

МЕТОДИКА ОБУЧЕНИЯ ЯЗЫКУ В УСЛОВИЯХ ПОЛИКУЛЬТУРНОГО ПРОСТРАНСТВА

УДК 811

METHODOLOGY OF PRELIMINARY PREPARATION IN CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETATION

A.V. Astreiko

Волгоградский государственный университет

Российская Федерация

E-mail: arjanovskaya@volsu.ru

In this article, we will consider the highlights of conducting effective preparation for the consecutive oral translation, and also focus on the organization of training in this activity in the educational process.

Keywords: interpreter; consecutive translation; preliminary preparation; physical, psychological preparation; short-term memory; information retrieval.

During the current educational paradigm, the global goal of translator training is to develop the professional competence of a specialist in the process of developing his or her potential and revealing personal resources. Mastery of the methodology of preparation for translation stands out among the key professional competencies of a translator.

It should be noted that according to E. V. Alikina, “Oral translation is a type of professional translation that involves verbal (sound or sign) transmission of an oral message from one language to another” [1, p. 29].

The training program for interpreters involves mastering such types of translation as sight translation and consecutive translation, each of which is characterized by a number of temporal, spatial, technical, stylistic and substantive features. The focus of our research is consecutive oral translation of public speeches at major international meetings using two or more foreign languages.

As for the spatial and temporal organization of the interpreter’s work, it is characterized by the formula “here and now”. However, the success of the translation process is largely determined by the effectiveness of preliminary preparation. It is the preparatory work that helps to ensure high quality translation: “Preparation is half the battle. When you are prepared, even if you do not understand a phrase or paragraph, you will always know what it is about and will be able to find proper words that would fit well into the context” [2].

In order to achieve a decent level of training, as D. Gilles rightly notes, a translator is required to have a high level of “intellectual curiosity”, which would push him to be interested in various areas of knowledge necessary in professional practice. [3]. Developed motivation to expand subject-specific knowledge should be complemented by a broad general culture of the translator, which can facilitate the process of preparing for translation.

Despite the fact that simultaneous interpreting is considered the most stressful type of interpreting, the interpreter also experiences powerful psychological pressure in the process of performing other types of interpreting. In the situation of consecutive interpreting, stressful and “energy-consuming” factors include a long stay in public, a high level of formality, the amount of information received for perception (up to 7 minutes), high information saturation, an extended statement in the target language, dependence on the sound of the speaker’s speech (tempo, volume, accent), the need to adjust to the speaker’s pauses, working while standing, performing different actions simultaneously (listening and writing down, reading notes and speaking), delays in recording due to the search for a suitable symbol or abbreviation, and the use of a microphone [3].

Even experienced professionals with excellent reputation have difficulties, not only when translating technical, information-rich messages with a high speech rate, but also when translating relatively simple speeches on general topics. One of the reasons for these problems is insufficiently effective preparation for the translation.

We consider four aspects of preliminary preparation for consecutive interpretation: physical preparation, psychological preparation, short-term memory and information retrieval.

Physical training is aimed at maintaining high performance and regulating the interpreter's permissible capabilities, the range of which is determined by objective factors. These include the functioning of the equipment, the location of the participants of the event, the physical condition of the interpreter, and his appearance. The interpreter must check in advance how the microphone and speakers work, prepare a pen and notebook for taking notes, and find out where the speaker and listeners will be. As Y. I. Matyushina notes, it should be remembered that the appearance (manners, face, style of clothing) of the interpreter acts both as a means of communication and as a tool for influencing people, which presupposes compliance with the principle of appropriateness, i.e. a carefully thought-out correspondence of the image to the situation in which the work will be done [4, p. 15-17]. In addition to preparation directly for the translation situation, the physical readiness of the translator to perform professional activities is manifested in the culture of the voice, the culture of non-verbal

behavior, physical endurance, which require formation and improvement both in the process of training and throughout the entire career.

