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American Translators Association  
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E-mail: Chronicle@atanet.org • Website: www.atanet.org
2005 Chronicle Editorial Calendar

January
Focus: Terminology
Submission Deadline: November 15

February
Focus: Literary Translation
Submission Deadline: December 1

March
Focus: Marketing
Submission Deadline: January 1

April
Focus: Client Education
Submission Deadline: February 1

May
Focus: Adaptation
Submission Deadline: March 1

June
Focus: Science and Technology
Submission Deadline: April 1

July
Focus: Public Relations/Professional Outreach
Submission Deadline: May 1

August
Focus: Medical Translating and Interpreting
Submission Deadline: June 1

September
Focus: Interpreting
Submission Deadline: July 1

October
Focus: Legal Translating/Interpreting
Submission Deadline: August 1

November/December
Focus: Training and Pedagogy
Submission Deadline: September 1

The ATA Chronicle Submission Guidelines

The ATA Chronicle enthusiastically encourages members to submit articles of interest to the fields of translation and interpretation.

1. Articles (see length specifications below) are due the first of the month, two months prior to the month of publication (i.e., June 1 for August issue).

2. Articles should not exceed 3,500 words. Articles containing words or phrases in non-European writing systems (e.g., Japanese, Arabic) should be submitted by mail and fax.

3. Include your fax, phone, e-mail, and mailing address on the first page.

4. Include a brief abstract (two sentences maximum) emphasizing the most salient points of your article. The abstract will be included in the table of contents.

5. Include a brief biography (three sentences maximum) along with a picture (color or B/W). Please be sure to specify if you would like your photo returned. Do not send irreplaceable photos.

6. In addition to a hard copy version of the article, please submit an electronic version either on disk or via e-mail (Jeff@atanet.org).

7. Texts should be formatted for Word or Wordperfect 8.0.

8. All articles are subject to editing for grammar, style, punctuation, and space limitations.

9. A proof will be sent to you for review prior to publication.

Standard Length
Letters to the editor: 350 words; Op-Ed: 300-600 words; Feature Articles: 750-3,500 words; Column: 400-1,000 words
(See Chronicle editorial policy—under Chronicle—at www.atanet.org)

An Easy Reference To ATA Member Benefits

Your ATA membership has never been more valuable. Take advantage of the discounted programs and services available to you as an ATA member. Be sure to tell these companies you are an ATA member and refer to any codes provided below.

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cjones@hayscompanies.com or
lmccormick@hayscompanies.com
http://ata.haysaffinity.com

Collection Services/Receivables Management
Dun & Bradstreet
Mike Horoski
(800) 333-6497 ext. 7226
(484) 242-7226
Horoskim@dnb.com

Credit Card Acceptance Program/Professional Services Account
NOVA Information Systems
Reference Code: HCDA
(888) 545-2207 • (770) 649-5700

MasterCard
MBNA America
Reference Code: IFKV
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www.mutualofomaha.com

Overnight Delivery/Express Package Service
UPS
Reference Code: C0000700415
(800) 325-7000
www.ups.com

Professional Liability Insurance
Hays Affinity Solutions (HAYS)
(866) 310-4297 • (202) 263-4016
cjones@hayscompanies.com
http://ata.haysaffinity.com

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www.atanet.org/radtown

...And, of course, as an ATA member you receive discounts on the Annual Conference registration fees and ATA publications, and you are eligible to join ATA Divisions, participate in the online Translation Services Directory, and much more. For more information, contact ATA (703) 683-6100; fax (703) 683-6122; and e-mail: ata@atanet.org.
Translating Historical Technology: Henry Darcy and the Public Fountains of the City of Dijon
By Patricia Bobeck
Translation usually connects people across cultural differences and geographic distances, and can even sometimes connect people across vast expanses of time.

Translating Harry Part II: The Business of Magic
By Steven Goldstein
Various contractual, procedural, and otherwise special challenges that the translators of the Harry Potter books faced.

Spanglish: A Reality to be Ignored, or a Dynamic Phenomenon to be Acknowledged?
By Eduardo González
As linguists and translation/interpreting professionals, we cannot ignore Spanglish. Are we ready for it?

28th Annual American Literary Translators Association Conference
November 2-5, 2005
Hotel Omni Mont-Royal
Montreal, Canada
www.literarytranslators.org
About Our Authors...

Patricia Bobeck is a geologist and translator in Austin, Texas. She received masters’ degrees in geology from the University of Texas and in linguistics from the University of Michigan, as well as a bachelor’s degree in French from Rosary College (now Dominican University). She works as a geologist for the State of Texas and translates French and Spanish into English, specializing in the earth sciences. Prior to her career as a geologist, she taught languages in the Dominican Republic, Colombia, and Hawaii. At the 2004 ATA Annual Conference, she received the inaugural S. Edmund Berger Prize in Excellence in Scientific and Technical Translation for her translation of Henry Darcy’s *The Public Fountains of the City of Dijon*. She is an ATA-certified French-English translator. Contact: pbobeck@earthlink.net and/or www.pbobeck.com.

Barton Goldsmith is an international speaker, author, and consultant who is considered an expert on leadership. He is a contributing author to numerous books and publications, including *The Los Angeles Business Journal*. Contact: www.bartongoldsmith.com.

Steven Goldstein is an advertising copywriter and creative director who assists clients in a wide range of corporate marketing activities, including the development and writing of annual reports, capabilities literature, advertising, branding, and interactive media. A long-time student of both French and translation, he is a charter member of the Northern California Translators Association (an ATA chapter) and currently serves as editor of the NCTA journal, *Translatorial*. Contact: steve@writingarts.com.

Eduardo González, a professor, translator, and certified federal interpreter, is the director of the translation and interpreting program at the University of Nebraska. His fields of interest and writing include contemporary literature in Spanish, lexicography, linguistic training, and Spanglish. Contact: gonzalez1@unk.edu.

Miriam Lee currently serves as the secretary general of the International Federation of Translators (FIT). She is also a member of the Irish Translators’ and Interpreters’ Association/Cumann Aistritheoirí agus Teangairí Na hÉireann, and represents the ITIA on the FIT Literary Translation Committee. Contact: secgen@fit-ift.org.

Jill R. Sommer is a full-time freelance German→English translator. She is also the president of the Northeast Ohio Translators Association, an ATA chapter, (www.ohiotranslators.org) and an adjunct faculty member of Kent State University’s Institute for Applied Linguistics. She graduated with a double major in German and Russian from Bowling Green State University in 1992, and received her M.A in German translation from Kent State University in 1995. She worked in Germany as a freelance translator and Internet researcher for six years before relocating to the U.S. in 2001. A self-taught “tech geek,” she enjoys constantly learning about new technology and new issues in regard to Internet privacy—as should we all. Contact: js@jill-sommer.com.

Graciela White was born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She earned her B.A. in legal translation from the Universidad Nacional de Buenos Aires Law School (1980). She worked as a senior technical translator/vendor coordinator for IBM Argentina, and traveled to several IBM development sites in Europe and the U.S. to perform software verification testing. In 1988, she moved to the U.S., where she worked as a freelance translator in the fields of law, software localization, telecommunications, and electrical engineering. She is currently a globalization project manager with IBM. In the last few years, she has also been a workshop leader/presenter on topics related to software localization. Contact: ggwhite@nc.rr.com.

Getting Started: A Newcomer’s Guide to Translation and Interpretation

A straightforward guide for newcomers to the professions.

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$25. Nonmembers
Order online at atanet.org or call 703.683.6100.

Guide to ATA
Continuing Education Points

Check it out on page 53!
Welcome to the XVII FIT World Congress!

The International Federation of Translators holds its World Congress every three years, when about 500 translators, interpreters, and terminologists from all over the globe meet to discuss the latest topics pertinent to our profession.

The 2005 Congress, with the theme of translators’ rights, promises to be worthwhile and will cast new light on our profession. It is hosted this year by the Finnish Association of Translators and Interpreters (www.sktl.net). You will find that Tampere is a dynamic university town where everything is conducive to acquiring knowledge (www.tampere.fi/english_v). Don’t miss this opportunity to meet new friends, chat with familiar colleagues, and learn valuable information. See you soon!

Sessions topics will include:
- Rights in Translation and Interpreting: Present Needs and Future Challenges
- Legal Translation and Court Interpreting
- Ethics, Status, and Future of the Profession
- Translation of Literature
- Translation for the Media
- Scientific, Technical, and Medical Translation
- Terminology and Localization
- Conference, Court, and Community Interpreting
- Special Aspects of Translation and Interpreting

Organizers:
The XVII FIT World Congress is hosted by the Finnish Association of Translators and Interpreters in cooperation with FIT.

Register Online Now!
www.fit2005.org/registration_form.htm

For more information, contact:
Tel: +358-3-366 4400
Fax:+358-3-222 6440
E-mail: fit2005@tampereconference.fi
www.tampereconference.fi

Read more about the Congress on page 11!
The American Translators Association Board of Directors met April 22-23 in Alexandria, Virginia. Here are some highlights from the meeting.

Budget. The Board approved the July 1 2005-June 30, 2006 budget. The $2.2-million budget includes funds to update the website, conduct an in-depth membership needs assessment survey, investigate offering the certification exam on computer, and increased funding for public relations activities through the PR Committee and ATA's involvement in the International Federation of Translators, the ASTM (formerly the American Society of Testing and Materials) translation user standards project, and the Joint National Committee for Languages. ATA Treasurer Jiri Stejskal will report in greater detail on the new budget in an upcoming edition of the Chronicle.

