Theory Of Translation

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Lecture 1
What is Translation?

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to
1) show knowledge of different meanings of the term 'Translation'.
2) show knowledge of different definitions of Translation as a phenomena.
3) make your own concept of Translation.

The Meaning of Translation as a noun or a verb :
1) The origin of the word 'translation' is the Latin word 'translatus' which means 'transferred'.
2) The dictionary meaning of the English verb 'to translate' is ' to express or be capable of being expressed in another language or dialect.
3) In French , it means 'traduction' as a noun and 'a traduire' as a verb
4) In Arabic, it means: الترجمة من لغة إلى أخرى

Simple Definitions of Translation
1) Catford (1965): defines translation as ''the replacement of textual material in one language SL by equivalent textual material in another language TL''.
2) 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''.
3) Bell (1991) mentions two views:
   - **one looks at it as an 'art' especially when the scholars of last century were preoccupied with the translation of literary text as a pastime ;**
   - **and another looks at it as a 'profession' where the majority of translators are professionals engaged in making a living rather than a pastime. This is mainly clear in the translation of technical, medical, legal and administrative texts.**
4) 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.'

Advanced Definitions of Translation
Having taken into account all the developments in Translation Studies during last century, **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."**
 Another advanced definition of translation is the one introduced by Etchnia Arjona

(Gerver 1977) as follows:

2) **"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?

When we are faced by a text- written or oral in a language we know,
we are able to work out its equivalence 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.

1) **What ?** Is the message contained in the text, the content of the signal, the propositional content of the speech acts.
2) **Why?** Orients us towards the intentions of the sender, the purpose for which the text was issued.
3) **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.
4) **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?
5) **Where?** Is concerned with the place of the communication; the physical location of speech event realised in the text.
6) **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.

What is a Good Translation?

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."

Three Laws of Good Translation

As a result of the above good definition of translation, the following three laws emerge from it.

1) That the Translation should give a complete transcript of the ideas of the original work.

2) That the ==style== and manner of writing should be of the same character with that of the original.
3) That the Translation should have all the ==ease== of the original composition.

==Translation as process and product==
==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 <u>encompasses</u> both the process of translation and the
product of that process".**

❖ Translating : is the process i.e. (to translate; it is the activity rather than the <u>tangible</u>
object)

❖ A Translation: is the product of the process of translating (i.e. the translated text)

Lecture 2
What is a Translator?

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to
1) Differentiate between a normal communicator and a Translator.
2) show knowledge of the Translator's types of knowledge and skills.
3) make your own list of qualities necessary for a good Translator.

Communication Versus Translation

" All communicators are translators, 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, because they need to read the text, make sense of a text. They need to deconstruct it and then reconstruct it.

" Therefore, we can say that any model of communication is a model of translation.

What is the difference between a normal communicator and a Translator?

When taking a turn as a sender, the monolingual is obliged to:
a) encode into the language used by the sender.
b) encode messages which are different from those received.
c) and transmit them to the previous sender.

The Translator's acts contrast on that:
a) the encoding consists of **re-encoding** into a different language.
b) concerns the same message as was Received.
c) it is aimed at a group receivers who are **not the same** as the original sender.

- It is the *re-encoding process* which marks the bilingual translator off from the monolingual communicator.

How important are memory, meaning and language to the Translator?

Like other communicators, 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, has plans for action on the basis of what we know and what we have done.

" 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?

When translating a written communication, the translator 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.

What does the translator's knowledge-base contain?

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

o Target Language knowledge (TL)
o Text-Type knowledge
o Source Language knowledge (SL)
o Subject-area knowledge
o And contrastive knowledge

What does the translator's communicative competence consist of :

The translator communicative competences consists of the following components:

" **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, i.e. as constrained by topic, the status of the participant, purpose of the interaction, etc.

" **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 (i.e. the way in which utterances are linked structurally to facilitate interpretation of text) and coherence in meaning (i.e. the relationships among the different meanings in a text, literal meaning, communicative function or social 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?

The following are just a few of the primary characteristics of a good translator:

- " **A Translator thinks and** talks about translation from inside the process, knowing how it's done, possessing a practical real-world sense of the problems involved.

- " **Reliability**: He acts in reliable ways delivering reliable translation by deadlines.

- " **Timeliness:** He should be timely, in the sense of not getting the translation arrive past the time of its usefulness or value.

- " **Ethics:** He should be ethical. In other words, it is unethical for the translator to distort the meaning of the source text.

- " **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**: A Translator must be good at storing experiences in memory and retrieving those experiences whenever needed to solve complex translation problems.

- " **Professional Pride:** a Translator should have a professional integrity and professional self-esteem in what he/she does. He should feel that the job he is doing is important and people appreciate his work.

- " **A Translator can write plainly, economically, gracefully, elegantly in a repertoire of registers, factual as well as emotional, popular as well as technical, official as well as slang.**

Lecture 3
What is Translation Theory?

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1) show understanding of what is meant by theory of Translation.
2) show knowledge of the main requirements for a theory of translation.
3) make your own concept of translation theory.

The Meaning of the Term 'Theory'

❝ The English word **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.

The Definition of a Theory.

❝ 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.

The Definition of a Model

❝ 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.

Main Characteristics of a Useful Model.

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 (i.e. the theory) and doing that in a way which makes further studies easier and leads to deeper understanding.

Main Characteristics of a Theory.

Ideally, a theory must reflect the following four particular criteria:

1) **Empiricism**   It must be testable.
2) **Determinism**   It must be able to predict
3) **Parsimony**   It must be simple
4) **Generality**   It must be comprehensive

What is translation theory?

- "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.

- A Theory of translation should conform as far as possible to the following criteria: **Empiricism**, **Determinism** , **Parsimony** and **Generality.**

- Based on the above mentioned concept of theory, Bell (1991, p26) suggests three possible theories of translation depending on the focus of investigation:

  1) A theory of translation as process (i.e. a theory of translating.)
  2) A theory of translation as Product (i.e. theory of translated text)
  3) A theory of translation as both process and product (i.e. a theory of translating and translation

Peter Newmarks' (1988) concept of theory of translation is as follows:

"Translation theory is the body of knowledge that we have about translating, extending from general principles to guidelines, suggestions and hints."

Elements of Translation

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1) show knowledge of the six elements of translation.
2) show understanding of the interaction between these six elements of translation.

Introduction to Elements of Translation

There are generally two major elements related to this topic:

o **A linguistic element** known as a linguistic 'verbal sign' involving SL and TL.
o **A situational or contextual** element involving both SL and TL. This element determines translatability not the linguistic sign.

