

The thesis looks into the status of Czech translation criticism in the period from the 1960s until the year 2005. Research is based on articles evaluating prose and poetry translations from English that appeared in Czech literary journals in the period under discussion. In addition, the thesis gathers together relevant findings of Czech and Slovak translation studies, and particular contributions to translation 'meta-criticism' (i.e. criticisms of translation criticism).

Throughout the period under examination, critiques of prose and poetry translations from English appeared in around twenty literary journals. In chapter 2, these periodicals are described in terms of their interest in translation issues and translation criticism in particular.

Chapter 3 gives an account of the development of translation criticism with focus on the relevant critiques and shows the changes that the frequency and style of translation criticism underwent. For this purpose, critical articles are divided into four categories according to the length and profundity of the analyses employed. As the frequency charts for individual decades show, the period 1960-2005 witnessed a shift from single-word evaluations in the 1960s to more detailed critiques in the 1990s and after the year 2000. The authors of the critiques and their professional careers are also the objects of our attention. With the exception of the 1980s, the majority of critics worked as translators. Chapter 4 focuses on translation criticism in Czech and Slovak translation studies. It gives an overview of the theoretical debate on the typology of translation criticism, its functions and aims, the personality of the critic and what makes an ideal critique, and on the techniques, methods and criteria of writing a translation critique.

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