Abstract

The study examines registers in electronic media political discourse in BBC News texts. The study looks at how translators use their social role to relate with their audience in such media discourses as the Internet. It aims to answer the research question: “What is the extent of the sustenance of the messages in the Arabic translation in terms of field, tenor and mode as well as in terms of the communicative and societal functions as compared to the same terms in the original messages of the ST? . The translator is usually the dominant writer so he/she determines how his/her imaginary audience will respond to his/her message. Being the sole translator, this increases his/her power to control the political discourse. He/she uses mainly direct and narrative texts to elicit responses from his/her imaginary reader. Also, the article has taken cognizance of Haliday and Hassan’s (1985) ideas on functionality and Hatim’s (1997) ideas on translating across different nations. The findings show that the translators seem to have been keen to use a language, which can be understood by different types of social classes. In other words, there have attempted to pitch the language of the TT to one standard that would be readable by the masses for wider readability.