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# TRANSLATION TODAY Trends and Perspectives

(英) Gunilla Anderman 编 Margaret Rogers



外语教学与研究出版社 FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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1999年10月1日,彼得·纽马克及其同仁相聚英国萨里大学,探讨21世纪翻译研究的走向,《今日翻译: 趋向与视角》一书就收集了此次讨论的现场记录以及各位专家的论文。通过该书我们可以窥探西方部分学者在世纪之交思考的问题、给出的答案及还有哪些领域尚无定论等,以期为翻译研究者提供一种视角或思路。

本书由两大部分构成:

第一部分是纽马克就他的主题论文"全球交际离不开翻译"("No Global Communication Without Translation") 作一个简要介绍。纽马克称他 不再用"语义翻译"和"交际翻译"的提法,而采用"关联翻译",他认为, 新千年中翻译的本质不会改变,源文本依然是翻译的基础,翻译仍分为文学 翻译与非文学翻译两类,文学翻译关注的是人的思维及语言,非文学翻译则 较多关注现实世界。纽马克认为人们对于源文本的态度已经发生了变化,他 将源文本分为合理文本 (valid text) 和缺陷文本 (deficient text) 两类,缺陷文本 中易激怒或是误导译人语读者的部分,译者可加以更正或注释。纽马克指出 英语会成为翻译中的通用语 (lingua franca), 每五名译者就需要有一名双 语校对者对其译作进行校对以确保翻译质量;他认为在社会口笔译实践 中、应该摒弃意识形态、后殖民主义以及理论的束缚、在新出现的翻译 形式中, 机器翻译、多媒体翻译自不待言, 纽马克对歌剧唱词字幕翻译 (subtitles) 表现出了特别的兴趣。他认为目前翻译评估相对滞后,新的评 估模式应该包括语言准确性、词汇在不同文本类型中的分量、翻译中不同 层面的错误、翻译中的语境问题以及翻译的流畅性等方面。他将错译与 背离 (deviation) 区分开来,指出自然背离 (normal deviation) 与创造性背离 (creative deviation) 有所不同。最后、纽马克主张高校的翻译教学及实践应 该与市场结合,但大学的人文理念仍需保留。

参与圆桌讨论的既有来自世界著名高校或翻译研究机构的知名专家, 也有 Multilingual Matters 出版社的同事。Kurt Kohn 提出从译者的角度出 发来看,翻译的实质没有改变,但是人们看待翻译的态度、翻译的标准以 及翻译的概念已有很大变化,这一变化会影响我们的翻译实践;他还指出组马克忽略了有关语篇加工(discourse processing)的讨论。在翻译评估部分,周兆祥(Simon Chau)提出翻译测试中应该表明读者群,认为翻译评估完全可以依靠评估者的经验,不必用复杂的流程去打分; Kurt Kohn 和 Graham Cross 观念相对一致,他们主张翻译需要天赋,没有驾驭文字的能力,再多理论也是枉然;他们认为人工翻译(human translation)和机器翻译没有优劣之分,而是看具体的需要。与会者还就英语是否会成为未来翻译中的通用语这一问题发表了不同看法。Gideon Toury 提出英语在翻译实践以及翻译理论方面都占主导地位,人们在谈论翻译时,往往将本该各自独立的概念混杂在一起; Reiner Arntz 则认为,所谓英语会成为世界通用语,其复杂性被低估了,他提出在未来的翻译中,源语及译入语都将是多语模式,即不单单是英语,而是一个多语环境。会上讨论热烈坦诚,无论是"英雄所见略同",还是"针尖对麦芒",都是观点的交锋,而不针对个人,表现出健康良好的学术氛围。

第二部分是论文集,包括纽马克的主题论文全文以及围绕他的论文展 开的相关讨论,摘录的论文既有对纽马克观点的阐发,又有不同观点的正 面交锋,或是结合实例的翔实论证。

Albrecht Neubert 在论文"再议纽马克翻译分类"中,就纽马克论文中的一些问题进行了探讨。他倾向于用"语用翻译"代替"交际翻译",并指出语义翻译与交际翻译与其说是两种翻译类型,不如说是两种翻译方法,二者相互补充,可应用于同一文本的翻译中;语义翻译更多涉及翻译的过程,而交际翻译与翻译的意图密切相关;他还就纽马克有关社会口笔译实践中的某些英语词汇不可译问题提出了不同看法,指出语境与词语潜在意义在翻译中的重要性,并给出了 privacy 在德语中的几种翻译方法。

