

STUDENTS' TRANSLATIONS IN NUMBERS



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Research purpose. Translators' trainers are the first clients of would-be translators, and they insist on reliable translation. Reliability is understood as attention to detail, sensitivity to the client's needs, research, and checking. Being a knowledgeable client, the lecturer expects that there are no cases of mistranslation, the language is flawless, and the necessary translation shifts have been used. The report aims to analyse students' translations, identify and classify the discrepancies in the content and linguistic expression, and discuss the statistics of the issues that make the translation unreliable. The subject of the research is the translations of LinkedIn articles made by third-year students of Business English during their Information Management and Translation Internship 2.

Keywords: accuracy, mistranslation, reliable translation, translation shifts

Research methodology. The students' translations were corrected, and the mistakes were classified into eight groups. The cases of mistranslation were distinguished as content mistakes that distorted the meaning of the utterance. The other seven groups included inaccurate wording, irregular linguistic usage, word order mistakes, superfluous and missing information, and spelling and punctuation errors. Contrastive linguistic research has been conducted based on statistical, translation, and semantic-syntactic equivalence. Three steps have been involved in the contrastive procedure: description, juxtaposition, and the comparison proper, which evaluates the degree and type of the correspondence between the items under comparison.

Findings. 14 LinkedIn articles were translated from English into Lithuanian, with an average of 612 words each. Seventeen cases of mistranslation have been detected, while mistakes of other types were much more numerous, i.e., 479. From those, inaccurate wording was the most frequent, followed by superfluous information and word order discrepancies. The statistics suggest that during translation classes, it is vital to discuss correspondences with colleagues and choose the most appropriate ones that the translation applications used fail to provide. Another pitfall is a wordy language resulting from the differences between analytical and synthetic languages. Word order mistakes are also caused by different ways of expressing known and new information in the source and target languages. This might be the focus of the course on text editing. Spelling mistakes were scarce. However, punctuation in the Lithuanian language seems to be more complicated.

Practical implications. Practical/applied contrastive linguistic research serves the needs of a particular application, establishes language-specific, typological and (or) universal patterns, categories and features, and provides hints for language and translation learners and trainers.