

TRANSLATION FROM GESTALT PERSPECTIVES

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ABSTRACT

After 1970s, translation studies focus mainly on discourse analysis and text comprehension by conceiving the text as a holistic whole instead of atomistic and fragmentary units (Jinghua Zhang, 2008). To deal with the holistic view in translation, Gestalt principles in psychology of perception is thus adopted. Gestalt principles were initiated by Max Wertheimer (1880-1943), and developed by Wolfgang Kohler (1887-1967), and Kurt Koffka (1886-1941). In this article, Gestalt principles were applied to the analysis of translation works. The image-Gestalt, which refers to the integration of images in translation analysis, and were used to interpret various perceptions of figure-ground phenomena in different translated versions, and seeks to construct a criticism model on translated works. This article started with the introduction of the Gestalt laws by which the interpretation of the English translation of Chinese poems were analyzed, then constructed the model of criticism for translation works with examples.

Keywords: Gestalt principles, translation, Chinese poetry.