Kirsten Malmkjær 有感于纽马克翻译是"人类活动的动态反应"("a dynamic reflection of human activities") 的阐述,提交论文"翻译前瞻:谈'人类活动的动态反应'"。她认为翻译是时间和语言的混合体,时间指过去语言运用以及将来语言运用 (past and future language use),语言指源语和目标语 (source and target language),即源语 (过去语言运用)与目标语 (将来语言运用)的交互作用使翻译表现出了"人类活动的动态反应"的特点。

Marshall Morris 主张"牢记翻译在心中",认为译者应该时刻将翻译记在心中,留心自己及他人的经历及表达方式。语言学、心理学、历史、哲学、社会学以及人类学知识均能在翻译的实践中有所启迪和帮助。

Raquel Merino 回顾了西班牙百年翻译史,他通过收集华盛顿·欧文的《阿尔罕伯拉》的源文本和西班牙语译本,发现不同版本在故事的编排顺序、数量、甚至同一文本开始的段落都会有所不同,据此指出一些版本虽称翻译,实为编译(adaptation),甚至是公然的剽窃,或是非法编辑。他指出错误已经造成,不可扭转,但今人须以史为鉴,避免同样情况发生。

Piotr Kuhiwczak 讨论了问题多多的文学翻译身份认定问题。他列举了文学翻译领域一些争论不休的话题:文学翻译究竟是翻译还是创作?是科学还是艺术?忠则不信,信则不忠吗?是以源语为中心还是以译人语为中心?又该如何定位文学翻译者?译者,作家,还是批评家? Kuhiwczak 将文学翻译置于文学批评及其创作的语境中。他认为,文学翻译在 20 世纪初期便已得到承认,文学翻译兼具创作和文学批评的特点。在文学翻译的教学过程中,应以文本类型作为分析的框架。译文有时可以改善源文的某些风格元素,但同时也会削弱源文本的深刻性及隐喻性特点。

Gunnar Magnusson 借鉴了马克·吐温有关德语语言的观点,讨论了英德语言的表征差异 (typological differences) 及其对英德翻译中风格和语篇的影响。德语在语言表征及文本风格方面比英语复杂得多,他甚至大胆提议废除德语中名词的首字母大写规则,这样不仅不会导致德语语言文化沦陷,反而会使德语更容易学习和研究。

Martin Weston 探讨了翻译过程中的意义、真理与道德问题。基于翻译过程的三角模式(源语——超语言意义——译人语),Weston 认为中间的超语言意义太抽象因而在实践中难以把握,故口笔译实践中语言应优先于超语言的抽象模式,他赞成维特根斯坦 (Wittgenstein) "一个词的意义是它在语言中的效用"(meaning as the use to which language is put) 的观点。此外,他还认为译者以真理的名义修改源文是不合适的,译者永远要对源文本负责。

David Graddol 认为英语会成为将来的世界通用语 (lingua franca),但这是在多语共存的语境中进行的,它不会取代非英语国家的母语,即非英语国家的人们会用英语交流,但英语只是他们的第二语言,反映到翻译活动中,将来的外译英数量会持续增加,要满足这一需求,必须增加译者的数量——大多数译者的母语并非英语,因此英语语言国家的校对人员需求也会增加。

Juliane House 主要讨论了英语成为通用语及其对其他语言语篇规范的 影响。她认为英语作为一门通用语 (lingua franca), 会影响其他语种的语篇 规范 (norm),但却没有改变其文本构成 (the make-up of the texts)。她使用了三个语料库,对其中英、德、法、西班牙文本的三种体裁进行了分析,结果表明:德语文本很难按内容进行分类,以英语为母语的人会考虑读者因素,而译为德语时并不会这样,混合体裁 (genre mixing) 也没有实现,另外,德语文本表意较英语文本更为明晰。

Ann Corsellis OBE 通过亲身经历指出,英国公共服务机构中的翻译活动常常被边缘化乃至忽略,她从三个层面分析了出现这种状况的原因,并提出解决的方案,即只有有效协调好三个团体——公务员、语言学家和因语言障碍不能享受社会服务的人群之间的关系,才能最终解决这个问题。

Jorge Díaz Cintas 展望了新千年的视听翻译 (audiovisual translation)。 他列举了视听翻译的迅速发展现状,提出校园培训比工作后再培训更加实 用。他还提出要用多样化的实证研究来代替猜想式或规定性的研究模式。 在他看来,视听翻译不仅不会消亡,而且会在今后的翻译活动中扮演日益 重要的角色。他甚至大胆预测,在 21 世纪,视听翻译可能会成为翻译学 科下的一个研究方向。

