Elena CROITORU, "Dunărea De Jos" University of Galați

ON THE CHALLENGES OF *CONFUSABLES* *AS TRANSLATION TRAPS*

It is often difficult to find the right word to express a message in our own language. So much the more difficult is it to find the right word(s) in order to render a message in another language, especially when the two languages are so different like English and Romanian. The arguments which are most often set forth are related to polysemy, synonymy and homonymy.

Besides the large number of traps in the English language into which the natives themselves may often fall, there are lots of traps in translating from English into Romanian, or viceversa. In this respect, Bryson's[1] opinion is as funny as true:

> "Any language where the unassuming … word *fly* signifies an annoying insect, a means of travel, and a critical part of a gentleman's apparel is clearly asking to be mangled".

1.1. By way of illustration, one cannot ignore the other meanings of the word **fly.** Thus, it may seem very interesting to consider the polysemy of **fly,** especially its figurative meanings in idiomatic phrases such as **fly on the wheel[2]** 'a person who overestimates their influence', **fly on the wall[3]** 'an unnoticed observer of a particular situation', or in idiomatic collocations such as **a fly in the ointment[4]** 'a minor irritation spoiling one's enjoyment of something' and **fly in amber** 'a curious relic of the past'[5].

In addition to the denotative meanings of the verb **fly,** its figurative meanings are also obvious in such phrases as **fly a kite**[6] 'try something out in order to test opinions'→ a sonda terenul, a încerca să vadă de unde bate vîntul[7], **fly off the handle** (fam).'lose one's temper unexpectedly'→ a-şi ieşi din sărite/ pepeni/ țâțâni; a-i sări muştarul/ bâzdâcul/ țandăra; a se aprinde brusc; a i se sui piperul la nas[8], **fly the nest** (fam) 'leave one's parents in order to live on one's own' → a-şi lua zborul, a se descurca singur, a trăi pe cont propriu, **fly the pit** (humourous) 'to move unexpectedly without paying the rent' → a o şterge, a zbura din colivie[9].

Such expressions are used in both common core English and in functional languages: e.g. **a fly-by- night peeson** → trecător, pasager; (ec.) insolvabil[10], **fly the eagle** (pol. Am. E)→ a ține un discurs bombastic propăvăduind idei expansioniste[11]. Special attention has to be devoted to words such as **flyweight** (box) → categoria muscă, and **flywheel** → volant, which are not collocations but one-word compounds[12].

However, in spite of its polysemy, the word **fly** is not included in dictionaries of troublesome words and phrases. It is worth mentioning, though, as an example of polysemy.

Moreover, I would consider it troublesome in the collocational idiomatic patterns referred to above which may be included among confusables as translation traps.

1.2. Confusables cause great problems in translation, being the source of many misinterpretations and translation errors.

Sometimes the difference(s) between confusables may be explained only in terms of collocability. Their meaning becomes clear only in collocations. In this respect, an example may be the pair of confusable adjectives ***distressful, distressing:*** e.g. **distressful circumstances** (involving stress) and *distressing news* (causing stress). The same may hold valid with the pair of adjectives ***disordered, disorderly*** used with the meaning *nearanjat/ în dezordine* and *dezordonat*, respectively: e.g. **a disordered shelf, a disorderly room/crowd.** Moreover, they can be included in the category of false friends.

Furthermore, a series of confusables such as ***discord, discordance, discordancy*** may be translation traps[13] because the differences in their meanings are difficult to perceive, and in monolingual dictionaries each of them is explained by using the other two. Thus, it is in a

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collocation such as **martial discord** that the meaning of *discord* → dezacord is understood as lack of harmony → lipsă de armonie. The other two words are specific to Am.E. In addition, the noun **discordance** seems to be usually employed in the singular with the meaning of general discord, i.e. difference of opinions, whereas the noun **discordancy** seems to be frequently employed with its plural form meaning controversies and involving repeatedness.

On the other hand, there are three English nouns used for the Romanian noun **întrerupere: discontinuance, discontinuation, discontinuity.** The first is used with the meaning cessation (întrerupere, încetare): e.g. **business discontinuance.** The second and the third are used in American English. The noun **discontinuation** is related to a breach in one's activity: e.g. **discontinuation of work,** whereas **discontinuity** refers to some gap or break in something (surface): e.g. **major discontinuities** on the surface of the moon[14].

2. There are a lot of pairs and groups of words which are easily confused both by natives and by translators because their forms are misleading.

