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The translation of children's literature in the South African educational context

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Addenda

Addendum A: Subject information sheet for publishers

School of Literature and Language Studies, University of the Witwatersrand

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Title of project: The translation of children's literature in the South African educational context

[Researcher name and contact details] *[Supervisor name and contact details]*

1. What is the aim of the study?

I am currently a PhD student at the University of the Witwatersrand. I am studying the translation of children's literature in the South African educational context. As part of my study I am asking publishers who (a) publish children's books and (b) make use of translation to complete a short questionnaire. The questionnaire focuses on the policies, practices and principles regarding the translation of children's books in the publishing house that you represent.

2. How was I chosen?

Using various sources, I have compiled a list of publishers who publish children's books in South Africa. I have checked by phone or e-mail, or using the Internet, whether each publisher does still publish books for children and does make use of translation. I am inviting you to take part in this survey because your company fits this profile, and also because you have indicated either telephonically or by e-mail that you would be willing to participate in the study. I would really value your inputs as a role-player in the children's book industry in South Africa. However, participation is entirely voluntary.

3. What do I need to do?

Please complete a questionnaire that I will e-mail to you, and return it to the e-mail address specified on the cover page of the questionnaire. Other contact information, as well as the deadline for the return of questionnaires, is also specified on the cover page. Please contact me if you have any questions, or if you would like an extension on the deadline.

It should take you no more than about 20 minutes to complete the questionnaire.

4. Who will know what I say?

Only I, Haidee Kruger, and my supervisor, Prof. Judith Inggs, will have access to the completed questionnaires. All information will be kept in confidence. Any discussions of the results will not refer to you or your company by name, or provide any identifying information. All the data will be stored on a secure and password-protected computer disk to which only I have access.

5. Are there any risks or benefits for me or my company?

In my opinion, there are no risks involved in this study. I hope that the ultimate results of the study will help to develop some useful and flexible guidelines for the translation of children's books in South Africa. As such, the study may ultimately benefit publishers of children's books in South Africa.

6. What are my rights?

- You may choose not to complete the questionnaire.
- You may choose not to answer a question.
- You are free to expand on the topic or talk about related ideas.
- You may withdraw your completed questionnaire from the study at any time.

7. What are you going to do with this information?

The information will be processed and interpreted, and will be presented as part of my PhD thesis. I also foresee that one or two articles, published in academic journals, will report on this information.

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Addendum B: Questionnaire for publishers

School of Literature and Language Studies, University of the Witwatersrand

Private Bag 3, Wits, 2050, South Africa • Tel: +27 11 717-4245 • Fax: +27 11 717-4259 • Mail: admin@languages.wits.ac.za

Dear publisher

I am currently busy with a PhD study at the University of the Witwatersrand, entitled *The translation of children's literature in the South African educational context*, under the supervision of Prof. Judith Inggs. As part of this research, I am investigating trends and practices in the translation of children's literature (for ages 2 to 12) that is either explicitly used in education, or has a more general educational slant or intention.

I would be very grateful if you would be willing to complete the attached questionnaire dealing with your experiences and perceptions of the translation of children's literature. Please rest assured that all information will be treated confidentially.

If you are willing to participate in the study, please complete the questionnaire either electronically or in writing, and return it to me before *[date]*. Questionnaires may be e-mailed to *[e-mail address]*, or mailed to me at *[postal address]*.

If you have any questions about this questionnaire, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Haidee Kruger

[researcher contact details]

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Questionnaire for publishers of children's books

Please answer the following questions by either filling in the required information in the space provided or making a cross in the appropriate block.

Name
Company
Position at company

1. (a) Is your target market general or specific? If specific, please provide a brief description.
   (b) Do you target any particular language groups? If so, please specify.

2. Approximately how many children's picture, fiction and poetry books for children aged **two to twelve** did your company publish in the last year?

Less than 5	
5 to 20	
20 to 40	
More than 40	

3. Approximately what percentage of the children's picture, fiction and poetry books you published in the last year has an educational purpose (either to be used explicitly in formal education, or with a general educational slant, e.g. teaching colours, numbers, values, social attitudes)?

Less than 20%	
Between 20% and 50%	
Between 50% and 80%	
More than 80%	

4. Approximately what percentage of the children's picture, fiction and poetry books you published in the last year has been translated from another language?