" **Situational elements are:**

- **Semantic** field
- **Physical** environment
- Social **reality**
- **Phonetic** realization
- The **addressee**

The six elements of translation

1) The **Source Language**
2) The **Source Text**
3) The **Translator**
4) The **Translated Text**
5) The **Language of Translation**
6) The **Target Language**

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 socio-cultural 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.

<u>The interaction of the six elements of translation</u>

Source Language → **Source Text** →

Translator → **Translated Text** →**The**

Language of Translation → **Target**

Language

Lecture 5
The Process of Translation

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1) show better understanding of the process of translation.
2) show knowledge of the five stages recognised in the process of translation
3) show understanding of the interaction between the six elements of translation and the five stages recognised in the process of translation

What is the Process of Translation

1) It is a complex cognitive operation which takes place in the mind of the translator.
2) This operation helps the translator to interpret and extract the meaning of the original text and re-encode this meaning in the target language.
3) It is simply the abstract translating activities that take place in the mind of the translator before the production of the translated text.

What are the stages recognised in the process of translation?

1) Editing the source text
2) Interpretation of the source text
3) Interpretation in a new language
4) Formulating the translated text
5) Editing the formulation

Editing the source text (ST)

1) Editing the ST is the study of the ST for **establishing its authorship and authenticity** and for reaching a linguistic form which is accepted for translation.

2) Editing a ST is **important in case of inscriptions on metal, s**tones clay tablets or other materials found on archaeological sites

3) The translator may **not be involved in this stage** whether the ST is old or new.
4) The Editing of a ST **precedes it s translation.**

5) When editing or transcribing a text recorded on a cassette or a videotape, a **number of factors should be considered as clarity of the recording,** or the image on a video tape and knowledge of the dialects or slangs used in the ST. In such case the translator translates what is heard from a machine directly and commits it to writing it on paper or a screen.

6) When the ST has been edited and adopted for translation, the translator then **moves to another stage which is the stage of interpretation of the Source Text**.

Interpretation of the source text

" *Interpretation within the same language is seen as :*

" Giving the ST a reading which goes with lexis, grammar and meaning of the text in its linguistic and social context.

" The process of assigning meaning to the text or utterances in it depends on the linguistic systems and contexts of the source Language.

" The interpretation of a ST for giving it a specific meaning is a constructive process which involve s: a linguistic analysis of the written/spoken symbols, script, sounds, lexico-grammatical relations within the sentences and .

" This newly built message will find its way to another language in terms of interpretation in a new language and formulation.

" The translator's reading, judgement and decision concerning the meaning of a source text tend to be subjective and individualistic.

" The translator however should take into account all other interpretations given to the ST to be translated especially in religious texts, old literary texts.

Interpretation in a new language

" It is defined as **'transformulating** a linguistic/verbal text, or part of it, after interpreting it, to a language other than its own.

" This transformulation is **carried out by the translator** and carries his/her fingerprints and uniqueness since it shows his/her interpretation of the source text, and the results from his /her interpretation in a new language.

" The end product, **interpretation in a new language**, is a new text, the translated text.

" The most important aspect of interpretation in a new language is **the movement –the crossing- from one language to another.**
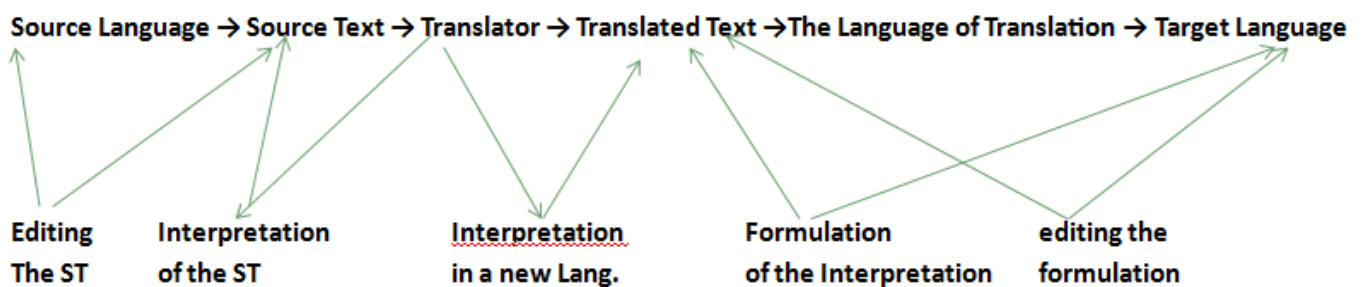
Formulating the translated text

- " It is the stage of the translation process in which the translator **chooses the lexis and structures** that would make meaningful sentences functioning in a narrow co-text as elements of a well structured text.

- " Formulation as a **composing operation subjugates** the interpretation of the translator of the system of the target language.

- " It is the stage during which the translated text gradually takes form.

- " This formulation-composition- of the translated text is constrained by the quality and the results of the translator's interpretive leap from the source text to the target language.

Editing the formulation

- " This is the **final stage** in the translation process.

- " When the formulation of the translated text is completed, the translator can commence to edit the formulation.

- " The editing of the formulation **takes the form of a careful checking** of possible slips of the tongue or other inaccuracies

- " It also involves **a comparison** between the translation product on the one hand and the prevailing linguistic features and cultural norms in the text type in the target language on the other.

The interaction of the six elements of translation with the five stages recognised in the process of translation.

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

Editing	Interpretation	Interpretation	Formulation	editing the
The ST	of the ST	in a new Lang.	of the Interpretation	formulation

Methods of Translation

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1) show knowledge of the major methods of translation.
2) practise these methods while translating.
3) differentiate between a semantic and communicative method in translation

Introduction to Translation Methods

" To translate **literally or freely** has been the **central problem** of translating since the first century BC.

" Up to the 19th Century, some kind of **free translation was favoured**: the spirit, not the letter; the sense not the word; the message rather than the form.

" At the turn of the 19th century, and a s a result of cultural anthropology studies, **writers had the view that translation must be as literal as possible.**

" The argument was mainly theoretical: the purpose of the translation, the nature of the readership, the type of text was not discussed.

Dichotomy of Translation Emphasis

Source Language Emphasis

" Word-for-word translation
" Literal Translation
" Faithful Translation
" Semantic Translation

Target Language Emphasis

" Adaptation
" Free Translation
" Idiomatic Translation
" Communicative Translation

Word-for-word translation

❖ It is an **interlinear** translation, with the TL immediately below the SL words
❖ The SL word-order is preserved and the words translated singly by their most common meanings, out of context. For example; the Arabic proverb:
❖ اللي فات مات
❖ {The what passed died.}

- ❖ The main use of word-for-word translation is either to understand the mechanics of the SL or to construe a difficult text as pre-translation process.

