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TRANSLATION TECHNIQUES

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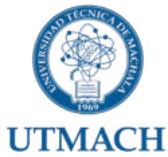
Yenni Esquivel Rivero

2026

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Yenni Esquivel Rivero

AUTOR



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INTRODUCTION

Translation has long been recognized as one of the most vital means of human communication, facilitating cultural exchange, the transmission of knowledge, and the development of global understanding. In a world increasingly shaped by linguistic and cultural diversity, the role of the translator transcends the mechanical rendering of words from one language to another. It requires sensitivity, creativity, and profound analytical skills.

The present volume, *Translation Techniques: From Theory to Practice,* is designed to guide students, teachers, and professionals through the complex field of translation. Its general objective is to provide students, educators, and practitioners with both theoretical foundations and practical strategies, engaging them in translation within authentic contexts. Also, it aims to foster not only the acquisition of knowledge regarding translation methods and techniques but also the development of critical awareness of the challenges translators face when bridging linguistic systems and cultural frameworks. By combining historical perspectives, theoretical debates, and applied workshop activities.

The book´s structure has been carefully designed to promote coherence, continuity, and pedagogical efficiency. Each chapter is organized around three key components: opening elements, which introduce the thematic focus and objectives; internal pedagogical resources, which accompany the development of the content through explanations, illustrative examples, comparative exercises, and reflective questions; and closing elements, which synthesize the central ideas of the chapter

and provide opportunities for practice, consolidation, and self-assessment. This format ensures that theoretical knowledge is consistently reinforced by application and reflection.

The book unfolds across four interrelated chapters:

Chapter 1. The History of Language Translation. This chapter provides a historical and conceptual overview of translation, from its early manifestations to its current theoretical debates. It clarifies the distinctions between translation and interpretation and introduces the principal modes of interpretation-simultaneous, consecutive, and whispered (chuchotage). Furthermore, it examines the theoretical dichotomy between methods and techniques, while underscoring the indispensable role of cultural aspects embedded in the source text (ST).

Chapter 2. Translation Challenges Faced by Translators. This chapter addresses the multifaceted challenges encountered in the translation work. Topics include the cognitive and linguistic implications of translation, the treatment of abbreviations, and the differentiation between function and content words. It also discusses active versus passive vocabulary, the morphological relevance of prefixes and suffixes, and the intricacies of idiomatic expressions- actors that complicate the translator's task but are essential to achieving accurate and meaningful renditions.

Chapter 3. Translation Techniques. This chapter systematically presents the principal techniques employed in translation. It first considers direct translation techniques, such as borrowing, calque, and literal (faithful) translation, before turning to oblique translation

techniques that include modulation, transposition, equivalence, and semantic translation. Through theoretical explanation and practical illustration, readers will gain a nuanced understanding of when and how to deploy each technique in response to specific translational challenges.

Chapter 4. Rendering and Translation Workshop. The final chapter integrates theory and practice by engaging readers in applied translation exercises. It emphasizes the combined use of direct and oblique techniques in authentic contexts, enabling readers to refine their decision-making processes and problem-solving skills. This workshop-centered approach fosters professional competence by simulating the demands of real-world translation tasks.

The book not only provides a comprehensive overview of the field but also cultivates reflective and critical engagement with the challenges and strategies inherent in translation.

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CHAPTER I

1 The History of Language Translation

"The translator is a privileged writer who has the opportunity to rewrite masterpieces in their own language."

Javier Marías

This academic unit, named **The History of Language Translation,** offers a structured exploration of the discipline of translation and interpretation, beginning with a brief history that situates the practice within its historical, cultural, and intellectual contexts. Understanding the origins and evolution of translation allows students to appreciate its pivotal role in the transmission of knowledge, ideas, and values across civilizations. The unit then addresses the theoretical and practical distinction between translation and interpretation, emphasizing their complementary functions in facilitating communication across languages and cultures.

A further area of focus is the comparison between translation methods and translation techniques, which provides students with the analytical tools to differentiate between overarching strategic approaches and the specific procedures employed in rendering meaning from a source text (ST) into a target text (TT). The unit also underscores the significance of cultural aspects implicit in the source text, highlighting the translator's role not only as a linguistic mediator but also as an interpreter of cultural codes, values, and perspectives embedded in discourse.

The objective of this unit is to identify key translation methods and techniques, critically evaluate the influence of cultural context on textual meaning, and develop an informed understanding of the translator's central role in fostering intercultural communication.

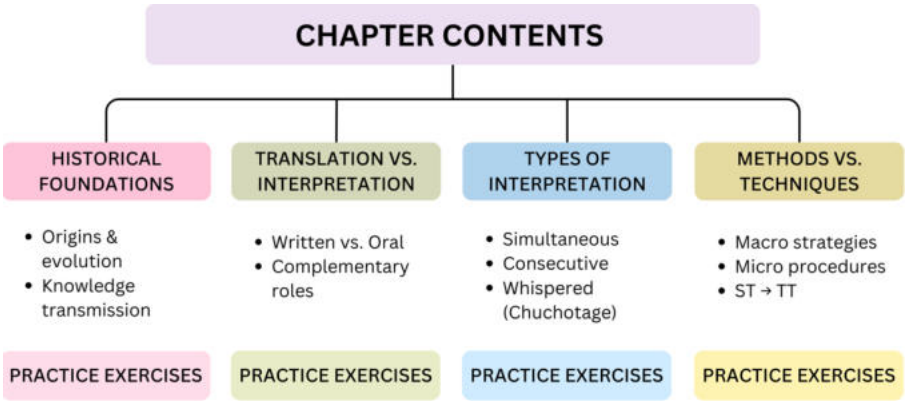


Figure 1.Chapter Contents

1.1 A Brief History of Translation

Translation has been an essential cultural practice since the earliest forms of human communication across linguistic borders. Far from being limited to the substitution of words from one language into another, translation has always functioned as a cultural bridge, carrying ideas, knowledge, and traditions across time and space. From ancient bilingual inscriptions to artificial intelligence-powered systems in the digital age, translation has continuously adapted to the needs of societies. This chapter presents a concise historical overview of translation, highlighting its evolution across different civilizations and historical periods.

1.2 Translation in Antiquity

The origins of translation can be traced to the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt, where bilingual inscriptions served administrative, religious, and pedagogical purposes. The Akkadian-Sumerian lexical lists, for instance, represent some of the earliest recorded translation attempts (Delisle & Woodsworth, 1995).

In ancient Egypt, bilingual hieroglyphic-Greek inscriptions, such as the Rosetta Stone (196 BCE), attest to the need for multilingual communication in vast empires. Also, in this period, one of the most influential early translation projects was the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible produced in Alexandria between the 3rd and 2nd centuries BCE.



Figure 2. "The Rosetta Stone"

Source: Taking from "*La Piedra Rosetta, ¿La primera traducción?*", 2022, traducciones.com (https://www.traducciones.com/la-piedra-rosetta-la-primera-traduccion/)

The Septuagint illustrates two key aspects of early translation: its religious significance and its long-lasting cultural influence. It provided

access to Jewish scriptures for Greek-speaking communities and laid the groundwork for later Christian theological debates, particularly the Latin Vulgate by Jerome in the 4th century CE. Translation in antiquity thus oscillated between pragmatic administration and profound religious and cultural mediation.

1.3 The Medieval Period

The Middle Ages marked an era in which translation took on a new role in the preservation and transmission of classical knowledge. In the Islamic Golden Age, scholars of the House of Wisdom in Baghdad (particularly between the 8th and 10th centuries) translated key philosophical and scientific works from Greek into Arabic, thereby safeguarding knowledge that would later fuel European Renaissance thought (Pym, 2010).

By the 12th century, the city of Toledo in Spain emerged as a major center for translation. In this period, the School of Translators of Toledo retranslated many of these Arabic works into Latin, often using intermediary versions in Romance languages; it facilitated the introduction of Aristotle, Galen, and Avicenna to Europe, sparking advances in medicine, philosophy, and astronomy. Without these translation efforts, the European Renaissance might not have had access to the intellectual heritage of antiquity.

In Christian Europe, translation was equally important for religious instruction. Monks and clerics translated biblical texts into vernacular languages, though often under strict control by ecclesiastical authorities

who feared doctrinal distortion. Here, translation became a contested practice, balancing accessibility with orthodoxy.

1.4 Renaissance and Early Modern Translation

The Renaissance revitalized translation with the rise of humanism and the invention of the printing press in the 15th century. This technological innovation multiplied the impact of translated works, making them more accessible across Europe. The most influential project of this period was Martin Luther's German translation of the Bible (1534).

Luther's work not only democratized access to scripture but also standardized and enriched the German language, exemplifying how translation can shape national identity. This work demonstrates how translation can serve as a tool of social transformation as well as linguistic unification (Munday, 2012).

Renaissance thinkers also debated the nature of translation itself. Figures such as Etienne Dolet in France laid down the first principles of translation during the Renaissance, and John Dryden in England refined the debate in the 17th century, framing translation as a balance between fidelity and creativity. Both translators began to formulate systematic approaches to translation, weighing the merits of literal versus free rendering.

Dryden, for instance, distinguished between "metaphrase" (word-for-word), "paraphrase" (sense-for-sense), and "imitation" (free adaptation), categories that continue to influence translation discourse.

These debates underscored translation's dual function as both a faithful transfer of meaning and a creative literary act.

1.4.1 The 19th and 20th Centuries

In the modern era, translation became intertwined with nation-building, colonialism, and globalization. The 19th century saw the spread of literary classics translations across Europe and beyond, fostering cultural exchange and the development of comparative literature. At the same time, colonial powers used translation to both administer and control subject populations, often privileging the colonizer's language at the expense of local tongues (Venuti, 2008).

At the same time, translation was implicated in the expansion of colonial empires. Colonizers often used translation to administer and control subject populations, privileging European languages and marginalizing local tongues. Yet, in some contexts, translation also enabled resistance, as colonized peoples translated European texts into indigenous languages to strengthen their own cultural frameworks.

The 20th century witnessed the emergence of translation studies as an academic discipline. In this period, translation acquired new political and cultural dimensions. It played a role in the construction of national identities, as countries sought to establish literary canons and promote their cultural heritage abroad. Translations of Shakespeare, Goethe, or Cervantes circulated widely, contributing to a shared European literary culture.

Later, theorists such as Itamar Even-Zohar and Gideon Toury introduced polysystem theory, which positioned translation

within broader literary and cultural systems. Meanwhile, Lawrence Venuti (1995) highlighted the "invisibility" of translators in Anglo-American contexts, sparking debates about ethics, domestication, and foreignization. These intellectual developments revealed that translation is not only a technical act but also a cultural, ideological, and political practice, shaping how societies perceive themselves and others.

1.4.2 Translation in the Contemporary World

The 21st century has ushered in unprecedented transformations in translation practice. Globalization has intensified the demand for translation in commerce, diplomacy, science, and entertainment. Machine translation, spearheaded by platforms like Google Translate and AI-assisted systems, has made multilingual communication more immediate than ever. These tools offer efficiency and accessibility; however, such advances raise questions of accuracy, cultural nuance, and the role of human translators.

Despite technological advances, human translators remain indispensable, particularly in fields requiring cultural sensitivity, such as literature, law, and diplomacy. Moreover, translation studies today increasingly interrogate the sociopolitical implications of translation, exploring how issues of power, ideology, and representation intersect with language transfer. That's why nowadays, translation is viewed not merely as a linguistic transfer but as a cultural and political practice.

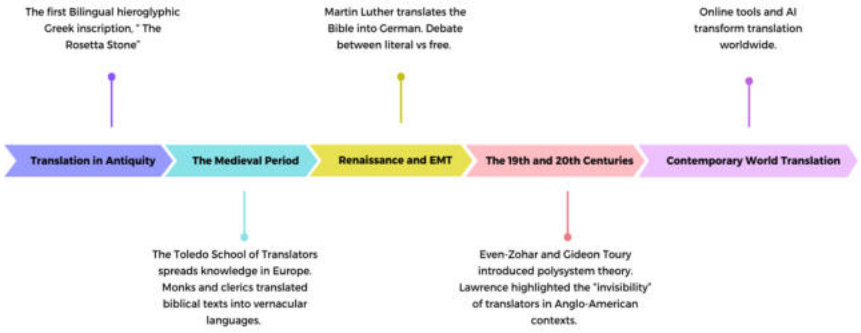


Figure 3.Translation Timeline

In conclusion, it can be said that from the clay tablets of Mesopotamia to the algorithms of artificial intelligence, translation has always reflected humanity's need to communicate across linguistic and cultural boundaries. Each era redefined translation's purpose: as a religious mission, a scholarly tool, a means of national identity, or a global bridge. Understanding this history provides not only an appreciation of translation's past but also critical insight into its present challenges and future directions.

1.4.3 Discussion Questions

- Do you agree with Lawrence Venuti's claim that translators are often "invisible"? Why or why not?

- How has technology changed the role of translators in the 21st century, and what challenges has it created?

Autonomous Activity

- Analyze the following video, *"The history of translation"* (https://youtu.be/Ukqmyv50ijY?si=NEQL89QM2MAsap-t)

- In small groups, create a visual timeline of the history of translation, including at least one key example for each era (Antiquity, Middle Ages, Renaissance, Modern, and Contemporary).

- Present your timeline in the next class and explain why you chose those events.

1.5 Translation and Interpretation

In the field of language mediation, translation and interpretation are often confused by non-specialists, yet they refer to two distinct professional practices. Both share the fundamental goal of facilitating communication across linguistic and cultural barriers, but they differ significantly in their medium, mode, and application.

Translation is one of the oldest occupations of man. Differences in terms of languages prompted people to this hard, but much-needed work, which served and serves the purpose of communication and exchange of spiritual values among people. (Iordan, 2021)

1.5.1 Translation

The word **translation** was first recorded in 1340, taken from an Old French or Latin word, which means "transporting" (Munday et al., 2022). Transporting means the process or activity of conveying something from one place to another, typically things. In translation, it is not physical things but messages. (Novawan, 2023)

For others, author translation means “the reproduction in the receptor language of the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style (Nida

& Taber, 2021). With respect to linguistic competence, translation into the first language offers translators some advantages, such as an innate knowledge of lexical, morphological, semantic, and syntactic aspects of their native language. (Iordan, 2021)

According to Golovkova and Babanina (2014) the classic example, translation is when a translator perceives an original in the form of written text and creates a written translation equal to the original. So, **Translation** is the process of converting **written text** from one language to another while preserving the original text's meaning and style. The translator has the opportunity to review and refine the work, and translation can take various formats, such as documents, books, subtitles, etc.

Translation adequacy may be measured against the TT acceptability and its communicative effect. The acceptability of the TT is be considered on four levels:

a) the faithful rendering of the ST meaning, while little concession to the target receptor is made.

b) the faithful rendering of the meaning with respect to the target receptor.

c) the faithful rendering of the meaning with due respect to the target receptor.

d) the faithful rendering of the meaning and textual quality with much respect to the target receptor. (Kyrychuk, 2018)

1.5.2 Interpretation

On the other hand, **Interpretation** is the process of orally rendering spoken or signed communication from one language into another, conveying both the meaning and intent of the original message in real time. Unlike translation, which deals with written texts, interpretation occurs in spoken or signed form and requires immediacy, accuracy, and cultural mediation (Pöchhacker, 2022). According to the International Association of Conference Interpreters (*AIIC*, 2020), interpretation is "the oral transposition of a spoken message from one language into another, carried out in a professional context and in real time."

