

The Types of Translation-Oriented Terminology

Axunbabayeva Nargiza Xamidjanovna

Namangan Engineering Technological Institute, Namangan, Uzbekistan

Abstract: In this article the various types of human translation are discussed based on the Translation-oriented Terminology. If a term is used in its standard use is relevant or not: in keyword translation, for example, this is not relevant, in cover-to-cover translation it is. If a term appears not to be used in its standard use, the translator may be forced to apply a translation procedure (or technique or method, see e.g. Newmark 1988) in his translation to account for this deviation. In the case of human translation with or without the help of technical tools, the various types of Translation, although having different objectives and possibly requiring different procedures, will not involve different people (in all cases it will – generally – be a translator carrying out the job). It will also be obvious that Translation-oriented Terminology in the case of machine translation will probably differ from that in human translation.

Keywords: types, apply, terminology, objectives, translation, human, discipline, linguistics, comparison, various

Introduction

The interaction patterns between Terminology and Translation emerge from a comparison of the two. The criteria of comparison will be: (1) objectives, (2) working area, (3) actors, (4) type of work, (5) working methods and (6) clients and TSPs (Translation Service Providers). However, first a few basic issues have to be cleared. Both Terminology and Translation are rather general terms and may be subdivided into a number of types.

There are given mainly three definitions of Terminology in the researches dedicated to the studies about terminology. They are as following: (1) the set of practices and methods used for the collection, description and presentation of terms; (2) a theory, i.e. the set of premises, arguments and conclusions required for explaining the relationships between concepts and terms which are fundamental for a coherent activity under (1); (3) a vocabulary of a special subject field. “Presentation” of terms refers to visually representing terms in structures expressing terminological relations (equivalence, generic hierarchy, part-whole hierarchy and complex or associative relational structures). Theory – is the basis for definitions (1) and (3), where the third definition – i.e. the vocabulary – is the result of definition (1) – i.e. the set of practices and methods. Clearly, definition (2) is not appropriate for a professional translator: theory and theory-building would simply take up too much time, although he may use its principles as “(heuristic) discovery procedures” (Thelen 2002b: 194, 2012: 130), i.e. as a guidance in the direction of translation solutions. Definition (3), the vocabulary, is the resource that the translator consults when translating, or that he may supplement, or perhaps, correct, on the basis of issues that he has to resolve while translating. The translator is not concerned with a systematic and complete mapping of a special vocabulary. Definition (1), the set of practices and methods, fits best in the actual practice of a professional translator, but recourse to Terminology in definition (2) (theory) can be of great help for the solution of terminology-related translation issues. Terminology involves, wherever needed and appropriate to solve translation issues, the application of principles of Theory-oriented Terminology as “discovery procedures”, as well as the application of those

practices and methods of Theory-oriented Terminology to describe, define and register terms that are deemed useful to the process of translating and in a way that is convenient and commensurate to the time given to deliver the translation.

Conclusion

By Translation I understand the actual practical translation work done by a translator who transfers a source text into a target text. It is not to be confused with Translation Studies, which is the theory. Translation Studies is the academic discipline concerned with the study of translation at large, including literary and non-literary translation, various forms of oral interpreting, as well as dubbing and subtitling. research and pedagogical activities, from developing theoretical frameworks to conducting individual case studies to engaging in practical matters such as training translators and developing criteria for translation assessment. It appears, by the way, that Translation Studies is seen as a discipline for theory and research only and that practical translation work is not considered a part of it.

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