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“IN SEARCH OF EQUIVALENCY: THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF TERMINOLOGISTS IN ENHANCING TRANSLATION PRECISION”

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Abstract

The intersection of translation and terminology, though seemingly distinct, is integral to the practice of translators. Translators often take on the role of terminologists, seeking equivalents for terms not found in bilingual databases under time constraints. Terminological equivalence is crucial for achieving the translator's goal of conveying accurate meaning across languages. Both scientific translators and terminologists share a common concern for understanding and conveying the meaning of terms, emphasizing their complementary roles in bridging linguistic gaps in specialized fields. Terminologists, with their theoretical competence, assist translators in navigating unfamiliar subject areas and generating or documenting terms when standard linguistic resources fall short. This collaborative approach underscores the synergy between terminologists and translators in ensuring effective communication in multilingual terminology. While no translator is expected to master the terminology of every field, terminologists, with their theoretical competence, can assist in tackling unfamiliar subject areas by generating or documenting terms. This collaboration becomes essential when standard linguistic resources fail to provide terminological equivalents in the target language, highlighting the complementary roles of terminologists and translators. Examples will be drawn from situations wherein the search for equivalents in the target language necessitates the use of terminological tools. The objective is to enhance temporal efficiency, overall efficacy, and contextual relevance in the translation process.

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Introduction:-

‘Bad terminology is the enemy of good thinking.’ **Warren Buffet**

I. Terminology

A note on terminology

According to Alain Rey (Rey and Sager 1995), terminology is concerned with “the study and use of the systems of symbols and linguistic signs employed for human communication in specialized areas of knowledge and activities.” Terminology can be likened to a captivating tapestry, weaving together a coherent yet potentially unique

web of ideas. It delves into the realm of concepts, exploring their definitions and the names that adorn them. In embarking upon a discussion about this intriguing subject, it is only fitting to unveil its essence with an artful and precise formal definition.

Sager (Sager 1990) also points out that terminology represents the science, study or knowledge of terms. This means that basically terminology defines any work that deals with the labeling and designation of concepts. Sager also states that **“terminology is the study of and the field of activity concerned with the collection, description, processing and presentation of terms, i.e., lexical items belonging to specialized areas of usage of one or more languages.”** Terminology isn't confined solely to the act of assigning names to concepts; it extends beyond that, encompassing a range of responsibilities including the creation of terms, their careful selection, elaborate descriptions, and their dissemination across various printed and digital platforms. Sager elaborates further, asserting that terminology evolved from a pursuit marked by amateurism in the 1930s into a rigorously scientific discipline interwoven with other fields such as linguistics, semantics, ontology, and information science. Additionally, terminology is significantly shaped by the subject domains and the specific realms of activity it serves, leading to its characterization as an interdisciplinary endeavor rather than a standalone field of study.

Darir (2016) defines terminology by saying: **“So terminology in this sense simply means the set of (scientific or technical) terms belonging to a particular subject field be it a science (such as chemistry, linguistics, and physics), art (such as painting), doctrine (such as Marxism), or craft (such as medicine, air-traffic and agriculture). In the second (and more technical) meaning, terminology refers to the science that investigates the relationship between concepts and terms and manages the production, standardization, documentation and dissemination of terms in particular disciplines or in technical and scientific writings in general.”** Terminology then is simply that discipline that examines the relationship between scientific principles and words that describe them in specific languages.

According to Pavel (2001) terminology first appeared with the following definition: **“the set of special words belonging to a science, an art, an author, or a social entity.”** He argues that effective terminology work necessitates a diverse skill set, encompassing the aptitude to pinpoint the terms associated with the concepts within a particular subject area, validate their usage through relevant reference materials, succinctly articulate these concepts, differentiate between proper and improper usage, and provide guidance on preferred or discouraged usages to enhance clear and unambiguous communication.

Cabré (1999) clarifies that **“Terminology, the discipline concerned with the study and compilation of specialized terms is not a new field of study, but only in recent decades has it been systematically developed, with full consideration of its principles, bases and methodology. Its social and political importance has now also been recognized on both the national and the international scale.”** Basically, terminology wasn't recognized as a separate discipline until the latest decades when it was developed because of how it is needed socially and politically. She goes on to speak of the origins of terminology saying that due to the increasing internationalization of science in the 19th century, scientists needed to have at their disposal a set of rules for formulating terminology for their respective disciplines. Throughout the industrial period, the spread of education and the increasing importance of written communication made it possible to explain languages and to set up operational standard registers. For many languages, hierarchical rules were developed, and the idea of "standard language" was born. Thanks to this union, the main languages were established, which the growth of both scientific and practical terms in the second third of the 20th century, due to the involvement of scientists and technicians. Therefor strategies were established and must be followed to the degree that they are the product of specific social needs. As a result, the organization of communities and their representative philosophies made it obvious to recognize the causes of hierarchical systemic terminology and clarify the significance it has acquired in most advanced countries. Cabré also makes use of Auger's (1988) idea about the stages of the development of terminology where we identify four basic periods in the development of modern terminology: the origins (1930 - 1960), the structuring of the field (1960 - 1975), the boom (1975 - 1985), and the expansion (1985 - present). The initial period of development of the study of terminology (1930 - 1960) was characterized by the design of methods for the systematic formation of terms. Additionally, Cabré speaks of how terminology resembles other sciences in their study of signs quoting: **“Like linguistics, semantics and semiotics, terminology is concerned with the study of signs. These signs take on the form of natural language words, phrases, etc. their relationship with these forms must be commented on and described in detail.”**