Stuart Campbell 和 Sandra Hale 将着重点放在了教育测评中的口笔译评估上。他们认为翻译评估可以分为两大类:能力认定和翻译教学(accreditation and pedagogy)。通过梳理教育评估特别是语言测试方面的研究成果,他们发现:测试目的、能力测定以及测试方式都有论述,却没有关于测试的效度和信度的研究。他们认为翻译评估尚处在发展初期,应该借鉴相关领域的发展经验,纯熟的评估模式应该在测评译者相关职业技能和翻译标准方面具有效度和信度。

Gerard McAlester 讨论了翻译伦理与教学。与纽马克和 Martin Weston 不同,他认为译者最终要对自己的良知 (conscience) 负责。

在阅读本书的过程中,笔者也产生了一些自己的思考:

1. 术语统一问题。此次讨论中出现了答非所问的情况,发言者用一套术语,发问者另用一套,二者要么用一个术语表达不同的概念,要么用不同的术语表达相同的概念,既耽搁了宝贵的讨论时间,又使听众不知所云,这也是国内翻译研究论著特别是学术研讨会上经常出现的问题。对同一概念有着不同的理解与阐释,或者有意使用"与众不同"的术语,因此对话中就出现了各说各话的现象。笔者认为,准确界定翻译研究相关术语的内涵与外延,是实现学者平等对话的基础,本研究领域的学者应在统一认识的基础上,尽可能使用相对统一的术语,不要人为地制造含义雷同的"新术语"

以示"创新",给对话交流造成新的障碍,以避免产生更多的学术泡沫。

- 2. 本书并非主题统一、方法相仿或风格一致的论著,但所谓"横看成岭侧成峰",本书所论对翻译研究提供了多种视角,让我们看到了各位学者对待同一个问题的不同态度。我们应该清楚,翻译学是一门横跨多个领域的综合性学科,因此我们对本书的态度也应该是吸取其精华而又不盲从,应用时要把握好度的问题,既不能在西方强势话语权下患失语症,又不能盲目排外,固守于随感式的翻译散论。
- 3. 以圆桌会议形式就一个主题进行深入的讨论。国内近年来翻译研讨会越来越多,但形式多为大会主题发言和小组发言,发言者宣读论文,在一二十分钟时间内草草结束,有些发言者由于缺乏训练,只会照本宣科地照稿子念,念不完就算了,听众很难清晰地了解他的观点与论证过程。本书涉及的圆桌会议事先把纽马克的文章发给大家仔细阅读,再进行深入的讨论,把发言记录整理出来,加上与会者就此问题所做的专文结集成册,围绕一个主题以各种方式进行探索。这样的讨论方式和成书方式可以酌情借鉴。

诚如鲁迅先生所言,"……只看一个人的著作,结果是不大好的:你就得不到多方面的优点。必须如蜜蜂一样,采过许多花,这才能酿出蜜来,倘若叮在一处,所得就非常有限,枯燥了。"「在如今的全球化背景下,我们不仅要采"国产花",也要采"洋花"。该书的一个特色就是,它不是某个大家的独角戏,而是就翻译研究的几个重大议题,众多翻译研究领域的权威聚到一起来讨论。思想碰撞容易产生火花,而大家们的讨论则会给我们带来一场焰火表演,我们也极可能在这场焰火表演中找到自己的研究点,正如 Kirsten Malmkjær 有感于纽马克有关"翻译是人类活动的动态反应"这一观点,从哲学语义学 (philosophical semantics) 和图里的"源文本假说"("Source Text Postulate") 出发,提出了翻译的时间、语言二维性特征一样,我们也可以从他们的讨论中找到自己的切入点,在国内乃至世界翻译研究领域做出自己的贡献。

