The central aim of this study is to investigate the extent to which translation can retain the stylistic features which characterize a given source text. The argument is that non-expository discourse (mainly literary and argumentative) tends to break away from the conventional norms and patterns of expression. Deviation in this case cannot be without motivation; it is represented, in one of its aspects, in the way syntax is employed to present the speaker's/writer's experience of the world of the discourse and how it looks for him/her or how it should be perceived. This tends to signal an underlying theme the writer intends to make visible. It unveils the speaker's/writer's endeavors to make us see the world of the discourse in the way he/she sees it and adopt the attitude he/she holds towards the events and happenings the text presents. In most cases, syntax and syntactic structures help the speaker/writer shape the text in a way that best re-presents the world as he/she sees it not as it really stands.

One of the challenges that translators encounter while dealing with such texts is how to re-present the world of the source text as drawn by the source writer and as presented in the way the text is structured. Rendering the stylistic features of the source text, together with the overtones and colors that give it its specific identity often constitute a real challenge to the translator's tools and resources. Discrepancies between the source
language and the target language in stylistic techniques and syntactic patterns tend to add to the difficulty of producing a target language text that has the same impact on the target audience as that the source text has on its recipients.

The study is based on translations rendered of three texts (two English and one Arabic) by thirteen MA translation students at Yarmouk University/Jordan. One of the texts is literary while the other two are argumentative. The translations are analyzed from a discourse-based perspective and evaluated in light of their faithfulness to the source texts.

**key words:** style, stylistics, foregrounding, thematization, staging, marked-ness