



Effective Tips to Become a Good Translator

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Abstract

The focus of translation studies has been, recently, shifted away from linguistics to forms of cultural studies. The present study, therefore, attempts to shed some light on the nature and development of the discipline of translation studies, with a view to giving some indication of the kind of work that has been done so far. This research article is library research. So, the author of this paper tried to gather and use the resources from the library. Translation is important because people prefer their native language, it connects the global economy, it emerging markets mean emerging languages and Open translation project makes the talks understandable to people around the world. Open translation project makes the talks understandable to people around the world. There's no denying the power of the English language. That said, the Tower of Babel isn't coming down anytime soon. Translation is important, and will remain so for both individuals and businesses in the foreseeable future.

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Introduction

The word translation is the communication of meaning from one language (the source) to another language (the target). Translation refers to written information, whereas interpretation refers to spoken information. The purpose of translation is to convey the original tone and intent of a message, taking into account cultural and regional differences between source and target languages. Recently, there has been considerable interest within translation studies in the met language of the discipline. This focus arises against the background of the multiple disciplines that have played greater or lesser parts in the development of Translation Studies over the past thirty years or so.

The main goal of this article is to know about effective tips to become a good translator.

The research questions of this Academic Article are as follow;

1. How to become a good translator is the research question that needs to search and find reliable information about it because translation is a need especially in the current situation of Afghanistan for teachers as well as for those students who want to become a translator in the future.
2. What kinds of translation tips are used in English language classes?

The Importance of Research

Therefore, why is translation so important? Here are 5 reasons why translation is important and will remain so. Translation is important because people prefer their native language, it connects the global economy, it emerging markets mean emerging languages and Open translation project makes the talks understandable to people around the world. When translating for your business, it's important to get it right the first time. Choose qualified human translators to ensure your outreach efforts don't end up a word salad. Our translation services will help you communicate with your customers in the languages they prefer to use, and our transcription and localization services will ensure your message stays relatable and effective worldwide.

Research Methodology

This research article is library research. So, the author of this paper tried to gather and use the resources from the library. This paper intended to present the most important techniques and methods in which translators use in translating texts. It is mentionable that, the data which is conducted in this study has been collected from some academic articles and trustworthy books, academic journals, electronic libraries, internet sites and other scientific resources to find valuable and crucial information.

Literature Review

Considering Tips to Become a Translator

Translation is the communication of meaning from one language (the source) to another language (the target). Translation refers to written information, whereas interpretation refers to spoken information (Bell, 1991) ^[2]. The purpose of translation is to convey the original tone and intent of a message, taking into account cultural and regional differences between source and target languages. Translation has been used by humans for centuries, beginning after the appearance of written literature. Modern-day translators use sophisticated tools and technologies to accomplish their work, and rely heavily on software applications to simplify and streamline their tasks. Organizations around the world, encompassing a multitude of sectors, missions, and mandates, rely on translation for content as diverse as product labels, technical documentation, user reviews, promotional materials, annual reports, and much, much more.

The Importance of Translation

As Bassnett (2006) ^[1] mentioned that, English is the third most widely-spoken language in terms of native speakers, of which it has at least 330 million. But if you count the people who speak it as a second language, it's the most popular language in the world. So, why is translation so important? Here are 5 reasons why translation is important and will remain so, despite the growing ubiquity of English. Translation is Important Because Not Everyone Speaks English Sure, English is the most commonly spoken language. But that doesn't mean you can overlook all the people who don't speak it! Even England is home to significant populations of foreign and minority language speakers.

Translation is Important Because People Prefer Their Native Language: According to Benabdelali (2000) ^[3], English is the most-widely spoken language. But, that's only if you take second-language speakers into account. And therein lies the rub. Almost without exception, people respond better to the language they grew up speaking. To effectively sell to people, it's not enough to speak a language that they understand (especially if their understanding is limited). You must speak to them in the language their heart speaks. Dale Carnegie may have been right when he said "a person's name is to that person the sweetest and most important sound in any language." But the next sweetest sound is their native language. Babies as young as 5 months old have been shown to recognize and prefer it. Adults prefer it, too. A study from Common Sense Advisory found that 75% of customers "prefer to buy products in their native language." And a study from Indian Market Research Company found that "almost three-quarters of Indian consumers prefer and seek out content in their first

languages."

