into consideration the similar and differing sense components

from the source and target languages; the most relevant example from the target text is the translation "evoluție sinusoidală", a translation solution we have found for the specialized medical structure "waxing and waning course". When referring to schizophrenic patients, the waxing and waning course signifies a course of the disease characterized by exacerbations and partial remissions. Using an analogy with the mathematical concept of sine wave or sinusoid, a continuous curve which oscillates periodically, and also considering the general meaning of the idiom "waxing and waning", referring to an increase followed by a decrease, we have chosen to translate the structure as "evoluție sinusoidală", a choice which clearly and concisely illustrates the meaning.

4.8 Reduction and expansion

Reduction and expansion are two translation procedures which we have used only in situations where we have deemed it necessary for the overall understanding of the phrase, for instance: "The age of onset of schizophrenia [...] may range from late childhood to the seventh decade [...]" – "[...] vârsta de debut poate varia de la copilărie târzie până la al șaptelea deceniu de viață.", "loosening of associations" – "slăbirea asociațiilor logice", "Although this neurodevelopmental theory of the etiology of schizophrenia has much to recommend it, [...]" – "Deși această teorie de neurodezvoltare a etiologiei schizofreniei este recomandată de multe surse, [...]", "[...] the mood disturbances, whether manic or depressed, are full, severe, and sustained [...]" – "[...] perturbările dispoziției, fie că sunt de natură maniacală sau depresivă, sunt depline, severe și susținute [...]", "The differential here rests on the degree of plausibility [...]" – "Punctul diferențial, în acest caz, se bazează pe gradul de plauzibilitate [...]", "Consequently, it is necessary to continue seeing patients in regular follow-up visits and [...]" – "În consecință, sunt necesare continuarea monitorizării pacienților prin vizite regulate și [...]" (reduction). Examples of paraphrase, a translation procedure which makes use of a longer explanation in order to render the meaning of the source text term, include the following: "early twenties" – "în jurul vârstei de 20 de ani", "treatment-naive patients" – "pacienților cărora nu li s-a mai administrat tratament anterior". As the name suggests, couplets combine the use of two or more procedures for the translation of the same source language element.

Source text	Target text	Translation procedures
[...] by contrast, the paranoid and simple subtypes tend to <u>'run true'</u> .	[...] prin comparație, subtipurile paranoid și simplu tind să <u>"să nu se abată de la evoluția așteptată"</u> .	functional equivalence & paraphrase
A full description of the disease, however, <u>had to await the efforts</u> of Emil Kraepelin.	Descrierea completă a tulburării, pe de altă parte, <u>a fost realizată datorită eforturilor</u> lui Emil Kraepelin.	modulation & shift
Although <u>not without controversy</u> , it appears that, overall, second generation agents are more effective [...].	Deși <u>reprezintă un subiect controversat</u> , se pare că, per ansamblu, agenții de a doua generație sunt mai eficienți [...].	modulation & expansion
Patients with paranoid personality disorder <u>are chronically distrustful</u> [...].	Pacienții cu tulburare de personalitate paranoidă <u>suferă de neîncredere cronică</u> [...].	modulation & shift
Akinesia [...] <u>may leave patients psychomotorically retarded</u> [...].	Akinezia [...] <u>poate provoca retard psihomotor</u> în rândul pacienților [...].	modulation & shift
Akathisia [...] classically <u>renders patients restless</u> [...].	În mod clasic, acatizia [...] <u>provoacă neliniștea pacienților</u> [...].	modulation & shift
Dress and grooming may become bizarre: several layers of clothing <u>may be worn</u> [...].	Îmbrăcămintea și îngrijirea pot deveni bizare: <u>pacientul poate purta</u> straturi numeroase de îmbrăcămintă [...].	expansion & shift
[...] the illness <u>begins to assume</u> its definitive form.	[...] boala <u>începe tranziția</u> către forma sa definitivă.	modulation & shift
[...] the patient [...] <u>made no further attempt</u> to define or explain it.	[...] pacientul [...] <u>nu a mai încercat</u> să definească sau să explice conceptul.	modulation & shift
[...] patients, although <u>speaking a normal amount</u> , seem to 'say' very little.	[...] pacienții, deși <u>folosesc un volum normal de cuvinte</u> , par a "spune" foarte puține.	expansion & modulation
a relatively brief drinking <u>career</u>	o <u>istorie</u> relativ scurtă de băutură	modulation & synonymy

Table 15. Couplets

5. Translation of longer chunks of text

The purpose of the following section is to illustrate various translation procedures used on larger portions of text and the way in which they tie together harmoniously in order to achieve a clear translation, at the same time proving their efficiency in practice.

Source text	Target text
<p>Finally, in cases in which the <u>heightened mood is one of irritability</u> rather than euphoria, the <u>manic patient</u> is typically <u>'on the attack'</u>, which contrasts with the irritable paranoid schizophrenic, who is more <u>'on guard'</u>; although both irritable manics and irritable paranoid schizophrenics are dangerous, the <u>manic patient is recklessly so</u>, in contrast to the <u>paranoid schizophrenic</u>, who may become violent only if approached in what appears, to the patient at least, to be a potentially hostile manner.</p>	<p>În cele din urmă, în cazurile în care <u>agitatia</u> (synonymy) <u>tinde</u> (modulation) mai mult spre iritabilitate decât spre euforie, pacientul <u>care suferă de manie</u> (descriptive equivalence) este, de regulă, <u>"pregătit de atac"</u> (functional equivalence), fenomen care contrastează cu <u>pacientul</u> (expansion) schizofrenic paranoid iritabil, care este mai mult <u>"în alertă"</u> (functional equivalence); deși atât pacienții iritabili <u>care suferă de manie</u> (descriptive equivalence), cât și pacienții schizofrenici paranoizi iritabili sunt periculoși, pacientul <u>care suferă de manie</u> (descriptive equivalence) <u>se comportă</u> (modulation) în mod necugetat, în comparație cu <u>pacientul</u> (expansion) schizofrenic paranoid, care poate deveni violent doar dacă este abordat într-o manieră care pare a fi, cel puțin pentru acesta, potențial ostilă.</p>
<p>For example, a patient with the persecutory subtype who believed that co-workers at the factory <u>were conspiring against</u> him, but who was free of delusional concerns regarding all others, led an <u>unremarkable</u> life at home and sang in the choir at church, took his children to baseball games, and was considered a 'good neighbor'.</p>	<p>De exemplu, un pacient cu subtip persecutoriu, care credea că <u>o conspirație</u> împotriva lui <u>este ticluită</u> (shift) de către colegii lui de muncă de la fabrică, însă care era lipsit de griji iluzorii cu privire la toți ceilalți, ducea o viață <u>lipsită de evenimente</u> (descriptive equivalence) acasă și cânta în cor la biserică, își ducea copiii la meciuri de baseball și era considerat a fi un "vecin bun".</p>
<p>In paranoid schizophrenia, the patient's guardedness and suspiciousness <u>may be such</u> that only the <u>fact</u> of the 'conspiracy' is <u>leaked</u> to the physician, with <u>all else</u> held in secret.</p>	<p>În cazul schizofreniei paranoide, prudența și suspiciunea pacientului <u>se pot manifesta în așa fel încât</u> (paraphrase) doar <u>ideea</u> (synonymy) de "conspirație" este <u>dezvăluită</u> (modulation) medicului, în timp ce <u>toate celelalte detalii</u> (expansion & shift) sunt păstrate secrete.</p>
<p>[...] patients with hypochondriasis <u>do respond, albeit perhaps only temporarily</u>, to <u>reassurance from the physician, whereas</u> patients with the somatic subtype of delusional disorder <u>do not</u>.</p>	<p>[...] pacienții care suferă de ipohondrie <u>reacționează</u> (modulation) atunci când medicul <u>îi asigură de contrariu</u> (modulation), <u>deși probabil doar temporar</u> (compensation), <u>spre deosebire</u> (modulation) de pacienții care suferă de subtipul somatic al tulburării delirante.</p>
<p>Others <u>may entertain</u> delusions <u>of high descent</u>.</p>	<p>Alții <u>pot experimenta</u> (modulation) iluzii <u>potrivit cărora se trag dintr-o familie de vită nobilă</u> (paraphrase).</p>

In the somatic subtype patients believe, despite <u>reassurances</u> to the contrary from their physicians, that they <u>have</u> a serious disease.	În cazul subtipului somatic, pacienții cred că <u>suferă</u> (modulation) de o tulburare gravă, în ciuda faptului că medicii lor <u>îi asigură</u> (shift) de contrariu.
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Table 16. Translation procedures illustrated on longer portions of text

5.1 Difficult syntactical structures

Difficult syntactical structures were also present throughout the text, some of which were translated based on the specific context they pertained to, in cases such as: "Delusions of reference are intimately related to delusions of persecution [...] and serve, as it were, to reinforce them." – "Iluziile de referință sunt strâns legate de iluziile de persecuție [...] și servesc, în termeni simpli, la consolidarea acestora." (modulation), "Senselessly, they may busy themselves, first with this and then with that, generally to no purpose and often with silly, shallow giggling" – "Aceștia se pot menține necuțet ocupați cu anumite lucruri, care, în general, nu au niciun scop, de multe ori chicotind superficial și inocent." (a combination between compensation, functional equivalence and modulation), "[...] in circumstantiality, the responses are circuitous and patients take a long 'round about' path before they finally 'get to the point'" – "în cazul circumstanțialității, răspunsurile sunt indirecte și pacienții pornesc pe "o rută ocolitoare" înainte de "a ajunge la esență" (a combination between synonymy and cultural equivalence), "there is a wide-ranging and far-reaching impoverishment of their entire thinking" – "are loc o secătuire pe scară largă și cu efecte extinse a întregii lor gândiri" (a combination between modulation and shift). The source text phrase "[...] thoughts are juxtaposed that have no conceivable connection [...]" needed to be broken down in two separate ideas for a clear rendering of the intended message: "gândurile se juxtapun, nu se poate concepe nicio legătură între acestea". The adjective "lifelong" from the statement "Schizophrenia is a chronic, lifelong disease" does not have an adjectival equivalent in the Romanian language, therefore in translation it was shifted to an adverbial phrase: "Schizofrenia reprezintă o tulburare cronică, pe viață [...]."

5.2 The use of the modal "may" and the pronoun "one"

The modal verb "may" and impersonal statements involving the pronoun "one" were also used abundantly, their purpose being not only to underline the potential character of the courses of events described within the pages of the textbook, but also to highlight the objectivity of the author. Generally, statements with the impersonal pronoun "one" have been translated using the reflexive voice in Romanian or simply by an impersonal phrase, for instance:

“one sees” – “se observă”, “one might say” – “se poate spune”, “one must pay careful attention” – “este nevoie de atenție sporită”, “If, however, one has a reliable history [...]” – “Dacă, totuși, există un istoric de încredere [...]”. To avoid the tiring repetition of enumerations tied together through the use of the coordinating conjunction “and”, we have made use of gerunds, in circumstances such as: “Most patients hold multiple delusions; these are often not well elaborated and are often poorly coordinated with each other, and they may even be contradictory.” – “Cei mai mulți pacienți au iluzii multiple; de multe ori, acestea nu sunt bine elaborate și sunt slab coordonate reciproc, putând fi chiar contradictorii.”

Conclusion

The purpose of this article was to illustrate how various translation procedures, methods and tools can be combined together in order to achieve success, based on a specialized medical text from the field of clinical neuropsychiatry. Translations have been part of the world's cultural heritage for centuries and have grown to include virtually every field of human activity, prompted by modern-day developments and the progress of technology, as well as the growing demand in the global market, especially in the 21st century. Translators, in general, and medical translators, in particular, are highly trained professionals with a refined set of skills, among which language competences, as well as medical knowledge. Medical translations and interpreting services are required not only in hospitals, but also for research purposes in the pharmaceutical industry or in the field of medical engineering; therefore, the opportunities are endless for those seeking a career in this direction.

Another aim of this paper was to present different translation techniques used in order to achieve the final form of the target text and overcome the difficulties encountered during the translation process, procedures which were formulated by Peter Newmark in his book on the theory of translation, namely *A Textbook of Translation*.

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TACKLING TRANSLATION IN THE NETWORKING FIELD FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF LINGUISTIC PRAGMATISM

Ștefan BUZATU

Abstract: The aim of this paper is to illustrate how terms from a highly specific sector of the IT domain, namely networking, can be translated in a target language in order to maintain communication as clear and accurate as possible. The paper also presents some key features of networking vocabulary. In addition, solutions to various translation aspects are provided with the help of translation procedures. Translating texts circumscribed to this specific sector, networking, must take into account linguistic pragmatism, an interesting relationship between language and reality. Linguistic pragmatism is supposed to be able to improve communication. A translator must pay attention to linguistic pragmatism and be able to come up with applicable solutions that make translation relevant.

Keywords: *networking; specific terminology; linguistic pragmatism; translation; technical texts*

Introduction

It is undeniable that the internet networking has changed our lives forever. It is a set of protocols that has changed everything, from shopping, to dating, to revolutions. Without a doubt, the ability for computers and their users to send and receive information over a global telecommunications network has changed the world forever.

One hundred years ago, sending a letter from Romania to the United Kingdom would have taken two to three weeks, and that is if one paid for express delivery. Today, that message takes a fraction of a second. The great improvement is the time it takes for a message to transfer, all this while empowering the global exchange and helping the modern world to move at the speed of light through fibre optic cables from all over the world. We believe that this massive development has to be disseminated and explained in great detail and style to the professionals that choose as their daily task the supervision of computers, servers and infrastructures that keep the world going in an orderly fashion, namely network technicians, the unseen and unsung essential workers of today's society, which has been brought to a halt by the new pandemic.

In the field of information technology (henceforth IT), new and highly specialized technologies have been developed every day for the past seventy years, and as this has never been canvassed from the standpoint of linguistics.

As an aspiring technical translator, tackling the challenge of translating a manual from the domain of IT, the first hindrance was the considerable amount of time and resources needed in attempting the translation of this style of text, where the novelty of the challenges presented are the intertwining of the intricate terminological terms that are still not fully and officially declared in the still emerging Romanian IT vocabulary, and the humoristic techniques that give colour and an approachable feel to an otherwise very specific knowledge base.

