

جماعة اللغة الإنجليزية والترجمة
English and Translation Society

ملتقى الترجمة السابع

١٠-١٢ إبريل ٢٠١٠م

The Seventh Translation Forum

10-12th April 2010

الندوة السنوية السابعة لمجموعة الترجمة

الترجمة الفنية وموقعها ضمن برامج الترجمة في الجامعات

The Seventh Annual Symposium of the Translation Group

**Technical Translation Within
Undergraduate Translation Programmes**

EVENT PROGRAMME

Saturday, 10th April 2010

Opening Ceremony

<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Recitation of the Holy Quran- Group's Welcome Speech- English Department Speech- Video Presentation- Opening of the Accompanying Exhibition	09:00-10:00
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Break (10:00-10:30)

Plenary Session

Chairperson: Omar Al-Hattali

Technical Discourse, Terminology and the Translator

Prof. Said Faiq

American University of Sharjah

10:30-11:15

Discussion

11:15-11:30

Second Session

Chairperson: Yasmin Al-Balushi

**Standardisation of Technical Terms
in the Ministry of Justice**

Dr. Amel Al-Rahbi

Ministry of Justice

11:40-12:00

**The Significance of Lexicography in the Domain of
Court Interpreting in Oman**

Dr. Nadia al-Issai

Sohar College of Applied Sciences

12:05-12:25

Discussion

12:25-12:45

Lunch Break (12:45-2:00)

Workshop

The Translation of English Medical Reports (MRs) into Arabic

Dr. Luai Ahmed Hayajneh

Dhofar University

02:20-03:20

Discussion

03:20-03:35

Sunday, 11th April 2010

Plenary Session

Chairperson: Iman Al-Ghafri

Teaching Undergraduate Translation

*Prof. Janet Watson
University of Salford*

09:30-10:15

Discussion

10:15-10:30

Second Session

Chairperson: Masha'l Al-Hajri

Translation and Transliteration in Arabic-English

Commercial Signs in Al-Khoudh

*Dr. James Moody
Sultan Qaboos University*

10:40-11:00

Difficulties of Technical Translation from a Learner's Perspective

*Amani Al-Bulushi
Nizwa University*

11:05-11:25

Discussion

11:30-11:50

Lunch Break (11:50-1:30)

Workshop

Technical Translation in the Oil and Gas Industry

*Mr. Saleh Al-Alawi
Petroleum Development Oman*

02:00-03:00

Third Session

Chairperson: Aida Al-Shabnoti

Economic-Specialised Translation

*Abdullah Mabrouk Shoshan
Al- Saidya School*

03:05-03:25

The Translation of Terminology

*Dr. George Rishmawi
Sultan Qaboos University*

03:30-03:50

Discussion

03:55-04:10

Panel Discussion

Discussions from A Learner Point of View

*Yaqoub Al-Mufarji
Sultan Qaboos University*

04:15-05:00

ABSTRACTS

Economic-Specialized Translation

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Economic-specialized translation means the translation of documents relating to the field of economics. It is a kind of translation that covers all sorts of document used in the business world such as correspondence, company accounts, reports, etc. They often require specialist translators with knowledge of terminology used in the business world.

In general, economic-specialized translation workshops aim to introduce participants to the general principles of economic translation, providing them with the knowledge and skills necessary for economic translation and helping them develop the skills necessary to undertake independent research in the domain of economic translation. They can undertake practical translation exercises from various economic sources (English into Arabic, and vice versa), then they will be able to develop analytical skills applied to practical issues in connection with economic translation, demonstrate knowledge of basic economic terms in Arabic and English, and gather and utilize information from relevant databases and sources.

Many of the Omani people are not familiar with some economic terms, translators then have to communicate with them using clear and simpler style. Some intellectuals note that today's society is "driven by economy and not only by politics".

Economic-specialized translators should deal with important events in a way that serves the national economy. To attain this aim, economic translators should attend various training courses periodically. A higher priority is how to create specialized economic translators, who can deal with economic and financial analyses as well as reading the future expectations.

The Omani economy cannot be isolated from the economies of the Gulf countries or Middle-East economies. This has been proven during the recent world economic crisis which touched the majority of countries.

Economic translation should keep the sense of suspense and attraction while dealing with the economic news in order to avoid any complication for the reader, especially when presenting unfamiliar economic terms (or statistics) so that common people can get the idea; thus, it does not only remain restricted to the intellectuals. Some of these economic terms can be investment volume, financial standing, public debt structure, payment balance, fiscal record, banking, stocks and asset management and so on.

A strong support is often needed to develop economic-specialized translation; it is to get direct access to information and documents from within the industrial and commercial sectors. Related workshops should shed light on economic terms that reach the common reader such as the terminology related to bank systems, bourses, capital and financial markets.