These **confusion-generating forms** may be considered at the phonological level, on the one hand, and at the morphological level, on the other.

2.1. Phonologically speaking, there are a lot of words which can be confused because they are 'soundalikes', i.e. homophones:

e.g. *brake, break* |**breɪk**|, *breach, breech* |**brɪ:tʃ**|, *broach, brooch* |**'brəʊtʃ**|, *canvas, canvass* |**'kænvəs**|, *cask, casque* |**kɑ:sk**|, *cast, caste* |**kɑ:st**|, *censor, censer* |**'sensə**|, *check, cheque* |**tʃek**|, *chord, cord* |**kɔ:d**|, *council, counsel* |**'kaʊnsəl**|, *cruise, cruse* |**kru:z**|, *cubical, cubicle* |**'kju:bɪkəl**|, *curb, kerb* |**kə:b**|, *currant, current* |**'kʌrənt**|, *curtsy, curtesy* |**'kə:tsi**|, *dependant, dependent* |**dɪ'pendənt**|, *dollar, dolour* |**'dɔlə**|, *doolie, dooly* |**'du:li:**|, *enquiry, inquiry* |**ɪn'kwaɪəri**|, *faint, feint* |**feɪnt**|, *fair, fare* |**fɛə**|, *faze, phase* |**'feɪz**|, *flair, flare* |**flɛə**|, *flea, flee* |**fli:**|, *indict, indite* |**ɪn'daɪt**|, *main, mane* |**'meɪn**|, *maize, maze* |**meɪz**|, *pail, pale* /**peil**|, *pendant, pendent* |**'pendənt**|, *pray, prey* |**prei**|, *rack, wrack* |**ræk**|, *reign, rein* |**reɪn**|, *review, revue* |**rɪ'vju:**|, *stake, steak* |**steɪk**|, *tail, tale* |**teil**|, *vale, veil* |**veil**|, *veracious, voracious* |**və'reiʃəs**|.

At the phonological level, other pairs of words show **vowel alternation**, **vowel-diphthong alternation**, or **consonant alternation**.

2.1.2. Vowel alternation

e.g. *amend* |**ə'mend**|, *emend* |**ɪ'mend**|, *balk* |**bɔ:lk**|, *bulk* |**bʌlk**|, *billow* |**'bɪləʊ**|, *bellow* |**'beləʊ**|, *breath* |**breθ**|, *breathe* |**brɪ:ð**|, *collision* |**kə'lɪʤən**|, *collusion* |**kə'lu:ʒən**|, *confidant* |**'kɔnfɪdænt**|, *confident* |**'kɔnfɪdənt**|, *crud* |**krʌd**|, *crude* |**kru:d**|, *deference* |**'defərəns**|, *difference* |**'dɪfrəns**|, *desert* |**'dezət**|, *dessert* |**dɪ'zə:t**|, *don* |**dɔn**|, *done* |**dʌn**|, *dram* |**dræm**|, *drum* |**drʌm**|, *expanse* |**ɪk'spæns**|, *expense* |**ɪk'spens**|, *fallow* |**'fæləʊ**|, *fellow* |**'feləʊ**|, *feast* |**fɪ:st**|, *fist* |**fɪst**|, *flutter* |**'flʌtə**|, *flatter* |**'flætə**|, *mash* |**mæʃ**|, *mesh* |**meʃ**|, *master* |**'mɑ: stə**|, *muster* |**'mʌstə**|, *meal* |**mɪ:l**|, *mill* |**mɪl**|, *moral* |**'mɔrəl**|, *morale* |**mə'ra:l**|, *mute* |**mjʊ:t**|, *mutt* |**mʌt**|, *paddle* |**'pædl**|, *peddle* |**'pedl**|, *parish* |**'pæri**|, *perish* |**'periʃ**|, *reward* |**rɪ'wɔ:d**|, *reword* |**rɪ'wə: d**|, *slather* |**'slætə**|, *slaughter* |**'slɔ:tə**|, *snooty* |**'snu:ti**|, *snotty* |**'snɔti**|, *splatter* |**'splætə**|, *splutter* |**'splʌtə**|, *staff* |**sta:f**|, *stuff* |**stʌf**|, *warring* |**'wɔ:rɪŋ**|, *worrying* |**'wʌrɪŋ**|, *warrior* |**'wɔ:riə**|, *worrier* |**'wʌriə**|.

