

The dissertation looks at explicitation as at a universal of translation and verifies explicitation hypothesis through analysis of syntactic condensation in Czech to English translations of journalistic texts on historical subjects.

In chapter Starting points, there is an overview of the most significant publications dealing with this subject. Based on these works, the dissertation determines the notions explicitness and explicitation and it goes on to outline the basic classification of this phenomenon. The aim of this dissertation is to verify or falsify the hypothesis, according to which the target text should have higher level of explicitness compared to parallel texts in the target language. This condition applies for translations both ways.

Empirical part comprised the research of explicitation, in particular of syntactic condensation, as according to Jelinek (1974) syntactic condensation is a process in which explicit and implicit expressions compete. In the first part of the research, quantitative methods were used to compare Russian and Czech original texts as for the means of syntactic condensation. The analysis showed that the Czech language is more verbal and on the whole more explicit than Russian.

In the second part of the research, an analysis of shifts in both ways translations was carried out, which was trying to establish whether individual units are translated more explicitly or implicitly. In translations from Russian to Czech the analysis revealed a tendency towards explicitation, which was 22,6% more likely than the opposite tendency. In translations from Czech to Russian, the tendency towards implicitness was found in 64% cases. The result is in line with genre-stylistic conventions of both languages (judged according to the level of explicitness from the point of view of syntactic condensation)