

THE IMPORTANCE OF TRANSLATION

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Abstract

This article focuses more on idiomatic expressions, collocations and phrases as well as their adequate in target language, ways of translation and main techniques of translation.

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Introduction

Among 6 500 spoken languages in the world today as the third most widely spoken language in the world, English is widely spoken and taught in more than 118 countries and is commonly used around the world as a lingua franca or diplomatic language. It is the language of science, aviation, computers, diplomacy and tourism. Last but not least, it is the language of international communication, the media and the internet. Whether it is for professional or personal reasons, understanding the importance of English will help you reach your goals. Here are a few reasons why you should keep learning and practicing your English language skills. Translating English into several languages takes some effort. For example, as a translator, the one should be aware of not only the grammar, but also cultural heritage of the nation in order to understand what author meant.

Example: "Green with envy" can be translated into Uzbek as "Hasaddan yondi". But in fact there is no word translated from source language into target.

As for culture's significance, knowing traditions and heroes of the nation can help translator interpret the meaning precisely. Namely, in Uzbek people are inclined to call people like "Afandi" who is considered very sly and resourceful. And only Uzbek people can think that this person has a good sense of humour.

WAYS OF TRANSLATING IDIOMS

In general, idioms are open to a variety of translation procedures. Among them are: Substitution with the analog: Don't teach your grandmother to suck eggs. – Яйца курицу не учат. However, in oral translation a translator should sustain the image. Then a new (changed) figurative meaning may frustrate the translator. Luckily, the translator did not use the analog in the first case, "Every cook praises his own broth." The continuation of the metaphor would have caused an impossible phrase of the kind "broth of cold war". When working with an analog, one should be sure to use the same style and retain the meaning of the idiom.

Collocations in English are a bit confusing, namely, "set" means a collection of certain things, and "out" means outside yet when they come together "set out" means starting a trip. Therefore



translators should learn all collocations, so that they can interpret the meaning in a correct way.

1. Attributes formed by the collocation of words.

Owing to the fact that English is poor in grammatical inflections, attributes are widely formed by means of mere collocation of words in accordance with the pattern N(1)+N(2) which expressed the following type of relations.

Attributive

English Uzbek Russian

Glass – tube шиша- найча стеклянная трубочка

N (1) + N (2) N(1)+ N(2) ADJ + N

In this example English and Uzbek translation is unmarked while Russian is marked.

Phrases have several meanings and are also perplexing to translate. If the one is not a native for a language, it takes ages to acquire that language professionally.

E.g. “all in”:

1. Getting tired

Ø After a nerve-wrecking day, I got tired.

Ø After a nerve-wrecking day, I felt all in.

2. All of them

Ø All of my books cost 100 dollars

Ø My books cost 100 dollars all in

3. Agreeing to the fullest

Ø A: I want to buy a new car.

B:I agree

Ø A: I want to buy a new car

B: I am all in

Direct Translation Techniques

These translation techniques are used when the concepts and structure of the source language can be used in the target language.

1. Borrowing

Borrowing is where words or expressions are taken directly from the source text and carried over into the target language. This technique is often used when there is no target language equivalent, such as food or clothing, and can help to preserve the cultural context of the source text.

English is filled with borrowed words that have become part of our everyday language. If the borrowed term has yet to enter common usage, it's usually written in italics.

Example: Café (French), hamburger (German), kimono (Japanese) and kimchi (Korean).



2. Calque (loan translation)

This is the literal translation of a phrase from one language into another, coining a new term in the target language. In other words, this is the literal translation of a borrowed word.

Example: The English term ‘skyscraper’ is translated as ‘gratte-ciel’ in French.

3. Literal Translation

When using literal translation, each word is translated directly. The target text must be idiomatic and retain the same word order, meaning and style as the source text.

This technique can miss the nuances of the original text, and is only possible with languages and cultures that are extremely close.

Example: The English ‘I want a glass of water’ would be translated literally as ‘Je veux un verre d’eau’ in French.

Indirect Translation Techniques

Indirect or oblique translation techniques are used when the two languages and cultures are further apart. These techniques change structural and conceptual elements in order to preserve the meaning and nuance of the text.

1. Transposition

Transposition involves a shift from one grammatical category to another, while still preserving the meaning. This translation technique is often necessary between languages with different grammatical structures.

Example: The French sentence, ‘Je l’ai vu avant la rentrée’ can be rendered in English as ‘I saw her before school started.’ This changes the noun ‘la rentrée’ into a verb.

2. Modulation

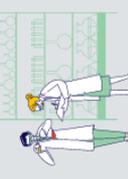
This involves a change of perspective, adjusting what has been written in order to express the same idea and preserve the meaning. This translates the text in a way that conforms to the natural patterns of the target language.

Example: A French speaker will talk about the ‘dernier étage’ [literally; last stage] of a building, while an English speaker will refer to the ‘top floor’.

3. Equivalence/Reformulation

Similar to modulation, this allows you to preserve the meaning of an expression, name or proverb by finding a target language equivalent.

Example: The phrase ‘être sur son 31’ [literally; to be on one’s thirty-one] would be the French equivalent to the English phrase ‘to be dressed up to the nines’.



4. Adaptation

Also known as cultural substitution, cultural elements of the source language are replaced with an equivalent cultural element of the target language. This makes the text more familiar and easier to understand, especially with units of measurement.

Example: Cyclisme (French) = football (UK) = baseball (US).

5. Compensation

This technique compensates for being unable to translate a nuance or phrase in one specific place by expressing the information at another point in the document.

Example: While the English language only has one way of saying ‘you’, French has both ‘tu’ (informal) and ‘vous’ (formal). By making specific word choices elsewhere in the text, the translator can compensate for the loss of nuance.

6. Reduction

When using reduction, the translator chooses to remove any words forming the original text which are considered redundant in the target language.

Example: The French ‘sciences politiques’ [literally; political sciences] can be rendered in English as just ‘politics’.

7. Expansion

The opposite of reduction, this is when words are added in order to preserve meaning. This can be due to differences in sentence structure, grammar or terminology.

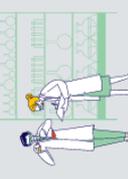
Example: The reverse of reduction, ‘politics’ in English would be rendered as ‘sciences politiques’ in French. Since French also uses gender articles, expansion is natural when translating from English into French.

Choosing the right techniques for the best translation The right technique will vary on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the text type, target reader and end purpose of your translation. Our team of professional translators will use their experience and expertise in both languages to choose the right technique for your text, giving you the most accurate translation possible.

Conclusion

Language is so much more than just a tool allowing us to communicate. It is the expression of culture, society, and beliefs. Thousands of cultures exist around the world, all expressing the specifics of their daily lives through their own languages. Imagine the vast cultural treasures lost if they suddenly ditched their native tongues and simply communicated in one universal language.

Simultaneously, other languages may be incapable of expressing certain feelings, emotions, or specific descriptions. A classic example is the German “Schadenfreude”, which means the joy and pleasure that come from witnessing the pain of others. An elegant word that easily



expresses a specific phenomenon, but a similar expression does not exist in English dictionaries. In this regard, German might seem to be the richer language

At its core, translation is when you transfer the meaning of a written text from one language to another. While the translator will choose just one method for the whole text, there are a number of techniques that can be used for individual words and phrases. By carefully choosing the right technique, the translator can convey each linguistic element in the most accurate way.

Here are ten common translation techniques that we can use to translate your document and achieve the best translation.

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