2.1.3. Vowel- diphthong alternation

e.g. *bath* |**bɑ:θ**|, *bathe* |**beɪð**|, *blithering* |**'blɪðəriŋ**|, *blithsome* |**'blaɪðsəm**|, *boast* |**bəʊst**|, *boost* |**bu:st**|, *but* |**bʌt**|, *butt* |**bʌt**|, *butte* |**bju:t**|, *chordal* |**'kɔ:dəl**|, *cordial* |**'kɔ:diəl**|, *compromis* |**'kɔmprə,mi:**|, *compromise* |**'kɔmprə,maɪz**|, *diva* |**dɪ:və**|, *dive* |**daɪv**|, *dobby* |**'dɔbɪ**|, *dobie*

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|'dəʊbɪ:|, *dom* |dəm|, *dome* |dəʊm|, *dun* |dʌn|, *dune* |'dju:n|, *draught* |drɑ:ft|, *drought* |draut|, *flake* |fleɪk|, *flak, flack* |flæk|, *inhuman* |ɪn'hjʊ:mən|, *inhumane* |ɪn'hjʊ:meɪn|, *mod* |mɔd|, *mode* |'məud|, *nap* |'næp|, *nape* |neip|, *navvy* |'nævi|, *navy* |'neivi|, *slop* |slɔp|, *slope* |sləup|.

2.1.4. Diphthong -vowel alternation

e.g. *abate* |ə'beit|, *abet* |ə'bet|, *canary* |'kə'nɛəri|, *cannery* |'kænəri|, *caper* |'keɪpə|, *capper* |'kæpə|, *chafe* |tʃeɪf|, *chaff* |tʃɑ:f| |tʃæf|, *dose* |dəʊs|, *doss* |dɔs|, *dray* |dreɪ|, *dry* |draɪ|, *dree* |dri:|, *stable* |'steɪbəl|, *stubble* |'stʌbəl|

2.1.5. Diphthong alternation

e.g. *compeer* |'kɔm'pɪə|, *compere* |'kɔmpɛə|

2.1.6. Consonant alternation

e.g. *bath* |bɑ:θ|, *bathe* |beɪð|, *blighter* |'blaɪtə|, *blither* |'blaɪðə|, *breath* |breθ|, *breathe* |brɪ:ð|, *canal* |kə'næl|, *channel* |'tʃænəl|, *censor* |'sensə|, *censure* |'senʃə|, *concede* |kən'si:d|, *conceit* |kən'si:t|, *deadly* |'dedli|, *deathly* |'deθli|, *delude* |dɪ'lu:d|, *deluge* |'delju:ʤ|, *descend* |dɪ'send|, *descent* |dɪ'sent|, *device* |dɪ'vaɪs|, *devise* |dɪ'vaɪz|, *divers* |'daɪvəz|, *diverse* |daɪ'və:s|, *dither* |'dɪθə|, *ditcher* |'dɪtʃə|, *douse, dowse* |dəʊs|, *doze* |dəʊz|, *errand* |'erənd|, *errant* |'erənt|, *relief* |rɪ'lɪ:f|, *relieve* |ri'li:v|

2.1.7. Consonant addition

e.g. *bellow* |'beləʊ|, *bellows* |'beləʊz|, *clam* |klæm|, *clamp* |klæmp|, *chum* |tʃʌm|, *chump* |tʃʌmp|, *sand* |sænd|, *sands* |sændz|

Mention should be made that vowel or consonant alternation may be combined with **shift of stress:**

e.g. *canal* |kə'næl|, *channel* |'tʃænəl|, *divers* |'daɪvəz|, *diverse* |daɪ'və:s|, *desert* |'dezət|, *dessert* |dɪ'zə:t|

2.2. At the **morphological** level, a large number of pairs or groups of troublesome words are real traps in translation.

2.2.1. N-N pairs

admission, admittance
advance, advancement
apposition, opposition
ascent, assent
assent, consent,
assurance, insurance
barbarism, barbarity
base, basis
bondman, bondsman
boor, bore
brake, break
breach, breech
camouflage, camouflet
canal, channel
canary, cannery
canteen, cantina
cantle, cantling
capa, cape
carton, cartoon
catch-up, catchup
cessation, cession
chord, cord
chum, chump
colleger, collegian
collision, collusion
commandment, commendation
commissar, commissary
commissionaire, commissioner
commutator, commuter
compeer, compere
complexion, complexity
composer, compositor
composite, compound
conscience, consciousness
consummation, consumption
contention, contentment
council, counsel
curb, kerb
curricle, curriculum
data, dates
defendant, defender
deference, difference
deliverance, delivery
deportation, deportment
disparagement, disparity
dispensation, dispense