Dispute Resolution. In a follow up to the discussions at the last ATA Board meeting (January 29-30), the Board discussed various efforts regarding dispute resolutions involving non-payment for services rendered. The discussions focused primarily on educating the membership about preventing disputes through better business practices, checklists, non-ATA dispute resolution services providers, and possibly even payment practices lists. Further work will be done on this issue and discussed at the next Board meeting.

Certification. The Board allocated funds for a feasibility study for the Computerized Certification Exam project. The effort has been undertaken by the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Computerized Certification Exams. The subcommittee members are Gabe Bokor (chair), Veronica Albin, Carla DiFranco, Cristina Marquez, Alan Melby, and Jost Zetsche. In addition, Certification Committee members Lilian Novas Van Vranken (chair), Celia Bohannon (deputy chair), Jutta Diel-Dominique, Diane Howard, and Terry Hanlen (ATA Deputy Executive Director and Certification Program Manager) actively participated in the discussions. After months of research, the subcommittee has found a company with the testing, foreign language, and security expertise that appears capable of delivering the ATA certification exams on computer. Much more information will be published on this project as it is finalized.

Payment Practices Survey Results. The Board was briefed on the recent survey of ATA corporate members and a random sampling of individual members regarding various payment practices issues. The survey was conducted by ATA Treasurer Jiri Stejskal and ATA Director Dorothee Racette, with input from the ATA Board and staff in conjunction with the Translation Company Division mid-year conference, held April 14-17 in Philadelphia. The survey results will be used to enhance the relationships between language services companies and freelance contractors. An in-depth look at the survey results will be published in the June Chronicle.

The minutes of the meeting will be posted in the Members Only section of ATA’s website (www.atanet.org/membersonly). Past meeting minutes are also posted on the site. The next Board meeting is set for July 23-24 in Denver, Colorado. As always, the meeting is open to all ATA members.

Happy 25th Anniversary!


Visit us on the web at www.atanet.org

Spread the Word!

Does your local library carry the Chronicle? Help spread the word about professional translation and interpreting. Next time you go to your local library, take a copy of the Chronicle and recommend that they subscribe. You’ll be reaching out to future colleagues and clients.
I often wonder how I should react when a potential client sends me a translation and asks for an estimate for editing it. I was recently contacted by a potential client to edit (revise) a 350-page translation for the United Nations Development Programme. After taking a look at the original French and the English translation she provided, I wrote the following reply:

First, I’m attaching my resume. You will see that I have over 20 years of translating experience and that I am a member of the American Translators Association (ATA). The ATA has a certification testing program. I am a grader for the French-into-English test. I have also passed the tests that the State Department, International Monetary Fund, and World Bank give to freelance translators, and work for these organizations as a contractor.

Next, please note that there is an unwritten rule about translation: Most (but not all) reputable and conscientious translators will offer to translate ONLY into their native or dominant language. This makes sense, because when most people learn a foreign language successfully, they learn to understand it, speak it, and read it quite well, but it is only a truly exceptional person that is able to learn how to write in a foreign language and use the language idiomatically and with native-quality style.

About editing a translation: The purpose of editing is to take a very good translation and make it as perfect as possible, or suitable for publication. This is because two sets of eyes are better than one. No single translator can get it right all the time, and no spell checker will tell you that it should have been, for example, “there” instead of “their,” or “won” instead of “one.”

Editing, or what is known as relecture in French, is not about taking a bad translation and making it perfect. In most cases, a bad translation is unusable, and it is frequently easier and less time-consuming to start translating from scratch.

Now, specifically, about the “editability” of your project by section:

- The information about the authors is editable.
- The foreword is not as good, but is also editable.
- The acknowledgements are editable.
- The general introduction is not as good, but is probably editable.
- The introduction is not good. The paragraph that I translated and sent to you as a sample was taken from this section. I would need to do some more reading to determine whether the entire introduction is editable or not.
- The body of the text: Most is not editable; some is. It is obvious to my trained eye that the poorly translated parts of this section were translated either by a machine, written in English (as the original language) by someone whose native or dominant language is not English, or translated by someone whose native or dominant language is not English. My guess is that the actual situation is most likely a combination of all the above.

I’d be happy to talk to you about where to go from here. Best regards,

Steve Sachs

P.S. The client called and said that she knew that the translation “looked strange and didn’t seem to be in an appropriate style.” She is now in the process of discussing the situation with her colleagues.
Jost Zetzsche, translator and tech expert, will help you recover from your technical paralysis in this positive and fun-filled seminar that is a necessary investment in your business as a translator.

Get an insider’s look at CAT tools with no-nonsense assessments of their strengths and weaknesses. Understand the practical and impractical sides of desktop publishing software. Learn about the free software programs that can help you work more efficiently and what programs to avoid at any price. All attendees will receive a FREE copy of the latest edition of Jost’s 200-page e-book, Translator’s Tool Box: A Computer Primer for Translators.

Saturday, July 9:
ATA will provide a full-day training seminar, including a continental breakfast, a Job Marketplace, and a Networking Session. Attendees will earn 6 ATA Continuing Education Points.

To learn more about this upcoming ATA event, visit www.atanet.org/pd/tools.

### Hotel Information
The Hilton Garden Inn is located at 10 East Grand Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. A block of rooms has been reserved at $159 single a night, plus tax. To take advantage of this special rate, reservations must be made by July 1. Contact the Hilton at (877) 782-9447 and be sure to ask for the ATA group rate.

### Cancellation Policy
Cancellations received in writing by July 1, 2005 are eligible for a refund. Refunds will not be honored after July 1. A $25 administrative fee will be applied to all refunds.

### 2 Ways to Register
- Fax registration form to (703) 683-6122
- Mail registration form to ATA, 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 590, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

### Don’t Forget
- include payment with your form
- make your hotel reservations
- tell a friend about this event

To learn more about the ATA Translation Software Tools Seminar, please visit www.atanet.org/pd/tools or contact ATA at (703) 683-6100 or ata@atanet.org.

An ATA Professional Development Seminar
When this item is printed, many of you will have already registered for the XVII FIT World Congress in Tampere, Finland, August 4-7, 2005. The following is to encourage those of you who are still wavering.

Established in 1953, the International Federation of Translators (FIT) is an international federation of associations and organizations of translators, interpreters, and terminologists. It is made up of more than 100 associations from some 50 countries (from the very large Translation Association of China to the relatively small [my own] Irish Translators’ and Interpreters’ Association). It is a mosaic of different cultures, languages, and customs. It is nonexclusive, it is all embracing, and it is growing.

The primary purpose of FIT is to promote professionalism and ethics in the disciplines it represents. It provides support and advice in this regard to both its members and newly formed associations. As early as 1963, FIT adopted the Translator’s Charter, which sets the rights and duties of the professional translator. FIT is also concerned with the conditions of professional practice in various countries, and strives to defend translators’ rights in particular and freedom of expression in general.

To help meet its goals and ensure that the organization is heading in the proper direction in terms of shaping the future of the profession for its members, the 12 FIT committees, overseen by the Council and secretary general, organize various events and publications. The FIT World Congress is by far the largest of these efforts. Even though the Congress is only held every three years, its impact is far reaching.

Translators and those wishing to learn more about the profession will find no better place to do so than the FIT Congress. Here, about 500 translators, interpreters, and terminologists from all over the globe and from all walks of life convene to discuss the latest topics of concern to the industry. Divided into a series of sessions according to the various interests and disciplines of its members, the FIT Congress covers virtually all the activities and concerns of the language professions, from scientific and technical translation to literary translation. Thus, the Congress represents a true overview of the profession worldwide.

In cooperation with the FIT committees, the local organizing member committee in Finland (the Finnish Association of Translators and Interpreters, www.sktl.net) is working to assemble a program with something for everyone. The wide scope of topics will definitely yield an interesting and versatile three-day Congress to include presentations, round tables, and workshops. In response to participants’ comments from the previous Congress, this year’s sessions will go beyond simple presentations, allowing for more in-depth exchanges about issues that affect translators, terminologists, and interpreters in their daily practice. The main themes for discussion include:

- Rights in Translation and Interpreting: Present Needs and Future Challenges
  Copyright and contracts

- Legal Translation and Court Interpreting
  Legal language
  Translation involving different legal/court systems
  Authorized/certified translations
  Court interpreting

- Ethics: Status and Future of the Profession
  Translation studies
  Basic professional education, traineeships, and continuing education
  Cooperation with clients, authorities, and translation companies
  Standards and standardization

- Translation of Literature
  Translation of literature for children and adolescents
  Translation of plays and poetry
  Translation and re-translation of the classics
  Translation from extinct languages

- Translation for the Media
  Globalization of the media
  Quality assurance

- Scientific, Technical, and Medical Translation
  Quality assurance
  Interface between translation and technology

- Terminology and Localization
  Coordination of multilingual projects

- Conference, Court, and Community Interpreting
  Self-assessment
  Accreditation
• **Special Aspects of Translation and Interpreting**
  - Languages of limited diffusion
  - Cultural diversity

The Congress languages are English and French, and papers based on the presentations will appear in the Congress proceedings, to be published by the end of 2005.

