and also some new research with potential readers of scriptures in a variety of cultural settings (variables of social/educational class, geography, language, length of history of literacy in the society/language/individual . . .).

Of course, we might end up with footnotes as the proven best solution, but then again we might not . . .

TONY NADEN

REVIEWS

Ernesto Cardenal, **Psalms.** Translated by Thomas Blackburn and others. London: Sheed and Ward 1981. 80 pp. £3.00.

The first thing to be said about these poems is that they are not translations of the Psalms, but brilliant, sometimes moving reinterpretations. Comparison with a standard translation such as RSV is not always possible, but a few examples where this can be done show the scope of these new poems.

RSV	*Cardenal*
I can count all my bones (Ps. 22.17a)	All my bones can be counted as on an X-ray film . . .
How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? (Ps. 137.4)	They ask us to sing in our language 'Something native' from Sion But away from our country how could we ever begin . . .
Then my tongue shall tell of thy righteousness and of thy praise all the day long. (Ps. 35.28)	O God why do I spend my life writing poems to you?

Bible translators clearly cannot take these poems as a model, still less as a base, for their own work. But they can read them as an inspiration, and then put them carefully on one side. At least the English versions do not sound at all like translations from Spanish, and in this sense normal Bible translators can learn from them, as well as finding in them refreshment for their souls. P.E.

Hartmann, R. R. K.: *Contrastive Textology. Comparative Discourse Analysis in Applied Linguistics.* Heidelberg: Julius Gross Verlag. 125 pp., DM 24.00.

This highly technical study has practical relevance to translation (though not specially to Bible translation), and to such related disciplines as lexicography. Two chapters are concerned respectively with "Translation Processes" and "Aspects of Literary Translation". By coincidence, one of the appendices contains two complete English translations of the Duino Elegy discussed by Prof. Reiss in her article in *TBTT* 32 (1) (January 1981).