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THE PROBLEM OF TRANSLATION EQUIVALENCE:

ANALYSIS OF THE CZECH TRANSLATION OF THE BOOK *THE PRESIDENT IS MISSING* BY BILL CLINTON AND JAMES PATTERSON

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I confirm that this thesis is my own work written using solely the sources and literature properly quoted and acknowledged as works cited.

České Budějovice, 30.7.2021

Mgr. Bc. Sabina Štěpánková

Throughout the writing of this thesis I have received a great deal of support and assistance.

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Anotace

Tato diplomová práce na téma „*The Problem of Translation Equivalence: Analysis of the Czech Translation of the Book The President is Missing by Bill Clinton and James Patterson*" si klade za cíl aplikovat teoretické metody hodnocení kvality překladu na český překlad thrilleru Pohřešuje se prezident, který byl Obcí překladatelů zvolen nejhorším překladem roku 2018. Na základě přístupu k translatologické analýze, který ve svém díle představila Bakerová (2011), v kombinaci s kontrastivními principy hodnocení kvality překladu popsanými u Zehnalové et al. (2015), byl anglický zdrojový text společně s českým překladem Ondřeje Duhy podroben detailní analýze z hlediska dvouúrovňové monolingválně-bilingvní metody hodnocení překladu. Zjištěné překladové chyby byly následně rozděleny do pěti kategorií totožných s jednotlivými úrovněmi jazykového systému. Jakožto výsledek tohoto výzkumu tato diplomová práce stručně představuje pět oblastí potenciálně nebezpečných z hlediska překladových chyb. Konkrétně se jedná o oblast lexikální, ekvivalenci na úrovni slovních spojení, gramatický systém, prostředky textové ekvivalence a pragmatické vztahy uvnitř textu. Práce dále nastíní běžně užívané překladatelské strategie používané k dosažení maximální možné míry ekvivalence v těchto oblastech. Teoretický rámec práce je následně doplněn praktickými příklady v podobě vzorků jazykového materiálu vybraných z českého překladu. Tyto příklady poukazují na špatné využití zmíněných překladatelských strategií a nabízejí alternativní řešení zohledňující socio-kulturní a socio-politické poměry zdrojového textu.

Klíčová slova: hodnocení kvality překladu; překladová ekvivalence; lexikální ekvivalence; ekvivalence na úrovni slovních spojení; gramatická ekvivalence; textová ekvivalence; pragmatická ekvivalence

Abstract

This M.A. thesis entitled *"The Problem of Translation Equivalence: Analysis of the Czech Translation of the Book The President is Missing by Bill Clinton and James Patterson"* aims to apply the translation quality assessment approach on the Czech translation of the thriller The President is Missing which was voted the worst translation of the year 2018 by the Czech Literary Translators' Guild. By employing Baker's (2011) approach towards the translation analysis in combination with the contrastive principles of TQA as presented by Zehnalová et al. (2015), the English source text along with the Czech target text translated by Ondřej Duha was carefully analysed from the point of view of the two-level monolingual-bilingual quality assessment. The translation errors discovered during the analysis were divided into five categories corresponding with the respective levels of language. As a result, this thesis briefly presents five areas of possible translation pitfalls – namely individual lexical units, equivalence above the word level, grammar, means of textual equivalence and pragmatic relations within the text – along with the commonly used translation strategies used for overcoming them. Subsequently, the theoretical framework is complemented by practical examples in the form of data samples extracted from the Czech target text. These examples present instances of an unsuccessful employment of the recommended translation techniques as well as an alternative translation solution taking into consideration the socio-cultural and socio-political relations of the source text.

Keywords: translation quality assessment; translation equivalence; equivalence at word level; equivalence above the word level; grammatical equivalence; textual equivalence; pragmatic equivalence

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Introduction

Translation is a phenomenon that has long been part of human civilization and culture and affects them significantly. It plays a crucial role in the process of dissemination of cultural values and knowledge from all areas of research. Translation mediates intercultural communication, maintains linguistic and cultural diversity which is becoming an increasingly valued value due to globalization. At the same time, translation is also a purely pragmatic matter making activities such as international politics or trade possible.

Today's globalized society is entirely dependent on the ability of overcoming linguistic and cultural barriers in communication. Although English continuously strengthens its position of lingua franca, translations in various languages still play an essential role in the world (Zehnalová et al., 2015).

Closely connected with this ancient tradition of translating, there has always been the eternal tension between the accuracy of form and meaning. Due to different language typology across the linguistic community, the process of translation often requires significant compromises in one way or another. The opinions on this matter differed tremendously in the course of time. In the history, various schools of thoughts represented by significant theoreticians presented contradictory viewpoints on the issue of translation equivalence.

The prevalent approach to the issue of translation equivalence in the modern era of translatology is represented by the theory of functional equivalence (Knittlová et al., 2010). Also known as dynamic equivalence (as introduced by Eugene Nida) or communicative equivalence (as introduced by Peter Newmark)[1], this concept promotes the equivalence of the propositional and expressive meaning as well as the pragmatic value of the source text (ST) and the target text (TT) regardless of the employed linguistic means.

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[1] For the purpose of a general introduction to the issue of translation equivalence, the functional, dynamic and communicative approaches were presented as roughly identical concepts. Nevertheless, as it will be explained in a separate sub-chapter devoted to the issue of translation equivalence as such, these theoretical approaches do have their specifics and differences and cannot be considered fully equivalent.

Nevertheless, the differences between various languages often represent a serious pitfall in the process of reaching the ideal functional equivalence between the ST and TT. In connection with the growing importance of translation along with the increasing volume of translated text from various spheres of human life, the community of translators inevitably produces translations located on both ends of the quality spectrum.

For the purpose of keeping the quality of texts and information flowing in and out of a particular cultural environment high, each linguistic community needs to subject its translations to a quality assessment process evaluating the target texts according to objective linguistic criteria. This is the task of the branch of translatology known as Translation Quality Assessment (TQA). Moreover, the TQA is also a valuable tool of self-improvement for both new and experienced translators.

In most linguistic communities, there are professional organisations fulfilling the role of translation quality assessors mainly as far as literary translation is concerned. In the Czech Republic, this role is represented by the Czech Literary Translators' Guild. Apart from other educational and popularisation activities, this association monitors the quality of literary translations published in the Czech Republic and announces the best and worst translations of the year.

This prize or more precisely anti-prize awarding motivated also the choice of the research aim for this thesis. A thorough research of the results of this survey showed that the anti-prize for the worst translation of the year 2018 was awarded to the Czech translation of the American thriller *The President is Missing* written by James Patterson in collaboration with the former US President Bill Clinton.

The English source text along with the Czech target text translated by Ondřej Duha was carefully analysed from the point of view of the two-level monolingual-bilingual quality assessment. Based on the theoretical framework of Mona Baker (2011) presented in her book *In Other Words*, the translation errors discovered during the analysis were divided into five categories corresponding with the respective levels of language.

As a result, this thesis briefly presents five areas of possible translation pitfalls, namely individual lexical units, equivalence above the word level, grammar, means of textual equivalence and pragmatic relations within the text, along with the commonly used translation strategies used for overcoming them. Subsequently, the theoretical

framework is complemented by practical examples in the form of actual text excerpts extracted from the observed text corpus. These examples present instances of an unsuccessful employment of the recommended translation techniques as well as an alternative translation solution.

Finally, the conclusion summarizes the general nature of the translation errors presented in the individual categories, evaluates the overall performance of Ondřej Duha in the translation of this particular book and makes suggestions concerning possible future development of the analysis.

1. Translation quality assessment

As it was briefly mentioned in the introduction, the translation industry is expanding, the number of translators increasing and the volume of translated texts growing. Under such circumstances, the community of translators inevitably produces texts of both high and low quality. In order to minimise the amount of poorly done translations, the field of translation quality assessment provides useful approaches for monitoring and evaluating their quality.

Translation and its quality play a crucial role in spreading culture and balancing the impact of globalization, and help creating the image we possess of other cultures and also the way they think about us. In other words, translation and its quality determine the quality of our information and information about us (Zehnalová et al., 2015).

Evaluating the quality of translation is therefore of interest to an increasing number of people. Due to the growing importance of translation and translation in a globalized world, the quality of translation and its evaluation has become a matter of public concern (Zehnalová et al., 2015).

Zehnalová et al. (2015) describes the first stage of translation quality assessment as normative requirements based on the idea of a "perfect" translation. As an example, she cites the translation antinomies collected by Theodore Savory (1968):

> *"1. A translation must give the words of the original. A translation must give the ideas of the original.*
>
> *2. A translation should read like a translation. A Translation should read like an original work.*
>
> *3. A translation should reflect the style of the original. A translation should possess the style of the translation*
>
> *4. A translation should read as a contemporary of the original. A translation should read as a contemporary of the translation.*
>
> *5. A translation may never add to or omit from the original. A translation may add or omit from the original.*
>
> *6. A translation of verse should be in verse. A translation of verse should be in prose."*

These paradoxes show the contradictory nature of translation and the ancient tension between the tendencies to accurately represent the source text versus its spirit.

Furthermore, Zehnalová et al. (2015) draws attention to the fact that the concept of a "good" translation is closely related to the historically variable and socially conditioned requirements for translation and to the state of development of theoretical considerations about translation. Therefore, the relationship to the theory of translation and knowledge of its development is essential for the evaluation of the quality of translation. This development proves that the quality of a translation is not an absolute value, but a relative value, depending on many factors. A similar idea is expressed also in the work of House (1997:1):

> „*Evaluating the quality of a translation presupposes a theory of translation. Thus different views of translation lead to different concepts of translational quality, and hence different ways of assessing it.*"

It is primarily the above-mentioned historical periodisation of the translation theory that is crucial for the perception of the translation fidelity and consequently, for the translation quality assessment. Therefore, opinions on "what is a good translation" are very diverse and can have relatively serious consequences both for the translators themselves and for the language communities in question (Zehnalová et al., 2015).

This close connection of the translation theory with translation criticism and TQA is explained by House (1997:1) in more depth:

> „*In trying to make statements about the quality of a translation, one thus addresses the heart of any theory of translation, i.e., the crucial question of the nature of translation, or, more specifically, the nature of (1) the relationship between a source text and its translation, (2) the relationship between (features of) the text(s) and how they are perceived by human agents (author, translator, recipient[s]), and (3) the consequences views about these relationships have for determining the borders between a translation and other textual operations.*"

The above-discussed standpoints show that translation quality assessment is an essential part of the translation process itself and the translator's efforts to create a quality product. The methodological foundation of TQA and translation criticism is created by a comparative analysis of ST and TT. The assessment of translation quality can also be based only on the TT analysis as well, or alternatively on the combination of both

approaches. An isolated TT analysis can, according to Koller (1979) or Reiss (1971) uncover clumsy and unnatural expressions, faux amis as well as shortcomings in the knowledge of ST grammar and vocabulary. Nevertheless, according to Ferenčík (1982), the translation quality should be assessed not only based on the linguistic analysis but also based on other – cultural, historical and political – viewpoints.

Nevertheless, despite all the efforts for analytical approach to the quality assessment, TQA and translation criticism will always remain highly subjective disciplines as they are based on the critic's opinion. For this reason, the criticism should supported by objective evidence that can be verified. Moreover, the critic should admit that there might be a number of other interpretations that have the right to be considered legitimate as long as they do not violate the linguistic structures (Vízdalová, 1997).

The critic should be aware of the fact that their criticism is subjective – this should be also reflected in the assessment. For this reason, they should approach the quality assessment in a rational manner and support their findings with objective arguments and stay open to different subjective opinions that are empirically based and supported as well.

1.1 Translation Equivalence

An inseparable part of the TQA discussion is the notion of translation equivalence. This term appears as a keyword in the second half of the 20th century along with establishing translatology as an independent linguistic discipline. The theoreticians strive to create a comprehensive and systematic methodology and terminology as well as to introduce translation studies at universities. In the 1950s and 1960s, a new linguistically oriented translation theory based on structuralism, generative grammar and contrastive linguistics is developed.

Jeremy Munday (2008) outlines the main theoretical concepts of the representatives of this school in his work *Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications*.

He starts with the structuralist linguist Roman Jakobson who bases his linguistic thinking on the difference between three kinds of translation, namely intralingual, interlingual and intersemiotic, and addresses the issue of linguistic meaning and equivalence as well.

He considers the meaning at the level of individual words in different languages, but considers the interlanguage translation at the level of the whole message and argues that if the messages in ST and TT are to be "equivalent", the units of code will be different as they belong to different linguistic systems (languages).

Furthermore, Munday continues with the description of the theory of Eugene Nida, an American linguist and translator who based his theoretical findings on his own translation practice. His theoretical concept is closely bound with semantics and pragmatics and defines lexical meaning in the functional perspective – this means that a particular lexical unit acquires its meaning based only on a specific context and it might convey a different response in various cultural environments. Nida's theory is well known also for its division of linguistic equivalence in two main groups: formal equivalence (i.e., an accurate translation of both the form and the message) and dynamic or functional equivalence (i.e., an equivalent effect of the message on the recipient). It is mainly the dynamic equivalence that is, according to Nida, of key importance for a successful translation.