The invited keynote speakers represent the extreme ends of the Southern and Northern hemispheres: Dr. Neville Alexander comes from South Africa and Professor Heikki E. Mattila is from Finland. Dr. Alexander is an educator and linguist who, apart from his academic activities at the University of Cape Town, is involved in developing language policy and education in the multilingual post-apartheid South Africa. He is also known as a political activist. A founding member of the National Liberation Front, he was imprisoned for political reasons at Robben Island from 1963 until 1974. He has published in the areas of language policy, racial discrimination, political sociology, comparative education, and South African history. Dr. Mattila is a professor of legal linguistics at the University of Lapland and a docent of comparative law at the University of Helsinki, Finland. His areas of specialization include comparative law and legal linguistics, with a special interest in legal Latin and French. The functions, characteristics, and terminology of legal language, as well as problems of legal translation, are among his research topics.

In addition to the educational sessions, the XVII FIT World Congress will also have an exhibit hall featuring companies and products of interest to translators and interpreters. At the time of this writing, the following companies will be represented: John Benjamins Publishing Company; Kielikone Ltd; Lingsoft, Inc; SDL International; Star GmbH & CO. KG; Suomen Kongressiteknikka Oy; SysMedia Ltd; TRADOS Scandinavia AB; Translatum Oy; and WordFinder Software International AB.

The 2005 Congress, with the theme of translators’ rights, promises to be worthwhile. Your decision to attend the XVII FIT World Congress is one you will not regret. We look forward to all the cross-cultural chat and to seeing you there!

---

**2005 Harvie Jordan Scholarship • ATA Spanish Language Division**

**Purpose:** To promote, encourage, and support leadership and professional development of translators and interpreters within ATA’s Spanish Language Division and to honor Harvie Jordan’s lifetime contributions as a language professional.

**Description of Award:** Paid registration to ATA’s Annual Conference or an SPD Conference, as desired.

**Eligibility:** Limited to ATA Spanish Language Division members in good standing with two or more years of membership.

**Deadline:** September 17, 2005

**Criteria for Selection:**
1. Demonstrated leadership skills and career goals;
2. ATA Spanish Language Division involvement and commitment to service;
3. Special contributions to translation and interpretation.

Please limit your response to each of the selection criteria above to 100 words or less. Send your application via e-mail to AFTI at: aftiorg@aol.com.

Applications will be numbered, de-identified, and distributed to the Scholarship Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will consist of leaders of ATA’s Spanish Language Division.

All selections are final. The number of scholarships available will depend on the funds available. Scholarship winners will be asked to contribute an article to *Intercambios*, the SPD newsletter, reporting on the conference or a session they attended.

*The Selection Committee has the option of not presenting an award in a given year.*
Paranoia may not be a good thing most of the time, but when it comes to the Internet and scam artists whose objective is to steal our hard-earned money, a little paranoia is the best defense.

If you are active in any of ATA’s language division listservs, you are probably aware of the various scams that have been targeting ATA members. For instance, many Spanish interpreters in the Ohio area recently received an offer from a gentleman named Daniel asking them to interpret at his wedding in Cincinnati (I’m sure members in other states received similar offers). In another instance, members of ATA’s German Language Division (GLD) listserv received an e-mail from a Ghanan prince requesting an interpreter for his German-speaking wife and son during a 10-day shopping trip in New York City. This prince must have several wives who speak a wide variety of languages (I can’t imagine how they communicate), because a member of my local ATA chapter, the Northeast Ohio Translators Association (NOTA), forwarded me the same request, only this time the prince needed a Japanese interpreter for his wife. I’ve heard this “prince” also hails from the Gold Coast and has a French-speaking wife.

These e-mails sparked a very interesting online discussion among ATA members, and proved once again that the division listservs are an important means of communication between fellow translators and interpreters to keep up-to-date with our industry. ATA Executive Director Walter Bacak reported these scams to the Internet Fraud Complaint Center and has published a list of Internet fraud tips from the National Consumers League's Internet Fraud Watch at www.atanet.org/internet_scams_2005.htm. (See page 34.)

You may be asking yourself how the scams I just mentioned work, since the person doesn’t ask for a social security number or any identifying information. The “customer” contracts for your services and asks you for an estimate. He then issues you a foreign draft or check for that amount, which might be fairly sizable, in advance to pay for your time.

“…If a job offer seems too good to be true, it probably is…”

Once you deposit the check in the bank, the customer has a change of plans, for example, reducing the number of days needed for your services, or else “postponing” or even “canceling” the wedding. You are then asked to return most or all of the money “paid” to you. The scammer is counting on you sending him a real check that he can cash before your bank discovers that the check or draft you deposited is fake and that they can’t collect on it. You will also receive a bill from FedEx a few days later for the shipping costs. This way the scammer manages to bilk you without ever having actually had access to your account—and you are left licking your wounds.

If a job offer seems too good to be true, it probably is. If a prince or rich businessman contacts you and suggests he pay you upfront before starting the job, please exercise caution.

Some things in the above message should immediately raise red flags. First, most of our customers pay for our services after they are rendered. Second, the e-mail is not addressed to a specific individual, and the author’s grammar and capitalization are abysmal. Third, how does the couple communicate if the fiancée does not speak English? And last but not least, who has time for a “pre-wedding honeymoon” right before the wedding? Most people are usually frantic with last-minute details at that point.

Figure 1
caution. Ask your colleagues if they have received similar requests. Forward the job request to ATA Headquarters or your local chapter to see if others have reported similar e-mails. If your local chapter or ATA language division has a listserv, this is the perfect venue to discuss the issue. Check out the local connections of the person (for example, see if there really is a wedding planned). Whatever you do, do not give anyone confidential information, such as your bank account or social security numbers, mother’s maiden name, etc., without verifying that the person is who they say they are.

The idea of verifying bona fides applies to new agencies, banks, and anyone you do not know. If an agency calls and asks for my social security number—even if I worked with them recently and they need it for a 1099-MISC—I would much rather say I will call them back and look up the agency’s telephone number in a reliable source, such as in ATA’s online directories or on the agency’s website. It is worth the price of a phone call to be reassured that my social security number is not going to end up in the wrong person’s hands. Also, since I am extra cautious, I return the call from my landline phone, not my cordless or cell phone. Some cordless phones broadcast information as wireless signals that can be easily intercepted by an astute neighbor. I have a cordless stereo speaker in my office, and I can’t tell you how many phone conversations have cut into my music when people nearby make a phone call from a cordless phone or call their cell phone voice mail to check their messages. Whenever that happens I simply change the frequency on the speaker, but someone sitting outside of your residence or business with a monitor or scanner may have more malicious intentions. Anyone with a baby monitor or cordless speaker can listen in on your “private” phone conversations—or, for that matter, any conversation you have in a room that has a baby monitor. For more information, see www.protectionconnect.com/0704wirelesssecurity.html.

If an individual or agency contacts you and you have never heard of them before, do some homework before accepting the job. Are they listed in the ATA directory? Do they have a website? You should also check the various online payment practice lists (see Ted Wozniak’s article, “Ensuring Payment,” April 2005 ATA Chronicle). Ask for references from several current translators and do a Web search on the agency just to be safe. With careful research, you will hopefully never work for three weeks straight—forsaking all other clients—and end up empty-handed. I’m not saying agencies aren’t to be trusted; my best clients are ATA corporate members. However, there are a few black sheep out there, so a little precaution is worth its weight in gold (or dollars—however you want to get paid!).

I don’t know about you, but I think the Internet is the best thing since sliced bread. However, it has opened up new avenues for scams and con artists as well.

One popular e-mail scam is called
“phishing.” Phishing is an attempt by criminals to trick unsuspecting consumers into disclosing personal and/or financial information. Although modern phishing scams tend to use e-mail, phishing can also be done via telephone, in-person, or via regular mail. For this article, let’s concentrate on e-mail phishing. In this scenario, e-mails appear to come from companies with whom consumers may regularly conduct business (e.g., Huntington Bank, Earthlink, Paypal, eBay, or a credit card issuer). These e-mails frequently threaten termination of accounts unless consumers update billing information. Many e-mails also claim that the senders need to verify personal information they (allegedly) already have on file. They try to scare you so you don’t think and merely act. The bottom line is that no legitimate company will contact you and ask for personal information in this manner. My bank is not a big-name bank and doesn’t have my e-mail address, so the chances of them contacting me via e-mail is zero. As a result, it’s easy to delete the e-mails from Citibank, Washington Mutual, Huntington Bank, and other financial institutions and go about my life. Even if you do use online banking and receive e-mail messages from them, banks and other serious businesses will never ask you for confidential information via an e-mail message.

However, I have been known to clear my clutter on eBay, so when eBay or Paypal contacts me to say my account has been suspended, I generally want to verify that everything is okay. If you ever receive an e-mail like this from anyone, catch yourself before you click that convenient link in the message to take you straight to the Web page. Chances are it’s a fake that will lead you straight to a back-door program or worm that will infect and wreak havoc on your computer—or much worse, it could be a con artist who wants to gain access to your personal information and possibly steal your identity. Don’t take the bait! Assume any message could be malicious and use caution. It’s easy for scam artists to create fake messages that contain return addresses, images, and URLs lifted from the actual company’s website. Plus, scam artists are getting savvier and using reasonably well-written, grammatically correct, plausible text.