In that sense, Gile (2009) it emphasizes that interpretation is not only a linguistic act but also a cognitive process that demands active listening, short-term memory, and quick reformulation skills. In conclusion, Interpretation refers to the oral conversion of speech from one language to another. It is often done in real-time and occurs at events such as conferences, meetings, or court proceedings. Interpreters don't have the luxury of time and must make instant decisions to convey the message accurately and fluently.

Although in terms of cultural level, the translators who translate texts that have cultural elements into their native language carry out the translations better than the ones who translate into a second language, because they can easily recognize the cultural elements that cannot be rendered literally into another language. (Iordan, 2021)

In conclusion, Translation prioritizes accuracy and textual quality and allows time for correction. On the other hand,

Interpretation prioritizes immediacy and communicative intent, relying heavily on cognitive agility. However, both translation and interpretation are meaning-centered, bilingual processes that require linguistic expertise, cultural awareness, strategic decision-making, and ethical responsibility to transfer messages accurately between languages.

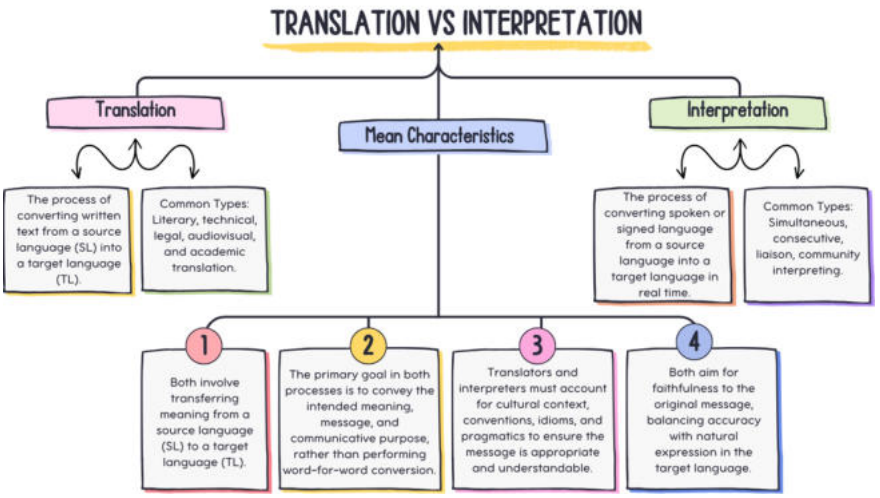


Figure 4.Interpretation Vs Translation

1.6 Practice Exercises

Exercise 1

Indicate whether each statement is true (T) or false (F).

a) Translators can revise their work before final delivery.

b) Interpreters prioritize style and textual equivalence.

c) Interpretation focuses mainly on conveying meaning and intent.

d) Interpretation is usually performed under time pressure.

Exercise 2

Decide whether the situation requires translation or interpretation. Justify your answer.

a) An international academic conference

b) A user manual for medical equipment

c) A courtroom hearing

d) A scientific journal article

Exercise 3

Answer briefly.

1. Mention two differences between translation and interpretation related to time.

2. Identify two tools commonly used in translation but not in interpretation.

3. Why is memory more critical in interpretation than in translation?

Exercise 4

Match each concept with the correct process.

Concept	Translation (T)	Interpretation (I)
a. CAT tools		
b. Simultaneous mode		
c. Revision possible		
d. Real-time delivery		
e. Written output		
f. Memory load		

Exercises 5

Complete the sentences using the words below:

(accuracy – fluency – revision – memory – real-time – written)

1 Translation focuses mainly on _____ and textual equivalence.

2 Interpretation requires strong _____ skills due to the immediate processing required.

3 Translators can perform _____ before final submission.

4 Interpretation occurs in _____ communication contexts.

5 Translation produces a _____ text.

6 Interpreters prioritize _____ over stylistic perfection.

1.7 Types of Interpretation: Simultaneous, consecutive, whispered (Chuchotage)

Interpretation is the oral transfer of meaning from a source language into a target language and plays a fundamental role in multilingual communication across institutional, professional, and social contexts. Unlike written translation, interpretation occurs in real time and requires the interpreter to process, reformulate, and deliver messages almost instantaneously, imposing high cognitive and linguistic demands.

Depending on the mode, setting, and communicative purpose, interpretation can be classified into several types, each with distinct characteristics and professional requirements.

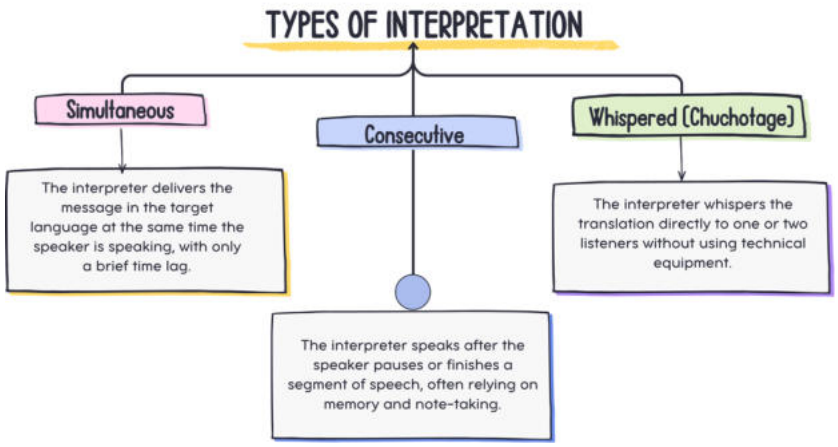


Figure 5.Representation of the different types of Interpretations

1.7.1 Simultaneous Interpretation

Interpretation is the process of orally rendering a spoken message from one language into another, and it can be carried out through different

modes depending on the communicative setting (Pöchhacker, 2022). One of the most common types is **simultaneous interpretation**, in which the interpreter conveys the message in the target language almost at the same time as the speaker, with only a short delay of a few seconds.

According to Adam (2023), **Simultaneous Interpretation** is defined as the process of interpreting, where the interpreter immediately conveys a specific speech from a booth. This mode is typically used in international conferences, political summits, or large multilingual events such as those organized by the United Nations.

On the other hand, Barik (1969) explain that the Simultaneous Interpretation process suggests that at any moment in time, the interpreter may be engaged in the following operations: (a) listening to what is being said by the speaker; (b) understanding its meaning, i.e., message decoding; (c) converting the message into the target language, i.e., encoding; (d) delivering the translated version; (e) listening to and storing for subsequent processing the continuation of the message as it is being provided by the lecturer.

According to Golovkova and Babanina (2014) Simultaneous interpreting occurs virtually at the same time as the orator is uttering the original message. Generally, simultaneous interpreting is performed by means of special technical equipment. In other words, Simultaneous interpretation requires specialized equipment like soundproof booths, microphones, and headsets, as well as highly trained interpreters who often work in pairs to manage the intense cognitive load. Its main

advantage is that it saves time and preserves the natural flow of the speech, but it is mentally demanding and costly to organize.

Due to the high cognitive load involved, interpreters usually work in pairs and alternate every 20 to 30 minutes. Simultaneous interpretation is efficient for large multilingual events, but it requires advanced linguistic competence, rapid information processing, and strong stress management skills. (Gile, 2009)

In this sense, Simultaneous Interpretation (SI) keeps the natural flow of the speech, it is so useful cause it saves time (no pauses needed), and it is suitable for large multilingual audiences. However, requires a very high concentration and quick thinking. Furthermore, SI is a process that attempts to describe the temporal flow of auditory information, beginning with the acoustic signal (the speaker's message) that arrives at the ear of the listener and ending with some form of mental representation of that message in the mind of the listener. (Moser, 1978)

Training for simultaneous interpretation is challenging and intense. It requires a good consecutive interpretation background and special training for stamina, mental reflexes, voice, on the spot problem solving, dealing with foreign accents, speed. (Golovkova & Babanina, 2014)

In conclusion, Simultaneous interpretation is a mode in which the interpreter renders the message into the target language almost at the same time as the speaker is speaking, with only a brief time lag. This type of interpretation is typically performed in soundproof booths using specialized equipment, such as headsets and microphones, and is

commonly used in international conferences, diplomatic meetings, and large-scale multilingual events.

Due to the intense cognitive load involved in listening, processing, and speaking simultaneously, interpreters usually work in teams and alternate at regular intervals. Simultaneous interpretation is highly efficient in terms of time management but requires advanced linguistic competence, concentration, and stress control.



Figure 6.Representation of the Simultaneous Interpretation

Source. Generated by the author using Google Gemini 3 Flash, 2026 https://gemini.google.com/

1.7.2 Consecutive Interpretation

Another type is **consecutive interpretation**, where the interpreter listens carefully to the speaker, often taking notes, and delivers the

translation once the speaker pauses every 1-3 sentences or after a complete idea has been expressed (Novawan, 2023). This method is frequently used in courtrooms, business meetings, press conferences, and medical consultations.

According to Adam (2023) this type of interpretation, theoretically. First, the interpreter converts the source language (SL) into the target language (TL). Then the lecturer of SL finishes the idea. After that, the interpreter conveys them either by memorizing the information or with the help of notes. Finally, the interpreter has to speak as if he/she is the original speaker of the language (TL).

Consecutive interpreting allows for more accuracy cause the interpreter can listen to a complete segment before translating. As an advantage, it does not require expensive equipment, and it is useful for small or medium-sized groups. However, it takes more time because the speech is essentially delivered twice, and it requires strong memory and note-taking skills from the interpreter.

Although consecutive interpretation prolongs the overall communication process, it allows for greater accuracy and coherence, especially when dealing with complex or sensitive information (Hale, 2004; Pöchhacker, 2022). That's why this type of interpretation is frequently used in legal contexts, business meetings, interviews, and press conferences.

Briefly, Consecutive interpretation involves the interpreter delivering the message after the speaker has completed a segment of speech. These segments may range from a few sentences to several minutes, during

which the interpreter relies on memory and systematic note-taking techniques.

In the Qassim University Lab. at Ar Rass, students are trained in note-taking. They are also trained in memorizing. They listen to a recording or video and interpret the message. In general, students are asked to use symbols and take notes in their chosen language. Some students prefer memorizing. However, the trainer recommends taking notes to familiarize the students with the skill and process. Some of them may be professional interpreters later on. So, to avoid missing information like figures, names, etc., the trainee should accustom himself/herself to this type of note-taking. (Abdel, 2023)

This mode is widely used in business meetings, legal proceedings, interviews, and press conferences. Although consecutive interpretation extends the duration of communication, it allows for a high level of accuracy and coherence, particularly when dealing with complex or detailed information. Strong analytical skills and discourse organization are essential for this type of interpretation.



Figure 7.Representation of the Consecutive Interpretation

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1.7.3 Whispered interpretation (chuchotage)

Furthermore, **whispered interpretation,** also known as *chuchotage,* is a form of simultaneous interpretation performed without equipment, in which the interpreter whispers the translation directly into the ear of one or two listeners. It is commonly used in small meetings, diplomatic negotiations, or business settings where only a few participants do not share a common language.

According to Golovkova and Babanina (2014) **Chuchotage** is a type of simultaneous interpreting when an interpreter sits next to the receptor(s), but cannot be more than three or four people who need to understand the information, so the interpreter transfers the message in a low voice. Indeed, training for simultaneous interpretation is challenging and

intense. It requires a good consecutive interpretation background and special training for stamina, mental reflexes, voice, on-the-spot problem solving, dealing with foreign accents, and speed.

Whispered interpreting or Chuchotage (French word) is a term called onomatopoetic. The author defines it in previous research as a term or phrase used to affect the receiver by producing a sound that it describes. Nevertheless, sounds differ according to the language they belong to. In other words, whispered interpretation is immediate and flexible, but it is limited to a small audience, can strain the interpreter's voice, and may distract others in the room (Abdel, 2023; Gile, 2009).

That is, the Whispered interpretation process is a type of simultaneous interpreting where the interpreter speaks quietly to one or two people who speak other languages. It does not need any special equipment or a microphone. Usually, the interpreter sits or stands close to the listener and whispers the meaning of the lecturer's message directly. This method is often used in small meetings, guided tours, or official events where only a few participants need translation. (Fadylayanty & Sandu, 2025)



Figure 8.Representation of the Whispered interpretation (chuchotage)

Source. Generated by the author using Google Gemini 3 Flash, 2026 https://gemini.google.com/

Henceforth, one of the key characteristics of whispered interpreting lies in its complexity and immediacy. The interpreter must convey every message accurately while remaining unobtrusive to the main communication. This dual task requires listening and speaking simultaneously, high concentration, and the ability to process speech in real time. (Fadylayanty & Sandu, 2025)

On the other hand, mastering **whispered interpretation** (chuchotage) requires a foundation of fluency, sharp hearing, and high stress tolerance, along with intensive linguistic training in at least two languages. While pedagogical opinions vary on whether it should follow simultaneous interpreting or be taught after mastering all major modes, including consecutive and sight translation, it is widely viewed as a specialized form of simultaneous work. Ultimately, training emphasizes

total cognitive focus, strictly prohibiting the use of digital aids like tablets or recorders to ensure the interpreter can convert speech in real-time using only their professional skill set. (Abdel, 2023)

Additionally, it is important to say that another defining trait is its dual balance of intimacy and immediacy. Due to the interpreter working close to the listener, communication becomes more direct and personal, while still maintaining real-time delivery. This requires interpreters to exhibit exceptional discretion, control, and composure, ensuring that their quiet interpretation complements the main speech rather than distracts from it. (Fadylayanty & Sandu, 2025)

On the other hand, confidential and discreet nature of whispered interpreting makes it highly suitable for settings where privacy is essential, such as trade fairs, corporate meetings, or diplomatic negotiations. Its adaptability, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness explain why it continues to play a vital role in both formal and informal multilingual communication.

To sum up, whispered interpretation is a variation of simultaneous interpretation in which the interpreter whispers the translated message without the use of technical equipment. It is typically employed in small meetings, courtrooms, or guided visits when only a limited number of participants require interpretation. While this mode offers flexibility and immediacy, it is physically demanding for the interpreter and may cause distraction in shared spaces, making it unsuitable for long sessions or larger audiences.

Table 1. Comparison of the Different Types of Interpretation

Aspect	Simultaneous Interpretation	Consecutive Interpretation	Whispered Interpretation
Process	The interpreter translates the message in real-time with a slight delay, working from a soundproof booth.	The interpreter waits for the speaker to pause before translating.	The interpreter whispers the translation directly into the ear of a single client or a very small group as the speaker talks.
Use Cases	Large-scale international conferences, live television broadcasts, and multilingual events where constant information flow is critical.	One-on-one meetings, medical consultations, small-group business negotiations, and legal proceedings where accuracy is prioritized.	Small, private meetings or situations where only one or two people need interpretation and a full simultaneous setup is not feasible.
Equipment	Requires specialized equipment, including soundproof booths, microphones, and headphones for the audience.	No specialized equipment is needed. The interpreter's notes are the primary tool.	No equipment is needed.

