**University of Khenchla**

**Department of English**

***Sophomores (2020-2021)***

**Translation (Ramdane)**

**Glossary of Technical Terms**

**Introduction**

Here is a list of important concepts that belong to the field of « Translation ». Each concept is followed by a short definition and then elaborated. The concepts are clarified by given examples, so that the student can understand them and refer to them during the translation process.

***1-* *Adaptation*** ***:*** It’s defined as the use of recognized equivalence between two situations. It’s the act of modifying a text to make it suitable for a different purpose, target readership, region or country. Regional adaptation is a part of « Localisation ».

***Eg1***: *In a country where the fig tree is considered as a harmful plant, one will adapt the parable of the fig tree by another plant*.

When the text is addressed, for instance, to children, the translator must adapt the text in order to avoid language that might be inappropriate for a child, and prepare a censored adaptation. Any sexual reference must be eliminated, as well as violent language. Words that are too difficult to understand will also be eliminated, as well as all types of behaviour that are considered contrary to public moral.

***Eg2***: « *The exorcism » can be adapted to « الرقية الشرعية ».*

*«He kissed his daughter on her mouth », existing in the french society, can be shifted culturally to « قبل ابنته على جبينها »or «سلم على ابنته » that is accepted in an islamic society.*

***2- Amplification :*** It’s the case where the target language (TL) uses more words than the source language (SL) to express the same idea. It’s opposed to « Economy ».

***Eg*** : The main [character](https://literaryterms.net/character/) of the film  « Patch Adams », makes the following claim when asked if he has been treating patients in his ranch :

*« Everyone who comes to the ranch is a patient, yes. And every person who comes to the ranch is also a doctor. »*

When asked to elaborate, he uses « Amplification » to define “doctor” in-depth and holistically:

*Every person who comes to the ranch is in need of some form of physical or mental help. They’re patients. But also every person who comes to the ranch is in charge of taking care of someone else-whether it’s cooking for them, cleaning them, or even as simple a task as listening. That makes them doctors. I use that term broadly, but is not a doctor someone who helps someone else ? When did the term « doctor » get treated with such reverence, as, « Right this way, Doctor Smith »…or, « Excuse me, Dr. Scholl, what wwonderfulfootpads »… or, « Pardon me, Dr. Patterson, but your flatulence has no odor » ?*

This emotional and down-to-earth description of a doctor is an emotional appeal to the judges in the movie as well as to the audience watching at home. He gives a speech to the Medical Board saying that doctors should not only fight death, they should fight indifference.

***3- Memory Associations:*** Association of words in memory and outside their use in a statement.

***Eg*** : *« tree » and « shade ».*

***4- Calque :*** Borrowing of a foreign phrase (strange) with the literal translation of its elements.

***Eg*** : *- The first Lady. ……السيدة الأولى.*

*-Science Fiction . ……علم الخيال.*

***5 – Interchange(Criss-cross)****:* A procedure of translation through it two words swap between them and change their grammatical categories . It’s special case of ***transposition***.

***Eg*** : *He ran across the street. ……عبر الشارع ركضا.*

*v adv adv v*

***6- Concentration :*** A term which expresses the concentration of several meanings on a small number of signifiers or even in one.

***Eg*** : *تقبلوا مني فائق الاحترام والتقدير*. → *Yours faithfully*.

***7- Dilution :*** Reverse procedure of concentration. It means the distribution of a signified over several signifiers.

***Eg*** : *Yours faithfully*. *تقبلوا مني فائق الاحترام والتقدير* .→

***8- Divergence* :** Difference ….separation …. Variation. It’s any discrepancy between two closly related languages , whether in terms of meaning, stylistic values, structure or metalinguistics. Like between Arabic and French / English.

***9- Documentation :*** Research for a perfect understanding of the subject that the text to be translated deals with. It consists of the intelligence (المغزى) of the situation that these words describe.

***Eg*** : If a student is asked to translate a medical text about «Blood Pressure » written in English as a source text into Arabic, he should look for more than 3 different texts talking about the same topic in Arabic as a target language to find out the terms describing this illness and even the statements that can be used in elaborating this topic.

***10- Equivalence :***A translation process which reflects the same situation as in the original by using an entirely different redaction or wording .

***Eg1***: *Actions speak louder than words. .......... بالأفعال لا بالأقوال.* or *العبرة بالأعمال وليست بالأقوال.*

***Eg2***: *After the storm comes the sunshine. ….. إن بعد العسر يسر.* or *بعد الشدة يأتي الفرج.*

**/ *11- Explanation :*** A technique or a procedure aiming to introduce into the TL details that remain implicit in the SL and that can be understood from the context. It’s opposed to what is called « **Implicitation** ».

***Eg1***: *The green leaves float on the valley. ….تطفو الأوراق الخضراء على* ***سطح*** *الوادي*.

***Eg2****: She is sitting under a tree. ……… تجلس تحت* ***ظل*** *شجرة*.

***12-Generalization :*** A procedure which aims to translate a particular term (concret) with another term which is more general (abstract). French Language , for instance, generalizes terms more than English. The opposite is : « Particularisation ».

***Eg1***:  *....على الأرض.... → ….in the world….. …..generalization*

*(concret) (abstract)*

***Eg2 :*** *أمهد لك الطريق.* *→ I make your life easier. …..particularisation*

*(abstract) (concret)*

***13-Servitude :*** The case when the choice , the form and the order of words are imposed by the language . It confirms certain principles so that the translator has to respect the rules of the linguistic system into which he translates.

***Eg*** : *In English Languge , a sentence starts with a « noun » while in Arabic, it starts with a « verb ». Also, the adjective, in English, preceeds the « noun » while in Arabic, it follows the « noun ».*

***14-Situation :***  A reality (concret or abstract) as described in the statement. In some cases, it’s the situation that dictates the translation, in answer of the question : « *What do we say in the TL in such a case ?* », then we obtain an equivalence .

***15-Translation Unity :*** The smallest segment of the statement whose cohesion of signs can’t be translated seperately . It helps to apply what is called « cutting ».

***16-The Implicit Meaning :***It goes with the knowledge which is supposed to be shared between the writer and the readership. In other words, the meaning which lies behind the words or the grammatical form of the ST should be understood by the reader him /herself answering this question :

« What is it meant by this word or this statement ? ».