If the embedded link code (underlined and highlighted in blue by the e-mail program displaying it) uses numbers instead of the name of the site, chances are good that it’s a fake. Every website resides at a specific Internet Protocol (IP) address, which is made up of numbers (such as 102.67.93.164). However, most web designers realize that people recall words more easily than numbers, so they don’t publicize or advertise the numbers. Instead, they use words that are easy to remember and have some meaning to the company. For example, the IP address of NOTA’s website is 65.211.123.67, but we direct everyone to “www.ohiotranslators.org.” The address “www.ohiotranslators.org” is the real deal, but “www.ohiotranslators.scamcentral.org” could take you anywhere. Every domain name ends with a top-level domain like .com, .org, .net, or a country-specific top-level domain like .de (Germany), .uk (United Kingdom), .ca (Canada), or .ru (Russia). If the domain name is modified slightly or contains a word to the left of the title, the name (and the
IP address) changes. Most phishers hope you won’t notice or aren’t aware of the difference. Another trick is to set up a website domain name whose spelling closely resembles the domain of a reliable, well-known company. For instance, it’s easy to absentmindedly type “simantec.com” instead of www.symantec.com. This is not to imply that “simantec.com” is a scam, but it’s certainly not the publisher of a well-respected virus protection program.

When in doubt, open a browser other than Internet Explorer (some of these e-mails have hidden code that can hijack your browser) and manually type in the company’s website. Do not click on the link in the e-mail! If you are unsure of the website address, plug the company’s name into Google (www.google.com) to find it. If it is a legitimate business, chances are good that it will be one of the first hits. Once you have entered the correct URL into your browser’s address bar, skim through the site to find the page you need. For example, if you go to eBay (www.ebay.com), you will need to log in to reach your account information. If you find a page on the site with the same information noted in the e-mail, the e-mail was legitimate. If you don’t find anything, you might want to contact the company through the contact information listed on the site. They may be unaware that a phisher is using the company’s good name to do bad deeds. Either way, you haven’t given away your valuable personal information. For more information on keeping e-mails private, go to email.about.com/od/staysecureandprivate/. For more information on phishing, visit antivirusabout.com/od/emailscams/ss/phishing.htm and www.identityprotection101.com/phishing. You may also want to learn how to identify online phishing fraud by taking the Phishing Test at www.mailfrontier.com/forms/msft_iq_test.html.

For those of you with websites, you need to be aware of the information you are putting out there, and make conscious decisions about what you are willing to publish about yourself. Some of our Kent State students have been cyberstalked in the past, so if a student expresses concern about publishing his or her address or other personal information, we encourage them not to do so. You may not want to put a photo of yourself on your website. My site does not list my home address. The only contact information on my site is my e-mail address and cell phone number. Back when the Internet and I were both younger, I was more concerned about the contact information that was out there, and wrote several sites asking them to remove my address. I’m not as concerned about cyberstalking these days, but I do regularly run Google searches on my name, social security number, and bank account numbers just to make sure the information currently on the Web is representative of what I want out there.

These examples are just the tip of the iceberg, but if you follow my suggestions and let yourself be paranoid once in a while, you will never regret it. A good rule of thumb is to avoid sending personal and/or financial information via e-mail whenever possible. When submitting financial information on a website, look for the “lock” icon in the bottom right of the browser’s status bar to be sure your information is secure during transmission. Read a book or two on identity theft (I recommend The Identity Theft Protection Guide by Amanda Welsh), and remain vigilant at all times. A little paranoia can go a long way.

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Translating Harry Part I: The Language of Magic

By Steven Goldstein

Note: The following is reprinted with permission from Translorial (Vol. XXVI, No. 4, December 2004), the journal of the Northern California Translators Association (www.ncta.org), an ATA chapter.

The range of translation issues involved in the publication of the Harry Potter books is vast. This series attempts only a broad survey of some of the more interesting and important topics. The following segment deals with several of the linguistic and cultural issues involved in the translations, and the choices translators faced. Part II, which appears on page 28, covers some of the procedural and marketing aspects, as well as special challenges, that surround the works.

The record, as far as we can tell, shows no instance of the now globally famous J.K. Rowling, author of the Harry Potter books, ever having called one of her translators to offer that person the job of bringing the magical world of wizards and muggles to his or her native culture. But that hasn’t prevented some excited reactions from those translators who have gotten the nod, either through their local publishers, or through their own pluck in lobbying for one of the most prestigious—and challenging—jobs in translating today.

And how could it be otherwise: worldwide sales of the Harry Potter books are estimated at over 250 million copies, with over 80 million sold in the U.S. alone. In 1998, worldwide marketing rights to the franchise were sold to Warner Brothers, enabling the schoolboy’s story to enter the realm of true global phenomenon. What started with the British publisher Bloomsbury is now a transnational, corporate marketing enterprise that incorporates the inevitable films, T-shirts, games, and myriad spinoffs. And the key players in all this are the literary translators who recreate the texts in other languages—over 60 at last count, including Ancient Greek—for page and screen.

On Being Chosen

Translators of the Harry Potter books have reacted in different ways to their selection as the transformers of this magical world for the children, and adults, of their native culture. For Emily Huws, translating Harry Potter

“...Invented words, including spells and incantations, pose special problems...”

and the Philosopher’s Stone into Welsh was a great honor, but also a huge responsibility. “It is a classic book,” she says, “and I feel that Welsh people have a right to have it in our own language. I wanted the children to have the great books like Roald Dahl’s The Enormous Crocodile to read in Welsh.”

Beatrice Masini, who translated the three most recent Harry Potter books into Italian, also imagined the joy of children when contemplating the recreation of this new, magical world. “It was the fun of bringing over such a popular work for Italian kids and seeing a little of the reflected stardust raining down.” Yuko Matsuoka, on the other hand, saw her selection to bring Pottermania to Japan as something more divine: “A wave of shock ran through my body and mind,” she recalls, having read the entire first book in a single night—despite being a nonnative speaker of English. “I said to myself: ‘Here is something I have waited for. Here is something that must have waited for me! It is fate.’”

Not so in the case of the current Russian translator, Viktor Golyshev. After translations of the first four volumes into Russian had been widely criticized for inaccuracies, a lack of fantasy, and inserted moralizing, the publisher brought in Golyshev—the brilliant translator of William Faulkner, Thorton Wilder, and George Orwell—for the fifth book. As the eldest of a team of three Russian translators working on Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, Golyshev expressed no appreciation at all for the work, proclaiming not the slightest interest whatsoever in children’s literature. And yet, with the success of his team’s translation, he is now probably better known for his association with Harry Potter than he is for the whole of his professional oeuvre, which spans several decades.

Translating Cultures

Along with the fame (or notoriety!) of being known as a Harry Potter translator, the series undeniably presents special challenges to the literary specialists among us. The most important of these challenges is undoubtedly a cultural one, as the environment of the book is decidedly English, from the very English-sounding Privet Drive, where Harry lives with his nonmagical relatives, to teachers calling students by their surnames and virtually everyone having tea and crumpets in the afternoon.

The stories follow a familiar theme in English children’s books, that of adventures at boarding school, and many of the cultural nuances will be unfamiliar to readers in translation. Translators have several options, including de-anglicizing the...
text, leaving names and concepts as they are (but including explanations of particularly difficult notions, such as Christmas crackers, Halloween, and Cornflakes—the latter having earned a footnote in the Chinese translation, to indicate that these are consumed immersed in milk for breakfast), or some combination of the two.

“I wanted to keep it very British and make the readers understand they are in Britain,” says Jean-François Ménard, the French translator (who is also the translator of Roald Dahl). One way to do this was to translate invented words and names in a sort of anglicized French: “Snape” became Rogue, “Slytherin” became Serpentard, and the British word “Bagman” became Verpay, from the acronym VRP, describing someone engaged in door-to-door sales.

For other translators, however, a certain mixture of elements made more sense. Gili Bar-Hillel changed an English sherbert lemon into an Israeli chocolate sweet, while Lena Fries-Gedin, the Swedish translator, transplanted the entire boarding school setting onto Swedish soil. “There have been other children’s books in English with that setting. And the fact that it’s still an unfamiliar environment to many Swedish children undoubtedly makes it more exciting, because it’s strange and exotic,” Lena explains.

### Language: Meanings, Dialects, Puns, and Names

With made-up words, magic spells, regional accents, unknown creatures, and descriptive names, the language of Harry Potter’s world is fraught with challenges for translators. The mere manner of speaking, for example, of the various characters reveals much about them. Expressions and forms of speech are often regional, requiring corresponding equivalences, where possible, in other languages. The accent of Hagrid, a misguided and heavy-footed giant, is a case in point; it originates somewhere in northern England—so Ménard simply gave him a friendly and straightforward way of speaking in French.

Invented words, including the spells and incantations of Harry’s magical world, pose special problems. The names of people, places, and things—“Knockturn Alley,” “muggles,” and “Ravenclaw,” for example—invariably evoke powerful imagery and thus create immensely difficult problems for translators. Not all names are translated, but those that are require extreme creativity and sensitivity in an attempt to duplicate—or at a minimum, approximate—the associations of the native English.

According to Nieves Martin, the Spanish translator, it can take a month to translate one of Rowling’s invented words with the degree of humor and subtlety of association contained in the original. “We eventually translated ‘skrewts’ (magical creatures) as escregutos, which sounds a bit frightening and suggests excrement and sputum,” he says. Lia Wyler, the Brazilian Portuguese translator, ended up coining over 400 words to recreate Harry’s expansive and magical universe.

### Separated by a Common Language

Along with her American editor, J.K. Rowling decided that beyond Americanizing the spelling (flavour/flavor, recognise/recognize, etc.), words should be altered only where it was felt they would be incomprehensible, even in context, to an American reader. “I have had some criticism from other British writers about allowing any changes at all, but I feel the natural extension of that argument is to go and tell French and Danish children that we will not be translating Harry Potter, so they’d better go and learn English,” Rowling says. Thus, dustbin becomes trashcan and a packet of crisps is turned into a bag of chips. Dumbledore is barking in Britain, but off his rocker across the Atlantic. Most importantly, at the suggestion of the American editor, the title of the first book was altered from Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone to Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone, both to avoid what might be thought of as a reference to misleading subject matter, and to reflect Harry’s magical powers. The choice of Sorcerer’s Stone was Rowling’s idea.

