

Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University

Modern Ukrainian Translation: Personalities

Reference manual for students

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Посібник створено у результаті колективної роботи студентів магістерського освітнього рівня над дослідницьким проєктом. Вміщені тексти призначені для самостійного опрацювання студентами спеціальності «Філологія (переклад)» при вивченні теоретичного матеріалу з тем «Переклад в Україні на сучасному етапі» та «Новітня історія перекладу в Україні» в межах перекладознавчих дисциплін.

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About This Book

A typical academic curriculum for translation students aims at development and elaboration of various competences in the students. The knowledge to be acquired covers various fields, among which one can name also some idea on history of translation in Ukraine. Thus every student can name outstanding Ukrainian translators, who were active in the 19th century (I. Franko, B. Hrinchenko, P. Kulish, M. Starytsky, Lesya Ukrainka and others) as well as in the 20th century (H. Kochur, M. Lukash, V. Mysyk, M. Rylsky, V. Stus and many others).

Anyway, not so much attention is given to the translators active nowadays. This is why we decided to initiate a group research project with the students involved in participating. This reference manual is a result of the said project work conducted within Translatology course studying at MA Translation programme at Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University.

The project yet has faced some challenge.

First of all, the process of selection of the translators to represent created some difficulties. There are a lot of modern active translators, so, it is not possible to represent them all in the project of such scope. The essential criteria for selection was the translators' present activity and work within (but not restricted to) the English-Ukrainian language pair.

Moreover, each student had to write a sort of an article with due references and to translate it into English.

After all articles were collected, they were double-reviewed and underwent another editing procedure.

Yet, the style of the texts in this book is not scientific, because it should be considered as a reference manual, and not as a collection of scientific pieces of text. The aim of the project was to reach a larger target audience.

The book can be used as an additional means of learning modern history of Ukrainian translation within the course of translation theory in the BA and MA curriculum in philology. It can be also offered to all those, who are interested in the subject.

*Andrii Kozachuk,
Project manager and editor,
Ph.D. in translation theory*

“Slapstick, or Lonesome No More!” by Kurt Vonnegut in 21 days [3].

*Compiled and translated by
Ilona Stryzhko*

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Oleksandr Krasiuk (Олександр Красюк)



Oleksandr Krasiuk was born on January 22, 1954 in the city of Zaporizhzhya. He is a Ukrainian culture researcher, writer, translator, editor and ideologist of various editions.

He was born in a working-class family. His father originated from Kyiv region, mother from Middle Dnieper region. He studied at various institutions, officially graduated from only two: from high school (with the only "excellent" points in the report for English) and music school (his specialization is bassoon, teaching music). He worked as a newspaper man in

Shevchenko National University of Kyiv with a degree in Radiophysics, and since that year he worked at the Institute of Semiconductor Physics of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine [7, p.341-342].

Maksym Strikha wrote more than 75 works dedicated to the theory of semiconductors and in 2012, co-authored with Ilchenko V.I. and Prokaza O.T., he prepared the textbook "Theories of physics: people, ideas, events" (Ukr.: "Фізичні теорії: люди, ідеї, події") [4].

From 1980-s to this day, Maksym Strikha leads an incredibly active social and political life. He was one of the founders of the Ukrainian Language Society named after T. Shevchenko (1988-1989), Deputy Chairman of the Standing Committee on Culture and Protection of the Historical Environment (1990-1994), Member of Kyiv City Council and Deputy Minister of Culture of Ukraine (1993-1995). From 2009 to 2013, Maksym Strikha occupied a position as the Association of Ukrainian Writers' Vice-President [4].

Moreover, as it is mentioned in this article, Maksym Strikha is a vivid example of the fact that a talented person is talented everywhere. Since 1980-s, the belles-lettres and translation of literary works became an integral part of his life. It is his translation that we read Dante Alighieri, William Wordsworth, Algernon Charles Swinburne, Robert Louis Stevenson, José-María de Heredia, Emily Dickinson, Joseph Rudyard Kipling, Thomas Stearns Eliot, William Butler Yeats, Gian Carlo Menotti, Serhii Rakhmaninov and many others [7, p.

Olena never wanted to translate poetry.

Her famous quotes:

“No one teaches a translator; this is his constant job that you have to do with yourself.”

“The translator must be able not to be himself, but always to someone else, because translation is not only creative but also modest activity.”

“After all, the main role of the translator is to be able to translate correctly, to understand the author's intention. In addition, you must always have the desire to find out the truth and to tell the truth”[4].

*Compiled and translated by
Alina Klymenko*

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In 2013 he was awarded the title “Person of the Year” by Esquire magazine in nomination “People who changed Ukraine” [2].

Furthermore, he has translated such comic books as [4]:

Spider-Man (2018-2019);

Old Man Logan: Berserker (“Старий Логан: Берсеркер”, 2013);

Millionaire With A Mouth (“Дедпул: Балакучий мільйонер”, 2018);

Astonishing X-men Vol. 1: Life of X (“Вражаючі Люди-Ікс: Життя Ікс”, 2018);

Thor I (“Тор: Глава перша”, 2019);

Doctor Strange: Damnation (“Доктор Стрендж: Прокляття”, 2019);

The Immortal Hulk (“Безсмертний Галк”, 2019);

The Life Of Captain Marvel (“Життя Капітана Марвел”, 2019).

Moreover, as he says in his interviews, it is difficult to translate swearing. English language is not so rich in dirty words, so the most common “fuck” should be translated in different ways into Ukrainian [6].

The translation of feature films is a special type of translation, the purpose of which is “to make a full-fledged interlingual aesthetic communication by interpreting the source text implemented in the new text in another language”. In artistic translation, it is very important to preserve the shape, content, structure and aesthetic influence of the original text. Translation from any language should be done in such