Source: Author's own creation

In the interpretation process, mods are related to the situation and the interpreter while performing. The training has to focus on the trainee's interest in working in a specific field, e.g., medical, press, or legal. Therefore, he/she has to be helped by the trainer to develop his/her skills to work later in the field of his/her choice. (Abdel, 2023)

In conclusion, simultaneous, consecutive, and whispered interpretation each serve specific contexts: simultaneous interpretation is ideal for large-scale events, consecutive interpretation is suitable for smaller groups where accuracy is crucial, and whispered interpretation is useful for discreet, one-to-one, or small-group communication.

Practice Lesson

1. What is simultaneous interpretation?

    a) It is a group interpretation process.

    b) It is a language teaching technique.

    c) It is a type of written translation.

    d) It is a real-time oral translation process.

2. What are the main characteristics of consecutive interpretation?

    a) Exclusive use of translation technology.

    b) The translation after the speech, note-taking, segmentation of the speech, and listening and memory skills.

    c) Interpretation without the need for notes.

d) Simultaneous translation during the speech.

3. In what situations is whispered interpretation used?

a) In conferences or meetings with a small group that needs interpretation without interrupting the speaker.

b) In situations where the speaker needs to be interrupted for clarification.

c) In large events where, simultaneous interpretation is required.

d) In written translations of formal documents.

4. What are the advantages of simultaneous interpretation over consecutive interpretation?

a) Simultaneous interpretation requires less preparation than consecutive interpretation.

b) Consecutive interpretation is faster than simultaneous interpretation.

c) Simultaneous Interpretation include fluency in communication, reduction of information loss, and efficiency in time usage.

d) Consecutive interpretation allows for more interaction between speakers.

5. In simultaneous interpretation, the interpreter…

a) Speaks at almost the same time as the speaker.

b) Translates word by word without delay.

c) Waits until the speaker finishes the whole message.

d) Writes down the translation before reading it aloud.

6. Consecutive interpretation is best described as…

a) The interpreter whispering to a group.

b) The interpreter translates documents.

c) The interpreter speaking at the same time as the speaker.

d) The interpreter listens, waits for a pause, and then interprets.

1.8 Another type of Interpretations

Liaison or bilateral interpretation is characterized by its bidirectional nature, as the interpreter alternates between two languages to facilitate communication between participants. This type of interpretation is commonly used in informal or semi-formal settings such as medical consultations, police interviews, and business negotiations. In addition to linguistic transfer, liaison interpreters often manage turn-taking and cultural mediation, which requires strong interpersonal and pragmatic skills. (Bastin et al., 1999)

Conference interpretation refers to professional interpretation services provided at high-level international events, such as academic congresses and intergovernmental meetings. It is most often carried out using the

simultaneous mode and follows strict professional standards and ethical guidelines. Conference interpreters must demonstrate subject-matter expertise, advanced terminological preparation, and the ability to work effectively under pressure. Despite its high cost and logistical demands, conference interpretation enables multilingual communication on a large scale. (Pöchhacker, 2022)

Community or public service interpretation aims to facilitate communication between public institutions and individuals who do not speak the dominant language of the host society. It is commonly used in healthcare, education, immigration, and social services, and is usually performed in the consecutive or liaison mode. This type of interpretation emphasizes accessibility, equity, and ethical responsibility, as interpreters frequently work with vulnerable populations and emotionally charged situations. (Ozolins, 2000)

Court or legal interpretation is a specialized form of interpretation used to guarantee equal access to justice for individuals involved in legal proceedings. It is employed in courtrooms, police interviews, and depositions, and may involve both consecutive and simultaneous modes. Accuracy, impartiality, and confidentiality are essential, as errors or omissions can have serious legal consequences. Legal interpreters must possess in-depth knowledge of legal terminology and procedures, as well as a strong commitment to professional ethics. (Hale, 2004)

Medical interpretation enables effective communication between healthcare providers and patients who do not share a common language. It plays a critical role in ensuring accurate diagnosis, informed consent,

and appropriate treatment. Medical interpretation is typically performed in the consecutive or liaison mode and requires mastery of medical terminology, confidentiality, and ethical decision-making. Research has shown that professional medical interpretation significantly improves health outcomes and patient safety. (Flores, 2005)

Relay interpretation is used in multilingual settings when a direct language combination is not available. In this mode, the original speech is first interpreted into a pivot language, which then serves as the source for further interpretations into additional target languages. Relay interpretation is common in international organizations and large conferences involving less widely spoken languages. Although it increases linguistic accessibility, it also raises the risk of information loss and requires careful coordination among interpreters. (Abdel, 2023)

Finally, **Sign language interpretation** involves the transfer of meaning between a spoken language and a sign language, which are independent linguistic systems with distinct grammatical structures. This type of interpretation relies on visual-gestural communication and is used in educational institutions, public events, media, and community services. Sign language interpreters must demonstrate high levels of linguistic proficiency, visual attention, and spatial awareness to ensure accurate and inclusive communication. (Napier & Leeson, 2016)

1.9 Practice Exercises

Exercise 1

Choose the most appropriate type of interpretation for each situation.

1. An interpreter works in a soundproof booth during an international climate summit.

a) Consecutive
b) Simultaneous
c) Liaison
d) Community

2.A doctor communicates with a patient who does not speak the local language, and the interpreter facilitates dialogue in both directions.

a) Conference
b) Relay
c) Medical (liaison)
d) Whispered

3.An interpreter whispers the translation to one delegate during a meeting.

a) Consecutive
b) Relay
c) Whispered
d) Court

4.A legal defendant receives interpretation during a trial to ensure due process.

a) Community
b) Medical
c) Court

d) Conference

5.A rare language is interpreted through English as a pivot language at a multilingual event.

a) Simultaneous
b) Consecutive
c) Relay
d) Liaison

Exercise 2

Match each type of interpretation with its most typical characteristic.

Type of Interpretation	Characteristic
1. Simultaneous	a. Two-way interaction in small groups
2. Consecutive	b. Uses a pivot language
3. Liaison	c. Real-time delivery with minimal delay
4. Relay	d. Relies on notetaking
5. Whispered	e. No equipment, low voice

Exercise 3

Indicate whether each statement is **True (T)** or **False (F)**.

1 Consecutive interpretation always requires technical equipment.

2 Community interpretation prioritizes accessibility and equity.

3 Relay interpretation reduces the risk of information loss.

4 Simultaneous interpreters usually work alone for long periods.

5 Sign language interpretation involves a visual-gestural modality.

Exercise 4

Answer each statement briefly.

1 Mention two cognitive skills required for simultaneous interpretation.

2 Why is note-taking essential in consecutive interpretation?

3 What ethical principles are crucial in court interpretation?

4 Name one context where liaison interpretation is commonly used.

5 What is one limitation of whispered interpretation?

Exercise 5

Read each scenario and answer the questions.

Scenario A:
An international academic conference has participants from 15 countries. The speakers will not pause during their presentations, and the audience is large.

- Which type of interpretation is most appropriate?

- Give one reason for your choice.

Scenario B:

A migrant family attends a public hospital appointment and needs help communicating with the medical staff.

- Which type of interpretation is required?
- Mention one ethical consideration involved.

Exercise 6

Complete the sentences.

1 Simultaneous interpretation differs from consecutive interpretation mainly in terms of _____ and _____.

2 Court interpretation and community interpretation are similar because both emphasize _____, but they differ in _____.

3 Relay interpretation is necessary when _____.

1.10 Methods Translation vs Techniques Translation

In the process of translation, consistent techniques are used by translators to fit the local strategies, which necessitate specific ways of dealing with translation challenges (Kyrychuk, 2018). In that sense, translation techniques can vary throughout the text depending on the different sentences and ideas.

According to, Sarmila et al. (2023) “translation is the process of changing from the source language (SL) into the target language (TL).” In translation work, methods and techniques are essential tools that help translators accurately and effectively transfer meaning from a source language to a target language.

Referring to the terms of translation as a method, Molina and Hurtado (2002) argued that the translation method is a means of achieving the translator's objective, for example, a global preference that affects the entire text. In other words, when a translator uses a method have to use the same one in all the text, not just for a part of it.

Moreover, methods refer to the general approach or strategy applied to the entire text. They are broader and determine the translator's overall orientation. From this definition, it can be said that a translation method is more likely to be the approach used by translators during the translation process, depending on its purpose, goal, or aim. It functions as a translator’s overall choice that influences the entire text.

In that sense, Translation methods are approaches or strategies translators use to transfer meaning from one language to another. They vary depending on the purpose, audience, and text type.

Table 2. Differences between translation methods and translation techniques

Aspect	**Translation Methods**	**Translation Techniques**
Definition	Overall strategies or approaches used for the whole text	Specific procedures used to solve local problems in segments

Scope	Affects the entire text	Applied to individual phrases, words, or sentences
Purpose	Guides the general orientation of the translation	Resolves specific challenges during translation
Focus	On how to translate the text as a whole	On how to translate elements
Examples	Literal, Free, Faithful, Semantic, Communicative, Adaptation	Borrowing, Calque, Modulation, Transposition, Omission, etc.
Use	Decided before or at the beginning of the translation	Used during the translation process as needed

Source: Author's own creation

1.11 Types of Translation Methods

The **Literal Translation Method** means translating word by word (or phrase by phrase) while making only slight adjustments to ensure the target text is grammatically correct. It sticks closely to the source text's structure and wording. As a characteristic, it can be said that this method of translation respects the grammar rules of the target language; keeps the sentence structure as close as possible to the original; focuses more on *form* than *meaning,* and produces accurate, but sometimes it is unnatural or rigid text.

On the other hand, it´s useful for technical, legal, or scientific texts where precision matters. Helps maintain original terminology and structure, and it's good for language learners to understand source syntax. In conclusion Literal Method is best for texts requiring

accuracy (contracts, manuals, scientific documents), but not ideal for literary or culturally rich texts.

Example

⇒ ST: She has a black cat.

⇒ TT (Literal): *Ella tiene un gato negro*. (Grammatically correct, close to ST).

According to Newmark (1988) the **Free Translation Method,** prioritize the content of the source text form and transform it to the target text freely (p. 53). In fact, the free translation method refers "to translating according to the main idea of the original text, without being limited to word-for-word translation (different from literal translation).

It is commonly used in translating sentences, phrases, or larger meaning groups, and is mainly applied in situations where the original text reflects significant cultural differences from the target language." (Lu & Yang, 2024)

In conclusion, the **Free Translation Method** is an approach in which the translator prioritizes the sense or meaning of the source text over a strict, word-for-word rendering. Instead of focusing on literal accuracy, this method emphasizes producing a natural, fluent version in the target language that conveys the original ideas effectively.

Example

⇒ ST: He passed away.

⇒ TT: *Él falleció*.

The **Faithful Translation Method** aims to accurately reproduce the exact contextual meaning of the original text while maintaining the grammatical and lexical structures of the target language as naturally as possible. It respects the author's style, intent, and tone, even if this makes the translation slightly less smooth or idiomatic in the target language.

According to Newmark (1988) faithful translation, it is a method that "attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the target language's grammatical structures." In other words, the Faithful Translation Method is characterized by its accuracy over fluency, as it focuses on conveying the precise meaning of the original text rather than prioritizing a natural or idiomatic flow in the target language. It demonstrates strong loyalty to the source text, maintaining the original message, tone, and stylistic features of the author.

Additionally, it promotes cultural neutrality, avoiding adaptations of cultural references or idiomatic expressions to preserve the authenticity of the source. This method also preserves the original structure, meaning that sentence order and syntax often closely resemble those of the original text. Finally, it allows only limited adaptation, making changes solely when required to ensure grammatical correctness in the target language.

Example

⇒ ST: He is a man of letters.

⇒ TT: *Él es un hombre de letras*. (Even though "*hombre de letras*" is not a common phrase today, it preserves the original metaphorical meaning of a literary person.)

The **Adaptation Method** is a free and creative approach to translation that focuses on recreating the message and emotional impact of the original text, rather than translating word for word. It involves rewriting the text to fit the cultural, social, and linguistic context of the target audience. This approach prioritizes the reader's understanding and response over strict linguistic accuracy(Vinay & Darbelnet, 1997).

As a main characteristic, it can be said that the Adaptation Method recreates the sense and spirit of the original text rather than its literal structure, adjusts cultural references, idioms, and metaphors to fit the target culture, and focuses on audience expectations and communicative effect. (Newmark, 1988)

Likewise, it is often used when direct translation would lead to misunderstanding or loss of emotional resonance, as in Poetry and drama, to preserve rhythm, tone, and emotion. Also, it is very useful in advertising and marketing to make slogans or messages culturally relevant, and in the field of Film and TV localization helps to match humor, idioms, or dialogue to the target audience, ensuring clarity and cultural familiarity.

In conclusion, the adaptation method is a creative and culturally sensitive translation strategy used when literal translation cannot convey

the intended message effectively. It is especially valuable in poetry, drama, advertising, and marketing, where reader impact is more important than word-for-word accuracy.

Examples

⇒ ST: It is raining cats and dogs.

⇒ TT: *Está lloviendo a cantaros*.

Semantic Translation Method focuses on conveying the exact meaning and stylistic nuances of the source text, while maintaining sensitivity to connotations, tone, and cultural context. It is more flexible than faithful translation, allowing slight modifications to preserve the *aesthetic and emotional effect* of the original message. The goal is to reflect the author's intended meaning as closely as possible without distorting the target language's natural flow (Newmark, 1988).

According to Newmark (1981), who popularized the term, semantic translation "differs from faithful translation only insofar as it takes more account of the aesthetic value of the source language text," meaning that form and style matter, but meaning remains central.

Other researchers have emphasized that semantic translation seeks a balance between precision and readability, avoiding both over-literalism and over-adaptation. In other words, Semantic Translation Methods prioritize meaning, emotion, and cultural nuance over literal accuracy.

It is a source-text-oriented method that preserves the writer's intended message while adapting just enough for naturalness and style in the target language. Emphasizes exact meaning, style, and contextual connotations of words. Maintains aesthetic beauty, tone, and emotional depth of the original text. Allows slight modifications for naturalness in the target language but stays close to the source, and tries to capture cultural subtleties (idioms, metaphors, irony, and symbolism).

Furthermore, it is so useful in literary translation as novels, poetry, essays, philosophical or historical texts. It is less suited to technical or legal translation, where precision and standardization are more important than nuance (Mansour, 2014).

Example

⇒ ST: She is very generous.

⇒ TT: *Ella tiene un corazón de oro.*

The **Communicative Translation Method** aims to produce the same effect on the target audience as the original text had on its readers. It prioritizes readability, naturalness, and cultural appropriateness while maintaining fidelity to the source message (Newmark, 1988). The method focuses on audience response rather than linguistic form, ensuring that the translation communicates effectively and evokes similar emotional or intellectual reactions.

According to Newmark (1988) communicative translation**,** "it attempts to produce on its readers an effect as close as possible to that obtained on the readers of the original." This approach contrasts with semantic

translation, which focuses more on the precise contextual meaning and linguistic structure of the source text.
In communicative translation, translators are encouraged to prioritize the receptor's understanding and adapt the text to target-language norms, idioms, and cultural references (Cai, 2019; Wang, 2018).

For instance, Cai (2019) explains that communicative translation follows three main principles:

- Receptor-oriented strategy targeting the expectations and cultural background of the new audience.

