

The Specifics Of The Translation Of Scientific Texts: Comparison And Analysis Of The Text Of The Original And Translation (On The Example Of The Uzbek And Russian Languages)

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Annotation. Scientific translation is the translation of scientific texts, thus a special knowledge will be required. These texts require a deep knowledge of both the source and target languages, as well as a proper understanding of the subject. Scientific translators are often trained linguists that specialize in fields such as medicine, biology or chemistry. Sometimes they are scientists that have developed a high degree of linguistic knowledge, which they apply to the translation of texts in their field of expertise. Collaboration between linguists and subject specialists is really common in this case. In this article, we will explain you some of the best scientific translation techniques.

Keywords: EST, technical vocabulary, word formation rules, computer engineering

Introduction

Translation of scientific texts is essential to the advancement of science, especially since in many countries English is considered a second language and is generally the lingua franca of certain industries. However, it should not be assumed that everyone who can benefit from scientific findings speaks English, or that all relevant findings are even being published in English.

Due to this, the translation of scientific texts becomes important to expand global scientific knowledge. That being said technical and scientific translation can be expensive, and some may try to find ways to cut costs which can lead to poor quality work and mistakes.

WHEN TRANSLATING SCIENTIFIC TEXTS DON'T:

- Handle the translation yourself unless you have prior experience translating.
- Rely on a non-professional linguist for the translation of scientific texts.
- Assume everyone you are trying to reach with your texts speaks English.

- Only rely on machine translation (such as Google Translate) for complicated and technical scientific language.

The first point is important, as bilingual researchers may take it upon themselves to translate their own texts. Even if you are fluent in multiple languages, scientific translation isn't as straightforward as you might imagine.

CHALLENGES FOR THE TRANSLATION OF SCIENTIFIC TEXTS

Why is the translation of scientific texts more complicated than first imagined? There are a few reasons, but four of the main ones are:

1. Scientific language is technical and can be difficult to convey across languages.
2. Certain concepts may not exist in your target audience's culture so ideas need to be adapted carefully.
3. Information needs to be as concise as possible, with few repetitions or ambiguities to mitigate confusion.
4. Images including graphs, charts and diagrams must be localized and formatted for the intended audience.

This is all on top of standard translation challenges including:

- Variances in word order and grammar
- Localization requirements for units of measurement reading styles
- A lack of standardized terminology
- Discrepancies among abbreviations
- The prevalence of dialects spoken by people around the world

All of these factors considered, professional scientific translation services from a Language Service Provider (LSP) are worth the cost to ensure your scientific research will be understood.

HOW LSPTS HANDLE TRANSLATION OF SCIENTIFIC TEXTS

A language service provider is more than a company you contract to perform your translation. They will work to understand what exactly your translation needs are – from what your text will be used for, down to the exact languages and dialects you need translated.

Language Service Providers ensure:

- High quality translation work done by professional linguists with years of experience.
- Translators with subject matter expertise in your area of scientific research.
- Multiple sets of eyes for proofreading and editing purposes (also done by subject matter experts).
- Adherence to strict deadlines, regulations or guidelines, and budget restrictions.
- Professionalism and dedicated support from your project management teams.
- The ability to scale services up or down depending on your needs.

Sharing professionally translated scientific texts with others in your field not only allows your research to be appreciated fully, but brings together global findings in the field – which in the end is beneficial to all.

Be confident in sharing your findings to readers of all languages by partnering with an experienced language service provider.

Clarity and concision are the main stylistic goals of scientific translation, which must convey the exact meaning of the original text. Ambiguities and unclear constructions are characteristics of the literary texts and must not be found anywhere in scientific translation. This is the hardest task in scientific translation. Finding the right words can be a struggle sometimes and it can also create repetitiveness in the text, as synonyms of certain words can be rather ambiguous and more suitable for literary work. Avoiding repetitions can sometimes be extremely hard. This is why the translator must have a scientific background that allows her or him to play with the terminology without changing the meaning of the text.

What is also really common among scientific translators is their ability to correct the small mistakes in the original text, as they will be the persons that will read the document most attentively. Common mistakes in scientific work include: inconsistencies between numbers listed in tables, accompanying diagrams showing something else than they should or tables referred to by non-obvious symbols. In this case the translator is advised to correct such mistakes in brackets or footnotes.

If the syntactic and lexical features of the language differ, it is sometimes necessary to completely recast certain sentences. For instance, highly inflected languages such as Russian and German can string together long chain of independent and dependent clauses with many referents and antecedents and still keeping the whole meaning clear. On the other hand, this would be impossible in English for example. In this case, the translator will have some work to do in terms of structure and meaning. This is one of those times when keeping the sense of a sentence intact can be a real challenge. [One of the best techniques to use in these cases is paraphrasing](#), namely a restatement of the meaning of a text or passage using other words. In order to create a flawless scientific translation, the translator must be as informed as possible. Reading the latest books and academic journals helps you improve your translation skills. Firstly, you get used to the terminology and with the style of this type of

work. Secondly, you will be up to date with the latest scientific researches and discoveries, which helps you understand more easily the concepts that you are supposed to translate. You can even create a blog about scientific translation, scientific researches and events. You can write articles or take existing articles and then translate them in the other languages that you know in order to gain more experience (remember to ask permission in order to avoid copyright infringements). This is a good idea particularly for beginners that want to specialize in scientific translation. Remember that the more you specialize in niches and sub-niches the easier it will be to research, write and become an expert.

In science you will come across a lot of numbers, formulas, diagrams and symbols, which must not be ignored in the process of translation. The sense of a whole page or even chapter can be altered if the translator adds the wrong number or symbol. To avoid this, he must understand very well the topic. Afterwards, he must pay a lot of attention to all the little things. This requires patience and analytical skills, qualities that are indispensable for a scientific translator.

At the end of your translation, you should always proofread the texts yourself first and then ask a second translator to proofread your work as well. Ideally, ask other translators who have experience in the field. This way, all the mistakes that you did not notice will be corrected. In case some concepts from the original text are really unclear to you, you can communicate this to the author (if possible) or with the client. It is always better to ask for clarifications, than leaving your work unclear.

In science, you will come across different types of documents that require different degrees of formality. If you are translating academic work, you will need to find a very elevated style with complex phrases and less common words. On the other hand, if we are talking about manuals or drug instructions, the translation must be less formal. This type of documents is going to be read by normal people or beginners in the field of science. This is why the language must be more accessible and easy to understand.

In conclusion, scientific translation is always a challenge. The translator must keep up with the constant changes in this field. She must be a scientist or she must read a lot and get as much information about the topics that he is going to translate. The style of a scientific translator must be very clear and concise. The level of formality differs according to the type of documents he has to deal with.

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