Less than 20%	
Between 20% and 50%	
Between 50% and 80%	
More than 80%	

5. In your company, have there over the past 10 years (or however long you've been in operation) been any significant changes in (a) the **number** of children's books translated annually, (b) the **languages** from and to which children's books are translated and (c) the **type** of children's books translated? Please explain your answer.

   (a) **Number:**

   (b) **Languages:**

   (c) **Type:**

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6. Please indicate from and to which languages books were translated in the last year. If you have information available regarding the approximate number of books translated in particular language pairs, please supply in the last column.

Language combinations	**Mark with a cross**	**Specify (if applicable)**	**Numbers (if available)**
English to Afrikaans			
Afrikaans to English			
English to an African language (please specify)			
Afrikaans to an African language (please specify)			
An African language (please specify) to English			
An African language (please specify) to Afrikaans			
A European language (please specify) to Afrikaans			
A European language (please specify) to English			
Other (please specify)			

7. Are the originals of translated books mostly local or mostly international books? If possible, please provide a rough estimate of percentages of local and international books translated in the last column.

	Most books translated are… (please tick one)	**Percentage of local or international originals**
Local		
International		

8. Who makes decisions about which books are translated?

9. Why are particular books chosen for translation?

Economic and market-related reasons (Market research suggests that the book will sell well, or there is a market for the translated book due to educational policies, or it is cheaper to translate a book than to commission an original book.)	
Educational reasons (The book has educational value and we believe that it is important for readers to have access to it in their own language.)	
Aesthetic and literary (The book has high aesthetic and literary value and we believe that it is important for readers to have access to it in their own language.)	
Other (Please specify.)	

10. Does your company have any standard guidelines (e.g. in terms of language use or cultural adaptation) that are provided to translators of children's books?

Yes	
No	

11. If your company does not have translation guidelines, why not?

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12. If your company does have translation guidelines, could you please provide an outline of these (or supply the guidelines themselves, if you are willing)?

13. Do you think that the translators of children's books need a set of guidelines? Please motivate your answer.

14. How do you find translators?

15. What quality assurance process do you use for translated children's books? If possible, please provide a brief outline.

16. Would you be available for a telephonic interview? If so, please provide your telephone number.

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Addendum C: Subject information sheet for translators

School of Literature and Language Studies, University of the Witwatersrand

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Title of project: The translation of children's literature in the South African educational context

[Researcher name and contact details] *[Supervisor name and contact details]*

1. What is the aim of the study?

I am currently a PhD student at the University of the Witwatersrand. I am studying the translation of children's literature in the South African educational context. As part of my study I am asking translators who have translated books for children to complete a short questionnaire. The questionnaire focuses on translators' opinions, perceptions and experiences regarding the translation of children's books.

2. Why am I receiving this questionnaire?

You are receiving this questionnaire for one of the following three reasons:

- you are a member of the South African Translators' Institute (SATI)
- you are a freelance translator working for one of two translation agencies who have agreed to distribute the questionnaire to their translators
- you are a well-known translator of children's books, and have agreed telephonically or by e-mail to participate in this study.

I am inviting you, as a translator of children's books, to take part in this survey, and would value your inputs as a role-player in the translation industry in South Africa. However, participation is entirely voluntary.

3. What do I need to do?

Please complete a questionnaire that I will e-mail to you, and return it to the e-mail address specified on the cover page of the questionnaire. Other contact information, as well as the deadline for the return of questionnaires, is also specified on the cover page. Please contact me if you have any questions, or if you would like an extension on the deadline.

It should take you no more than about 20 minutes to complete the questionnaire.

4. Who will know what I say?

Only I, Haidee Kruger, and my supervisor, Prof. Judith Inggs, will have access to the completed questionnaires. All information will be kept in confidence. Any discussions of the results will not refer to you by name, or provide any identifying information. All the data will be stored on a secure and password-protected computer disk to which only I have access.

5. Are there any risks or benefits for me?

In my opinion, there are no risks involved in this study. I hope that the ultimate results of the study will help to develop some useful and flexible guidelines for the translation of children's books in South Africa. As such, the study may ultimately benefit translators of children's books in South Africa.

6. What are my rights?

- You may choose not to complete the questionnaire.
- You may choose not to answer a question.
- You are free to expand on the topic or talk about related ideas.
- You may withdraw your completed questionnaire from the study at any time.