### Dumbledore in Norway

The name of the venerable Hogwarts headmaster is an archaic word for the golden bumblebee that combines English and French, “bumble d’or.” As related by the Norwegian translator Torstein Bugge Høverstad, the Norwegian word is *humle*, which “must obviously be part of any solution, but on its own it’s too short to entirely convey the original, which is a tiny sort of word painting of the sound this pleasant insect makes. The Norwegian word for this sound is ‘surr,’ so could we call him ‘Humlesurr’? That’s the right number and sequence of sounds, but he’s not the most straightforward person you could think of, so what about getting a little twist into the name as well? ‘Snurr’ in Norwegian sounds nearly the same as the bumblebee’s ‘surr,’ but actually means something like turning rapidly—so we end up with *Humlesnurr*, conveying the original idea and the sound of the bumblebee, while adding a touch of nimbleness.”
Top 10 Tips for Resolving Arguments in the Workplace

By Barton Goldsmith

Everyone argues. Some do it overtly by yelling, while others do it covertly by avoiding contact and conversation. Whatever the method, the result is the same—hurt feelings and a loss of productivity. Here are my tips to help you argue constructively. If done correctly, argument can be a pathway to growth, problem solving, and higher profits.

1. Understand that anger itself is not destructive. There is a vast difference between anger and rage. When someone is angry, they need to state their feelings. They don’t need to break things, quit, or end business (or personal) relationships—this is rage.

2. Talk about your feelings before you get angry. When you or your colleagues can approach a situation as it happens and deal with it in a safe way, it may not get to the point of becoming an argument. Sometimes things just need to be verbalized, and most arguments can be avoided if your colleagues understand how you feel.

3. Don’t raise your voice. It’s amazing how issues of hurt feelings or differences can be resolved with a whisper. I counsel people who are “yellers” to only communicate with a whisper, and it greatly reduces the anger factor in their communications.

4. Don’t threaten team members and don’t take every argument as a threat to your job. This type of emotional blackmail puts the other person in a panic (fight or flight mode). As a consequence, you might find that your team members are out looking for another job, or else are so devastated by the thought of losing their position that they are unable to work effectively.

5. Don’t stockpile. This is where you bring up issues from the past to use as a hammer against whatever problem your teammate has presented. Deal with their issues first, and if you really have unresolved feelings from past problems, talk about them at another time.

6. Don’t ignore your anger. If you suppress your feelings long enough you will explode and say or do things you will regret. Anger does not diminish respect. You can be angry with those you respect, if you do it with respect.

7. Create a process for resolving problems without anger. Start by having each person take five minutes to state his or her feelings, then take a 20-minute break to think, then come back to the table for another 10 minutes to discuss how to best deal with the problem. Also, know that it’s okay if the problem isn’t solved right away.

8. Abuse is NEVER allowed. This includes verbal abuse, any type of violence (including slamming doors or file cabinets). If your arguments escalate to this level, you need to leave the office. If one person ever hits another, a police report needs to be made and an appointment with a therapist should be mandatory.

9. Don’t engage. Remember that negative attention is still attention. If a person tries to goad you into an argument, simply don’t go there. Some people actually like to argue because it gives them a temporary feeling of power and gratification. Avoid being sucked into their need for attention.

10. Listen to your body. When you are angry your body releases chemicals that may cause you to react in ways that can be destructive to you, your colleagues, and your business. Learn to understand your feelings and how the process of anger affects you physically and emotionally.

My research has shown that colleagues who argue more than 20% of the time may need to be reassigned. Hopefully these tips will help you get your arguments under control and reduce the level of energy in those arguments. If not, and if you want to keep your business in good shape, you need to seek some issue resolution training.
A Real Approach to Virtual Teams

By Graciela White

There is no question about it: the rules of working have changed. It is now a world where borders, time zones, organizational boundaries, and languages are no longer separating the members of the work force, but uniting them. Workers have come to realize that proximity, once considered a disadvantage, can work in their favor. Virtual teams made up of individuals located in different countries, nurtured by different cultures, can now successfully accomplish a common goal. It only takes an open mind, a familiarity with the technology designed to cope with this new approach to working together, and, as usual, lots of hard work.

As early as 1973, Jack Nilles (Ref. 1), a pioneer in the field of telecommuting, coined the terms “telecommuting” and “teleworking” during the first documented pilot telecommuting project with a major national insurance company. Nilles organized and led an interdisciplinary team at the University of Southern California to develop and test telecommuting in a real-world environment. The results of his work have been documented in several publications, and are highly regarded by national and international audiences alike.

A few years later, in 1980, Alvin Toffler wrote about the electronic cottage and telecommuting: “Hidden inside our advance to a new production system is a potential for social change so breathtaking in scope that few among us have been willing to face its meaning. For we are about to revolutionize our homes as well…

One of the key steps that can be taken towards building a sense of community in the Third Wave is the selective substitution of communication for transportation” (Ref. 2). This very simple, yet powerful statement embodied a breathtaking concept for those times, and one that has developed a life of its own and evolved into what we currently know as virtual teams.

The Birth of a Virtual Team

Years ago, people needed to be physically located in the same place to be considered working together. In today’s world, being “co-located” is no longer a requirement for productivity (Ref. 3). By virtual teams, we mean “groups of employees spread across countries and companies that work together with little face-to-face interaction” (Ref. 4). Within the last decade, what was once considered a far-fetched concept has exceeded all expectations by its original proponents. The concept of “team” embodies much more than just sharing ideas to kick off a project. It is grounded on reciprocity and interdependence. A member is unable to complete a piece of the project without deliverables from other members, each piece of the project being a two-way street. This sense of interdependency improves and enriches the work experience.

The idea of skipping the traditional meeting in favor of the virtual encounter has been prompted by many factors, such as safety, reduced corporate budgets, improved technology, and lower communication costs. “Executives and sales representatives, who in the late 1990s thought nothing about jumping on a jet to visit clients or out-of-town offices, now routinely hold virtual meetings. Video conferences and Webcasts, which many companies turned to in the months after the [2001] terrorist attacks as a way to reduce risk, have become the norm as corporations continue to keep a tight rein on travel budgets” (Ref. 5). Very reputable corporations, like Martin Marietta, Quintiles Transnational, Red Hat, and Cisco Systems, among others, have tapped into the idea of establishing virtual contact to discuss business matters, hold quarterly meetings, or even provide training. Although travel used to be fun, it is not so any more: security checks and long waits at airports represent an added discouragement, and employers have finally realized that some work can be just as easily accomplished through conference calls.

Forming virtual teams to accomplish goals represents a more efficient use of everybody’s time, leaving more room for personal and family life. However, the virtual office comes with some strings attached: “In the mad rush to implement virtual teams, companies may underestimate the need to plan and design around the differences inherent in their team members. Assuming that employees will be able to make the transition to a virtual work team environment without planning and design is like sending them on a collision course with disaster” (Ref. 3). So what does it take to succeed as a virtual team?

Virtual Teams and Human Skills

Communication, negotiation, and leadership are the core skills necessary for a successful virtual team. Conflict management, flexibility, trust, common expectations, and overcoming language barriers are also crucial factors.
Communication Skills

The ability to overcome intercultural communication barriers in order to foster trust and create a supportive communication climate (as opposed to a defensive one) is essential. In a supportive climate, ideas are shared freely, conflict is based on the task, conflict resolution is open and perceived as fair, and solutions to problems are clearly understood and mutually accepted. In order to create a supportive climate, proactive information exchange, regular and predictable communication, and explicit verbalization of commitment, excitement, and optimism are key factors.

Beyond these general strategies, members of virtual teams can also employ basic communication techniques, like active listening, to make sure that the message is received in the way it was intended. Active listening has also been referred to as interaction management, degree of involvement in the conversation, and expressiveness. Basically, active listening requires asking for elaboration and clarification whenever the message being sent is not clear. This technique is particularly helpful in teams where some members come from high-context organizations (strong cultures) and others come from low-context organizations, or weak cultures (Ref. 6).

Negotiation

The leader of a virtual team has to be open-minded and sensitive to the needs and opinions of the group and encourage everybody’s participation and joint decision-making. A good knowledge of the team’s strengths and weaknesses will allow a more accurate distribution of the workload. It is important to emphasize that a lack of body language and other visual cues makes the negotiation process more difficult to move forward. Once again, an appeal to creativity and innovation is necessary to make virtual teams work. Furthermore, as part of the negotiation skills, the leader of the team should also strive for win-win situations and be prepared to compromise.

Leadership

In any kind of team, a leader must provide motivation, guidance, and mediation in order to strengthen the interpersonal relationships among team members to promote a homogeneous working environment. This is generally more difficult to accomplish within a virtual team due to the lack of face-to-face interaction. Leaders of virtual teams are charged with guiding employees they do not see on a daily or weekly basis, and those who may not report to them or even belong to their organization. The leader should be able to proactively manage the team without creating status differences among its members. Favoring members of a particular culture, organization, or technical background disrupts work coordination and may reduce group process and productivity.

Finally, let’s not leave out of the equation the team that, in some cases, the participants of a virtual team may have other priorities that need their energy and time. As such, the team leader is also responsible for capturing the attention of those members whose radar screens may be flooded with other assignments.

