

## **Translating Free Indirect Discourse: two Spanish versions of Jane Austen's *Persuasion***

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### **ABSTRACT**

This paper examines the use of free indirect discourse (FID) to convey the narrator's attitude and its treatment in translation. FID is a powerful literary device which is often relayed as other modes of discourse in translation. As a result, the effects of FID in the source text are lost in the target text. In this paper, a passage containing a long and complex instance of FID in Jane Austen's *Persuasion* (1817) is examined and compared with two of its Spanish translations. It is concluded that the omission of FID in the target text, which involves the loss of the attitudes expressed by it in the source text, is due not only to linguistic differences between the two languages involved but also to differences in their literary traditions.

**KEYWORDS:** criticism, free indirect discourse, irony, Jane Austen, narrator, point of view, polyphony, Spanish literary translations, voice.