Texts with this highly specialized calibre of terminology can demonstrate that an experienced translator can face various difficulties while associating a reader-friendly attitude with more than complex concepts and definitions, while keeping in mind that this work guide is intended for teaching neophytes in the field as well as adept individuals.

The appropriate translation of technical texts rests as a highly valued and desirable practice of our social construct, and even though the language barrier is getting thinner by day due to machine learning, it is the long-life quest to properly render this information for the specialist or the inquirer seeking it. It represents a good base of knowledge for all the masses or the people that are interested in this field but are sceptical that they can deepen their knowledge, and a reliable source of useful advice for the more advanced.

The aim of this paper is to emphasize the importance of appropriate translations in texts with a high level of expertise, namely networking and IT, in order to spread useful knowledge and dismantle the barriers between languages and cultures. The purpose of the text is to teach consumers to get started in repairing and setting up networks without having a high level of technical knowledge and to keep experts up to date with the newest developments within the field.

1. The birth of the Internet and its importance

1.1 The creation of the Internet

A triumph of man-made technology over the millennia, the Internet that today influences our existence so much has a short but dense and accelerated history, marked by a few moments of reference, which have structured in the form we know today.

The name Internet refers to the world's unique network of computers interconnected by the Internet Protocol (or IP). The forerunner of the Internet dates back to 1965, when the Advanced Research Projects Agency created the

first network of interconnected computers called the ARPANET. Today's super-network has resulted from the expansion of the ARPANET network.

The forerunner of the Internet dates back to 1965, when the Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency created the first network of interconnected computers under the name ARPANET. It used the concept of **packet switching** to allow multiple computers to communicate on a single network. This technology developed in the 1970s, when Robert Kahn and Vinton Cerf created the TCP or Transmission Control Protocol, a computer-aided communication model that set standards for how data could be transmitted over multiple networks.

ARPANET took over TCP on January 1, 1983, and since then, researchers have been working to create the **network of networks**, which later transformed into the Internet we use today. The online world took the form known today in 1990, when Tim Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Web (henceforth WWW). Although it is often confused with the Internet itself, the WWW is just the most common way to access data online in the form of websites or hyperlinks. The WWW has helped popularize the Internet, and along with it the craft of internet networking, among the public and has been a huge step in developing the huge amount of information that the public can access on a daily basis.

The common noun internet (in lower case) designates in the vast majority of cases the same network, but seen as a medium of mass communication, together with the information and services that are offered to users through this network. Technically, the term can also refer to a large network that interconnects autonomous networks. This meaning corresponds to the English etymology of the word internet, which is formed by the abbreviation of two words: interconnected and network.

The dissemination of information among computer groups and their users is a major sector of the information society today. The acceptance of the personal computer and local networks during the 1980s has led today to the ability to access information in remote databases and upload applications from computers that are also far away, to send a message to a friend in another country, and share files with a co-worker, all by using a computer.

1.2 The importance of computer networks

The networks that allow all of this to be done so easily are actually sophisticated and complex entities. Computers rely on their effectiveness on many components that work together, and the design and assembly of global computer networks can be seen as one of the most important technological wonders of the last decade.

It is not an easy task to keep a local network operational under optimal parameters. Making a computer network that stretches around the world is quite a challenge. The essential concepts for this type of management of various networks have recently received special attention. Today there are sufficient means and standards for these important aspects of computer networks to enable the effective supervision of local networks. From a home network, a small business network to large interconnected networks, they are all based on the same principles and procedures that can be applied on a smaller or larger scale.

But what really makes the computer networking so special lies in its way of processing information. Prior to networking and its developments, like the WWW, we used to consume most information in a linear fashion. In a book or newspaper article, each sentence is read from beginning to end, page by page, in a straight line until you reach the end. But that is not how our brains actually work. Each of our thoughts is linked to other thoughts, memories, and emotions in an interconnected network, like a web. It was understood that we needed a way to organize information that mirrored this natural arrangement. And the Web, with networking at its base, accomplishes this through hyperlinks. By linking several pages within a website or even redirecting you to other websites to expand on information or ideas immediately as you encounter them, hyperlinks allow the Web to operate along the same lines as our thought patterns. The Web is so much a part of our lives because in content and structure, it reflects both the wider society and our individual minds. And it connects those minds across all boundaries, not only ethnicity, gender, and age but even time and space.

1.3 The Web and the translator

Meanwhile the part of the linguistic field requires to be kept up to date regularly to keep the pace with the networking field, and so new designations and definitions are invented constantly to cover the exponential growth on the hardware and software verges related to it. Regarding the Romanian vocabulary and terminology, we can grasp the fact that it has never really

recovered from the disadvantage of not being at the forefront or at least close to the technical evolution and one has to improvise and adapt most of the language used in this recent and flourishing environment that includes a multitude of abbreviations, acronyms and neologisms.

Regarding the matter stated above, the role of the translator is to make communication possible among people from different cultures. In other words, the translator can be regarded as a bridge between the languages as they do not only transfer the words of a text into another text, but also the feelings and the culture, which are concealed amongst their lines. Translator must be both bilingual and bicultural, which means that they should not only know the languages they work with at an advanced level, but they should also have expert knowledge about both cultures. They must be bicultural because they need to have the ability to make the target-text consumers understand the cultural reference from the source-text, with cultural equivalences from the target-language, because language does not mean only words and grammar rules. Translators must transfer the meaning of the target text into the source-text as accurately as possible. If this does not happen, the translation makes no sense even if the grammatical structure is identical, and this fact makes a poor translation. This assertion is also supported by Paul Newmark, who maintains that: “[...] language rules and prescriptions have nothing much to do with good writing” (Newmark, 1988: 33).

2. Non-literary communication and translations

It is already established that each language contains a variety of individual features, such as particular configurations in the sentence structure, elements related to culture, idioms, indicators or even techniques of communication. While each language varies in terms of constitution, in order to achieve the scope of keeping the content as accurate as possible when transmitting the message from one language to another, modifications must occur within the sentence structures. The degree in which the phraseological structures have to be adjusted to preserve meaning will be reliant on the cultural and linguistic dissimilarities of the two languages involved in the procedure. Translation is, in fact, the definition of the process described above, and the translator is expected to take into account every feature of its composition. Christiane Nord establishes the concept of **translator loyalty**, which pertains to the obligations of the translator regarding “the source text in the situation, as well as the translation environment” (Nord, 1991: 81). She continues with the explanation that “within this concept, the translator can focus on particular

aspects of the source text and ignore others, if this is imposed by the skopos of the translation” (Nord, 1991: 40).

Moreover, whether evaluated assertively or descriptively, the separation between theory and customary practice has been extended in recent times, primarily as a result of the use of computer-assisted translation and artificial intelligence translation, which brings translations a step closer to being assimilated into the ever-growing field of IT.

For all intents and purposes, the very existence of current non-literary translation is similar to that of many other areas of practical application today, principally qualified by its position in a number of dominant environments, such as:

- law, in all of its variations;
- the now-globalized market economy;
- popularisation of scientific information in a fast-paced setting, like today’s times.

Multiple professions, including translation production, have been heavily influenced in the wake of globalization. In addition, the English language has found itself in an extraordinary position as a global language which has naturally influenced many enterprises, one of them being the translation market. In the translation of the numerous English literary and non-literary texts, the target language aspect has to subsequently be represented by a number of smaller languages that can integrate this very cultural-specific input.

One of the fundamental concepts in translation is contextual information. Given the fact that a translation is expected to accomplish its communicative purpose, the translator must take into account the source language as well as the target language context. We can assume that pleasing the target reader (which are usually the mass public or seasoned experts in their fields) and their anticipations, is a responsibility hard to uphold at times.

Translation strategy professor Mary Snell-Hornby contends that “pragmatic texts” are “bound to a single specific situation” (Snell-Hornby, 1988: 113) and therefore the operation of technical texts is more precisely circumscribed than literary translations. Also, McAlester reaches the conclusion that “many texts [...] are not directed at a specific culture; rather they are intended for international consumption” (McAlester, 1992: 292-293). These arguments are evidenced by virtue of the fact that most corporations, which are associations

omnipresent internationally, come into contact with an assemblage of cultures from diverse and dissimilar communities and, therefore, seek out professional translation services with the aim of expanding their coverage on new countries and continents.

2.2 Importance of translation in networking

Technical translation is a specialized translation variant that involves the translation of technical documentation. Such specific texts deal with topics from the field of technology, practical applications, scientific and technological information. For this, the translator must have a good knowledge of the respective field because each field has a lot of specific technical terms, and must be able to interpret the specialized terminology of the field, both in the source language and in the target language.

The correct and consistent use of technical terms is of the utmost importance during a technical translation, so thorough management of terminology is crucial to translating this type of document. The extraction of specialized terminology allows the translator to guarantee the choice of the appropriate terms from the documentation. Even though creating the terminology base of a field costs time and money, it can maintain coherence, reduce duplication of work and create savings on the overall cost of translation over time. At the same time, the translator must logically, linguistically and culturally adapt and assemble the text in the target language so that it can be easily understood and the translation will undoubtedly achieve its aim. The translator should examine various resources, such as general and specialized dictionaries or glossaries, encyclopaedias, specialized monolingual and bilingual terminology or corpora databases, in order to assemble the knowledge that will allow the rendering of a genuine translation.

Translating texts referring to IT is a task dedicated to specialists. The IT sector has an evident international reach, and English is its universal denominator. Only translators with computer understanding and expertise can be conscious of what terms they need to translate, and what terms to allow to remain in English. We are currently living in an era in which, thanks to the development of the IT sector, the world finds itself in a continuous social and economic growth, some saying that it is even the best time in history to live as a human being. The technical field of IT, namely networking, is the object that allows the interconnection of personal computers: at first in small networks and then on a global scale through the network called internet. It has made possible

access to knowledge, intercultural connections, and exchanges of ideas and the dissemination of information worldwide.

The term network is often used to emphasize the notion of connectivity, not the machines that they link, in particular, personal computers, because many of the technologies covered in network books do not only refer to personal computers or mainframes, but to a much more comprehensive environment, which includes electronic machines that in some shape or form have also become computer-like, i.e. printers, telephones, televisions or even refrigerators. However, due to the multitude of solutions available, as well as the freedom of choice offered to users, networks are most often referred to by the term **computer networks**.

Today, whether in business or in the form of social media, communication circulates via computer networks. Our linguistic investigation in the IT field is based on the translation of various segments from the book entitled *Networking for Dummies*¹. From the personal network, which you install either by connecting two or more computers, to the corporate network comprising hundreds of computers, this book provides all the information one needs to know in order to choose the network necessary for their needs, and then the advice they need for managing it adequately. It covers almost all specific topics at the level of a novice and so anyone can learn or deepen their knowledge about how a network functions, such as:

- designing and implementing the network;
- file and printer sharing;
- virtualization of a computer;
- configuring Windows XP, 7, 8, and 10 client workstations.

The translation of fragments from *Networking for Dummies* was not an accessible undertaking as previously thought, because the translator has come across some intricate problems. In the following lines we will present some of the technical features and some of our proposed solutions that we consider to have been the most appropriate in the given context; all these based on established translation theories.

¹ The translation was part of an assignment in preparation for the author's master's dissertation.

2.3 Networking terminology

The networking field of the IT domain is well-known in translation circles for its diverse and mixed terminology. We will exemplify some of the lexical features which can cause difficulties in the process of translation.

2.3.1 Specialized vocabulary

Specialized vocabularies are created to “refer to the specific concepts of disciplines and specialty activities” (Cabr , 1998: 149). Specialized vocabularies contain terms which clearly define a general concept or a concept in the current field and have a very precise definition. They are used by professionals and specialists in specific fields of work.

The comprehensive use of specialized lexicon is a defining feature of technical and scientific documents. It consists of a vocabulary which is employed within fields specialized to a significant extent and assigns single word names to concepts and objects equally; the latter would otherwise have to be clarified and defined in very elaborate detail in sentences or even phrases. In exact fields, like our exemplified text from the field of networking, its use advantage is quite obvious, as this word congregation is meant to conserve the conciseness and precise description features of the texts throughout.

The significance of specialized vocabulary is highlighted by its ability to interconnect specialized fields or even general and specialized lexicon, and at the same time to ensure the interdependence of fields, as the terms can describe activities and objects from numerous aspects of life. In this case, the networking field exhibits terms in common with the field of mathematics, engineering or physics and the list can expand even more. Here are some examples from the book *Networking for Dummies*:

- hypervisor,
- operating system,
- mainframe,
- processor cores,
- server infrastructure,
- network interface,
- inkjet printer,
- virtual machine.

2.3.2 Invented words

The perpetual expanding of technical fields implies that new terms have to be invented so that new concepts are designated. The same thing is applicable

for all languages. For example, English is upgraded regularly. In fact, the majority of these words derive from the literary field. However a considerable amount also materialize from specialty fields.

The invention of words can be observed under the form of coinage. Coinage is the word formation process in which new words are invented either intentionally or fortuitously by means of not using the conventional word formation process, but often they are constructed from apparently nothing but plain use. An example of an established invented word can be illustrated below:

- Another popular NOS is Linux;
- Linux operating system (from Linus' Minix).

2.3.2.1 Words borrowed from Greek and Latin

Throughout history English has developed its complexity through widely borrowing words from several languages. A Germanic language, English has borrowed many common words including various designations from the terminology of science and medicine from the Greek and Latin languages. The majority of terms which now form most of the vocabulary of higher education, is based on terms rooted in Latin and Greek and were borrowed in different periods for various purposes. Consistent with the time of borrowing, loan-words have undergone various degrees of changes as a means to accommodate English specificities.

These terms exhibit distinct forms of plural, and it can be noted that they are still formed in accordance with the norms of the English language (i.e. cactus – cacti, datum – data, diagnosis – diagnoses). The scientific character of the text can be suggested via the use of such plural forms, borrowed from the language of origin. Here are some examples from our book:

- Latin root: video, data, via, etc.
- Greek root: miscellaneous, viruses, hypervisor, technology, protocols, archaic, etc.

2.3.3 Abbreviations

Abbreviations are formed by sets of words or shortened forms of words that are arranged by associating a group of letters gathered from the same phrase or word. The abbreviation is usually spelt unlike the extended form, even though the pronunciation remains the same. The appropriate use of these in specialized texts can improve the reading process and the understanding of the text.

