



Christina Schäffner (ed.). *The Role of Discourse Analysis for Translation and in Translator Training*, Clevedon, Buffalo, Toronto, Sydney, Multilingual Matters Ltd., 2002, 95 p.

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résumé des principes de la révision, un glossaire, ainsi qu'une méthode d'évaluation de la qualité.

L'ouvrage de M. Mossop ajoute une pièce très utile à la trousse de quiconque est appelé à faire de la révision de textes. Encore une fois, les lecteurs sauront certainement apprécier le côté très pratique de ce document, qui de toute évidence est le fruit d'une longue expérience et d'une réflexion profonde sur la pratique de la révision.

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Christina Schäffner (ed.). *The Role of Discourse Analysis for Translation and in Translator Training*, Clevedon, Buffalo, Toronto, Sydney, Multilingual Matters Ltd., 2002, 95 p.

This book first appeared as volume 7, number 3 of the journal *Current Issues in Language and Society*. As with several other issues of this journal, there was judged to be sufficient interest for a separate publication in book form. The format of the contributions in the book therefore represent a rather special process by which the journal elicits submissions. A specialist in a field relevant to translation is invited to deliver a paper at Aston University to an audience that is also knowledgeable in the field. The ensuing debate is transcribed and published with the paper. In this particular case the speaker was Anna Trosberg of the Department of English in the Aarhus School of Business in Denmark. In addition to the debate itself there are responses to the paper prepared by Beverly Adab, Rodica Dimitriu, Carmen Millán-Varela, Peter Newmark, and Palma Zlateva, and Trosberg's concluding remarks.

The presentation plus reaction can lead to an uneven sense of direction, and both the editorial at the beginning and the sections of commentary on the paper make it clear that there was disagreement as to the applicability of the kind of analysis Trosberg was exposing. The title of Trosberg's presentation is *Discourse Analysis as Part of Translator Training*. In the abstract she clearly limits the scope of her intention by describing the class in which she uses this approach. Her students are taking an optional course in translation, and their interest is in "in-depth textual analysis that is translation oriented" (p. 9).

The difficulty with describing this paper as a publication stems from the author's and the reader's differing expectations. Trosberg is not suggesting an original contribution to discourse studies itself. Hers is a pedagogic approach, not a model, and it is eclectic. As Christina Schäffner points out in what is labelled an editorial rather than an introduction, the use of some terms from the Halliday school of linguistics and some from discourse linguistic perspectives leads to terminological confusion, a confusion compounded by personal uses of terms well defined as having different meanings elsewhere (Peter Newmark's remarks p. 57). In addition, the long list of factors Trosberg suggests be considered leads to the question of what has been left out. Beverly Adab raises this issue (p. 71) in her response to Trosberg.

To sum up, then, the interest of this volume is the debate about the amount and kind of overt analysis that will prove useful in the translation classroom.

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Ruth A. Roland. *Interpreters as Diplomats: A Diplomatic History of the Role of Interpreters in World Politics*, Ottawa, University of Ottawa Press, 1999, 209 p.

This is a reprint in the University of Ottawa's series *Perspectives on Translation* (ed. Jean Delisle) of a 1982 book (*Translating World Affairs*) written by Roland, a retired Georgia State University political scientist and historian of diplomacy. The University of Ottawa has done the academic community of translators and interpreters a great service, because this is an immensely informative and enjoyable book, and one which, although dealing with much more than interpreting, will inspire budding interpreters and trainers of interpreters for years to come.

Roland surveys nothing less than the history of diplomatic interpreting from its origins in recorded history (c. 2600 B.C. in Mesopotamia and 165 B.C. in China) up to 1980, devoting a chapter to each of:

1. the Ancient Near East, Classical Greece and Rome, and Europe to the Renaissance