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diplomat, diplomate
disposal, disposition
ditcher, dither
dobby, dobie
doolie, dooly
draft, draught
drop-off, drop-out
emergence, emergency
emigrant, immigrant
enormity, enormousness
enquiry, inquiry
expanse, expense
expectancy, expectation
failing, failure
fish, fishes
garb, garbage
genius, genus
groove, grove
informant, informer
installation, installment
intent, intention

2.2.2. N- N- N groups

cask, casque, casket
censor, censure, censer
chatelaine, cahteline, chat
(up) line
chink, Chink, Chinkie
courtesy, curtesy, curtsy
desert, deserts, dessert
discord, discordance, discordancy

2.2.3. Adj. - Adj. pairs

alternate, alternative
amateurish, amatory
apposition, opposition
arbitral, arbitrary
ashen, ashy
auspicial, auspicious
balky, bulky
blithering, blithesome
bored, boring
candent, candescent
candid, candied
capacious, capacitive
carefree, careless
childish, childlike
chordal, chordial
classic, classical
comic, comical
commanding, commendable
commutable, commutative
comprehensible, comprehensive
compulsive, compulsory
confused, confusing
congruent, congruous
conscious, conscientious
consequent, consequential
contemptible, contemptuous
credible, creditable
critic, critical
damn, damned
deadly, deathly
decorative, decorous
deductible, deductive
defective, deficient
defensible, defensive
deferrable, deferred
definite, definitive
degraded, degrading
dejected, disjected
delighted, delightful
denominational, denominative
derisive, derisory
desirable, desirous
digestible, digestive
disappointed, disappointing
disordered, disorderly
disposable, disposed
disrespectable, disrespectful
dissentient, dissentious
dissociable, dissocial
distinct, distinctive
divers, diverse
elemental, elementary
emotional, emotive
enviable, envious
envious, invidious
exhausting, exhaustive
expedient, expeditious
extant, extent
fearful, fearsome
fiddling, fiddly
fierce, fiery
fitful, fitted
fixated, fixed
flagged, flagging
forced, forceful
forgivable, forgiving
gold, golden
graceful, gracious
grieved, grievous
human, humane
immanent, imminent
impious, impish
impractical, impracticable
incredible, incredulous
indigenous, indigent
indistinct, indistinguishable
ingenious, ingenuous
inhuman, inhumane
insensible, insensitive
intent, intentional
laden, loaded
leisured, leisurely
manly, manish
masterful, masterly
righteous, rightful
seasonable, seasonal
sensible, sensitive
special, specious
unreasonable, unreasoning
vacant, vacuous
varied, various
vindicative, vindictive

2.2.4. Adj. - Adj. - Adj. groups

allusive, elusive, illusive
amenable, amiable, amicable
barbarian, barbaric, barbarous
benefic, beneficent, beneficial
civic, civil, civilian
congeneric, congenial, congenital
continual, continuative, continuous
decretal, decretive, decretory
depressed, depressing, depressive
diffuse, diffusible, diffusive
distressed, distressful, distressing
effective, effectual, efficient
entranced, entrancing, entrenched
enviable, envious, invidious
explanatory, explicable, expletive
fatal, fated, fateful
ineffective, ineffectual, inefficient

2.2.5. N - Adj. pairs

blight, blithe
chilli, chilly
cleric, clerical
clinic, clinical
commode, commodious
confidant, confident
crud, crude

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currant, current
dependant, dependent
dinghy, dingy
dope, dopey
errand, errant

2.2.6. V - V pairs

adjudge, adjudicate
afflict, inflict
alleviate, elevate
allude, elude
appose, oppose
attach, attack
avoid, evade
avouch, vouch
boost, boast
charted, chartered
command, commend
decompose, discompose
decry, descry
deduce, deduct
detract, distract
disable, disenable
distrust, mistrust
elapse, lapse
enjoin, join
endanger, engender
implicate, imply
induce, induct
merge, emerge

* * *

fasten on, fasten onto
follow up, follow up with
fix up, fix up with
get down, get down to
give over, give over to
give up, give up on, give up to
go through, go through with
mess around, mess around with, mess with
muck about, muck up

