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Phonetic Stylistic Effects in Translation

The article is dedicated to the analysis of the translation methods that may be applied in rendition of manifestations of linguistic iconicity (onomatopoeia and phonoaesthesia) in expressive and operative texts from English into Latvian and Russian, discussion of stylistic effects conveyed by the application of sound iconic words and the contrastive analysis of source and target texts performed in order to discover if functional equivalence may be attained in rendition of these stylistic effects. The problem of translation of sound iconic words and other phonetic EMs used with an intention to create a certain aesthetic effect is approached taking into account modern functional translation theories. The main aim of this article is to analyze how alliteration, assonance and onomatopoeia are used in the ST to create certain effects, and by what means these effects have been recreated in the target texts, if recreated at all. The transmission of linguistic iconicity in the text is complicated because the translator should render the message, style and the aesthetic effect of the translation units of the ST simultaneously and a certain loss of meaning and colouring is inevitable. Thus the translator that really attempts to preserve the phonetic aspect of the ST in the TT to the greatest degree possible will have to find a delicate balance between the amount of preservation of the stylistic colouring of the ST and a possible semantic and stylistic loss.