

* LECTURE 1. THE NOTION OF SCI-TECH TRANSLATION

1. SCI-TECH TRANSLATION AS A FIELD
2. TYPES OF SCI-TECH LITERATURE
3. TECHNICAL TRANSLATOR : *requirements of the profession and their role*



*THEIR - determiner

* 1) belonging to or associated with the people or things previously mentioned or easily identified:
parents keen to help their children

* belonging to or associated with a person of unspecified sex: **she heard someone blow their nose loudly**

* 2) (*Their*) used in titles: *a double portrait of*



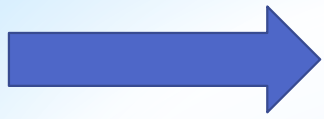
- * **Sci-tech** (i.e. scientific and technical) translation or technical translation involves translation of texts written in the context of scientific or technological disciplines.
- * It is a type of specialized translation involving the translation of documents produced by technical writers (owner's manuals, user guides, etc.), or more specifically, texts which relate to technological subject areas or texts which deal with the practical application of scientific and technological information



***Types of sci-tech literature:**

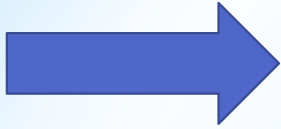
- 1)** *research papers / project reports;*
- 2)** *conference previews / reviews;*
- 3)** *conference proceedings;*
- 4)** *dissertation / thesis (dissertation / thesis synopsis);*
- 5)** *monographs;*
- 6)** *patents;*
- 7)** *instructional literature* (e.g. engineering maintenance manuals);
- 8)** *sci-tech periodical literature* intended for sci-tech information exchange (branch bulletins containing abstracts, annotations; scholarly/scientific journals containing scientific and technical papers);
- 9)** *periodical and non-periodical publications* which are not originally intended for sci-tech information exchange but which may be used for this purpose (books, advertisements, manuals, newspaper or magazine articles);
- 10)** *consumer information, publicity and information from manufacturers, etc.*

**Scientist*



natural or physical sciences

**Scholar*



the arts



* **Article:**

* a piece of writing about a particular subject in a newspaper or magazine **article on/about:**
e.g. an article on environmental issues

* *E.g. The paper's leading article (=the main article) described the new government's plans.*



* a piece of writing or a talk on a particular subject by someone who has made a study of it: a scientific paper

* paper on: a paper on psychology

* E.g. *Professor Usborne gave a paper on recent developments in his field.*

* a piece of writing or a talk on a particular subject by someone who has made a

* **Paper**



**five main tips to sci-tech translator:*

** (1) Originality should be maintained*

** (2) Sound knowledge of the source language*

** (3) Good knowledge of English*

** (4) Thorough knowledge about the (technical) subject*

** (5) Com*



1. A translator must be fluent in two languages and cultures.
2. A translator also has to cultivate knowledge of the areas he works for.
3. A translator must have good writing skills (above-average) in the target language.
4. A translator must have excellent computer skills. He must be willing to learn new technology.
5. A translator must be familiar with the main types of technical translation (full-length written translation, annotative / abstract translation, express information translation, translation of patents, etc.);
6. A translator must have good business skills, which includes negotiating, pricing, marketing, and time management.
7. A translator must get along well with others.
8. A translator should have a deep interest to the languages he works with.
9. *There is an important question of the responsibility and legal liability of the technical translator.*

*Should you keep this medicine...

*The conservative commentator David Brooks argues in “Bobos in Paradise” that the old bourgeoisie and the old bohemians have in the last generation morphed into what he calls “Bobos” - bourgeois bohemians.

*The long-haired, tie-dye-shirted, sandal-shod free spirit is now in the corporate boardroom, and the things that seemed to divide the counterculture from the business culture have largely disappeared as a result.



* Role of a Translator.