- Equivalence of expected effect ensures the translation has the same communicative impact.

- Information accuracy keeps the message faithful to the original while optimizing readability.

Recent research also demonstrates the relevance of communicative translation in advertising, subtitle translation, and cross-cultural media. For instance, Dong (2024) emphasizes that this approach enables advertisers to preserve persuasive impact across languages while Wu (2024) highlighting how Apple's ad translations use idiomatic expressions and cultural adaptation to engage Chinese audiences effectively.

Indeed, the Communicative translation method is ideal for informative and vocative texts (advertisements, speeches, journalism). Additionally,

it is very useful in film subtitles and marketing materials, and in public communications, where clarity and reader engagement matter most**.**

Example

⇒ ST: Better late than never.

⇒ TT: Literal translation: "*Mejor tarde que nunca*." Communicative translation: "*Más vale llegar tarde que no llegar*."

Word-for-word Translation Method, also known as *metaphrase,* is a translation method in which every word from the source language is translated directly into its closest equivalent in the target language while preserving the original word order (Agungnesia, 2017). This method focuses on lexical substitution rather than overall meaning, and it typically relies on the most common dictionary meanings of each word. Because it neglects idiomatic usage, context, and syntactic differences between languages, word-for-word translation often results in unnatural, awkward, or even misleading phrasing in the target language.

In many cases, this method is used in interlinear translations, where the source text is placed alongside a literal word-for-word rendering. This format is common in linguistic studies because it helps learners understand how the structure and vocabulary of the original language operate.

Scholars note that word-for-word translation is rarely suitable for final, publishable translations. In this sense, Newmark (1981) explains that it is most useful as a pre-translation stage, allowing the translator to analyze the linguistic components of the source text before producing a

more natural and culturally appropriate version. It may also be helpful for highly technical or legal documents, where precision is more important than stylistic quality. However, even in these contexts, careful revision is usually necessary (Agungnesia, 2017).

The main disadvantage of this method is that it often fails to convey the intended meaning of idioms, metaphors, or culturally bound expressions. Because it prioritizes individual words over communicative sense, this approach can lead to what some scholars describe as a "dead" translation, mechanically accurate but semantically or stylistically inappropriate (Heslinga et al., 2012).

Although word-for-word translation has clear limitations when used on its own, it remains a valuable analytical tool in language learning, structural comparison, and the early phases of the translation process. It provides insight into the source text's linguistic structure, helping translators identify challenges before refining the translation through more flexible and communicative methods.

Example

⇒ ST: Time flies when you're having fun.

⇒ TT: *"El tiempo vuela cuando estás teniendo diversión".* This is grammatically understandable but somewhat unnatural in Spanish. It doesn't use a common Spanish phrase like*" El tiempo vuela cuando te diviertes,"* which would sound more fluid and native.

Idiomatic translation is a method that replaces expressions in the source language with natural and culturally appropriate idioms in the

target language. It emphasizes readability, fluency, and the natural flow of expression over strict word-for-word accuracy. According to Newmark (1988) idiomatic translation, “reproduces the message of the original but tends to prefer colloquialisms and idioms where these do not exist in the original text.” This approach aims to make the translated text sound as if it were originally written in the target language, ensuring it is both engaging and clear to its readers.

A truly idiomatic translation does not look like a translation; it looks like a native word. In terms of idiomatic translation usage, a good translator will translate the text idiomatically, searching for equivalents as natural as possible, replacing the original idioms with the target idioms (Hartono, 2020).

In contrast to literal or semantic translation, idiomatic translation focuses on dynamic equivalence, where the goal is to create the same response in the target audience that the original produced in its readers (Nida & Taber, 2021). Instead of mirroring sentence structure, the translator captures tone, idiomatic usage, and cultural nuance, prioritizing natural communication over formal correspondence.

Idiomatic translation is particularly valuable in literary works, advertising, film subtitling, and conversational texts, where style and readability are key. Studies have shown that this method helps maintain the communicative effect of the original text across cultures. In this sense, the translator managed to preserve the artistic style of the source language (SL) by using idiomatic expressions in the target language

(TL) whenever possible, resorting to compensation as a balancing strategy when needed (Alabdali, 2021).

Additionally, it is crucial to consider the importance of the language's aesthetic qualities in the text being translated. In other words, stylistic and aesthetic aspects do not hold the same weight in scientific texts as they do in literary ones. When translating literary works, their aesthetic and figurative elements must be carefully handled (Alabdali, 2021).

In short, idiomatic translation aims to make the target text read smoothly and authentically, reflecting the spirit rather than the structure of the original. It prioritizes communication, cultural resonance, and stylistic fluency, ensuring the translated text feels truly alive in its new linguistic environment.

Example

⇒ ST: It's raining cats and dogs.

⇒ TT: *"Está lloviendo a cántaros"* (The idiomatic Spanish equivalent)

Table 3.Comparative Framework or the main Translation Methods

Method	**Characteristics**	**Example (EN-ES)**	**Advantages**	**Disadvantages**
Word-for-Word	Translates each word directly, keeping the original order.	I have cold / *Yo tengo frío*	Useful for learning languages or technical terms.	Produces unnatural, sometimes incorrect expressions.

Literal	Keeps grammar structure but adapts to target language syntax.	She has blue eyes /*Ella tiene ojos azules*	Simple, maintains closeness to ST.	Still rigid, may sound unnatural.
Faithful	Transfers meaning precisely, respecting context and cultural elements.	He is on cloud nine /*Él está extremadame nte feliz*	Good for academic, legal, and technical texts.	Can sound stiff or less natural in TT.
Semantic	Focuses on sense and nuances, sensitive to style.	The heart of the matter /*El meollo del asunto/La gota que derramó la copa*	Balances accuracy with cultural meaning.	Requires high skill; may lose some literal accuracy.
Adaptation	Recreates the text for cultural resonance, often used in art, ads, or literature.	Break a leg/ *¡Mucha suerte!*	Maintains intended impact and cultural relevance.	Very free; risks losing original message.
Free Translation	Prioritizes meaning, not form; very flexible.	He passed away/ *Él falleció*	Clear, easy to understand for readers.	Can distort original tone or style.
Idiomatic	Uses natural target-language idioms, regardless of original structure.	It's raining cats and dogs/ *Está lloviendo a cántaros*	Makes translation lively and authentic.	Risk of over-interpretation or cultural mismatch.
Communicative	Focuses on reader response, aiming	Keep off the grass /*No*	Very effective in persuasion and communication.	May alter wording significantly;

	for same effect as original audience.	*pisar el césped*	sometimes too distant from original text.

Source: Author's own creation

1.11.1 Practice activities

1. What is the main difference between translation methods and techniques?

a) Methods are general strategies for the whole text, while techniques solve local problems.

b) Methods apply to specific words, while techniques affect the entire text.

c) Methods are only used in oral translation.

d) Methods are optional, while techniques are mandatory.

2. What translation method translates word-for-word, respecting the grammar of the target language?

a) Adaptation

b) Idiomatic Translation

c) Semantic Translation

d) Literal Translation

3. What translation method prioritizes meaning over form, seeking naturalness?

a) Communicative Translation

b) Faithful Translation

c) Free Translation

d) Word-for-Word Translation

4. In what type of translation are cultural references adapted to the target audience?

a) Adaptation

b) Faithful Translation

c) Semantic Translation

d) Idiomatic Translation

5. What translation method focuses on conveying the meaning, nuance, and style of the source text?

a) Communicative Translation

b) Literal Translation

c) Word-for-Word Translation

d) Semantic Translation

6. What translation method seeks to produce the same effect on the reader as the original text?

a) Faithful Translation

b) Word-for-Word Translation

c) Free Translation

d) Communicative Translation

7. The phrase 'It's raining cats and dogs' is an example of:

a) Adaptation

b) Literal Translation

c) Idiomatic Translation

d) Semantic Translation

8. What method is the most suitable for academic, legal, and technical texts where precision is essential?

a) Free Translation

b) Idiomatic Translation

c) Faithful Translation

d) Communicative Translation

9. What translation method translates each word directly without considering naturalness?

a) Free Translation

b) Communicative Translation

c) Word-for-Word Translation

d) Adaptation

10. Which of the following is an example of a translation technique (not a method)?

a) Modulation

b) Faithful Translation

c) Communicative Translation

d) Adaptation

CHAPTER II

2 Translation challenges faced by translators

"The Task of the Translator highlights how translation oscillates between pragmatic administration and profound religious and cultural mediation."

Walter Benjamin

This second chapter provides a detailed examination of the principal linguistic and procedural challenges inherent in the translation work. In this sense, it is important to understand that translation work extends far beyond the mere substitution of lexical items. It entails a sophisticated intellectual operation that integrates semantic interpretation, contextual analysis, and cultural mediation. Accordingly, the chapter begins by clarifying the implications of translation as a multifaceted process, one that demands both linguistic competence and methodological rigor.

A specific focus is placed on the management of abbreviations, whose meaning and usage often vary across languages and communicative contexts, creating potential ambiguities for the translator. The discussion further addresses the distinction between function words and content words, underscoring their differential contribution to grammatical structure and textual meaning. Consideration is also given to the translator's command of active and passive vocabulary, as lexical breadth significantly affects precision, nuance, and stylistic appropriateness in the target text.

Additionally, the chapter analyzes morphological elements such as prefixes and suffixes, as well as idiomatic expressions, all of which pose difficulty due to their cultural specificity and limited direct equivalence. Collectively, these components illustrate the range of linguistic barriers that translators must navigate to produce translations that are not only accurate but also coherent and culturally responsive.

In this sense, this chapter aims to develop students' understanding of fundamental linguistic and lexical concepts related to translation and language use, including intralinguistic, interlinguistic, and intersemiotic translation, word classification, vocabulary knowledge, word-formation processes, and idiomatic expressions, to enhance their ability to analyze meaning, expand vocabulary, and apply appropriate strategies for accurate and context-sensitive communication. Thus, the objective of this unit is to enhance students' cross-cultural awareness through translating culture-specific elements in the source text.

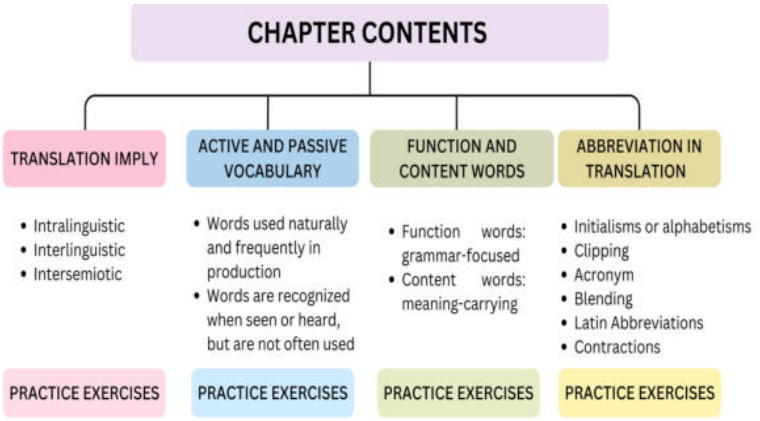


Figure 9.Chapter Contents

2.1 What does translation imply?

The process of Translation is considered a form of linguistic mediation, in which the content of a foreign language text (ST) is transferred into another language (TT) by creating in this language an information and communication equivalent text (Iordan, 2021). In other words, this process involves not just transferring information from one language to another, but also conveying cultural nuances.

Translation is not only about language conversion; it's about making content understandable for specific audiences. The translation process encompasses a series of interrelated cognitive and textual operations that aim to render a source text (ST) into a target text (TT) in a manner that preserves communicative intent, meaning, and pragmatic effect across linguistic and cultural boundaries.

Rather than a mechanical substitution of lexical items, translation is a dynamic, context-sensitive activity shaped by the translator's interpretive competences, the socio-cultural environment, the genre-specific conventions of both languages, and the constraints of the translation brief.

Thus, in the process of translation, certain elements of a message, such as those rooted in cultural context, unique linguistic features, or the intrinsic complexity of human speech, remain fundamentally untranslatable. This "untranslatability" suggests that there are layers of meaning so tangled in the original language that they cannot be perfectly mirrored in another.

That is why an essential component of this process involves cultural and contextual adaptation, ensuring that idiomatic expressions, cultural references, and pragmatic elements are rendered intelligible and relevant to the target audience. In this sense, recognizing the distinction between **Intralinguistic, Interlinguistic** and **Intersemiotic** translation helps us appreciate the diverse skills and strategies involved in effective communication.

2.2 Interlinguistic translation

In the first place, the **Interlinguistic translation** process is the traditional notion of translation, where the goal is to convey meaning across language boundaries. This type of translation is what people usually understand as translation, turning the message of a text from the source to the target language. Thus, the word translation in dictionaries and books is commonly used to refer to interlingual translation. (Novawan, 2023)

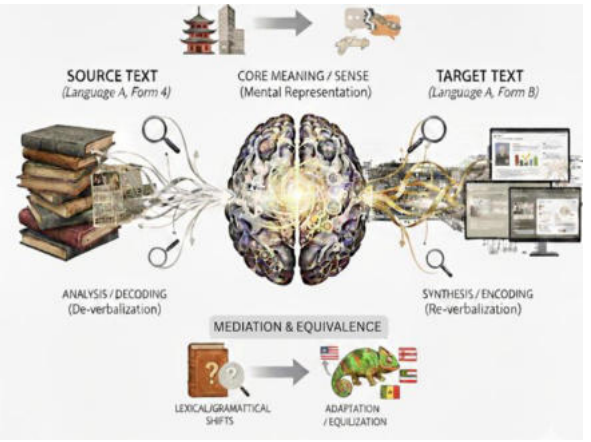


Figure 10.Interlinguistic Translation Process

Source. Generated by the author using Google Gemini 3 Flash, 2026 https://gemini.google.com/

Indeed, Interlinguistic translation requires not only linguistic but also cultural understanding to adapt phrases, idioms, and context, ensuring that the original message is accurately conveyed in the target language.

2.3 Intralinguistic Translation

On the other hand, **Intralinguistic Translation** or "rewording" is an interpretation of verbal signs by means of other signs of the same language. In these senses, some people think that the process of intralingual translation of a word uses either another, more or less synonymous word or resorts to a circumlocution. Yet, synonymically, as a rule, there is no complete equivalence. (Jakobson, 1959)

So much refers to the process of translating within the same language. This means reformulating or reinterpreting content to make it understandable for a different audience or context without switching languages. This type of translation focuses on clarifying or adjusting content within the same language to ensure comprehension for a particular audience.

In other words, this process expresses a text differently in the same language by using different words while preserving the original meaning. It is also known as rewording or paraphrasing, especially in academic writing; paraphrasing is a useful skill that can enhance students' writing competency. (Novawan, 2023)

In this sense, Intralinguistic translation is crucial in everyday communication. Think of legal documents, medical explanations, gap generation, or scientific research, all fields where complex terms need to be simplified. Without this type of translation, large portions of information would remain inaccessible, especially to those without specialized knowledge. In conclusion, this type of translation reduces knowledge barriers and promotes inclusivity.

