

This thesis is an analysis of three selected short stories by M. M. Zoshchenko and their translations, that were carried out by Jaroslav Hulák and Libor Dvořák. The main aim is to compare two distinct approaches in translation techniques.

The key hypothesis was that the style and the language of both translations would be dependant upon the period of their origin.

In the first chapter a brief biography of Michail Michajlovič Zoščenko is presented.

The second chapter contains a characteristic of Zoščenko's comicality together with the semantic and style sources and with the description of the short stories' hero and a characterisation of situational humour.

In the third, fourth and fifth chapter an analysis of individual short stories is performed. Initially, a linguo-stylistical analysis of the original is carried out. A critical evaluation of each individual translation is subsequently performed. In the sixth chapter extracts from each short story are quoted together with their translations and notes.

From the performed analysis it is apparent that although each selected translator uses a different approach, the dissimilarities are not caused by the time-gap between the origin of individual translations. Translations by J. Hulák, that were published more than twenty years ago, lose nothing of their recency and they are read with the same ease as the more current translations by L. Dvořák.

The originality and the complexity of Zoščenko's publications are a great challenge and an uneasy task for translators.

Profesionally carried out translations by J. Hulák, and daringly but precisely grasped translations by L. Dvořák, prove that it is not sufficient to only perfectly handle translation techniques but that the translator must also have a literary talent and flair.