Literal translation

- ❖ The SL grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest TL equivalents but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context.
- ❖ For example: مثل هذه الأشياء عليها إقبال كثير الآن
- ❖ {The likes of these things have much demand now.}
- ❖ As a pre-translation process, this indicates the problems to be solved.

Faithful Translation

- ❖ It attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the TL grammatical structure.
- ❖ It attempts to be completely faithful to the intentions and the text-realization of the SL writer.
- ❖ For example: مثل هذه الأشياء عليها إقبال كثير الآن
- ❖ {Things like these are in great demand now.}

Semantic Translation

- ❖ It differs from 'faithful translation' only in taking more account of the aesthetic value (that is , the beautiful and natural sound) of the SL text.
- ❖ Faithfull translation is uncompromising and dogmatic while Semantic translation is more flexible admits the creative exception to 100% fidelity and allows the translator's intuitive empathy with the original.
- ❖ For example: مثل هذه الأشياء عليها إقبال كثير الآن
- ❖ {This kind of thing is in great demand at the moment.}

Adaptation

- ❖ This is the 'freest' form of translation.
- ❖ It is used mainly for plays(comedies), poetry stories, where the themes, characters, plots are usually preserved.
- ❖ The SL culture converted to the TL culture and the Text rewritten.
- ❖ For example the adaptation of Shakespeare's play {King Lear} into an Arabic Play called :
  "الشيخ الغني الأعمى وأولاده الثلاثة"
- ❖ Free Translation

- ❖ It reproduces the matter without the manner, or the content without the form of the original.
- ❖ It is usually a paraphrase much longer than the original.
- ❖ It is often prolix and pretentious, and not a translation at all.
- ❖ For example: مثل هذه الأشياء عليها إقبال كثير الآن
- ❖ {This one's dead trendy.} 💬

Idiomatic Translation

- ❖ By 'idiom' we mean affixed figurative expression whose meaning cannot be deduced from the denotative meanings of the words that make it up as in 'car racing is not *my cup of tea'*. 💬
- ❖ It reproduces the 'message' of the original but tends to distort nuances of meaning by preferring colloquialism and idioms where these do not exist in the original.
- ❖ For example: مثل هذه الأشياء عليها إقبال كثير الآن
- ❖ {This type's all the rage.} 💬
- ❖ This form of translation is sometimes called **lively 'natural translation'.**

Communicative Translation

- ❖ It attempts to render **the exact** contextual meaning of the original in such a way that both content and language are readily accepted and comprehensible to the readership.
- ❖ A communicative translation is produced, when, in a given situation, the ST uses an SL expression standard for that situation, and the TT uses a TL expression standard for an equivalent target culture situation.
- ❖ for example: {**Let bygones be bygones**} is an obvious translation of اللي فات مات
- ❖ {**To kill two birds with one stone**} is an obvious translation of ضرب عصفورين بحجر واحد.

Comments in These Methods

- ❖ Only semantic and communicative translation fulfil the **two main aims of translation**, which are first **accuracy and second economy**.
- ❖ A semantic translation is more likely **to be economical** than a communicative translation, unless for the latter, the text is poorly written.
- ❖ A semantic translation is written at **the author's linguistic level**, a communicative at the **readership's.**
- ❖ Semantic translation is used for **expressive texts** (i.e. sacred texts) while communicative for **informative and vocative** (like in Advertising) texts.
- ❖ Semantic translation is **personal and individual**, follows the thought process of the author, tends to **over-translate and pursues nuance of meaning**, while communicative

translation is **social, concentrates on the massage and the main force of the text**, tends to under-translated to be simple, clear and brief and is always written in a natural and resourceful style.

❖ A semantic translation has to **interpret**, while a communicative translation has **to explain**.

Lecture 7
Translation & Culture

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to
1) show the relationship between culture and translation.
2) solve some cultural problems in translation.

Definitions

" Culture is 'the way of life and its manifestations that are peculiar to a community that uses a particular language as its means of expression'.

" When there is **a cultural focus**, there is a translation problem due to the cultural 'gap' or 'distance' between the SL and TL.

" For example in terms like: **crickets words, camel words, etc.**

" Universal terms such as **'table' 'mirror', 'breakfast'** don't cause translation problems.

Cultural Categories

1) **Ecology** : flora, fauna, winds, plains, hills; 'honeysuckles', 'downs', 'plateau'
2) **Material culture**: (artefacts) (food, clothes, houses and towns, transport.
3) **Social culture**: work and leisure
4) **Organisations,** customs, activities, procedures and concepts:
   - Political and administrative
   - Religious
   - Artistic
5) **Gestures and Habits** : as in 'spitting'

General Consideration

A Few general considerations govern the translation of all cultural words:
- o You should recognise all cultural achievements referred in the SL text.
- o You should respect all foreign countries and their cultures.
- o You should be aware of two translation procedures:

a) **Transference,** which usually in literary texts, offers local colour and atmosphere and a specialist text enables the readership to identify the referent particularly a name or a concept.

b) **Componential analysis** which excludes the culture and highlight the message. A componential; analysis is based on a component common to the SL and the TL.

Ecology

- Ecology covers the following : flora, fauna, winds, plains, hills; 'honeysuckles', 'downs', 'plateau' .

- As for the species of flora and fauna are local and cultural and are not translated unless they appear in the SL & TL environment.

- Some ecological terms cause problems in translation such as الحبة السوداء، الناقة والبعير،

Material Culture

- **Material culture** (artefacts) covers: (food, clothes, houses and towns, and transport)

- **Food** is the most sensitive and important expression of national culture. Food terms could cause translation problems such as **'Kabsa', "thareed', 'shankleesh', ect**. 💬

- **Clothes** are as well cause for translation problems but can be solved by adding a generic term or classifier for the general TL reader as in: ''**National dress for** 'جلابية أو ثوب الرجل" **Arab Men**''

Social Culture

- " Social culture covers terms related to types of work and leisure .
- " Most of the types of jobs don't cause problems in translation such as 'chocolate shop' but 'pork-butcher' is a different case.
- " Cultural words that denote leisure activities as in : hockey, snooker, squash etc.

Social Organisation- political and administrative

- Social organisations cover organisations, customs, activities, procedures and concepts that are:
a) Political and administrative
b) Religious
c) Artistic

- Examples are the title of a head of a state ('**King', 'President' "Prime Minster", etc.**

- Names of Ministries are usually translated as in "**treasury = Finance Ministry' Home office= Ministry of the Interior'** etc.

Historical Terms
- " Don't translate historical terms unless they have generally accepted translation as in ' Siecle des Lumieres= 'The age of Enlightenment'

❝ Normally the transferred word can be replaced by the functional or descriptive terms as in the example above.