The rapid development of IT and communication in the last decades has made abbreviations a common practice in communication, specifically in technical fields, where terms can often be proven to be too expanded for easy assimilation or too difficult to pronounce. Here are some examples from the IT field:

- DVD (meaning Digital Versatile Disc);
- CPU (meaning Central Processing Unit);
- DSL (meaning Digital Subscriber Line).

2.3.4 Acronyms

Acronyms are a class of abbreviations composed of the initial letters of the words in a phrase. They are preferred instead of the complete nomenclature of a word with the purpose of conserving space or evading repetitions. A large majority of computer users can attest regularly encountering unconventional acronyms. Currently, technical acronyms are introduced into the vernacular language fairly quickly.

Within the field of networking, the preponderance of terminology is stemmed from the fact that the IT domain is promptly growing at a steady pace and has become ubiquitous in the modern day under various shapes, its conceptualization is habitually virtual and portrayed via acronyms. Although English acronyms seldom maintain equivalence in Romanian, we will exemplify with some acronyms found throughout the analysed text:

- Gb (meaning Gigabyte);
- Cat 5e (meaning category 5e);
- Mbps (meaning megabit per second).

In the current period of globalization, the issue of translating acronyms is gradually becoming less underlined as a consequence of constant augmentations brought to the vocabulary, resulting from the use within modern technology. Prior to their official translation from English into Romanian, the Romanian speaker is using the English acronym and is already accustomed to it. Most of these acronyms do not correlate to Romanian equivalents as a result of the fact that the emergence of the denominated technologies is neoteric.

3. Linguistic solutions provided by translation

3.1 Borrowings and naturalization

Borrowed terms, "are assimilated to the phonetic sound classes and to the phonological patterns of the borrowing language" as Robins maintains (Robins, 1978: 356). Through time borrowed terms may be absorbed phonologically and become a part of another's language vocabulary via continual application and use. Here are some examples:

- The whole problem with the **sneakernet**. It can be translated as:
Întreaga problemă a **sneakernet-ului** (couplet: naturalization + borrowing);
- **flash drive**. It can be translated as:
unitate flash (couplet: functional equivalent + borrowing);
- **wireless network**. It can be translated as:
rețea wireless (couplet: calque + borrowing);
- **the switch**. It can be translated as:
switch-ul (couplet: naturalization + borrowing);
- **Online, offline**. The terms remain unchanged in the target language;
- **built-in gigabit Ethernet network port**. It can be translated as:
port de rețea Ethernet gigabit încorporat. (triplet: calque + borrowing + transposition).

As far as cultural terms are concerned, they are generally not translated in the target language:

- CD or DVD;
- CD sau DVD;
- 10/100 Mbps Ethernet;
- Ethernet de 10/100 Mbps;
- Although you have many cabling options to choose from, you'll probably use Cat 5e or better UTP;
- Deși pentru cabluri aveți multe opțiuni din care să alegeți, probabil veți folosi, Cat 5e sau mai bine, UTP.

3.2 Calque

This procedure is considered to be a special type of borrowing, in which the target language is borrowing an expression from the source language, by translating individual elements of the original locution in a literal fashion. Common examples of calques functioning in Romanian involve expressions like: "zgârie nori" ("skyscraper") or "autoservire" ("self-service").

Various terms in the field of networking can be translated into Romanian using calques (sometimes as part of couplets). Here are a few examples from our book:

- the computer's network interface:
- interfața de rețea;
- in the computer's operating system software:
- în soft-ul sistemului de operare al calculatorului;
- wireless network:
- rețea wireless (couplet: calque + borrowing);
- desktop computer:
- calculator desktop (couplet: calque + borrowing);
- videoconference:
- videoconferință.

3.3 Transposition

Transposition is, essentially, the substitution of a source language grammatical unit with a different target language one, while restructuring the form. The following structures have been translated using this translation procedure:

- A network is nothing more than two or more computers connected by a cable or by a wireless radio connection so that they can exchange information:
O rețea nu este nimic mai mult decât două sau mai multe calculatoare conectate prin cablu sau prin conexiune wireless, astfel încât acestea să poată face schimb de informații. (verb to noun);
- Drawing Diagrams:
Schita diagramelor (present participle to noun);
- Because installing network cable:
Deoarece instalarea cablului (gerund to noun);
- Taking stock of your computer stock:
Inventarierea stocului de calculatoare (gerund to noun).

3.4 Modulation

Modulation comprises of the selection of different words and terms to illustrate the same meaning, but with a change in the point of view (Vinay and Darbelnet, 1995: 36). Here are some examples:

- computers can exchange information in ways other than networks: calculatoarele pot schimba informații în mai multe moduri decât prin rețele (change in the point of view).
- Getting Started with Networking:
Noțiuni de bază ale rețelisticii;
- On the network:
În rețea;
- Up, down:
Funcțional, nefuncțional;
- taking it down [...] bringing it up:
deconectare [...] reconectare (couplet: modulation + transposition, from verb to noun).

3.5 Title translation

The title of our book, *Networking for Dummies*, translated as *Rețelistica pentru to(n)ți* is formulated as a short, strong statement that illustrates, informally, the main purpose, that is teaching factual information about networking, to a specific audience: curious advanced users. Both the original title and its translated version are intended to challenge the reader, and to spark the flame of curiosity and need of knowledge. The content of the book is therefore inspired from the title and these are keywords that best describe the message.

Why did we choose a text with such a title? In short, it differentiates itself from anything that we have seen in our experience. The proper answer is that the first and probably most important function of a title is to capture the attention and arouse the curiosity of the reader. Generally, the title decides whether or not the text will attract the interest of the reader. The vast majority of readers tend to firstly read the title of the text. If interest is maintained, the full text of the document is followed through.

The question of the title translation can be asked and tackled from various points of view regarding the translation. Why did we chose to translate "Networking" as "Rețelistică"? It is because the term "networking" implies persistent action via its present continuous suffix "-ing", and the aim of the text is not to be only a presentation of a general network as we would have

translated it with the noun "rețea" or "rețele". Instead it describes in great detail the steps to be taken to organize and continually support an operational network, therefore the given translation.

Addressing the other part of the title, namely "for dummies" translated as "pentru to(n)ți", we can mention that instead of opting for translations like "pentru începători", "pentru toți" or taking risking and even using more informal language like "pentru prostănaci", we have got our inspiration from the already established book series, and its already intelligent translation into Romanian. Our intention was to give a sense of continuity to the series, which is already known by Romanian readers. In addition, the fact that no one has attempted, so far, to translate the book into Romanian has encouraged us to approach the text and, as far as the title is concerned, to preserve the already established style of the series, which is an informal one. And we have decided to reflect this informality in the translation of the title.

Conclusion

Because it is a specific sector of the IT domain, networking naturally produces its own terminology, enriched regularly with new additions as the sector develops. As a result, new terms are coined and then come into use. Some of these terms can be translated, others are used in their source-language form. It is difficult to explain, for each term, why it has been translated or left untouched. Languages are living organisms and they adapt, sometimes almost intuitively, to new contexts and needs. This can be defined as linguistic pragmatism, and new emerging and fast developing domains such as the IT domain or the sustainability domain, where new terms are created as a result of newly identified needs and solutions, are domains that are, from a linguistic point of view, inherently pragmatic. Translators need to become aware of linguistic pragmatism and adapt their translations accordingly.

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LE DÉCAMÉRON. CENT NOUVELLES – UN CHIFFRE RITUEL

(THE *DECAMERON*. HUNDRED STORIES - A RITUAL FIGURE)

Nicoleta Silvia IOANA

Abstract : The *Decameron* represents the maximum of realism in literary art through which Boccaccio laid the foundations of a literary prose and a language used in the following centuries by successive writers. The subjects can be considered of French inspiration, but the action is located in Florence, the cradle of the Italian language but also literature. It is well received in France and its translation inspired Marguerite de Navarre in the later creation of the masterpiece *Heptaméron*. It is impressive the perfection of *Decameron*'s architecture - 10 young people, 10 days, 10 short stories, 10 themes, but also the force with which the author creates situations that react to the darkness of the Middle Ages, freeing the consciousness from the prejudices, counteracting hypocrisy, the false authors of miracles and laying the foundations of a new epoch: The Renaissance.

Keywords: *Boccaccio ; Florence ; Marguerite de Navarre ; artistic prose ; literary innovation ; Renaissance*

Introduction

Le Décaméron, le chef-d'œuvre de Boccace, représente le trophée du réalisme dans l'art littéraire. Ce qui a été appelé la révolution culturelle et qui a été commencé par Dante, soulève la conscience et la connaissance contre l'autorité religieuse et scolastique, soutient l'Empire contre l'autorité de l'Église, nous pouvons le considérer achevée par Boccace qui élève le bon sens populaire contre l'hypocrisie du clergé et qui badine en même temps avec l'Église et l'Empire. Boccace fait ainsi une révolution littéraire qui peut être nommée de type populaire.

1. *Le Décaméron*

1.1 Le début de la prose artistique italienne avec la nouvelle

Le Décaméron est une grande œuvre d'art, est la comédie humaine projetée du fond de la nature au monde clair de la conscience. Le grand livre de Boccace est un document de la plus haute valeur pour la pensée humaine.

In esso noi troviamo i più forti caratteristici segni della nazione contro tutte le idee medioevali sia nelle novelle che ci mostrano il Boccaccio audito propugnatore della libertà di conoscenza, sia in quelle dove flagella gli ipocriti, falsi autori di miracoli, i putti attentatori all'onore delle famiglie. (Balaci, 1962 : 130)

Le Décaméron, le livre qui commence la prose artistique italienne, a été écrit entre 1352-1354. Le livre représente un coup véritable, destructif, énergique, contre la conception théologale, parce qu'il décrit le monde réel, l'Italie du XVIème siècle, et représente la fuite de la mort et de la terreur du Moyen Âge : « lo nega ma anche lo canzona ». (Balaci, 1962 : 131) Cet ouvrage célèbre fut accueilli avec enthousiasme lors de sa parution, et il n'a pas cessé depuis d'être lu avec une sorte de fanatisme par tous les admirateurs de la Renaissance italienne, par tous les dilettantes capables de comprendre la langue et le style de Boccace, ce style, « le plus savant, le plus naïf, le plus gracieux que l'on eût encore vu dans les langues modernes ». (Jacob, 1912 : 1)

Le monde dans lequel *Le Décaméron* est né, c'était un monde d'incertitudes, d'hésitations. Dans ceux-ci, Boccace renonce à la chevalerie, à la mythologie, à l'allégorie, à tout son monde classique et aux réminiscences dantesques ; il s'ouvre dans sa société, vit et se réjouit dans son milieu, car il vit cette vie collective, commune à tous. Le monde qu'il décrit dans *Le Décaméron* existait encore avant sa naissance. En Italie circulait les romans, les nouvelles et les « canzone » latines, de chansons licencieuses. Les femmes lisaient aussi des livres profanes et les conteurs amusaient la société avec des nouvelles plaisantes et libertines. Le fond commun des romans était constitué par les aventures chevaleresques de la Table Ronde et de Charlemagne. Boccace dans *Amorosa visione* cite un grand nombre de ces héros et héroïnes : Arthur, Lancelot, Gabotto, Isolde, Chedino, Palamides, Lionello, Tristan, Orlando, Uliviero, Rinaldo, Guttifré, Robert Guiscard, Frédéric II, etc.

Boccace lui-même a écrit des romans pour le plaisir et l'amusement des dames et après avoir transposé le roman de *Florio et Biancofiore*, il cherche un cadre plus adéquat pour ses études classiques, dans les temps héroïques des traditions grecques. Mais les nouvelles devaient être plus populaires, et alors les conteurs inventaient des histoires plaisantes, sérieuses et comiques, morales ou obscènes, changées et embellies en conformité avec le goût des auditeurs.

La nouvelle était aussi un genre vif de littérature, dans un continuel changement et laissé à l'imagination de chaque conteur. Boccace est entré dans ce monde frivole et profond avec le but d'écrire des choses plaisantes pour gagner la bienveillance de la femme « qui l'avait chargé de cette mission ». (Gallo, 1971 : 358) Il a ramassé le matériel brut et insolent des hommes « sans culture » et en a fait le monde harmonieux de l'art.

Les nouvelles existaient chez tous les peuples latins, sous divers noms, mais la nouvelle dans sa forme littéraire n'existait pas encore, ni la couleur qui puisse faire de ces histoires-là une unité, en les transformant dans un monde organique. C'est Boccace qui l'a fait, et de ses contes il a réussi à donner au monde entier un miracle littéraire appelé simplement avec un mot d'origine grecque – *Décameron*.

1.2 L'origine du *Décameron*

En ce qui concerne les sources d'inspiration du *Décameron* il y a plusieurs critiques qui ont affirmé ou contesté son originalité. Caylus découvre et constate, dès le milieu du dernier siècle, que :

Boccace et les vieux conteurs italiens avaient emprunté la plupart des leurs sujets aux fabliaux, aux lais, aux chansons et aux dits de la langue d'oïl, ces contes de genres variés qui sont bien d'origine essentiellement française et qui ont été traduits, imités ou travestis dans toutes les langues de l'Europe. (Lacroix, 1912 : 7)

Barbazan, en publiant pour la première fois en 1766 le texte des vieux poètes et trouvères français, signala quelques-uns des emprunts que leur a fait Boccace. Puis, Legrand d'Aussy, qui a mis à la portée de tous les lecteurs dans une bonne version moderne, un excellent choix de fabliaux n'a pas hésité à déclarer que Boccace s'était, « enrichi des dépouilles » de Arvers et qu'il « leur devait sa brillante renommée ». (Lacroix, 1912 : 8) Cependant il n'a pas reconnu dans *Le Décameron* plus de dix ou douze nouvelles qui semblent tirées de la source qu'il indique et encore en est-il trois ou quatre que Boccace aurait pu imiter du texte latin *l'Historia septem sapientum*, qui fut traduit en français sous le titre de *Dolapathos* par le moine Hebers du XIIème siècle, dans l'abbaye de Haute-Selve.

