

Agnieszka Szarkowska. *Forms of Address in Polish-English Subtitling.* [=Warschauer Studien zur Germanistik und zur Angewandten Linguistik]. Peter Lang Edition: Frankfurt am Main 2013, 248 S.

Already the introduction promises the present volume to be an extraordinary book, proving to be not only a result of scientific research presenting new research avenues, but also avid interest of the Author. „When it comes to forms of address, we all seem to be experts. Each of us has a story to tell” (S. 13). The present monograph is a truly interesting ‘story’ written by the researcher, but also subtitler and translator, active in the field of audiovisual translation.

The first chapter (enriched with non-academic viewpoints) is devoted to forms of address in Polish and English showing that this varied and popular research area still needs further investigation, especially research supported with actual empirical data. The Author attempts to clear the terminological confusion and the old notions of *power* and *solidarity* proposed by Gilman and Brown. Agnieszka Szarkowska sees an urgent need for a new model of forms of address, which is laid down in Chapter Two.

A. Szarkowska rightly claims that the new classification into appellatives and address terms within the clause incorporates many aspects of forms of address – appellatives, forms of address in the clause, and relations between them. Moreover it allows an analysis from various perspectives. The Author does not attempt to create a purely grammatical classification, but expects the address forms to be analysed from the point of view of the function they perform.

In Chapter Three the Author presents the theoretical and methodological framework of the research on the translation of forms of address. A. Szarkowska first details the characteristic of subtitling. Then she discusses translation techniques used with regard to forms of address from the corpus, choosing the descriptive framework rooted in DTS (Descriptive Translation Studies). All analysed data is excerpted from actual translations. The analysis is well-presented, clear and concise, and includes the specificity of the genre and the film language, the constraints of the AVT mode and differences among individual translators and particular translation styles. The multimodal analysis applied by the Author in a simplified version seems to be a very good choice, actually introducing „translation” into the framework introduced by Baldry and Thimbault (2006) and initially developed for 1-minute-commercials.

Having outlined the multimodality methodology, the Author begins Chapter Four with an overview of major problems related to the translation of forms of address between Polish and English, focusing on obligatory and optional translations shifts and explicitation and implicitation. This is followed by an in-depth analysis (taking one hundred and thirteen pages) of the translation solutions adopted in the well-analysed and extensively commented three soap operas based on the model outlined in Chapter Two and the theoretical framework presented in Chapter Three. This highly interested chapter includes several additional issues related to the forms of address in subtitling. Of high interest there are undoubtedly the translation of calls and addresses, diminutive and hypocoristic forms, kinship terms or titles for that matter. One must notice that those are of interest not only for subtitlers, but for all translators, since translating forms of address constitutes a translation problem in all kinds of text.

To conclude, the reviewed monograph is a result of many years of research. It is well-thought, well-presented, and of high value to researchers and practitioners, to translation teachers, students and professionals. As the first monographic study on forms of address in Polish-English subtitling from a multidisciplinary perspective with the study corpus containing nearly 100,000 words, it is not only comprehensive, interesting and presented in an understandable way. It is also a pleasure to read.

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