International Terms
❝ International Institutional terms usually have recognised translations which are in fact through translation.
❝ For example, OMS (**Organisation Mondiale de la Sante**= المنظمة العالمية للصحة 💬

Religious Terms
❝ The language of religions tend to be transferred when it becomes of TL interest.
❝ Commonest words being naturalised as in the word الله Allah

Artistic Terms
❝ Some of them are transferred and some are translated.
❝ Names of buildings, museums , theatre, opera houses are likely to be transferred (i.e. regarded as cultural features) as well as translated since they form part of the street plans and addresses.
❝ Some of them are naturalised if they their universality is accepted.

When dealing with culture in translation you need to be aware of the following:

1) **Contextual Factors** such as: Purpose of text, Motivation and cultural, technical and linguistic level of readership, Importance of referent in the SL text, Setting (does recognised translation exist?), Recency of word/referent

2) **Translation procedures** such as : Transference, Cultural equivalent, Naturalization, Literal translation, Label, Componential analysis, Accepted standard translation, Paraphrasing, etc..

A Short Introduction to Arabic/English Translation

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1) show knowledge of the importance of Translation in Islam.
2) develop a historical knowledge of Translation in the Arab world.
3) Show understanding of the main translation methods used by Arab translators.

Islam Emphasis on Learning Foreign Languages

Islam almost looks at Learning a foreign language as a
religious duty. Allah says in the Holy Quran, Sura 30, Verse 22:

" "And among his signs is the Creation of the heavens and the earth, and **the variations** in your **languages** and your colour; verily.   In that are signs for those who know."

" Muhammad, (PBBUH), was reported to have said: "He, who **learns the language of a people**, has a full protection against their evil intentions."

" Translation in the early days of Islam

" In the early days of Islam which started as a new religion in the Peninsula, there were two super powers; The Persian Empire, and The Roman Empire.

" At that time, due to lack of writing papers, Muhammad, The Prophet of Islam, (PBBUH) sent a message to Hercules, a Roman military leader at that time, written on a piece of animal skin.

" The geographical and political situation at that time made Arabs very interested in learning foreign languages such as Persian, Latin and Greek,

Translation during the Abbasid Age (811-1331)

" Enthusiasm for learning and a high standard of living made the people of Abbasid Age very interested in getting to know what other nations like the Greeks, Romans or Persians had achieved in the field of knowledge, art and science. **The only way for them to do so was through the process of translation.**

" In the time of **Caliph Al-Mamun**, **translation prospered and expanded. He established Dar Al-Ĥikmah (The House of Wisdom) for translators.**

" **Translators were very selective**. Works on philosophy, medicine, engineering, music and logic were translated from Greek into Arabic; while works on astronomy, art, law, history and music were translated from Persian into Arabic.

Methods of Translation in the Abbasid Age

- **Yūĥanna bin Batriq's method,**

the literal way- has some demerits. This is due to the linguistic differences between Arabic and Greek. Arabic, for instance, cannot provide equivalences to all words in Greek. For this reason words like:

falsafa = Philosophy

dǐmūqrat'ya = democracy

Still exist in Arabic.

- **Ĥunayn bin Isĥaq's method**

the free way- which has been favoured and preferred to the literal method of bin Batriq, because it gives the translator the liberty to omit what is not necessary and add what is necessary for the understanding of the message to be translated.

These two general methods have dominated the process of translation throughout its long history.

Translation during the French Invasion of Egypt in 1789

- " **When Napoleon Bonaparte invaded Egypt in 1789**, he brought along with him translators and interpreters to help him communicate with Egyptians with regard to political, social and administrative affairs.
- " The task of these translators, who came from France, was to translate official and administrative documents and sometimes they acted as interpreters.
- " However, translators like Jean-Michel Venture de Paradis (born 1776), **looked at translation as a kind of linguistic exercise and pastime.**

Translation during Muhammad Ali's rule in Egypt (1805-1848)

- " Translation took the form of an independent movement & thrived as Mohd Ali was very interested in learning about European civilization.
- " He tried to make all forms of education available to his people. In his book, The history of Education in Muhammad's period, Ahmad Izat Abdul Karim, says: "**As far as the Scientific Renaissance is concerned, it would be no exaggeration to call Muhammad Ali's time "The Period of translation".**
- " Translation was not literal but full of foreign expressions and structures as translators could not help being influenced by the foreign language from which they translated .
- " The translation movement in Egypt was an incentive for translators all over the Arab World t.

" Since that time, the number of translated books has continued to increase, the quality of translation has generally improved and the methodology used in the process of translation has become more sophisticated.

" (A news paper was issued 1828 in both Arabic and Turkish)

The effect of Arab Translators on European Movement of Translation

" Arab translators translated the works of Greek authors like Aristotle, Plato, Hippocrates, etc. and made Baghdad the site of what might be called a "school" of translation.

" When Arab learning declined, Toledo in Spain replaced Baghdad and started to attract the attention of Western translators.

" As the works held in Toledo were in Arabic, and of a Greek origin, translators started to translate from Arabic into Latin and then later on translators from different nationalities translated Latin works into their native languages such as English, French, German, Italian, etc.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1) show knowledge of what is meant by Conference interpreting.
2) differentiate between translation and interpreting.

Introduction

" Translation and interpretation are **similar** to writing and speech.
" Translation has to do with **written lan**guage whereas interpretation has to do **with speech**. Speech historically preceded written language.
" Interpretation was used **before translation** as a means of communication between people of different languages.
" Translation was and is still the main streamline from which interpretation has recently branched out as an **independent** discipline.

Translation Domains

o **Translation 's "domains"** (i.e. subject-matter) and "Province" (i.e. field) could be set forth as follows:
o **Literary:** involves the translation of prose and poetry.
o **Technical/medical**: involves all sorts of scientific texts.
o **Legal:** involves the translation of legal documents and scripts.
o **Political/diplomatic**: involves the translation of texts relating to diplomacy and politics.
o **Social/cultural:** involves the translation of texts relating to customs, traditions, habits, etc. of a particular community.
o **Economic:** involves the translation of texts relating to economics, finance, commerce, etc.
o **General:** involves the translation of all sorts of texts which have nothing to do with the above categories.

Translators' tools and aids

Translators' aids may be divided into:

• **Linguistic aids:**

This involves the use of mono-lingual dictionaries such as (Collins English Dictionary) and bilingual dictionaries such as (Al-Mawrid). Glossaries, which differ from dictionaries in that they contain a selection of words in a language given within a very restricted field only, can also be helpful to translators.

• **Literature aids:**

This involves books, translated texts and technical encyclopaedias which have something in common with the subject-matter the translator is working with.

- **Mechanical aids:**
   This involves the use of type-writers, dictating machines, photocopying machines, etc.