7. What are you going to do with this information?

The information will be processed and interpreted, and will be presented as part of my PhD thesis. I also foresee that one or two articles, published in academic journals, will report on this information.

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Addendum D: Questionnaire for translators

School of Literature and Language Studies, University of the Witwatersrand

Private Bag 3, Wits, 2050, South Africa • Tel: +27 11 717-4245 • Fax: +27 11 717-4259 • Mail: admin@languages.wits.ac.za

Dear translator

I am currently busy with a PhD study at the University of the Witwatersrand, entitled *The translation of children's literature in the South African educational context*, under the supervision of Prof. Judith Inggs. As part of this research, I am investigating trends and practices in the translation of children's literature (for ages 2 to 12) that is either explicitly used in education, or has a more general educational slant or intention.

I would be very grateful if you would be willing to complete the attached questionnaire dealing with your experiences and perceptions of the translation of children's literature. Please rest assured that all information will be treated confidentially.

If you are willing to participate in the study, please complete the questionnaire either electronically or in writing, and return it to me before *[date]*. Questionnaires may be e-mailed to *[e-mail address]*, or mailed to me at *[address]*.

If you have any questions about this questionnaire, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Haidee Kruger

[researcher contact details]

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Questionnaire for translators of children's books

Please answer the following questions by either filling in the required information in the space provided or making a cross in the appropriate block.

1. Name
2. Qualifications
3. For how many years have you been doing translation?

Less than 2	
2 to 5	
6 to 10	
11 to 15	
More than 15	

4. From and to what languages do you translate?

Language combinations	**Mark with a cross**	**Specify if applicable**
English to Afrikaans		
Afrikaans to English		
English to an African language (please specify which)		
Afrikaans to an African language (please specify which)		
An African language (please specify which) to English		
An African language (please specify which) to Afrikaans		
A European language (please specify which) to Afrikaans		
A European language (please specify which) to English		
Other (please specify)		

5. What types of translation do you do?

Academic texts (e.g. articles, dissertations, theses)	
Children's books (including picture books, fiction and non-fiction for children aged 2 to 12 years)	
Christian or other religious literature (books)	
Corporate texts	
Educational material/textbooks (high school)	
Educational material/textbooks (primary school)	
Educational material/textbooks (tertiary)	
Fiction (books)	
General non-fiction (books)	
Legal texts	
Magazine texts	
Medical texts	
Newspaper texts	
Youth books / young adult books (including fiction and non-fiction for young people aged 13 to about 18)	
Other (please specify)	

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6. What percentage of your total translation work would you say is devoted to the translation of children's literature?

Less than 20%	
Between 20% and 50%	
Between 50% and 80%	
More than 80%	

7. Approximately how many children's picture, fiction and poetry books have you translated in total?

Less than 5	
5 to 20	
20 to 40	
More than 40	

8. In your experience, have there over the past 10 years (or however long you've been translating) been any significant changes in (a) the **number** of children's books translated annually, (b) the **languages** from and to which children's books are translated and (c) the **type** of children's books translated? Please explain your answer.

   (a) **Number:**

   (b) **Languages:**

   (c) **Type:**

9. From and to what languages have you translated **children's books**?

Language combinations	**Mark with a cross**	**Specify if applicable**
English to Afrikaans		
Afrikaans to English		
English to an African language (please specify which)		
Afrikaans to an African language (please specify which)		
An African language (please specify which) to English		
An African language (please specify which) to Afrikaans		
A European language (please specify which) to Afrikaans		
A European language (please specify which) to English		
Other (please specify)		

10. What is your motivation for translating children's books?

11. Do you believe that translation is a good way of making books available to many different groups of readers? Or do you believe that it would be better to write original books in the different languages?

12. In your professional opinion, do you think that, generally, children's books need to be adapted to the culture of the target readership, or that (traces of) the source culture should be retained? Please explain your answer.

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13. Do you receive any guidelines for the translation of children's books from publishers?

14. Would you like publishers to provide you with guidelines for the translation of children's books?

15. Do you think that translators of children's books require any particular skills, knowledge or experience, apart from translation skills, knowledge and experience? Please explain your answer.

