

11. Abstract

This study explores the relations between irony and the stream-of-consciousness style and their translation from English into Hebrew. The analysis focuses on Virginia Woolf's novel *Mrs. Dalloway*, widely considered as a classic case of stream of consciousness, and its Hebrew translation *Marat Dalloway*, by Rina Litvin (1974).

At the basis of our analysis lies Sperber and Wilson's (1981; Wilson and Sperber 1992) Echoic Mention theory of irony, Grice's notion of the Cooperative Principle and literary theories concerning the implied author and the stream of consciousness. Mapping the voices in the novel, we consider the implied author (Booth 1961, Weizman and Dascal 2005) to be the addresser of the stream of consciousness and the implied irony. As in both of them the addresser echoes the thoughts, utterances or opinions of another person or character, it might appear as though the stream of consciousness is necessarily ironic. Our analysis purports to show that this is not the case, and highlights the following difference: through the use of stream of consciousness the addresser might imply indifference to or sympathy with the character or characters whose thoughts he or she echoes. On the other hand, in verbal irony the echoed thought inevitably expresses some criticism towards these thoughts or opinions. Such criticism presupposes a combination of the echoing of a character's thought and the violation of at least one of Grice's maxims.

Based on a micro- analysis of the ironic utterances, we further propose a complex view of irony composed of three subcategories: (1) bi-layered echoing, where the implied author echoes a character's thought and criticizes it; (2) simple tri-layered echoing, where the implied author echoes a character's thoughts in which the thoughts, opinions or utterances of another character or characters are echoed. In this case both deeper layers are criticized by the implied author; (3) complex tri-layered echoing, where, as in type (2), the implied author echoes a character's thoughts in which the thoughts, opinions or utterances of another character or characters are echoed; but unlike type (2) the implied author criticizes one of the deeper layers, while being indifferent or sympathetic with the other.

Having defined the necessary conditions for an ironic interpretation, we compared the ironic sections in the source text and its translation, and examined to what extent the irony-creating elements were preserved. We found out that the two most susceptible conditions were the echoing element and the violation of the maxim of quantity: highly dependent upon linguistic features, they are likely to change in the target text, due to choices made by the translator, among which the most prominent one was submission to translational norms. Finally, most likely to be preserved in the target text were the maxims of Quality and Relation. This might be explained by the fact that compliance with these maxims depends, to a large extent, upon values and norms prevalent in the source and target cultures, and that in our case, both

cultures seem to share the norms and values relevant for the ironic interpretation.