Some advances in the translation of Manner and boundary-crossing in motion events: An English-German/Spanish/Catalan experiment

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The study of cross-linguistic influence in the translation of motion events has been generally approached from the Thinking-for-translating framework (Slobin, 1996), based on Talmy's (1985, 2000) theory of lexicalization patterns (e.g. Ibarretxe-Antuñano & Filipović, 2013; Cifuentes-Férez & Rojo, 2015; Molés-Cases, 2016). In our contribution we analyse the translation of boundary-crossing events including Manner from English (a satellite-framed language) into German (also a satellite-framed language) and Spanish and Catalan (both verb-framed languages) to investigate whether student translators interpret correctly this specific type of motion events or otherwise they omit (or modulate) the information regarding Manner and/or boundary-crossing. For this purpose, three groups of student translators (having correspondingly German, Spanish and Catalan as their mother tongues) were asked to translate a series of excerpts from English narrative texts into their respective first languages. We compare the results of this experiment with the results of a previous pilot study focusing on boundary-crossing events with the preposition *into* + a bounded-space in the linguistic combinations English-German/Spanish (Cifuentes-Férez & Molés-Cases, 2018) and the results of some previous research on the topic (Alonso, 2016). Our results suggest that the way student translators deal with the translation of boundary-crossing events is influenced by their mother tongues and the nature of the event itself.

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