Dans sa jeunesse, Boccace est venu à Paris en compagnie d'un riche marchand dont les intérêts commerciaux l'avaient appelé dans cette ville. C'est ici probablement qu'il a fait connaissance avec les fabliaux ou d'autres sources populaires qui plus tard l'aideront dans la composition de son chef-d'œuvre. Boccace est venu à Paris comme marchand, mais il ne pouvait pas être un simple commis tout occupé de négoce comme il a prétendu, parce qu'il avait reçu à Florence une éducation toute littéraire ; il aimait les lettres avec passion. Il a suivi les cours de l'université à Paris, la plus fameuse de toutes les universités à cette époque ; il a fréquenté nécessairement les écoliers, les maîtres ès art, les docteurs de la Sorbonne. On rencontrait partout, en France, des diseurs, des conteurs, des chanteurs qui parcouraient le pays en jouant

de la viole, en amusant leurs auditeurs avec des récits en prose ou en vers, qu'ils savaient par cœur et qu'ils débitaient de la manière la plus plaisante.

Boccace, comme Dante et Pétrarque, parlait et comprenait bien français et il prenait sans doute plaisir à ses joyeuses narrations qui animaient les repas et les longues veillées. On peut supposer qu'il n'avait pas lu dans des manuscrits les compositions originales des trouvères, car les manuscrits étaient assez rares et appartenaient en général à des diseurs de profession qui se montraient fort jaloux de leurs répertoire de contes ; mais ses contes ayant été souvent dits et redits, on les retrouvait plus ou moins fidèlement déposés dans la mémoire de quiconque se piquait de les redire pour le divertissement des compagnies où l'on riait de tout son cœur, suivant la tradition gauloise.

Boccace revient à Florence, l'esprit charmé des bons contes avec lesquels on l'avait fait si bien rire à Paris, et il écrivit son *Décameron*, en mettant à profit ces souvenirs de gaie science et en donnant une forme italienne aux ingénieuses invitations des poètes français.

1.3 Le *Décameron* en France

La réception du chef-d'œuvre de Boccace en France fut faite avec beaucoup d'enthousiasme et fut bien appréciée à la cour du roi. Il était connu par tout le monde et cela peut être observé dans Le Prologue général de *L'Heptameron* quand tous connaissaient très bien *Les cent nouvelles* du maître Boccace.

Entre autres, je croie qu'il n'y a nulle de vous qui n'ait lu *Les Cent Nouvelles* de Boccace, nouvellement traduites d'italien en français, que le Roy François, premier de son nom, monseigneur le Dauphin, madame la Dauphine, madame Marguerite de Navarre, font tant de cas, que si Boccace, du lieu où il était, les eût pu ouïr, il devait ressusciter à la louange de telles personnes. (Le Maçon, 1545 : 9)

La chevalerie entretenait alors de continuelles relations entre toutes les cours de l'Europe, qui cherchaient à se surpasser l'une l'autre en magnificence : de là des fêtes splendides, des pas d'armes et des carrousels, dans lesquels figuraient les princes et les seigneurs de tous les pays chrétiens. Ces relations étaient fréquentes et intimes et *Le Décameron* de Boccace ne pouvait pas manquer d'être favorablement accueilli, dans cette cour spirituelle et brillante, tout ordonnée aux plaisirs de l'intelligence et accoutumée aux folâtreries de la littérature nationale : on se plat à reconnaître dans l'œuvre de Boccace une imitation élégante des fabliaux de la langue d'oïl, des dits de Marie de France et de Rutebeuf, des récits bouffons et graveleux de la confrérie des ménestrels et des trouvères.

Le Décaméron peut être donc un peu français car la belle langue italienne se parlait concurremment avec la langue française à la cour des rois comme à la cour des papes. Ce fut sous le règne de Charles V, que Laurens de Prémierfait, qui était un savant clerc, attaché à la maison du seigneur de Dammartin, se trouva encouragé et invité par son maître à traduire en français *Le Décaméron* de Boccace. Cette traduction n'est pas littérale ; elle semble avoir eu pour objet des naturalistes en France ; l'ouvrage italien qui y est tour à tour abrégé, modifié, transformé et paraphrasé pour satisfaire au goût des lecteurs français. Mais la traduction de Laurens de Prémierfait ne pouvait plus suffire à la cour polie et raffinée de François Ier¹ parce qu'elle paraissait grosseur et brutale aux beaux esprits qui composaient la petite cour de Marguerite de Valois ; il en fallait une autre plus fidèle, plus élégante, plus délicate, moins naïve et moins franche aussi, qu'on pût mettre en parallèle avec l'imitation charmante que la reine de Navarre en avait faite sous le titre de *L'Heptaméron*. Ce fut la reine-même qui désigna son secrétaire, Antoine Le Maçon, pour exécuter cette traduction nouvelle.

Antoine Le Maçon, conseiller du roi, receveur général de ses finances en Bourgogne et trésorier de l'extraordinaire des guerres, avait séjourné longtemps en Italie ; il en possédait la langue, il en avait étudié la littérature, et il était donc plus capable que personne de bien traduire *Le Décaméron*. Premièrement Antoine Le Maçon objecta que *Le Décaméron* était intraduisible en français et il déclara que la langue française ne saurait jamais reproduire les finesses de la langue italienne et que lui-même, d'ailleurs, natif du pays de Dauphiné, il reconnaissait que son langage maternel étant trop éloigné du bon français. La princesse insista, en déclarant que, depuis l'avènement du roi son frère à la couronne de France, la langue française était devenue si riche et si copieuse qu'elle n'avait rien à envier aux autres langues. Antoine Le Maçon, condamné à s'exercer au métier du traducteur accepta la tâche énorme que la reine de Navarre lui imposait et se mit à l'œuvre. C'est ainsi que cette traduction littérale fut entreprise et achevée sous les auspices de la reine de Navarre, c'est ainsi que Marguerite de Navarre a prouvé un tel grand succès avec son *Heptaméron*. Mais cette traduction aussi fut critiquée par les « spécialistes » du genre et Antoine Le Maçon leur avait répondu par les

¹C'était la période où la langue italienne était familière à la jeune noblesse qui avait visité la Lombardie, les états Romains et le royaume de Naples avec les armées de Charles VIII, de Louis XII et François Ier ; on parlait dans les familles nobles, on y lisait les écrivains de la Renaissance, on se délectait surtout à la lecture de Boccace, qui avait tant d'analogies avec les vieux conteurs français.

paroles mêmes de Boccace qui se trouvent dans le prologue de la quatrième journée et dans la conclusion de son *Décameron* :

Les assurant bien qu'ils ne virent pas aventure de leur vie, œuvre de plaisir d'on pense plus cueillir de fruit qu'on fera de cette-ci, s'ils l'y veulent bien-cherché : aussi qu'en voudra faire mal son profès, le lire are les en gardera point. (Boccace, 1976 : 332)

En ce qui concerne la réception du *Décameron* en France ce qui importe le plus c'est pourquoi *Le Décameron* est si important, et ce qu'il est en réalité. On sait que Boccace a choisi pour le titre le mot *Décameron* qui est d'origine grecque et qui signifie « déca » – « dix » et « imera » - « jour », donc dix jours. En réalité, il s'agit de contes qui sont racontés pendant dix jours – dix contes par jour, ce qui fait cent contes. On ne doit oublier que le chef-d'œuvre de Boccace était plus connu que *Les Cent Nouvelles*.

1.4 La structure du *Décameron* ou *Les Cent Nouvelles*

Le Décameron contient cent nouvelles, conçues probablement pendant les années du séjour à Naples, à l'exhortation de Fiametta (mais la plus grande partie entre 1348 et 1353). Pour Boccace il semble très important de les intégrer ensemble dans une corniche qui leur donne une unité extérieure. Il imagine pour cela, comme il l'a déclaré lui-même dans l'Introduction du *Décameron*, que ces cent nouvelles

o favole, o parabole, o istorie che dire le vogliamo, fossero raccontate in dieci giorni da una onesta brigata di sette donne et di tre giorni, nel pestilenzioso tempo dalla passata mortalità fatto... Nelle quelle novelle, piacevoli e aspri casi d'amore ed altri fortunati avvenimenti si vedranno, così nei moderni tempi avvenuti come negli antichi. (Hauvette, 1914 : 71)

Boccace se figure que dix personnes (Pampinea, Fiammetta, Filomena, Emilia, Lauretta, Neifile, Elisa, Dioneo, Pamfilo, Filostrato), tous jeunes, se rencontrent dans l'église Santa Maria Novella, de Florence, en 1348, pendant que la peste sévit et remplit les maisons de cadavres et les âmes de terreur. Aimant la vie et désirant échapper de ce tumulte, de ces inquiétudes, ces jeunes se retirent à la campagne, hors de l'agitation et de la peste. Ils sont déterminés de passer quelques jours parmi les danses, les jeux, les discussions amicales et les délicates parties de plaisir. Chaque jour ils choisissent un roi ou une reine et tous les après-midi (excepte le vendredi et le samedi qui étaient consacrés au carême, au jeûne), assis dans une prairie ils racontent à tour de rôle, une

nouvelle qui fait partie d'un thème générique, indiqué par le roi ou la reine sauf le premier et le neuvième jour, quand on a la liberté du choix. Dix jours, pour chacun dix nouvelles, plus une chanson finale, voilà l'explication du titre grec : *Décaméron* < gr. « deca » - « dix » ; « imera » - « jour », qui veut dire note de dix jours, titre très important pour l'humanisme de Boccace. Cette idée d'ordre était déjà vieille, utilisée depuis longtemps. Réfléchissons, par exemple, à ce livre très diffusé au Moyen Age – *Le Livre de sept sages* ou les extraordinaires aventures du recueil oriental intitulé *Mille et une nuit*.

À la fin du XIIIème siècle paraît ce recueil anonyme *Il Novellino*, où la plus grande partie de la matière est composée par les narrations qui présentent les aventures amoureuses. Comme il est déjà prouvé par la critique littéraire, Boccace a pris du *Novellino* ou d'autres recueils de narrations, seulement la fable anecdotique, l'élément de la réalité, l'attitude de mépris pour les moines vicieux. Son orientation, toujours réaliste, son fort intérêt pour la vie, sa profonde analyse psychologique, la conscience d'une forme artistique supérieure, tels ont été des éléments nouveaux ajoutés par l'auteur du *Décaméron*. Boccace a toujours refait les arguments de ses nouvelles, ses sources d'inspiration étant souvent les fabliaux français, les romans du Moyen Age, les chroniques médiévales, les anecdotes et les faits connus par lui-même. Mais il a recréé tout avec une grande sensibilité et liberté d'artiste parfait, combinant les situations, créant de nouvelles, en leur accordant l'empreinte de son individualité créative, de sa forte et moderne personnalité.

Boccace nous présente une galerie infinie d'héros et de personnages qui appartient à diverses couches sociales de la société contemporaine, réalisés dans leurs traits typiques et essentiels. Il y a sans doute, dans *Le Décaméron* certains types qui peuvent être considérés des créations immortelles. On peut rappeler : ser Ciappelletto, fra Cippola, Marteline Rusticano - moine. « Tutti questi personaggi celebrano il gaio funerale del Medioevo, cantando l'alba del mondo moderno. » (Balaci, 1958 : 60)

1.6 La division des nouvelles en thèmes

Le Décaméron peut être divisé en divers groupes de nouvelles compte tenu que chaque jour à un autre thème :

1. Le premier groupe de nouvelles contient dix narrations qui prouvent la vérité et le bon sens des petites maximes et des proverbes, les créations spécifiques du génie populaire. Parmi ces nouvelles du premier groupe, nous nous rappelons la fameuse nouvelle sur les trois anneaux, où Boccace confirme l'égalité essentielle des trois religions fondamentales (le mosaïsme, le

mahométisme, le christianisme) en démasquant à haute voix les prétentions de la religion chrétienne d'être l'unique qui ait prêché la vérité.

2. Un second groupe contient les nouvelles inspirées par les grandes vertus, par les grands tourments de l'âme, c'est le groupe des nouvelles d'analyse psychologique. Les plus intéressantes sont les celles de Federigo degli Alberghi, la seconde nouvelle du quatrième jour de Griseide qui a été traduite en latin par Pétrarque.

3. Dans un autre groupe on trouve des nouvelles qui décrivent les vicissitudes de la fortune (*fortuna labilis*). Toutes ces nouvelles ont une fin heureuse, le bien triomphe sur le mal – ce qui prouve encore une fois le caractère humaniste de l'œuvre de Boccace. Ces nouvelles démontrent l'optimisme de la nouvelle période qui annonce la Renaissance. Très intéressante parmi toutes les nouvelles est la quatrième nouvelle du second jour, qui développe l'action dans le monde des prostituées à Naples.

4. Mais les plus intéressantes pour le tournant décisif de l'orientation littéraire de cette époque-là sont les nouvelles qui dénoncent les vices des religieux, spéculateurs particulièrement de l'ignorance et de la superstition du peuple. Avec une grande sévérité, avec une dure causticité et une forte ironie, Jean Boccace a démasqué l'avidité, la rapacité de ces débauchés et nonchalants hommes d'église. Le type classique, rarement typique de ces charlatans ecclésiastiques est fra Cipolla, qui a pu tromper les pauvres paysans en leur vendant la goutte de sueur de l'archange qui toute la nuit a lutté avec le diable ; l'angle et la tresse de cheveux de l'archange Michel, des bouteilles pleines du son des cloches du temple de Saint Solomon. La dénonciation du clergé, du bigotisme, de l'hypocrisie des religieux est un trait caractéristique du *Décameron*, qui est de ce point de vue, un chef-d'œuvre et un monument de la littérature humaniste.

Ce livre de cent nouvelles a son origine dans cette vaste littérature anticléricale italienne. Avec de grands effets comiques Boccace y présente le contraste entre les paroles et les faits de ces hommes d'église. Mais Boccace est resté encore un bon chrétien et sa satire anticléricale n'est pas transformée dans une satire antireligieuse, mais en dépit de son intention subjective, cette tendance a été périmée parce que dans la conscience des générations, la satire du *Décameron* a pu encore revêtir l'aspect d'une forte satire antireligieuse.

