

## **Lecture 2. THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE THEORY OF TRANSLATION**

The theory of translation is subdivided into general theory, dealing with the general characteristics of translation, regardless of its type, and special branches, concerned with a theoretical description and analyses of the various types of translation, such as the translation of fiction poetry, technical and scientific literature, official documents, etc.

The general theory of translation has a clearly defined subject matter; the process of translating in its entirety, including its results with due regard for all the factors affecting it. Each special branch depends and specifies the general theory for it is the job of the general theory to reflect what is common to all types and varieties of translation while the special branches are mainly concerned with the specifics of each genre.

The general theory of translation is an interdisciplinary area, predominantly linguistic, but also closely allied to philology, sociology, ethnography and etc. It is based on the application of linguistics theory to a specific type of speech behavior, i.e. translating. It differs from contrastive linguistics in that the former seem to compare different language systems with a view to determining their similarities and distinctive features while the theory of translation has a subject matter of its own (the process of translation) and uses the data of contrastive linguistics merely as a point of departure.

### **The main directions in the history linguistic theory of translation.**

The earliest linguistics theory of translation was developed by Russian scholars Y.L.Retsker and A.V.Fedorov who pioneered in a linguistic analysis of translation problems. Their theory came to be known as the theory of regular correspondences.

Translation, they argued, is inconceivable without a sound linguistic basis, and this study of linguistic phenomena and the establishment of certain correspondences between the language of the original and that of the translation. The authors of this theory were mainly concerned with the typology of relationship between linguistic units equivalents – permanent correspondences not sensitive to context such as The League of Nations – Лига наций, and context - Sensitive variant correspondences, such as Slander – клевета нового поколения/ but also investigated some of the translation techniques, such as antonymic translation (see below, thus mapping out some ways of dealing with translation as a process.

In the 60 th some linguistics /N.U.Rozentsveig in Russia and L.E.Nida in the USA / proposed a theoretical model of translation based on generative or transformational grammar. E.Nida subdivided the process of translation into 3 stages; analysis where an

ambiguous surface structure is transformed into non-ambiguous kernel sentences to facilitate semantic interpretation / the foundation of school/ somebody founded a school or a school has a foundation / transfer where equivalent in the target language are found at a kernel or near – kernel level and restructuring where target – language kernel sentences are transformed into surface structures.

It is true that in some cases it is necessary to paraphrase the source – language structure to facilitate its translation. Such transformations come in handy especially when the target – language, /e.g. He stood with his feet planted wide apart; he stood, his feet were planted wide apart = Он стоял, его ноги были широко расставлены; он стоял, широко расставив ноги.

But transformations in terms of generative are not the only type of paraphrases used in translation. What is more, in some cases, especially when close parallels exist between the Source – and target language structures, they are not even necessary.

The structural model of translation is based on analysis in linguistics developed others. It is based on the assumption that languages are somewhat different sets of semantic components /constituents of meaning/ to describe identical extra – linguistic situations, Russian verbs of motion contain the component of move but not always the direction of movement while their English equivalents are often neutral, the direction of / Вот он идёт - Here he comes / Here he goes/.

The structural model provides some interesting insights into the mechanism of translation, especially when a situation is described in different semantic categories of /проточный пруд and spring – fed pond/ but does not seem to apply to sentences going beyond a mere description of a situation.

Different translation models complement each other and should therefore be combined in analyzing of translation as a process.

### **The nature of translation.**

Translation is the expression in target language of what has been said in source language preserving stylistic and semantic equivalence.

Traditionally under translation is understood:

1. the process, activity of reproduction source language originally in target language.
2. the product of the process of translation.

Translators must have:

1. knowledge of the languages / at least 2 languages /
2. cultural background: ability to interpret the text
3. the background of the subject knowledge of techniques, transformations and procedures of quality translation.

The translators decode messages transmitted in one language and records them in another.

Translation may be viewed. As a interlingual communicative act in which at least 3 participants are involved: the sender of source / the author of the source language message/, the translator who acts individual capacity of the receptor of the source – language message and as the sender of the equivalent target – language / message /, and the receptor of the target – language /translation/. If the original was not intended for a foreign- language receptor there is one more participant: the source – language receptor for whom the message was originally produced.

Translation as such consists in producing a text / message / in the target language, equivalent to the original text /message/ in the source language. Translation as an interlingual communicative act includes 2 phrases: communication between the sender and the translator and communication between the translator and the receptor of the newly produced target – language text. In the first phrase the translator acting as a source – language receptor, analysis the original message. Extracting the information contained in it.

In the second stage, the translator acts as a target – language sender, producing an equivalent message in the target – language and re – directing it to the target language receptor.

In producing the target – language text the translator changes its plane of expression / linguistic form/ while its plane of context / meaning / should remain unchanged. In fact, an equivalent / target – language/ message, should match the original in the plane of content. The message, produced by the translator, should make practically the same response in the target – language receptor as the original message in the source language receptor. That means, above all, that whatever the text says and whatever it implies should be understood in the same way by both the source – language user for whom it was originally intended and by the target – language user. It is therefore the translator's duty to make available to the target language receptor the maximum amount of information carried by linguistic signs, including both their denotational / referential/ meanings / i.e. information about the extralinguistic reality which they denote / and their emotive – stylistic connotation.

### **LINGUISTIC AND EXTRALINGUISTIC ASPECTS OF TRANSLATION**

However the information conveyed by linguistic signs alone, i.e. the messages overtly expressed in the text, would not be sufficient for adequate translation. Some linguists distinguish between what they call translation, based palely on the meaning expressed by linguistic signs, and involving recourse to extralinguistic information. In fact, the two are very closely intertwined and in most cases effective translation is

impossible without an adequate knowledge of the speech – act situation and the situation described in the text. The phrase “Two on the aisle” / Два места ближе к проходу/ would hardly make much sense unless it is known that the conversation takes place at a box – office / speech act situation /.

The phrase “ Поворотом рычага установить момент поступления воздуха в цилиндр” was translated “turn the handle until the air comes into the cylinder” because the translator was familiar with the situation described in the text knowledge of the subject is one of the prerequisites of an adequate translation.

The translation of technical and amount of technical and scientific knowledge.

#### QUESTIONS FOR SELF CONTROL:

1. What is translation?
3. What subjects is the translation of theory and practice based on?
4. What is the subject matter of the theory of translation?
5. What are the main directions in the history of translation?
6. What are the main features of the nature of translation?
7. What linguistic and extralinguistic aspects of translation do you know?

#### ^ INDEPENDENT WORK:

1. The history of theory of translation
2. Development of translatology in Kazakhstan
3. Outstanding linguists in the sphere of translatology

#### OBLIGATORY LITERATURE:

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3. Catford I.C. F Linguistic theory of translation. L.N/Y. - 2021
4. Peter Newmark. Approaches to translation. London. - 2019
5. Levitskaya T.R, Fiterman A.M. The problems of translation on the material of the contemporary English language. M.192010
6. Language Transfer Cross – Linguistic influence in language learning. Cambridge University Press. 1992003

#### ADDITIONAL

#### LITERATURE:

1. Nida.E. Towards a science of translation. Leiden.-2019

2. Nida.E. Linguistics and ethnology in translation problems. Language structure and Translation. Atanford. 1-2013
3. Roger. N. Bell. Translation and translating . Theory and practice. London, New York. 1995.
4. Shvaytser A.D. Translation and Linguistics. M. 2020
5. Salomov G. Tarjima nazariyasiga kirish. T. 2019
6. Salomov G. Tarjima nazariyasi asoslari. T. 2007