移 雷 广东外语外贸大学高级翻译学院教授朱晓燕 广东外语外贸大学高级翻译学院 2005 级硕士研究生

<sup>1</sup>鲁迅: "致颜黎民"(1936年4月15日)。

#### **Acknowledgements**

A number of people have helped to make this collection of papers a reality. Above all we would like to thank Peter Newmark who, following the October 1999 symposium held in Guildford in his honour, provided us with the opportunity to gather together additional contributions to a volume bearing his imprint. As a result, this new publication has been shaped, not only by Peter's own vision of the role of translation in the new millennium, but also by that of friends and colleagues with whom he has worked closely. However, for all the contributors to be accommodated, speed of production had by necessity to be sacrificed. We are very grateful for the contributors' patient acceptance of the time it has taken for us to bring the work to fruition. In addition, we owe a debt of gratitude to Multilingual Matters for allowing us sufficient time to ensure that a maximum number of Peter's friends were given the opportunity to participate. We are pleased too that Rob Dickinson agreed to give us a helping hand with the copy editing. Last, but certainly not least, our thanks as always go to Gillian James not only for her attention to detail, persistence and patience but also for her enthusiasm and initiative in bringing the work to its completion. We hope the result is a fitting testimony to an enjoyable and informative occasion.

Gunilla Anderman Margaret Rogers Guildford January 2002

#### Contributors: A Short Profile

**Gunilla Anderman** is Professor of Translation Studies and the Director of the Centre for Translation Studies. She teaches Translation Theory on the Diploma/MA in Translation in the School of Arts at the University of Surrey, UK.

**Stuart Campbell** is Associate Professor and Head of the School of Languages and Linguistics at the University of Western Sydney, Australia.

**Jorge Díaz Cintas** received his PhD in Audiovisual Translation from the University of Valencia, Spain. He is Senior Lecturer in Spanish at the University of Surrey Roehampton and also works as a freelance translator and interpreter. He has recently published a book on subtitling.

Ann Corsellis OBE is Vice Chairman of Council of the Institute of Linguists and a Director of NRPSI Ltd, the National Register of Public Service Interpreters UK, as well as co-ordinator of the first EU Grotius project to establish equivalencies of standards and practice for legal interpreters and translators in member states.

**David Graddol** is a lecturer in the School of Education at the Open University, UK and has chaired and contributed to a wide range of multimedia distance taught learning programmes in language schools. He is the managing Editor of *AILA Review*.

**Sandra Hale** is Senior Lecturer and Head of the Interpreting and Translation Program at the University of Western Sydney, Australia.

**Juliane House** is Professor of Applied Linguistics at Hamburg University and its Research Centre on Multilingualism. She is principal investigator of a project examining how English influences texts in other languages via processes of translation.

**Piotr Kuhiwczak** is the Director of the Centre for Translation and Comparative Cultural Studies at the University of Warwick, UK.

**Gunnar Magnusson** is Senior Lecturer in German at Stockholm University, Sweden, specialising in contrastive studies of German and Swedish lexical syntax.

**Kirsten Malmkjær** is Professor of Translation Studies and Head of the Centre for Research in Translation at the University of Middlesex, UK.

**Gerard McAlester** is a professional translator and lectures in Translation at the Department of Translation Studies, Tampere University, Finland.

**Raquel Merino** teaches translation English–Spanish at the University of the Basque Country where she is co-ordinator of the TRACE (Censored Translations) project. She is the author of a number of articles as well as a book on theatre translations English–Spanish.

Marshall Morris has an M.Litt. in Social Anthropology from Oxford and taught translation at the University of Puerto Rico for 30 years. He is now engaged in freelance translation and editing.

**Albrecht Neubert** is Professor Emeritus, author and lecturer on Translation Theory and Applied Translation at the University of Leipzig, Germany.

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### **Contents**

Aci Co	knowledgements
	Chapter
1	Introduction
	Part 1
2	Round-table Discussion on Translation in the New Millennium 13
	Part 2
3	No Global Communication Without Translation
	Peter Newmark
4	Some of Peter Newmark's Translation Categories Revisited
_	Albrecht Neubert
5	Looking Forward to the Translation: On 'A Dynamic Reflection
	of Human Activities'  Kirsten Malmkjær
6	With Translation in Mind
U	Marshall Morris
7	Tracing Back (in Awe) a Hundred-year History of Spanish
	Translations: Washington Irving's The Alhambra
	Raquel Merino
8	The Troubled Identity of Literary Translation
	Piotr Kuhiwczak
9	Interlinear Translation and Discourse à la Mark Twain
	Gunnar Magnusson
10	Meaning, Truth and Morality in Translation
11	Martin Weston
11	David Graddol
12	English as Lingua Franca and Its Influence on Discourse Norms
14-	in Other Languages
	Juliane House
13	Interpreting and Translation in the UK Public Services: The
	Pursuit of Excellence versus, and via, Expediency
	Ann Corsellis OBE
14	Audiovisual Translation in the Third Millennium
	Jorge Díaz Cintas

