

Abstract

An Analysis of the Subtitling Translations of International Documentary Film Scripts

by

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This study aimed to investigate the documentary film script subtitling translations from source language or SL (English language) into receptor language or RL (Thai language). The documentary films chosen were mostly concerned with the description of animals, objects, and places, etc. which may be unfamiliar to RL viewers. The study therefore needed to analyze the semantic equivalence between the two languages. Data in the study were documentary film scripts in both the original text (English language) and the translated text (Thai language). Mostly, the theories used in the analysis of the data were based on the work of Larson (1984). The researcher analyzed techniques translators used in the documentary film subtitling translation. The study also examined problems which may be found in subtitling

translation. The study examined the techniques subtitlers employed in translating, for example, a generic word or a loan word modified by form and function, loan words, borrowed words, or figurative senses, etc., and problems found in translation such as the deletion of adjectives, adverbs, phrases, or comparatives, inappropriate use of words in several functions, and spelling errors, etc. Some problems relatively affect the meaning of the original text. Finally, the researcher has given suggestions for translators and future researchers.