Undoubtedly, the fundamental concept in the theory of terminology is the idea of a 'concept'. Additional vital aspects within this theory encompass the inquiry into definitions, the attributes that define a term as effective, and the guiding principles governing term creation and standardization. To put it mildly, the subject-matter of terminology encompasses studies of what follows:

- The nature of concepts including their characteristics and relationships (part, whole, token, type, etc.)
- Definitions
- The nature of terms and their relationships (synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, hypernymy, etc.)
- The standardization of concepts, terms, terminological principles.
- Production of scientific and technical terms in specific situations, with their general characteristics in scientific and technical language.

Motivation, purposes and benefits of terminology

One must rely on the use of well-defined and mutually accepted terms to achieve proper technical communication to facilitate the sharing of knowledge. In the early eleventh century, Al-Khwarizmi emphasized the significance of terms as the keys to science in a groundbreaking book on terminology. Over the ensuing decades, rapid advancements in various fields of human knowledge, such as science, technology, and the economy, spurred a surge in terminological efforts. This surge was evident not only in the creation of new terms but also in subsequent standardization endeavors. The growing necessity for communication and information exchange, driven by increased interactions between nations and languages, further fueled terminological activities. A common sentiment in this context is that the world has transformed into a small village in the era of globalization.

As per Alain Rey (1979), the 1930s witnessed the emergence of terminology as a science in the West due to factors such as the fragmentation of knowledge, the division of social work, the growing complexity of human social institutions and techniques, and the proliferation of terms. This development was seen as a solution to the challenges faced by technical writers, specialized translators, and those learning specialized subjects.

The imperative to master terms for understanding, recognizing, and conveying ideas is applicable to all societies, but it holds even more significance for so-called developing countries engaged in language planning (Alain Rey, 1979: 55). Intense terminological activities are observed in various parts of the world, particularly in national developing languages. These languages often need to either borrow or create terms to encompass entire conceptual domains, ensuring linguistic, cultural, and technological development. In this context, the localization of terminology, involving its adaptation to a specific culture and language to facilitate market access, or its nationalization, serves as a genuine impetus for terminological research, just as internationalization does. Moreover, the expanding avenues of communication on both national and international scales, coupled with the growing demand to accurately and swiftly translate or comprehend scientific and technical content in foreign languages, led to the establishment of term banks. This development also spurred research into the nature of terms, their roles within conceptual systems, and the creation of what Felber (1980) referred to as communication tools enabling efficient exchange of ideas and knowledge among specialists. As this same terminologist (1980) points out, it became evident that terminology as a mere craft could not adequately address the emerging national and international requirements. To meet these challenges, research into the foundations of terminology became essential for formulating robust terminological principles and methods of terminological lexicography, marking the inception of the theory of terminology. In pursuit of enhancing professional communication, Wüster (1991), the pioneer of the general theory of terminology (cited in Felber, 1980a: 8), emphasized the need for:

1. Elaborating internationally standardized terminological principles for terminology work.
2. Establishing an international center to coordinate terminology work and documentation.
3. Developing a general theory of terminology as a specialized branch of applied linguistics for research and university-level teaching (Felber, 1980a: 8).

Over three decades since this proposition, significant progress has been made, including the establishment of the mentioned center and a somewhat clarified understanding of the goals and principles of terminology. However, there remains substantial work to be done in terms of standardizing principles for terminology work and achieving effective and swift communication.

Motivation for terminology

1. **Precision in Communication:** Terminology provides a precise and standardized set of terms to facilitate clear and unambiguous communication within specific domains, reducing the likelihood of misunderstandings.
2. **Specialized Knowledge Sharing:** In technical or specialized fields, terminology enables experts to share knowledge efficiently, ensuring that concepts are accurately conveyed among professionals within the same discipline.
3. **Efficient Learning:** Terminology aids in the learning process by providing a structured and specialized vocabulary, helping individuals acquire knowledge more efficiently and enhancing their comprehension of complex subjects.
4. **Facilitation of Innovation:** A well-defined terminology system supports innovation by allowing researchers and professionals to articulate new ideas, discoveries, and technologies in a standardized manner, fostering collaboration and advancement.

Benefits of terminology

1. **Clarity and Precision:** Terminology enhances clarity and precision in communication, ensuring that information is accurately conveyed without the ambiguity that may arise from using generic language.
2. **Efficiency in Communication:** Professionals can communicate more efficiently when using a shared terminology, reducing the time and effort required to convey complex concepts and ideas.
3. **Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration:** Standardized terminology fosters collaboration between professionals from different disciplines, enabling them to work together seamlessly and share insights more effectively.
4. **Knowledge Transfer:** Well-established terminology facilitates the transfer of knowledge from experts to learners, ensuring that information is passed down accurately and comprehensively within a particular field.
5. **International Communication:** Terminology plays a crucial role in international communication, allowing professionals from diverse linguistic backgrounds to collaborate and exchange information without language barriers.

