

Some Facts About Terminology in Detective Story by Arthur Conan Doyle the Hound of Baskervilles

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Abstract. This paper deals with some facts about terminology used in detective stories. In the introduction there is information about the current stage of contemporary terminology, some important documents and publication used in the new scientific linguistic field such as terminology is. In the part of the contribution titled Terminology in detective stories we had analysed terminology from the book by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle *The Hound of Baskervilles*. The detective story is full of legal, medical and geographical terms and notions. Our theoretical knowledge and the result of research came to the conclusion that even translators of detective genre had to study the principles of modern terminology.

Keywords: Detective Story by Arthur Conan Doyle; Hound of Baskervilles, Some Facts About Terminology.

Introduction

This contribution deals with the analysis of terminology used by the author Arthur Conan Doyle in his classical work *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. Some of us may think that terminology is not presented in detective stories, but our research came to such conclusion that is not true. Our research proves that even literary text is full of terminology. In the process of doing such research it is very important to study the basic document for contemporary terminology the norm ISO 704 *Terminology work. Principles and Methods*. The result of the research prove that the detective story written by A.C. Doyle is full of terms from different scientific field.

Important sources and notions for contemporary terminology

At the beginning of our article it is important to mention how important the terminology is, even in our everyday live. A lot of authors at the end of the 20th century and at the beginning of the 21st century are interested in studying different sides of terminology. There were published a lot of books and articles concerning terminology. We can agree that except standards published by ISO (International Standard Organization), there are some interesting publications such as *Handbook of Terminology Management* by Sue Ellen Wright and Gerhard Budin, published by John Benjamins Publishing Company. In this Handbook there are very useful articles about information management, commercial and industrial applications, computer applications for terminology and terminology management resources on the internet. In the part called *Information Boxes* the reader can find nowadays important notions such as for example **globalisation**, **internationalisation**, **localisation** and **termbases** (terminology databases).

From the theoretical point of view it will be quite important to understand notion globalisation.

The first definition describes the notion globalisation from the point of view of geopolitics:

“In geopolitics, the term reflects the worldwide integration of commercial interests, nation-states, and Technologies to form a single interactive market and a highly interdependent political and intellectual climate.” (Wright; Budin, 2001, p. 877).

The second definition defines the notion globalisation as process:

“Globalisation is the process involving business issues associated with taking a product global, including marketing, sales, and support in the world market.”(Wright; Budin, 2001, p. 877).

Another important notion is internationalization

„Internationalization is the process of generalizing a product so that it can handle multiple languages and cultural convention.” (Wright; Budin, 2001, p. 877).

And the third one notion is localization.

„ Localization designates the process of making a product linguistically and culturally appropriate to the target locale, whereby the locale represents the combination of language with a specified region, e.g. French in Quebec as opposed to French in Belgium“ (Wright; Budin, 2001, p. 877).

The fourth one important notion for the study of contemporary terminology is the notion termbase. In the Handbook of Terminology Management, Volume 2, there is a definition of the notion:” *Termbases, like databases, are made up of data records called terminological entries or terminological records. The term entry and term record are sometimes used.*” (Wright; Budin, 2001, p. 878).

More information the reader can find at the contribution of Kara Warburton named *Globalization and Terminology management*.

The most important notion in terminology there is, of course, the notion term. It is the first moment which each terminologist would like to solve how to understand term. We quite agree with the point of view of Spanish terminologist Cabré a therefore we decided to enrol this definition to our paper: “*Terms, like words in the general language lexicon, are distinctive and meaningful signs which occur in special language discourse. Like words, they have a systematic side (formal, semantic, and functional) since they are units of an established code; they also have a pragmatic side, because they are units used in specialized communication to refer to the objects of the real world.*” (Cabré, 1999, p. 80).

Terminology in detective story

In this contribution we would like to show and even prove how important is knowledge of terminology for translators of such genre of literature. Detective fiction is very popular for readers of different age. The typical detective story has several typical features such as the investigation of the crime, the murder or murders and an amateur or professional detective. Detective stories are therefore full of legal and medical terminology. Sometimes the use of terminology depends on the place and territory where the plot takes place.

The author of *The Hound of Baskervilles*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859–1930) was an English writer. In his detective stories we very often find amateur detective Mr. Sherlock Holmes and his friend Doctor Watson. The detective story was published for the first time in the Strand Magazine in 1901 – 1902 years.

In the above mentioned detective story we have find a lot of legal terms, such as: *case, convict, crime, evidence, fact, accomplice, burglary, commutation and forgery*. The story is full of medical terms, such as: *body, doctor, practitioner, skull and throat*. And of course in this detective we can find a lot of terms from zoology and botany, such as: *dog, hound, oak, spaniel yew*.

In this part of our contribution we would like to pay attention to the terms dog and hound in English language and their difference in meaning.

The term **dog**: “*an animal kept as a pet, for guarding buildings, or for hunting*” (Mackmillan English Dictionary, 2006, p. 408).

The term **hound**: “*a dog used for hunting other animals or for racing*” (Mackmillan English Dictionary, 2006, p. 696).

The main plot of the detective story took place in moors. The terms from geography are very common in this work, for example moor, tor, quagmire and prairie.

In the text there are a lot of designations knows as appellations. Some of them are bodies, institutions, organisations, different position titles, social phenomena, scientific notions, technological notions, toponyms, ethonyms and names of public places.

Examples: Africa, Baker Street, Dartmoor, Devonshire, England, London, Northumberland Hotel, Princetown, Regent Street.

In the searching text had found also a number of abbreviated forms and symbols. Inicialisms C.C. which stands for Charing Cross; C.C.H. means Charing Cross Hospital or M.R.C.S. which means Member of the Royal College of Surgeon.

In the text there are expression borrowed from French: alley, county, evidence, heir, police, portrait and Sir.

The author of the detective story had used the terms, particularly medical terms, borrowed from Latin: cardiac, doctor, dyspnoea.

Conclusion

The aim of this paper was to show why study of terminology is so important for translators of detective stories. The detective stories are not categorized as the technical texts, but the need of theoretical knowledge of terminology is important even for them. The terms are used in different way in detective texts and for a reader there are sources of new information. The reader of the 21st century is very often well-educated and has direct access to internet sources and therefore she or he can immediately check term and find incorrectness..

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