Harry Potter is funny. The tricky task of translating humour and character voices in the Harry Potter books...
The seventh book, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, proved difficult to translate, so J.K. Rowling provided translators with the alternative title Harry Potter and the Relics of Death, which was the basis for most of the international translations. Translators had to be creative with the title of the latest book in the series, Harry Potter and the Cursed Child. Leaving translation aside for a final thought, it is interesting that all human characters in the original version of the Harry Potter series speak English (sometimes with stereotypical accents such as Fleur’s or Viktor Krum’s). Humor.

Abstract

Harry Potter (HP) has been translated into 45 languages, including Ancient Greek and Latin. It has also been adapted for an American-English audience, with minor but significant changes. Most HP translators have been daunted by the amount of specific terms and names. This specific lexicon has been the main concern in the translation of these books and translator choices have varied from book to book and from language to language. In the Spanish translations, they borrow the neologism in spite of the loss of meaning. The interviews that I carried out with a number of official HP translators highlighted how practical issues such as time constraints and editorial practice can determine translators’ decisions.
Harry Potter series by J. K. Rowling. The Dursleys shuddered to think what the neighbors would say if the Potters arrived in the street. The Dursleys knew that the Potters had a small son, too, but they had never even seen him. This boy was another good reason for keeping the Potters away; they didn’t want Dudley mixing with a child like that. When Mr. and Mrs. Dursley woke up on the dull, gray Tuesday our story starts, there was nothing about the cloudy sky outside to suggest that strange and mysterious things would soon be happening all over the country.