In summary, terminology serves as a cornerstone in various fields, contributing to precision, efficiency, and collaboration, and playing a pivotal role in the effective communication of specialized knowledge.

Objectives and Principles of Terminology Research

When we talk about the objectives and principles of terminology, we are referring to the regulations guiding terminology work and the aims it seeks to achieve. In a general sense, the purpose of terminology is to enhance clarity and precision while minimizing ambiguity and confusion within specialized technical and scientific subject areas. More specifically, terminology has two interrelated goals: generating terms in cases where they are non-existent or exist in borrowed forms, and standardizing these terms. Standardization involves choosing a common term in situations where there is competition between multiple terms that convey the same concept. Gouadec (1994: 99) encapsulates these goals under the term 'Terminology Management' a role performed by the terminology manager. This management can be either monolingual or comparative. Consequently, this book could have been titled 'Terminology Management in the Arab World.' As mentioned earlier, one of the fundamental principles of terminology is monosemy or bi-univocity, emphasizing the one-concept-one-term relationship, especially within the same discipline or conceptual field. Unlike linguistics, which is a confirmed descriptive science, terminology, primarily concerned with specialized and technical language _specifically scientific and technical terms_ is prescriptive, at least as envisioned by its founders. The terminologist, prioritizing term standardization and maintaining consistency within the terminological system, must adopt a prescriptive stance toward terms. For instance, Gouadec gives the example of the term 'معجمية' (**mujamiyya**) which cannot simultaneously refer to lexicology and lexicography. In cases of polysemous or synonymous terms, the terminologist is compelled to define, select, and discard terms based on objective criteria.

The prescriptive aspect of terminology is evident in approaches like 'purist' or naturalizing methods, which aim to replace loanwords with native language terms, sometimes impacting the natural language use. Studies on Arabization (for Arabic) or Francization (for French) fall into this category. While purist approaches may standardize terminology, they can also contribute to synonymy in the language. The prescriptive nature of terminology isn't always explicit. Choosing one term over another, prioritizing, or labeling terms as preferred or deprecated involves value judgments. However, contemporary terminology is increasingly becoming descriptive. Modern terminologists focus more on recording established terms in extensive databases, making them accessible online for users, academics, and specialists to make their own choices. Socially-based terminology, or socio-terminology, challenges some presumed universal principles of terminology. Collaborative efforts in commissions,

committees, institutions, academies, and universities characterize terminological work. Standardizing terms is often handled by national academies, institutions, and international organizations like ISO, enhancing the objectivity of the work.

Terminological work, distinct from general lexicography or linguistic analysis, typically begins with concepts rather than terms. This approach, known as onomasiological or concept-to-term, contrasts with the semasiological or word-to-meaning approach. Emphasizing definitions is crucial in terminological work because terms, especially general words, may exhibit synonymy, polysemy, or ambiguity, leading to potential misunderstandings. For instance, in the Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary 'the morning star' and 'the evening star' both refer to the planet Venus, despite slight differences in meaning. The onomasiological approach aims to address issues of synonymy, where one concept may have multiple terms, while the semasiological approach may lead to problems of polysemy, where one term may signify different concepts. Terminology aims to rectify such linguistic shortcomings by addressing gaps and standardizing terms in scientific and technical language.

Terminological work is primarily synchronic, focusing on present-day relationships between concepts within their systems, aligning with linguistic principles. Terminology plays a role in language planning by addressing the lack of scientific and technical terms in developing languages, offering methods to fill gaps and standardize inadequate terminology, with a focus on written language. Principles outlined by the ISO Technical Committee include language economy in formulating terms and the adoption of frequent and conventional denominations, deviating from them only when strictly necessary. It is crucial to recognize that terminology has two dimensions: a linguistic dimension, resulting in terms, and a conceptual dimension, resulting in concepts. Unfortunately, the conceptual dimension is often overlooked in terminology works.

Objectives of Terminology Research

1. **Standardization:** Develop and promote standardized terminological principles to ensure consistency and coherence in language use within specific domains.
2. **Knowledge Enhancement:** Contribute to the deepening and broadening of knowledge within specialized fields by investigating and refining the terminology associated with those domains.
3. **Communication Improvement:** Improve communication within and across disciplines by identifying and addressing challenges related to terminology usage, ensuring clarity and precision in professional and academic discourse.
4. **Innovation Support:** Facilitate innovation and progress in various fields by actively engaging in terminology research to accommodate new concepts, technologies, and developments.
5. **Cross-Cultural Understanding:** Enhance cross-cultural communication by researching and addressing terminological variations across languages and cultures, promoting a shared understanding of concepts.

