

TRANSLATION (L)

Some key terms:

Please see this as a continuation of the material shared with you on the mail. Now that you have already read what is translation and its major types, it is important to look at the translation activity with its limits. Since in the exchange of language, translators are moving texts across linguistic boundaries, there is also a manipulation of a text produced by someone else. The old questions of faithfulness and exact equivalence have changed over time.

The question, what is lost in translation? then receives a subtle answer - that there could never ever be exact equivalence across languages and no two will be identical. So does it dampen translation activity and its enthusiasm? No. The various theories of translation revolve around

- A. Originality and focus on faithfulness towards the original text
- B. Creativity - Rewriting in a way
- C. Balance between A and B. (negotiation)

Key terms:

(SL)

Source language: The language from which translation is done. e.g. it refers to the text originally in

one language. e.g. Mahabhartha², one of the seminal texts of Ancient India along with Ramayan have its source language: Sanskrit. Among its numerous translations into other languages, based on the market consumption and the ~~own~~ readership. K.M. Ganguli is known for the first complete English translation of Sanskrit epic as Mahabhartha of Krishna - DwaiPAYANA Vyasa

Target language - (TL) The language to which translation is done. In the above example, English becomes the target language.

Equivalence - Generally speaking, equivalence is the kind of similarity that two languages (SL) and (TL) share. However it should not be confused with sameness. Since ~~the~~ ^{at various} levels of meaning and word structure, grammar etc, no two languages come that close as mimetically true to each other. The difficulty amplifies when one cannot even achieve approximation to a certain word/sentence since there may not be equivalents of the same in the target language.

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Negotiation - when the situation arises, where one fails to find an equivalence there starts a process of negotiation where there is first an acceptance and acknowledgement of the gaps between the source language and target language meanings, so the translator takes the call and here becomes the subjectivity (personal take; what to give privilege, what to leave)

Transliteration - Conversion of script from one language to another. This is different from the process of translation in the way that it shows how a certain word is pronounced by putting it in a familiar alphabet, while a translation would come out with a meaning in another language.

Questions :

- 1. Think of translation activity that we are personally engaged in everyday lives.
e.g. films like Haider, Onkara among many others
Are they adaptations / translations in content and expression? So translation enables Re-inventions too?
How and how not?

Questions to be taken in the video lecture.

Indhi Sharma.

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Summary And Paraphrasing

Summary is one half of the original paragraph/content given in the most general sense. It is cutting short of the length and paraphrases the content in one's own words.

How to summarise?

- Close reading of the text
- note-making * enables us to list important indispensable points
- Selection and deletion becomes easy with step 2 note-making
- Extended examples, elaborate descriptions can be toned down to short crisp phrases (if significant) or be left out.
- Use of conjunctions (joining words) and combining ideas together leads to a miniature of the original content.
- Repetition, unnecessary details and any can be easily discarded provided it does not erase the vital phrases and terminologies that shape the essence of the content.

Exercise - Refer to page 11 of the question paper | Sr no. 3267, English A, ~~Page~~ do Q. 2
To be discussed in the video lecture