

## TO THE TECHNICAL TRANSLATIONS FEATURES

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It is common knowledge that translation is something that is translated, or the process of translating something, from one language to another [1].

Translation is the means of international and interlingual communication as people have to translate from the origin language into target language in all spheres of human activity: art, business, law, politics, medicine, science, technology and engineering.

Nowadays, technical translations are one of the demanding aspects of global manufacture, science, business for the exchange of special technical information between people speaking different languages.

Most international companies need to translate technical documentation. Manuals and instructions for production equipment, user guides for consumer goods, data sheets, software documentation, science works, research papers, articles for science and engineering journals, science reports, textbooks and educational documents, drafts, diagrams, architectural drawings and charts need to be reproduced in foreign languages as companies operation expands over the world.

*The aim* of this paper is to outline and point the technical translations features.

Views from several practitioners and theorists indicate that technical translation is an indispensable human communication practice. This problem was investigated by the following scientists: G. Wilson (2001), J. Munday J. (2001), R. Douglas (2003), J. Byrne (2006) and others [2, 3, 4, 5]. *The materials* of this paper are based on the analysis of the above literature.

Technical literature can be divided into three basic groups:

a) periodicals press specially intended for the exchange of information: branch bulletins, which contain abstracts, summaries and titles; bibliographic indicators which contain titles, summaries and reviews, etc.

b) patent literature, which contain information about new inventions;

c) periodicals and other types of publications which are not specially intended for the exchange of technical information but can be used for this purpose: special books, instructions.

While translating technical papers must take into account some features.

1. Definitely, technical texts have stylistic, grammatical and lexical characteristics. The principal stylistic features of scientific and technical texts are:

a) information, which is given precisely, clearly, logically as technical translators often deal with the newest information, concepts and words, which often don't exist in the target language;

b) absence of emotions and expressive elements, avoidance of free interpretation.

The very important technical translator' task is to reflect precisely, clearly, logically the ideas of the author.

2. The length of the text should be controlled. For example, French, Italian, and especially German can be up to 30% longer than their English equivalents, while ideographic scripts like Chinese and Japanese are usually shorter. When translating technical documents translator should be ready expand or contract text blocks.

3. Exact terminology management is vital when translating technical documentation. The style and structure of original text affects the quality of technical translations, therefore it is necessary to keep sentences clear, short, and avoid idioms and florid style.

4. It is important to keep grammar and sentence structures as simple as possible and limit the use of dependent clauses.

So translators should not only know and master the target language perfectly but also understand the problem, be good specialists in the fields and gifted writers to express the message in the target language.

Thus, technical translation has its own specific character, and the main features include the need for the most accurate description of technological processes, competent translation of specific terms and observance of an appropriate presentation style.

1. Oxford Dictionary URL: <http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/translation>.
2. Wilson, Greg Technical Communication and Late Capitalism: Considering a Postmodern Technical Communication Pedagogy. *Journal of Business and Technical Communication*, 15.1 (Jan. 2001):72 – 99.
3. Jeremy Munday Introducing Translation Studies, *London and New York, Routledge*, 2001.
4. Douglas Robinson Becoming a Translator. An Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Translation, Second Edition, London and New York, Routledge, 2003
5. Byrne, Jody Technical Translation: Usability Strategies for Translating Technical Documentation. Springer, 2006.

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