Munday concludes his chapter on translation equivalence with the theoretical frameworks of Newmark and Koller who present interesting theories also from the point of view of translation criticism. Namely Newmark presents a theory similar to Nida's where he describes the basic opposition between communicative translation (cf. Nida's dynamic equivalence) and semantic translation (cf. Nida's formal equivalence). Nevertheless, Newmark brings a new viewpoint on the issue of equivalence by stating that the equivalent effect *"is inoperant if the text is out of TL space and time."* (1981:69).

Finally, the difference between the theoretical concepts of Nida and Newmark can be observed also on the example of their attitude to the issue of a "good" translation. Nida (1974:1), in accordance with his theory of dynamic equivalence, takes the recipient into account as the main deciding factor:

> *„The old question: Is this a correct translation? must be answered in terms of another question, namely: For whom? Correctness must be determined by the extent to which the average reader for which a translation is intended will be likely to understand it correctly."*

Newmark (1988:192), on the other hand, bases his consideration more on the text typology and the linguistic functions of various text types:

> *„A good translation fulfils its intention; in an informative text, it conveys the facts acceptably; in a vocative text, its success is measurable, at least in theory, and therefore the effectiveness of an advertising agency translator can be shown by results; in an authoritative or an expressive text, form is almost as important as content, there is often a tension between the expressive and the aesthetic functions of language and therefore a merely 'adequate' translation may be useful to explain what the text is about ..., but a good translation has to be 'distinguished' and the translator exceptionally sensitive."*

1.2 Czech Literary Translators' Guild

The following sub-chapter of the thesis will be devoted to a description of the Czech Literary Translators' Guild's activities as well as the anti-award Skřipec that draws attention to the least successful Czech language translations of the year.

The main goal of the Czech Literary Translator's Guild is to bring together translators of fine literature as well as theoreticians, critics and historians dealing with the issue of translation. Its mission is to promote the professional interests of its members, defend their rights and take care of the quality and prestige of translation in Czech culture.

Currently, the Czech Literary Translators' Guild has 280 members. Moreover, the Czech Literary Translators' Guild is a member of CEATL (European Council of Literary Translators' Associations) where it has its own representative. In order to become a member, the candidate must have published at least two translated books or ten journal translations, or systematically have contributed to the broadening of scientific knowledge in the field of translation theory, history and criticism. The Guild constantly and systematically monitors the translation literature published in the Czech Republic and annually awards the Josef Jungmann Prize for the best translation of the previous year as well as several other rewards for creative translations of an exceptional quality. The prize is traditionally awarded on 30th September or the day of St. Jerome, the patron of translators. In addition, the Guild annually organises the Jiří Levý Translation Competition for young translators as well as various translation seminars and workshops.

1.2.1 Anti-prize Skřipec

As a counterpoint to the Josef Jungmann Prize for the best translations of the year, there is also an anti-prize for the worst translation called Anticena Skřipec. The anti-prize is awarded annually for a translation work translated from a foreign language into Czech but that shows serious shortcomings. The anti-prize can also be granted to legal or natural persons who, by their actions or omissions, have grossly infringed the rights of the author of the translation. A nomination for an anti-prize candidate can be made by anyone. The individual proposals are collected and subsequently discussed by an expert jury.

On 9th May 2019, the Czech Literary Translators' Guild published the results of the 25th season of the anti-prize Skřipec. The jurors Jiří Hanuš (chairman), Milada Matějovicová and Kateřina Brabcová decided to award the anti-prize to Ondřej Duha for his translation of the novel *The President is Missing* originally written by James Patterson and Bill Clinton and published by Kalibr, formerly Euromedia Book Club, in 2018.

Generally, the jury evaluated the translation as excessively literal and full of factual and spelling errors. Moreover and probably most importantly, according to the jury's opinion, Duha's translation reproduces the English syntax and idioms into Czech and thus shows ignorance of the principles that translators of fiction into Czech should follow.

2. Methodology

Based on the principles of translation quality assessment and translation criticism as well as the concept of translation equivalence introduced in the preceding chapter, this section sets out the methodological approach to the translation quality analysis performed as a part of this thesis.

The foundation for the analysis consists of the novel *The President is Missing* by James Patterson and Bill Clinton and its Czech translation by Ondřej Duha published in 2018 by Kalibr.

The translation quality assessment undertaken in the present thesis draws on the theoretical framework of Mona Baker (2011) presented in her work *In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation* (2011). In her book intended primarily as a handbook for translators, Baker (2011) presents a hierarchical and well understandable bottom-up approach by dividing the entire language system into five individual levels – the word level exploring the meaning of single words and expressions; the equivalence above word level concerned with collocations, idioms and fixed phrases; grammatical equivalence presenting the issue of different grammatical categories; the textual level represented by word order, functional sentence perspective and textual cohesion; and finally, the pragmatic equivalence concerned with textual coherence and implicature.

In the introduction, Baker (2011) acknowledges that the proposed division according to different language subsystems may be considered artificial and questionable as the individual categories are not strictly discrete and the borderlines between different levels might be blurry (2011:5). Nevertheless, for the purpose of a comprehensive analysis, as Baker (2011) advocates, this organised analytical perspective presents a comprehensive yet transparent framework, which is also the reason why it was adopted in this thesis.

In her theoretical conception, Baker (2011) also employs the term *equivalence* that was discussed in the previous chapter of the thesis. In her case, however, equivalence is not conceptualised in such a sophisticated manner as, for example, of Nida or Newmark – Baker (2011) states that she uses this term for the sake of convenience as most translators are used to it. Baker (2011) goes on to concede that the concept of linguistic

equivalence is highly relative as it is conditioned by a number of both linguistic and extralinguistic factors (2011:5).

The empirical analysis in the form of a translation quality assessment standing at the core of this thesis thus employs the above-explained theoretical framework. There are five main chapters altogether corresponding to the individual language levels defined by Baker (2011). At the beginning of each of these chapters, the area of translation will be briefly introduced. The aim of this theoretical background is mainly to outline the potential areas of difficulty as well as to set out the translation strategies that might be employed to translate non-equivalent linguistic material across languages.

Furthermore, the results of the translation quality assessment are presented. The outcomes of the analysis are represented by chosen data samples that systematically illustrate the translation errors on the respective linguistic levels, see Table 1 below. Each data sample is processed in form of a well arranged table according to this example:

Table 1. Data sample processing

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
number of the respective data sample	an excerpt of the ST along with its source; problematic passages are marked **in bold**[2]	an excerpt of the TT along with its source; problematic passages are marked **in bold**	an alternative translation solution of the observed excerpt; problematic passages are marked **in bold**

Source: Author.

All data samples used for the purpose of illustration are accompanied by a short commentary on the observed error along with an explanation of the proposed alternative solution. Finally, each chapter is concluded by a summary of the key errors in the context of the translation theory in question.

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[2] All source text excerpts are taken over from Clinton, B., & Patterson, J. (2018). The President is Missing. Century.; all target text excerpts are taken over from Clinton, B., & Patterson, J. (2018). Pohřešuje se prezident. Kalibr. For the purpose of a clearer arrangement, the Data Samples include only the information about the page number.

2.1 Data

The data samples were extracted from the Czech translation of the book based on the translation quality assessment principles described by Zehnalová et al. in her book *Kvalita a hodnocení překladu* (2015). In Chapter 4, Zehnalová et al. provides a comprehensive description of the assessment methods and their application to texts.

She outlines two basic approaches: translated texts can be assessed either based on the TT (i.e., a monolingual analysis) or based on a comparative analysis of ST and TT (i.e., a bilingual analysis). These two methods can also be applied in their combination. For a complete overview of all possible assessment approaches, see Table 2 below:

Table 2. Overview of TQA methods

One-level methods		Two/multiple-level methods	
TT analysis	monolingual analysis	(ST+TT)+TT analysis	bilingual-monolingual analysis
ST–TT analysis	bilingual analysis	TT+(ST+TT) analysis	monolingual-bilingual analysis

Source: Zehnalová et al. (2015). Kvalita a hodnocení překladu: Modely a aplikace. Univerzita Palackého v Olomouci, p. 95.

After a thorough consideration, the two-level monolingual-bilingual analysis (i.e., TT+ (ST+TT) model) was employed to analyse the observed corpus. The preliminary reading of the Czech translation provided an opportunity to identify problematic passages, i.e., those that sound unnatural in the target language or otherwise collide with the language competence of a native speaker. Furthermore, without being influenced by various presuppositions created based on the ST, the introductory monolingual analysis of the TT enables the assessor to determine those text parts that make reading and understanding the text difficult in any way – may it be due to clumsy style of expression, insufficiently domesticated foreign concepts or for any other reasons.

Subsequently, the ST and TT were read in a contrastive perspective. This approach helped to identify further instances of language interference and excessively literal translations as well as to clarify the incorrect use of various idioms, metaphors and

language concepts that cause confusion when reading the TT alone. Moreover, the contrastive perspective provides an opportunity to discover factual and formal errors caused by the translator's inadvertence and other instances of non-equivalence caused e.g. by omission or excessive creativity of the translation.

The instances of translation errors or inaccuracies discovered by this two-level analysis were subsequently assigned to the five above-mentioned categories introduced by Baker (2011).

3. Lexical Equivalence

The tricky nature of translation consists in the fact that no language operates with the same concepts and units. As all languages, or more precisely their speakers, create their own thought units and abstract lexical categories in order to describe the outer world, it is often a very challenging task for the translator to propose a suitable lexical unit.

In order to provide a better insight into this matter, Baker (2011) briefly outlines the notion of a lexical meaning of a particular word. She defines this term as *"the specific value it has in a particular linguistic system and the 'personality' it acquires through usage within that system"* (2011:11). In connection with this, she introduces the model formerly discussed by Cruse (1986). Drawing on Cruse's approach in particular, we can distinguish four types of meaning altogether: propositional meaning, expressive meaning, presupposed meaning and evoked meaning. These individual "layers" of meaning play an important role in the translation process.

The propositional meaning is the one that comes to mind first even for a non-linguist for it describes the relation between a particular lexical unit and the concrete object in the outer world connected with it. The expressive meaning, on the other hand, cannot be judged as accurate or inaccurate as it is heavily dependent on the speaker's attitude and their own expressiveness. The third sub-type of meaning, namely the presupposed meaning, can be extracted from a word based on its selectional and collocational restrictions. The latter type of restriction is particularly interesting as far as translatology is concerned, as the collocational restrictions are semantically arbitrary and can – and usually do – differ tremendously among different languages causing the target text to sound rather clumsy and unnatural. Last but not least, the final component of the lexical meaning is the evoked meaning that overlaps with sociolinguistics as it concerns various dialects and language registers used based on geographical conditions, relationships in the social group of speakers etc.

Regarding the above-mentioned phenomena, it is understandable that finding the right word equivalent can be a very tricky task for the translator. Apart from obvious linguistic slips, the decision about the equivalence or non-equivalence is to a large extent based on one's own subjective feeling and judgement whether or not a certain expression is appropriate – this applies mainly for the expressive and evoked meaning.

For this particular reason, in order to be able to choose the right equivalent in the target language, the translator must first conduct a linguistic analysis of the source text based on orientation reading of the text. This provides an understanding of the text as a whole which is later very important mainly for the understanding of its more intricate constituent parts as well as for the assessment of different tones in the text (such as lyrical parts, conflicts etc.). This broader image helps the translator to find the suitable equivalent more easily (Kufnerová et al., 2003).

3.1 Strategies for dealing with lexical (non-)equivalence

In the second part of the chapter devoted to lexical equivalence, Baker (2011) introduces a number of common problems of non-equivalence at the lexical level and recommends translation strategies for dealing with them.

One of the groups of non-equivalent lexical expressions is represented by culture-specific concepts of the SL that do not have an equivalent expression in the TL. As an example, Baker (2011) mentions the word Speaker (e.g. of the House of Commons) that appears also in the observed text corpus as it is thematically concerned with politics. She states that this concept is very often translated as chairman, which, however, does not fully reflect the true role of the Speaker as an independent person who maintains authority in Parliament.

In other cases, the TL might lack a specific lexicalized expression for a fairly well understandable and known concept. As an example, Baker (2011) mentions the English word *savoury* that, although being a familiar concept, is not lexicalized in many languages as an independent term. On the other hand, the SL may also have a one-word expression for a very complex concept that must be explained in multiple words or whole sentences in the TL.

Another instance of non-equivalence between the SL and TL is a different distinction in meaning. In this case, one of the languages distinguishes the subtle differences in meaning either in more or in fewer details dependent on the importance of such distinction for the source culture.

The TL may also lack either a superordinate expression or a more specific term, i.e., a hyponym. For this case, Baker (2011) mentions the English expression facilities, meaning *"any equipment, building, services, etc. that are provided for a particular*

activity or purpose" (2011:21), as this term is completely unknown in Russian. Nevertheless, it occurs more often that the TL disposes of the superordinate term but lacks a suitable hyponym.