What is interpretation/interpreting

- Although interpretation or interpreting **is undoubtedly a very old activity.**
- In the early days of translation, **it took the form of "oral translation" which is a definition of interpretation.**
- In other words, interpreting is the oral translation of a message in one language into an equivalent oral message in another language. Etilnia Arjona (Gerver 1977) **defines interpretation as "the oral translation of a message across a cultural and linguistic barrier".**
- This may indicate that main difference between translation and interpretation is that the former involves **only "written texts", whereas the latter only "oral messages".**

Conference interpreting

" **It was born during World War 1 & held in French**.
" During the War some American and British negotiators did not speak French.
" Since The First World War, interpreting has generally been attached to conference meetings and has internationally been known as "conference interpreting".
" **Other forms of interpreting include:**
   o Business Interpreting,
   o Court Interpreting,
   o Community Interpreting
   o Signed Language Interpreting.

The Definition of a conference interpreter

The seminar on Interpreters and Interpreting held by the European Forum at Alp Bach, Austria, in 1969 agreed on the following definition: "**a conference interpreter is one whose office it is to translate orally the speech of participants in meetings conducted in two or more languages. His office may be performed simultaneously or consecutively, in the participants presence".** Walter Keiser (Gerver 1977).

Types and Modes of Interpreting

Three kinds of interpreting can generally be distinguished:

1) **Simultaneous Interpretation:**
In this kind of interpretation, **the interpreter listens to what is being said and then translates it orally and simultaneously into the TL**.

2) **Consecutive Interpretation:**
This normally takes place in conference meetings, where the interpreter sits in the conference room and takes of what is being said. At the end of each statement, he gives an oral statement, he gives an oral translation summarizing what has been said.

3) **Whispered Interpretation:**
The Interpreter sits between delegates and whispers into their ears the oral translation of what is being said.

Differences between Translation and Interpreting

1. **Translation** involves only written texts.
2. **Time** is not very important.
3. There is a **permanent record** of what is being done.
4. **The focus** in translation is normally **on the linguistic units**.
5. It involves **formal memory**, i.e. formal record of dates, numbers etc. which should be precise and accurate

1. **Interpreting** involves only spoken texts.
2. **Time** is crucial
3. Generally speaking, there **is no record of** what is being said.
4. **The focus** in interpretation is generally **on ideas**.
5. It involves **semantic memory**, i.e. meaning is the most important element in the message.

Lecture 10
Computer-Aided Translation & Machine Translation

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to
1) show understanding of the terms of Computer-aided translation and Machine Translation.
2) show awareness of the benefits and shortcomings of Machine translation.
3) use computer-aided Translation and Machine Translation to your own benefits.

What is the term 'computer-aided translation' (CAT)

- This CAT term refers to ' translation in which human translation (HT) **is aided by computer applications.**

- A Key characteristic of CAT is that a human translator takes control of the translation process and technology is used **to facilitate rather than replace HT.**

The importance of CAT

- Technology based solutions to translation needs meet shortened timeframe and budgetary constraints resulting from globalization.

- CAT has become the predominant mode of translation in Scientific and Technical translation where technology is employed to increase productivity and cost-effectiveness as well as improve quality.

CAT Tools

They include any type of computerised tools that translators use to help them do their job.

1) **General purpose applications** such as word-processors, optical character recognition, etc.

2) **Translation-oriented tools** such as multilingual electronic dictionaries, corpus analysis tools, terminology extraction and terminology management systems.

What is Translation Memory Technology

" TM allows the translator **to store translations in a database** and 'recycle' them in a new translation by automatically retrieving matched segments (usually sentences) for re-use.

" The TM database consists of a source text and target text segment pairs which form so-called **translation units (TUs).**

" After dividing a new ST into segments, the system **compares each** successive **ST segment** against the **ST segments stored** in the translation database.

" When **a new ST segment matches** an ST segments in the database **the relevant TU is retrieved**.

- **An exact match** : means that the ST segment currently being translated is identical, including formatting and style, to the segment stored in the memory.

- **A full match** means that the ST segment matches one stored in the memory with differences only in variable elements such as numbers, dates, times, etc.

- **A fuzzy match** is one where the ST segment is similar to a segment in the memory, which can be reused with some editing.

It has become common practice to obtain discount in translation fees if there are pre-existing TM matches

What is Machine Translation?

Machine Translation involves the use of computer programmes to translate texts from one natural language into another automatically.

Types of Machine Translation

1) **Unassisted or fully automatic** MT where the translation engine translates whole texts without the intervention of human operators.

2) **Human-assisted Machine** Translation where human translators intervene to resolve problems of ambiguity in the source text or to select the most appropriate target language word or phrase for output.

 In this type of MT, computer programmes are used to help human translators carry out the translation. CAT is an example of this.

Most popular MT systems of today

- **Special purpose system** where post-editing is indispensable if the MT output is intended for dissemination. It is used in technical language.

- **Online Translation systems** like Google and Yahoo offer free online MT services. This kind of translation needs post-editing by human translators.

Challenges in MT

Problems in MT can be categorised into linguistic and extra linguistic
Ones

1) **Linguistic problems** are caused by inherent ambiguities of natural languages and by the lexical and structural or grammatical mismatch between different languages.

2) **Extra-linguistic problems** are more difficult that that of linguistic problems because they are harder to codify

Lecture 11
Linguistic Problems in Arabic/English Translation
Part 1 - Lexical Problems

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1) recognise translation problems at morpheme, word, and above word levels)
2) develop your own strategies to solve such kind of problems.

Main Categories of Translation Problems :

1) **Linguistic problems:** cover problems at lexical, grammatical and Textual levels

2) **Cultural** **problems:** cover a large range of categories such as Ecology, materials, social organisation, religion , History ,etc..

Translation Problems at Morpheme Level

" A morpheme is "**the minimal formal element of meaning in language, as distinct from 'word'".** Take the following English example: '**inconceivable**' is written as one word but consists of three morphemes; in, meaning, 'not', **conceiv**e meaning 'think of or imagine', and **able** meaning 'able to be', fit to be'. A suitable paraphrase for **inconceivable** would then be 'cannot be conceived /imagined'.
Another example in Arabic: قال الله تعالى " ذالك الكتاب لا ريب فيه (١) ألم"

the Arabic morpheme " الم " **is a very complex one which causes a very serious translation problem in form and meaning.**

" **Some morphemes** have **grammatical functions so such as marking plurality (funds), gender (manageress) and tense considered).**

" Others change the class of the word , for instance from verb to adjective (like: lik**able**), negation (**un**happy), etc..

Translation Problems at Word Level

" The word is "the smallest unit of language that can be used by itself."