Conflict Management

Some degree of conflict is necessary for teams to function successfully; however, the conflict must be managed to be effective. It is important to remember that not all conflict is the same. Generally speaking, conflict within teams simply means that some or all the team members are aware of existing differences, discrepancies, incompatible wishes, or irreconcilable desires. Conflicts can be associated with a relationship (affective), task (cognitive), or the work process. Notwithstanding this classification, conflict can be managed through five different methods: 1) avoidance—the issue is ignored, or more positively, left for a time when cooler minds can prevail; 2) competition—one party tries to take all the gains; 3) accommodation—one party tries to give all the gains to the others; 4) compromise—the parties agree to split the difference; and 5) collaboration-integration—the parties find a solution where all can gain (Ref. 6).

Flexibility

“Another key characteristic of virtual teams is the flexibility of its members. The demands of this unorthodox approach to project execution can elicit some creative solutions to problems. Such solutions often include taking a well-deserved nap during the day in order to be able to work through the night to meet a deliverable for a coworker located halfway around the world, or to take a late-night phone call to brainstorm with the members of a team stationed in another time zone” (Ref. 7).

Time zone dispersion may have a worse impact on the team than geographical dispersion, narrowing the window for interactive communication while lengthening the workday. “Ideally, team members should be able to flex their work hours to accommodate team meetings outside their normal workday, but local job pressures typically require them to work their normal hours and then be available for meetings either before or after their scheduled...
Virtual Teams and Technology: The Good and the Bad

Synchronous (telephone, video-conferencing, instant messaging) and asynchronous (voice mail, fax, snail mail, e-mail) communication technologies help members of virtual teams stay in touch with one another and share information. All these innovative tools have been a crucial factor in the proliferation of virtual teams over the last two decades. Advances in technology have fostered the exchange of ideas and brought a sense of proximity to the reality of physical distance. In fact, technology has provided an invisible, yet strong, bridge for the accomplishment of vital business goals.

While monolingual teams may take their cultural context for granted, one of the major challenges of global virtual teams is to work across multiple contexts. The first step toward the productive use of virtual technologies is developing an understanding of each team member's cultural situation. For example, reliability on electrical power may vary tremendously among countries. In certain regions of the world, power may be interrupted unexpectedly and/or for long periods at a time in order to cope with high demand. Telephone costs are also a determining factor due to different pricing structures and service quality from country to country.

Technology also brings forward other issues. “The lack of visual cues in an audio conference means that members cannot check for understanding and cannot know if everyone is following along in the agenda or even paying attention” (Ref. 6). Thus, a culture that tries to avoid discussion of disagreements in an open forum would not feel very comfortable using audio conferences and would prefer one-on-one telephone conversations. Another pitfall to consider in the teleconference arena is the possibility of a technical malfunction. When there is a lot of interference on the line or any other kind of impediment to fluid communication, the project leader should have a backup plan (i.e., switching to instant messaging). If a meeting requires the attendance of several key players, a test should be run prior to the actual meeting to make sure that the connection is working well.

Since virtual teams often operate over the telephone or computer, they have less face-to-face time and opportunity to build rapport. Group dynamics are more difficult to manage without personal interaction, and conversations over e-mail can be easily misconstrued.

Regardless of all the pros and cons just mentioned, technology remains a decisive factor in the development of effective virtual communication.

Virtual Teams and Multiculturalism

When it comes to the cultural background of participants, every culture has both widely known and nonverbalized codes and customs that should be taken very seriously, even if they seem really “foreign” to others. For instance, a team member might find another’s very casual conversation style to be offensive. While the American culture places a premium on individual behavior, Asian cultures value teamwork, cooperation, and group harmony. Likewise, team members from more individualistic cultures like the U.S., as compared with collectivist cultures like Japan and Singapore, often have different attitudes towards hierarchies and different beliefs about how dissenting opinions are expressed. For example, while all-American teams...
have no problem discussing critical issues in an open forum. Japanese workers believe in preserving harmony in a group context and avoiding open conflict. In these situations, it would be advisable to hold private conversations in an attempt to prevent potential embarrassment among team members and their bosses in a videoconference or teleconference. Other considerations include schedules that require other members to work during their national holidays or festivals, or planning meetings that impact religious celebrations or disrupt rituals (i.e., weekly Friday afternoon prayer time among Muslims).

Given the comprehensive variety of idiosyncrasies and communication approaches embodied in the scope of virtual teams, it is entirely appropriate for the project manager to suggest a cross-cultural training session before the project begins. This could include such simple concepts as how to address members of a given country, being aware of any language differences, and understanding cultural norms and values. These factors are all cornerstones of virtual team success.

Virtual Teams and the Translator

Some professions are more easily adaptable to a virtual environment. “Even though it is obvious that anybody can become a teleworker, some professional fields—management, consulting, marketing, content editing and production, translation, and graphic design—are more likely to work out” (Ref. 9). I could not agree more! Translators are among the lucky ones who can certainly participate in these nontraditional virtual teams and make a living.

Now, let’s discover real life in the virtual office. Here are some tips on how translators can make this experience more productive and enjoyable.

Time Management

First of all, be honest with yourself and acknowledge the fact that there is only so much you can get done in a certain amount of time. Be aware of your productivity rate and be realistic about how much you can accomplish. It is true that clients always need the job done the day before yesterday, and it is also true that you should go the extra mile for those clients that have represented a steady source of income (especially during slow periods), but exert good judgment and commit yourself to a reasonable deliverable.

Productivity and Distractions

“Nothing can be done to eliminate distractions in a virtual office. The best way to deal with them is to minimize them as much as you can, determine which ones you are the most vulnerable to, and develop techniques for coping with distractions when they arise” (Ref. 10).

Translation work requires a lot of concentration, research, and patience to find the correct term. Distractions abound for the virtual translator, especially in a home office (children, housework, the temptation to browse the Internet, etc.). A good way to ensure you remain productive is to organize yourself by making a daily list of items that need to be completed and to stick to it. Develop a routine, and little by little you will realize that things actually get done. Pack some free time in your schedule, which might also work as a buffer in case your assignment gets out of control, and allow yourself to enjoy some meaningful reward.

Psychological Issues of Working Alone

The emotions of a translator working as a member of a virtual team should not be regarded as a trivial matter. In fact, a good state of mind is a vital piece to the successful development of the project. “When you give up the structure of a conventional work arrangement, you also leave behind a network of coworkers and managers who may have provided you with emotional support. To work successfully on your own, you may need to learn to cope more independently with things like rejection, self-doubt, worry, and setbacks” (Ref. 10).

Sometimes it is hard to admit that being on your own has a down side. However, there are several mechanisms that can be put in motion to help this feeling of detachment subside. Join online special interest groups or forums to establish a network of translators whose experiences are similar and communicate with them often. Though this type of network is mainly virtual, your interactions could also lead to face-to-face meetings...you may be surprised to find out that there are several people living nearby who are also part of a virtual environment. Be proactive and get together with your peers to enjoy a break and share your feelings. You may even end up establishing business contacts as well.

Maintaining Visibility

Translators working in a virtual environment sometimes focus so much on their work that they lose touch with the outside world. Let your clients and peers know that you are still alive and well. Send periodic reminders to your contacts, participate in special interest groups, make presentations at conferences, and publish articles in industry publications. In this way, you’ll leave the door of communication wide open!

Also, make sure you are accessible at all times. Get a cellular phone...
and learn how to access the Internet when you are away from your virtual office. Don’t be shy about asking for help or training if you don’t know how to accomplish this.

Finally, remind your business contacts that you are indeed available for face-to-face meetings. Spending time together is also a vital ingredient to maintaining and growing business relationships.

Conclusion

Alvin Toffler was indeed on the right track when he stated that the office was undergoing a remarkable transformation and that technology would have a very big impact on making teleworking a reality. Regarding the main qualifications of those who are willing to immerse themselves in the virtual world, Toffler also stated: “What Third Wave employers increasingly need are men and women who accept responsibility, who understand how their work dovetails with that of others, who can handle ever larger tasks, who adapt swiftly to changed circumstances, and who are sensitively tuned in to the people around them” (Ref. 1). These are the exact qualifications that members of virtual teams in the 21st century proudly possess.

Although several aspects of virtual teams have been discussed, the surface of the subject has barely been scratched. Virtual teams embody a new concept, still in its early stages of development, that will need more time to mature and perfect itself. Nonetheless, virtual teams are a vibrant new synergy, a force that prompts individuals to think and perform outside the box.

Virtual teams have become the backbone of today’s business life in countries all over the globe. They represent a challenge that implies a nontraditional approach and offer a remarkable reward in terms of personal and team growth. They are, no doubt, a path worth following.

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Translating Historical Technology: Henry Darcy and the Public Fountains of the City of Dijon

By Patricia Bobeck

Henry Darcy (1803-1858) wrote Les Fontaines publiques de la ville de Dijon in 1856 (Ref. 1) to describe the water supply system he built in Dijon, France, between 1839-1840. After 1840, Dijon was one of the few cities—if not the only city—in France to have abundant free and pure spring water flowing from street fountains. The fountains also provided water for washing refuse from city streets as well as water for fire pumps.