Translation Connects the Global Economy: As Chesterman, (2002) ^[4] stated that, there's a reason demand for translation services is booming. While English has been periodically crowned as "the language of global business," translation and interpreting services remain a vital part of doing business around the world. "International growth is still key to increased revenues and profitability and companies will always seek to trade with overseas markets. Products launched beyond home borders will still need to meet the relevant packaging and labeling standards..." And that means they'll still need to be translated.

Emerging Markets Mean Emerging Languages:

According to Chomsky (2000) ^[5], English may be on top of the world now, but that doesn't mean it will stay that way forever. Other languages are growing in importance as developing countries take their places in the global economy and more of their citizens gain Internet access. For example, most of the world's web content used to be in English. That is no longer the case. And remember, even people who speak English as a second language generally prefer to read, watch and shop in their first language. Want to know which languages matter most right now? Check out our visualization of the world's most influential languages. And what about the future? Check our list of top languages to learn. It showcases the languages English will most likely share the stage with in years to come (Gutknecht, 2001).

Translation Spreads Ideas and Information:

Harris (1977) ^[6] said that, what's the number one reason translation is so important? It allows ideas and information to spread across cultures. In the process, translation changes history. Need some examples? Consider the following:

- Arabic translators kept the ideas of ancient Greek philosophers alive throughout the Middle Ages.
- The book has been translated into at least 531 languages. No matter what you believe, the impact on history is undeniable
- Translation is helping sports teams and organizations overcome language barriers and transcend international boundaries.
- Open translation project makes the talks understandable to people around the world.

There's no denying the power of the English language. That said, the Tower of Babel isn't coming down anytime soon. Translation is important, and will remain so for both individuals and businesses in the foreseeable future. When translating for your business, it's important to get it right the first time. Choose qualified human translators to ensure your outreach efforts don't end up a word salad. Our translation services will help you communicate with your customers in the languages they prefer to use, and our transcription and localization services will ensure your message stays relatable and effective worldwide.

Important Consideration While Translating Texts

Valdés (2003) ^[11] said that since it works for a language services company, I often get asked whether we are hiring translators. I don't mind the question. We've all had to hunt for work, and these days far too many people are without it. However, I've found that roughly 90% of those who inquire

are not qualified to be translators or interpreters. Being bilingual is an excellent skill, but as ESPN analyst Lee Corso would say, “Not SO fast, my friend!” Fluency in another language means being able to comprehend, speak, read, and write in that language at the level of an educated native speaker. Being fluent is only the first step in becoming a professional translator or interpreter. Like any other profession, it requires practice, experience, and training. There’s no one path to success, but here are some good guidelines:

Step 1: Get Certified

Hymes (1972) ^[7] proposed that, the first thing I tell people who want to know how to become a translator is to get some sort of accreditation or certification. Having credentials provides documentation that you have the skills required to translate or interpret professionally. Many universities offer advanced degrees and professional certifications in translation, and we have a separate post dedicated to the subject: Top 10 U.S. Translation Schools. Want to be a translator? The American Translator’s Association offers certification programs for translators. Want to be a judicial or medical interpreter? Organizations such as the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators and the International Medical Interpreters Association offer certifications as well. Finally, check to see if your state offers accreditation programs for translators / interpreters. Being certified through one of these organizations is also helpful because you will be listed on their website directories, where potential clients requiring your services can find you. Overall, certification may not be required to be a successful translator or interpreter, but if you’re starting out in this industry, it is the best place to start.

Step 2: Get Tested

Another resume builder is to take language proficiency tests such as the Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) or other language proficiency tests to show potential clients that you are indeed fluent in your specific language. Shameless Plug Alert: we also offer language proficiency tests and DLPT training here at ALTA.

Step 3: Gain Experience

Manfredi (2008) ^[8] mentioned that, the next step is to gain experience. All of us have had to start out doing internships or working entry-level jobs in order to climb the ladder, and the language industry is no exception. If you’re enrolled at or live near a college, take classes in translation / interpreting and look for opportunities to perform translation or interpreting work on campus for various departments. It is crucial to get experience where you can show samples of your work to potential clients and get recommendations.