" The written word is "a sequence of letters with an orthographic space on either side".

" <mark>Non-equivalence at word level</mark> means that the target language has no direct equivalent for a word which occurs in the source text. The type and level of <mark>difficulty in translation</mark> at this level depends on the nature of non-equivalence.

" **Culture** specific concepts which can be **abstract** or **concrete** as in the following examples:

" **Abstract: (*privacy*)** is a very <mark>English Concept.</mark> ***Speaker*** (of the House of Common) has <mark>no equivalent in Arabic.</mark> It is often translated as the 'chairman' which does not reflect the role of the ***Speaker*** of the House of Commons as an independent person who maintains authority and order in Parliament.

" A <mark>concrete</mark> example is ***airing cupboard*** which is unknown to Arabic speakers.

Another example:
" The source Language word is semantically complex. For example a single word which consists of a <mark>single morpheme</mark> can sometimes express a <mark>more complex</mark> set of meaning than a whole sentence, for example in Arabic:

" قال الله تعالى: "الم ، ذالك الكتاب لا ريب فيه هدى للمتقين''

Another example:
" **Differences in form**: there is often <mark>no equivalent</mark> in the target language for a particular form in the source text. **Certain suffixes** and **prefixes** which convey propositional and other types of meaning in English often have no direct equivalents in other languages: For example: (, ***retrievable, drinkable, greenish, etc*..). Arabic for instance has no ready made mechanism for producing such forms as they are often <mark>replaced by an appropriate paraphrase</mark> , depending on the meaning they convey **(e.g. retrievable as 'can be retrieved' and drinkable as 'suitable for drinking".**

<mark>Translation Problems above Word Level</mark> :

o **<mark>Lexical patterning</mark>** can be divided into two main headings:
o **<mark>Collocation</mark>**
o **<mark>Idioms and fixed expressions</mark>**

<mark>Collocation:</mark>
A **collocation** is **a <mark>sequence of words</mark> or terms that co-occur more often than would be expected by chance.** It is **the tendency of certain words to co-occur regularly in a given language**, for example, the English verb ' <mark>deliver</mark> collocates with a <mark>number of nouns,</mark> for each of which <mark>Arabic uses a different verb.</mark> The Arabic 'dictionary equivalent' of deliver is yusallim

- **English**   **Arabic**
- **deliver a letter**   **yusallimukhitaaban**
- **deliver a speech/lecture   yulqi   khutbatan /muhaadaratan**
- **deliver news   yanqilu   akhbaaran**
- **deliver a blow   yuawjjihu darbatan**
- **deliver a verdict   yusdiru   hukman**
- **deliver a baby   tuwalliddu   imra'atan**

Idioms and fixed expressions :

" **Idioms and fixed expressions**: are frozen patterns of language which allow little or no variation in form and in case of idioms, often carry meanings which cannot be deduced from their individual components:

" **Idiom** example: 'bury the hatchet' means 'to become friendly again after a disagreement or a quarrel'. 'pass the buck' (refuse to accept responsibility for something)

" **Fixed** expression example: 'as a matter of fact, all the best and proverbs such as 'practise what you preach and waste not want not''

Lecture 12
Linguistic Problems in Arabic/English Translation
Part 2 - Grammatical Problems

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1) recognise translation problems at different grammatical levels
2) develop your own strategies to solve such kind of problems.

Definition of Grammar

- **Grammar** is the **set of rules** which determines the way in which units such as words and phrases can be combined in a language.
- **Grammar** is organised along two main dimensions **morphology** and **syntax:**

" **Morphology covers** the **structure of words,** the way in which the form of a word changes to indicate specific contrast in grammatical system, for instance ,most nouns in English have two forms a singular form and a plural form **man/men,** child /children/ car/cars.

" **Syntax covers** the **grammatical structure of** groups, clauses and **sentences:** the linear sequences of such classes of words, such as nouns, verbs, adverbs and adjectives, and functional elements such as subject, predicator and object which are allowed in a given language.

Grammatical Translation Problems

The following are examples of the major categories of difficulties translators encounter because of differences in the grammatical structures of source and target languages:

❖ **Number**
- Not all languages have a grammatical category of number and those that do do not necessarily view countability in the same terms
- Arabic , for example, unlike English have a dual form in addition to singular and plural form. Look at this Arabic example taken from an unpublished document about arbitration procedures in Cairo:

- عندما يُراد تعيين ثلاثة محكمين، يختار كل طرف محكما واحداً، ويختار المحكمان المعينان على هذا النحو المحكم الثالث و هو الذي يتولى رئاسة هيئة التحكيم.

- When the appointment of three arbitrators is required, each party selects on arbitrator , the two arbitrator thus appointed select the third arbitrator who then heads the Arbitration committee

❖ Gender

- **Gender** is a grammatical distinction according to which a noun or pronoun is classified as either masculine or feminine in some language.
- English does not have gender for second person pronouns like Arabic أنتَ وأنتِ and does not have gender for الناقة والبعير
- The following English example translated into Arabic illustrates the kind of problems gender can pose in translation:
- Shampo the hair with a mild WELLA-SHAMPOO and lightly towel dry.

  - **يُغسل الشعر** بشامبو من "ويلا" على أن يكون من نوع الشامبو الملطف، ثم **يُجفف** الشعر بواسطة المنشفة، وذلك تجفيفاً بسيطاً **لِيُترك** الشعر رطباً.

- **The translator uses passive voice to avoid using gender because he does not want to restrict the sale of the shampoo to men or women.** 🗨

❖ Person

- **The category of person relates to the notion of participants roles.**
- In English we have first person (I, we) second Person, you) and third person (he/she/it/they) in Arabic the person system has both a gender and number dimension as in "هنَّ/أنتم/أنتنَّ"
- Some language unlike English have some **formality/politeness dimension** in their person system, in French for example: *vous* as opposed to *tu*
  🗨

❖ Tense and Aspect

- **Tense and aspect** are grammatical categories in a large number of languages.
- **The form of the verb** in such languages indicates two main types of information: *time relations* and **aspectual differences**.
- **Time relations** have to do with locating an event in time. The usual distinction between past, present and future.
- **Aspectual differences** have to do with the temporal distribution of an event, for instance its completion or non-completion, continuation or momentariness.

❖ Voice

- Voice is a grammatical category which defines the relationship between a verb and its subject.
- The main function of the passive in English and in a number of other languages is to avoid specifying the agent and to give an impression of objectivity.

- In active clauses, the subject is the agent responsible for performing the action. In passive clauses, the subject is the affected entity, and the agent may or may not be specified, depending on the structures available in each language.