* *A Translator is:*

- * **a competent writer:** Like writers, the translators have to work long hours alone on a subject which interests few people and in a language that few people around them know.
- * **a diplomat:** Like diplomats, they have to be sensitive to the social, cultural differences which exist in their languages. They must be capable of addressing these issues when translating.
- * **a linguist:** Like linguists, translators have to handle new developments in their languages, have to get into the intricacies of their text, they have to be capable of discerning subtleties and nuances in their languages, researching terminology and colloquialisms.
- * **an educated amateur:** And like educated amateurs, translators have to know the basics and some of the details about the subjects they deal with.

Translation Types



- According to the aim of translation, it can be:
- *literal translation* (where the forms of the original are retained as much as possible, even if those forms are not the most natural forms to preserve the original meaning. Literal translation is sometimes called **word-for-word translation** (as opposed to **thought-for-thought translation** - in such a translation the meaning of the original text is expressed in equivalent thoughts, that is, meanings.
- *summary translation*, when the main ideas are rendered in the translated version;
- *abstract/annotative translation (резюме/анотація)*, not more than a paragraph (sometimes not more than 3-7 sentences).

* According to number of translators, translation can be:

* individual translation;

* committee translation

*Committee translation

Translation done by a group, rather than a single individual.

Committee translation has distinct advantages, especially in increased accuracy that comes from the checks and balances process of committee work.



**Socket :*

** патрон електролампи; муфта; коло; паз; розтруб;
патрубок; втулка; гільза; підп'ятник; стакан;
канатний замок; ловильний дзвін; камера від вибуху;
розширений кінець труби для стику з іншою трубою;
перехідний патрон; колодка; панель; роз'їм; осередок;
очна ямка; суглобова ямка*

**shaft:*

** вал, шпindelь, вісь.*



* **vehicle**, if used out of context, means different things:

* 1) *means of conveyance or transport (транспортний засіб пересування),*

* 2) *a liquid, as oil, in which a paint pigment is mixed before being applied to a surface (розчинник),*

* 3) *a chemically inert substance used as a medium for active remedies (розчин для ліків),*

* 4) *a substance, or device that readily conducts heat, electricity, sound (провідник),*

* 5) *a person who carries or spreads a disease (носіїв інфекції).*

* According to the integrity of translation:

* Full (Full-length written translation)

* Selective (Extraction of information (e.g. summary translation, abstract translation))



***Full-length written translation** entails producing an unabridged full-scale written version of the original text in another language. The whole source text is translated as it stands and the target text has the exact size or proportions of the original.



***Full-length written translation is the main type of technical translation due to the following reasons:**

- 1.** Scientific and technical information intended for practical use is processed in the form of a full-length written translation;
- 2.** Other types of technical translation are abridged or condensed versions of full-length written translation;
- 3.** Only full-length translation involves all stages and steps (i.e. rules) of the translation process. In other types of sci-tech translation you will not always follow them in a rigid order; you may skip some stages or steps, or work with two or more stages at once.

***Full-length written translation is done according to a specific set of rules and involves certain stages.**

- 1.** *Reading the source text and preparing to translate.*
- 2.** *Writing a draft of the target language text (Drafting)*
- 3.** *Evaluating and Revising (Stylistic Editing).*
- 4.** *Proofreading*
- 5.** *Translating the text title*
- 6.** *Making the final copy*

- * **5. Translating the text title** (heading or subheadings) is the final stage of translation as a process.
- * Text title performs two orienting functions:
- * **Firstly**, it expresses the topic of a text and informs the reader briefly of what the text is about (*contents orientation/function of informing*).
- * **Secondly**, it attracts the reader's attention (*attraction function*). Each of these functions may dominate in various styles and genres: the former - in scientific and technical literature, the latter - in newspaper and magazine headlines, popularized scientific material, publicity from manufacturers.

