

Lesson N° : 03 Specialized Translation

Activity 01: Reading Comprehension & Analysis

Read the following texts, then answer the questions:

Text 01 :

Specialized translation refers to areas, which require excellent quality and precision, and translators extremely specialized in the respective field, such as a college degree in the subject, or a specialized course in that type of translation. Almost all professional translators in the United States have at least a college degree, some of them have advanced degrees in translation but very few translators have no language training at all. Of course, language training might mean specialized courses from a variety of schools. However, a number of areas of specialization often categorizes the translation.

Each specialization has its own challenges and difficulties, if a translator is asked to translate an article on health, for example, he or she would be well served to read about health in both languages in order to understand the topic and the accepted terms used in each language. Translators and those that hire them often ignore the knowledge of the area the translator is working in. Translators are by definition language professionals, but they also have to develop their knowledge in the areas that they work in. There are many types of specialized translation such as: commercial translation, scientific translation and legal translation, etc.

Translation for Specific Purposes focuses on skills, attitudes, and resources necessary when dealing with translation for specific purposes. Languages for special purposes are used in today's world to describe different areas of specialised knowledge. It is designed to provide translation practice in specific areas. Working with specialised languages requires resources and techniques different from those used when investigating general language.

Specialized translation. Retrieved December 10, 2019, from Translation Schools: <http://www.translationschools.org/specialized/>

Text 02:

General translation is very commonly requested. Even though it is considered the simplest type of translation and usually doesn't require expert subject knowledge, a basic knowledge of two languages and some dictionaries are not enough to perform a good quality translation. A good choice for general translation would be an experienced translator who is an expert in linguistics and the mechanics of translation. Nevertheless, global-minded and multinational companies often need more than a general translation of their documents.

But Specialised translation relates to every translation that has to do with a specific area of knowledge, for example, marketing or law. A specialised translator has mastered the precise

terminology, text typologies and linguistic conventions of their respective field(s). Some of the most common fields that require a specialised translator are technical texts, law, finance, economy, marketing and medicine. Specialised translators usually have only one or two fields that they work in, and so they are not experts in every subject.

It is important that translators give due attention to the text type prior to adopting the most appropriate global strategy to apply. Traditionally, text types are categorized according to their subject matter. Thus, texts are classified into literary, legislative, technical, scientific and so on. It is considered a legislative text, for instance, when it shares certain characteristics such as the frequency of occurrence of certain lexical items and expressions with other legislative texts.

It is a literary text, as it shares certain characteristics, such as the frequency of occurrence of particular lexical items or syntactic structures, with other literary texts. These linguistic features are of crucial importance to the language user to identify the text type.

Specialized translation. Retrieved December 10, 2019, from Translation Journal

<https://translationjournal.net/journal/56specialist.htm>

Questions:

1. Check in your dictionary the meaning of the underlined words.
2. How many paragraphs are there in each text?
3. Determine the main ideas of each text.
4. Which title best summarizes the main idea of each text?
5. What is the specialized translation ?
6. What is the difference between specialized and general translation?
7. Is it important to have attention to text type while translating? Why?
8. According to which features we can classify texts?
9. Define in each text its main verbs and subjects.

Reading Guidelines:

Always read the texts carefully more than once to have a general idea about it. You may do silent or loud reading. Both are useful but for different ends. Second or third reading must be accompanied by note-taking. Underline difficult words, expressions and constructions to investigate them in more depth.