As a native of Dijon, Darcy spent his early years drinking putrid water because it was the only water available. After studying at the École Polytechnique in Paris, Darcy returned to his native city and worked as an engineer and later as inspector general of bridges and roads. He wrote Les Fontaines publiques de la ville de Dijon as a case study and guide for other engineers in the construction of water supply systems. The book contains descriptions and results of experiments Darcy conducted on water filtration for the use of river water as a water supply source. These experiments led Darcy to formulate a law on fluid flow through porous media. Darcy’s Law, as it came to be known, eventually became the basis of the science of hydrogeology, and is still used in petroleum engineering to extract oil from the ground.

The 650-page book includes a variety of historical and technical topics, in addition to numerous insights into Darcy’s personality. For example, the reader learns that in preparation for building the water supply system, Darcy conducted research on the history of Dijon’s water supply projects back to the 1400s. In the 1830s, Darcy did field work (on horseback, obviously) to gauge local springs. As a result, he decided to convey the water of the Rosoir Spring to Dijon through a 12-kilometer aqueduct. Darcy discusses the 1850s state-of-the-art techniques for finding springs and the history of locating springs back to Roman times. Darcy also presents 1850s ideas on the origin of artesian water and the construction of artesian wells.

A third of the book is devoted to the construction of the underground masonry aqueduct to transport spring water to Dijon and the construction of the internal distribution system. The internal distribution system used no pumps and consisted of two reservoirs within the city and a grid of interconnected conduits, a system Darcy pioneered. Darcy provides minute details on pipe sizes and valves, as well as the cost of every component of the project. An appendix contains information on the types of pipes available at the time.

Darcy also conducted experiments on water flow in the aqueduct and internal distribution system to solve such problems as air in water pipes (which could stop the water flow). He wrote with obvious pride about the fact that all 110 original fountains flowed with almost equal water pressure, providing cool water in the summer and warm water in the winter, despite the distance the water had to travel, because the pipes were installed underground. In 1840 no resident of Dijon had to walk more than 50 meters to obtain water, which is probably why the city didn’t sell many concessions for water piped directly into people’s homes.

The 200-page appendix of Darcy’s book contains eight sections on various topics, including: the water supply systems of London, Paris, Brussels, and other cities and their water sources, distribution systems, and financing; water filtration, including “artificial” filtration of water that has been removed from a river and “natural” filtration in filtration galleries dug adjacent to rivers; a constant volume weir intake to obtain a constant volume of water from a river; spring gauging to determine the flow rate of a spring; and pipe manufacturing and testing. In the section on filtration, Darcy proposes a filtration system that would substantially decrease the size of artificial filtration tanks. It is in this chapter that he formulates the law of fluid flow through porous media. Darcy also suggests a marketing plan to city officials to increase revenue by encouraging more subscribers to have water piped into their homes, and voices his opposition to limiting free water for the poor.

A 28-page atlas accompanies the book. The atlas contains a map of the city showing the locations of all the street fountains, drawings of the aqueduct, reservoirs, and the branches of the internal distribution system, a drawing of the apparatus Darcy used in the experiments that led to Darcy’s Law, and illustrations related to the other topics Darcy discusses.

…”Patricia Bobeck received the inaugural S. Edmund Berger Prize in Excellence in Scientific and Technical Translation for her English translation of Henry Darcy’s The Public Fountains of the City of Dijon…”
Translating Historical Technology Continued

Translation Challenges and Solutions

This lengthy introduction to the contents of the book illustrates various translation problems. Darcy writes clear and precise French that is a delight to read, except that the sentences are sometimes 8-to-10 lines long. The length issue can usually be resolved by breaking up the sentences at semicolons. In other cases, multiple relative clauses require the sentence to be broken up for clarity. In the technical passages, the French syntax and wordiness do not pose a problem as long as the technical material is clear. An understanding of technology of the 1850s is essential. For example, a passage describing the 1830s that uses the term “jouer la mine” implies that blasting was done, but does not mean that dynamite was used, since dynamite was not invented until later. In addition, the appendix on pipe fabrication includes information on sheet metal pipes, which had recently been invented. The Harraps New Standard French and English Dictionary (revised edition, 1972) contained most of the nontechnical and a surprising amount of technical vocabulary.

Since Darcy was a pioneer in water distribution, his terminology is basic. He discusses pipes, fittings, valves, and plugs in the simplest terms, many of which have been superseded by more exact terminology. I used a variety of technical resources while translating, including the Moureau and Brace Dictionnaire des sciences et techniques du pétrole, Ernst’s Dictionnaire général de la technique industrielle, the Routledge French Technical Dictionary, and the Grand Dictionnaire Terminologique on the Internet. For the puzzlers that couldn’t be found or deciphered by the preceding resources, I posted terminology queries on ATA’s French Language Division (FLD) listserv. I am indebted to my colleagues in the FLD, especially for pointing me in the right direction concerning older French terms still in use in Canada. I was amazed that I received answers to almost all of the questions I submitted to the listserv. Internet searches also unearthed numerous terms, along with valuable context information.

Darcy’s research back to the 1400s led him to cite passages in Old French. These passages ranged from a few lines to a 2,500-word contract dating back to 1445 between the city of Dijon and a carpenter who agreed to build a conduit out of logs to convey spring water to the city. Although I was able to read these passages and determine a general meaning for them, I enlisted the help of a University of Texas professor, Dr. William Kibler, who specializes in Old French. He either translated the passages or edited my translation of them.

Darcy also includes Latin passages on searching for springs by Pliny, Cicero, Cassiodorus, and Hippocrates (translated into Latin), among others. Evidently in the 1850s most educated readers were able to read and understand Latin, because Darcy does not always provide a French translation of these passages. However, he usually gives the name of the author’s work. A Latin scholar assisted me by translating short passages and directing me to the Loeb Classical Library series for an English translation of these ancient Latin and Greek works and an opportunity to study the context of the passage.

Because this project was multi-disciplinary, technical advisers in various areas were critical to the success of the translation. I was fortunate to be contacted early in this project by an Oklahoma State University engineering professor, Dr. Glenn Brown, who was very interested in the history of hydraulics and Henry Darcy in particular. He volunteered to serve as technical editor of the project, and recommended several books on the history of hydraulics and the development of water supply systems. He was invaluable in pointing out vocabulary items that are not used among modern engineers, although they appear in contemporary bilingual dictionaries. He was also very helpful in placing historical events and practices in the proper context.

To understand Darcy’s reservoir plumbing, I was lucky to have the help of Brock Langley, a water supply engineer employed by the consulting company that funded the project. We spent many hours poring over the illustrations in Darcy’s atlas to produce an acceptable English translation. Michel Meunier, a native French-speaking technical translator and an ATA-certified translator, compared the English translation of this section to the French original to make sure we all agreed on the meaning of the passage.

Dr. Kenneth Liechti, an aerospace engineering professor at the University of Texas, provided technical expertise on Darcy’s discussion of pipe strength and pipe making and Darcy’s modification and use of the pitot tube, a device now commonly used to determine airplane speed, which Darcy used to determine stream velocity. All three engineers delighted in checking Darcy’s equations and calculations (by calculator) and adding or clarifying units that engineers state explicitly today. All three marveled at Darcy’s intelligence and accomplishments, especially given the rudimentary tools available to him.

Through networking at ATA’s Annual Conference, I made contact with Ms. Rowena Stead, a native
English-speaking translator at the French Bureau de recherches géologiques et minières. She helped with a few particularly thorny geological questions, especially historical “field” terms used by geologists in the early days of the science of geology, most of which have been superseded by modern terms. This section was especially challenging since some of the older regional terms Darcy used are not recorded in any dictionary.

Organization

Aside from teamwork, the key to a project of this size and complexity is organization. Because I work full-time as a hydrogeologist, this project took three years of evenings and weekends to complete. My advice to anyone undertaking a long-term project like this would be:

1. Start an electronic glossary at the very beginning and update it every day. Add to it every time you obtain more information about a vocabulary item. It helps to have multiple translations of a vocabulary item from a variety of sources. For consistency, highlight the preferred translation. Date the glossary entry to keep track of the evolution of your thoughts.

2. Keep a log of what you do each day. Try to record the time spent, the questions that were unanswered, critical items that need to be researched, and portions that you skipped.

3. Take copious notes and keep them organized. This project required outside reading that turned out to be very helpful. Some obscure vocabulary and history became instantly clear through enjoyable leisure-time reading.

4. Be prepared for the evolution of your state of mind. Emotions can run from excitement and desire to accomplish a monumental project, fear after the contract is signed, despair at the size of the project, persistence and perseverance in the face of it, determination, hope of a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel, happiness at the help from friends and colleagues, and euphoria at being 99% finished.

I took on this project because it was a challenge to me and it is a valuable contribution to science. There is great interest in Henry Darcy and his accomplishments among American hydrogeologists and engineers. However, prior to this translation, almost no information about Darcy was available in English.

Translation usually connects people across cultural differences and geographic distances, and can even sometimes connect people across vast expanses of time. This project connected me and will hopefully connect many English-speaking scientists to a brilliant and socially conscious engineer born in France two centuries ago.


References


See page 32 for information on the S. Edmund Berger Prize in Excellence in Scientific and Technical Translation.

German translator Klaus Fritz often found it impossible to translate Rowling’s puns; the magical street name “Diagon Alley” became Winklegasse, or “Corner Alley,” losing the play on words. So Fritz took a broader view of the books to reproduce the same flow of jokes, sometimes inventing new gags to make up for the ones lost in translation.