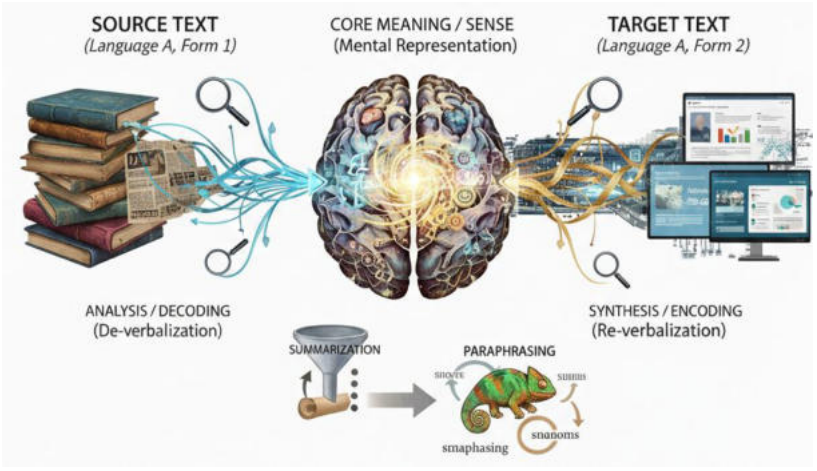


Figure 11.Representation of the Intralinguistic Translation Process

Source. Generated by the author using Google Gemini 3 Flash, 2026 https://gemini.google.com/

2.4 Intersemiotic translation

Intersemiotic translation, also known as **transmutation**, is the interpretation of linguistic signs through systems of non-linguistic signs. To better understand this type of translation, let's start with the definition of Semiotics, which is the field of study that examines signs and sign systems, how they are structured, and how they produce

meaning in communication. A sign is anything that stands for something else to someone in a particular context.

From a semiotic perspective, meaning is not inherent in objects themselves but is constructed through systems of signs governed by social, cultural, and contextual conventions. In these senses, Intersemiotic translation is the translation of verbal forms or texts in one language into nonverbal forms in the same or a different language, or vice versa. (Novawan, 2023)

2.4.1 Key Characteristics

- Shift in Medium: It moves beyond language to include symbols, sounds, and images.
- Reinterpretation: It requires the "translator" to interpret the essence of the source and recreate it using entirely different sensory tools.
- Cultural Impact: It is the primary way stories are adapted for modern multimedia consumption.

Common Examples

- Literature to Film: Adapting a novel into a motion picture.
- Text to Visual Arts: A painter creating a canvas based on a poem.
- Music to Dance: Choreographing a ballet to represent a musical score.

- Audio to Tactile: Converting written text into Braille or sign language.

In translation studies, semiotics provides the theoretical foundation for understanding how meaning moves across sign systems, not only between languages but also between modes (text, image, sound). This is especially relevant for **intersemiotic translation**, where linguistic signs are reinterpreted through non-linguistic systems.

This concept is especially relevant for your academic context, since it helps students understand that translation is not only linguistic but also **semiotic and cultural**, involving meaning across different systems of representation.

Highlighting the differences among intralinguistic, interlinguistic, and intersemiotic translation helps clarify why all three are indispensable within the field of translation studies. Each type fulfills a distinct function: intralinguistic translation facilitates understanding by reformulating messages within the same language, interlinguistic translation communicates across linguistic and cultural boundaries, and intersemiotic translation transforms verbal messages into non-verbal sign systems, such as images, sounds, or visual representations. Recognizing these distinctions allows us to better understand the versatility and multidimensional nature of translation as a discipline.

Table 4.Comparison of Translation Types

Aspect	Intralinguistic Translation	Interlinguistic Translation	Intersemiotic Translation
Definition	Translation within one language	Translation between languages	Translation between different semiotic systems
Purpose	Clarify for specific audiences	Cross-cultural communication	Represent meaning through non-verbal modes
Example	Simplifying legal terms	Translating a book	Adapting a novel into a film or infographic

Source: Author's own creation

In conclusion, understanding these three types of translation emphasizes that translation goes far beyond merely switching from one language to another. It functions as a bridge for comprehension, interpretation, and meaning making across linguistic and semiotic systems. This perspective highlights the essential role of translators and mediators in fostering communication, learning, and cultural exchange in personal, educational, and professional contexts.

2.4.2 Practice activities

Exercise 1

Read each scenario and decide whether it is an example of Intralinguistic, Interlinguistic, or Intersemiotic translation. Explain your reasoning.

- A lawyer explains the terms of a contract to a client using simple, everyday language.
- A novel originally written in Japanese is translated into English for international readers.
- A teacher rephrases complex scientific concepts for high school students to make them more understandable.
- A Spanish movie is dubbed into French for French-speaking audiences.
- A medical document is rewritten to make it easier for patients to understand.
- A poem is transformed into a song with music and melody.
- A historical text is adapted into a documentary with images, narration, and sound effects.
- A written set of instructions is converted into a series of pictograms for public signs.
- A novel is adapted into a graphic novel or comic book.
- A speech is interpreted into sign language for a deaf audience.

Exercise 2

Rewrite each sentence to make it more accessible to a general audience. Think about simplifying the language and avoiding jargon.

- "The patient presented with acute myocardial infarction symptoms."
- "The software requires periodic updates to ensure optimal performance."
- "The defendant was found liable for the damages caused to the plaintiff's property."

Exercise 3

Translate these sentences into your target language, considering cultural context and tone.

- "This restaurant offers a cozy, family-friendly atmosphere with a variety of traditional dishes."
- "Our app provides personalized fitness plans that adapt to your goals and schedule."
- "During the winter, temperatures can drop significantly, so be prepared with warm clothing."

Exercise 4

Creative Task. Choose one of the following and describe how you would translate it using an intersemiotic approach. Explain which elements of the original text would be kept, transformed, or omitted.

- A short story → comic strip
- A poem → dance performance
- A scientific concept → infographic
- A historical event → timeline with images

2.5 Active and Passive Vocabulary

Active and passive vocabulary are interconnected but not identical. Words typically enter a learner's lexicon as passive vocabulary and, through repeated exposure, meaningful use, and communicative practice, may gradually become active. However, not all passive vocabulary necessarily becomes active.

Nation (2006) emphasizes that the transition from passive to active vocabulary requires:

- Frequent encounters with words in varied contexts
- Opportunities for meaningful output (speaking and writing)
- Explicit instruction and feedback

First of all, What is Active Vocabulary? **Active Vocabulary** is defined in relation to the language skills of reading, listening, speaking, and

writing. An individual's active vocabulary includes words that are used in speech and writing. (Nemati, 2010)

In other words, Active vocabulary refers to the words that a speaker or writer can readily retrieve and use accurately and appropriately in speaking and writing. These words form part of a learner's productive language competence and require full control over meaning, form, pronunciation, spelling, grammar, collocation, and pragmatic use.

According to Nation (2006), productive (active) vocabulary knowledge involves the ability to produce a word correctly in a given context, which demands deeper lexical processing than recognition alone. Active vocabulary is therefore smaller in size but stronger in depth, reflecting a learner's communicative ability and fluency.

From a psycholinguistic perspective, Meara (1996) explains that active vocabulary involves stronger memory connections, as words must be accessed, adapted, and articulated under time pressure. Consequently, active vocabulary is typically limited in size but rich in depth of knowledge.

Active vocabulary is essential for:

- Oral communication (presentations, discussions, debates)
- Academic writing (essays, reports, research papers)
- Professional and real-world language use

Examples:

- “This topic is very **important** for our exam.”
- “Vocabulary development is an **important** component of language learning.”
- “I want to **improve** my English pronunciation.”
- “I chose this course **because** it helps my career.”

These words are considered active because the learner produces them spontaneously, uses them with correct grammar and meaning, and applies them appropriately in context.

On the other hand, **Passive vocabulary**, commonly referred to as receptive vocabulary, includes the words that a language user can recognize and comprehend during reading and listening, even if they cannot produce them accurately or confidently. Receptive knowledge often involves partial understanding, such as recognizing a word’s general meaning without full control over its form or usage.

Schmitt (2010) defines receptive vocabulary as lexical knowledge that supports comprehension but does not necessarily translate into productive ability. In the same vein, McCarthy (1990) argues that receptive vocabulary is foundational for language exposure, as learners encounter a far wider range of words in input than they can reasonably produce.

Passive vocabulary plays a crucial role in:

- Processing academic and authentic texts

- Understanding lectures, conversations, and media
- Supporting inferencing and contextual guessing
- Serving as a reservoir for future active vocabulary development

In other words, Passive vocabulary includes words that EFL/ESL learners can recognize and understand when reading or listening, but rarely use themselves.

Examples:

- Passive understanding: The learner understands it while reading:

"The task was difficult; **nevertheless**, the students completed it."

- Passive understanding: Understood in listening:

"The meeting will last **approximately** one hour."

Why This Matters in Translation Work?

- Translators must recognize passive vocabulary to understand source texts accurately.
- In the target language, they must translate into active vocabulary appropriate for the audience.
- Overuse of passive or overly formal vocabulary may result in unnatural or stilted translations.

In conclusion, Active words tend to be shorter, informal, and high frequency. On the other hand, Passive words are often more formal, academic, or technical, and are frequent in reading, such as articles, reports, and literature, but are not commonly used in casual speech.

2.5.1 Practice Exercise

Exercise 1.

Rewrite the sentences below using formal vocabulary and tone.

- A lot of students didn't get the results they wanted.
- The company gave free samples to everyone.
- He told the staff off for being late.
- We need to think about other options.
- Prices went up again last month.
- They asked for more time to finish the project.
- She started working on the report last week.
- The manager helped the new employee with the system.

Exercise 2.

Transform the casual conversation into a formal email.

- Alex: Hey Sam, I just wanted to let you know that I can’t make it to the meeting tomorrow.
- Sam: No worries. Do you want me to tell the professor for you?
- Alex: Yeah, that’d be awesome. I’ve got something else going on and won’t be able to come.
- Sam: Got it. I’ll let her know you’re not coming. Take care!

Exercise 3.

Analyze the following text and identify the possible mistakes in the Spanish translation.

- **Original English Text**

The manager asked the employees to submit their reports before Friday. He emphasized the importance of punctuality and clarity.

- **Flawed (Literal-Style) Spanish Translation**

El gerente preguntó a los empleados para someter sus reportes antes del viernes. Él enfatizó la importancia de la puntualidad y claridad.

2.6 Function and content words

In the first place, **Content words**, also called lexical words, are words that carry the main semantic meaning of a sentence. They refer to objects, actions, qualities, and ideas, and can generally stand alone with clear meaning. Content words are an open class, meaning new words can be added to these categories as language evolves.

Typical categories of content words include:

- Nouns: e.g., teacher, freedom
- Main verbs: e.g., run, analyze)
- Adjectives: e.g., important, significant)
- Adverbs: e.g., quickly, carefully)

According to Fromkin et al. (2018), content words provide the core information in sentences and are crucial for conveying meaning. Similarly, Yule (2020) explains that content words are essential for understanding what a message is about, even when grammatical words are missing.

On the other hand, it is important to know what makes translation accurate and natural. In this sense, it is necessary to study the definition of function words in order to make an adequate translation exercise.

Function words are a class of words whose primary role is to express grammatical relationships and structure within a sentence rather than convey concrete lexical meaning. Unlike content words (such as nouns, main verbs, adjectives, and adverbs), function words serve to connect, modify, or signal relationships between content words, thereby enabling sentences to be grammatically coherent and interpretable.

Therefore, function words include categories such as articles (*a, an, the*), prepositions (*in, on, at*), pronouns (*he, she, they*), auxiliary verbs (*be, have, do*), conjunctions (*and, but, although*), determiners, and particles. Their meanings are often abstract and highly dependent on context, and they tend to be limited in number but extremely frequent in actual language use.

According to Halliday and Hasan (1976), function words are essential for realizing grammatical functions and for organizing meaning at the clause and sentence level. Besides, Huddleston and Pullum (2002) expresses that function words do not contribute lexical meaning but are

essential for expressing grammatical relationships and sentence structure.

In conclusion, function words play a crucial role in fluency and comprehension, even though they carry less semantic content than lexical (content) words. Hence, in the translation exercise, there are some concerns to consider:

- Omission or addition of function words can lead to grammatical errors or altered meanings.
- Some languages don't use certain function words (e.g., articles in Russian or Chinese), which can lead to overuse or underuse in translation.
- Misinterpreting a preposition or article can drastically change the sense (e.g., "in time" vs. "on time").

Example: **Prepositions** and **Articles** Affecting Meaning

Common Incorrect Translation or Misuse: "He arrived **in time** for the meeting." While both "**on time**" and "**in time**" seem similar, they have different meanings:

- "On time" = punctual, not late. "He arrived exactly at the scheduled time."
- "In time" = before it was too late (often just barely). "He arrived before the meeting ended or before missing something important."

In translation, choosing the wrong preposition changes the intent:

- If you say, “in time,” it might suggest he almost missed the meeting.
- If you mean he was punctual, you must use “on time.”

Example of **Pronouns:**

Pronouns replace nouns to avoid repetition.

- Maria is my friend. **She** lives nearby.
- This is my book. It is **mine**.

Example of **Auxiliary (Helping) Verbs:**

Auxiliary verbs help form **tenses, questions, negatives, and passive voice**.

- I **am** studying English.
- They **have** finished the task.
- **Do** you like coffee?

Example of Conjunctions:

Conjunctions connect words, phrases, or clauses.

- I like tea **and** coffee.
- He was tired, **but** he continued working.
- She stayed home **because** it was raining.

Example of Determiners:

Determiners limit or clarify the meaning of a noun.

- **This** book is interesting.
- **My** teacher is very patient.
- **Some** students are absent.

In second language acquisition, mastery of function words is fundamental because they strongly influence grammatical accuracy, cohesion, and overall comprehensibility, particularly in speaking and writing.

Table 5.Function Words vs. Content Words

Function Words	Example Sentence	Content Words
the, in, and	The book is on the table.	book, table
she, because	She stayed because of rain.	stayed, rain

Note. Function words organize the sentence, while content words carry the main meaning.

2.6.1 Practice Exercise

Exercise 1. Circle the correct answer.

1. She is good (in / at / on) math.
2. I have lived here (since / for / at) 2020.
3. He didn't come (because / although / and) he was sick.
4. There isn't (some / any / much) milk left.
5. (This / These / Those) books are mine.

Exercise 2. Each sentence contains one function-word error. Identify and correct it.

1. She is married with a doctor.
2. I am going at school now.
3. He didn’t went to class yesterday.
4. She has a best friend in the city.
5. We discussed about the problem.
6. I look forward to see you.
7. There is too much students in the room.
8. He is responsible of the project.

Exercise 3. Correct all function-word mistakes and rewrite the sentence correctly.

1. She explained me the lesson.
2. I have been here since three hours.
3. The teacher gave homework to we.
4. He is afraid from dogs.
5. She arrived to the airport late.

2.7 Use of an abbreviation in the translation exercise

The study of abbreviations is crucial in English translation exercises because they often carry specific meanings that can significantly alter the interpretation of a text. Misinterpreting abbreviations can lead to inaccurate translations and misunderstandings.

Abbreviations are not only linguistic shortcuts but also cultural and contextual markers. Many of them are domain-specific, appearing frequently in fields such as medicine, law, and technology. A translator who understands these nuances ensures that the translation remains both accurate and culturally appropriate. This knowledge also contributes to efficiency and professionalism, as translators can maintain the original tone and style without unnecessary expansions when abbreviations are standard in the target language.