* * *

approve, approve of
become, become of
believe, believe in

2.2.7. N -V pairs

advice, advise
bath, bathe
blighter, blither
breath, breathe
clam, clamp
cloth, clothe
cold pack, cold-pack
device, devise
dispensation, dispense
disproof,disprove

2.2.8. The pairs of groups which are less frequent are the following:

- **Adj.- N:***Cambrian, Cambric; directional, directory; duff, duffer; fair, fare; fallow, fellow*;
- **V- Adj.:** *decouple, decuple; collide, collied; disparage, disparate; leer, leery; drowse, drowsy*;
- **V - N:** *applaud, applause; avenge, revenge; broach, brooch; caper, capper; chafe, chaff; commandeer, commander; concede, conceit; cruise, cruse; descend, descent; keep away, keepaway;*
- **Adj. - Adj. - Adj. - Adj. groups:** *lone, lonely, lonesome, alone*;
- **N – N - Adj.**: *adherend, adherent, adhesive*;
- **N – N –N- Adj – Adj.**: *dud, dude, duds, duddy, duddish;*
- **N – Adj. - N**: *diagnosis, diagnostic, diagnostics;*
- **N – Adj. – Adj.:** *descendant, descendent, descendible*; *maniac, maniacal, manic; dough, doughty, doughy;*
- **N – Adj.– N- N**: *desert, deserted, deserts, dessert*;
- **Adj.–N- Adj**: *cameral, cameralist, cameralistic;disputable, disputant, disputations*;
- **Adj. – Adj. - N:** *civic, civil, civilian;*
- **Adj. – V-en**: *complected, completed; drab, drub;*
- **Adj. – V – Adj. – Adj.:***dilatate, dilate, dilative, dilatory*;
- **Adj. – N- V:** *agape, gap, gape;*
- **Adj. – V- N - Adj:** *loath, loathe, loathing, loathsome;*
- **N – V- Adj. – Adj.:** *dot, dote, doting, dotty;*
- **Adj.– N- Adj- Adj.**: *dull, dullard, dullish, duly;*
- **Vt Vi/ Vi Vt**: *avouch, vouch; decompose, discompose;*
- **N – V- N:** *commandant, commandeer, commander;*
- **V-V-V:** *assure, ensure, imsure;*
- **V-V-V-V-V:** *raise, rise,rouse, arise, arouse;*
- **V-N-N:** *ascend, ascent, asssent;*
- **V-N-Adj. –N:** *dodge, dodger,dodgy, doge;*
- **V-Adj.- N-Adj. :***dump, dumpish, dumpling, dumpy;*
- **Conj-N-N:** *but, butt, bute;*
- **V-V-N:** *billow, bellow, bellows;*
- **Adj.- Adv.:** *light, lightly; mere, merely;*
- **Adv. –Adj.:** *readily; ready;*
- **Adj.- Adv. - Adv:***outward, outwardly, outwards;*
- **Adv.- Adv.:** *alternately, alternatively; altogether, all together; exceedingly, excessively; especially, specially; first, firstly;*
- **Adv.- Adv. – Adv.:** *at last, lastly, last of all.*

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2.2.9. There are pairs of troublesome adjectives which may be real traps for translators, i.e. the adjectives getting the suffix **–al** or **–ic**:

> **e.g.** *clasic, classical, clinic, clinical, comic, comical, critic, critical, economic, economical, electric, electrical, ethnic, ethnical, magic, magical, tactic, tactical, topic, topical; capitalist, capitalistic, modern, modernistic, pessimist, pessimistic, sadist, sadistic.*

2.2.10. There are differences between past participle forms such as **certified - certificated, packaged - packed,** not to mention the basic differences between such forms as **drunk – drunken, or sunk-sunken.** They are usually pointed out when discussing the differences between pairs or groups such as **gold-golden, rot-rotten, wood – wooded – wooden**, and **wool-woolen- wolly**.