As it was already previously mentioned in the introduction to this chapter, the meaning of a word is a very complex linguistic area consisting of many partial aspects. If a word is to be equivalent in two different languages, it is not only the propositional meaning that has to be in accordance but also the expressive meaning. Very often, the SL expression carries a more emotional connotation that must be transferred to the TL e.g. by means of an equivalent modifier.

The equivalence or non-equivalence of two terms is, nevertheless, not dependent only on their linguistic properties but also on their frequency and purpose in their respective languages. As an illustrative example, Baker (2011) mentions the use of transgressive in English that undoubtedly has its equivalent in other languages as well; however, its use may sound unnatural and archaic.

Following the outline of the most common linguistic clashes between the SL and TL, Baker (2011) proposes a number of translation strategies used by professional translators to solve the above-mentioned instances of non-equivalence.

According to Baker (2011), one of the most common strategies for dealing with discrepancies between two languages at the lexical level is to employ a more general word, i.e. a superordinate. This strategy is considered to be exceptionally useful as it functions well in almost all languages due to the fact that the hierarchical structure of semantic fields is not language-specific.

Another translation strategy often used for culture-specific concepts is to fully domesticate this concept by substituting it with an image well known in the target culture. The TL concept does not correspond with the SL concept in its propositional meaning but it has a similar impact on the reader by evoking the same context. Using this translation strategy helps the reader to identify with the text better. Nevertheless, Baker (2011) points out that employing this particular strategy is closely dependent on the amount of licence given to the translator as well as on the purpose of the text and cultural conventions.

For cases when the SL concept is lexicalized in the TL in a different form or with different stylistic connotations, or alternatively, it is not lexicalized at all, Baker (2011) advises to use the strategy of translating by paraphrase. For such purposes, the translator can either use a related word in the TL or directly explain its meaning with different language means – this is particularly useful for semantically complex concepts. This strategy provides an opportunity to precisely transfer the propositional meaning of the SL expression in the TL. Nevertheless, this technique has also its disadvantages – a paraphrase is not a lexical unit as such so it does not dispose of any kind of expressive or evoked meaning, which can result in the weakening of the final effect of the TT on the reader.

The last strategy proposed by Baker (2011) is translation by omission. Although Baker admits that this technique might be slightly counterintuitive as every omission automatically results in a loss of meaning, she claims that omitting an element that is not essential for a successful understanding of a sentence is a more favourable solution than glutting the reader with extended explanations. Nevertheless, Baker herself calls this strategy to be *"the last resort"* (2011:45) for cases when a translator is not able to translate a certain SL concept smoothly.

In the following, on the basis of the theoretical background, let us focus our attention on the observation of representative data samples showing how successfully the translator of the novel *The President is Missing* employed the above-advised translation strategies in order to produce a well-understandable translation.

3.2 The term *impeachment* as a tough proposition

The first major issue connected with the lexical equivalence as well as with the knowledge of the American legal system, is the term *impeachment* that represented a very difficult task for the translator. Due to different political systems, the translator struggled with the transposition of this matter faithfully in the Czech cultural environment throughout the whole novel, which resulted in five different translation options, all of which sounded rather clumsy in Czech and disturbed the reading experience. See Data Samples 1-5 to observe the translation solutions proposed by the translator:

Data Sample 1

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text
1	Speaker Rhodes has engineered this committee so that there is only one real outcome—a finding of presidential misconduct sufficient to refer the matter to the House Judiciary Committee for **impeachment** proceedings. (p. 9)	Předseda Rhodes připravil tohle slyšení tak, že mohlo mít jen jediný faktický výsledek – mělo shledat prezidentovo pochybení tak závažným, aby bylo možné předat legislativnímu výboru podnět k zahájení **řízení o impeachementu**. (p. 14)

In this case, the translator decided to preserve the foreign term in the TT without any explication or paraphrase. Nevertheless, the translator did not verify the orthography of the expression and misspelled it as impeachEment. This is a recurring mistake.

Data Sample 2

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text
2	I'm not sure why I bother with the news. It's all about the **impeachment**, the networks trying to bend every story to fit this narrative. (p. 32)	Nejsem si jistý, jestli se chci nechat rozčilovat zprávami. Mluví se v nich jenom o **ústavní žalobě** a zpravodajské kanály se snaží překroutit každou informaci tak, aby se hodila do jejich výkladu událostí. (p. 34)

In this case, the translator strives to describe the foreign lexical unit by substituting it with a more familiar term in the target culture. Out of all options proposed by the translator, *ústavní žaloba* seems to be the most acceptable one, although its meaning might be too broad compared to the ST term.

Data Sample 3

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text
3	Good Morning America says that White House sources indicate that I've already decided not to run for reelection and that I will try to cut a deal with the House Speaker to spare me **impeachment** if I agree to a single term in office. (p. 33)	Podle pořadu Good Morning America zdroje z Bílého domu naznačují, že už jsem se rozhodl neaspirovat na znovuzvolení a že se pokusím uzavřít dohodu s předsedou sněmovny reprezentantů. Podle té by mě prý měl ušetřil **státní žaloby** výměnou za to, že se spokojím s jediným funkčním obdobím v úřadu. (p. 35)

Státní žaloba is another attempt at finding a Czech equivalent of the term *impeachment*. Nevertheless, in the Czech legal system, there is no such legal proceeding as *státní žaloba*. This collocation is only occasionally used in media to denote the public prosecutor.

Data Sample 4

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text
4	"Next topic, Jenny. You got your ten minutes on **impeachment**, and I gave you an hour last night for that mock session." (p. 38)	„Další téma, Jenny. Dostala jste svých deset minut o **odvolání** a včera večer jsem vám dal hodinu na tom cvičném slyšení. (p. 39)

Although the Czech word *odvolání* carries the connotations or rather consequences of an impeachment, the general meaning of this lexeme is in my opinion too vague to describe the gravity of the original term *impeachment*.

Data Sample 5

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text
5	"Is this about **impeachment**?" she asks, though she couldn't imagine how. (p. 216)	„Je to kvůli **žalobě o impeachement**?" zeptá se, přestože si nedokáže představit, jak by to mohlo souviset. (p. 185)

In this case, *žaloba o impeachement* is, once again, a strange hybrid between a Czech explanation and the preserved foreign lexeme. On top of that, the English term is misspelled again.

After a careful observation, none of the solutions seem to be successful at proposing a suitable equivalent in translation. The first major problem in the translation is the translator's inconsistency that is severely disturbing for the reader – regardless of the degree of equivalence of the Czech translation, the translator should have opted for one single solution and use it consistently throughout the whole text.

Moreover, as far as the propositional meaning of the term is concerned, the translator was not able to propose a solution that would capture the essence of the ST expression. Before analysing the translator's attempts minutely, let us consult the Oxford Learner's Dictionary for an accurate definition of the term *impeachment*. The dictionary explains this lexeme as *"the act of charging an important public figure with a serious crime"* (cf. Oxford Learner's Dictionaries).

As far as Ondřej Duha's translations strategies in this case are concerned, they were oriented two ways: firstly, he tried to come up with a related Czech equivalent of the term *impeachment*. In two instances, the translator proposed the solutions *odvolání* and *ústavní žaloba*. Although both of these terms exist in the Czech legal system indeed, their meaning might be a little too broad and weak. The third attempt at a Czech translation, *státní žaloba*, did not provide a good equivalent either as there is no such form of legal action in the Czech legal system. After conducting a brief search in the Czech National Corpus, the version SYN2020 does not show any hits for this collocation. A Google search confirmed that the collocation *státní žaloba* does exist in Czech indeed, however, it is used mainly in the medial argot to denote the public prosecutor.

Secondly, the translator adopted the strategy of borrowing the ST expression. Nevertheless, he most probably had the impression that the word *impeachment* is not familiar enough in the Czech cultural environment so that it could occur independently. For this particular reason, the translator accompanied it with Czech legal terms serving as an explanation. Nevertheless, this strategy left the reader with two hybrid expressions that sound rather clumsy in Czech – *řízení o impeachmentu* and even *žaloba o impeachment*. On top of that, the translator was not careful enough about the correct orthography of the English term, which resulted in an incorrect spelling as *impeachEment*.

Based on the analysis above, in the alternative solution of this translation, I would definitely opt for a Czech equivalent of the term *impeachment* as I do not believe that this matter is known well enough in the Czech Republic in order to be used alone as a loan word. As for the Czech equivalent of the lexeme, my proposition is to translate the term impeachment with the collocation *žaloba pro velezradu* in order to emphasize the gravity of the situation.

3.3 Lexical equivalence in the field of political expressions

Apart from the above-discussed term *impeachment*, Data Samples 6-8 show further pitfalls from the field of political expressions that caused major obstacles in the translation process:

Data Sample 6

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
6	[…] whose principal goal in life seems to be stopping my **agenda** and destroying me, politically and personally. (p. 4).	[…] jejichž hlavním životním cílem je, jak se zdá, házet klacky pod nohy mé **agendě** a zničit mě politicky i osobně. (p. 10)	[…] jejichž hlavním životním cílem je, jak se zdá, bojkotovat můj **politický program** a zničit mě politicky i osobně.

Although there is a Czech term agenda indeed, it is not commonly used order to denote a political programme of a particular party or a politician in the Czech political context. For this purpose, the more commonly used Czech term *politický program* would be a more suitable option.

Data Sample 7

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
7	Don't do it, my **chief of staff**, Carolyn Brock, pleaded again last night, as she has so many times. (p. 3)	Nedělejte to, opakovala má **personální šéfka** Carolyn Brocková předchozího večera své prosby, stejně jako už mnohokrát předtím. (p. 9)	Nedělejte to, opakovala svou prosbu má **vedoucí kanceláře prezidenta** Carolyn Brocková předchozího večera, stejně jako už mnohokrát předtím.

Translating *chief of staff* as *personální šéfka* in the context of politics and the Office of the President is too vague and inaccurate. The corresponding term in the Czech political environment would be *vedoucí kanceláře prezidenta,* which is also a much clearer explanation for the Czech reader.

Data Sample 8

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
8	From the under **secretary of defense**? (p. 16)	Od náměstka **ministra vnitra**? (p. 20)	Od náměstka **ministra obrany**?

This case of lexical non-equivalence might be caused by the translator's inadvertence resulting in confusion between different functions in the Cabinet of the United States.

As can be noted from the representative data samples above, the preliminary field-specific research – namely of the political system of the USA and the different political functions in this case – is essential for finding lexical equivalence in translation. As it was previously stated in the theoretical introduction to this chapter, not all foreign concepts can be translated by means of a fully equivalent lexical unit.

Nevertheless, it must be remarked that James Patterson's books are primarily intended as a pass-time literature – this implies that the author does not employ many technical terms or elaborate on the American political system. The lexical units observed in the data samples all provided an opportunity for finding a fairly equivalent translation solution. For this reason, the instances of lexical non-equivalence presented above probably could have been avoided by a more detailed research or by a consultation with an expert in the field of political science or American society.

3.4 Miscellaneous

The following sub-chapter contains a collection of data samples presenting cases of non-equivalence of general lexemes.

Data Sample 9

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
9	Lester is under **so much pressure** from his caucus, especially the **fire-breathers** who react to every sound bite on **social media** and talk radio, ginning up this whole thing. (p. 54)	Lester je pod **takovým tlakem** své frakce, zvlášť těch **plamenných řečníků**, kteří reagují na každý výlev na **sociálních médiích** a jenom celou tu aféru rozdmýchávají. (p. 52)	Lester je pod **ohromným tlakem** své frakce, zvlášť od těch **zlých jazyků**, kteří reagují na každý výlev na **sociálních sítích** a jenom celou tu aféru rozdmýchávají.

Data Sample 10

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
10	**Mushroom cloud.** Searing red heat sweeping the countryside. (p. 208)	**Houbovitý oblak.** Palčivý rudý žár spalující krajinu. (p. 178)	**Atomový hřib**. Palčivý rudý žár spalující krajinu.

Data Sample 11

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
11	Her office contains a **horseshoe-shaped desk** topped with multiple computers, a large corkboard on the wall, several file cabinets, and a large flat-screen TV. (p. 188)	Ta obsahuje psací **stůl ve tvaru koňské podkovy** zarovnaný několika počítači, velkou korkovou nástěnku na zdi, několik registratur a velkou plochou televizi. (p. 163)	V kanceláři má **psací stůl do U** s několika počítači, velkou korkovou nástěnku na zdi, pár kartoték a velkou plochou televizi.

The above-presented Data Samples 9-11 show instances of an excessively literal translation that, in the upshot, sounds clumsy and might even be misleading for the reader.

The gravest translation error can be found in Data Sample 10. While the literal translations discussed in the remaining data samples can still be considered transparent and understandable despite their clumsiness, the translation of *mushroom cloud* as *houbovitý oblak* most probably confuses the Czech reader significantly as the correct Czech expression *jaderný hřib* is firmy lexicalised and does not permit any variability.

