

TL versus SL Implied Reader: Assessing Receptivity when Translating Children's Literature

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Abstract

The reader of a translated text is particularly important when the translation is intended for a young audience. The translation must take into account the cultural knowledge of the intended reader. This article applies to translation studies some of the concepts advanced by critics Wolfgang Iser and Wayne Booth within the theory of literary reception. It looks at the rapport between the translator and the author, the implicit translator and the implicit author, the implicit target reader and the implicit source reader. Based on examples taken from an adaptation of *Dorrit* by Charles Dickens and the Portuguese translation of the *Wolves of Willoughby Chase Chronicles* by Joan Aiken, the article seeks to examine the role of the translator in assessing receptivity of the text.

Résumé

Le lecteur d'un texte traduit est particulièrement important lorsque la traduction

s'adresse à un public jeune. La traduction doit en effet prendre en compte les connaissances culturelles propres au lecteur potentiel du texte cible. Le présent article applique à la traductologie certains concepts mis en lumière dans le cadre de la théorie de la réception par des critiques tels que Wolfgang Iser et Wayne Booth. Il considère les rapports entre traducteur et auteur, traducteur implicite et auteur implicite, lecteur cible implicite et lecteur source implicite. Le but est de tenter de clarifier la position du traducteur du point de vue de la recevabilité du texte cible en se basant sur des exemples tirés d'une adaptation de *Little Dorrit* de Charles Dickens et de la traduction portugaise des histoires de la série *Willoughby Chase* de Joan Aiken.

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