Principles of Terminology Research

1. **Rigorous Definition:** Establish clear and rigorous definitions for terms within a given domain to prevent ambiguity and ensure a shared understanding among professionals.
2. **Empirical Analysis:** Conduct empirical studies and analyses to gather data on terminology usage, preferences, and variations, providing a foundation for evidence-based terminological decisions.
3. **Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Encourage collaboration between terminologists and experts from various disciplines to ensure that terminology research reflects the evolving nature of knowledge and technology.
4. **Adaptability:** Recognize and adapt to the dynamic nature of language, technology, and knowledge by regularly updating and revising terminological frameworks to stay relevant and accurate.
5. **User-Centric Approach:** Prioritize the needs of end-users, including professionals, researchers, and learners, in developing terminological resources and frameworks to enhance usability and practicality.
6. **Cultural Sensitivity:** Consider cultural nuances and variations in terminology usage, recognizing that language is embedded in cultural contexts and may vary across different linguistic and cultural communities.
7. **Integration of Technology:** Leverage technological advancements, such as computational linguistics and artificial intelligence, to enhance terminology research methods, data analysis, and the development of terminological resources.
8. **Open Access and Collaboration:** Encourage open access to terminological databases and resources, fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing among researchers, professionals, and institutions.
9. **Considerations:** Adhere to ethical standards in terminology research, including transparency, accuracy, and responsible use of data, ensuring the integrity of terminological studies.

10. Education and Training: Contribute to the education and training of terminologists, professionals, and language specialists, promoting a broader understanding of the importance of terminology and its principles.
11. By adhering to these objectives and principles, terminology research aims to contribute significantly to effective communication, knowledge management, and collaboration within and across specialized domains.

The importance of terminology

Professionals such as translators, lexicographers, language planners, educators in language for specific purposes (LSP), experts in specialized subjects, and educational professionals may find themselves requiring the assistance of a terminologist at various points. This need arises for tasks such as explaining a term, addressing terminological gaps, or ensuring conceptual and terminological consistency within a particular subject area. The significance of terminology has escalated with the growing prevalence of globalization, which involves extensive communication and information exchange across all facets of life. The importance of terminology cannot be overstated, as effective communication and information exchange rely heavily on a well-defined, comprehensive, and unified terminological framework. Consequently, in the 21st century, globalization has emerged as an unavoidable concern for every country worldwide, and terminology is a critical consideration for those striving to adapt to developments, particularly those aiming to cultivate or advance a national language. In contemporary times, there is a unanimous acknowledgment that terminology plays a fundamental role in the communication of information. Information, considered the fourth factor of production alongside capital, labor, and time, holds economic significance. Clearly defined concepts and terms, encapsulated within a precise terminology, serve as gateways to effective and lucid communication. Notably, terminology assumes a central role in any specialized work involving the processing, representation, or transfer of information and knowledge.

Cabré (2002) states that terminology **“is a must for all professionals involved in the representation, speech, communication and teaching of specialized knowledge. Scientists, technicians or professionals in any field shall require terms and conditions to reflect and communicate their expertise in order to educate, pass or buy and sell their goods. There is no specialization that does not have unique units to describe their concepts.”** The fact that terminology is part of applied linguistics; a science that includes specialized lexicography, specialized translation, technical writing, and language teaching, stresses on its importance and everyday use. In fact, these four professional applications of linguistics are closely related: specialized translation requires the mastery of specialized bilingual or multilingual terminology; and technical writing consists of the use of terminology in monolingual discussion.

When it comes to language, terminology plays a crucial role as its purposes can be divided into three areas. First, since the world keeps on developing, any organization must have updated terminology to keep up with the new innovations and the process of naming them. Second, terminology paired with phrasing, detailed documentation and a variety of language-related activities done by every organization is very important. Third, the use of language must be regulated since the language needs of most organizations are not limited to one language but include several ones (Cabré and Sager 1999). When terminology is clearly defined, you build approved terms that can be used uniformly around the world. More often than not, many reviewers interpret terms based on their own tastes. As a consequence, the terms used for a product, service or brand can have different definitions from one edition to the next. With defined terminology, you alleviate the possibility that the wrong terms will be used, which can have a big effect on translations. The use of the accepted terminology must ensure that the material is written correctly and that the terms are translated precisely. A terminology guide makes it clear to everyone on the project team which words they should use and which they should avoid. As a result, editing and revision will be needed less, saving time and money. The same logic applies to the method of translation. The translation team can only use the accepted translations for the relevant source terms, which can result in lower costs if the words are already stored in the Translation Memory and can be used. In addition, time and energy for editing and proofreading of translations should also be that, as the words will remain the same in the documents.

Darir (2016) notifies that **“Nowadays, everybody agrees that terminology is basic to the communication of information, which represents, in economic terms, the fourth factor of production, i.e., next to capital, labor and time. Clear concepts and terms, clear terminology, in short, open gateways to proper and clear communication. In fact, terminology is central in any work of specialized information and knowledge processing, representation or transference.”** Therefore, terminology plays a crucial role in the process of translation and localization. Once your terminology has been established, it will help build a more accurate and consistent localized version of your product or documentation. In exchange, well-designed terminology management

will lower the translation costs, encourage a more cohesive company brand and attract more customers. Moreover, Translators need to research vocabulary in order to understand how terminological tools (i.e., word banks, glossaries, encyclopedic dictionaries, etc.) can be used to render translations both accurate and coherent. In addition to that, terminology shapes the way we use languages, it even goes further to change them and develop them, it actually paves the way for their improvement and that by organizing the use of every word, and creating new ones for concept that are discovered, thus we can say that terminology improves the quality of our communication both nationally and internationally, as it is related with the human basic human need to name and identify which is a constant activity in our lives.

