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厦门大学

硕 士 学 位 论 文

Exploring Chinese-English Translation from the Perspective of Functional Discourse Analysis

汉英翻译之功能语篇分析探讨

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Synopsis

Translation studies as a burgeoning discipline needs to draw on findings and theories from various related disciplines in order to enrich its own theoretical and methodological explorations. However, there is no consensus as to which disciplines it can naturally and fruitfully be related to. Linguistics is a discipline which studies language both in its own right and as a tool for generating meanings. Therefore it has a great deal to offer to translation studies, especially when translation is regarded not as a sterile and static literal exercise but as an act of communication. This is particularly true of Functional Discourse Analysis, a sub-discipline of modern linguistics, which probes into a text as a communicative event rather than mere strings of words.

This thesis attempts to establish links between these two disciplines and explore areas of common interest. Approaching Chinese-English (C-E) translation from the perspective of Functional Discourse Analysis, this author attempts to analyze contrastive features of English and Chinese and offer suggestions as to what strategic adjustments translators should make to ensure high quality in C-E translation.

This thesis is composed of five chapters plus an introduction and a conclusion. Chapter One presents a review of related concepts and researches in order to formulate a theoretical framework for this study. The following four chapters follow a largely hierarchical order – from the macro down to the micro level as well as from context to lexico-grammar. Chapter Two focuses on “context of culture” and discusses ways in which genre lays constraints on translation. Chapter Three, with a focus on the concept of “context of situation,” attempts to answer questions as to in what aspects and to what extent translation is influenced by register variables, i.e. field, tenor and mode. Chapter Four is directed towards metafunctions of language – ideational function, interpersonal function and textual function, elaborating on how these metafunctions work as parameters for assessing C-E translation. Chapter Five consists of detailed discussions of such systems as transitivity, voice, mood, modality, appraisal, theme-rheme and cohesion, and they are presented with a view to establishing the relevance of these systems to C-E translation.

Key words: Chinese-English translation; translation studies; Functional Discourse Analysis

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摘 要

翻译学作为一门新兴学科需要吸收和借鉴其他学科的理论成果以丰富自身的理论研究和方法探索。然而，哪一门学科可以更成功更有效地应用于翻译研究仍然是一个颇具争议的话题。语言学不仅仅研究语言本身，还研究语言如何作为工具来体现意义，因此，语言学对于翻译研究大有裨益。功能语篇分析是现代语言学的一个分支，它将语篇视为交际行为而不是文字的叠砌，因此功能语篇分析对翻译研究尤为适用。

本论文旨在建立两门学科的关联，试图探究功能语篇分析对汉英翻译的启示。作者讨论了两种语言的差异并尝试性地指出译者需要做出哪些策略性调整以保证翻译质量。

本文共分为五章。第一章对相关概念进行了详细介绍并对先前研究进行了概述，在此基础之上阐述了本研究的理论框架。第二章到第五章从宏观到微观，从语境到词汇语法，分层次论述了功能语篇分析与翻译研究的关联。第二章着重讨论了文化语境及翻译中的体裁制约问题。第三章重点探讨情景语境，分析讨论了语域变量（语场、语式、语旨）对翻译的影响。第四章主要阐释了作为翻译评估参量的纯理功能，即概念功能、人际功能和语篇功能。第五章对词汇语法层进行了微观解析，论证了语义系统（及物性、语态、语气、情态、评价、主述位、衔接）与汉英翻译的关联。

关键词： 汉英翻译；翻译研究；功能语篇分析

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Abbreviations

C-E	Chinese-English
TS	Transitivity System
VS	Voice System
MS	Mood System
MyS	Modality System
AS	Appraisal System
TrS	Theme-rheme System
CS	Cohesion System
SL	Source Language
TL	Target Language
ST	Source Text
TT	Target Text
FSP	Functional Sentence Perspective
SFL	Systemic Functional Linguistics
SFG	Systemic Functional Grammar

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