Le thème des nouvelles de Boccace a comme principale caractéristique l'érotisme. Cette affirmation de l'érotisme a comme source principale l'attaque acharnée que l'humaniste Boccace dirige contre les règles déjà antiques de la

famille de type féodal, contre le mariage conditionné par des intérêts politiques et non par les sentiments personnels des mariés, contre l'étouffement de l'attraction naturelle et contre la tyrannie et l'oppression de la famille féodale. Jean Boccace, grand écrivain humaniste, considère l'amour comme une loi naturelle, sans frein, sans limites. Avec un grand plaisir l'auteur du *Décameron* décrit toujours le triomphe de l'amour sur toutes les vicissitudes et sur les préjugés sociaux. Toujours attentif à étudier de près les passions humaines dans leur origine instinctive et dans leur contraste avec les conventions sociales, il a créé avec un admirable art une grande galerie, une multitude de personnages choisis de la vie et de la réalité italienne contemporaine.

Sûrement, l'art de Boccace atteint dans *Le Décaméron* le comble de sa création. Le style de sa narration est très riche, d'une infinie variété, adhérant toujours à la pensée et au sentiment humain représenté. Dans les nouvelles où sont décrits des événements, des faits héroïques, la prose boccacienne devient plastique, où la matière est morbide, dure, caustique. Aussi sa prose est-elle dure, avec une grande force et tout particulièrement ironique. Sans doute, Jean Boccace peut être considéré le créateur de la prose artistique italienne.

1.7 L'originalité du *Décameron*

Le point central et l'originalité du *Décameron* consistent dans cette étude attentive de Boccace, qui cherche toujours de trouver, de surprendre la vie dans toute sa vaste réalité, toujours passionné par l'étude et l'analyse de l'âme humaine, avec ses états, les plus variés et divers. Un autre trait caractéristique de l'œuvre est son réalisme édifié sur l'observation objective de la réalité. Comme l'observe Giosue Carducci, Boccace réussit spécialement quand il descend au réel, quand il représente le sensuel, étant un véritable peintre du réel et de la réalité, et aussi un miraculeux sculpteur.

Du point de vue de l'histoire littéraire on peut observer que Boccace a le mérite de fixer une matière épique fluide, en anticipant ainsi l'événement littéraire de la Renaissance, du XVème siècle, quand fut fixée la matière de la France et fut réalisée la fusion de deux cycles : carolingien et breton. Jean Boccace a utilisé la matière d'origine antique comme argument et point d'appui pour ses idéaux laïques et humains, anticipant ainsi l'Humanisme renaissant. En ce qui concerne le réalisme, Jean Boccace a ouvert à la littérature italienne de vastes perspectives de la sincérité devant une totale opposition à la mentalité et aux idées des représentants du *Dolce stil nuovo*. Sur cette base réaliste sera

édifiée, par la suite, la plus grande partie de la production de la littérature italienne jusqu'à nos jours.

Jean Boccace, le parfait artiste du *Décameron*, avait changé totalement les préjugés dits éthiques ; il ferme définitivement le Moyen Age, il se libère avec *Le Décameron* de la tutelle de l'Église et de la scolastique et ce fait littéraire a une extraordinaire importance pour la préparation spirituelle de la Renaissance.

L'idéal si humain de Boccace fut celui de scruter profondément l'âme humaine, de chercher et de peindre l'amour dans son cadre plus naturel, en accordant ainsi à l'art un grand et nouveau territoire, en le passant au-delà des confins théologiques et scolastiques. L'œuvre de Jean Boccace, investigateur infatigable de l'âme humaine, précurseur par cela même de la Renaissance, l'époque de la découverte de l'homme et du monde, peut être considéré comme une vaste « Comédie humaine ». Le monde du Moyen Age était mystique, hors de la nature et de l'homme, car le caractère de celui-ci était la transcendance, quelque chose au-delà du profane et du sacré. Le héros de la littérature du Moyen Age est suspendu au-dessus de la terre, avec les yeux vers le haut, ardent d'espoir et de foi. L'homme de Boccace, le protagoniste de ses nouvelles, est, au contraire, placé avec les yeux tournés vers la terre-mère, à laquelle il demande et de laquelle il obtient la satisfaction, la solution de ses désirs.

Sur le fond du monde des allégories et des visions théologiques, s'élève serein et tranquille le monde laïque, païen, avec ses divinités humanisées, avec sa nature animée, avec son sentiment de la beauté. Maintenant, le nouveau temps est mûr.

De la brume du mysticisme s'élèvent les hommes dans des pays plus sereins et clairs, où la vérité et la beauté s'embrassent. L'homme renaît et la raison humaine et de plus grands horizons s'ouvrent à sa pensée. Ce rajeunissement des forces et des possibilités humaines, extenuées dans le halètement des soupirs ascétiques et des syllogismes scolastiques, cette réunion de la pensée à la terre et à l'humanité est

staccarsi dal simbolismo e palpate con mano amorosa la natura ignuda erano ben necessari – perché potessero educarsi alla scuola della ragione e dell'esperanza i poetici, i riformatori, i filosofi, tutti i grandi preparatori della moderna civiltà. (Balaci, 1958 : 76)

Une très brève caractérisation de l'activité et de l'importance de Boccace a été réalisé par Francesco De Sanctis. « Specchio della società del Trecento nelle sue fluttuazioni, nelle sue tendenze fu Giovanni Boccaccio. » (De Sanctis, 1965 : 325) Ses hésitations et ses dissonances proviennent de la coexistence, dans son âme, des éléments vieux et nouveaux, vifs et morts, qui forment un vrai mélange. Une double enveloppe mystique et mythologique entoure comme un brouillard ce monde de la nature. Parmi ces hésitations s'est formé *Le Décaméron*. Jean Boccace y abandonne la chevalerie, la mythologie, l'allégorie et tout son monde classique, toutes ses réminiscences dantesques et il s'enferme dans sa société où il vit et il se réjouit, parce que là Boccace se retrouve lui-même, parce que lui aussi, il vit cette vie commune. Il disparaît avec *Le Décaméron* ce vivre de l'esprit en soi, nourri par des fantasmes et des mystères. Le monde de l'esprit s'en va, le monde de la nature revient. « La Divina Commedia per Dante è la beatitudine celeste, commedia per Boccace è la beatitudine terrena. » (Balaci, 1958 : 77)

En ce qui concerne la structure et la technique accomplies du *Décaméron*, on peut dire qu'il y a toute une série des raisons qui font de ce chef-d'œuvre un exemple privilégié pour l'étude de la narration. Tout d'abord il est nécessaire que dans le texte littéraire choisi, l'action et l'intrigue jouent un rôle dominant. Les nouvelles de Boccace qui obéissent à une causalité événementielle sont beaucoup mieux appropriées pour l'étude de ce type de récit que ne l'est une œuvre à causalité psychologique, comme certaines nouvelles de Maupassant, par exemple. En même temps, ces nouvelles présentent des intrigues relativement simples : la plupart d'entre elles sont menées en quelques pages ; les personnages ne sont pas plus de trois ou quatre ; l'intrigue ne possède qu'un petit nombre de « chaînons ».

Le grand nombre d'histoires contenues dans *Le Décaméron* présente aussi des avantages considérables. La récurrence des relations est nécessaire pour qu'on puisse identifier la structure et non pas parler de la structure d'une nouvelle si on fonde uniquement sur cette nouvelle-là. D'autre part, il est clair que le nombre et la variété des nouvelles permettent de révéler une plus grande quantité de faits significatifs. Enfin, ce grand nombre est aussi une garantie : on peut procéder ainsi à des vérifications qui prouveront ou infirmeront ces hypothèses. Ce n'est que dans le cas d'une matière aussi étendue qu'on peut poser la question de l'économie du système, un des critères de choix entre deux descriptions également fidèles est celui de la simplicité ; la nature et le nombre des concepts utilisés, la complexité des opérations qu'on leur fait subir.

L'homogénéité de la matière étant une autre propriété souvent exigée de l'objet d'une étude, on pourrait contester le choix du *Décameron*, en se fondant sur l'origine variée des histoires qu'il contient. Si ces histoires étaient très différentes, les résultats obtenus seraient inférieurs à ceux qu'on peut tirer d'un recueil homogène. En effet, les érudits ont pu retrouver les sources de quatre-vingt-dix nouvelles sur cent. Elles viennent soit du folklore de différent pays, soit d'auteurs anciens ou contemporains. D'ailleurs, celles dont l'origine n'est pas claire ne forment pas un groupe à part ; on les retrouvera plus tard dans le folklore ou chez d'autres auteurs, parfaitement assimilés. Cependant, voir dans ce fait une contestation de l'homogénéité du recueil serait mal poser le problème de l'unité et plus généralement de l'invention. Aucune histoire n'est pas et ne peut pas être une invention totalement originale. Tout récit renvoie à un récit précédent ; le récit est toujours un écho de récits. L'originalité d'un texte littéraire ne peut pas consister dans l'absence de renvois à d'autres textes antérieurs. Boccace a lui-même indiqué la voie à suivre dans la conclusion du livre : « je n'ai pas inventé ces histoires, je les ai écrites ». C'est en effet dans l'écriture que se crie l'unité ; les motifs que l'étude du folklore nous fait connaître sont transformés par l'écriture boccacienne.

Au lieu d'être une contestation du système, les histoires étrangères en deviennent, par leurs transformations, la meilleure confirmation. De même, un mot d'origine étrangère qui entre dans le vocabulaire d'une langue cesse par là-même d'être étranger : il subit pour cela, s'il est nécessaire, des transformations phonétiques et morphologiques ; les lois du vocabulaire n'en ressortent que plus clairement.

Pour mieux comprendre, prenons pour exemple une nouvelle - j'ai choisi la nouvelle neuvième de la neuvième journée ; deux personnes souffrent de malheurs différents : Joseph a une méchante femme, alors que Mélisse n'est pas aimée par ses concitoyens. Ils vont soumettre leurs problèmes au roi Solomon ; ceux-ci leur donne des conseils très brefs et énigmatiques. Mais peu à peu, chacun d'eux comprend le sens du conseil et leurs malheurs disparaissent. La source de cette histoire est, paraît-il, une légende rabbinique. Mais Boccace la transforme complètement et le résumé que nous venons de donner n'est plus fidèle. De deux réponses de Solomon, Boccace ne retient en fait que l'une ; celle qui concerne la méchante femme. Et toute la nouvelle consiste à raconter l'aventure que vit Joseph avec sa femme, après son retour ; aventure en tout semblant à celle des autres nouvelles. L'histoire de la seconde réponse, qui concerne l'amour du prochain, occupe à peine quelques lignes à la fin de la nouvelle. Le caractère presque intelligible des conseils ne reçoit pas

plus d'attention. Ainsi cette histoire se soumet pleinement aux lois qui gouvernent l'univers du *Décameron*. Mais ce qui importe le plus c'est que l'histoire de la peste, dédiée aux jeunes gens, forme un contrepoint aux histoires enchâssées, elle a des propriétés différentes qui servent le contraste. Boccace a, aussi, le souci de toujours introduire un personnage, souvent secondaire, qui sert de témoin et avec lequel le lecteur peut s'identifier. Boccace est intéressé par la réaction du lecteur et cela se réalise souvent dans le cadre ou dans les paroles introductives du narrateur ou dans la discussion qui suit.

La même distribution complémentaire s'observe à propos d'un autre aspect important de récit, qui se manifeste dans *Le Décaméron*, par un proverbe, une métaphore, ou une réflexion moralisatrice. Cette « morale » que Jolles considère comme attachée particulièrement aux récits enchâssés (par opposition aux histoires enchaînées) constitue une sorte d'excédent qui demande à son tour d'être subie par une nouvelle histoire, ici l'histoire-cadre. Du point de vue de la structure syntaxique la nouvelle peut être divisée en deux parties, en faisant passer la limite entre les deux relations obligatoires : le désir et la modification. Dans cette perspective, la première partie expose un certain état des choses, alors que la seconde en donne une transformation ; la première contient les données, la seconde en apporte la solution. En effet, la première partie contient donc l'hypothèse, le doute, le manque de connaissance, qui seront comblés dans la partie suivante. Un fait formel significatif vient confirmer cette impression, toutes les propositions modales apparaissent dans la première partie de la nouvelle. Pour le prouver, on doit rappeler l'intrigue de deux nouvelles, la cinquième nouvelle de la première journée et la deuxième de la septième journée. Dans le premier cas il s'agit d'un roi qui entend parler de la beauté d'une dame ; il décide de la séduire – ce sont donc les données du problème. Mais cette dame se défend si bien que le roi doit repartir sans rien avoir obtenu - telle est la solution du problème posé. Dans le second cas, Tinguccio et Miuccio aiment la commère du premier. Celui-ci devient son amant ; en sera-t-il puni dans l'autre monde - ce sont les données. Non, car une telle action n'y est pas considérée comme péché-solution.

Il existe une autre façon de formuler cette même relation entre les deux parties : on peut dire que la première constitue une question à laquelle la seconde répond. Mais la question peut être précisément caractérisée comme une parole susceptible d'arrêter le flot du discours.

Une histoire ne peut donc commencer que par une question et ne peut se clore que par une réponse. En même temps, le couple question-réponse forme le noyau même du dialogue, c'est un micro-dialogue ; par conséquent la nouvelle est, elle aussi, profondément dialogique. Boccace est un défenseur de la libre entreprise et même si l'on veut, du capitalisme naissant. L'idéologie de la nouvelle bourgeoise consiste précisément à contester l'ancien système de l'échange devenu trop étroit et à sa place d'imposer un autre plus libéral qui peut faire croire au début surtout, qu'il consiste en la disparition totale du système. Cette description s'applique, mot par mot, à la morale des nouvelles dans *Le Décaméron*.

Mais ce qui plaît le plus au lecteur c'est l'unité du livre que lui offre l'image de la contradiction irréductible. Chaque nouvelle se justifie par la contestation du système qu'elle apporte, autrement dit par la présence de l'action modifiante de l'action motrice. Cette action, cette proposition a deux propriétés importantes : elle permet de contester le système préexistant pour pouvoir assumer cette fonction, elle est obligatoirement rebelle à tout système ; elle est toujours originale et ne peut pas se constituer que par une différence par rapport aux autres. Pour bien servir le système du récit elle doit être individuelle, mais étant individuelle, elle détruit le système du récit. L'action modifiante est aussi destructive pour le monde extérieur ; elle est à la fois la vie et la mort, il est son plus grand adversaire.

Par son existence même de texte écrit, la nouvelle apporte une nouvelle norme ; tout en détruisant une autre, elle constitue une valeur stable, alors que son but était de contester les valeurs. D'une part elle fait mal, elle déplace et institue ainsi une dimension temporelle, de l'autre elle abolit le temps et inaugure une existence achronique telle une trace ineffaçable.