15 Translation and Interpreting Assessment in the Context of	
Educational Measurement	
Stuart Campbell and Sandra Hale	. 205
16 A Comment on Translation Ethics and Education	
Gerard McAlester	. 225
Index	. 228

# Chapter 1 Introduction

#### **GUNILLA ANDERMAN and MARGARET ROGERS**

On the afternoon of Friday 1 October 1999, the day immediately following St Jerome's day, scholars of Translation Studies from around the world assembled at the University of Surrey to participate in a symposium to pay tribute to Professor Peter Newmark and his work. Following the presentation of Peter Newmark's keynote paper entitled 'No global communication without translation', the proceedings continued with an at times very lively Round-table discussion, as Peter Newmark jostled with translation theorists and scholars, answering their questions related to the paper, and in turn challenging their responses. The event concluded with a dinner and the presentation of a *Liber Amicorum – Word, Text, Translation* including contributions from scholars and friends engaged in the field of Translation Studies.

The present volume, *Translation Today: Trends and Perspectives*, owes its origins to this event. It consists of the keynote paper, a record of the Round Table discussion, and contributions to the discussion on the eight topics chosen by Peter Newmark for consideration as translation issues in the new millennium and of particular interest to him. The topics selected and discussed in this volume are: 'The nature of translation'; 'Types and kinds of translation'; 'Valid and deficient texts'; 'English as the lingua franca of translation'; 'Social translation and interpreting'; 'Later modes of translation'; 'The assessment of translation'; and 'The university and the market'.

The book is divided into two main parts. The first part contains the kick-off summary by Peter Newmark of his keynote paper, as well as a record of the ensuing Round-table discussion. Participating in the discussion were the following contributors to the *Liber Amicorum* as well as two colleagues from Multilingual Matters, Mike Grover and Tommi Grover:

Gunilla Anderman, University of Surrey, UK (Chair) Reiner Arntz, University of Hildesheim, Germany Simon Chau, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, China David Connolly, translator and translation consultant, European Educational Organisation, Athens, Greece John Dodds, University of Trieste, Italy
Piotr Kuhiwczak, University of Warwick, UK
Hans Lindquist, Växjö University, Sweden
Sylfest Lomheim, Agder College, Norway
Gerard McAlester, Tampere University, Finland
Albrecht Neubert, Emeritus Professor, Leipzig University, Germany
Peter Newmark, University of Surrey, UK
Monica Pedrola, postgraduate student at the University of Trieste, Italy
Margaret Rogers, University of Surrey, UK
Mike Shields, The Translators Association
Gideon Toury, Tel Aviv University, Israel

Contributors to the volume absent on the day were Patrick Chaffey, University of Oslo, Norway; Jan Firbas, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic; Viggo Hjørnager-Pedersen, University of Copenhagen, Denmark; Eugene Nida, University of Michigan, USA; Eithne O'Connell, Dublin City University, Ireland; and Mary Snell-Hornby, University of Vienna, Austria. Janet Fraser, University of Westminster, UK was able to attend in the evening. Members of professional organisations attending included Graham Cross of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting (ITI) and Eyvor Fogarty, ITI and Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs (FIT), with Henry Pavlovich, Institute of Linguists, joining after the Roundtable discussion.

The second part of the book starts with Peter Newmark's full-length keynote paper, followed by contributions on each selected topic by participants attending the symposium as well as scholars and practitioners invited to contribute. We are grateful for this further opportunity to include papers from Peter's many friends and colleagues previously unable to contribute to *Word, Text, Translation*. In addition, in order to extend the discussion of 'English as the lingua franca of translation', a chapter by David Graddol has also been included, reproduced by kind permission of AILA and the author.<sup>1</sup>

It is our hope that the present volume will have retained some of the liveliness of the discussion on the day, and that the views expressed by the participants and assembled authors will in years to come provide an interesting record of a cross-section of views on trends and issues of concern in Translation Studies at the beginning of the new millennium.

The nature of translation, the first topic ambitiously tackled in Peter Newmark's paper, is a heading under which most writing on translation could be accommodated. The papers in this section tackle broad issues, ranging from a reassessment of semantic/communicative translation, Peter Newmark's well-known concepts, through an intriguing view of the source text-target text (ST-TT) relationship, and an experiential view

of literary translation informed by a number of other disciplines, to the reception of texts as translations or original works. A common theme is the creative aspect of translation, seen from different perspectives.