Data Samples 12-13 show instances of lexical non-equivalence discovered by means of the second level of the translation analysis, namely by the contrastive analysis of the ST and TT. In the process of reading the TT alone, these translation solutions appear to be correct as they dispose of a perfectly acceptable form and meaning in the TT. Nevertheless, by contrasting and comparing the TT with the ST, it can be observed that the translation is not fully equivalent due to the fact that the original meaning is slightly shifted.

Data Sample 12

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
12	This could begin **any number of ways**. A self-congratulatory speech by the Speaker disguised as a question. Some **light introductory setup questions**. But I've seen enough video of Lester Rhodes questioning witnesses before he was Speaker, back when he was a middling congressman on the House Oversight Committee, to know that he has a penchant for opening strong, going straight for the jugular, throwing off the	Tohle by mohlo **začít mnoha způsoby**. Sebeoslavným projevem předsedy přestrojeným za otázku. Několika **nepodstatnými úvodními dotazy**. Ale viděl jsem dost videí, v nichž Lester Rhodes vyslýchal svědky, než se stal předsedou a byl ještě průměrným kongresmanem z výboru pro dohled nad tajnými službami, abych věděl, že má v oblibě jít hned od začátku svědkovi po krku, aby ho vyvedl z	Tohle by mohlo začít **různě**. Předsedovým sebeoslavným projevem, který má na oko vypadat jako otázka. **Pár lehkými otázkami na zahřátí**. Ale viděl jsem dost videí, v nichž Lester Rhodes vyslýchal svědky, ještě než se stal předsedou a byl průměrným kongresmanem z výboru pro dohled nad tajnými službami, abych věděl, že má v oblibě jít hned od začátku svědkovi po krku, aby ho vyvedl z míry.

| | witness. (p. 5) | míry. (p. 10) | |

From the point of view of lexical equivalence, translating *light introductory setup questions* as *nepodstatné úvodní dotazy* slightly shifts the original meaning of the ST expression. The word *nepodstatný* (i.e., unimportant) adds a new meaning to the sentence that was not expressed in the ST. Even the extended context does not imply that the Speaker would ask questions of no importance or concerning different topic. For this reason, the alternative translation stays more faithful to the literal meaning of the ST and proposes a different solution that does not explicitly evaluate the significance of the Speaker's questions but rather stresses their introductory nature as opposed to apparently more serious questions to come indicated in the broader context.

Data Sample 13

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
13	It's a role like any other, a coat she puts on when necessary and sheds as soon as she's done, but she can see it's working: **the men trying for eye contact**, checking the cleavage she's made sure to reveal, allowing just enough bounce in **her girls** to make it memorable. (p. 24)	Je to role jako každá jiná, kabát, který si oblékne, když je to třeba, a shodí ho hned, jakmile ho přestane potřebovat. Vidí však, že to funguje: **muži se pokoušejí o oční kontakt**, zírají jí do výstřihu, úmyslně nechá **svoje boky** pohupovat právě tak, aby udělaly dojem. (p. 26)	Je to role jako každá jiná, kabát, který si oblékne, když je to třeba, a shodí ho hned, jakmile ho přestane potřebovat. Vidí však, že to funguje: **muži se s ní snaží navázat oční kontakt** a zírají jí do odhaleného výstřihu, kde se jí **prsa** pohupují dost na to, aby to udělalo dojem.

In his case, the translator incorrectly interpreted the figurativeness of the ST or its colloquialism and mistranslated the word *girls*. Although the translator successfully identified the expression as referring to a part of woman's body, the extended context concerned with *checking the cleavage* implies that this personification is oriented towards the breasts of the woman, not her hips.

3.5 Semantically empty verbs

English, in contrast to Czech, employs a number of functional verbs that are semantically empty and serve only for the purpose of forming a particular grammatical phenomenon. As this usage of verbs is not as common in Czech, the translator is obligated to find a suitable equivalent that conveys the same meaning but with more

language creativity and variety included. Data Samples 14-15 show instances of usage of functional verbs in the ST that were translated too literally to the Czech TT.

Data Sample 14

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
14	Carolyn Brock walks in, the only person who would feel free **to do so** while I'm eating. (p. 34)	Vejde Carolyn Brocková, jediný člověk, který to s klidem **udělá**, i když jím. (p. 35)	Vejde Carolyn Brocková, jediný člověk, který si to klidně **dovolí**, i když zrovna jím.

Data Sample 15

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
15	She **does** all that and keeps her ego in check. (p. 35)	**Dělá** tohle všechno a drží své ego na uzdě. (p. 36)	**Zvládá** tohle všechno a přitom je pořád skromná.

In these cases, the verb *do* (*so)* serves as a place taker for the full verbs so that the word order is observed and at the same time, stylistic repetition is omitted. Although there is no factual error as far as the propositional meaning is concerned, by translating this functional unit literally, the TT lacks linguistic variety and attractiveness. For this reason, the alternative translations propose a more creative meaning by replacing the functional verb with a semantically richer synonym.

To briefly summarize this chapter, the representative data samples presented above show instances of unsuccessfully employed translation strategies at the level of lexical equivalence. In most cases, the translation errors lie in an excessively literal translation.

The first two sub-chapters concerned with the field of political expressions (Data Samples 1-8) show an unsuccessful domestication of foreign political concepts to the Czech cultural and political environment resulting in confusing and clumsy text passages. Moreover, the unsuccessful transfer of foreign concepts in Czech disturbs the whole reading experience and decreases the fictional value of the text.

The sub-chapter devoted to various lexical pitfalls (Data Samples 9-13) identifies a number of instances where the translator transferred the linguistic reality either too

literally or, on the contrary, enriched the TT with an additional meaning not included in the ST. Either way, these translation techniques resulted in clumsy text passages that – in some cases significantly, disturbed the reading experience and the comprehensibility of the TT.

Finally, Data Samples 14-15 pointed out a vice of translating semantically empty verbs serving for functional purposes literally. As a result, the TT lacks linguistic diversity and attractiveness for the reader.

4. Equivalence above the word level

As the next level in the hierarchical structure of language, Baker (2011) introduces a chapter in her book focusing on equivalence above the word level. In this section of her conception, she draws our attention to combinations of words and longer language stretches as words seldom occur isolated but rather enter various collocations.

Nevertheless, Baker (2011) points out that lexical items can never be combined in an arbitrary manner – exactly the other way around. In every language, there is a set of strict rules, restrictions or recurring patterns that govern the collocation processes in a language.

For a better clarity, Baker (2011) divides the equivalence above the word level into two separate groups: collocations and idioms and fixed expressions. The following sub-chapters should provide a brief overview of the respective lexical phenomena as well as common difficulties connected with their translation and advised translation strategies for dealing with them.

4.1 Collocations

Baker (2011) roughly defines collocability of words as their tendency to co-occur regularly in a particular language. Nevertheless, on a deeper level, the collocability preferences are determined by different principles that are largely arbitrary and independent of the propositional meaning. Moreover, the collocational relationship can apply either to all of the word forms of a specific lexeme or – more likely – only to some of their forms. As an example, Baker (2011) mentions that one can bend rules in English, however, rules are very unlikely to be described as unbendable.

The observation of collocational patterns in a contrastive perspective across various languages shows that their nature is tricky not only due to the fact that they can employ different lexical units but they can also view similar concepts from an entirely different perspective. The collocational preferences of a language represent, therefore, to some extent also the cultural preferences or customs of the respective linguistic community.

The collocability of a specific lexeme, i.e., its ability to form collocations with other lexical items is described as a collocational range. According to Beekman and Callow

(1974), the broadness or narrowness of this range is generally determined by two factors: the level of specificity of a word and the number of its senses.

Nevertheless, Baker (2011) comments on a very important point: all statements about collocations are made in terms of what is typical or untypical as no collocation can be marked as impossible. Languages tend to be very productive as far as new word combinations are concerned and no collocational range is finite.

4.1.1 Strategies for the translation of collocations

The theoretical introduction showed that the correct interpretation of collocations is crucial for a successful understanding of the ST. The meaning of a word often heavily depends on the associations created by its collocability. Nevertheless, even though two collocational patterns in different languages might appear similar, they can carry different meanings or employ a different linguistic structure.

These seeming similarities might represent a serious pitfall for a translator. In order to detach themselves from the influence of the SL collocational patterns, Baker (2011) advises to keep a healthy distance from the ST by putting the draft translation aside for a few hours. This should provide an opportunity for the translator to respond to the needs of the TT better as far as its patterning is concerned.

As far as the translator's eternal dilemma between accuracy and naturalness is concerned, the translator aims to find a corresponding collocation in their TL while preserving the meaning and function associated with the SL collocation. Nevertheless, such an ideal equivalence is rather rare and the translator must find a suitable compromise between what sounds natural and what transfers an accurate meaning.

For this particular reason, Baker (2011) states that a certain amount of loss or subtle change of meaning in translation is inevitable. Consequently, the acceptability of such changes must be judged according to their importance in the given context. Although Baker (2011) considers accuracy to be highly important in translation, she values the ability of a translator to keep communication channels open by choosing familiar language patterns in the TL. Moreover, she claims that it is exactly the use of suitable language patterns that distinguishes a smooth translation from a clumsy translation that might make an overall negative impression on the reader.

In the following, let us observe the issue of collocability on two examples from the text corpus. Data Samples 16-17 show two instances of collocations that sound rather odd in their given context.

Data Sample 16

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
16	**In the corner of the room,** the triumvirate of my top aides sits in observation: the chief of staff, Carolyn Brock; Danny Akers, my oldest friend and White House counsel; and Jenny Brickman, my deputy chief of staff and senior political adviser. (p. 4)	***Z koutu místnosti*** tomu přihlíží triumvirát mých hlavních poradců: personální šéfka Carolyn Brocková, Danny Akers, můj nejstarší přítel a právní poradce Bílého domu, a Jenny Brickmanová, zástupkyně personálního šéfa a starší politická poradkyně. (p. 10)	***Z rohu místnosti*** tomu přihlíží triumvirát mých hlavních poradců: vedoucí kanceláře prezidenta Carolyn Brocková, Danny Akers, můj nejstarší přítel a právní poradce Bílého domu, a Jenny Brickmanová, zástupkyně vedoucí kanceláře prezidenta a starší politická poradkyně.

The difference between *z koutu místnosti* and *z rohu místnosti* is very subtle. This case confirms Baker's (2011) assertion that, in such borderline cases, there is no such thing as "correct or incorrect collocation" but rather "conventional or unconventional collocation".

The search in the Czech National Corpus in version SYN2020 supports the collocation *z rohu místnosti* with 11 hits. For the option *z koutu místnosti*, no hits were found. After further examination of the broader context in the corpus, the hits contain examples of the context of observation similar to the ST:

> *"Kwiatkowská, jeho mrtvá dcera, ho sleduje z rohu místnosti."*
>
> *"Lauren žvýká svůj sendvič a dívá se na ně z rohu místnosti."*
>
> *"Opustil prý své tělo a z rohu místnosti sledoval vlastní resuscitaci."[3]*

Based on the examples above, the alternative translation proposes the solution *z rohu místnosti* that can be considered to be more conventional and natural in the TT.

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[3] Retrieved from Křen, M. – Cvrček, V. – Henyš, J. – Hnátková, M. – Jelínek, T. – Kocek, J. – Kováříková, D. – Křivan, J. – Milička, J. – Petkevič, V. – Procházka, P. – Skoumalová, H. – Šindlerová, J. – Škrabal, M.: SYN2020: reprezentativní korpus psané češtiny. Ústav Českého národního korpusu FF UK, Praha 2020. Dostupný z WWW: http://www.korpus.cz

Data Sample 17

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
17	And if I waive it, I have to answer the question of whether I placed a phone call to Suliman Cindoruk, the most wanted terrorist on the planet, **two Sundays ago**. (p. 10)	A pokud se jí vzdám, budu muset odpovědět na otázku, zda jsem **před dvěma nedělemi** opravdu telefonoval Sulimanu Cindorukovi, nejhledanějšímu teroristovi planety. (p. 15)	A pokud se jí vzdám, budu muset odpovědět na otázku, zda jsem **před dvěma týdny/před čtrnácti dny** opravdu telefonoval Sulimanu Cindorukovi, nejhledanějšímu teroristovi planety.

An instance of an unconventional collocation used in the TT is represented also by Data Sample 17. In Czech, one usually does not explicitly mention Sundays as time milestones. This assumption is confirmed also by the CNC. A search in SYN2020 proved that there are no examples of the collocation *před dvěma nedělemi* in the corpus. Therefore, the alternative solution proposes to replace this interfering ST collocation pattern with *před dvěma týdny* or *před čtrnácti dny* as the target culture more commonly expresses stretches of time either in number of weeks or days.

4.2 Idioms and fixed expressions

Unlike collocations that are flexible to some extent, idioms are strictly fixed patterns of language that allow only limited variation options and their meanings are often far from the compositional meaning of their individual parts.