Conclusions

Après avoir présenté les modalités de la technique de réalisation du *Décaméron*, je crois qu'on peut conclure que l'importance de Boccace et de son œuvre est immense. On peut dire aussi que la préparation de la Renaissance fut due à de très grands écrivains de la littérature italienne du Trecento : Dante, Boccace et Pétrarque. Pour comprendre cet argument et combien vif et actuel est Boccace, voilà quelques fragments d'un article de Lucignano paru dans *l'Unité*, le 18 septembre 1951, après la représentation à Certaldo de certaines nouvelles adaptées de Boccace :

Il pubblico rideva a qualche battuta più spiritosa, ad altre applaudiva. Ogni tanto si sentiva una voce che saliva nella platea a commentare. Pareva che le centinaia d'anni che dividevano Boccaccio dal pubblico fossero sparite, il popolo celebrava il suo scrittore sentendolo vicino, ritrovandosi con lui a quella festa. (Marchi, 1975 : 32)

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PUT YOUR RESEARCH ON THE MAP: EFFECTIVE TITLE AND ABSTRACT WRITING FOR RESEARCH PAPERS

Marina-Cristiana ROTARU

Abstract: This paper deals with writing strategies for effective titles and abstracts that are essential in increasing the visibility of a research paper. In order to become successful marketing tools, titles and abstracts must develop an internal structure with advertising potential. This structure contains those key elements able to promote the research on the scientific market and turn the paper into an eye-catching work, hunted for and extensively referred to by members of the scientific community. It is also important for a scientific paper author to be able to condense the gist of their investigation in the title, which should have a limited number of words. Hence, identifying ways to improve the conciseness of a heading would benefit the paper through its main idea, which can easily emerge from a well-trimmed title.

Keywords: *effective writing; title and abstract writing techniques; writing patterns; optimization of title length*

Academic success depends on research and publications. (Philip Zimbardo)

Introduction

The aim of this paper is to identify writing techniques for effective titles and abstracts that can raise the visibility of a research paper. In today's highly competitive academic environment, governed by the "publish or perish" rule, mastering such skills has become a must. It is not enough to have accounts on various academic platforms where one can upload one's recent papers. Writing eye-catching, well-structured titles and developing informative, well-organised and cohesive abstracts are useful and effective means of advertising one's research.

Title writing and abstract writing go hand in hand, the two parts of the paper being the most read parts since they are easily accessible to potential readers. Content wise, title and abstract represent the identifying elements of a research paper since they contain the essential information of the research. They signal the presence of a new theme or approach in a certain domain of research and the two identifying elements must be able to make the new data stand out. The title performs a so-called labelling function for the entire paper. Its highly condensed content must be reflected in the abstract. The abstract,

in its turn, incorporates the title information into a well-knit and coherent paragraph, a miniature of the entire paper.

1. Title writing

1.1 Title elements

Scientific texts, whether they are research papers or scientific magazine articles aimed at popularizing science, need an eye-catching title to attract readers' attention. In spite of the inherent features of the two genres mentioned above (research papers and magazine articles), their titles need to be both neutral and objective as expected of scientific texts. Furthermore, in order to address a wider audience, authors of such texts need to make sure that, when writing titles, they adhere to the principle of "semantic transparency"¹ (Gurgu, 2018: 69, 74), which makes even readers with no special or expert knowledge follow the gist of such papers or magazine articles. This transparency can be enhanced by avoiding, for instance, the use of unfamiliar abbreviations or acronyms in the title, or too many highly specialized terms, to mention but a few. These aspects will be investigated below with a focus on scientific research papers.

The title is the most frequently skimmed part of the paper (Rad, 2008: 51) and, together with the abstract, is the most easily accessed element of a research article included in international databases. In order to be skimmed and later scanned, a title needs to be able to attract the readers' attention. Hence, the words that make up the title must be carefully chosen and a balance between specialized words and more common words (easily decipherable by the non-specialist reader) must be struck.

Consequently, an efficient wording of a title is supposed to include a few key elements that make the paper quickly identifiable (Rad, 2008: 52) in the vast record of academic research present in various databases. Academic bulletins and journals usually require three to five keywords. These tagging elements should refer to the topic of the paper, the analytical framework and the scope of the investigation and, possibly, the findings of the research.

Specialized vocabulary may also include abbreviations or acronyms. It is advisable to eliminate abbreviations in a title. If abbreviations were necessary, a solution would be to spell out the term in order to "insure accurate, complete indexing of the article" (American Psychological Association, 2010: 23). The

¹ Our translation (transparence sémantique).

same applies to acronyms. However, acronyms can be part of a title if they are well-known and easily recognizable, such as US (which stands for the United States). A potential title including the acronym "US" can be: "Changing the US Foreign Policy in Post-9/11 World"². Here the reader will quickly understand what the acronym refers to.

Sometimes, acronyms can be quite opaque to a non-specialist reader. Let us have a look at two examples:

1. "CAT Tools: The Digitalization of Translation in the Globalization Age". Here, the meaning of the acronym CAT (Computer-Assisted Translation) may not be easily deciphered. In order to make the title more transparent, the author can add the spelled-out form of the acronym: "Computer-Assisted Translation (CAT) Tools: The Digitalization of Translation in the Globalization Age".

2. A title such as "Managing the TEP for Legal Texts: Innovative Approaches and Solutions" may have its meaning obscured by the acronym TED (Translation-Edit-Proofread Process), which is perhaps less encountered than CAT. The problem can be solved by including the full name of the process, followed by the acronym, in the title: "Managing the Translation-Edit-Proofread Process (TEP) for Legal Texts: Innovative Approaches and Solutions".

A title should not include redundant phrases (American Psychological Association, 2010: 23), which undermine its advertising effectiveness, making it appear superfluous or dull. Constructions such as "A Study to Explore the Time Saving Capability of CAT Tools" or "From Trados to SmartCAT: A Review of Machine Translation Software" become redundant because of the nouns "study" and "review", since a research paper can be a study or a review. The first title can be re-written as "Pros and Cons of Machine Translation: Exploring the Time Saving Capability of CAT Tools" while the second title can be reformulated as "From Trados to SmartCAT: A Quality Assurance Assessment of Machine Translation Software".

Other obsolete title formulations should also be dropped (Rad, 2008: 51). For example, titles beginning with "Some Remarks on ..." or with the preposition "On ..." as in "On the Use of Wool for Green Houses Insulation" should also be rephrased since a title beginning with preposition "On" tends to be too general. On the contrary, a good title needs to be focused on a distinct, well-defined topic. This title can be revamped as "Innovations in Wool Technology for Sustainable Green Houses Insulation".

² Unless signaled otherwise, the title exemplified in the paper are created by the author.

1.2. Title length for research papers

It is advisable that title length should not exceed twelve words (American Psychological Association, 2010: 23). It is not easy to say how many words a title should include. But the rule should not be rigid. Naturally, the title depends on the content of each paper and should be informative enough regarding the main aspects of the study. Limiting the title to just a few words can prevent the writer from making it comprehensible to potential readers. Formulating very long titles is also not advisable since such titles may fail to retain the readers' focus. Striking the right balance regarding title length can be a challenge, but one can always resort to the rule of common sense, which may provide a sound feedback and help the writer take the right decision. Furthermore, if the relative 12-word limit is crossed, adding a subtitle can solve the problem.

Subtitles are helpful tools in wording titles because they provide useful detailed information which, due to the limited number of words that a title should contain, cannot be included in the main heading. Subtitles can pinpoint the geographical, temporal, social, cultural or methodological scope of an investigation. They can also add essential data on the sampling material of the research. Let us look at the title "Teaching English as a Foreign Language in Romania: Historical Approaches". It identifies the topic (the teaching of English as a Foreign Language), the methodology used (historical approaches) and the geographical area of the investigation (Romania). It is circumscribed to the generally accepted 12-word limit, but it may be regarded too general. It can be made more specific by means of a subtitle which can add more than the temporal scope, which is missing in the main title. A version like "Teaching English as a Foreign Language in Romania: Promoters of English Teaching in High School Education in Between the Two World Wars". The subtitle reveals information about the temporal span of the analysis (in between the two World Wars), informs the readers that promoters of English language teaching will be mentioned in the investigation, and introduces a further limit of the research by focusing on high school education (not primary education or university education).

1.3. The basic components of the title of a research paper

In order to circumscribe the title of a research paper to a sensible number of words, it is highly important to select those pieces of information that are able to individualise the research and announce its main points. A title is considered suggestive and well-structured if it includes four key elements: (1) the subject

matter or the topic of the research, (2) the method of investigation or analysis, (3) the sample or specimen to be analysed and (4) the results or the conclusion of the research. There is no strict order for the inclusion of these indispensable elements in the title as long as it is logical. Let us have a look at the following possible titles and try to evaluate their structure according to the presence or absence of the four key elements introduced above:

“Advances in Ceramic on Metal (COM) Prostheses for Hip Replacement: A Qualitative Approach”. The title mentions the topic (advances in ceramic on metal prostheses for hip replacement) and the method of analysis (a qualitative approach). But it does not make any reference to the conclusions and does not identify the group of patients who are evaluated.

“Back on One’s Feet: Metal on Metal (MOM) Prostheses or Ceramic on Metal (COM) Prostheses?” The title starts with a catchy phrase (Back on One’s Feet), which is a good choice for formulating attractive titles. But apart from a topic partially defined, it gives little information about the investigation. Readers are not told what kind of prostheses the article refers to: hip prostheses, arm or leg prostheses? The method of investigation, the sample under analysis and the results of the research are not mentioned.

“Limb Prostheses Work like Magic”. This is a catchy title since it is built on the idiom “Work like Magic” but does not provide any relevant information about the content of the article, apart from too broad a topic (limb prostheses). So, this title does not serve its purpose: to identify the scope and limitation of the research. Furthermore, it is a too informal for a research paper.

“A Qualitative Analysis of the Post-Surgery Physical Recovery of Patients with Implanted Hip Prostheses”. This is a better formulated title than the previous three examples. It gives information about the topic of the paper (the post-surgery recovery of patients with implanted hip prostheses), the sample under analysis (patients with implanted hip prostheses) and the method of investigation (a qualitative analysis). But it does not reveal any information about the results of the investigation.

Considering the four examples analysed above, the formulation of a title containing all the four main elements (topic, method of investigation, sample under analysis and results of the research) may be attempted. Let us have a look at the following suggested title: “Hip Replacement Fails to Boost Mobility: A Qualitative Analysis of the Post-Surgery Physical Recovery of Patients with Implanted Hip Prostheses”. The main title announces the conclusions of the study (an eye-catching technique) and is followed by a subtitle which provides

the other key elements of a well-structured heading: the method of investigation (a qualitative analysis), the topic and the sample investigated (post-surgery physical recovery of patients with implanted hip prostheses).

1.4. Learning to optimize title length

Practice is a pre-requisite for success. Learning to write titles for research papers and optimize title length takes place by trial and error. Exercising title writing can be improved by taking into consideration a few suggestions. In reaching for the most suitable title for a research paper, there is always a tension between the informational input and the length of the heading. However, this tension can be partly reduced by trying to write as concisely as the paper allows.

Conciseness in a title can be achieved through nominalizations or use of gerunds. Apart from condensing information in a restricted number of words, nominalization is suitable for the formal register that research papers are circumscribed to, enhancing their neutral and factual style. In addition, nominalizations in paper titles have been proven instrumental in retrieving information about such papers, i.e. topical and non-topical data (López-López, Montes y Gómez, 1998: 397). Topical data indicate the subject matter of the paper while non-topical data include those “document details such as purpose, aim, objective, points of view, or level of content” which reveal the goals of the researcher in a specific paper (López-López, Montes y Gómez, 1998: 2). Research in the area of information retrieval has revealed various nominalization patterns that reflect non-topical information. For instance, López-López and Montes y Gómez have identified several patterns for expressing the aim(s) of the research paper. Two of these patterns are introduced below:

Pattern 1: “A nominalization followed by a preposition *of* or *to* in the first part of the title” (López-López, Montes y Gómez, 1998: 398). Such a pattern can be illustrated by the following examples: (a) “An In-Depth Evaluation of Globalization Practices of the Automotive Industry”; (b) “An Introduction to TV Live Subtitling: Practical Considerations”. In example (a), the nominalization “in-depth evaluation” indicates that the content of the paper is a detailed assessment of globalization practices. Therefore, the intention of the writer is to thoroughly evaluate a subject matter: globalization practices in the automotive industry. In example (b), the nominalization “introduction” reveals the intention of the author: to provide only elementary information about the subject matter, TV live subtitling, in its practical aspects. In both

examples, the nominalization followed by preposition continues with the topic of the paper. So, the pattern can be further developed into a formula of this type: [nominalization + preposition (of/to) + topic].

Pattern 2: "A nominalization within a conjunction (followed by *and*), and then a preposition *of* or *to*" (Lopéz-Lopéz, Montes y Gómez, 1998: 398). This pattern, which rests on a coordinating conjunction structure, can be exemplified as follows: (a) "The Ideological Representation and Manipulation of Romanian History in Secondary and High School Education Textbooks during the Communist Regime"; (b) "Acquisition, Development and Assessment of (Inter)Cultural Awareness in the Professional Training of Translators and Interpreters". In example (a), the aim of the author is to demonstrate how Romanian history, as presented in history textbooks, was ideologically represented and manipulated. In example (b), the purpose of the paper is to provide information on how translators' and interpreters' (inter)cultural awareness skills are learned, sharpened and assessed. In both examples, the nominalizations (coordinated by the conjunction "and") are accompanied by the preposition "of", followed by the topical information about the paper. Hence, the pattern identified by Lopéz-Lopéz and Montes y Gómez can be extended into the same formula, which applies to pattern 1 above: [nominalization 1 *and* nominalization 2 *and* nominalization 3 + preposition (of/to) + topic].

Nominalization by means of gerunds is also frequent in the structure of titles in general and of research paper titles in particular due to their ability to condense information. For example, the title "The Translation of English Terminology Used in Various Sustainability Discourses", which numbers ten words, can be reduced to eight words if a gerund is used at the beginning of the heading: "Translating English Terminology Used in Various Sustainability Discourses". Gerunds can appear not only in front position, but also in middle position in a title: "Computer-Generated Methods for Simulating Earthquakes".