Engaging with Peter Newmark's widely-acknowledged distinction between semantic and communicative approaches to translation, Albrecht Neubert views the translator (cf. also Kuhiwczak (this volume)) as both interpreter/critic and creator; he argues that, rather than being two types of translation, semantic and communicative translation (for which he prefers to use the semiotic label *pragmatic*) constitute two complementary methods within one type, although operating at different levels. Semantic translation is concerned with procedures, communicative with intentions, the latter acting as a filter for the former. Neubert also challenges Newmark's claims about the untranslatability of certain English words on the basis of his work in corpus studies, pointing to the importance of context and meaning potential for words. Referring to an English word such as privacy, considered by Newmark as 'untranslatable' in some languages, Neubert shows how the translator might make expert use of the context in the TT, just as the ST contextualised its meanings; this in turn enables Neubert to render privacy in German in a number of different ways. Newmark's point, however, is that in certain situations context may not always be readily available to allow easy transfer of individual lexical items from ST to TT. Evidence supporting this claim may be gleaned from the fact that privacy has now been borrowed into Italian as 'la privacy' (cf. John Dodd's comment in the Round Table discussion).

Attempts to define 'translation' are legion and various, often reflecting specific aspects of the social and ideological contexts of their provenance. In describing translation as 'a dynamic reflection of human activities', Peter Newmark allows us a tantalising glimpse of a more universal world. In her contribution 'Looking forward to the translation: on a dynamic reflection of human activities', Kirsten Malmkjær attempts to elaborate this view from the perspective of philosophical semantics, at the same time engaging with one of the most challenging ideas to emerge in Translation Studies in recent years, namely Toury's 'Source Text Postulate' (1995: 33-4). What is challenging is the fact that a ST has to be postulated at all rather than presupposed. Malmkjær concludes – unsurprisingly but for novel reasons – that one of the factors distinguishing translations from monolingual communications is indeed the influence of the ST on the TT, a view which she nevertheless argues is consistent with Toury's TT-oriented view of equivalence. Central to Malmkjær's argument is the so-called 'forward-looking nature' of human communication, according to which a translation can be seen as a future but, in some sense, still shaped response to the original text. In other words, translations can be understood as being at the confluence of two dimensions: temporal (past and future language use) and linguistic (source and target languages). Translations are therefore distinguished from monolingual communications not only by the obvious bilingual factor, but also by the realisation of the less predictable, temporal perspective in an instance of language use which cannot be fully anticipated. It is in this interaction between the ST, an aspect of the past, and the TT, a text (to be) created in the future, that Malmkjær sees a truly 'dynamic reflection of human activity', as envisaged in Newmark's paper.

As readers of *The Linguist* and Peter Newmark's books will know, the style of writing which he uses often manifests itself in concise to-the-point observations on aspects of translation, frequently wide-ranging and, often, stimulating and highly personal. Similarly, in his equally very personal contribution, Marshall Morris seeks to stimulate the thoughts of fellow literary translators by pointing to different sources of inspiration which, he argues, can support and enlighten the translation process. In presenting his thoughts 'With translation in mind', Morris refers to sources in linguistics, psychology, history, philosophy, sociology and social anthropology. The emphasis throughout is on the experiential aspects of translating, a perspective which may often be lost in more rationally-based analyses.

At times throughout history the dividing line between translation and adaptation has been difficult to draw, as for instance in the United Kingdom during the Victorian Age (cf. Hale, 2001). In her analysis of a number of Spanish translations of Washington Irving's The Alhambra, Raquel Merino illustrates how the boundary between translation and adaptation becomes hard to identify in the context of a popular text which is reproduced in both the source language (SL) and the target language (TL) in a number of versions. 'Tracing back (in awe) a hundred-year history of Spanish translations: Washington Irving's The Alhambra' describes an ongoing study to (i) compile a bibliographical catalogue of Spanish versions of the Alhambra text, and (ii) trace the texts themselves. Based on the texts so far identified, Merino chooses a number of characteristics which she then uses as a basis of comparison between STs and TTs; in addition she also compares individual STs and TTs. A study of these characteristics, including the sequence of the tales, the number of tales, and the text of selected opening paragraphs, leads to the provisional conclusion that some texts presented as translations are more likely to be adaptations.

Questions raised in relation to the second topic, 'Types and kinds of translation', move us along the continuum of questions about translation from the general to the more specific, on the one hand to consider the hermeneutic and creative aspects of translation in the context of literary