

ABSTRACT

The Analysis of Culture-based Text Translation from Thai into English

by

Wing Commander Teweesom Kaewsuwan, WRTAF

Based on the fact that translation is complicated when having to do with culture, this study investigated the patterns of word-, sentence-, and text-level translations presently used in culture-based text translations from Thai into English. Fourteen sample articles in Thai and English representing Thai traditions were analyzed, compared, and classified according to the theories of semantics, syntax, text analysis, and translation. Findings of 31 patterns of translation were classified. The findings are lessons for students in linguistics, novice translators, and those who are interested in translating culture-based text or writing about Thai culture in English. Interesting points in the study suggest that further study should focus on the problems of translating culture-based text implementing interviews and questionnaires. The purposes of the readers of culture-based text translations and whether types of media affect the strategies used in culture-based text translations should be studied. Research on translating other components of culture should also be conducted.