The Project of Standardization of Technical Terms at Ministry of Justice

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There are efforts to standardize technical terms due to the rapid expansion of terminologies. Translators are confused to find the suitable equivalents for the technical terms and the dictionary they can use. Each translator works hard to come up with a suitable translation for specialized texts written by professionals and require a high level of subject knowledge. Unfortunately their mission is not easy and they are always not satisfied with their work. Lately, translators in Ministry of Justice thought of a simple project called "Standardization of Technical Terms" by which they can unify their efforts resorting to the experience of specialists.

This paper focuses on this project as individual efforts by few translators and supported by the ministry. First it will give an idea about the nature of translators' job in Ministry of Justice. Translators in MOJ are playing an essential role in studying all types of cases such as: labour, commercial, penal, civil...ect. They are either doing documentary or consecutive translation within one case. They come across legal, medical, commercial and technical terms. It is difficult for the translator to be aware of all these terminologies since sometime they translate consecutively within the hearing session. As a result they come up with the idea of their project.

The project aims -at the first step- to standardize the technical and legal terms. It also aims as a further step to unify all these efforts hoping to publish a special dictionary for terms that are used in the Omani courts so translators can translate any specialized text easily and confidently.

The project started holding the first workshop in 2008. Since all translators were busy with other courses, the workshops stopped during 2009 but they were all in contact to discuss all issues related to the project. It is agreed now to continue the project and hold more workshops during 2010.

Besides, the paper will discuss the problems and the difficulties that face this project and hinder achieving the aims. For example, the translators who are involved in the project are only with 5-6 years of experience. Not to mention the problems but suggestions to come over this problem and difficulties will also be given. The paper will come across the MOJ efforts in supporting this project as well.

All in all, the paper highlights individual efforts for a group of translators sharing an aim of "Standardizing the Technical Terms" and the strategies that are used to achieve this aim. In general, this project can be useful for translators dealing with technical terms.

Technical Translation Difficulties From a Learner's Perceptive

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This paper discusses the difficulties faced by students in technical translation, some of which are encountered during the process of translation. Those difficulties and problems are created from the fact that semantic equivalence in message that is has been transferred may not deliver the same of that in the source language, perhaps due to the fact that the template in which the message is displayed in the source language is different or not sufficient as in the target language. It is especially the case if the information and assumptions in common between the reader and the "carrier" are different and also especially if the translation is being between two languages that differ completely in the cultural aspect, which is exactly the case in English and Arabic. It is not easy to translate from Arabic into English or vice versa due to the complete difference in structure and composition of the two languages. The difficulty arises in either in the selection of the appropriate meaning, the determination of the nature of the use of the word, finding the difference between masculine and feminine, the discrimination of numerals whether single or by two or collection or finding the formula equivalent to the act, etc. Those factors can make it difficult in some cases to choose the correct equivalent. Good knowledge of the characteristics of both Arabic and English helps to facilitate the process of reaching a correct translation and quality.

The Translation of Terminology

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One of the most intricate and difficult examples of technical translation is the translation of terminology, whether literary, scientific, medical ,legal etc. The reasons for this predicament are many, but the most challenging one, in my opinion, is due to the fact that an overwhelming number of terminologies are culture- bound as they are borrowed or imported by one language from another. Unless the newly acquired terminology is purely scientific in nature, i.e. does not admit a variety of interpretations, there is a danger that such received terminology may be misinterpreted or interpreted simply to fit the needs of the recipient language. The list of examples is long ,and can be taken from different fields, but the most troubling specimens are politically and or religiously oriented. Take, for example, the diverse meanings of "secularism" as a system of government or a way of thinking in English and their equivalence(s) in Arabic.

On the other hand, the more foreign terms a language acquires (in this case Arabic), the stronger the need to standardize their equivalences to facilitate their assimilation into the everyday language of their Arab users. The ultimate goal is to arrive at a stage where the translation of such terms will be rendered by competent bilingual translators who will place them in their right perspective and thus avoid irrelevant and time-wasting speculation.

Translation and Transliteration in Arabic-English Commercial Signs in Al-Khoudh

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The analysis of commercial signs has figured prominently in an area of Sociolinguistics known as Linguistic Landscape, which considers the dynamics of language contact in public domains in multilingual communities. Commercial signs have tended to be used as evidence of tensions between majority and minority languages. The presentation will apply some of the insights and methods developed in this relatively new field to data collected in Oman (Al-Khoud) and will try to show that—in contrast to observations made about language conflict apparent in commercial signs in other places—the practice of translation and transliteration between Arabic and English in Oman demonstrates an easy acceptance of both languages by the speech community as well as an interest in experimentation and creativity.

A corpus of digital photographs (to be projected on PowerPoint) will form the basis of the presentation. These will be used first to try to establish a typology of Arabic-English signs: the rarity of monolingual signs, the “unmarked” or standard presentation of direct translation, signs that present a combination of translation and transliteration techniques, and those which consist entirely of English transliterated into Arabic or Arabic transliterated into English. Pragmatic aspects of these practices will then be considered, by analyzing the possible motivations for choosing from the available options, the implied readers of particular signs and their illocutionary force (especially with regard to their physical location and the social classes for whom they are intended), how and why they flout conversational maxims, and their possible perlocutionary effects, particularly on children learning literacy in Arabic. Finally, suggestions will be made for how the evidence contained in these signs might be related to larger sociolinguistic issues, including language attitudes, code-switching, conversational interaction, and the use of Arabic and English in the workplace.