Terminology and Translation

Interconnected fields

According to Al-Kasimi (1995), it is essential for both the translator handling scientific or technical texts from a source language (SL) to a target language (TL) and the terminologist translating a term from SL to TL to possess and mutually share a robust understanding not only of the SL and TL but also of the subject matter within the specific specialty or science. El Amin (1985) addresses the interconnectedness between translation and terminology within an industrial context. She highlights the significance of terminology in translation through an example: the term "grey" in texts related to commercial exchanges cannot be directly translated into Arabic as 'رمادي'. After consulting experts in the field, she discovered that 'grey/grey fabric' in Arabic is more accurately rendered as 'قمماشخام' (raw cloth). Consequently, El Amin (1985: 22) concludes that for translating texts specific to a particular field, the translator needs to comprehend not only the specialty itself but also the terminology employed in both languages. Moreover, it is not expected for any translator to be proficient in the terminology of every science or technique, nor is this an obligation for terminologists. However, terminologists are theoretically better equipped to handle the terminology of a new or unfamiliar subject by creating or documenting terms. In essence, they possess greater conceptual competence. This becomes particularly valuable when dictionaries and term banks prove inadequate, especially when there are no terminological equivalents in the target language. Given their theoretical proficiency and familiarity with subject-specific terminology, which surpasses that of translators, whose expertise lies in other aspects such as syntax and style, terminologists play a necessary role in assisting translators. In developing countries, including the Arab world, the role of the terminologist resembles that of a specialist translator; transferring or translating terms from a source language (SL) to a target language (TL), often Arabic in this context. According to Didaoui (1991), the ideal Arab terminologist is one who is inherently a translator by vocation. It is therefore fitting to reconsider the relationship among the trio of translator-terminologist-specialist. Similarly, when specifically trained terminologists are lacking, and when there is a shortage of appropriate terms, translators may find themselves compelled to assume the role of terminologists. Didaoui (1991) contends that the Arab translator is, by definition, a terminologist because of their engagement with terminology, especially in cases where the designated role of a terminologist is absent in certain organizations. In any event, the Arab translator is characterized by a significant terminological component in their work. Hence, due to the nature of their work, a (scientific) translator may find themselves compelled to take on the role of a terminologist.

Siény (1985) explains that —**the word terminology is often associated with translation for several reasons. Firstly, translators are major users of terminology, in the sense of the technical or special terms or expressions used in a given discipline, profession or activity. Secondly, terminology, as a method of collecting, grouping together and structuring sets of terms peculiar to given subject areas, was developed and practiced largely by translators, at least in Canada, in the 50s and 60s.**” It may seem at first glance, that translation and terminology fall within different fields, since translation relates to language in situation, while terminology relates to language as a conceptual system; they are inseparable from those who practice the profession of translator. ('Translation and Terminology', 2011, 195). Terminology being an interdisciplinary field isn't only used by its specialists; in fact, translators and interpreters are also very interested in terminology, especially when they're the ones achieving communication between those specialists. Translation is a method designed to complete and facilitate contact between speakers using various languages; it deals with understanding the source text and rendering it into a target text, and this includes knowledge of the actual source and target languages. This indicates, in effect, that professional translators must have some knowledge of the subject matter they are translating.

Darir focuses on the idea of Al-Kasimi (1995) the similarities between translation and terminology only to state the different characteristics of translators and terminologists:

Terminologists are tasked not only with transferring terms between languages but also with creating new terms for new concepts, standardizing synonyms, and documenting terms, which are language-specific activities distinct from translation.

Translators go beyond individual words to translate entire texts, where achieving equivalence can be difficult due to contextual nuances. This underscores a fundamental difference between non-specialized translators, who focus on contextual word sense, and terminologists, who deal with conceptual phrase meaning. (Towards a Model for Arabic Scientific and Technical Terms Standardization, 2016, 73)

A good technical translation is the one that expresses the same content as the source text and at the same time maintaining its same form. Concerning specialized translation, the translator must definitely know the language and field of the text he's translating, meaning that he should choose wisely the topics he's going to work on and have basic and minimal knowledge and competence in the field as well; in order to be certain and capable of maintaining the same content and form both languages. Subsequently, translators tend to act as terminologists in order to find equivalents for terms occurring in the text that are not found in the available bilingual and multilingual vocabularies or in specialized data bases. In addition, translators have to deal with the obstacle of time, as they tend to have a limited amount in which they should translate, do the proofreading and sending back their work; sometimes having to work in those circumstances cannot allow them to hand over the job to a terminologist. And since the aim of every translator is to achieve equivalence, terminology used by them must have contexts with information on how to use the term correctly in order to ensure that they're using the precise form to refer to a specific content. This means that terminological equivalence is the key to multilingual terminology. (Cabr , 1999)