In this sense, translators frequently encounter abbreviations such as acronyms, initialisms, clippings, and blends, and an incorrect interpretation can lead to misunderstandings or loss of meaning in the target language. Therefore, mastering abbreviations is essential for achieving accuracy and clarity in translation (Newmark, 1988).

Additionally, abbreviations reflect cultural and institutional conventions. Some English abbreviations have direct equivalents in Spanish (e.g., *UN → ONU*), while others are maintained in English due to international usage (e.g., *GPS, USB*). Studying abbreviations in translation exercises helps learners understand when to translate, adapt, explain, or borrow an abbreviation, which is a key decision-making skill in professional translation (Molina & Hurtado, 2002).

Another significant aspect is readability and target-audience awareness. In many cases, an abbreviation familiar to English readers may be unknown to Spanish readers. Through translation practice, students learn strategies such as expanding the abbreviation on first mention or adding explanatory notes to ensure comprehension. This strengthens functional equivalence and communicative effectiveness in translated texts (Nord, 2005).

2.8 Types of abbreviations

In English, abbreviations are more than just "short words." They are categorized based on how they are formed and, importantly, how they are pronounced. Thus, abbreviation is the process of creating new words by shortening the stem of a word, which results in new words with a shortened or reduced stem, called abbreviations. There are many types and classifications of shortenings and abbreviations based on different criteria.

Initialisms or alphabetisms. This category is formed by the first letters of words in the abbreviated phrase, but the finished abbreviation does not sound like a new word. It also includes traditional abbreviations of country names or other proper names (M. Yu., 2021). Examples:

- USA- the United States of America
- EU- the European Union
- FBI- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- ATM- Automated Teller Machine

In the translation process, it is often left untranslated, especially in technical fields. Provide full form in the target language if clarity is needed. Each letter in initialism is pronounced separately. Practically, such abbreviations are often used for convenience, for thematic speeches, or in the context of specific research, etc.

On the other hand, **Clipping**, a term created by condensing a longer word without altering its meaning, is another kind of abbreviation. It is, in essence, a word that has had letters or syllables removed. There are three Clipping Types:

- Back clipping: lab (laboratory), advertisement
- Fore clipping: phone (telephone)
- Middle clipping: flu (influenza)

Depending on the situation, the translation uses the full form or its colloquial equivalent.

In conclusion, this method of word formation occurs when a word's end is omitted, or a portion of its stem is chopped off.

Another type of abbreviation is an **Acronym,** this sort is unique because they eventually become so common that people forget they were ever abbreviations. This process is called lexicalization. In the punctuation sent**,** generally, acronyms do not use periods between letters. While most are capitalized, some have become “common nouns” and are written in lowercase.

Examples:

- SCUBA (Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus)
- NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration)
- GIF (Graphics Interchange Format)

In addition, acronyms sometimes may be translated if there is a local equivalent (e.g., NATO - OTAN in Spanish).

In contrast, **Blending** occurs when two or more words are joined together by merging their sounds and meanings. Unlike a compound word (like notebook), a blend usually drops parts of the original words to create a new, singular term. Typically, the beginning of one word is joined to the end of another.

Examples:

- Brunch (Breakfast + Lunch)
- Smog (Smoke + Fog)
- Glamping (Glamorous + Camping)
- Podcast (iPod + Broadcast)
- Motel (Motor + Hotel)

Another abbreviation type is **Latin Abbreviations**. These sorts of abbreviations are derived from Latin phrases that have been used in English for centuries. They are essential for academic, legal, and professional writing.

Table 6.Common Latin Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Latin Original	English Meaning	Usage Example
e.g.	*Exempli gratia*	For example	"I love citrus fruits, **e.g.**, oranges and lemons."
i.e.	*Id est*	That is / In other words	"He is a bibliophile, **i.e.**, a person who loves books."
etc.	*Et cetera*	And the rest / And so on	"Bring pens, paper, rulers, **etc.**"
et al.	*Et alii*	And others (people)	"The study by Smith **et al.** (2023) suggests..."
P.S.	*Post scriptum*	Written after	Used at the end of letters for extra thoughts.

Note. This type of abbreviation is common in academic or formal writing.

On the other hand, **Contractions** are shortened forms in English created by omitting letters and using an apostrophe. They are very common in spoken and informal written English, and they help make communication sound more natural and fluent. Common types include negative contractions (*don't, can't*), subject-auxiliary contractions (*she's, they're*), and modal contractions (*shouldn't, couldn't*).

When translating contractions into Spanish, they are generally rendered using full verb forms, since Spanish does not use apostrophe-based contractions in the same way. Negative contractions are translated with *no + verb*, and subject-auxiliary contractions require careful analysis of context to determine tense and meaning. For example, "*she's"* may mean "*she is,* or *she has*," and the correct interpretation depends on the sentence.

Register and context are essential in translation. In informal texts, contractions convey a natural tone, which should be reflected in Spanish through natural phrasing rather than contractions. In formal texts, contractions are expanded and translated into complete forms. Overall, translators must identify the full meaning of each contraction, avoid literal translation, and adapt the tone to the target audience to ensure clarity and accuracy.

In conclusion, accurately understanding and translating abbreviations is essential in English translation exercises, as they frequently appear in academic, technical, professional, and informal texts. The main types include acronyms, initialisms, shortenings, contractions, Latin abbreviations, internet slang, measurement units, and business/legal terms. Each type requires a different translation strategy depending on the context, target audience, and language norms.

2.8.1 Practice activities

Exercise 1

Read the following abbreviations and write what type each one is (acronym, initialism, contraction, etc.).

Abbreviation	**Type**
NASA	
FBI	
info	
can't	
e.g.	

OMG	
kg	
CEO	

Exercise 2

Choose 5 abbreviations from the list below and use each one in a complete English sentence.

List: UN, FBI, etc., lol, CPU, WHO, vet, ad, can't, ATM

Exercise 3

Find 3 more abbreviations used in everyday English and explain their meaning and use in a sentence.

CHAPTER III

3 Translation Techniques

"Without translation, I would be limited to the borders of my own country. The translator is my most important ally. He introduces me to the world..."

Italo Calvino

This chapter systematically presents the principal techniques employed in translation. It first considers direct translation techniques, such as borrowing, calque, and literal (faithful) translation, before turning to oblique translation techniques that include modulation, transposition, equivalence, and semantic translation. Through theoretical explanation and practical illustration, readers will gain a nuanced understanding of when and how to deploy each technique in response to specific translational challenges.

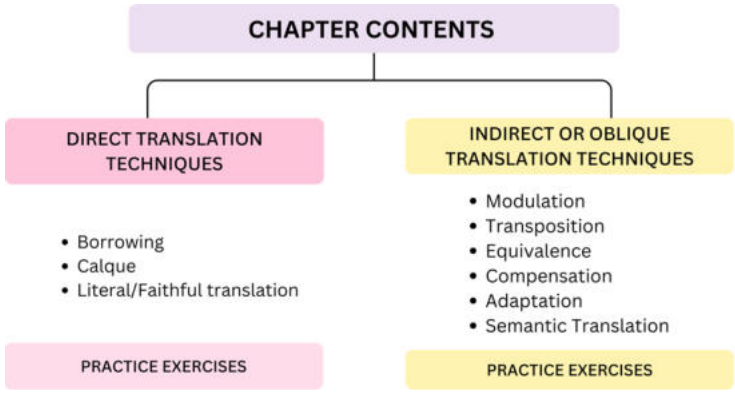


Figure 12.Chapter Contents

Translation is not merely the substitution of words from one language to another; it is a complex process that involves transferring meaning, intention, and cultural context between languages. As Newmark (1988) explained, effective translation requires sensitivity to both linguistic form and communicative function. To manage these challenges, translators employ a range of translation techniques that guide decision-making during the translation process.

So, transporting means the process of conveying something from one place to another, typically things; in translation, it is not physical things but messages (Novawan, 2023). That is why translation is not a simple process of replacing words from one language with words from another; rather, it involves transferring meaning, intent, and cultural context from a source language to a target language. To achieve this goal, translators rely on a variety of strategies, known as translation techniques, to resolve linguistic and cultural differences between languages.

Generally speaking, translators can choose from two types of translation techniques, namely Direct or Literal Translation, and Oblique Translation. In some translation tasks, it may be possible to transpose the source language message element by element into the target language, because it is based on either parallel categories, in which case we can speak of structural parallelism, or on parallel concepts, which are the result of metalinguistic parallelisms (Vinay & Darbelnet, 1997).

Understanding the differences between direct and oblique translation techniques is essential for producing accurate, natural, and culturally

appropriate translations. Mastery of these techniques enables translators to make informed decisions and ensures effective communication across languages and cultures.

3.1 Direct Translation Techniques: Borrowing, calque, and literal/Faithful translation

According to Molina and Hurtado (2002) **Direct Translation Techniques** are useful especially when the structural and conceptual elements of the source and target languages are sufficiently similar to permit a straightforward translation without altering the meaning. They involve little or no change to the form or content of the original text.

These types of techniques, including **borrowing, calque, and literal or faithful translation**, are used when the structural and conceptual elements of the source language can be transferred directly into the target language without producing unnatural or incorrect expressions. So, these translation techniques are applied when the grammatical structure and underlying meaning of the source language can be conveyed into the target language clearly and accurately, without resulting in awkward or incorrect expressions. Summarizing these techniques is especially useful when both languages have comparable syntactic and semantic patterns.

3.1.1 Borrowing Technique

Borrowing is a translation technique that involves using words or expressions directly from other languages. It means taking the loan word or borrowed phrase from the original language, purely or without

change. Based on some research on translation, English freely adopted and borrowed major parts of the vocabulary from Greek, Latin, French, and other

languages in the world (Hartono, 2020; Molina & Hurtado, 2002).

Likewise, Borrowing is a direct translation technique in which a word or expression from the source language is transferred unchanged into the target language. This technique is commonly used when no exact equivalent exists in the target language or when the translator wishes to preserve cultural or technical specificity (Vinay & Darbelnet, 1997).

Example:

- Pure Borrowing: English borrows the word *"déjà vu"* from French without changing its spelling or pronunciation. Another example is the English word *"internet."*
- Naturalized Borrowing: The English word *"ballet"* comes from the French word but is pronounced differently to fit English phonetic rules. Similarly, *"lobby"* is taken from English and borrowed by Spanish. According to Newmark (1988) naturalization is a translation procedure or technique that transfers and adapts the source language to normal pronunciations, then transfers and adapts it to normal word formations.

In conclusion, the borrowing technique refers to a word or expression from the source language that is used in the target language without translation. Additionally, Borrowing helps maintain authenticity and is

frequently applied to cultural items, proper nouns, and technical terminology.

3.1.2 Calque Technique

Linguistically, the Calque technique is basically a word or phrase borrowed from other languages by using a literal or word-for-word translation method. The term calque itself was borrowed from the French language, derived from the verb "*calquer,"* which means to copy or to trace. (Hartono, 2020)

So, the calque technique is when we use a foreign word or phrase translated and incorporate it into another language. In relation to the calque issue, Grassilli (2016) propose four types: Paronymous, Orthographic, Typographic, and Syntactic or structural calque.

- Paronymous calque or loan word: This occurs when a word is borrowed from another language but slightly modified in pronunciation or form to fit the phonology or structure of the target language. While the borrowed term resembles the original, the modification keeps it closer to the norms of the receiving language.

Example:

-English: The word *"café"* from French is borrowed into English with the same spelling but pronounced differently.

-Spanish: The word "*fútbol*" is a loan word from the English "football," adapted to Spanish pronunciation and spelling.

- Orthographic calque: In this type, the spelling or written form of a foreign word or phrase is replicated in the target language. The word maintains its visual identity from the source language but may be pronounced differently depending on the orthographic rules of the target language.

Example:

- English: The term "*divorcé*" is borrowed from French, keeping its original spelling with the accent, though it could be pronounced differently in English.

- Spanish: The word "software" is used in Spanish exactly as in English, without changes in spelling, but it conforms to Spanish orthographic rules in pronunciation.

- Typographic calque: This is a lesser-known or less common type of calque where the typography, or visual formatting (like typeface or capitalization) of a word or phrase, is copied from the source language into the target language. This could occur with stylistic or design-related choices in the original language that are carried over.

Example:

- English: In English, brands or stylistic forms like "*La Niña*" (a climate phenomenon) retain their Spanish capitalization and diacritical marks (accent over the "i").

- Spanish: A typographic calque is less common, but in branding or formal names, “Big Bang” in Spanish might keep the English typography (capitalization and spacing), even though Spanish would not naturally follow this capitalization style.

- Syntactic or structural calque: This involves translating the grammatical structure or syntactic arrangement of a phrase from one language to another. The specific order or construction of the words is copied, even though it might not align perfectly with the natural patterns of the target language.

Example:

- English: The phrase “blue blood” is a calque from the Spanish “*sangre azul*” a phrase used to describe aristocracy. The structure and meaning are directly translated.

- Spanish: The Spanish phrase “*ratón de biblioteca*” literally “mouse of the library” is a structural calque from the English “bookworm”, where both languages keep the same metaphorical structure.

In brief, the Calque technique involves creating a new term in the target language by directly translating parts of the source expression. This often happens with idioms, phrases, or technical terms where the conceptual meaning remains the same across both languages.

3.1.3 Literal/Faithful Technique

The third direct technique is literal translation. Molina and Hurtado (2002) categorized it into a word-by-word translation technique because

this technique tries to translate a word or phrase word by word, or word-for-word. Faithful translation, a closely related concept proposed by Newmark, prioritizes accuracy and adherence to the original text's meaning, form, and tone, even if the result sounds slightly foreign. (Newmark, 1988)

This method works when the grammatical structures of both languages align perfectly, and translating word-for-word retains both the meaning and style. However, this technique can lead to awkward translations when the sentence structure or idiomatic expressions differ significantly between languages. Therefore, the literal translation technique is often used in legal, scientific, or technical documents where accuracy is paramount, and phrases do not rely heavily on idiomatic or contextual meaning.

Examples:

1. English: "The car is red."

Spanish: "*El coche es rojo."* Explanation: Each word is directly translated with no changes to the sentence structure.

2. English: "I need water."

Spanish: *"Necesito agua."* Explanation: The structure and meaning remain the same between the two languages.

3. English: "He lives in a big house."

Spanish: *"Él vive en una casa grande."* Explanation: No alteration in word order or meaning; it's a direct word-for-word translation.

4. English: “They are eating breakfast.”

Spanish: *“Ellos están comiendo el desayuno.”* Explanation: The sentence retains the same structure with a literal translation of each word.

5. English: “The children play in the park.”

Spanish: *“Los niños juegan en el parque.”* Explanation: The sentence structure and meaning are the same in both languages.

In conclusion, Literal translation is effective when the languages share similar grammatical structures, the meaning of the sentence doesn’t rely on idioms or cultural references, when precision is required, such as in technical or scientific documents, and the source language sentence is straightforward without nuanced meaning.

However, literal translation often fails when translating idiomatic expressions, phrases with cultural meaning, or when the two languages differ significantly in terms of grammar and syntax. In such cases, a more adaptive or indirect translation technique would be necessary to convey the intended meaning.