In order to demonstrate the rigid nature of idioms, Baker (2011: 69-70) introduces five points showing their invariability:

> *"[…] a speaker or writer cannot normally do any of the following with an idiom:*
>
> *1. change the order of the words in it (e.g., *the short and the long of it)*
>
> *2. delete a word from it (e.g., *spill beans)*
>
> *3. add a word to it (e.g., *the very long and short of it; *face the classical music)*
>
> *4. replace a word with another (e.g., *the tall and the short of it; *bury a hatchet)*
>
> *5. change its grammatical structure (e.g., *the music was faced)"*

The second category, namely fixed expressions, still disposes of a certain degree of invariability and rigidity; however, the meaning of fixed expressions is noticeably more transparent than it is the case for idioms.

Baker (2011) points out that idioms and fixed expressions are some of the trickiest elements in a language as a second-language-learner can never achieve such proficiency in this field as a native speaker. For this reason, non-native speakers (e.g., translators working from their native tongue to a foreign language) often have difficulties correctly judging the degree to which they can manipulate such expressions. Consequently, Baker (2011) emphasizes that translators should work exclusively into the language of their habitual use or their native language.

Nevertheless, idioms and fixed expressions can still represent a significant pitfall for a translator as they have to be interpreted at two levels – first, the translator must be able to recognize the idiom in the ST at all; consequently, it is necessary to correctly transfer all aspects of its meaning in the TL.

Counterintuitively, Baker (2011) claims that the less transparent an idiom is, the better for the translator. She explains this idea by stating that idioms which are entirely incomprehensible in the SL immediately alert the translator to notice their presence and pay more attention to their translation. In the opposite case, a translator can encounter two of the following scenarios when interpreting an idiom:

Firstly, an idiom can be misleading due to the fact that its compositional meaning seems to be reasonable and the surrounding context does not indicate its presence either. Moreover, a number of idioms can be interpreted in both their literal and idiomatic meaning, which is often used to produce comic effects. Such wordplays, however, can be difficult for the translator to reveal or to transfer in the TL.

Secondly, like any other lexical units in languages, idioms can form faux-amis pairs across languages as well. Therefore, a translator must always carefully explore the meaning of the SL idiom in order not to be deceived by the superficial similarity.

4.2.1 Strategies for the translation of idioms and fixed expressions

According to Baker (2011), translators can encounter a number of difficulties when dealing with the translation of idioms and fixed expressions. In the following sub-

chapter, let us observe some of these pitfalls along with useful strategies for dealing with them.

Very frequently, an idiom or a fixed expression does not have any suitable counterpart in the TL. Various languages express events in different manners, it would, therefore, be incorrect to expect to find an exact match for the SL idiom. Moreover, as it was the case for single words as well, idioms can be connected with culture-specific concepts that make them very problematic to translate.

As finding a TL idiom of corresponding or similar meaning and form is rather rare, translators must resort to compromises. Very typically, the equivalence at the level of idioms is solved by finding an idiom of similar meaning but different form.

Especially when translating marketing and advertising texts which represent a very specific category of linguistic material on the whole, the translation problem can be solved also by borrowing the SL idiom in its original form and include it in the TT as such.

Last but not least as far as the translation pitfalls connected with idioms are concerned, a translator must take into account the stylistic use of idioms in the respective languages as well. Not all languages employ the idioms with the same stylistic value or the same frequency. In order to convey an equivalent effect on the reader, the translator must carefully consider this viewpoint as well and, alternatively, use different linguistic means for translation.

If a translator is unable to find a matching idiom with the same stylistic value in the TL, it can be proceeded to translate the idiom by paraphrase, to omit its translation in the sense of the wordplay, i.e., translating only its literal meaning, or to omit it entirely. Nevertheless, as it was previously mentioned in the chapter on equivalence at word level, by omitting an idiom, one inevitably loses a part of the ST meaning. Such solution should, therefore, be chosen only in exceptional cases.

To conclude with, Baker (2011) stresses that a correct use of idiomatic expressions and phraseology of a particular language can immensely improve the readability of the TT and enhance the overall impression of the translation.

In the following, let us explore how the incorrect interpretation and translation of idioms and fixed expressions can negatively impact the reading experience on the basis of the observed text corpus.

4.3 Equivalence above the word level in the field of political expressions

According to the evaluation of the Czech Literary Translators' Guild, Ondřej Duha's translation shows the most shortcomings mainly as far as collocation and idiomatic language is concerned. Similarly to the previous chapter, a number of these errors occurred in expressions from the field of politics:

Data Sample 18

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
18	**She vowed to herself**, on the night of Super Tuesday, when Texas and Georgia came in late for Duncan, that she wouldn't concede, that she wouldn't endorse him, that—God help her—she wouldn't **join his ticket**. (p.153)	Na volební superúterý večer, když se Texas a Georgie vyslovily pro Duncana, **se zapřisáhla sama sobě**, že ho nebude podporovat, že – Bůh jí pomáhej – **mu nepůjde na** *ruku*. (p. 134)	Na volební superúterý večer, když se Texas a Georgie vyslovily pro Duncana, **sama sebe zapřísáhla**, že ho nebude podporovat a že – Bůh jí pomáhej – **s ním určitě nebude kandidovat.**

The English idiom *join someone's ticket* is used to describe a political situation when somebody stands as a candidate with somebody for a particular political function: in this context, to stand as a candidate for vice president at the President's side. Moreover, the use of italics in the Czech translation that copies the English source text seems excessive as this is not a common feature in Czech texts.

Data Sample 19

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
19	Lawrence Gordon, a three-term **senator from my side of the aisle** who, like every senator, thinks he should be president. (p. 39)	Lawrence Gordon, senátor ve třetím funkčním období **z mé strany uličky**, si jako každý senátor myslí, že by měl být prezidentem. (p. 40)	Lawrence Gordon, senátor ve třetím funkčním období **za mou stranu**, si jako každý senátor myslí, že by měl být prezidentem.

This translation option is very literal and sounds incomprehensible in the Czech context. The idiom *from my side of the aisle* means "from my political party", the actual meaning is therefore far from the primary meaning of the lexeme "aisle" as such.

Data Sample 20

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
20	It's one of the many things a **chief of staff** does for you—streamlining, acting as a **gatekeeper**, being the hard-ass with staff so I don't have to think about such matters. (p. 34)	Je to jedna z mnoha věcí, které za mě dělá **šéf personálu** – rozhoduje, kdo ke mně bude mít přístup, slouží jako **dveřník** a dohlíží na to, aby zaměstnanci plnili své povinnosti, takže se o podobné věci nemusím starat. (p. 35)	Je to jedna z mnoha věcí, které za mě dělá **vedoucí kanceláře prezidenta** – rozhoduje, kdo ke mně bude mít přístup, **vydává tisková prohlášení** a dohlíží na to, aby zaměstnanci plnili své povinnosti, abych se o podobné věci nemusel starat sám.

Although the word *gatekeeper* denotes somebody who serves the door indeed (in this case, however, Czech would, most probably, gravitate towards the terms *vrátný* or *portýr* anyway), in the political context, the lexeme acquires a different meaning – a gatekeeper is someone who filters information for publication, be it in the newspaper, on the Internet or in other media. The original meaning, therefore, is not applicable in this particular context.

4.4 Translation of general idioms and fixed expressions

The previous sub-chapter showed that political idioms might be an especially tough proposition for the translator as they are very strongly culturally bound. In the following, we will focus our attention on the category of general idioms represented by Data Samples 21-29.

Data Sample 21

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
21	He wanted to see his children grow up, and he couldn't spend all the money he'd already made, so **he hung up the boxing gloves**. (p. 186)	Chtěl vidět své děti vyrůstat a peníze, které už vydělal, ani nemohl utratit, a tak **pověsil boxerské rukavice na hřebík.** (p. 161)	Chtěl vidět své děti vyrůstat a peníze, které už vydělal, ani nemohl utratit, a tak **pověsil kariéru na hřebík.**

The pitfall of this translation lies in the fact that the SL and TL idiom is almost identical in both form and function. For this reason, the translator translated it literally according to the SL idiomatic pattern. Nevertheless, the Czech idiom is less figurative – one does not hang up the boxing gloves but the career.

Data Sample 22

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
22	"I **have a few balls in the air** right now." "Which you won't be able to **juggle** without sleep." (p. 43)	„Právě **udržuju ve vzduchu několik míčků najednou.**" „Takhle **žonglovat** se bez spánku dlouho nedá." (p. 43)	„Právě **řeším spoustu věcí najednou.**" „Což se beze spánku **moc dlouho vydržet** nedá."

This instance is another example of a very literal translation of an idiom that cannot be integrated in the TT. In this case, the inadequacy of the translation is emphasized by the fact that the idiom is extended over multiple takes in the conversation, which makes it sound even more inappropriate in Czech. As there is no such Czech idiom as *udržovat ve vzduchu více míčků najednou*, the reader cannot make a corresponding conceptual connection in with the word *juggle* in the next sentence. As a result, the translation is misleading and interrupts the reading experience. The alternative translation proposes a solution where the idiomatic play on juggling balls in the air is omitted and paraphrased.

Data Sample 23

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
23	"And he knows if he screws us, **we'll shove a legislative item or two up his keester**." (p. 40)	A bude vědět, že když nás podrazí, **pošleme mu do krku legislativní návrh nebo dva**." (p. 40)	A bude vědět, že když nás podrazí, **nacpeme mu do krku jeden, dva legislativní návrhy**."

To not only point out cases of translation non-equivalence, this particular excerpt seems to provide an interesting and creative translation solution. The ST idiom is much more expressive and vulgar than its Czech translation as the term *keester* is used to denote the anus. To set the context, the observed excerpt comes from a conversation of the President and his Chief of Staff (and on top of that a female) who utters this sentence. For this reason, the original expression seems a little too harsh and inappropriate in the given context and the translator's effort at softening it should be appreciated. Nevertheless, the final solution is still in need of more linguistic and stylistic changes. First and foremost, the collocation *poslat do krku* sounds very unnatural in this context. In order to emphasize the colloquial nature of the conversation, the alternative solution proposes the verb *nacpat* to fulfil the expressive function. Moreover, the word order of the TT excerpt does not correspond with the communicative dynamism of the utterance (this topic is discussed in Chapter 6 in more detail). The alternative translation, therefore, proposes to rearrange the word order in a different manner by putting the end-position emphasis on the expression *legislativní návrhy*.

Data Sample 24

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
24	He likes to wear bow ties so we'll all know how intelligent he is. Personally, **I've seen Post-it notes with more depth**. (p. 14)	Rád nosí motýlky, abychom všichni viděli, jak je inteligentní. Osobně **jsem viděl vzkazy na samolepicích lístcích s větší brizancí**. (p. 18)	Rád nosí motýlky, abychom všichni viděli, jak je inteligentní. Osobně **jsem už viděl i kliku u dveří chytřejší než on**.

Although there might not be any lexicalized Czech idiom corresponding to the English original, the main goal of the alternative solution is to opt for a different equivalent as the literal translation of the ST idiom does not convey the correct effect on the reader.

Therefore, in order to obey the ST logic of presenting an insignificant inanimate object possessing more intellectual quality than the person in question, the alternative solution employed the comparison with a door handle.

Data Samples 25-27 show an example of a literal adoption of the SL idiomatic pattern instead of replacing it with a functionally equivalent TL idiom.

Data Sample 25

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
25	"Well, Madam Director," I say, "it's time to **take off the training wheels**." (p. 182)	„No, paní ředitelko," řeknu, „je načase **sundat si z kola přídavná kolečka**." (p. 157)	„No, paní ředitelko," řeknu, „je načase **postavit se na vlastní nohy**."

Data Sample 26

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
26	[…] and she sees no reason to **rock that boat** right now. (p. 213)	[…] a ona nevidí důvod **rozhoupávat právě teď člun**. (p. 183)	[…] a ona nevidí důvod **právě teď čeřit stojaté vody**.

Data Sample 27

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
27	"That means I also have to live with the criticism, even when it comes from an opportunistic political hack picking out one move on the chessboard without knowing what the rest of the game looks like, then **turning that move inside out** without having a single	„To znamená, že musím také žít s kritikou, i když přichází od politického oportunisty, který zvolí jeden tah na šachovnici, aniž ví, jak vypadá zbytek partie, a **pak ho provede pozpátku**, aniž by měl sebemenší tušení, jak by tím mohl ohrozit náš národ." (p. 23)	„To znamená, že musím také žít s kritikou, i když přichází od politického oportunisty, který si vybere jeden tah na šachovnici, aniž ví, jak vypadá zbytek partie, a **pak ho obrátí naruby**, aniž by měl sebemenší tušení, jak by tím mohl ohrozit náš národ."