What concerns a translator is not so much the interpretation of the meaning of the linguistic units as the various ways of interpreting them, the equivalence of a word or phrase in various verbal contexts. Terminology offers, through its study, one of the keys to understanding the transition and interlinguistic processes or, more specifically, the conditions of convergence / divergence. The translator will always use terminology when searching for the precise meaning of a word or specific unit of language, or when he hesitates between various words, whether in the process of comprehension or revision, and when he wants to create a neologism or paraphrase in the target language. However, according to specialists (Guid re, 2010) the link between translation and terminology is in fact problematic because translators occasionally use terminology and that it is in fact useful only in certain types of text; specialized, technical and scientific texts, however terminology is a fundamental element of specialized communication because it guarantees precision and efficiency to its users; therefore terminology is destined to satisfy the social needs linked to either, a complete communication between professionals and specialists with or without the help of translation, or the process of normalization of a language. The work of the translator and terminologist is best when they achieve translation, or when they compile a dictionary, with terminology being part of the final product in terms of the translator's presentation. Dictionaries focus on the importance of material collection, entries and the clarity of details. The descriptions will be clear and very concise, providing a maximum amount of information. One of the criteria of selection will be the frequency of the words deemed most useful for potential dictionary users. The question arises as to what form of dictionary is required to help the translator in his work, because the function of bilingual dictionaries or directories is to create conceptual and cross-cultural equivalences. In this context, a distinction should be made between bilingual dictionaries, those intended for specialist non-translators and those intended for translators of specialized documents, who are themselves non-specialists.

In conclusion, the terminologist's task is to clearly define the words, and the translator's job is to use them well in the target language in order to convey thought rigorously, with the common aim of improving multilingual communication skills that are not focused solely on linguistic knowledge; they must also incorporate the cultural and conceptual aspect of language. For translators, terminology makes translation easier content from one language to another. And if specialists are by definition the users of terminology, translators and interpreters should also be considered as priority users, insofar as they facilitate communication between specialists. Mirko Plitt, a German linguist who has worked in a wide range of roles in the language industry, always with a focus on making state-of-the-art language technology helpful to people. He joined Translators without Borders in June 2016 with a strong background in computational linguistics and an extensive experience as a translation reviser and has actively participated in localization endeavors over an extended duration. Plitt contends that, in his view, Terminology transcends mere technological considerations, instead emphasizing its pivotal role in facilitating effective collaboration among individuals. He finds particular fascination in Terminology as not only an inherent and

indispensable facet of translation but also as a crucial instrument for fostering cohesion among diverse stakeholders in the translation process. It serves as a means to convey a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter and articulate it effectively in another language. Plitt perceives Terminology as a non-trivial undertaking, characterizing it as an enduring struggle that demands continual effort. He underscores its representative nature in encapsulating the complexity inherent in the practice of translation, an arena that elicits passion and ongoing dedication. The connection between translation and terminology is emphasized by how translation may be a more instinctive and facile task, it is the intricacies of terminology that present challenges. Plitt notes that a significant proportion of his professional endeavors, amounting to sixty percent, revolve around the meticulous domain of terminology work.

The following table summarizes the substantial advantages of the compilation of terminology for translations:

<p>Transparency, accuracy and consistency The adoption of a standardized terminology ensures transparency, precision, and uniformity in documentation, transcending linguistic boundaries. This consistency is particularly salient when multiple translations are involved, as all translators adhere to the same set of terms.</p>
<p>Enhanced Operational Efficiency The utilization of a common terminology streamlines workflows, facilitating ease of collaboration both internally and with external partners such as language service providers. This harmonization contributes to the overall efficiency of tasks associated with translation processes.</p>
<p>Content Volume Reduction The aggregation of terminology enables the creation of reusable text, leading to a reduction in the volume of content necessitating translation. This not only optimizes resources but also promotes coherence in messaging.</p>
<p>Elevated Document Quality and Corporate Language Standardization The systematic application of compiled terminology results in heightened document quality and fosters standardized corporate language across diverse regions and languages. This contributes to a cohesive and professional organizational image.</p>
<p>Time and Cost Savings The establishment of a consistent terminology framework eliminates the need to repeatedly elucidate technical terms to multiple translators, thus saving both time and resources. This efficiency translates in to tangible cost savings.</p>
<p>Uniform Branding Across Diverse Linguistic Contexts A unified terminology approach ensures uniformity in branding across different countries and languages. This coherence in language contributes to a cohesive brand identity, reinforcing the organization's global presence.</p>

Types of Translation a terminologist should know about

The translation of specialized, technical, or scientific texts presents inherent challenges. The translator must acquire a nuanced understanding of the varied designations that a term may assume based on the specific context. Proficiency in translating such texts is typically the purview of specialized translators or individuals well-versed in the pertinent field. Specialized documents are crafted with the primary objective of disseminating information, targeting an audience comprised of specialists or professionals within the respective field. This audience possesses a familiarity with the specialized terminology inherent to the domain, a knowledge base that the translator must possess to ensure accurate and effective translation. This leads to various types of translations terminologists should consider, each presenting distinct challenges and requiring tailored approaches. Some prevalent categories include:

Business Translation:

Encompassing diverse documents and materials, business translation supports global business activities, including marketing materials and digital assets.