- *Headings in scientific and technical literature express the gist of the text and refer the reader to the full text as a source of full information. They must be translated adequately.
- *Accuracy, brevity, and intelligibility are the necessary requirements.
- **The Roof You Save;*
- **All-Weather Site Protection;*
- **Exhibition Halls Go Underground;*
- **We Give Old Swimming Pool New Ideas.*



*1. Titles in the form of a question are usually rendered into Ukrainian by means of *declarative sentences*:

**Why Wash Aggregates?* - Питання промивки наповнювачів;

**What's Coming for Light Weight Clay Blocks?* - Перспективи розвитку легких керамічних блоків;

*2. Titles in the form of an exclamatory sentence are usually rendered into Ukrainian by means of *declarative or sometimes exclamatory sentences*:

**Here's a Simple Way to Interpret Data!* - Знайдено простий спосіб розшифрування даних;

**Here's How to Handle Rush-Hour Traffic!* - Спосіб вирішення транспортної проблеми у години пік.

*3. Figures may be omitted in translation: *Development of a 230-kV 20.000 MA Oil Circuit Breaker* - Конструкція потужного мастильного вимикача.

- * An **annotation** is a brief summary of a book, article (paper), or other publication.
- * An **abstract** is also a brief summary, but there is a difference between the two.
- * An ***annotation*** is a brief explanatory or critical note added to the text which characterizes its content and lists major points under discussion. **It is a concise descriptive characteristic of the original.** It gives a brief statement about the contents of the book, i.e. gives the reader idea of what the book (paper) is about. The purpose of an annotation is to describe the work in such a way that the reader can decide whether or not to read the work itself.
- * An **abstract** is a brief summary of a research paper, [thesis](#), review, [conference proceeding](#) or any in-depth analysis of a particular subject or discipline, and is often used to help the reader quickly ascertain the paper's purpose. When used, an abstract always appears at the beginning of a manuscript, acting as the point-of-entry for any given academic paper or [patent application](#).

An academic **abstract** typically outlines four elements relevant to the completed work:

1. The research focus (i.e. statement of the problem(s)/research issue(s) addressed);
2. The research methods used (experimental research, case studies, questionnaires, etc.);
3. The results/findings of the research;
4. The main conclusions and recommendations

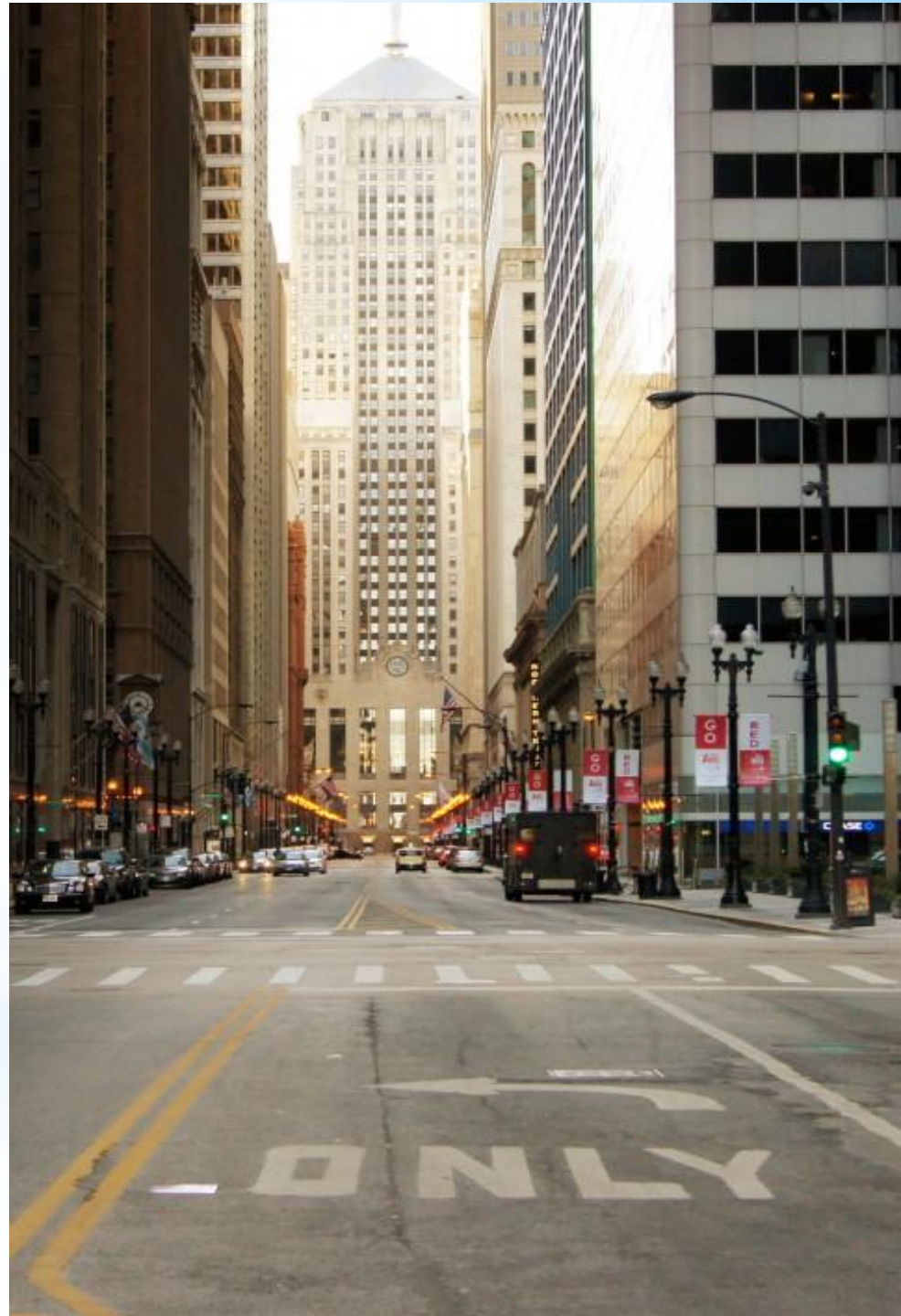
*Abstract length varies by discipline and publisher requirements. Typical length ranges from 100 to 500 words, but sometimes more than a page.