Comparisons and contrasts will be made with other linguistic landscape studies conducted in the Arab world and elsewhere, and possible reasons for Oman’s uniqueness will be suggested. Attention will also be given to the pedagogical implications of this kind of investigation: by focusing on an aspect of their experience and by applying theoretical frameworks to what is already familiar, students of language use and translation may achieve insights into the nature of academic analysis as well as a new perspective on phenomena in their local linguistic environment.

Teaching Undergraduate Translation

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In this paper I begin by describing the structure of the University of Salford's BA in Arabic/English Translation and Interpreting programme. I then discuss ways of structuring BA translation classes at various levels, the particular types of problems encountered in translating from Arabic into English, and how these translation problems may be addressed in class. The main translation issues examined here are tense, definiteness and conjunction. I consider various exercises I have used to address these translation problems and the extent to which it is possible in a university setting to 'teach' good translation.

The Translation of English Medical Reports (MRs) into Arabic

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This study is based on genuine collection of medical reports collected by the researcher himself while working as freelance translator in Oman over the last two years. Reports represent nearly all medical divisions: Ophthalmology, Cardiology, Dermatology, Gastroenterology, Infectious Diseases, Neurology, Internal Medicine, Psychology, Haematology, Oncology, Pediatrics, ENT, etc. Reports do also represent almost all major hospitals and clinical centers in the Sultanate of Oman.

The workshop focuses on the translation of Medical reports. It, on the one hand, tries to give answers to questions like: what are the major difficulties in translating MRs? What are the strategies usually adopted in translating MRs to approach as closely as possible the English text? Several points are to be highlighted: characteristics of the language of science; importance of dictionaries (medical ones in particular); characteristics of medical terminology; use of abbreviations and other issues. On the other hand, audience are to be classified into groups, and each group is to work in translating one MR of different medical division. This is followed by a discussion of the difficulties and the strategies they have faced and adopted.

The Significance of Lexicography in the Domain of Court Interpreting in Oman

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Court interpreters in Omani courts of law experience a variety of problems that hinder their translation and interpretation tasks. The proliferation of terms used in courtrooms and the interdisciplinary nature of these terms no doubt poses a real challenge for the translator. Resorting to a variety of dictionaries such as legal, medical, engineering as well as commercial dictionaries is highly required in order for the court interpreter to do his interpretation task successfully. However, the issue of finding the appropriate equivalence can make it impossible at times to fulfil their task and that is because there are so many words for which there are no standardized translated terms. Court interpreters may have no choice in many situations but to search for equivalent terms as part of their job. Therefore, court interpreters tend to compile their own dictionaries without realizing that lexicography doesn't only require a good knowledge of the practice of lexicography but also the theoretical underpinnings of the lexicographical process. Since court interpreters might find themselves in situations where they have to create appropriate acceptable translations for so many terms they come across, the collection of these new created terms into a special form of dictionary should be one of the court interpreter's priorities. The court interpreter should understand the significance of compiling his or her own dictionary so that this dictionary can be easily used as a reference work. This paper addresses the issue of lexicography within the context of court interpreting. It also discloses the fact that court interpreters should embark on compiling a comprehensive bilingual dictionary for all the different terms that they use as part of their professional lexis. A number of guidelines on this regard will be explained as the fundamental rules court interpreters should realize about the practice of lexicography. Other related aspects of lexicography such as the efficiency of using computer-based dictionaries or databases will also be referred to in the discussion.

It is generally believed that translation is a difficult task but the court interpreter's task is even more challenging in nature, The major challenge of searching for equivalent terms which is experienced by court interpreters can be minimized by compiling a professional dictionary that would be used by practitioners as a reference work, This lexicographic process will absolutely facilitate the court interpreter's work and standardize the use of their professional lexis.

Technical Discourse, Terminology and the Translator.

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In this presentation, the interface between the specifics of technical discourse, terminology and the translator is addressed. Technical discourse belongs to the so-called purpose-specific languages, which differ from normal languages (or purpose-general languages) above all in the use of specific terminology. Terminology studies the classification and representation of terms in specific fields of human knowledge through establishing the relationships between concepts, their definitions and the terms, or the names given to the concepts. The role of technical discourse translators is, inter alia, to mediate the interface between technical discourse, terminology and the receivers in a different context, that of the target language. Drawing on samples from Arabic/English translation, my purpose is to show that technical discourse is first and foremost an instance of communication, which governs terminology and the translator.

Technical Translation in the Oil and Gas Industry

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My presentation will shed light on the following topics that might be of interest to students who are about to enter the job market.

- What sort of documents you shall expect
- Challenges
- Qualifications for a technical translator in the oil industry
- PDO contribution to the technical translation in the country