

Summary

We live in an information society and yet – despite the fact that in 2003 the European Union declared the right to information a basic human right – many people still can't enjoy full access to media. This includes the blind and visually impaired who have to cope with a limited access to our increasingly image-based culture.

Audio description (AD) – an intersemiotic audiovisual translation that presents the visual layer of any work (a film, picture, exhibition, theatrical play) in the form of words – was created to counter that exclusion. Because of its importance and novelty, and because an AD script is a highly interesting text from the point of view of a linguist and a translator, we have decided to discuss it in the present thesis.

The main purpose of this work is to describe and compare the expression of emotions in language in English and Spanish film AD. The subject of emotion was chosen for two reasons. First, because of the specific requirements set for AD scripts – which stipulate that they should be objective, neutral and describe only that which can be readily seen with a naked eye – relating people's emotions is an especially controversial and hotly debated issue. Second, since the cognitive revolution emotion studies have been well incorporated into linguistics, especially cultural linguistics that forms the backdrop for our interdisciplinary study.

Our main hypothesis is that because of the important role of emotions in cause-effect processes and human actions and motivations it is impossible to fully remove descriptions of emotional states in image-to-text translations. In addition, we have assumed that the work of an AD script creators is not accidental and chaotic, hence it should be possible to extract translation strategies developed by them to describe emotions in an indirect fashion and classify the **linguistic devices** characteristic to each of the languages studied in the work.

The thesis is divided into 7 chapters, of which chapters 2-4 contain the theoretical introduction and chapters 5-6 present the results of our research.

Chapter 2 introduces audio description: chapter 2.1. discusses the basic information about its history, applications and the specific language of AD; chapters 2.2 and 2.4 present AD in the context of, respectively, translation studies and textology; chapter 2.3 describes the culture of the blind and the role of AD creators as intercultural mediators. Chapter 3 discusses

the contemporary state of research on emotion in linguistics and chapter 4 focuses on cognitive and cultural linguistics.

Chapter 5 is an introduction to the research that is fully described in chapter 6. Chapters 6.2. and 6.3. present the analysis of, respectively, the Spanish and English parts of the corpus and in chapter 6.4. the results obtained for both languages are confronted.

Chapter 7 presents the conclusions and directions for future research. After the references there is an Annex that contains a sample of the corpus.