Compound adjectives, too, can turn into effective tools for optimizing title length and providing essential data on the content of the research paper through their descriptive power. Some of the most common types of compound nouns found in the structure of titles include "noun + adjective" compounds, "noun + past participle" compounds or "adjective + past participle" compounds:

- a. The titles "Advances in Energy-Efficient Urban Water Systems" and "The Influence of Water-Soluble Vitamins

- on the Human Immune System” rest on a “noun + adjective” pattern (energy-efficient system and water-soluble vitamins, respectively).
- b. The second pattern, “noun + past participle” can be illustrated by the following examples: “A Corpus-Based Approach to Idiom Variation in Legal English” (corpus-based approach) and “The Role of Endothelium-Mediated Vasodilation in Blood Pressure: An Overview” (endothelium-mediated vasodilation).
 - c. “Adjective + Past Participle”: this pattern is present in titles such as “The Cost-Effectiveness of Reducing Short-Lived Climate Pollutants: An Outline”. The compound structure is represented by “short-lived climate pollutants”.
 - d. “Noun + Present Participle”: this compound can be illustrated by the title “Energy-Saving Technologies to Lower the Carbon Footprint of Office Buildings”.

Writing good titles is a skill that needs practice to improve. Efficient titles are not delivered on a silver plate and they are seldom achieved on the spur of the moment. A bit of planning is required, starting with the brainstorming step. Jotting down words and phrases related with the topic of the paper, including key words, is instrumental in sketching a suitable title. Then a sentence to encompass the main idea of the paper can be developed. Afterwards, one can start reducing the sentence to a shorter structure, helped by the suggestions and techniques presented above.

2. Writing the abstract

Abstracts are essential constituents of research papers and carry out vital functions meant to enhance the visibility of the scientific article. The **research paper** has become a distinct **genre**, i.e. “a type of text or discourse designed to achieve a set of communicative purposes” (Swales and Feak, 2009: 1), alongside other research genres such as “literature reviews, conference and other talks, conference posters” (Swales and Feak, 2009: x), to mention but a few. As the abstract is a part of the research article, it has turned into “an increasingly **part-genre**” (Swales and Feak, 2009: 1).

Writing the abstract is as important as finding a suitable title for the paper. A good abstract is a summary that provides all the data that potential readers

need in order to understand what the article is about without having to read the entire paper. Abstracts should be able to be read as autonomous texts.

2.1 The general structure of an abstract

Depending on the number of words required for the abstract (ranging from about two hundred to about five hundred), an abstract can be developed in one or more paragraphs. Whatever the number of paragraphs, the abstract must be characterized by cohesion and coherence. Therefore, well-built paragraphs provide the abstract with a logical internal structure.

Fully-developed paragraphs include (Hodges, 1994: 308-341):

- a topic sentence;
- a supporting sentence (or more supporting sentences);
- a concluding sentence.

The function of the **topic sentence** is to introduce the main idea of the paragraph, to highlight what the paragraph is about. It is important that the topic sentence express one idea in order to preserve the discursal unity of the paragraph. A clear topic sentence helps the paragraph develop coherently (Hodges, 1994: 308-309).

Let us have a look at the following example of a topic sentence: "Six out of ten pupils in Romania have iPhones". This is a poor example of a topic sentence because you cannot develop it in the supporting sentences. The information is purely factual. But the example can be improved as follows: "iPhones account for an increasing number of underachievers among pupils in schools". This statement is more general and invites the potential writer to try and present the main idea in more detail in the following sentences of the paragraph.

Supporting sentences are the sentences that provide extra information about the main idea expressed in the topic sentence. They support the main idea with examples and justification and represent the main body of the paragraph (Hodges, 1994: 313-314 and 327-329).

The **concluding sentence** winds up the paragraph and, in a larger text (or abstract), establishes the logical connection with the next paragraph.

Like a paragraph, good abstracts should be coherent, cohesive and compact, in order to catch the attention of potential readers, who will be later willing to read the entire paper. Abstracts are meant to function as:

- “*mini-texts*³, giving readers a short summary of a study’s topic, methodology, and main findings”;
- “*screening devices*, helping readers to decide whether they wish to read the whole article or not”;
- “*previews* for readers intending to read the whole article, giving them a road-map for their reading”. (Huckin, 2001, cited in Swales and Feak, 2009: 2).

Hence, the information they include must be selected carefully in order to strictly respect the content of the research paper since abstracts are expected to function as **mini versions** of the full article. There are several categories of elements that should not be included in an abstract because they prevent the abstract from functioning as a “stand-alone *mini-text*” (Huckin, 2001, cited in Swales and Feak, 2009: 2): specific information that is developed in the body of the research paper, references, images or other types of visual input, and abbreviations that profane readers are not familiar with. All this information can only make the general meaning of the abstract opaque and discourage readers from reading the whole paper. Abstracts should not include information that is not contained in the corresponding article.

2.2 Various types of abstracts

The literature identifies two largely used types of abstracts: descriptive abstracts and informative abstracts. They are used by researchers activating in various fields of study, such as humanities, social sciences, science or engineering.

Descriptive abstracts are mostly encountered in the fields of humanities and social sciences. They mainly include information regarding the background of the research, the purpose of the research and the centre point of the investigation, but do not provide information on the analytical framework and the outcome of the study. Sometimes, a basic outline of the paper may be added (The University of Adelaide, n.d.).

Informative abstracts are mostly used in the fields of engineering, science and psychology (The University of Adelaide, n.d.) and are more detailed than the descriptive abstracts (Swales and Feak, 2009: 26).

Informative abstracts, like descriptive abstracts, provide information about the background of the research, the purpose of the research and its main focus,

³ The author’s emphasis (here and in the two sentences below).

⁴ The author’s emphasis.

but they also present all the main points of the study, the analytical approach(es), the findings of the investigation and its results and the conclusions of the entire study (Hartley, 2004, cited in Swales and Feak, 2009: 26). These informative abstracts are also known as structured abstracts because their content is organised into "labelled sub-sections" (Swales and Feak, 2009: 26). These exact labels are: Background; Aim; Method; Results; Conclusions (Hartley, 2004, cited in Swales and Feak, 2009: 26).

Conclusion

Writing a research paper requires a careful planning of the content. Paragraph development is essential for a coherent and cohesive presentation of the research, but equally essential are the title and the abstract of the article. Being the most exhibited parts of the paper, it is imperative to write them clearly and expressively. Taking into consideration word-limit constraints on both title and abstract, it is advisable to learn to optimize their length so that they can serve their main purpose: to give an accurate, clear and concise account of the data of the research so that the article stand out among other articles of its kind.

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A SHORT REVIEW OF TRANSLATION ERRORS IN LEGAL LANGUAGE

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Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to give a short review of some of the most common errors in legal translation, namely terminological and grammatical errors. The analysis focuses on short texts translated from Romanian into English by students enrolled in a translation programme who have just had their first contact with specialized legal texts. The paper also aims to identify the causes of such errors and, if possible, suggest a few practical solutions to these translation problems. The motivation for the case-study method in our analysis is to raise students' awareness about the specific nature of legal language by starting from an examination of their own use of language.

Keywords: *translation errors; legal terminology; translation studies; legal collocations; specialized translation*

Introduction

This paper aims to present some of the most frequent types of errors in legal translation, namely terminological and grammatical errors, which have been detected in the translation, from Romanian into English, of short legal texts made by students who have just been introduced to the study of legal translation. The short texts are part of their seminar practice and represent the first contacts that students have had with specialised legal translation. The method of investigation is based on a case-study analysis of the legal language used by students in their retroversion activities that are part of their regular translation practice. Collecting empirical data is a useful and efficient manner of making students aware of errors easily made in legal translation and of helping students rectify them.

A professional legal translator is supposed to develop several skills in order to be able to offer good linguistic services: awareness of the appropriate terminology, a general understanding of the legal system of the source language country and the legal system of the target language country, and a good command of the legal writing style in the target language (Chirilă, 2014: 487). These essential skills help the translator transfer information accurately.

One of the first steps in dealing with legal texts is understanding specialised terminology, which means both learning this specific terminology and understanding legal concepts. In order to use the right terms correctly,

students need to make the newly acquired words or expressions part of their active vocabulary and avoid turning the new terms into passive vocabulary.

At the end of the semester during which students studied legal translation, they were asked to work on some short Romanian texts and translate them into English. The purpose of this retroversion activity was to test whether the new terminology that our students acquired during the semester became part of their active vocabulary. Retroversion requires a good command of the target language (in this case, English) and, equally, a good knowledge of the specific domain. Although our students studied legal translation for just one semester, they were presented the main aspects of the legal system in England and Wales, on the one hand, and of the Romanian legal system, on the other hand, and were exposed to a wide variety of activities meant to familiarize them with the legal concepts and legal terminology. Apart from checking whether a specific term is part of a student's active or passive vocabulary, retroversion is also helpful in detecting whether the translator is caught into the trap of a word-by-word translation or is able to identify the natural structure in the target language.

Legal translation is one of the types of specialized translations also known as LSP translation, where LSP stands for "Language for Special or Specific Purposes". Hence, specialized translation can be defined as "the translation of texts dealing with subject-specific knowledge, using specialist terminology, having a particular communicative purpose and addressing a specific audience" (Palumbo, 2009: 108). In order to be able to translate a specialised text, students need to become familiar with the specific domain of legal translations, learn the specialist terminology and use it correctly.

1. Types of errors in translation

Although a very good command of the target language is necessary in specialised translation, it is not enough. Specialised translation also requires a broad and expert knowledge of the syntax of the target language, the lexical, semantic and pragmatic dimensions of the target language and the terminology of the field. Insufficient specialised knowledge leads to various types of errors.

There is a wide range of errors arising from inadequate translation. Cătălina Radu identifies a broad array of translation errors, such as:

- **accuracy errors** (which arise from the incorrect understanding of the source text, and which also manifest in an incomplete translation of the source text);
- **terminological errors** (which are usually caused by polysemantic terms and/or by the use, in the target language, of multiple terms for a particular term in the source language, and this leads to terminological inconsistency);
- **grammatical errors** (such as spelling errors or punctuation errors); **editing errors** (such as the use of incorrect letter fonts, or incorrect layout);
- errors resulting from the **incorrect application of national standards** or unawareness of national standards, these errors being encountered mainly in localization projects) and
- **stylistic errors** (such as errors arising from the incorrect use of the language register – formal or informal) (Radu, 2017: 68-70).

Stylistic errors may also be caused by an incorrect use of or a disregard of genre conventions.

Our analysis focuses on two types of translation errors, namely terminological errors and grammatical errors made by translation students during their seminar practice. These errors, we believe, are mainly the result of insufficient individual practice and revision.

1.1 Terminological and grammatical errors

As mentioned above, terminological errors are often caused by the polysemantic nature of various terms, or by the use, in the target language, of more than one term for a specific term from the source language. The terminological inconsistency that results creates further confusion.

Let us have a look at the term "Judecător de Pace", which is correctly translated as "Justice of the Peace" and reflects a British legal reality. Some incorrect translations include "Judge of the Peace", "Justice of Peace", "Peace Judge". The confusion is triggered by the fact that "judecător" can be translated either as "judge" or "Justice" if we are referring strictly to the British legal context (more precisely the English and Welsh legal context). The various calques offered by the students reflect a lack of cultural awareness, the students being ignorant of the fact that in the English and Welsh legal system

the term "Justice" can be used to refer to a judge of the Court of Appeal and to a judge in a Magistrates' Court, namely the "Justice of the Peace". Sometimes, terminological errors also trigger grammatical errors as in "Justice of Peace", where the definite article "the" is omitted.

Another term that has caused problems to students is "autoritatea de aresta". Some students have translated it as "the authority to arrest", which is an inaccurate translation since the correct English term is "power of arrest" where "power" means "the authority" given to an institution or person, or the "competence" which an institution or person has to make an arrest. The terminological error is often combined with a grammatical error as illustrated by the version "power to arrest". Here, the student offers the correct term, "power", but fails to provide the correct preposition.

Another term which creates confusion is "probe", which means the body of facts or information that proves whether something is true or not. It is correctly translated as "evidence" by most students. But some students have translated the term as "evidences", oblivious of the fact that "evidence" is an uncountable noun. This is a grammatical mistake. Others have translated the term as "exhibits", which is a terminological mistake. The term "exhibits" has a more limited meaning than "evidence". It means "A physical object or document produced in a court, shown to a witness who is giving evidence, or used in conjunction with an *affidavit or a witness statement. Physical objects produced for the inspection of the court (such as a murder weapon in a criminal trial) are referred to as *real evidence" (Law, 2015). So, the correct translation of "exhibit" in Romanian is "dovadă, probă materială, act probatoriu" (Lister and Veth, 2015) or "**1** (*jur*) probă incriminatorie/ materială **2** exponat, etalare" (Lozinschi, 2017). Therefore, "exhibit" refers to a concrete, physical piece of evidence while "evidence" refers to both physical and non-physical pieces of evidence, such as the so-called "testimonial evidence", a form of non-physical evidence produced by a statement under oath. The lack of awareness regarding various types of evidence leads to the confusion between "evidence" and "exhibit".

Other terms that have puzzled the students are "hoț de buzunare" and "procurator". "Hoț de buzunare" is translated correctly as "pickpocket" by most students. But some have provided inadequate translations such as "robber", "pickpocketeer" or "pocket thief". "Robber" is a more general term, translated as "hoț, tâlhar" (Lister and Veth, 2015). But there are different types of thieves: those who steal from banks (bank robbers), those who steal things

from people's pockets or bags (pickpockets), or thieves that break into houses and steal from there (burglars). So, those students who have provided the translation "robber" for "hoț de buzunare" must have been unaware of the diversity of types of theft. "Pocket thief" is almost a wild guess, proof that the term has not been previously looked up in a dictionary. "Pickpocketeer" may have seemed correct to the translator as the suffix "er" is one of the suffixes used in the formation of nouns of agency, but the term is incorrect.