- Active   (a) Mr AlShehri opened Ibn AlJawzi Hall in 1993.
- Passive   (b) Ibn AlJawzi Hall was opened in 1993
-                 (c) Ibn AlJawzi Hall was opened in 1993 by Mr AlShehri

- Rendering a passive structure by an active structure, or conversely an active structure by a passive structure in translation can have implications for the amount of information given in the clause, the linear arrangement of semantic elements such as agent and affected entity and the focus of the message.

❖ **Translation Problems & Word order**

- Languages vary in the extent to which they rely on word order to signal the relationship between elements in a clause.
- Word order in English is relatively fixed. Compare this example: (The man ate the fish and The fish ate the man).
- Arabic does not have fixed word order because it has elaborate case inflections. It is a matter of stylistic variation and it is available as a resource to signal emphasis and contrast and to organise message in a variety of ways.
- Word order is extremely important in translation because it plays a major role in maintaining a coherent point of view and in orientating message at text level.

Lecture 13
Cultural Problems in Arabic/English Translation

<u>Learning Outcomes</u>

By the end of this lecture, you should be able to

1) recognise cultural translation problems at different levels
2) develop your own strategies to solve such kind of problems.

<u>The Concept of Culture</u>

" Taylor's (1871) defines culture as " complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, law, customs and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of a society."

" Newmark (1988) defines Culture as 'the way of life and its manifestations that are peculiar to a community that uses a particular language as its means of expression'.

" AlJundi (1982) makes a distinction between culture and civilisation: "the former involves beliefs, customs, traditions, laws, value-systems, etc. Whereas the latter generally involves progress and development at the level of scientific inventions, technology, industries, education, etc."

<u>Culture and Translation</u>

- **When you think translation, you need to think of the following Cultural Categories (see Lecture No. 7 for more details)**
- **Ecology :** flora, fauna, winds, plains, hills; 'honeysuckles', 'downs', 'plateau'
- **Material culture** (artefacts): (food, clothes, houses and towns, transport.
- **Social culture**: work and leisure
- **Organisations**, customs, activities, procedures and concepts
  - o **Political and administrative, Religious, Artistic**
- **Gestures and Habits** like 'spitting'.

<u>Examples of Cultural Problems in Arabic /English Translation</u>

A) Political and Administrative

This involves texts relating to politics and diplomacy. Difficulties in translation arise from terms or expressions with cultural connotations attached to them. For example, مجلس الشورى

'Shura /consultation council' English does not afford an absolute equivalent to the word شورى which in Arabic has its own political significance and cultural association especially

its religious implications. The English word 'Parliament' is not enough because it lacks the religious implication attached to the Arabic word 'شورى'.

B) Religious

    o This involves terms and expressions or texts relating to the Quran, the Sunnah of our Great Prophet Muhammad (PBBUH) and any other religious text.

    o Difficulties in translation arise from terms or Expressions with cultural connotations attached to them. It is not only a matter of translatability but rather of rendering a concept:

It is not only a matter of translatability but rather of rendering a concept:

"ولا تقربوا الزنى أنه كان فاحشة وساء سبيلا" (سورة الأسراء: آية ٣٢)

Dawood: ''You shall not commit adultery, for it is foul and indecent'' (1956/1974p.236)

Arberey: ''And approach not fornication; surely it is an indecency, and evil as a way'' (1964p.272)

Ali: Nor come nigh to adultery; for it is a shameful (deed) and an evil, opening the road (to other evils) (Ali, 1934/1977p703)

Yuksel: ''Do not go near adultery, for it is a sin and an evil path'' (2007/2010Sura17:32)

- Unfortunately, all the above versions clearly violate the Islamic concept of adultery. Dawood's and Ali's versions would mean to an English reader that it is prohibited to practise illegal sex only after marriage; whereas Arberey's version would mean that it is prohibited to practise illegal sex only before marriage.
- According to western culture, it is socially and culturally acceptable to practise sex before marriage only not after marriage.
- It seems that their English versions have given a much distorted picture of the Islamic principle which considers any illegal sexual intercourse, whether before or after marriage, is strictly prohibited.

C) Literary

This involves the translation of literary prose and poetry. No matter how skilful the translator may be, he/she still falls victim to the historical, social or cultural associations and connotations attached to literary texts. In Wormhoudt's translation of Al-Mutanabi, for example, mistakes arising from the gaps in the translator's cultural knowledge of animals such as 'owls' occur. The following line, for example:

كأن الأسود التي فيهم غراب   حوله رخمون وبوما

As if the Nubian blacks were crows   Around them vultures and owls
 Wormhoudt (1978,P503)

- In addition to the grammatical mistake made in pluralizing the singular word 'الأسود' the black into 'blacks' , Wormhoudt's historical and cultural knowledge of the 'owl' is quite poor. His translation distorts the meaning and does not convey the same conveyed message in the Arabic version, because the main object of AlMutanabi's satire 'هجاء' here is Kafur AlIkhsheedi the black ruler of Egypt who was compared to a crow surrounded by vultures and owls.
- Furthermore, when the 'owl' is used in Arabic, it is generally used to refer to bad omen and bad luck, whereas in English culture it is not necessary used to refer to bad omen, but rather as a symbol of wisdom and sometimes love.

D) Ecological

This involves terms or expressions and texts relating to flora, fauna,
climate, plains, hills; 'downs', 'plateau'. Taking Shakespeare's poem
"to His Love" as an example we can illustrate the translation
problem caused by its climatic features:

<div align="center">

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate

</div>

 A poetess called Fatima AlNaib translated it as follows:

<div align="right">

من ذا يقارن حسنك المغري بصيف قد تجلى   وفنون سحرك قد باتت في ناظري أسمى وأغلى

</div>

To back translate it as follows:
Who could compare your glamorous beauty with a divine summer!
And the arts of your beauty appeared in my eyes lovelier and more precious

- Although AlNaib was a poetess and well qualified to approach translating Shakespeare's poetry, she failed to capture the cultural dimensions of the poem.

- The mistake AlNaib made was the misunderstanding of the cultural significance of the key word of the whole poem's

'summer's day'. She gave it the literal Arabic equivalent 'الصيف'.

This makes her translation lose the message Shakespeare wants to convey, the poetic and emotional effect on the reader and climatic significance of 'summer'. In other words, the Arabic reader's attitude towards summer is completely different from that of the English reader.

