

Introduction

We are pleased to present the thematic volume (23.2) of the journal *Signum: Estudos da Linguagem*, entitled “From textual construction to discourse analysis: from the first gesture to the explosion of meanings”. The edition deals with the writing process in *continuum* – from the first gestures of materialization of ideas, through the manipulation of language resources, until its opening to the explosion of effects of meaning. We invite readers to take an engaging path that begins with Genetic Criticism, goes through Argumentative Semantics and flows into Discourse Analysis.

We brought together nine works, with contemporary approaches, that raise new debates and bring latent questions to the Text and Discourse research. Contributions come from Universities in São Paulo, Paraná, Portugal and England.

Philippe Willemart, a pioneer in the study of Genetic Criticism in Brazil, offers us an *avant-garde* reflection for the studies of creativity with the article *Artificial Intelligence and Art. Can robots imitate or create literary works?* The text places us at the epicenter of text and discourse studies: the role of subjectivity that machines lack to compose something that can be called creative.

It is precisely to the field of subjectivity that Gabriele Civiliene takes us when approaching literary translation as a “theater of the mind”. In the article *Modeling Translation as a Theater of the Mind: reporting clauses and inward affect*, the researcher semantically compares reporting verbs found in the first chapter of William Faulkner’s *The Sound and the Fury* – and its six translations in Russian, Polish, Lithuanian, Romanian and French – to defend the creative aspects of the translator in his work process. Thus, it demonstrates that the choices throughout the translation process are not merely normative, but extremely personal, placing translation as an intimate form of self-expression and reinvention.

Attentive to this face of Genetic Criticism, Francisco Topa rescues *The First Foreign Edition of the Poems of Agostinho Neto*, published in Milan, by Joyce Lussu. In addition to valuing biographical aspects of the translator involved in the anti-fascist and anti-colonialist struggle, the researcher confronts the Italian edition with other publications (before and after) of some compositions. Slips and interpretative translation situations are also addressed. Topa observes details of the edition, title, corpus, text and the Italian version. The analysis shows that in-process translation is not a simple linguistic technique for moving from one language to another, that is, it is a (re)writing originating from the intimate space of thought in creation.

In the article *The Secret Days of Orson Welles in Brazil: textual variation and addressing change*, Edina R. P. Panichi and Livia S. de Oliveira demonstrate several stages of the textual construction of the playwright Doc Comparato, through the analysis of manuscripts. Among the documents of process, the authors highlight elements from the pre-writing, writing and editorial phase. In addition, they explore a stage subsequent to the variation of the text, motivated by the change in addressing: the metamorphosis of the play to a cinematic script.

How can all these reflections be taken to the educational context? Cecília Almeida Salles leads us to rethink Genetic Criticism as a study tool about collective creation. One of the greatest scholars of Process Criticism in Brazil, she highlights the relevance of research on creativity in group production, especially at

school. The researcher presents aspects of the construction of common projects, the communication of these projects and the subjective effects in the context of meetings and interactions between students, teachers and schools. The article *Process Criticism and Education: possible dialogues* brings a very important approach, by raising that all learning is social and that the process of instrumental appropriation of reality allows internalizing functions that are configured in the various roles in a situation.

Still in the educational context, Livia Suassuna and Albaneide Souza Campos raise questions about the use of argumentative text in Portuguese language classes in high school. In the article *Written Production in High School: grounds for working with argumentative text*, the authors propose analyzes of two argumentative texts produced by students from a state school in Pernambuco. They suggest pedagogical approaches that can favor the understanding and use of linguistic-discursive processes and resources necessary for argumentation. The study contributes to the perception of linguistic strategies as instruments of expression and social insertion.

Juliano Desiderato Antônio, uses Rhetorical Structure Theory (RST) – a descriptive theory that investigates the organization of texts characterizing the relationships that are established between parts of the text – to describe the relationships that emerge from evaluative comments on public company pages on Facebook. In the article *Structure and Sentiment: rhetorical relations in opinative comments in Facebook*, the researcher highlights the analysis of expressions of subjectivity. This approach becomes even more current in view of the consolidation of relations between corporations and consumers through social networks during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The article entitled *Implied text Messages and Countermeanings Conceptual Designs*, by Roberta Maria Garcia Blasque and Esther Gomes de Oliveira, deals with the meanings and the countermeanings from the argumentative semantics approach, more specifically based on the concepts of presuppositions and presumptions (Ducrot). Through the analysis of advertising pieces, the work contributes greatly to the argumentative studies, showing the existing ideological diversity.

Luiz Antonio Xavier Dias and Miguel Luiz Contani contribute with a review of the brilliant genetic edition of *Hitopadesa*, translated by D. Pedro II. Researchers Sérgio Romanelli, Christiane Stallaert and Adriano Mafra reconstructed the Sanskrit translation process, carried out by the Emperor of Brazil in the 19th century.

We thank the authors for their trust and the reviewers for their contributions. We wish you all a great reading!

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– Organizers –