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
	clue how much he might be endangering our nation." (p. 20)		

Data Sample 28

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
28	It means that when you find a **mountain** to expose in one person or party, you have to **pick a molehill** on the other side and **make it into a mountain** to avoid being accused of bias. The **built-up molehills** also have large benefits: increased coverage on the evening news, millions of retweets, and more talk-show fodder. When the **mountains** and **molehills** all look the same, campaigns and governments devote too little time and energy debating the issues that matter most to our people. (p. 60)	To znamená, že když najdete **horu** v podobě jedné osoby nebo strany, musíte na druhé straně **vybrat nějakou krtinu a horu z ní udělat**, abyste se vyhnuli obvinění ze zaujatosti a nadržování. Tyto **nafouknuté krtiny** mají také velké výhody: zvýšené zpravodajské pokrytí ve večerních zprávách, miliony přeposlaných tweetů a víc prázdné slámy pro talk-show. Když **hory a krtiny** vypadají stejně, volební kampaně a vlády obětují příliš málo času a energie debatám o tématech, na nichž našim lidem záleží nejvíc. (p. 57)	To znamená, že když najdete **osobu nebo stranu, na které by bylo možné vystavět politickou kauzu**, musíte **udělat z komára velblouda** i na druhé straně, abyste se vyhnuli obvinění z podjatosti a nadržování. Tohle **umělé nafukování skutečnosti** přináší i svoje výhody: zvýšené zpravodajské pokrytí ve večerních zprávách, miliony přeposlaných tweetů a víc prázdné slámy pro talk-show. Když **všechny kauzy** vypadají stejně, volební kampaně a vlády obětují příliš málo času a energie debatám o tématech, na nichž našim lidem záleží nejvíc.

This example shows how a literal translation of a SL idiom and the connected extended metaphor backfired on the translator. The source of all the confusion lies in the SL idiom *to make a mountain out of a molehill* (*dělat z komára velblouda* in Czech). As there is almost a whole paragraph built on this one particular metaphor, the translator gets caught in a spiral of – for the TT reader – nonsensical and comical explanations about mountains and molehills.

In the alternative solution, the Czech idiom *udělat z komára velblouda* was employed only once as the TL does not usually extend idioms and metaphors over such long

stretches of text. As a result, on the one hand, the TT inevitably loses the idiomatic wordplay; on the other hand, the TT should be more accessible and understandable for the reader.

Data Sample 29

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
29	One thing they never tell you about this job is how much it's like your first roller-coaster ride—thrilling highs, **lows lower than a snake's belly**. (p. 21)	Jednou z věcí, které vám o téhle práci nikdo neřekne, je, že se hodně podobá vaší první jízdě na horské dráze – vzrušující vrcholy a **propasti hlubší než hadí břicho**. (p. 24)	Jednou z věcí, které vám o téhle práci nikdo neřekne, je, že se hodně podobá vaší první jízdě na horské dráze–vrcholy jsou vzrušující a **propasti hlubší než Macocha.**

The idiom *lower than a snake's belly* represents a serious translation pitfall as it originally carries the expressive connotation of a very low moral standard of a particular person or behaviour. Unfortunately, the TL does not dispose of an idiomatic construction similar in form or meaning. Employing a paraphrase in this case would be too lengthy. In the alternative solution, the expressive connotation had, therefore, to be omitted. The alternative TT metaphor accentuates only the quality of depth by substituting the SL idiom by the target-culture-specific image of the Macocha Abyss, the most famous Czech chasm associated with deepness.

The following Data Samples 30-33 show examples of fixed expressions that were incorrectly transferred from the ST in the TT by means of a literal translation:

Data Sample 30

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
30	"Four of the people who died in Toronto were Americans, **correct**?" (p. 7)	„Čtyři z těch lidí, kteří v Torontu zemřeli, byli Američané, **správně**?" (p. 12)	„Čtyři z těch lidí, kteří zemřeli v Torontu, byli Američané, **je to tak**?"

Data Sample 31

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
31	And I know you won't resign. **It isn't in your DNA.** (p. 41)	A vím, že nerezignujete. **Nemáte to v DNA.** (p. 41)	A vím, že nerezignujete. **Nemáte to v krvi.**

Data Sample 32

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
32	**"That's an accurate summary**, yes." (p. 6)	„**To je přesné shrnutí,** ano." (p. 11)	„Ano, **to sedí.**"

Data Sample 33

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
33	"Is that **clear enough for you**?" (p. 8)	„Je to **pro vás dost jasné**?" (p. 13)	„Je **vám to dost jasné**?"

What all the data samples have in common is the fact that they are excerpted from conversations. This implies that the translator should strive for a natural sounding effect in the TT in order to reproduce the impression of the spontaneity. Unfortunately, the absolutely faithful transfer of the ST structures in the TT harms the text flow and emphasizes the fact that the TT originated as a translation.

To summarize the data samples presented in this chapter, we could observe that the issue of equivalence above the word level, i.e., idioms, collocations and fixed expressions, definitely represent a challenge for all translators as the identification and correct interpretation of a ST idiom can be very difficult.

Similarly to the previous chapter, the analysis showed mainly instances of an excessively literal translation that resulted in clumsy text passages and, in some cases, even incomprehensible images.

The theoretical introduction to equivalence above the word level cited Baker's (2011) statement that collocations and idioms are key points that can either improve or spoil the impression of the translation entirely. Based on the analysis, one cannot but agree.

5. Grammatical equivalence

Along with lexical units structuring the way of thinking in a particular language, its grammatical structure is, according to Baker (2011), another important factor for reporting our experience. For this purpose, languages have their individual grammatical system based on various categories such as number, person, time or gender. Nevertheless, although these categories seem to be universally applicable to all languages, it is rather difficult to find a grammatical category uniformly expressed across different language systems.

Moreover, grammatical choices in a language are largely obligatory as opposed to the lexical ones. The lexical system is also more prone to external influence and the associated changes than grammar as grammatical changes occur over a much longer period of time than lexical changes in a language. Baker (2011) states that the grammar of a language stays fairly constant throughout the lifetime of a speaker.

In the chapter on grammatical equivalence, Baker (2011) distinguishes two main parts of the grammatical system of a language: morphology and syntax. While morphology is concerned with the form and structure of words, syntax operates on a higher level of a sentence and focuses on the structure of word groups, clauses and sentences.

The differences between languages in morphology and syntax inevitably result in some changes in the informational structure during the translation process. In order to balance the linguistic system of the SL and TL, it is very often necessary to supplement the TT by information expressed by a SL grammatical category that is unknown in the TL, or alternatively, to omit it.

Due to the fact that the grammatical system of a language – and consequently the grammatical equivalence – is a very complex issue that would provide enough research material for a separate thesis, we will focus only on one chosen aspect of grammatical equivalence or non-equivalence significantly present in the observed text corpora – namely the misinterpretation of voice.

5.1 Misinterpretation of voice

The differences in the grammatical category of voice represent a serious pitfall in translations between English and Czech. Baker (2011) states that the use of passive

voice is very common in a number of varieties of written English. Moreover, she emphasizes that the efforts to translate these passive structures literally in TL that do not distinguish this grammatical category or use it less frequently or with different stylistic connotations are often criticized by many linguists.

From the strictly grammatical point of view, the voice defines the relationship between the predicate and the subject. While in active clauses, the subject fulfils the role of the agent, in passive clauses, the subject plays the role of the affected entity. The specification of the agent in passive clauses may not be obligatory in various languages.

As it was previously mentioned, the languages disposing of the category of voice do not use this grammatical feature with the same frequency. Baker (2011) claims that the use of passive voice in various languages heavily depends on the stylistic choice of the author and may even represent a kind of convention in connection with specific text genres.

The following Data Samples 34-35 show an instance of a misinterpretation of voice in the observed text corpus.

Data Sample 34

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
34	Didn't the Sons of Jihad commit yet another act of terror when **it hacked into the computers controlling Toronto's subway system and shut it down, causing a derailment** that killed seventeen people, injured dozens more, and left thousands of people stranded in darkness for hours? (p. 6-7)	Nespáchali snad Synové džihádu další teroristický čin, když se **nabourali do počítačů řídících systém torontského metra, které bylo nutné zcela uzavřít, když zavinili vykolejení soupravy**, při němž sedmnáct lidí zahynulo, desítky jich byly zraněny a tisíce dalších musely trpět celé hodiny ve tmě? (p. 12)	Nespáchali snad Synové džihádu další teroristický čin, když se **nabourali do počítačů řídících systém torontského metra a vyřadili ho z provozu, čímž zavinili vykolejení soupravy**, při němž sedmnáct lidí zahynulo, desítky jich byly zraněny a tisíce dalších musely trpět celé hodiny ve tmě?

In this case, the translator incorrectly interprets the grammatical relations of agentivity between the clause constituents in the section marked in bold. According to the

translation, it was not the computers which were shut down but the metro itself. Moreover, the translation suggests that the Sons of Jihad derailed the trains deliberately whereas in the ST, the derailment was caused as a side effect of the non-functioning IT system. The misinterpretation of voice, therefore, shifts the original meaning of the ST significantly and presents the events in an entirely different sequence.

Data Sample 35

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
35	"**I won't have my patriotism questioned, Mr. President**," says my silver-haired adversary. (p. 8)	„**Nechci zpochybňovat váš patriotismus, pane prezidente**," řekne můj prošedivělý protivník. (p. 13)	„**Nedovolím, abyste zpochybňoval moje vlastenectví, pane prezidente**," řekne můj prošedivělý protivník.

In Data Sample 35, we can observe another instance of a misinterpretation of voice that not only shifts the meaning of the whole utterance but also the whole tone of the communicative situation.

Whereas in the ST, the speaker takes a confrontational standpoint by objecting to a statement that was made previously in the conversation, in the TT, the tone of the speaker is rather conciliatory as if the speaker strived to explain their own statement that might have been offensive for the addressee.

Based on the above-mentioned examples, we can observe that, as opposed to the previous levels of linguistic equivalence, the level of grammatical equivalence starts to operate in terms of significantly more complex structures that further influence the understanding on the TT on the higher levels.

Unlike the incorrect interpretation of the lexical means which was signalled to the reader by the clumsiness of the TT, the trickiness of the passages shown in Data Samples 34-35 lies in the fact that their translation would be considered appropriate in the process of reading the TT alone. Only in comparison with the SL, one can discover the above discussed discrepancies. However, such translation shifts could negatively impact the underlying understanding of the text in terms of textual coherence.

6. Textual equivalence

Starting with the equivalence at the word level and progressively exploring higher levels of the linguistic structure, the translation quality analysis of the observed text corpus reached the stage of textual equivalence. In this chapter, our attention will be focused mainly on the sentence information structures as well as the selected means of textual cohesion.

An inseparable part of the contemplations about textual equivalence is the analysis of the information structures and word order patterns in both the SL and the TL.

As there is a number of approaches to the analysis of the thematic structure in sentences, it is very important to concretize the school of thought used for the text corpus analysis in this thesis. For the purpose of assessing the degree of textual equivalence in the selected data samples, we will rely on the theoretical approach introduced by The Prague School, namely the functional sentence perspective (further in the text referred to as FSP).

The FSP theory is based on linguistic research exploring the interaction between syntax and the communicative function of the language. It is exactly the communicative aspect of language that convinced the Prague theoreticians that the structures of sentences or clauses can function in various perspectives.

In FSP, the notion of thematic structure is represented by binary opposition between given and new information (i.e., theme and rheme). This phenomenon is denoted as communicative dynamism. To familiarize us with this concept, Baker (2011) refers to a quotation of Jan Firbas (1972:78), one of the proponents of the FSP theory:

> *"Communicative dynamism [...] is based on the fact that linguistic communication is not a static but a dynamic phenomenon. By CD I understand a property of communication, displayed in the course of the development of the information to be conveyed and consisting in advancing this development. By the degree of CD carried by a linguistic element, I understand the extent to which the element contributes to the development of the communication, to which, as it were, it 'pushes the communication forward'."*

Subsequently, Firbas (1972) describes the distribution of communicative dynamism in the sentence by introducing two categories of elements. The first category represents elements that form a foundation for other elements so that they can convey a message.

The elements of the first group are context-dependent and carry low communication dynamism as they do not present any information that would be new and shift the conversation forward. On the other hand, the elements from the second category have quite the opposite characteristics as they introduce new information and fulfil the communicative goal and, therefore, carry more communicative dynamism. In other words, Firbas (1972) considers old information to be thematic and new information to be rhematic.

Nevertheless, the FSP approach must is, to some extent, limited by the fact that the word order restrictions might result in a linear structure of the sentence that does not correspond with the communicative dynamism. Those languages which have a relatively free word order can adapt their syntactic structure to the needs of communicative dynamism better than languages with a fixed word order. This tension between syntax and the information structure of the sentence is very well noticeable exactly in the case of English and Czech.

The very different language typology of English and Czech leading to different arrangement and rules as far as the word order is concerned represents a significant challenge for all translators. The comparison of the FSP in English and Czech was subject to a number of linguistic contemplations as well. Baker cites two of them, mainly those of Mathesius (2011:179) and De Beaugrande and Dressler (2011:179):

> *"Mathesius (quoted in Firbas 1974:17) compares English and Czech in this respect and concludes that in English, the grammatical principle (i.e., syntax) plays the leading role in the hierarchy of word order principles and that 'English differs from Czech in being so little susceptible to the requirements of FSP as to frequently disregard them altogether.' De Beaugrande and Dressler (1981:75) make the same assertion: 'In English, the last of a differentiated morphemic system in many areas places heavy constraints on word-order patterns. In Czech, with its richer morphemic systems, word order can follow the functional sentence perspective much more faithfully.'"*

From the citation above, it is obvious that the tension between the emphasis on the grammatical principle in English and the relatively free word order in Czech is enormous. Needless to say that such opposition between the SL and TL represents also a major pitfall in the translation process. In the following, let us explore the most commonly used strategies for dealing with linear dislocation in translation.