16. Would you be available for a telephonic interview? If so, please provide your telephone number.

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Addendum E: Analysis of children's books in the sample – tables

Table 1: Skills, values, and social and individual issues and problems in the readers included in the sample

Target text	Source text	Thematics: issues, problems, skills and values
English	**Afrikaans**	
My cupboard's haunted (Preller, 2005 TT-E)	*Daar's 'n spook in my kas* (Preller, 2005 ST-A)	Fears, family dynamics, perceptions, judgementalism
Jasper: crisis at school! (Maree, 2005a TT-E)	*Jasper: krisis op skool!* (Maree, 2005a ST-A)	Family and peer dynamics
Jasper: what a deep dive! (Maree, 2005b TT-E)	*Jasper: wat 'n diep duik!* (Maree, 2005b ST-A)	Family dynamics
Afrikaans	**English**	
Die jaagtog (Muir, 2007 TT-A)	*The chase* (Muir, 2004 ST-E)	Personal strengths, personal development, self-confidence, bravery, peer relationships, crime
Rufaro se wonderlike idee (Turkington, 2007 TT-A)	*Rufaro's great idea* (Turkington, 2004 ST-E)	Personal development, peer relationships
Hoekom is ek nie op die foto's nie? 'n Storie uit Kameroen (Bebey, 2001 TT-A)	*Why aren't I in the photographs? A story from Cameroon* (Bebey, 2001 ST-E)	Personal development, family relationships
Pragtige Debo: 'n storie uit Benin (Gbado, 2001 TT-A)	*Beautiful Debo: a story from Benin* (Gbado, 2001 ST-E)	The importance of traditional values, personal development
Die dag toe als verander het (Coombe *et al*., 2007 TT-A)	*The day everything changed* (Coombe *et al.*, 2007 ST-E)	Family relationships, personal development, HIV/Aids

Table 2: Skills, values, and social and individual issues and problems in local picture books included in the sample

Target text	Source text	Thematics: issues, problems, skills and values
English	**Afrikaans**	
Mia's mom (Van der Vyver, 2005 TT-E)	*Mia se ma* (Van der Vyver, 2005 ST-A)	Storytelling, fantasy, family relationships, peer relationships
I am Simon (Preller, 2003 TT-E)	*Ek is Simon* (Preller, 2003 ST-A)	Storytelling, fantasy, personal strengths, self-confidence, personal development
Afrikaans	**English**	
Ouma Ruby se geheim (Van Wyk, 2006 TT-A)	*Ouma Ruby's secret* (Van Wyk, 2006 ST-E)	Family relationships, illiteracy, social awareness
Die dag toe Gogo gaan stem het (Sisulu, 1997 TT-A)	*The day Gogo went to vote* (Sisulu, 1997 ST-E)	History, politics, family relationships, human rights, social awareness
Lekker verjaar, Jamela! (Daly, 2007 TT-A)	*Happy birthday, Jamela!* (Daly, 2007 ST-E)	Family relationships, entrepreneurship
Musa se reis (Grobler, 1997 TT-A)	*Musa's journey* (Grobler, 1997 ST-E)	Fantasy, family relationships, counting, colours
Little Lucky Lolo en die Cola Cup-kompetisie (Varkel, 2006 TT-A)	*Little Lucky Lolo and the Cola Cup Competition* (Varkel, 2006 ST-E)	Family relationships, personal strengths, self-confidence
Waar's Jamela? (Daly, 2005 TT-A)	*Where's Jamela?* (Daly, 2005 ST-E)	Family relationships, moving house, dealing with change
Die "cool" Nguni (Bester, 2007 TT-A)	*The cool Nguni* (Bester, 2007 ST-E)	Culture and cultural identity, family relationships, self-confidence

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Table 3: Skills, values, and social and individual issues and problems in international picture books included in the sample

Target text	Source text	Thematics: issues, problems, skills and values
Afrikaans	**English**	
Stefan en die dinosaurus-eiland! (Knapman, 2008 TT-A)	*Mungo and the dinosaur island!* (Knapman, 2008 ST-E)	Storytelling, fantasy, bravery
Freya Fiemies (Quarmby, 2008 TT-A)	*Fussy Freya* (Quarmby, 2008 ST-E)	Family relationships, fussy eating, fantasy
Waar's daai slang? (Jarman, 2008 TT-A)	*Class two at the zoo* (Jarman, 2007 ST-E)	Fantasy, bravery
Lila en die geheim van reën (Conway, 2008 TT-A)	*Lila and the secret of rain* (Conway, 2008 ST-E)	Bravery, traditional values, folklore, importance of community

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