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**GIUSEPPE PALUMBO, *KEY TERMS IN TRANSLATION STUDIES*, 2009, London: CONTINUUM, pp. 212**

Published in 2009 by Continuum International Publication Group, *Key Terms in Translation Studies* is the fourth title in the *Key Terms* Series. The Author, Giuseppe Palumbo of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy, offers a highly readable, accessible and comprehensive coverage of fundamental issues expounded in the theory of translation, as well as brief characterization of crucial scholars in the field.

The structure of the book is very clear. It follows the general template used in the *Key Terms* series, it is thus divided into three main parts. The lion share of the book is taken up by its first part, entitled *Key terms in Translation Studies*, which deals with basic terms, concepts and theories used in translation studies (TS). This part is organized alphabetically, with each entry treated encyclopaedically. By pinpointing the gist of the matter subsumed by each definition, the Author manages to embrace a wide range of rudimentary problems for translation studies in an apt and relatively brief overview. The second part of the book is devoted to a brief description of selected scholars who have contributed substantially to the evolution of translation studies as a discipline. Following *Key Thinkers in Translation Studies*, the last part (*Key Readings and Bibliography*) enlists essential TS works, followed by a detailed index of terms.

Under the rubric of key terms in translation studies, the Author presents a number of concepts fundamental for an introductory course of translation. These concepts include: translation strategies (*vis à vis* techniques and procedures), typology of translation, domestication vs. foreignisation, equivalence, covert vs. overt translation, free vs. literary translation, difficulty (in translation), translatability, fluency, competence, assessment, language functions, theme vs. rheme, and many more. These definitions will be of great help not only for students of introductory courses of translation/interpreting but also for students of modern languages and theoretical and applied linguistics.

Aimed at advanced students of translation courses, more complex terms do not escape the Author's attention. The *Skopos* Theory, Catford's category shift, Descriptive TS, and Polysystem Theory, to name just a few, are notions relevant for students already familiar with the rudiments of TS, who approach translation not just as an operational endeavour but rather as an academic discipline.

Along with TS terms, the book also contains entries which go beyond translation theory and which are typically associated with linguistic theory and literary/cultural studies. These areas function as a background for a more profound elaboration of selected TS issues. Thus, one can encounter very popular concepts assigned to general linguistics, such as co-text, context, corpora, etc., as well as more specific terms typical of pragmatics (speech acts, implicature), lexicology (collocation, colligation), text linguistics (coherence, cohesion), cultural studies (cultural approaches to TS, culture-bound terms, postcolonial approaches to TS, ideology), and literary studies (genre, poetics, poststructuralist approaches to TS). Looking at translation problems through the prism of issues belonging in a wider scope of academic research definitely facilitates the acquisition of the plurality of complexities includable in translation studies, which is claimed to be an interdisciplinary discipline.

Recent developments in the field proposed within the last decade have also found their place in the volume. Thus one can read about such novelties as audio description, multimodal analysis in subtitling, globalization perspective, key-stroke logging, or surtitling. All these approaches are very new and still under development, and although they are currently trumpeted at international conferences and congresses, published documentation on them is scarce.

A very interesting proposal is the second part of the book, which offers short notes on the most important contributors to the field, who set course in the early development of translation studies, were at the cutting edge of TS evolution, exerted powerful influence on its future constitution as a discipline in its own right, defined research aims and scope, and moulded this branch of knowledge as an interdisciplinary one. A separate section is thus devoted to a concise characterization of eleven researchers, presented alphabetically. The eleven scholars are: A. Chesterman, B. Hatim and Ian Mason, James S. Holmes, J. House, P. Newmark, E. Nida, M. Snell-Hornby, G. Toury, L. Venuti, and Hans J. Vermeer. The text accounts for most important concepts proposed and developed by these authors, with essential terms highlighted in bold print. Each note is followed by a brief list of the most important books written by that particular author. This section will be particularly relevant to students of translation studies interested in the roots of the key concepts.

The reference list is divided into general and essential works. It also contains some hints and advice on supplementary readings on TT. Such an arrangement

of reference books should definitely aid students of translation studies in fathoming the subject, in particular those new to the field.

By and large, this overview written by Giuseppe Palumbo will be an ideal companion to those undertaking university translation and interpreting courses, as well as philologies, modern languages and applied linguistics courses. Along with students, it will definitely prove an invaluable resource for translation teachers. Practical translators and anyone interested in the subject with no prior theoretical knowledge can also benefit from this work, which should serve as an accessible reference material that collates tricky, often confusing concepts the book manages to rein effortlessly. It is a timely contribution which fills a gap in the translation book market. The book elegantly guides students embarking on translation through the intricacies of numerous rapidly developing translation theories, the most recent trends and approaches found in translation research, and a range of essentially complex notions employed in this interdisciplinary academic field.