6.1 Strategies for dealing with linear dislocation in translation

In the chapter devoted to translation strategies suggested for dealing with the tension between the syntax and the FSP principle, Baker (2011) proposes four translation strategies commonly employed for minimizing the linear dislocation. These are voice change, change of verb, nominalization and extraposition.

As it was already outlined in the preceding chapter on grammatical equivalence, or more specifically, misinterpretation of voice in translation, the change of voice from active to passive and vice versa enables the translator to arrange the clause elements according to different structures. As an alternative sentence pattern, Baker (2011) introduces the notion of ergative that might substitute the voice change in some languages. This process involves employing the object of a transitive verb as a subject of an intransitive verb, e.g., An explosion shook the room vs. The room shook (with the explosion).

Alternatively, the verb in question can be replaced altogether. This strategy concerns primarily those verb pairs that present the same event but from different perspectives. However, Baker (2011) states that in the actual translation practice, this strategy is used rather sporadically. Although the mentioned reciprocal pairs are equivalent to some extent, one of the solutions is always preferred in the language making the other one sound rather unnatural.

The different linear structures of the SL and TL can be solved also by means of nominalization. In this process, a verbal form is replaced with a nominal one, which enables the translator to preserve the thematic organisation of the sentence. Baker (2011) points out that, in the course of the translation tradition, this strategy has been underestimated although it is very sophisticated.

Last but not least, the incongruity between the SL and TL information structure can be solved also by means of extraposition, i.e., cleft and pseudo-cleft sentences. This strategy provides an opportunity to change the position of an entire clause within the sentence and, consequently, redistribute its theme/rheme division.

To conclude with, Baker (2011) admits that in practice, these above-mentioned strategies represent rather theoretical guidelines than actual techniques used in translations. She states that most translators resort to favouring the TL syntactic

structure at the expense of the ST communicative function as it is fairly difficult to strictly follow the thematic structure of the ST in translation. In this case, Baker (2011) considers the independent thematic structure of the TT superior to the thematic structure of the ST, i.e., the translator should primarily prefer the smoothness of the TT to the absolute textual equivalence with the ST as far as the information structure is concerned.

In the following, let us focus our attention on the strategies for dealing with linear dislocation in the observed text corpus. Data Samples 36-38 below show examples of unsuitable compensation of an incorrect FSP structure by means of italics.

Data Sample 36

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
36	"When you begin a question by saying 'with all due respect,' it means you're about to say something that **doesn't show** *any* **respect**. You can think whatever you want, Mr. Speaker, but **you** *should* **show respect**—if not for me then for all the other people who dedicate their lives to stopping terrorism and keeping our country safe." (p. 8)	„Když začnete otázku frází ‚se vší úctou‘, znamená to, že hodláte vyslovit něco, co **neprojevuje** *žádnou* **úctu**. Můžete si myslet, co chcete, pane předsedo, **ale** *měl* **byste projevovat úctu** – když už ne mně, tak všem ostatním lidem, kteří obětují své životy boji proti terorismu a zachování bezpečí v naší zemi." (p. 13)	„Když začnete otázku frází ‚se vší úctou‘, znamená to, že hodláte vyslovit něco, co **žádnou úctu neprojevuje**. Můžete si myslet, co chcete, pane předsedo, **ale vy byste úctu rozhodně projevit měl** – když už ne mně, tak všem ostatním lidem, kteří obětují své životy boji proti terorismu a zachování bezpečí v naší zemi."

Data Sample 37

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
37	Not because we *want* to keep things secret, but because we **must**. That's the point of executive privilege. (p. 10)	Ne proto, že *chceme* určité věci tajit, ale proto, že *musíme*. V tom spočívá výsada mlčenlivosti. (p. 15)	Ne proto, že určité věci tajit **chceme**, ale proto, že je tajit **musíme**. V tom spočívá výsada mlčenlivosti.

In order to respect the dynamic structure of the sentence as well as the general tone of the conversation, the emphasis, as far as the known and unknown information is concerned, lies on the verbs *neprojevuje* and *měl* or *chceme* and *musíme*, respectively. According to the FSP characteristic described above, the word order should, therefore, be constituted in such a way that would apply the end-weight principle on these verbs. For this reason, the alternative translation solution places the verbs at the end of their respective sentences so that they carry the rheme of the sentence. Employing italics in the TT in order to compensate for the word order is unjustified and should be avoided.

Data Sample 38

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
38	"Whose *side* I'm on?" I come forward with a start, nearly knocking the base of the microphone off the table. (p. 9)	„Na čí *straně* stojím?" Prudce jsem se předklonil a skoro jsem shodil mikrofon ze stolu. (p. 13)	„Na čí že to stojím *straně*?" Prudce jsem se předklonil a skoro jsem shodil mikrofon ze stolu.

Here, once again, the translator adopts the FSP pattern of the ST and uses italics as a tool of representing the theme-rheme division within the sentence. The alternative solution presents a somewhat more expressive linguistic structure – which is, however, justifiable in the broader context of a confrontation – that provided an opportunity for shifting the rheme of the sentence to the final position.

Data Sample 39

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
39	"What?" I say, returning my focus to the hearing. "What are you talking about? **I've never called the leaders of ISIS.** What does ISIS have to do with this?" (p. 16)	„Cože?" řeknu a obrátím pozornost zpátky ke slyšení. „O čem to mluvíte? **Nikdy jsem nevolal vůdcům ISIS.** Co má tohle společného s ISIS?"(p. 20)	„Cože?" řeknu a obrátím pozornost zpátky ke slyšení. „O čem to mluvíte? **Vůdcům ISIS jsem nikdy nevolal.** Co má tohle společného s ISIS?"

Here, the alternative translation proposes to rearrange the word order in the sentence *Nikdy jsem nevolal vůdcům ISIS* to *Vůdcům ISIS jsem nikdy nevolal* so that the two negations occupy the end position in the sentence. Moreover, the original proposition of the translator does not harmonize well in connection with the ensuing sentence either. In *Nikdy jsem nevolal vůdcům ISIS. Co má tohle společného s ISIS?*, ISIS occupies the rhematic position in two consecutive sentences, which sounds odd.

Data Sample 40

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
40	**"What I have said repeatedly is that** if there is a way to peacefully resolve a situation, the peaceful way is the better way." (p. 18)	„**Co jsem opakovaně prohlásil, bylo, že** pokud existuje způsob, jak situaci vyřešit nenásilně, je tato nenásilná cesta lepší." (p. 22)	„**Opakovaně jsem prohlásil, že** pokud existuje způsob, jak situaci vyřešit nenásilně, je tato nenásilná cesta lepší."

Data Sample 40 represents the use of extraposition in form of a cleft sentence in the ST. In the TT, the translator solves this linear structure dislocation by means of its literal translation and adoption of the pattern, which does not only sound very clumsy in the TL but, what is more, is entirely illogical in the TL. The primary function of cleft sentences in English is the possibility to move a part of the sentence towards the end to accentuate it while respecting the rules of the fixed word order. In Czech, we are not limited by the word order in this way; the use of such sentence construction is therefore entirely redundant.

Data Sample 41

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
41	My questioner is not the least bit **deterred by the insults I've hurled**. (p. 30)	Mého tazatele ani v nejmenším **neodradí urážky, které jsem vyřkl**. (p. 33)	**Urážky, které jsem vyřkl**, mého tazatele ani v nejmenším **neodradí.**

In this case, we can observe an incorrect FSP distribution in a sentence with a subordinate clause. We can presuppose that the insults in question are an already known element from the preceding text, there is therefore no need to rhematise them. Contrary to that, the alternative translation proposes to split the sentence and shift the verb at the end as it presents a new piece of information.

6.2 Means of textual cohesion on the example of conjunction

The second selected aspect of textual equivalence that will be discussed in this thesis based on the chosen data sample is the means of textual cohesion, more specifically conjunction.

Baker (2011:204) defines conjunction as *"the use of formal markers to relate sentences, clauses and paragraphs to each other"*. She contrasts conjunction to other means of textual coherence, namely reference, substitution and ellipsis, by stating that conjunction does not require the reader to supply missing information in the text but rather instructs them on the manner in which the individual pieces of information relate to each other.

Furthermore, Baker (2011) points out that achieving equivalence of the patterns of conjunction between the ST and TT is often problematic as conjunction also has a significant impact on the interpretation of the ST and its rhetoric. Necessary changes in the process of translation therefore inevitably alter both the message and the argumentative structure of the text.

It is, therefore, the translator's decision whether to rely on the cohesive structures of the ST or to adjust them according to the conventions of the TT at the expense of the translation shift. Baker (2011) takes a rather neutral standpoint in this dilemma by stating that both approaches have their advantages and disadvantages and the final decision on the translation strategy must be made in accordance with the purpose of the

text as well as with the translator's entitlement to reorganise the argumentative structure of the text.

Data Sample 42

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
42	Still, the wall-to-wall impeachment speculation has been hard on my staff, most of whom don't know what happened **in Algeria or during my phone call to Suliman Cindoruk** any more than Congress or the media or the American people do. (p. 34)	I tak tyhle nehorázné spekulace o státní žalobě těžce doléhají na lidi z mého týmu, z nichž většina neví o tom, **co se stalo v Alžírsku během mého telefonátu Sulimanu Cindorukovi**, o nic víc než kongres, média nebo americký lid. (p. 35)	I tak tyhle nehorázné spekulace o žalobě pro velezradu těžce doléhají na lidi z mého týmu, z nichž většina neví o tom, **co se stalo v Alžírsku nebo během mého telefonátu Sulimanu Cindorukovi**, o nic víc než kongres, média nebo americký lid.

In this case, the translator completely omitted the conjunctive element *or*, which resulted in a change in the meaning of the sentence once again. According to the ST, the incident in Algeria and the phone call to the terrorist are two separate events whereas in the TT, the omitted conjunction implies that the phone call took place in Algeria.

To summarize this chapter presenting a number of translation errors in the field of textual equivalence, it is necessary to state that the ability to construct the dynamic structure of a sentence correctly is often hindered by a number of translations that were not edited carefully enough and are published with an incorrect FSP structure influenced by the SL (mostly English). As a consequence, many Czech native speakers become numb to the subtle differences in the FSP. Compensating for the incorrect FSP structure by using italics is a vice of many translators, editors and publishing houses which was observable in the above discussed data samples as well.

A translator must also focus their attention on the cohesive patterns of the ST and to reproduce them faithfully as far as their function is concerned. Omission of an element expressing the intratextual relations can result in serious misinterpretations of the TT and hinder the reading process.

7. Pragmatic equivalence

In the final chapter concerned with the individual levels of language, our attention will be focused on the highly complex issue of pragmatic equivalence. Pragmatics is an area that reaches even beyond the informative structures briefly described in the chapter on textual equivalence as it is concerned with the specific way utterances are used to reach particular communicative goals. Baker (2011:235) describes pragmatics as the study of language in use, i.e., *"the study of meaning, not as generated by the linguistic system but as conveyed and manipulated by participants in a communicative situation"*.

As the study of pragmatic relations within a particular text is highly complex and depending on a number of communication strategies, we will, for the purpose of this thesis, focus our attention only on a selected issue observable in the text corpus, namely coherence and means of textual reference.

7.1 Coherence and means of textual reference

The terms coherence and cohesion (which was discussed in more depth in the previous chapter on textual equivalence) have a lot in common as far as the organization and connection of text is concerned. Whereas cohesion operates on the surface principle, i.e., links together words and expressions explicitly used in the text by means of lexical and grammatical dependency, coherence is concerned rather with implied conceptual relations necessary for a successful interpretation of the text.

Baker (2011) describes cohesion as the explicit manifestation of coherence relations underlying the text. She states that the means of cohesion help to emphasize the conceptual notions included in the text. Nevertheless, without the underlying coherence concept, the reader would be unable to interpret the relations in the text correctly.

The phenomenon of coherence exceeds the limits of language by relying on the reader's experience with the outer world as well as his expectations. These factors are largely determined by the reader's sociocultural environment. This implies that a text is considered to be coherent if it corresponds with the reader's own knowledge, experience and perception of reality. There is, therefore, no universal criterion for determining whether a particular text is coherent or not if it is not interpreted in the context of the specific reader's background knowledge.

Baker (2011) states that in order to be able to correctly transfer the underlying concept in the process of translation, it is crucial for the translator to have an excellent command of the meanings of words and text structures. Any mistranslation can result in a loss of an important communicative structure that, consequently, makes the calculability of implicatures in the TT difficult. In this viewpoint, she stresses the importance of a correct translation of any references as textual references are essential for maintaining the text coherence. As an example, she points out that an incorrect or unknown reference to a type of food or a gadget can seriously interrupt the reading experience and the perceived continuity of the text.