Step 4: Market Yourself

Pym (2001) ^[9] said that, after getting credentials and some experience, it’s time to market yourself to law firms, police stations, hospitals, government agencies, and language agencies that may need translators or interpreters in your area. Most translators / interpreters work for clients on a contract basis, not as full-time employees. A great way to market your services is to start a website or blog and join the active community of online language professionals. Also, make sure you have your resume and rates ready! The best indicator that an aspiring translator or interpreter is not a

professional is when they have no idea what their rates should be! If you don’t know what rates to charge, call other interpreters and translators and find out what theirs are.

Step 5: Keep Learning

Schafin (2004) mentioned that, as you progress as a translator / interpreter, there are other areas to consider as well. What specialized industry or industries can you translate or interpret for? Do you keep up with industry terms and trends? Are you computer savvy and knowledgeable regarding translation memory software? Can you provide simultaneous as well as consecutive interpreting? If you have had success as a translator, maybe you could consider diversifying and becoming a certified court or medical interpreter. Overall, it hopes I have not discouraged anyone from becoming a translator or interpreter. My purpose here is to provide a helpful guide to entering this highly competitive industry. Below are some links to articles about what it’s like to be a professional translator, and the paths others have taken to success. This is not especially helpful from our point of view, because translational behavior, properly speaking, can only proceed on the assumption that the bilingual is conscious of their languages as separate languages, however they happen to be organized in the mind. This may be something that translation studies can helpfully dwell on and feed into linguistics. Let us begin by imagining transfer competence as that which every adult translator has. Let us say that this competence has developed against the background of interaction between an initial state and relevant input.

Transferring Competence

According to Bell (1991) ^[12], transfer competence requires particular modes of socialization. However, closely it may turn out to be possible to align the notion of transfer competence with a Chomsky-style account, it is unlikely that we shall achieve the author elevation above the social. But if we can align other aspects of transfer competence to linguistic competence, the prospect of transfer competence as a category that encompasses aspects similar to those that characterize linguistic competence along with aspects similar to performance features presents itself invitingly. Perhaps the phenomenon of translation illustrates more clearly than any other the connections between competence and performance. Let us begin by imagining transfer competence as that which every adult translator has. Let us say that this competence has developed against the background of interaction between an initial state and relevant input.

Zakhar (2008) ^[12] said that, what, then, might the initial state be like? Presumably, it would need to include two or more languages in whatever measure, depending on when acquisition/learning of the various languages began. The input data would probably need to be translational: seeing translation, doing translation, and receiving feedback on translation, because there is plenty of evidence that just having two or more languages is not sufficient for someone to develop translation competence. So maybe we, researchers, could describe transfer competence such as:

- The knowledge of the translational relationships between their languages that allows a translator to match languages appropriately when translating, as distinct from their ability to use their languages individually;
- An unconscious mental state reached through a process of cognitive development.

At the end of this process of interaction, we reach the steady state that is competence, which is characteristic of every normal adult native speaker of a given language. Variations in performance are exactly that: performance features, influenced by aspects of the social world, including other individuals, education, geographical location, social position, and so on. Competence is internal to each single individual; it is an I-language. It is not the shared, social, supra-individual entity that it is often understood to be and which, for Chomsky, who of course does not deny its existence, is E-language. I-language is not primarily designed for use in communication, according to Chomsky (though of course he would not deny that it is used in communication), but for thinking.

In linguistics, there is tacit agreement that this is what the term competence means within the discipline, whether or not a person agrees with the theory that the notion belongs within. And because everyone more or less agrees with the definition, people in linguistics mostly know what they are talking about when they use the term, and that is very useful. But it is not the way that the term competence is used in most other areas that use it as a technical term.

The quotation from Chomsky strongly suggests that a major task for the developing translator is (i) to keep the languages apart in the first place to avoid malignant interference from one to the other and (ii) simultaneously to consider them together in order to be able (iii) to match a given stretch of one language with a contextually appropriate stretch of the other language. If this is right, then a more informative description of transfer competence than the one I have just provided might be this, where the notion of non-consciousness is beginning to disappear:

- A translator's knowledge of their languages simultaneously as one system, and as at least separable, and as related (as distinct from their ability to use their languages individually);
- An "unconscious" mental state reached through a process of cognitive development.