The Romanian term "procurator" is another tricky word, which is often confused with the Romanian "procuror". "Procurator" is a specialized term, synonymous with the Romanian term "mandatar". The term "procurator" has three meanings in Romanian, as illustrated by the dictionary:

Procurator, procuratori, masculine noun. 1. Roman magistrate, usually appointed from among the freedmen, charged with collecting taxes and managing imperial provinces. 2. High dignitary in the republics of Venice and Genoa during the Middle Ages. 3. Person acting on behalf of someone, on the basis of a power of attorney; mandatory. From French **procurateur**, and Latin **procurator, -oris**¹. (DEX, 2009)

The third meaning of the term "procurator" is of interest to our analysis. It refers to an individual who, on the basis of a power of attorney, is entitled to sign various legal documents (for instance, contracts) in the name of another individual (natural person) or legal person or to represent another individual or legal person before a court, before a public notary's office (for example, for the sale of a property) or before a bank. The close similarity between "procurator" and "procuror" as far as the written form of the two terms in Romanian is concerned makes them easily confused. One way of helping students avoid the confusion is to underline and make them remember that the Romanian term "procurator" is synonymous with the Romanian term "mandatar", both translated into English as "mandatory".

Although "procurator" and "procuror" are very similar in form, they have totally different meanings. The Romanian term "procuror" is defined as:

Magistrate, member of the Prosecutor's Office, whose role is to exercise the criminal action and to support the accusation; a member

¹ Our translation (PROCURATÓR, procuratori, s. m. 1. Magistrat roman, ales de obicei dintre libertți, însărcinat cu strângerea dărilor și cu conducerea provinciilor imperiale. 2. Înalt demnitar în republicile Veneția și Genova, în Evul Mediu. 3. Persoană care acționează în numele cuiva, pe baza unei procuri; mandatar. – Din fr. procureur, lat. procurator, -oris).

of the prosecutor's office, who decides to bring criminals to justice, supports the prosecution in court proceedings, oversees the fair application of laws and represents the interests of the state in a trial². (DEX, 2009).

Therefore, the Romanian term "procuror" designates an official representative of the state, who plays an important role in the system of justice and whose job is to bring wrongdoers before the court. Unlike the term "procurator", which, in Romanian, has a synonym, i.e. the term "mandatar", the term "procuror" has no synonym in Romanian.

2. The role of collocations in avoiding terminological blunders

Another confusion is easily caused by the term "a audia" (used in its legal meaning), which is often mixed up with the term "a interoga". The comparison of these two terms underlines the important role played by collocations in helping students learn how to use a legal term correctly.

Students who are absolute novices as far as legal terminology is concerned are initially unable to say the difference between the two terms with absolute accuracy. Students do infer that both verbs express actions that presuppose some kind of questioning. But they find it hard to identify the distinction between "a audia" and "a interoga", although they do guess that a difference between the two terms must exist.

The Romanian dictionary defines the term "a audia" as follows:

TO HEAR, vb. I. Transitive vb. 1. (Jur.) To hear the testimony of a witness. 2. Listen to a series of lessons, lectures, music recordings, etc. [Pr.: a-u-di-a] - From **audience**, **auditor**, **audition**, etc. (DEX, 2009)³

As we can see, the Romanian term "a audia" has two meanings, the first being the legal meaning. In the legal domain, the noun derived from the verb "a audia" is "audiere (de martori)" (which is translated into English as "examination" and "cross-examination"), and is defined as:

² Our translation (Magistrat membru al Parchetului, care are rolul de a exercita acțiunea penală și de a susține acuzarea; membru al procuraturii, care decide trimiterea infractorilor în fața justiției, susține acuzarea în procesele judiciare, supraveghează justa aplicare a legilor și reprezintă interesele statului într-un proces.).

³ Our translation (AUDIĂ, vb. I. Tranz. 1. (Jur.) A asculta depoziția unui martor. 2. A asculta un șir de lecții, de prelegeri, de înregistrări muzicale etc. [Pr.: a-u-di-a] – Din audiență, auditor, audiție etc.).

audiere de martori, activity carried out by the court in order to fulfil the procedures of administration and assurance of evidence, consisting in listening to, selecting and recording those reported by witnesses with regard to facts or events in connection with the object of the dispute being resolved. **The witness hearing** is done directly by the court charged with resolving the case⁴. (Legea de la A la Z, n.d.)

It is also useful to identify the words that the English term "hearing" collocates with in order to understand how to use it correctly. The noun "hearing" in its legal meaning, that of "trial in a court of law/ similar investigation" (Oxford Collocations Dictionary, 2002) collocates with adjectives such as "final, preliminary | fair | formal, full | open, public | private, secret | oral | appeal, custody, disciplinary, petition, pre-trial | committee, congressional, court, tribunal" (Oxford Collocations Dictionary, 2002). "Hearing" also collocates with verbs, in the following structures (Oxford Collocations Dictionary, 2002: 369):

- Verb + hearing: conduct, hold | ask for, call for, demand | get, have | attend | adjourn | tell.
- Hearing + verb: take place | begin, open.

Therefore, the verb "a audia" and the noun "audiere (de martori)" deal with court procedure. They represent activities carried out in a court of law.

The term "a interoga" is defined in the Romanian dictionary as follows:

TO INTERROGATE, vb. I. Transitive vb. to ask someone persistent questions; to question; esp. to ask questions to a witness or defendant, to be interrogated. ♦ to examine, to question a pupil, student or candidate. – From the French **interroger**, and the Latin **interrogare**⁵. (DEX, 2009)

As we can see, in Romanian the two terms have almost similar meanings, and they can be sometimes used interchangeably. In its specialized meaning, the

⁴ Our translation (audiere de martori, activitate desfășurată de instanța de judecată în îndeplinirea procedurilor de administrare și de asigurare a dovezilor, constând în ascultarea, selectarea și consemnarea celor relatate de martori cu privire la fapte sau întâmplări petrecute în legătură cu obiectul litigiului aflat în curs de soluționare. A.m. [audierea de martori] se face direct de către instanța judecătorească învestită cu rezolvarea pricinii.

⁵ Our translation (**INTEROGĂ**, *interoghez*, vb. I. Tranz. A pune cuiva întrebări insistente; a chestiona; *spec.* a pune întrebări unui martor sau unui inculpat, a supune la un interogatoriu. ♦ A examina, a chestiona un elev, un student, un candidat. – Din fr. **interroger**, lat. **interrogare**.)

term "a interoga" is used both in a legal context (in a court of law, for instance) or in a police context.

In English, the similarity that characterizes the Romanian language also exists. The verb "to interrogate" is defined as:

to ask (someone) a lot of questions in a formal situation such as a police station or a law court, sometimes using extreme mental or physical pressure to obtain information. (Cambridge International Dictionary of English, 1995)

The examples provided by the English dictionary are helpful in understanding how to use the verb:

- "The airport police who interrogated the girl concluded that she was innocent and hadn't known about the drugs." (Cambridge International Dictionary of English, 1995: 745)
- "Investigating officers would visit the claimant's home and interrogate neighbours to check that he or she was not concealing anything." (Cambridge International Dictionary of English, 1995: 745)
- "Thousands of dissidents have been interrogated or imprisoned in recent weeks." (Cambridge International Dictionary of English, 1995: 745)

Furthermore, the noun derived from the verb is "interrogation", which is defined as "The questioning of suspects by the police" (Law, 2015). The noun "interrogation" also collocates with the adjective "police" (police interrogation), the verb "to conduct" (conduct an interrogation) and nouns such as "cell, room | methods, procedures, techniques" (Oxford Collocations Dictionary, 2002).

From the examples above, we can reasonably conclude that "to hear" and "hearing" are terms associated more with the activity carried out in a court of law while the terms "to interrogate" and "interrogation" are associated more with the activity of police forces.

Collocations are illustrative examples of language use. They help students understand that some words and expressions are characteristic of one domain while other words and expressions are features of another domain.

Conclusion

When studying new terminology, it is useful to learn it in context in order to be able to use it accurately later. Contextualization helps students understand better the difference between two terms, for instance "evidence" and "exhibit". If this difference is clarified, students can widen their vocabulary by learning legal collocations and develop the ability to use them correctly. In addition, building correct legal collocations helps students discriminate between legal terms and use legal terminology in an error-free manner.

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**RECENZII DE CARTE –
BOOK REVIEWS**

Anghel, M. (2020). *Limba română pentru anul pregătitor – redactare și compoziție*. București: PROUNIVERSITARIA.

Reviewed by Raluca GHENȚULESCU

În anul 2018, Universitatea Tehnică de Construcții București deschidea porțile primei generații de cursanți veniți, în calitate de cetățeni străini, să studieze limba română la Anul pregătitor. Din acel moment, provocările adresate deopotrivă cadrelor didactice și personalului administrativ al universității nu au încetat să apară, însă fiecare dintre ele ne-a apropiat, treptat, de succesul obținut în anul 2020, când acest program de studii și-a ocupat toate locurile acordate de ARACIS, ca o încununare a tuturor eforturilor de până atunci.

Una dintre marile provocări a fost aceea că materialele didactice existente pe piața din România pentru acest tip de cursanți erau destul de puține și deloc specializate pe competențe de comunicare. Astfel, cartea lui Mirel Anghel, intitulată *Limba română pentru anul pregătitor – redactare și compoziție*, a răspuns prompt la o necesitate reală, și anume aceea de a oferi un material de studiu pentru seminarele de Redactare și compoziție din cadrul APLR.

Structurată pe 10 lecții, completate de o parte de exerciții suplimentare, cartea poate fi folosită atât în primul semestru, pentru nivelul A1 - A2, cât și în semestrul al II-lea, pentru nivelul B1 - B2. Faptul că, la sfârșit, are și rezolvările tuturor exercițiilor este, de asemenea, important atât pentru cursanți, în vederea autoevaluării, ca un mijloc prin care își pot stabili propriul nivel sau progresul înregistrat pe parcursul semestrului, cât și pentru cadrele didactice care participă la evaluarea finală.

Corpusul de texte inclus de către Mirel Anghel în acest manual este unul foarte interesant, acoperind domenii și tipuri de scriere foarte diversă, de la rețete de mâncare la CV-uri și de la felicitări de sărbători la cereri oficiale. Prin această tematică bogată, volumul este atractiv pentru cursanți, care, pe lângă noțiunile de redactare și compoziție, află și noutăți despre realitățile din România și își îmbogățesc cultura generală și competențele de comunicare interculturală. De pildă, unele texte se referă la vecinii, forma de guvernământ, limba oficială sau Ziua Națională a României – informații utile și pentru disciplina „Identitate românească și sincronism european” –, iar altele conțin anunțuri sau extrase din articole de ziar, care conferă o notă de actualitate și dinamism procesului de învățare.

Prin ingeniozitatea cu care sunt îmbinate diferite modele de texte și tipuri de exerciții, cursanții pot acumula – într-un mod ușor și plăcut – noțiuni de comunicare, gramatică, fonetică și vocabular, care le sunt de folos și la celelalte discipline prevăzute în planul de învățământ al Anului pregătitor pe ambele semestre de studiu, la niveluri cuprinse între A1 și B2.

Exercițiile de scriere corectă a cuvintelor cu diacritice din limba română, cele de completare cu termenii potriviți, cele de potrivire a textului cu imaginea corespunzătoare, precum și cele pur creative, în care cursanții trebuie să redacteze propriile texte, în diferite stiluri funcționale, formate și domenii, sunt complexe, dar nu complicate, unele cuvinte din limbajul de lemn, tipic anumitor stiluri funcționale din limba română, fiind evitate cu măiestrie și înlocuite cu sinonime inteligibile pentru vorbitorii non-nativi.

Pentru a facilita înțelegerea noțiunilor importante și pentru a atrage atenția cursanților asupra exemplelor relevante, autorul a inclus diferite elemente vizuale, cum ar fi sublinieri, chenare, pictograme, corpuri de literă diferite și ilustrații, care sunt binevenite pentru stimularea memoriei vizuale și pentru separarea aspectelor teoretice de cele practice. Din acest punct de vedere, manualul se ridică la standardele impuse de materialele didactice occidentale, care folosesc frecvent astfel de elemente, pentru a ilustra cât mai bine conținutul tematic.

În calitate de cadru didactic al Anului pregătitor de limba română pentru cetățeni străini încă de la înființarea lui și, deci, colegă a lui Mirel Anghel, alături de care am predat diferite materii și am colaborat la redactarea mai multor materiale didactice și articole științifice pe teme de filologie română, am avut acces la fragmente din această carte încă înainte de a fi publicată și i-am oferit un feedback util – sper eu – autorului, atrăgându-i atenția asupra elementelor mai dificile sau a textelor care ar putea fi exploatate pentru potențialul lor creativ. Am apreciat de la bun început tematica variată și interesantă a corpusului de texte, diversitatea și complexitatea exercițiilor, calitatea ilustrațiilor și posibilitățile multiple pe care le oferă pentru evaluare și autoevaluare.

Principala recomandare pe care i-aș face-o lui Mirel Anghel în urma citirii acestei cărți și a folosirii ei ca material didactic la APLR este să continue să strângă texte diverse, actuale și cu diferite grade de complexitate, pentru a le putea include într-un al doilea volum al acestui material sau într-un alt manual care să-l completeze pe acesta. Cred că ar fi utilă, de asemenea, includerea unor modele de subiecte pentru examenul la disciplina „Redactare și compoziție”, pentru ca

studenții să se poată pregăti din timp și temeinic în vederea promovării acestei examinări.

Luând în considerare toate aspectele de natură didactică enumerate mai sus, precum și pregătirea de calitate, experiența solidă și profesionalismul autorului în predarea disciplinei „Redactare și compoziție”, recomand această carte atât cursanților de la Anul pregătitor de limba română pentru cetățeni străini, cât și tuturor studenților străini de la UTCB, cadrelor didactice specializate în predarea limbii române, dar și celor de la specializările ingineresti care interacționează cu studenții străini și doresc să ajungă la un nivel mai bun de comunicare cu ei.

Cursanților noștri, care vor învăța să compună o multitudine de texte folosind principiile învățate din această carte, le amintesc cuvintele lui Isaac Asimov, care spunea că a scrie înseamnă a gândi cu degetele pe hârtie. Atât lor, cât și autorului le doresc să gândească mult și să scrie mult, pentru că fiecare cuvânt așternut pe hârtie ne apropie de statutul de creator al unei lumi, care poate deveni mai bună cu fiecare frază pe care o concepem.

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