A comparison between the connotation of the English and Arabic summers will show the seriousness of the problem that the translator may face while working on something relating to climatic features:

English Summer
* A Symbol of beauty & liveliness
* Very short 1-2 months
* Cool and temperate
* Positive psychological effect

Arabic Summer
*...
* Very long 3-4 months
* Dry/humid and hot
* Negative psychological effect

- Therefore, the 'substitution' approach could be used to solve a problem as such. Substitution approach is one of a number of concepts and techniques in the general class of ordered metamorphosis. Substitution can operate in a way that maintains the matter and logic of a theme while altering the expression convention (Steiner, 1975).
- In other words, Al Naib could have substituted the Arabic Spring 'الربيع' for the English summer as the connotations of Arabic Spring are more or less the same as those of the English summer. A rough comparison may illustrate this point:

English Summer
A Symbol of beauty & liveliness
Very short 1-2 months
Cool and temperate
Positive psychological effect

Arabic Spring
A Symbol of beauty & liveliness
Very short 1-2 months
Cool and temperate
Positive psychological effect

E) A Little Task for your to do

Find the ecological feature and attempt to translate the following example into English and explain the translation approach or strategies you are using.

ويحب ناقتها بعيري   أحبها وتحبني

💬

When dealing with culture in translation you need to be aware of the following:

1) Contextual Factors such as: Purpose of text, Motivation and cultural, technical and linguistic level of readership, Importance of referent in the SL text, Setting (does recognised translation exist?), Recency of word/referent
2) Translation procedures such as : Transference, Cultural equivalent, Naturalization, Literal translation, Label, Componential analysis, Accepted standard translation, Paraphrasing, etc..

Lecture 14
A Brief Review of the Theory Of Translation 13 Lectures

<u>Purpose of this Session</u>

The main purpose of this session is to briefly review previous 13 lectures so that you would be able to have a general but detailed presentation of the whole Course of 370 Theory of Translation on a few PowerPoint Slides.

<u>Course Schedule</u>

a) What is Translation?
b) What is a Translator?
c) What is Translation Theory?
d) Elements of Translation
e) The Process of Translation
f) Methods of Translation
g) Translation & Culture
h) A Short Introduction to A/E Translation
i) Translation V. Interpretation
j) Computer-Aided Translation & Machine Translation
k) Linguistic Problems in A/E Translation Part 1 Lexical
l) Linguistic Problems in A/E Translation Part 2 Grammatical
m) Cultural Problems in A/E Translation
n) Review of the Course

<u>1- What is Translation?</u>

1) The Simple Definitions of Translation
2) Meaning of Translation as a noun or a verb
3) Advanced Definitions of Translation
4) How can we achieve Equivalence in Translation?
5) Using the Six Wh-Questions in looking for Equivalence in translating a text.
6) What is a Good Translation?
7) Three Laws of Good Translation

<u>2. What is a Translator?</u>

1) Communication Versus Translation
2) What is the difference between a normal communicator and a Translator?
3) How important are memory, meaning and language to the Translator?
4) How does a translator move from one language to another in the course of translation?
5) What does the translator's knowledge-base contain?
6) What does the translator's communicative competence consist of
7) What are the primary characteristics of a good translator?

<u>3. What is Translation Theory?</u>

1) The Meaning of the Term 'Theory'
2) The Definition of a Theory.

3) The Definition of a Model
4) Main Characteristics of a Useful Model.
5) Main Characteristics of a Theory.
6) What is Translation Theory?

   4. Elements of Translation
   ❖ **The six elements of Translation**
   1) The Source Language
   2) The Source Text
   3) The Translator
   4) The Translated Text
   5) The Language of Translation
   6) The Target Language
   ❖ **The interaction of the six elements of translation**

5. The Process of Translation
   ❖ **What is the Process of Translation?**
   ❖ **What are the stages recognised in the process of translation?**
   1) Editing the source text
   2) Interpretation of the source text
   3) Interpretation in a new language
   4) Formulating the translated text
   5) Editing the formulation

6. Methods of Translation
   Dichotomy of Translation Emphasis
Source Language Emphasis
   " Word-for-word translation
   " Literal Translation
   " Faithful Translation
   " Semantic Translation

Target Language Emphasis
   " Adaptation
   " Free Translation
   " Idiomatic Translation
   " Communicative Translation

7. Translation & Culture
   " **Definitions**
   " **Cultural Categories**
1) Ecology : flora, fauna, winds, plains, hills; 'honeysuckles', 'downs', 'plateau'
2) Material culture: (artefacts) (food, clothes, houses and towns, transport.
3) Social culture: work and leisure

4) Organisations, customs, activities, procedures and concepts:

- ■ Political and administrative
- ■ Religious
- ■ Artistic

5) Gestures and Habits : as in ʿspittingʾ

8. A Short Introduction to Arabic/English Translation

- " Islam Emphasis on Learning Foreign Languages
- " Translation in the early days of Islam
- " Translation during the Abbasid Age (811-1331).
- " Methods of Translation in the Abbasid Age
- " Translation during the French Invasion of Egypt in 1789
- " Translation during Muhammad Aliʾs rule in Egypt (1805
- " The effect of Arab Translators on European Movement of Translation -1848)

9. Translation Versus Interpretation

- " Translation Domains
- " Translatorsʾ tools and aids
- " What is interpretation/interpreting
- " Conference interpreting
- " The Definition of a conference interpreter
- " Types and Modes of Interpreting
- " Differences between Translation and Interpreting

10. Computer-Aided Translation & Machine Translation

- " What is the term ʿcomputer-aided translationʾ (CAT)
- " The importance of CAT
- " CAT Tools
- " What is Translation Memory Technology
- " Types of segment matches in TM
- " What is Machine Translation?
- " Types of Machine Translation
- " Most popular MT systems of today
- " Challenges in MT

11. Linguistic Problems in Arabic/English Translation

Part 1   Lexical Problems

- " Main Categories of Translation Problems
- " Translation Problems at Morpheme Level
- " Translation Problems at Word Level
- " Translation Problems above Word Level

12. Linguistic Problems in Arabic/English Translation

Part 2   Grammatical Problems

- " Definition of Grammar

" Grammatical Translation Problems
  - Number
  - Gender
  - Person
  - Tense and Aspect
  - Voice

" Translation Problems & Word order

13. Cultural Problems in Arabic/English Translation

" The Concept of Culture

" Culture and Translation

" Examples of Cultural Problems in Arabic /English Translation

  a) Political and Administrative
  b) Religious
  c) Literary
  d) Ecological

Examples of Exam Questions

Please, choose one answer and circle the appropriate letter: (one point for each correct
       answer

1) Being preoccupied with the translation of literary texts as a pastime activity,
    scholars of the last century looked at translation as:

a. a science

b. a craft

c. an art

d. a profession

2) Translation is considered as

a. a model of explanation

b. a model of communication

c. a model of representation

d. a model of information

مع تمنياتي للجميع بالتوفيق والنجاح .. خوخ وزهر ..

الإضافات بواسطة الأستاذ/ أحمد الغامدي

نقآء~

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ، وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ، وَلَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ، وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