

Alcalde Peñalver, Elena and Santamaría Urbieto, Alexandra. (2019). *Aproximación a la traducción financiera inglés-español. Textos, términos y recursos documentales*. Granada: Comares.

Aproximación a la traducción financiera inglés-español. Textos, términos y recursos documentales is a remarkable contribution to the very few studies currently existing on financial translation from a teaching perspective (cf. Suau Jiménez 1998, Gallego-Hernández 2014, Gallego-Hernández, Koby & Román Mínguez 2016). This work is targeted at readers with an interest in the field, but not necessarily with prior experience in translation of this type of specialized texts. The main objectives pursued by the authors, Elena Alcalde Peñalver and Alexandra Santamaría Urbieto, focus, therefore, on providing the theoretical and applied groundwork to familiarize readers with the text types of the world of finance and the most relevant documentary and terminological resources available to solve the translation problems they may come across. It is, as we mentioned above, a teaching-oriented work based on solid theoretical and professional foundations.

The book is divided into ten chapters providing an in-depth discussion on the main characteristics of financial translation. The first chapter acts as a general introduction to the work, presenting the conceptual definition of financial and economic translation, its main characteristics and the types of texts and clients that translators may encounter in the market. It also provides data on the current demand for this type of specialized translation, evidencing the fact that financial translation is a good option for any translator who wishes to risk specializing in this particular field. The last section of this chapter describes the competences and skills required for financial translators and allows readers to learn about the demands of the market.

In the second chapter, the authors describe the characteristics of the specialized language of finance, and they support their presentation with numerous relevant examples and practical cases on the translation of different types of terms in various contexts. That is the case, for example, with the translation of neologisms, acronyms, false friends or metaphors. The third chapter includes some of the primary terminological resources related to financial translation which are very useful for solving translation problems. This group includes databases, dictionaries, glossaries, parallel texts and specialized press. All these resources make this work a reference handbook for readers who are starting in the field of financial translation.

Starting from the fourth chapter, the authors focus on the translation of texts on different topics in the field, beginning with financial translation in the business sector. To do so, they first provide a theoretical introduction to competition law, a branch of law whose primary goal is to guarantee, in the words of the authors, “the proper function of the market according to the rules protecting free competition” (33). The authors also describe differences between types of companies existing in Spain and the United Kingdom, and they present real-life examples of texts and terms to practice translation in this field.

The fifth chapter includes examples of academic texts from the field of finance that can also be the subject of translation assignments. The different activities and texts provided make it much easier to understand the content that is developed in the chapter and allow readers to approach translation in this area from a practical perspective that is very close to professional reality.

Financial translation of printed media texts is discussed in the sixth chapter. The authors begin by comparing different types of financial journals and websites in English and Spanish, and this allows readers to become familiar with other types of resources for their documentation task. The seventh chapter deals with financial translation in the context of the stock trade, in which different types of translation assignments can be found in the professional world. The authors present once again different beneficial resources and an updated glossary with key terms from the stock exchange market. The chapter also carries out an in-depth analysis of financial and stock market reports and includes different activities to facilitate understanding in this complex area.

In chapter eight, the authors analyze financial translation in banking, where there is a high demand for translations of a large variety of texts. The authors provide real-life examples of texts and terms for a practical approach to the translation of texts in this field. Furthermore, chapter nine deals exclusively with the translation of financial contracts and discusses their characteristics and types. Real examples and activities are provided in all cases so that readers may analyze in depth this type of texts. Finally, chapter ten focuses on translation in the field of international commerce. The authors first present a theoretical introduction that explains what international commerce is and the role that translation plays in it. They also provide basic notions on commercial discourse, terminology and documentation, all of this accompanied by real-life examples.

Worthy of mention, as stated above, is the fact that throughout the book, theoretical explanations are combined with practical exercises which make it possible to apply the content developed by the authors. This structure makes it easier to follow the work and, at the same time, makes it much more enjoyable to consolidate the concepts and topics discussed in it. Also, at the end of each chapter, there is a references section which includes supplementary tasks for readers to increase their knowledge further. In sum, this work will be of great interest to new translators who wish to receive training in the specialized field of financial translation, as well as to translator trainers because it provides up-to-date information that is practical and easy to use in the classroom.

References

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