

ABSTRACT

This thesis aims to analyse several translations of J.D. Salinger's short story *A Perfect Day for Bananafish*: namely two translations and two edited versions of the latter one. The contrastive view is used to discern the main differences in meaning of the original and the translated texts. There are several points of view adopted to recognise the differences. On the syntactic level, the contrast between the texts was found to be present in the treatment of the author's style, predominantly in the narrative perspective. Not employing nominal structures a great deal, the author's style was not lost in the translation process. Comparing the translated texts, a tendency to adhere to the syntactic surface structure of the original text was found in the less recent versions.

Another level of analysis explored the temporal relations of the texts, with the original text relying mostly on structures expressing sequences of events and also simultaneity of events, but not the perfective aspect to a great degree. These time relations are also found to be communicated in the translated texts successfully.

It is not only the narrator that is discussed in this thesis, as a great portion of the short story consist of dialogues. The analysis aimed, using certain excerpts of the story, to find to what degree Salinger's use of typically spoken language was recreated in translation. The findings suggest that the more recent translations employ all the means readily available, the less recent translation less so, due to the choice not to express the spoken features of the language on the morphological level. Also, the more recent translations retain the implicitness of meaning to a similar degree as the original text does.