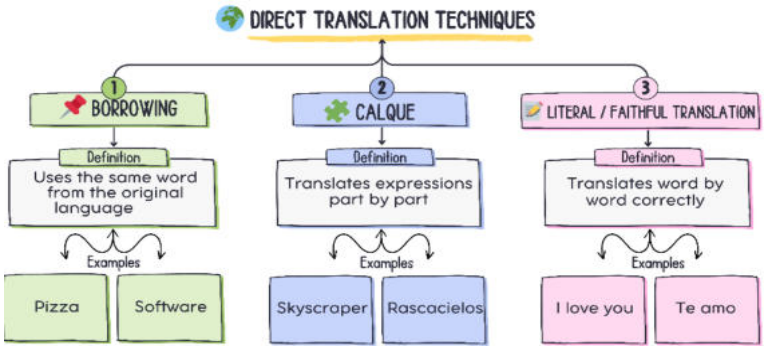


Figure 13.Direct Translation Techniques Diagram

3.1.4 Practice activities

Exercises 1. Translate the following sentences from English to Spanish. Indicate which direct translation technique (borrowing, calque, or literal translation) you are using for each sentence.

- The internet is down in my house.
- My computer needs an update.
- I'm attending a workshop next week.
- The skyscraper is the tallest building in the city.
- I sent an email to my boss yesterday.

Exercises 2. Each translation below uses a direct technique, but one is incorrect or unnatural. Identify the problem and suggest a correction.

1. Bookstore → *Tienda de libros*
2. He passed away → *Él pasó lejos*
3. Computer → *Computador*

Exercise3. Select the most appropriate direct translation technique for each case.

A technical term with no Spanish equivalent (router):

a) Literal translation
b) Calque
c) Borrowing

An expression whose components can be translated word-for-word (digital library):

a) Borrowing
b) Calque
c) Modulation

A simple sentence with similar grammar in both languages (She is my friend):

a) Literal translation
b) Equivalence
c) Transposition

3.2 Indirect Techniques or Oblique Translation Techniques: Modulation, Transposition, Equivalence, Compensation, Adaptation, and Semantic Translation

Indirect Translation Techniques, also known as Oblique Translation Techniques, are strategies employed by translators when a direct, literal translation is either impossible or fails to capture the original text's meaning, nuances, cultural references, or stylistic elements.

In such cases, the translator must modify linguistic form, perspective, or structure in order to preserve the original meaning and communicative intent. The concept of oblique translation was formally introduced by Vinay and Darbelnet (1997), who argued that these techniques are essential when there are significant grammatical, stylistic, or cultural differences between languages.

Hence, Indirect Translation Techniques are strategies used when direct translation methods are not suitable due to linguistic, cultural, or contextual differences between the source and target languages. These techniques help ensure that the translated text is both accurate and culturally appropriate for the target audience.

3.2.1 Modulation

Consistent with Vinay and Darbelnet (1997) Modulation is a technique that involves a change in semantic perspective or cognitive viewpoint while maintaining the same meaning. This technique is applied when a literal translation would sound unnatural or awkward in the target language.

In this sense, Modulation means altering the semantic perspective or point of view to convey the same idea differently. So the purpose is to make the translation more natural and contextually appropriate in the target language.

Example:

⇒ ST: It's not difficult.

⇒ TT: *Es fácil.*

3.2.2 Transposition

Transposition involves changing the grammatical category or syntactic structure of the source text without altering its meaning. This technique is often necessary to align the translation with the grammatical norms of the target language (Molina & Hurtado, 2002).

Hence, changing the grammatical category of words or phrases while preserving their original meaning involves adapting linguistic elements so that they fit naturally within the grammatical norms of the target language. This process ensures that the transformation maintains the intended message while restructuring the form to align with the grammatical expectations and conventions of the new language.

Example

⇒ ST: Beautifully written (adverb + participle)

⇒ TT: Es una obra hermosa (noun + adjective).

3.2.3 Equivalence

Equivalence is used to translate idioms, proverbs, and fixed expressions by employing a target-language expression that conveys the same communicative effect, even if the lexical and structural elements differ completely from the source text (Vinay & Darbelnet, 1997).

In other words, this technique changes the grammatical category of words or phrases while maintaining the original meaning. So, the purpose is to adapt the structure of the source language to the target language's grammatical norms.

Example

⇒ Break a leg! → *¡Mucha suerte!*

⇒ It's raining cats and dogs → *Está lloviendo a cántaros*

3.2.4 Compensation

Compensation is a translation technique employed when a specific linguistic, stylistic, or pragmatic feature of the source text cannot be directly reproduced in the same position in the target text. Instead of attempting a literal transfer, the translator introduces an equivalent effect at another point in the target text in order to preserve the overall communicative value and stylistic impact of the original message.

According to Newmark (1988), compensation is advantageous when dealing with elements such as wordplay, emphasis, humor, or cultural references, which may be lost due to structural or cultural differences between languages. By redistributing meaning or stylistic force within the target text, compensation allows translators to minimize loss and maintain functional equivalence, ensuring that the translated text fulfills a similar purpose and effect for the target audience as the source text.

Moentaha (2006) argued that compensation is a noteworthy translation technique that it can make it easy to compensate for impossible information in the source language (SL) delivered to the target language (TL). The translator can compensate SL units for the TL ones.

In relation to this issue, Hervey and Higgins (2002) classified the compensation technique into four types:

1. **Compensation in kind** basically replaces a stylistic or rhetorical device in the source language with a different device in the target language to achieve a similar effect. In other words, Compensation in kind means the insertion of a particular textual outcome into the target

language when the clout in the source language cannot be exactly reproduced

- English: She sang with a voice as smooth as silk.
- Spanish: *Cantaba con una voz aterciopelada*.

(The simile, as "smooth as silk," is replaced with the metaphor "*aterciopelada"*.)

2. **Compensation in Place** means moving the stylistic or linguistic feature from one part of the text to another to maintain its impact. In other words, this translation technique seeks to display an effect that is lost in a particular part of the ST by recreating an appropriate effect, whether it is at the start or end position (a phrase or sentence) in the TT. According to Hillas (2009) compensation in place, it is the shifting of a given textual effect from the exact place it is to be found in the ST.

- English: Unfortunately, he didn't make it.
- Spanish: *No lo logró, lamentablemente.*

("Unfortunately," is moved to the end of the sentence in Spanish to fit natural word order.)

3. **Compensation by Merging** combine two separate elements from the source text into a single element in the target text. According to Hervey and Higgins (2002) compensation by merging is a translation technique that compresses or summarizes the source text characteristics in a long stretch (for example, a complex phrase) into a short stretch of the target text (for example, a single word or single phrase).

- English: He was sad. His heart felt heavy.
- Spanish: *Estaba triste.*

(The two sentences in English are merged into one concise sentence in Spanish, "*Estaba triste*," capturing the same essence.)

4. Compensation by Splitting means to break a single element in the source text into multiple elements in the target text to convey the full meaning. On the other hand, Hillas (2009) adds that compensation by splitting is clearly the opposite of compensation by merging, and consists of rendering a word of the source text into several words in the target text.

- English: She is witty.
- Spanish: Es ingeniosa y siempre tiene una respuesta rápida.

(The concise English term "witty" is split into two parts in Spanish to fully describe her "cleverness and quick thinking.")

In conclusion, this technique is commonly applied to elements such as wordplay, emphasis, humor, irony, or culturally bound expressions, where a direct or localized translation would result in loss of meaning or effect.

3.2.5 Adaptation

In the case of Adaptation, there are different ways to classify, because some authors think that Adaptation is a method of translation, and others that it is a technique. According to Newmark (1988), adaptation is a method of translation, while Molina and Hurtado (2002) say that

adaptation is a translation technique. In this sense, adaptation can be understood in two distinct ways: either as a global method that results in the entire text becoming an adaptation of the original work, or as a specific technique used locally to replace a source language (SL) cultural element with a different, more compatible cultural element suitable for the target language (TL) audience.

Molina and Hurtado (2002) define the Adaptation technique as a shift in the cultural environment. It means that Adaptation involves replacing a cultural element of the source text with one that is more familiar or appropriate to the target culture. It is considered the most flexible and culture-oriented oblique technique (Vinay & Darbelnet, 1997).

In general, Adaptation is useful when there are cultural references and even a gap in generations between the audience, and it is needed to find a way to express the same information from one language to another. That's why it is commonly used in audiovisual translation, advertising, and children's literature.

Example of Adaptation in a culturally adapted context

- Replacing a reference to "Baseball" in an American text with "*Cricket*" for a British audience or "*Fútbol*" for a Latin American audience to maintain the context of a "national pastime."
- In English-speaking cultures, "Friday the 13th" is widely considered an unlucky day. If a text mentioning this date is translated into Spanish, a translator uses adaptation to change the

date to "*Martes 13*" (Tuesday the 13th), as this is the day associated with bad luck in many Spanish-speaking countries.

Examples of Adaptation in Advertising Translation

⇒ ST: "Happy Meal"

⇒ TT: *"Cajita Feliz"*

Rather than translating "happy" and "meal" literally, the brand adapts the term to align with cultural expectations and marketing conventions in Spanish-speaking markets. This change demonstrates adaptation, as the translation prioritizes emotional resonance and consumer familiarity.

3.2.6 Semantic Translation

According to Newmark (1988), semantic translation seeks to remain as close as possible to the source text in meaning and tone, without violating the grammatical and stylistic norms of the target language. In other words, Semantic translation is a translation technique that prioritizes the accurate transfer of the contextual meaning, nuances, and connotative values of the ST while allowing a certain degree of flexibility in form.

Unlike literal or faithful translation, semantic translation does not rigidly adhere to the source language structure. Instead, it focuses on conveying subtle meanings, emotional undertones, and aesthetic qualities embedded in the original text.

Furthermore, Semantic translation emphasizes what the text means rather than how it is formally structured. It preserves implied meanings, emotional tone, and stylistic effects. Additionally, cultural elements are usually retained unless they impede comprehension, and minor structural changes are permitted to ensure clarity and naturalness. So, it means that this technique aims to respect the author's intentions and expressive choices.

In conclusion, Semantic translation occupies an intermediate position between strict fidelity and free adaptation. By focusing on contextual meaning and nuance, it enables translators to produce texts that are both accurate and expressive, particularly in literary and culturally rich contexts. It is most effective in literary translation (novels, poetry, short stories), expressive texts (speeches, essays, opinion pieces), culturally nuanced texts, and academic or philosophical writing.

Example: Idiomatic meaning

- He is a bookworm → *Es un amante de los libros*

The metaphor is interpreted semantically rather than literally.

Example: Connotative meaning

- She has a sharp mind → *Tiene una mente brillante*

The adjective "sharp" is translated for meaning, not form.

Example: Literary context

- The silence was heavy → *El silencio era opresivo*

The semantic weight of “heavy” is rendered contextually.

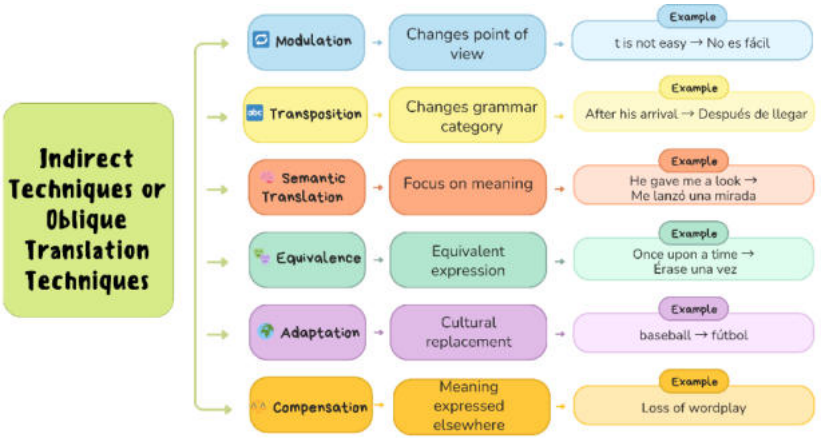


Figure 14. Indirect/Oblique Translation Techniques Diagram

Finally, the Addition and Omission techniques are defined as unjustified periphrasis and concision and are considered translation errors. Addition is the introduction of unjustified stylistic elements and information not in the ST; omission is the unjustifiable suppression of elements in the ST. (Tourville, 1993)

3.3 Practice Quiz

1. Which technique changes the grammatical category of a word?

    a) Borrowing
    b) Calque
    c) Transposition
    d) Semantic Translation

2. Which technique keeps the original word from the source language?

a)Equivalence

b)Borrowing

c)Modulation

d) Literal Translation

3. Which technique is best for idioms like “It’s raining cats and dogs”?

a)Literal

b)Borrowing

c)Equivalence

d) Calque

4. He is a bookworm → *Es un amante de los libros* is an example of:

a)Borrowing

b)LiteralTranslation

c) Semantic Translation

d) Modulation

5. Which technique modifies the point of view (e.g., “It’s not impossible” → *Es posible*)?

a)Faithful Translation

b) Modulation

c) Calque

d) Transposition

CHAPTER IV

4 Rendering and translation workshop

"Translation is not a matter of words only: it is a matter of making intelligible a whole culture."

Anthony Burgess

This chapter connects translation theory with practical application through engaging, hands-on exercises. It stresses the combined use of direct and oblique techniques in realistic situations, helping readers improve their decision-making and problem-solving skills. This practical, workshop-based approach builds professional competence by simulating the requirements of actual translation projects.

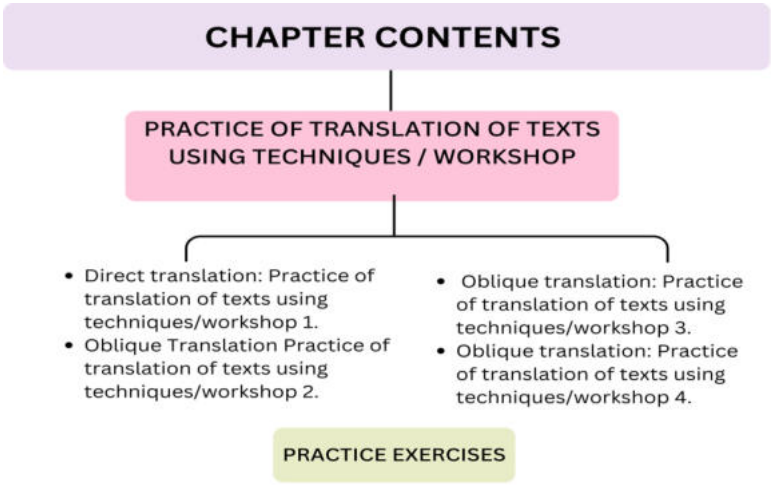


Figure 15.Chapter Content

4.1 Integrating Direct and Oblique Translation Techniques in Authentic Real-World Contexts

Translation in real-world settings requires more than a mechanical transfer of words from one language to another. It demands strategic decision-making that balances linguistic accuracy, cultural appropriateness, and communicative effectiveness. In professional and academic translation practice, translators must constantly evaluate whether to apply **direct techniques** such as borrowing, calque, and literal translation or **indirect/oblique techniques**, including modulation, transposition, equivalence, adaptation, and compensation, depending on the context, purpose, and audience of the text.