Document Translation:

Specifically addressing business correspondence, internal memos, legal contracts, and technical specifications, document translation contends with the complexity of large volumes and fragmented business documents.

Legal Translation:

A specialized subset involving the translation of legal, judicial, and juridical documentation, necessitating precision due to potential legal ramifications resulting from inaccuracies.

Literary Translation:

Focused on transferring the meaning, style, and beauty of literary works between languages, requiring creative freedom to faithfully capture the essence of the source text.

Technical Translation:

Involving scientific and technical texts such as user manuals, service guides, and software strings, technical translation demands consistent terminology and subject matter expertise.

Financial Translation:

Addressing the global demand for financial documents, financial translation includes balance sheets, income statements, and software-related content.

Ecommerce Translation:

Essential for businesses engaging in global ecommerce, involving the translation of landing pages, product descriptions, and blog posts while balancing accuracy, SEO-friendliness, and cultural adaptation.

Marketing Translation:

Adapting text-based content for cultural relevance in local markets while maintaining global brand consistency and appealing to local sensibilities.

Medical Translation:

Operating within the highly regulated medical sector, medical translation involves critical texts like clinical trial protocols and demands specialized subject matter expertise and precision.

Life Science Translation:

Encompassing medicine, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology, life science translation shares challenges with technical translation and requires meticulous accuracy.

NGO Translation:

Addressing sensitive topics for non-profit organizations, NGO translation aims to break down language barriers and facilitate understanding on issues such as human rights and crises.

Software Translation:

Part of software localization, involving the translation of user interface text within global software products to align with target market preferences. **App Translation:** A subset of software localization, app translation focuses on translating mobile app content, including user interface elements and in-app information.

Website Translation:

A component of website localization, website translation involves translating textual content, such as blog posts and product descriptions, to reach a global audience while adhering to SEO principles and cultural preferences.

What should translators know about terminology?

Translators often encounter a terminological shock, particularly when faced with neologisms, making them 'the main terminology producers.' This raises the question: What should a translator know about terminology? In our view, the following terminological, linguistic, and documentary skills are essential:

- a. **Knowledge of the subject matter:** A deep understanding of the content being translated.
- b. **Knowledge of the source language (SL) and target language (TL):** The ability to identify or establish term equivalences in both languages.
- c. **Term production or neology:** Familiarity with decisions made by language and scientific academies and institutes in the Arab world regarding the methodologies of term production.
- d. **Term documentation:** The capacity to search for and compile dictionaries and glossaries for specific purposes. The ability to utilize various sources of documentation such as online dictionaries, term banks, etc.
- e. **Term standardization:** Understanding decisions made by language and scientific academies and institutes in the Arab world regarding the methodologies of term standardization. In summary, terminology and translation are closely intertwined disciplines. Didaoui (1999: 8) underscores this intimate connection, stating that

translators "should be born terminologists." It is equally true to assert that in the Arab World (and in the developing world at large), terminologists should be born translators.

Terminology Management

What is terminology management

One of the most important aspects of a translator's role is to effectively handle terminology, involving exposure to terminology, assessing its accuracy and suitability in particular contexts, as well as storing and retrieving it when needed. Terminology's central role in translation has elevated terminology studies to a pivotal subfield within the broader realm of translation studies. The acquisition of specialized terminology stands out as a primary focus in courses covering legal, medical, commercial, or other technical translation. Moreover, the question "**How do you say X, Y, and Z in language B?**" is the most frequently posed inquiry in online translator discussion groups. I personally have found myself asking this question multiple times while studying and teaching English. It was also the subject matter of my master degree in the Faculty of Cadi Ayyad where I was introduced to the **KIT Lab: the Knowledge Integration and Translation Laboratory**. In collaboration with Al Kindi Center of Translation and Training, the research laboratory was in fact a famous and well-known part of the establishment acknowledged for its latest project which is the compilation of a bilingual specialized dictionary of Terminology involving the participation of Master and PhD students. It was also one of the few scientific research establishments in the fields of translation not only in Morocco but in the whole Arab world. Throughout this program, I got to know more and more about Terminology and its relation with Translation. The simplest definition offered to facilitate the grasp of what terminology management is would be Sue Ellen Wright's as '**Any deliberate manipulation of terminological information.**' This definition right here can be considered very broad considering the amount of work this field covers, which is why it is necessary to speak of the entire range of activities in the field of terminology management. First, we have the practical management of terms, carried out by countless engineers, biologists, chemists and social scientists over the years, in order to satisfy their endless need for clear and unmistakable language in the context of the ideas they construct and talk about, as well as the related words they use to interact with each other. Second, TM1 includes the systematic documentation of information and its presentation as dictionaries, terminology collections and terminology databases. And third, we have the ad hoc compilation of that information for translation and interpretation purposes, for the creation of texts as a method of technical communication and for the management of information (Wright and Budin 1997, 2). According to Sue Ellen Wright (1997), terminology management is a similar approach to information management, and both offer critical resources in the sense of Total Quality Management, which has become a central focus for functional and organizational operations, not just in manufacturing but also in document processing, computer applications and the service industries.

