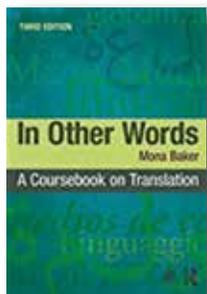


In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation

Mona Baker. 2018. 3rd ed. New York, NY: Routledge. [ISBN 978-1-138-66688-7. 370 pages, including index. US\$38.95 (soft cover).]



The third edition of this widely used translation studies textbook, *In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation*, includes a new chapter on how to handle visual puns and other issues that may arise when the match between visual elements and text in one language (the source) cannot be easily replicated in another language (the target). Baker takes us text unit-by-text unit through potential problems and pitfalls when trying to transfer meaning from one linguistic system and culture to another. She starts with the smallest such unit, a single word, and moves through sentences and paragraphs to entire documents, including associated imagery. Beyond static text, Baker also discusses subtitling and translating other heavily visual media, such as comics. A chapter on ethical questions that both translators and interpreters may need to consider rounds out the book.

Each chapter includes examples from a variety of languages to illustrate the points discussed, extensive footnotes, a bibliography for further reading on the topic at hand, and suggested exercises. A glossary at the end explains the terms used throughout the book, but familiarity with the terminology used by linguists to dissect texts would be helpful before tackling the textbook.

Since this is a language-independent textbook, the exercises assume English as the source language—a slight problem for us into-English translators. All exercises ask the reader to reflect upon and explain the translation choices he/she makes. However, given the nature of the exercises, there is no answer key. Thus, the book is best used in educational or group settings where others may provide feedback.

The problems Baker raises are certainly worth contemplating, although they may be more applicable to working with literary or marketing texts rather than technical specifications or birth certificates. In the real world, however, deadlines and payment based on word count, not time spent, mean that many freelance translators rarely have time to ponder some of the finer points of implicatures or tone raised in this book.

Nonetheless, as a working translator without a formal background in the profession, I kept discovering issues that I had solved without necessarily thinking of them within a theoretical framework. Other problems were new to me but were interesting to contemplate anyway. Given the variety of languages used in the examples, I also learned interesting facts about, for example, Chinese or Arabic.

Even though *In Other Words* is a textbook for students of translation, those involved in writing source text or managing the translation process could benefit from reading it. The book's thorough exploration of the various ways in which a target text may differ from its source can help non-translators appreciate—or possibly question—how their translators approach the project.

Barbara Jungwirth

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Thinking Globally, Composing Locally: Rethinking Online Writing in the Age of the Global Internet

Rich Rice and Kirk St.Amant, eds. 2018. Louisville, CO: Utah State University Press. [ISBN 978-1-60732-663-2. 366 pages, including index. US\$39.95 (softcover).]



Thinking Globally, Composing Locally is an anthology with 15 chapters, plus an introduction and afterword by the editors. As Rice and St.Amant say, “We have inhabited digital landscapes for several decades...[but] the international online environment exists as a new terrain that must be continuously (re)examined and (re)mapped” (p. 341). This book brings us recent studies and new pedagogies from many cultures, including Egypt, Greece, Indonesia, Turkey, and Uganda, as well as the United States.

If you teach technical writing, you will find this book valuable both to devise new curricula and to assign case studies to your students. For example,

Josephine Walwema explains how a class can use digital notebooks to let students in several countries