The integration of direct and oblique translation techniques becomes especially significant in authentic real-world contexts, where texts are wrought by cultural nuances, pragmatic intentions, and communicative conventions. As highlighted by Vinay and Darbelnet (1997), effective translation is not limited to formal linguistic correspondence but also involves flexible methodological choices that address structural and semantic differences between languages.

While direct translation techniques are often suitable for straightforward, technical, or informational texts, oblique techniques are necessary when literal translation fails to preserve meaning, tone, or cultural relevance.

Furthermore, contemporary translation studies emphasize that authentic texts such as advertisements, academic articles, legal documents,

audiovisual materials, and digital communication frequently require a dynamic combination of techniques rather than a single fixed strategy.

According to Newmark (1988), successful translation in real-life communicative situations involves adapting linguistic forms to achieve equivalent effects in the target language while maintaining fidelity to the source message. This integrative approach reflects the translator's role as a mediator who negotiates meaning across linguistic and cultural boundaries.

Therefore, this chapter explores how direct and oblique translation techniques can be systematically integrated in authentic real-world contexts. It examines their theoretical foundations, practical applications, and pedagogical implications, with particular attention to context-sensitive decision-making and problem-solving in translation tasks.

By analyzing real-life examples and applied scenarios, the chapter aims to develop learners' strategic competence, enabling them to select the most appropriate technique to produce accurate, natural, and culturally appropriate translations.

Table 7.Comparison Table of Translation Techniques

Technique	**Category**	**Main Purpose**	**How It Works**	**Example**
Borrowing	Direct	Preserve original term	The source word is transferred directly into the target	Pizza (EN → ES) → P*izza*

			language, sometimes with minor spelling changes.	
Calque	Direct	Replicate structure	Each element of the source expression is translated literally.	Skyscraper (EN → ES) → R*ascacielos*
Literal Translation	Direct	Word-for-word accuracy	Translates each word directly while respecting target grammar.	I love you (EN → ES) → *Te amo*
Faithful Translation	Direct	Preserve form and meaning	Closely follows the source text's structure, tone, and meaning.	He is faithful to his word→ *Él es fiel a su palabra.*
Transposition	Oblique	Change grammatical form	Shifts grammatical categories without changing meaning.	After his arrival→ *Después de que llegó.* (noun → verb)
Modulation	Oblique	Change point of view	Expresses the same idea from a different	It is not difficult → *Es fácil.*

			semantic angle.	
Semantic Translation	Oblique	Preserve nuance and meaning	Prioritizes meaning and connotation over strict structure	A warm welcome → *Una cordial bienvenida*
Equivalence	Oblique	Produce same effect	Uses an idiomatic or culturally equivalent expression	It is raining cats and dogs → *Está lloviendo a cantaros*
Compensation	Oblique	Recover lost meaning elsewhere	A meaning or stylistic effect lost in one part is expressed in another part of the text.	Honorifics lost in English are compensated by polite wording in Spanish
Adaptation	Oblique	Adjust to cultural context	Replaces a cultural element with a more familiar one in the target culture.	Baseball → *Fútbol* When addressing a Latin American audience.

4.2 Practice Exercises

Exercise 1.

Read the definitions below and match each technique with its correct description.

Technique	Description
A. Borrowing	1. Changing grammatical structure
B. Modulation	2. Adapting cultural references
C. Transposition	3. Keeping a word from the original language
D. Adaptation	4. Changing the perspective or meaning

Exercise 2.

Below are 15 authentic, real-world source texts designed specifically for translation practice, where students can integrate Direct and Oblique Translation Techniques (Borrowing, Calque, Literal/Faithful, Modulation, Transposition, Equivalence, Compensation, Adaptation).

1. University Academic Policy

Universities play a crucial role in shaping critical thinking, ethical responsibility, and professional competence among students. Academic integrity is therefore a fundamental principle that governs all teaching, learning, and research activities. Any form of plagiarism, cheating, or misrepresentation of authorship is considered a serious violation of institutional regulations. Students are expected to acknowledge all sources consulted, whether they are books, articles, websites, or digital tools. In recent years, the use of artificial intelligence has generated new ethical debates within higher education. While technology may support learning processes, it must not replace independent intellectual effort. Faculty members are responsible for guiding students in the appropriate use of digital resources and for applying sanctions when academic misconduct is detected. Respect for originality and honesty contributes

not only to academic success but also to the formation of responsible professionals committed to social development.

2. Public Health Awareness Campaign

Maintaining a healthy lifestyle requires consistent habits and informed decision-making. Regular physical activity, balanced nutrition, and adequate sleep are essential factors for preventing chronic diseases. Health authorities encourage citizens to reduce the consumption of processed foods, sugar, and excessive salt. Additionally, mental health has gained increasing attention due to stress caused by modern lifestyles. Seeking professional support is not a sign of weakness but a responsible action. Public campaigns aim to raise awareness through social media, community programs, and educational institutions. By adopting preventive measures, individuals can improve their quality of life and reduce the burden on healthcare systems. Collective responsibility and personal commitment are key to building healthier societies.

3. Tourism Promotion Text

Located on the Pacific coast, the city offers a unique combination of natural beauty and cultural heritage. Visitors can enjoy pristine beaches, traditional cuisine, and warm hospitality throughout the year. Local festivals celebrate music, dance, and ancestral traditions that reflect the region’s identity. Tourists are encouraged to respect the environment by reducing waste and supporting sustainable tourism initiatives. Guided tours provide insight into local history while promoting economic development. Whether travelers seek relaxation or adventure, the

destination offers unforgettable experiences that connect nature, culture, and community.

4. Corporate Code of Ethics

This organization is committed to conducting its operations with integrity, transparency, and respect for human rights. Employees are expected to comply with all applicable laws and internal policies. Discrimination, harassment, or abusive behavior will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Ethical decision-making requires employees to report conflicts of interest and protect confidential information. Management promotes a culture of accountability through continuous training and open communication. By adhering to ethical standards, the company strengthens trust with clients, partners, and society at large.

5. Environmental Sustainability Report

Climate change represents one of the most significant challenges of the twenty-first century. Rising temperatures, extreme weather events, and biodiversity loss threaten ecosystems worldwide. Governments, businesses, and citizens must collaborate to reduce carbon emissions and promote renewable energy sources. Sustainable practices such as recycling, water conservation, and responsible consumption contribute to environmental protection. Education plays a vital role in fostering environmental awareness and long-term behavioral change. Collective action today will determine the quality of life for future generations.

6. Educational Technology Article

Digital tools have transformed teaching methodologies across all educational levels. Online platforms facilitate access to information and encourage collaborative learning. However, technology should be integrated pedagogically rather than used as a substitute for meaningful instruction. Teachers must develop digital competencies to design engaging and inclusive learning experiences. Additionally, unequal access to technology remains a challenge in many regions. Addressing the digital divide requires public policies, institutional support, and teacher training programs.

7. Legal Information Brochure (Public Service)

Citizens have the right to access clear and accurate legal information. Understanding basic legal procedures helps individuals protect their rights and fulfill their obligations. Free legal assistance programs are available for vulnerable populations. These services aim to ensure equal access to justice regardless of socioeconomic status. Legal literacy empowers communities and promotes social equity. Authorities encourage citizens to seek reliable information and avoid misinformation.

8. Workplace Health and Safety Manual

Ensuring a safe working environment is a shared responsibility between employers and employees. Workers must follow safety protocols and report potential hazards immediately. Proper training reduces the risk of accidents and occupational illnesses. Employers are required to provide protective equipment and regular safety inspections. Preventive

measures contribute to productivity and employee well-being. A culture of safety reflects respect for human life and labor rights.

9. Media Opinion Column

Social media has transformed the way people communicate and consume information. While digital platforms promote connectivity, they also facilitate the spread of misinformation. Critical thinking and media literacy are essential skills in the digital age. Users must verify sources before sharing content. Responsible communication strengthens democratic participation and social cohesion. The challenge lies in balancing freedom of expression with ethical responsibility.

10. Community Development Project Description

Community development initiatives aim to improve living conditions through participatory approaches. Local residents collaborate with institutions to identify needs and propose solutions. Projects often focus on education, health, and economic empowerment. Sustainable development requires long-term commitment and inclusive planning. By fostering cooperation and mutual respect, communities can achieve meaningful and lasting change.

11. Hospital Notice

Attention patients:

The Emergency Department is currently operating at full capacity. Patients with non-urgent conditions may experience longer waiting times. We appreciate your patience and cooperation.

Tasks:

- Translate the text into Spanish.
- Identify one example of a Modulation and a Literal Translation Technique.

12. Job Advertisement

We are seeking a dynamic and responsible administrative assistant to join our team. The candidate must have strong organizational skills, attention to detail, and the ability to work under pressure.

Tasks:

- Translate the text into Spanish.
- Highlight any terms that require the use of the adaptation Technique.
- Explain why the Adaptation Technique was necessary.

13. University Email

Dear students

Please be reminded that the final exam will take place next Friday at 10:00 a.m. in Room A305. Make sure to bring your student ID and the

required materials. Late submissions will not be accepted unless there is a valid reason supported by documentation.

Best regards,

Academic Coordinator

Tasks:

- Translate the text into Spanish
- Explain what Direct or Oblique Translation Technique was used.

14. Airport Announcement

Passengers traveling to Quito on Flight 452 are requested to proceed to Gate 7 immediately. Boarding will begin in 10 minutes. Please have your boarding pass and identification ready.

Tasks:

- Translate the text into Spanish.
- Explain what type of technique was applied.

15. Social Media Post (Digital Context)

We are thrilled to introduce our new mobile app!

Enjoy faster navigation, exclusive discounts, and personalized recommendations designed just for you.

Tasks:

- Translate the post.
- Identify one borrowing (if applicable).
- Explain your lexical choices.

Exercise 3

This exercise is designed for error identification and correction, requiring students to detect misuse of the Direct and Oblique Translation Techniques.

Source Text (English)

Universities play a key role in promoting academic integrity and responsible use of digital resources. Students are expected to respect institutional policies and acknowledge all sources used in their assignments. In recent years, the rise of artificial intelligence has opened new opportunities for learning, but it has also raised ethical concerns.

While technology can support education, it should not replace independent thinking. Faculty members are encouraged to guide students in the appropriate use of digital tools and to apply sanctions when academic misconduct is detected. Respect for originality strengthens trust within the academic community and contributes to professional development.

Student Translation with Errors (Spanish)

Las universidades juegan un rol clave en promover la integridad académica y el uso responsable de recursos digitales. Los estudiantes son esperados a respetar las políticas institucionales y reconocer todas las fuentes usadas en sus asignaciones. En años recientes, el levantamiento de la inteligencia artificial ha abierto nuevas oportunidades para el aprendizaje, pero también ha levantado preocupaciones éticas.

Mientras la tecnología puede soportar la educación, no debería reemplazar el pensamiento independiente. Los miembros de la facultad son animados a guiar a los estudiantes en el uso apropiado de herramientas digitales y aplicar sanciones cuando la mala conducta académica es detectada. El respeto por la originalidad fortalece la confianza dentro de la comunidad académica y contribuye al desarrollo profesional.

Student Task

1. Underline at least 8 errors in the translation.

2. Identify the type of error (e.g., literal translation, calque, modulation failure, transposition error, misuse of borrowing).

3. Correct a version and justify the translation technique used.

Exercise 4.

Reflection Metacognitive Task.

Answer the following questions:

1. Which translation technique did you use the most? Why?
2. Which text was the most difficult to translate?
3. How do authentic texts improve translation competence?

Exercise 5.

- Translate one real-world text of your choice email, advertisement, news, or instructions.
- Identify 3 direct techniques that you used.
- Identify 3 oblique techniques used in it.
- Provide a short translation commentary (150-200 words)

Table 8.Assessment Rublic

Criteria	**Excellent (5)**	**Good (4)**	**Fair (3)**	**Needs Improvement (2)**
Accuracy of Translation	Meaning fully preserved	Minor errors	Some meaning loss	Major inaccuracies
Use of Direct Techniques	Correct and varied use	Mostly appropriate	Limited use	Incorrect use
Use of Oblique Techniques	Strategic and justified	Adequate application	Basic application	Misuse or absence
Justification of Choices	Clear and analytical	Mostly clear	Limited explanation	No justification
Language Quality	Grammatically accurate and natural	Minor mistakes	Noticeable errors	Frequent errors

Note. Total Score 25

4.3 Chapter Conclusion

In conclusion, the integration of direct and oblique translation techniques is essential for achieving accurate, natural, and contextually appropriate translations in real-world communication. While direct techniques such as borrowing, calque, and literal translation allow translators to preserve the original structure and lexical elements of the source text, they are not always sufficient to convey meaning effectively across different linguistic and cultural systems.

In authentic contexts such as academic writing, tourism, business communication, digital media, and everyday interactions, language requires flexibility, cultural awareness, and strategic decision-making.

In this sense, Oblique translation techniques, including transposition, modulation, equivalence, adaptation, and compensation, play a crucial role when literal translation would result in awkward, misleading, or culturally inappropriate messages.

These techniques enable translators to adjust grammatical structures, shift perspectives, and reproduce idiomatic and cultural meanings while maintaining the communicative intention of the original message.

Therefore, the competent translator must not rely exclusively on word-for-word translation but adequately develop the ability to select the most suitable technique according to the communicative purpose, audience, and context.

Moreover, integrating both direct and oblique techniques in authentic real-world tasks fosters higher-order translation competence, critical

thinking, and intercultural communicative skills. Through practice with real-life materials such as emails, advertisements, academic texts, and public announcements, learners become more aware of linguistic nuances and cultural implications in translation processes.

This pedagogical approach aligns with communicative and functional perspectives of translation, emphasizing meaning over form and effectiveness over literal accuracy. In this sense, mastering the balance between direct and oblique translation techniques empowers students and translators to produce fluent, culturally relevant, and professionally acceptable translations.

On the other hand, it also prepares them to face the complexities of global communication, where translation is not merely a linguistic activity but a dynamic act of mediation between languages, cultures, and contexts.

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TRANSLATION TECHNIQUES

Translation has long been recognized as one of the most vital means of human communication, facilitating cultural exchange, the transmission of knowledge, and the development of global understanding. In a world increasingly shaped by linguistic and cultural diversity, the role of the translator transcends the mechanical rendering of words from one language to another. It requires sensitivity, creativity, and profound analytical skills.

The present volume, *Translation Techniques: From Theory to Practice,* is designed to guide students, teachers, and professionals through the complex field of translation. Its general objective is to provide students, educators, and practitioners with both theoretical foundations and practical strategies, engaging them in translation within authentic contexts. Also, it aims to foster not only the acquisition of knowledge regarding translation methods and techniques but also the development of critical awareness of the challenges translators face when bridging linguistic systems and cultural frameworks. By combining historical perspectives, theoretical debates, and applied workshop activities.

The book´s structure has been carefully designed to promote coherence, continuity, and pedagogical efficiency. Each chapter is organized around three key components: opening elements, which introduce the thematic focus and objectives; internal pedagogical resources, which accompany the development of the content through explanations, illustrative examples, comparative exercises, and reflective questions; and closing elements, which synthesize the central ideas of the chapter and provide opportunities for practice, consolidation, and self-assessment. This format ensures that theoretical knowledge is consistently reinforced by application and reflection.

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