

Jintana Boonprasong 2009: Language Errors on Signs Translated from Thai into English. Master of Arts (English for Specific Purposes), Major Field: English for Specific Purposes, Department of Foreign Languages. Thesis Advisor: Ms. Napasri Timyam, Ph.D. 127 pages.

The purpose of this study was to investigate and analyze language errors found in Thai-English sign translation. The sample consisted of 194 Thai-English signs appearing in department stores, hypermarkets, shopping malls and public places. The findings were analyzed based on Supol (1998) and Chaitrikal's suggestions (2005) concerning the types of errors in translation. From 194 Thai-English signs, a total of 317 mistranslations were found. The errors found were classified into thirteen categories ranging from most to least frequently found as follows: grammar (39.75%), misinterpretation (11.67%), spelling (10.73%), word choice (9.78%), under translation (5.68%), capitalization (4.42%), juncture (3.79%), word form (3.47%), redundancy (3.15%), over translation (2.84%), punctuation (2.52), word-for-word translation (1.89%), and ambiguity (0.32%), respectively. Seven of the classes agreed with the scope of classifications of errors, namely grammar, misinterpretation, spelling, over translation, under translation, word choice and word form. The other six classes beyond Supol (1998) and Chaitrikal's suggestions were ambiguity, capitalization, juncture, punctuation, redundancy, and word-for-word translation.

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Thesis Advisor's signature