Lecture 1

- The origin of the word <u>translation</u> is the Latin word (**translatus**) which means (**transferred**)

- The dictionary meaning of **the English verb** <u>to translate</u> is : to express or be capable of being expressed in another language or dialect

- Catford (1965): <u>defines translation as</u> : **the replacement of textual material in one language SL by equivalent textual material in another language TL**

- Newmark (1982): <u>defines it as</u> : **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 <u>of the word</u> 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- <u>Another advanced definition by</u> 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 <u>Translation</u> **should give a complete transcript of the ideas of the original work**.
- That the <u>style and manner of writing</u> **should be of the same character with that of the original**.
- That the <u>Translation</u> **should have all the ease of the original composition**.

- A <u>more advanced definition of translation</u> 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**)

- **All communicators are translators**, WHY? because they <u>receive signals in speech</u> and in <u>writing containing messages encoded</u> 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 <u>they need to read the text</u>, <u>make sense of a text</u>. They <u>need to deconstruct it and then reconstruct it</u>.

- **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 <u>**re - encoding**</u> process which marks the translator off from the communicator.

- **Translators** need <u>excellent memory</u> to enable them use the **semantic knowledge**, **syntactic knowledge** and **rhetorical knowledge** <u>of two different languages and two different cultures</u>.

- **Memory** : contains <u>records of past experiences</u>

- **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 <u>five distinct kinds of knowledge</u>** :

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

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

Grammatical competence	knowledge of the rules of the code, including vocabulary and word formation, pronunciation/spelling and sentence structure
Sociolinguistic Competence	knowledge of and ability to produce and understand utterances appropriately in context
Discourse competence	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
Strategic competence	the mastery of communication strategies which may be used to improve communication or to compensate for breakdowns in actual communication

- **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 <u>This depends on the following factors</u>**:**

1- <mark>Typing speed</mark>

2- <mark>The level of text difficulty</mark>

3- <mark>Personal preferences or style</mark>

4- <mark>Job stress, general mental state</mark>

- **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**   3. **Parsimony**

2. **Determinism**   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.**

Lecture 4

- **There are generally two major elements of Translation** :
1- A linguistic element known as **a linguistic "verbal sign" involving SL and TL**
2- A situational or contextual element **involving both SL and TL, This element determines translatability not the linguistic sign**
- **There are Five Situational elements** : (**Semantic field** , **Physical environment** , **Social reality** , **Phonetic realization** , **The addressee**)
- **There are Six elements of translation**, **WHAT ARE THEY** ?

The Source Language (SL)

- It is the language to which the text to be translated belongs.
- It exists as a language regardless of translation
- Any SL has its own meanings, grammar, sounds, culture and Tradition, even if it has no writing system or linguistic studies.
- The SL is the starting point of any translation
- The SL constitutes an essential point when investigating the translation phenomena.

The Source Text (ST)

- The source text is the text which has been chosen for translation.
- The ST could be a spoken or written message, or even both.
- The ST is normally given to the translator to translate.
- The Translator chooses a text in rare cases out of interest or for research purposes.
- The ST limits the translator who cannot change whole parts of the source text.
- The ST is the very central and initial point for the start of the Translation process.
- Understanding the ST is the first step in the process of translation.

The Translator

- The translator is the most important element in translation, without him translation does not happen.
- He is the initial knower of two languages or more who could have the ability to move between two languages.
- The translator is a bilingual or a multi-lingual individual.
- The translator's knowledge should include : knowledge of general linguistics, descriptive methodology and methodology of research applicable to SL and TL.
- The translator has knowledge of the SL and TL cultures.

The Translated Text (TT)

- The translated text is the text which result from the translation Process.
- It is the actual definite material, written or spoken, which has been produced by conveying the meanings of a source text in terms of another language and culture.
- The Translated text changes the receiver or addressee to new receiver or addressee of a new language
- The translated text is a very good source for investigating the translation process and the translator's ability to translate.

The Language of Translation

- It is an abstraction obtained via the study of translated texts.
- It is not a source language or a target language.
- It is not completely independent as it is closely tied to the SL via the Source Text and to the TL via the translated text.
- It is based on the study of translated texts.
- The study of the language of translation involves the translator's interpretations, his strategies and abilities as a translator.
- The language of translation remains a subjective experience internalised in the translator and within limits of his/her interpretation.
- Studying the language of translation should cover a large sample of translations in as many languages a possible.

The Target Language (TL)

- **The target language (TL) is the language into which a text from another language is translated.**
- **The translated text is formulated in accordance with the linguistic systems and sociocultural norms of the target language.**
- **Like any ordinary language, it is learned and studied by its native and non-native users without going into the guestion of translation.**
- **The distinctive features of the language of translation are studied and measured with reference to the rules and norms of the target language.**

Source Language → **Source Text** → **Translator** → **Translated Text** → **The Language of Translation** → **Target Language**