In connection with this issue, Baker (2011) references to the strategies recommended for translation of idioms, namely to the strategy of translation by cultural substitution. This technique is particularly useful also as far as the pragmatic relations in the text are concerned as many culture-specific concepts represent a serious translation pitfall also as far as the text coherence is concerned.

The following Data Samples 43-44 show an instance of pragmatic non-equivalence as far as the culture-specific references are concerned.

Data Sample 43

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
43	Lester Rhodes has been looking forward to the select committee hearing more than **a college boy looks forward to his twenty-first birthday**. (p. 12)	Lester Rhodes se na tohle slyšení těšil víc než **člověk na jednadvacáté narozeniny**. (p. 14)	Lester Rhodes se na tohle slyšení těšil víc než **dítě na Vánoce**.

Data Sample 44

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
44	That might be hard to understand for some **country-club, trust-fund baby** who spent his life **chugging beer bongs** and **paddling pledges** in some secret-skull college fraternity and **calling everybody by their initials**, but I have met the enemy head-on on a battlefield. (p. 39)	Je to možná těžko pochopitelné pro nějaké **dítě z venkovského klubu se svěřeneckým fondem**, které celý svůj dosavadní život strávilo **pitím piva pomocí trychtýře a hadičky** a **bitím pádlem přes zadek** při přijímacím rituálu do nějakého tajného vysokoškolského bratrstva, ale já musím čelit nepříteli tváří v tvář na bojišti. (p. 42)	Je to možná těžko pochopitelné pro nějaké **dítě z golfového klubu se svěřeneckým fondem**, které celý svůj dosavadní život strávilo **pitím piva na čas** a **plácáním se pádlem přes zadek** při přijímacím rituálu do nějakého tajného vysokoškolského bratrstva, ale já musím čelit nepříteli tváří v tvář na bojišti.

These two text passages are examples of a cultural clash where the translator should have intervened and domesticated the source text more.

As for Data Sample 43, the age of 21 does not carry any interesting connotations for a Czech reader as the full age in the Czech Republic is 18 years. Therefore, the alternative translation opts for a comparison based on a different concept. It presents an analogy of a child looking forward to Christmas as this is a much more understandable and relatable image in the target culture.

The second image illustrates the world of wealthy college boys living in fraternities, which is also something completely strange for the Czech reader. First and foremost, to briefly digress back to the level of lexical equivalence, the translator misinterpreted the term *country club* which has only very little in common with the country as such – it represents its exact opposite.

To evaluate the performance of the translator objectively, finding a substitution for the second culture-specific image in the target culture would be very difficult. For this reason, the alternative solution preserves the main elements outlined in the ST but simplifies them slightly (i.e., the excessive beer bong explanation).

The following Data Sample 45 demonstrates the malfunctioning pragmatic equivalence in terms of non-corresponding underlying concepts ensuring the overall textual coherence:

Data Sample 45

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
45	She said her opponent was a "cocksucker." […]With that **c word forever glued to her name**, she knew she'd probably never get another chance. (p. 35-36)	Řekla o svém protivníkovi, že je „hulibrk". […] Věděla, že s **tím h navždy přilepeným ke svému jménu** nikdy nedostane další šanci. (p. 37)	Řekla o svém protivníkovi, že je „hulibrk". […] Věděla, že s **tou nadávkou navždy spojenou se svým jménem** nikdy nedostane další šanci.

The clumsiness of this concept is connected mainly with the fact that it is extended over a longer part of the text. Whereas it is common in English to denote taboo words only with their initial letter (such as *f-word* for *fuck* etc.), there is no such custom in the TL. Therefore, when a Czech reader reads the word *hulibrk* and then, a couple of sentences later, there is a reference to the letter *h*, there is no immediate mental connection of the underlying concept.

To conclude this chapter, it is necessary to state that the level of pragmatic equivalence represents a very complex area which is very difficult to compass – all the more so in a five-hundred-pages-long text.

Nevertheless, the selected data samples showed that a reader does not interpret the TT "in the vacuum" but based on their own experience and expectations. The translator should, therefore, focus their attention on proposing understandable and familiar concepts as well as transparent and comprehensible references.

8. Formal errors

The final chapter devoted to the discussion of translation errors treats miscellaneous formal errors that appeared in the TT. These mistakes are less a linguistic issue than a show of inadvertence both on the side of the translator and, probably more importantly, the editor. Data Samples 46-53 show a brief overview of selected formal errors found in the observed text corpus.

Data Sample 46

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
46	By our estimate, the Patriotas have an **army two hundred thousand strong** next door in Managua, awaiting word. (p. 71)	Podle našich odhadů mají Patriotas hned vedle v Manague **dvoutisícovou armádu** čekající na rozkaz.(p. 67)	Podle našich odhadů mají Patriotas hned vedle v Manague **dvousettisícovou armádu** čekající na rozkaz.

In Data Sample 46, the translator's inattentive reading of the source text caused a streamlining of the army from two hundred thousand to two thousand.

Data Sample 47

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
47	"M Street Southwest and **Capitol** Street Southwest," she says, probably sounding like a tourist, but that works just fine. (p. 69)	„Křižovatka ulic ‚M jihozápad' a ‚**Capito** jihozápad'," řekne a nejspíš zní jako turistka, ale to se celkem hodí. (p. 64)	„Křižovatka ulic ‚M jihozápad' a ‚**Capitol** jihozápad'," řekne a nejspíš zní jako turistka, ale to se celkem hodí.

In this case, there is a typo, or more precisely, an unfinished spelling of a word.

Data Sample 48

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
48	She is invited to TRY OUR NACHOS!—**which, from what she can tell, consist of** a plate of fried tortillas and processed cheese, a few token vegetables, and more meat from more slaughtered animals. (p. 69)	Zve ji nápis OCHUTNEJTE NAŠE NACHOS! – **pokrm, které podle všeho sestává** z talíře smažených tortill, taveného sýra, několika symbolických kousků zeleniny a dalšího masa z dalších zavražděných zvířat. (p. 64)	Zve ji nápis OCHUTNEJTE NAŠE NACHOS! – **pokrm, který se podle všeho skládá** z talíře smažených tortill, taveného sýra, několika symbolických kousků zeleniny a dalšího masa z dalších zavražděných zvířat.

Data Sample 49

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
49	**Under other circumstances**, I'd laugh. (p. 9)	**Za jiným okolností** bych se zasmál. (p. 14)	**Za jiných okolností** bych se zasmál.

In these two cases, we can observe a discord between the gender of the noun and the adjective.

Data Sample 50

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
50	[…] and Jenny Brickman, **my deputy chief of staff** and senior political adviser. (p. 4)	[…] a Jenny Brickmanová, **zástupkyně personálního šéfa** a starší politická poradkyně. (p. 10)	[…] a Jenny Brickmanová, **zástupkyně vedoucí kanceláře prezidenta** a starší politická poradkyně.

Data Sample 51

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
51	The caller ID on the screen reads **C Brock**. (p. 128)	Na displeji stojí **C Brock**. (p. 114)	Na displeji stojí **C. Brocková**.

Throughout the whole novel, the translator is inconsistent with the gender inflection of names and functions and alternates the terms *šéf* and *šéfová* as well as name forms *Brock* and *Brocková* without any regularity.

Data Sample 52

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
52	"I don't have the sections of the United States Code committed to memory, Mr. Kearns, **but I believe** you're referring to the Espionage Act." (p. 15)	„Nemám oddíly Sbírky zákonů uložené v paměti, pane Kearnsi, ale **domnívám**, že narážíte na zákon o špionáži." (p. 19)	„Nemám oddíly Sbírky zákonů uložené v paměti, pane Kearnsi, ale **domnívám se**, že narážíte na zákon o špionáži."

Here, the translator forgot to include the reflexive pronoun that represents an inseparable part of the Czech verb.

Data Sample 53

Sample Number	Source Text	Target Text	Alternative Solution
53	If the stakes are high, you have to do **what you think is right** and hope the political tide will turn. (p. 15)	Pokud je v sázce hodně, musíte dělat to, **co považujete za správně**, a doufat, že se politický proud obrátí. (p. 19)	Pokud je v sázce hodně, musíte dělat to, **co považujete za správné**, a doufat, že se politický proud obrátí.

In Czech, the verb *považovat za* connects with an adjective. Probably under the influence of English, the translator included an adverb.

It can be probably agreed that none of these above-mentioned errors are essential for the understanding of the text as such as they are not directly an issue of translatology. Nevertheless, such small details should be corrected carefully in the editing process,

both by the translator and mainly the editor as they make an overall sloppy impression of the TT on the reader.

Conclusion

In today's globalized society, where there is a constant need for overcoming language and cultural barriers in communication, translations have their inestimable value. Nevertheless, this increasing demand inevitably results in production of translations of lower quality which should be avoided primarily in the field of literary translation. Translation quality assessment, the field of translatology concerned with the evaluation of translated texts according to objective criteria, represents a great tool for identifying translations of a lower quality and, consequently, improving the overall standard of the translation practice by drawing attention to the translation errors.

On the basis of the Czech translation of the thriller *The President is Missing* by Bill Clinton and James Patterson awarded with the anti-prize Skřipec as the worst translation of the year 2018, the thesis aimed to develop a structured perspective on undertaking translation quality assessment of an extended piece of text by employing Baker's (2011) approach towards the translation analysis in combination with the contrastive principles of TQA as presented by Zehnalová et al. (2015).

Based on Baker's hierarchical bottom-up approach consisting of the division of the language system in five individual levels – the word level exploring the meaning of single words and expressions; the equivalence above word level; grammatical equivalence; the level of textual cohesion and finally, the pragmatic equivalence – the thesis presents a fine-grained analysis of selected data samples in terms of possible translation pitfalls and strategies for overcoming them. Moreover, each data sample is supplemented by an alternative translation proposing a more suitable solution based on the socio-cultural and socio-political context of the source text.

First, the analysis of the individual lexical expressions as well as idioms and collocations showed that the translator struggled with the different cultural environments mainly as far as the political system of the USA and the Czech Republic is concerned. In this respect, the target text contains too many factual inaccuracies as well as clumsy text passages. At this point, I would like to state that although transferring the socio-political aspects of the source culture in the target culture certainly might pose problems to the translator, Ondřej Duha was not confronted with any untranslatable concepts in this case and all instances of translation errors criticized

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in this thesis could have been avoided by a more thorough preliminary research in the field of political science.

The most inaccuracies were found in the translation of idioms and collocations. The common denominator of these translation errors was the translator's general tendency to translate too literally, which resulted in unnaturally or even absurdly sounding passages in the target text. In this respect, it is startling that the translator did not identify these instances as suspicious and did not devote more time and effort to verifying the translation – either, e.g., by means of corpus linguistics tools or by a consultation with a native speaker.

The grammatical non-equivalence in the target text was demonstrated on the example of misinterpretation of voice. Unlike the translation errors on the word and above word level, the discrepancies at the level of grammar could be discovered only by means of a comparative analysis of the source text and target text and are, therefore, undetectable for a most readers as they do not read fictional literature in a contrastive perspective. This either unconscious misinterpretation or translator's self-entitlement to change the grammatical perspective of the target text can be harmful for the overall understanding of the target text as it significantly changes its underlying pragmatic relations.

The part of the analysis concerned with textual equivalence focused primarily on the issue of functional sentence perspective and the strategies for dealing with linear dislocation of the sentence structure. This aspect was chosen mainly for the reason that the correct theme-rheme organisation of the target text is very often neglected in the target text. As a result, many native speakers primarily from the younger generation progressively lose their native speaker's intuition for the correct information distribution in the sentence. The analysis proved that Ondřej Duha belongs in this category of "neglectful translators" as well. In most cases, Duha adopted the source language FSP pattern and compensated for the incorrect word order using italics.

The final stage of the analysis concerned with the highly complex field of pragmatic relations within the text was aimed primarily at the translation of culturally-bound references. On the basis of the selected data samples, it was demonstrated how important it is for the overall understanding of the text to present familiar and comprehensible concepts to the reader.

Ondřej Duha's overall performance in translating this piece of literature cannot be evaluated as satisfactory. The selected translation errors presented in the analysis can often be characterised as beginner's mistakes and the Czech Literary Translators' Guild's verdict on this translation is justified.

Nevertheless, the criticism expressed in this thesis is directed not only towards Duha but, to the same degree, also to the publishing house Kalibr as the work of their proof-readers and editors is equally unsatisfactory. The presented results of the applied TQA approach emphasize the gravity of errors made and make a case for why a translation of such a poor standard should have never been published.

As a conclusive suggestion for a further development of the applied TQA approach on the translation work of Ondřej Duha, it would be interesting to further systematize the results by enriching the text collection with his other translations of Patterson's books and applying the analytical tools offered by the field of corpus linguistics in order to be able to draw more general conclusions on his performance.

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