

# Translation Techniques

## Introduction to Translation

**Translation** is the process of replacing an original text, known as the source text with substitute one known as the target text. The process is usually an interlingual translation in that the message in the source language text is rendered as a target text in a different language. Procedures are considered essential for translation and the translators need to use some procedures for the realization of a translation that might be objectively correlative to the original text both in form and content, some procedures are used by translators when they formulate an equivalence for the purpose of transferring elements of meaning from the source texts to the target text. This lectures reviews a taxonomy of translation procedures used for dealing with the translation shifts proposed by two French scholars named Jean-Paul Vinay and Jean Darbelnet who explored the linguistic aspects of translation and first proposed seven methods or procedures in 1973, their work has opened the door for later taxonomies of translation techniques, I decided to outline a widely-accepted list of these translation procedures and techniques in the hope that the reader may become interested in knowing a little bit more about translation procedures and their nuances. It is important that the student realizes that he /she can call on a great many procedures or techniques to move from one language to another and must at all costs avoid word-for-word translation, translation procedures are used for sentences and smaller units of language within that text. the unit is defined as “the smallest segment of the utterance whose signs are linked in such a way that they should not be translated individually” (Vinay & Darbelnet 1958 ). The small, yet meaningful, changes that occur in the process of translation are called translation shifts. Catford (1965/2000: 141) defines them as “departures from formal correspondence in the process of going from the SL to the TL”. Although Catford was the first to use the term shift, a comprehensive taxonomy of shifts that

occur in translation was established by Jean-Paul Vinay and Jean Darbelnet (1958), who developed a taxonomy of translation procedures.

## **Lecture 2 (Direct Translation Techniques)**

When structural and conceptual elements of the source language can be transposed into the target language the translator use direct procedures. The following are the main direct procedures or techniques: Borrowing, Calque, Literal Translation.

**1. Borrowing** “This is the simplest, most straightforward technique in the translator's arsenal. It consists, in fact, in not translating at all and in conserving unchanged a word or an expression from the source language in the target language. It should not be a panacea and ought to be used pertinently and parsimoniously, to give the passage a note of local colour or when no satisfactory equivalent exists” see ( François Gallix & Michael Walsh.1997).

Examples: la Bibliothèque Nationale ... rue de Richelieu (the Bibliothèque Nationale ... the Rue de Richelieu), These are obligatory borrowings, since all cultural institutions, including famous streets, must be maintained in their original form. English does, however; apply its own rules of orthography to the borrowing, hence the capital letter of "Rue"

More examples: -Software in the field of technology and funk in culture. Abbatoire, café, passé and résumé from French

**2. Calque** is a particular type of borrowing in which the translator borrows an expression from the source text by translating literally every part of the original elements. it can be in lexical or in structural the system of the target text . Sometimes calques work, sometimes they don't. examples:

Target language	Source language
assurance qualité.	Quality assurance
Breakfast	Breakfast
désigner	Designed to create
un ancien prisonnier.	A former prisoner
location secret	Secret location
mariage de convenance	marriage of convenience

### 3. Literal Translation

Unlike the borrowing, the word-for-word or literal translation translates the word or the expression literally. This option occasionally creates the frequently false impression that one has avoided a lazy , A word-for-word translation can be used in some languages and not others dependent on the sentence structure: In practice, literal translation occurs most commonly when translating between two languages of the same family, such as French and Italian, and works most efficiently when they also share the same culture. Despite seemingly limited scope of applications, this procedure is among preferred ways of translating in those functional contexts where more emphasis is laid on preserving the verbatim meaning of the original text than attaining stylistic elegance, which is often the case with legal translation.