3. Culture specific confusables are some of the greatest translation traps. Some examples of such confusables are:

> ***assure – ensure - insure, cafe – cafeteria, canteen – cantina, carline – car line, centenary – centennial, cheveret – chevret - chevrette, chilli- chilly, commisar – commisary, commissionaire – commissioner, commutator – commuter, comprehansible – comprehensive, council – counsel, dobby- dobie, dom-dome, doolie – dooly, dragon- dragoon.***

The explanations concerning the cultural differences are given either in brackets, like the indications of grammatical status, modality, register, variety of English, or as a cultural note. For example:

council |**'kaʊnsəl**| **n.** (+ *sing./ pl. v.*) 1. a group of people appointed or elected to make laws, or to take decisions: *The matter was debated in the Security Council (fig.) There was a family council to decide what to do with the land:* **consiliu**. 2. *(esp. BrE)* the group representing local government in a town: *The council have told them to clean the streets:* **consiliu local/ municipal**. 3. **be on the council**: to be an elected member of it: *Her husband is on the council:* **a fi membru (ales) în consiliu.**

Cultural note In British English **council** is used for local government authority. It is not very common in the US, where the system of local government varies from state to state. That is why the Americans use the collocations: **city council, town council, county council.**

counsel |**'kaʊnsəl**| **n.** 1.*(law)* a lawyer (in Britain a **barrister**) defending someone in law court: *Neither of the parties were represented by counsel* (= neither of them had lawyers). *The judge called the defence counsel to set forth evidence:* **avocat.** 2. *(formal, or literary)* advice: *The president took counsel from some clever specialists:* **sfat.** 3. **to keep one's own counsel**: to keep one's opinions, or intentions secret: *He had been known to be a man who used to keep his own counsel*: **a nu-şi spune secretul, a nu-şi face cunoscute planurile, intenţiile.**

comprehensible |**ˌkɔmprɪ'hensəbəl**| **adj. (to)** *(formal)* that can be made out: *It was a short, comprehensible speech appreciated by everybody. This document is comprehensible only to specialists;* **care se poate înţelege, inteligibil, clar.**

comprehensive |**ˌkɔmprɪ'hensɪv**| **adj.** 1. thorough, minute: *There had been comprehensive inspection of the whole factory. This article gives a comprehensive knowledge of the subject:* **minuţios; cuprinzător, vast.** 2. (no comp. BrE.) (of education) teaching pupils of different abilities over the age of 11: *She goes to the local comprehensive (school).*

Cultural note. The comprehensive system, introduced in 1965, replaced the old system of grammar schools and secondary moderns, which took pupils depending on whether they had passed or failed an exam called the eleven-plus. Over 80% of British pupils attend comprehensive schools.

Children are often put in groups according to their level of ability at a comprehensive: *We didn't want to send our son to a public school, we thought of the local comprehensive.*

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4. To conclude, besides the explanations referring to the differences in meaning between confusable words, a dictionary of troublesome words or confusables is very useful for giving indications about usage, pronunciation, spelling, the contextualizations being as essential as their translation because they reinforce the meaning and show how words are used in context.

Last, but not least, an index of Romanian words and phrases corresponding to the English confusables is of a great help to the 'end-users'.

An ideal to touch is for such a 'beneficient' act of writing a book of ***confusables as translation traps*** to be 'beneficial' to the 'next-users' too.

NOTE

[1] Bryson 1990: 2.
[2] Reference is implicit to Aesop's fable of a fly sitting on the axletree of a moving charriot and saying 'See what a dust I raise' (Knowles 2006: 261).
[3] It may also occur as a modifier, e.g. *a fly-on-the-wall documentary* used with reference to 'a film making technique whereby events are merely observed and presented realistically with minimum interference rather than acted out under direction (ibidem).
[4] It was originally used with biblical allusion to Ecclesiastes 10:1, 'Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour' (ibidem).
[5] Allusion is made to the amber –trapped fossilized bodies of insects. "The image was given a different slant by Michael Crichton's thriller *Jurassic Park* (1990) and the Spielberg film based on it, in which the DNA essential to the recreation of dinosaurs was retrieved from the animal's blood supposedly fossilized with the insect that had fed from it" (ibidem).
[6]This meaning is derived from the historical sense 'raise money on credit'. Thus, the sense of testing public opinion about "one's creditworthiness gave rise to the current figurative usage". (ibidem)
[7] Nicolescu et al. 1982: 116.
[8] Nicolescu et al. 1982: 116.
[9] Nicolescu et al. 1982: 116.
[10] Levițchi and Bantaş 1999: 342.
[11] Nicolescu et al. 1982: 117.
[12] Levițchi and Bantaş 1999: 343.
[13] Croitoru 2004: 112.
[14] Croitoru 2004: 111.

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ABSTRACT

What are the challenges to be faced by learners of English when translating troublesome words, collocational patterns and idiomatic phrases into Romanian? The entries included in Confusables as Translation Traps with their contextualizations and Romanian equivalents may give you a clue about this.

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