*Abstract Types

- ***Informative.** The **informative abstract**, also known as the **complete abstract**, is a compendious summary of a paper's substance including its background, purpose, methodology, results, and conclusion. Informative abstracts may be viewed as standalone documents.
- ***Descriptive.** The **descriptive abstract**, also known as the **limited abstract** or the **indicative abstract**, provides a description of what the paper covers without delving into its substance.

*ANNOTATIVE/ ABSTRACT TRANSLATION

- **Annotative translation* as a separate type of technical translation involves preparing a target language annotation of the source language text.
- *The description of the original is the main distinguishing feature of this kind of translation. You do not actually translate, you describe the original in the target language, comment upon it in these notes.



*Writing target language annotations entails several stages:

*1. Reading the original work.

*2. Gathering information: deciding on main ideas.

*3. Writing a draft annotation.

*Writing target language annotations involves critical thinking. An important skill in writing annotations is the ability to compress the mass of the material into an annotation of ordinary length. The usual rule is that an annotation should contain approximately 200-400 printed characters. **It should be brief and objective.**

*The subject of the research/ paper is...

*The research/ paper deals with.../ highlights.../
touches upon...

*The author dwells on.../ touches
upon.../characterizes.../ analyses.../ comments
on.../ points out.../ enumerates.../ emphasizes.../
stresses.../ underlines.../ makes a few critical
remarks.../ criticizes.../

Summative / summary translation consists in preparing a target language summary, or **précis**, of the source text (when the main ideas are rendered in the translated version).

A **précis** is a **concise summary** of a text, technical paper; restatement in shortened, compressed form of the chief ideas, points of a text. The purpose of a summary is to provide a short account of a longer piece of writing while retaining its essential meaning.

Summary translation as an abridged version of full-length translation entails full-length written translation only of those parts of the original which have been selected for this purpose.

- * Writing target language précis involves several stages:
- * 1. Reading the source text.
- * 2. Gathering information: deciding on main ideas.
- * 3. Analysing the information you gathered.
- * 4. Writing a draft of the target language précis.
- * 5. Evaluating and
- * 6. Proofreading.



Thank You