Discussion

Recently, there has been considerable interest within translation studies in the Meta language of the discipline. This focus arises against the background of the multiple disciplines that have played greater or lesser parts in the development of translation studies over the past thirty years or so. In the course of translation development, much terminology has come to be shared across the disciplines, while the continuing, independent or semi-independent development of the various disciplines has meant that many of the concepts underlying the shared terminology have developed in different directions; and the shared terminology often masks discipline specific notions.

According to Chomsky (1978) an initial state consisting of (developing) linguistic competence in two or more languages + the translation pleasure principle and it gives rise to enhanced translation skills exhibited through a translator's increasing ability to manage the three forms of their languages to produce the kinds of translation that contemporary norms request – or, of course, contravening the norms, if that is the translator's desire. I agree with this idea because for translation text or people speech it is a very significant to gain the knowledge and skills of both languages to increase the abilities of translating words, sentences and slangs effectively in to the target language. In this research

article, it is my intention to explore the concept of translation competence by measuring it against a notion which some scholars explicitly relate it to, namely linguistic competence, in order to see if it is possible to achieve a measure of clarity about the former notion by trying to match it as closely as possible to the latter. It is important to do this because the notion of translation competence is central in translation theory as well as in pedagogical approaches to translation; yet the vast literature on the subject has arguably created more confusion than clarity. Moreover, as Hymes (1999) claimed that, this is not especially helpful from our point of view, because translational behavior, properly speaking, can only proceed on the assumption that the bilingual is conscious of their languages as separate languages, however they happen to be organized in the mind. This may be something that translation studies can helpfully stay on and feed into linguistics. I do not agree with this idea, because even if a translator can manage the idea in his/her mind and transfer the message but still if there is no the required knowledge and skills the translators cannot manage the concepts to transfer them in a proper way and finally it is important to know: first to describe the phenomena of translating and translation(s) as they manifest themselves in the world of our experience, and second to establish general principles by means of which these phenomena can be explained and predicted.

Conclusion

In conclusion, in this research article, it was aimed to explore the concept of translation competence by measuring it against a notion which some scholars explicitly relate it to, namely linguistic competence, in order to see if it is possible to achieve a measure of clarity about the former notion by trying to match it as closely as possible to the latter. It is important to do this because the notion of translation competence is central in translation theory as well as in pedagogical approaches to translation; yet the vast literature on the subject has arguably created more confusion than clarity. First of all, for translating a text from one language in to another language it is very important to have the linguistics knowledge of both languages and it is a need for today's students because English is the most commonly spoken language. But that doesn't mean you can overlook all the people who don't speak it. And just because a person can speak some English, that doesn't mean they can speak it well enough to cope in all situations. For example, a 2012 survey from the European Commission found that only a quarter of Europeans were able to understand English well enough to follow an English-language news broadcast. Holding a basic conversation is one thing. Easy and effective communication is another. Also, English is the most-widely spoken language. But, that's only if you take second-language speakers into account. And therein lies the rub. Almost without exception, people respond better to the language they grew up speaking. Second, who want to know how to become a translator is to get some sort of accreditation or certification. Having credentials provides documentation that you have the skills required to translate or interpret professionally.

Another resume builder is to take language proficiency tests such as the Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) or other language proficiency tests to show potential clients that you are indeed fluent in your specific language.

Moreover, the next step is to gain experience. All of us have had to start out doing internships or working entry-level jobs in order to climb the ladder, and the language industry is no

exception, after getting credentials and some experience, it's time to market yourself to law firms, police stations, hospitals, government agencies, and language agencies that may need translators or interpreters in your area.

Finally, as you progress as a translator / interpreter, there are other areas to consider as well. What specialized industry or industries can you translate or interpret for? Do you keep up with industry terms and trends? Is your computer ready and knowledgeable regarding translation memory software? Can you provide simultaneous as well as consecutive interpreting? If you have had success as a translator, maybe you could consider diversifying and becoming a certified court or medical interpreter. Based on the above-mentioned knowledge and tips it is time that you are ready to become a successful translator.

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