Types, stages and processes of terminology management

Types of terminology management

New terms are frequently inserted into a language either to fill the void created by the introduction of a new word or to replace an existing, less effective phrase. There are two approaches to this evolution of terminology: **descriptive** and **prescriptive** terminology research. Although descriptive terminology research only studies and analyzes the evolution of terms, prescriptive terminology work represents an agreement between users to adopt a word for specific and frequent usage in some circumstances. The above includes integration of terminology, standardization and harmonization. According to ISO 26162 (2012, 7), the following definitions apply:

Descriptive terminology:

approach for managing terminology that documents the way that terms are used in contexts without indicated preferred usage.

Prescriptive terminology:

Approach for managing terminology that indicates preferred usage.

Sue Ellen Wright (Wright and Budin - 1997, 329) stated that the aim of **descriptive terminology** management is to record all terms used to describe concepts that are addressed in a particular field, typically in the social sciences. It is not the purpose of this kind of terminology management to recommend the usage, but rather to record all the words that occur or are suggested for a definition. By sharing knowledge on concepts and words used in the field, its aim is to help scholars find better analytical methods to work with and avoid the use of ambiguous terminology to describe the concepts they have in their minds. Through this method, we hope that scholars will be able to express their ideas more clearly and more precisely. It can be very useful in cases where standardized terms are not available and where there is also opposition to terminology standardization.

Descriptive Terminology Management is practiced by translators, technical authors, and social scientists who record translation and writing terminology, but who usually do not decide their own usage in a domain. It may also be extended to translations and critical texts in literature by reporting solutions to particular translation or implementation issues, as well as polysemic nuances. This approach helps translators and writers make educated choices, but it does not influence their choices in any way.

In short, descriptive terminology work has for purpose to record the terms used to describe the concepts of the discipline. It typically requires a manual or semi-automated review of the documents used to classify the candidate words, which are then reviewed in the current terminology tools for related entries to create a terminology glossary, (Wright and Budin, 2001). **Prescriptive terminology management** is performed by standardizes, government authorities, language planners and nomenclature experts to ensure clear and unmistakable usage of terminology in regulated areas as well as to promote correct communication in general usage. These people are either experts or have work with experts in their fields. Language in these cases is an essential factor; standardized terminology here ensures that standardizes will communicate easily and correctly, they will successfully understand each other when they agree on technical specifications. Standardizes can also conduct descriptive work as they collect usage data before deciding on standardized words. Language planners in linguistic societies that do not have a technological background are endeavoring to produce common terminology in their languages for a broad range of fields in order to promote technology transfer. This practice in developed countries is both critical and successful. Language planning to preserve linguistic purity sometimes faces opposition when it is applied to the general language region. Translators and other non-experts can also use prescriptive language within their working groups when defining their in-house use.

Stages of terminology management

According to Terminology management includes defining the tasks of developing terminology, implementing and regulating the usage of terminology as three distinct but interrelated phases of the process (Hendrik J. Kockaert, Frieda Steurs, 2015):

- a. Setting up and using the Terminology Management System in the QA process;
- b. Implementation of Terminology Management: Ensure that appropriate terminology is used correctly and consistently across all translated material;
- c. Maintaining an Integrated Terminology Management Database – Continuous Terminology Maintenance and Upgrade.

The key components of terminology management infrastructure are: a data base where terminology data can be stored and edited; a computer aided translation tool (CAT) or translation management system (TMS) which is integrated with the terminology data base or a stand-alone terminology tool; a terminology tool should enable the user to: First, search and retrieve terms from the data base. Ideally this should be automated. When the translator is editing the text a particular string which results from the terminology data base should be available in the translation results window. Second, see when and how a particular term should be used. Third, see when a particular term should not be used and finally submit terms to the data base as candidate terms; and a QA module which can be used to test if the desired terminology is being used correctly.

Processes of terminology management

According to TM-Global 2013 Terminology Survey, the process of terminology management works in the following order:

- a. Corpus creation and terminology mining: using tools that function with varying degrees of effectiveness.
- b. Agreement of preliminary terminology based on statistical frequency analysis: Since the term extraction tools usually gives many false positive results, it's necessary to remove candidates which are of small use.
- c. Expansion and refinement of terminology in the integrated term base during translation: many candidate terms are identified in the translation process itself. They pass by the process of vetting and approval before finally being accepted for use.
- d. Identification of a critical terminology subset for QA purposes and translated texts for compliance with agreed terms: classification of terms to give them higher credibility in the QA process.
- e. Finalization of terminology work and submission to the client in appropriate formats: this stage gives the client a customer review thus the possibility of confirming the terminology and translation.

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