

*Translating as an interpretive
act –an interpretive approach*

Translating as an interpretive act an interpretive approach

The interpretive approach is mainly based on the fact that different languages conceptualize world experiences in different ways. The proponents of this approach (e.g. Danica Selekovitch and Marianne Lederer) argue that interpreting and/or translation is not merely reflecting what is expressed by the original writer/speaker by using corresponding words/expressions in the TT as this will result in a text that the target readers may or may not understand, depending on the availability of correspondence in the TT.

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The process of translation, according to the interpretive approach, takes the three interrelated stages, namely: **understanding, de-verbalization and re-expression (or reformulation):**

1- the **understanding** stage in which the interpreter/translator tries to understand the ST by forming a personal point of view, thus resorting to other cognitive inputs, such as encyclopaedic knowledge and contextual knowledge.

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2– the **de-verbalization** stage in which the actual wording is divorced from the SL linguistic and stylistic norms; and

3– the **re-expression** (or reformulation) stage in which the interpreter/translator starts searching for an idiomatic means of expression that can render the sense of the original by complying with the usage and customs of the TL.

Translating as an interpretive act an interpretive approach (to Understand)

To **understand** the text linguistic knowledge is not enough; rather understanding the text requires translators/interpreters to **interact** with the text at hand. Such an interaction requires them to activate their cognitive skills, conceptual abilities, background knowledge as well as consulting pieces of information, ideas, attitudes and beliefs stored in their memory.

Translating as an interpretive act an interpretive approach to (de-verbalize) and (to re-express)

To **re-express** the sense of the original, translators/interpreters need first to **de-verbalize** the meaning as “the existence of an intermediate phase of deverbalization resulting from the phase of understanding and the beginning of the phase of re-expression” plays a fundamental role in the interpretive approach to translation process. This is because the reformulation or re-expression stage is “achieved through deverbalized meaning and not on the basis of linguistic form” (Albir and Alves 2009:55).

Translating as an interpretive act an interpretive approach (verification)

As far as written translation is concerned, Jean Delisle (1980/1988) adds a final phase, i.e. **verification**, in which translators check and evaluate their final TT it can be “described as a process of **back-translation** which allows the translator to apply a qualitative analysis of selected solutions and equivalents” (Salama-Carr 1998: 114).

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People start smoking for a variety of different reasons. Some think it looks **cool**. Others start because their family members or friends smoke.

- Understanding & de-verbalizing:

يبدأ الناس التدخين لأسباب مختلفة، بعضهم يبدأ لأنه يشعر أنه أمر ...

[equivalent needed('*cool*' here means: '*fashionable*', '*trendy*', '*attractive*', '*impressive*', so one may suggest something like: ظريف أو

مثير للإعجاب] ...

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وآخرون لأن أحد أفراد عائلتهم أو أصدقائهم يدخن.

-re-expressing:

يبدأ الناس التدخين لأسباب مختلفة، فبعضهم يبدأ التدخين لأنه يشعر أنه أمر مثير للإعجاب وآخرون يبدأون بسبب تأثرهم بأحد أفراد عائلتهم أو أصدقائهم.

-verifying:


People start smoking for different reasons. Some start smoking because they feel it is attractive while others start because being influenced by one of their family members or friends.

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Further, the proponents of this approach distinguish between ‘**correspondence**’ and ‘**equivalence**’. They argue when correspondence is possible, the interpreter/translator can move directly from understanding to re-expression/reformulation. If not, s/he retrieves what the original text is saying, that is the sense, and looks for its equivalent in the TL.

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Necessity is the mother of invention.

Understanding  Re-Expressing
الحاجة ام الاختراع

Charity begins at home

Understanding  de-verbalizing  Re-Expressing
الاقربون أولى بالمعروف

The End