The essence of psychological preparation comes down to directing the interpreter's consciousness and actions to solving the tasks set before him. To do this, the interpreter must receive information in advance about the peculiarities of the upcoming event: its participants (speaker and listeners), time, place, other circumstances. It is advisable to get to know the speaker and, if possible, to establish partnership relations with him. The above measures will allow you to overcome negative emotions, fear, mobilize all your resources, and build confidence in your abilities. It is also important to be able to disconnect from the previous event, which, incidentally, is a requirement of translation deontology.

Short-term memory is an important aspect of interpreting, as interpreters must be able to memorize and recall large amounts of information in a short period of time. The greater the volume of short-term memory is, the more accurate the translation will be. There are many memory development exercises that can help to improve short-term memory: echo, free echo, mnemonic memorization techniques (the "places" method, grouping, associative thinking), translator's shorthand techniques.

If we talk about the highlights of information preparation, then three types can be distinguished: information saturation, thematic search, terminological search.

If to talk about information saturation, we mean the constant process of replenishing the translator's knowledge of the surrounding world and his awareness of current events. In connection with information saturation we are talking about the development of translation erudition, which we interpret as a component of the professional culture of the translator.

According to N. N. Gavrilenko, the first step recommended to begin training in oral translation is to understand what future translators do not know about the simplest things that they encounter every day, they hear about on the radio, television, and read about in magazines. The second step involves performing exercises that help to identify gaps in knowledge and achieve information saturation: exercises to complete phrases from short news reports on current issues and current news; discussion of news; identifying, memorizing, commenting on allusions, toponyms, aphorisms, quotations, Latinisms, references to facts of history, geography, culture, literature, etc. in the texts of speeches on various topics; monolingual short conversations (in native or foreign language) about objects and phenomena of the surrounding reality [5, p. 125-127].

The objective of thematic search is to achieve in a short period of time the level of knowledge necessary for understanding the subject of translation, which initially seems completely unknown. It should be noted

that one of the fundamental features of the profession is a wide range of subjects in a variety of fields of knowledge.

According to D. Gilles, the difference between the understanding required by a specialist and the understanding of a translator is that the former must have extensive preliminary thematic knowledge, with which he builds the necessary connections for a more complete vision of the overall picture, whereas a translator, not being a specialist in a given field, can get by with the level of knowledge from general-purpose dictionaries. The author also believes that many concepts can be explained through their correlation with the existing knowledge [3].

The search for the necessary subject information should be carried out in a certain sequence: from general sources to specialized resources. The set of search sources may vary depending on the area in which the translation is being carried out. For example, for translation in the economic sphere, the translator may turn to advertising materials (brochures, prospectuses), company presentation texts, business correspondence, annual reports and articles in specialized publications. Preparation for translation in the socio-political sphere can be carried out by studying media publications, as well as presentation materials of organizations and parties.

It is important to note that when conducting an information search, a translator must be able to work quickly, i.e. reasonably correlate the time provided for preparation and the volume of information to be processed during a given period. This skill must be developed in future translators, each time indicating the time period within which it is necessary to find this or that information.

As for terminological search, it is usually carried out using printed and electronic sources of special purpose. The translator needs to quickly and effectively identify key concepts of the problem in monolingual texts, find translation matches, identify possible gaps and ways to fill them, classify (alphabetical, thematic, grammatical, semantic) and graphically represent terminological vocabulary, clarify pronunciation, and select symbols of translation semantography.

In conclusion, it is important to emphasize that preliminary preparation for a translation situation is directly related to ensuring its quality: physical and psychological readiness will manifest itself in the adequate behavior of the translator; effectively conducted thematic preparation will help to prevent errors in understanding; terminological search will contribute to achieving greater accuracy in expression. In general, mastering the methodology of preparation for translation will indicate the formation of professionally significant qualities of the translator's personality, such as responsibility, mobility, stress resistance, intellectual curiosity, erudition, which are a component of translation competence.

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