

Lecture 1

- The origin of the word translation is the **Latin word (translatus)** which means (**transferred**)
- The dictionary meaning of **the English verb to translate** is : **to express or be capable of being expressed in another language or dialect**
- **Catford (1965)**: defines translation as : **the replacement of textual material in one language SL by equivalent textual material in another language TL**
- **Newmark (1982)**: defines it as : **a craft consisting in the attempt to replace a written message and/or statement in one language by the same message and/or statement in another language**
- **Bell (1991)** mentions **two** views :
 - 1) **looks at it as an art**
 - 2) **looks at it as a profession**
- **In the present** sense of the word translation is : **a generic term used to refer to the process of rendering a text in one language into an equivalent text in another**
- **Bell (1991)** seems suggest a more comprehensive definition of translation which stress the dimension of **semantic** and **stylistic equivalence** in translation :
 - 1- **Translation is the replacement of a representation of a text in one language by a representation of an equivalent text in a second language**
 - 2- **Another advanced definition by Etchnia Arjona (Gerver 1977) : Translation is a generic term for the interlingual, sociolinguistic and cultural transfer for any message from one community to another through various modes of written, oral, or mechanical means or combinations thereof**
- **How can we achieve Equivalence in Translation ?**

by looking in to the following :

- **The semantic sense of each word and sentence**
- **Its communicative value**
- **Its place in time and space**
- **The information about the participants involved in its production and reception**

- **Using the Six Wh-Questions in looking for Equivalence in translating a text**

What ?	Is the message contained in the text , the content of the signal, the propositional content of the speech acts.
Why ?	Orients us towards the intentions of the sender, the purpose for which the text was issued
When ?	Is concerned with the time of communication realised in the text and setting it in its historical context; contemporary or set in recent or remote past or future.
How ?	Is ambiguous as it can refer to: a) manner of delivery : the tenor of the discourse; is it serious or ironic? b) medium of communication ; the mode of the discourse : is it oral or written?
Where ?	Is concerned with the place of the communication ; the physical location of speech event realised in the text.
Who ?	Refers to the participants involved in the communication ; the sender and receiver(s). Both spoken and written reveal the characteristics of the speaker or writer as an individual

- According to **Bell**, a good translation is : **that in which the merit of the original work is so completely transfused into another language, as to be as distinctly apprehended, and as strongly felt, by a native of the country to which that language belongs, as it is by those who speak the language of the original work.**

- **There are Three Laws of a Good Translation :**

- That the Translation should give a complete transcript of the ideas of the original work.
- That the style and manner of writing should be of the same character with that of the original.
- That the Translation should have all the ease of the original composition.

- A more advanced definition of translation can be seen when we look at it as **process and product**.

In other words : **It is the abstract concept which encompasses both the process of translation and the product of that process**

- **Translating** : **is the process** for example (**to translate**; it is the activity rather than the tangible object)
- **Translation** : **is the product of the process of translating** for example (**the translated text**)

Lecture 2

- **All communicators are translators**, **WHY?** because they receive signals in speech and in writing containing messages encoded in a communication system which is not identical with their own.
- **All communicators tend to face the same problems as those of translators**, **WHY?** because they need to read the text, make sense of a text. They need to deconstruct it and then reconstruct it.
- **Any model of communication is a model of translation**
- **What is the difference between a normal communicator and a Translator?**

normal communicator	The Translator
encode into the language used by the sender	the encoding consists of re-encoding into a different language
encode messages which are different from those received	concerns the same message as was Received
and transmit them to the previous sender	it is aimed at a group receivers who are not the same as the original sender

- **The Major different between The communicator and Translator is** : the **re - encoding** process which marks the translator off from the communicator.
- **Translators** need excellent memory to enable them use the **semantic knowledge, syntactic knowledge** and **rhetorical knowledge** of two different languages and two different cultures.
- **Memory** : contains records of past experiences
- **Language** : much of our experience of the external world of the senses and the inner world of the mind is mediated by language.
- **Translators must be good at storing experiences in memory, and at retrieving those experiences whenever needed to solve complex translation problems**
- **How does a translator move from one language to another in the course of translation?**

he go through the following **nine steps** :

1. Translator **receives** signal 1 containing message
2. **Recognises** code 1
3. **Decodes** signal 1
4. **Retrieves** message
5. **Comprehend** message
6. Translator **selects** code 2
7. **Encodes message by means** of code 2
8. **Select channel**
9. **Transmits** signal 2 containing message.

- **A professional translator has access to five distinct kinds of knowledge** :

- **Target Language (TL)**
- **Text-Type**
- **Source Language (SL)**
- **Subject-area**
- **contrastive**

- **What does the translators communicative competence consist of ?**

Grammatical competence	<u>knowledge of the rules of the code, including vocabulary and word formation, pronunciation/spelling and sentence structure</u>
Sociolinguistic Competence	<u>knowledge of and ability to produce and understand utterances appropriately in context</u>
Discourse competence	<u>The ability to combine form and meaning to achieve a unified spoken or written texts in different genres. This unity depends on cohesion in form and coherence in meaning</u>
Strategic competence	<u>the mastery of communication strategies which may be used to improve communication or to compensate for breakdowns in actual communication</u>

- **What are the primary characteristics of a good translator?**

- **A Translator thinks and talks about translation**
- **Reliability**
- **Timeliness (He should be timely)**
- **Ethics**
- **Speed**

* **A translator should be able to know when to speed and when to not to seeped** [This depends on the following factors:](#)

- 1- Typing speed
- 2- The level of text difficulty
- 3- Personal preferences or style
- 4- Job stress, general mental state
 - **Memory**
 - **Professional Pride**

Lecture 3

- **Theory** was derived from a technical term in Ancient **Greek philosophy**.
- The word **theoria** meant : **a looking at, viewing, beholding** . and referring to contemplation or speculation as **opposed to action**.
- **Theory** is especially often contrasted to **practice** from **Greek praxis**
- **In modern science** the term "**theory**", or "**scientific theory**" is generally understood to refer to a proposed **explanation** of **empirical phenomena** , made in a way consistent with scientific method.
- **A theory is an explanation of a phenomenon, the perception of system and order in something observed, It exists in the mind, It has no tangible manifestation, It is an idea which constitutes the internal representation of a phenomena.**
- **A Model is in contrast, an external rather than an internal representation of the explanation; a realization of the theory, It exists as a tangible object (diagram, a formula, a text) which stands for the idea embodied in the theory.**
- **For a model to be useful, it must possess the following characteristics :**
 1. It must **faithfully represent the theory that it stands for**.
 2. It must do this by revealing **significant characteristics of the phenomena explained by the theory**.
 3. It must have a **heuristic function**; making it easier to grasp the explanation .
- **What are the Main Characteristics of a Theory?**
 1. **Empiricism**
 2. **Determinism**
 3. **Parsimony**
 4. **Generality**
- **A Theory is a statement of a general principle, based upon reasoned argument and supported by evidence, that is intended to explain a particular fact, event, or phenomenon**
- **Bell (1991, p26)** suggests **three possible theories of translation** depending on the focus of investigation:
 1. A theory of translation **as process**. (**a theory of translating**)
 2. A theory of translation **as Product**. (**theory of translated text**)
 3. A theory of translation **as both process and product**. (**a theory of translating and translation**)
- **Peter Newmarks' (1988)**: **Theory of translation is the body of knowledge that we have about translating, extending from general principles to guidelines, suggestions and hints.**