Through Children’s Eyes

Although Harry Potter may be read on several levels, it is ultimately a world created for children, and for the most part the translators never lost sight of that. “I relied on my granddaughter, a wonderful child just Harry’s age,” says Lia Wyler. “I used to recount every chapter to her, and on recounting them I found where to add and cut to give it just the right rhythm in Portuguese.” So too did Emily Huws, who for the Welsh translation had help from a 15-year-old Potterphile “consultant,” who gave her advice along the way.

Because in the end, as the translators realized, it is the language of magic that is what children truly understand.
Translating Harry Part II: The Business of Magic

By Steven Goldstein

Note: The following is reprinted with permission from Translatorial (Vol. XXVII, No. 1, February 2005), the journal of the Northern California Translators Association (www.ncta.org), an ATA chapter.

Part I of this series, “The Language of Magic,” addressed several of the more important cultural- and language-related issues involved in the translations of the Harry Potter books. This installment covers various contractual, procedural, and otherwise special challenges faced by the translators of the Harry Potter books.

As July celebrations go, it can’t possibly hold a candle to the pomp and ceremony of, say, the national Independence Days of countries like Canada, France, or the United States.

But then, nobody’s talking about those festivities the way they’re buzzing about the upcoming birthday of Harry Potter, Book VI.

With Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince—the penultimate book in the tale of the magical young wizard—set to be published on July 16, 2005, Potterphiles the world over are already kicking into overdrive. The rumor mills have started cranking. Chat rooms are overflowing. And after an unusually long period of slumber this time around, the sleeping giant that is Potter global merchandising has once again been awakened. Welcome to the next installment of Harry Potter, Superstar. And to the workings of the translators who are so integral to its production.

Working for a Living

Torstein Høverstad, the Norwegian translator of Harry Potter, is among the many who have described the experience of being a literary translator as that of attempting something inherently impossible, being badly paid, and remaining virtually invisible—and that’s if you’re successful. Yet still, in our celebrity-addled world, it is hard to imagine that there’s not at least a certain cachet that comes with being a Harry Potter translator, basking in the ever-widening glow of rock-star author J.K. Rowling’s fame, fortune, and adulation. This cachet does, in fact, have some truth to it, but the reality is often far different from our perceptions.

In the first part of this series, we saw how the Potter translators had a certain freedom to decide for themselves on matters of linguistic integrity, most notably in whether or not to translate Rowling’s marvelously whimsical and inventive names. Torstein Høverstad believed that everything in the original that could be translated should be translated. Many of the 60-odd other translators, however, opted for a much less aggressive posture in the matter, leaving many of the names in their original forms.

Much of this, although admittedly not all, has had to do with the entrance of Warner Brothers into the picture. In 1998, around the time of the publication of the third book in the series, the media conglomerate purchased the rights to the entire Harry Potter franchise, in effect buying creative control for how all subsequent items in the series—movies, toys, video games, and yes, foreign book translations—would be marketed. With this came the company’s attempt—largely successful, it should be noted—to impose on the translators a contract that would oblige them to give up many of the translation rights that they had originally held.

In addition to restricting or even forbidding the translation of names—which would make it easier to conduct global marketing campaigns—the contract generally redefined the terms of agreement, including remuneration and deadlines. Those translators who had the most flexibility in negotiating these conditions with their individual publishing houses were those, like Høverstad, who had completed translations before Warner Brothers appeared on the scene. At the other end of the spectrum, however, the negotiations tended to be far harsher. In one notable instance, the Catalan translator of the first four novels, Laura Escorihuela, adamantly refused to give up her rights by signing the contract, and was thus barred from translating subsequent Harry Potter books.

And what do Harry Potter translators get paid for their efforts? It varies, of course. While royalties are rare anywhere and in some countries, like China, the rate can actually be below the market rate, fees generally range from slightly above the standard market rate to even fairly generously above it in certain countries. Even in the latter instances, however, most of the translators will still say that they are paid like ... well, like translators.

A Need for Speed

Much has been written about the often brutal deadlines imposed on the Potter translators. And much of it is true. As Warner Brothers is intent on preventing any leaks of the stories to the general public, the translators must wait, like everyone else, until publication of the original English version before being able to...
begin work.

Although a five-month period has not been unusual in some cases for the most recent, very long volumes, there is often pressure from Warner Brothers to have the translations completed much more quickly. Jean-François Ménard, the French translator, translated the 700-plus page fourth book, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, in just 63 days. Torstein Høverstad negotiated a bonus percentage with his publisher if he was able to finish the same book in a similar two-month period. (He did.) And Hanna Lutzen and Victor Morozov each formulated plans to translate the even longer Book V, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, into Danish and Ukrainian, respectively, in the same 8- to 10-week timeframe.

Gili Bar-Hillel, the Hebrew translator, agrees that the pressure is intense. However, in her case, she believes that this actually contributes to the quality of her translations, for two reasons: first, she must, by necessity, be single-mindedly focused on the task; and second, everyone around her—including her family—is geared to helping her work as fast and as effectively as possible.

Even in the face of such pressures, the translators tend, on the whole, to work alone (although their work is checked by the publisher’s professional editors and proofreaders). Lia Wyler refused to hire an assistant for the Brazilian Portuguese version, saying that she would in effect need a clone of herself, someone with an identical linguistic background, right down to her neighborhood and accent. “Language is collective,” she says, “but vocabulary is extremely individual.” Even when confronted with difficult linguistic problems, the translators often must rely on their own ingenuity and creativity (and dictionaries) to solve them. Contact with J.K. Rowling is not an option, as the author has generally not made herself accessible to the translators, nor has her agent been especially forthcoming on problematic areas of the translations.

**Of Pirates and Proofreaders**

Publishers demand speed for another reason: the existence of “pirate,” or unofficial, translations that are often collaborations of Potterphiles on the Internet, and which can be published months ahead of the sanctioned version. In China, several Harry Potter fans started to translate *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* two months before the publisher’s paper edition was due to appear, updating it on the Internet at a rate of 10,000 Chinese words a day. Although these counterfeit translations are for obvious reasons of a generally inferior quality, they demonstrate the zeal of Potter fans to get their hands on the stories as quickly as possible.

A somewhat more satisfying, but no less vexing, issue is that of the hordes of Potterphiles who care so much about the books that they read every word as if they were professional proofreaders or editors. Within a week of the Israeli publication of Book V, Gili Bar-Hillel already had a list of four mistakes that readers had found, including a missing period, a missing letter, and two minor spelling mistakes (all of which were corrected in subsequent printings). This was nothing, however, compared to the 10-year-old bilingual Brazilian child who challenged—quite publicly and aggressively—Lia Wyler’s Portuguese translation of the difficult word “muggle”!

**A Tale in Motion**

Beyond the contracts, the money, and the deadlines, the Harry Potter series presents one final, and unusual, challenge: it is an unfinished story. The fact is, some things are simply unknowable until J.K. Rowling puts the final period at the end of the final sentence of the seventh book. Not one of the translators was aware that there would be a second book until each had completed work on the first. Lia Wyler acknowledges that this fact would certainly have influenced her

Continued on p.46
Spanglish: A Reality to be Ignored, or a Dynamic Phenomenon to be Acknowledged?

By Eduardo González

Before touching upon this subject, let us check a few definitions, or lack thereof, from some reputable sources:

- Spanglish: n. [Slang] Spanish that contains many English words and phrases, especially as spoken among bilingual people of Hispanic background (Webster’s New World College Dictionary, 2004).


- No definition was found in any sizable, reputable Spanish dictionary (Real Academia, Pequeño Larousse) under the equivalents angloñol or espanglés.

- There are also some “definitions” of Spanglish in use (for example, “Cyberspanglish” and other sub-variants) that are analyzed, criticized, even ridiculed, on elcastellano.org, the website of La página del idioma español.

- Octavio Paz has been quoted as stating that “Spanglish is neither good nor bad, but abominable” (Stavans, 2004). Other interesting definitions, or at least descriptions, can be found on related websites (see the references at the end of this article).

My own interest in Spanglish does not exactly stem from love at first sight. When re-starting my career in Miami in the early 1990s, I immediately noticed that Spanglish was a special language apart from English and Spanish. At that time, I considered it to be “insufficient English,” or Miamenglish, and blamed its extended use on the large amount of refugees, immigrants, laborers, and other Hispanics that made up the bulk of the population in Miami-Dade county and other areas in South and Central Florida.

At the onset of my life in the U.S., I worked first as a medical interpreter and instructor of English as a Second Language and Spanish, and later as a court interpreter. As I interpreted for Spanish natives from Central and South America, the Caribbean, and South America, the Caribbean, and Central Florida.

Upon further analysis, observation, and comparison, it became apparent that many of the terms above were not exclusive to Miami. I had heard some of them spoken while living in Panama, where the primary language is Spanish, although there are a few bilingual people (a partial result of the English-speaking labor force that was brought in during the construction of the Panama Canal). These words also exist in Northern Mexico, where the re-semantization of terms used by other Spanish speakers has resulted in completely different meanings. Such is the case with mueble (car) and aliviarse (give birth). Pure Spanglish is present in such phrases as esnorkelear (swim with a snorkel on), trabajar de diver (buzo, or jumping from high cliffs for the tourists), among others. For instance, the word bróder (a phonetic variant of brother), like pana (which probably comes from the word partner), is widely used among Spanish speakers in regions separated by great geographical distances, where the language lacks any direct influence from American English (e.g., Cuba).

Spanglish, in my opinion, is not to be degraded, despised, or abhorred as if it was a barbarian patois…”

…Spanglish, in my opinion, is not to be degraded, despised, or abhorred as if it was a barbarian patois…”

- Efiche; transportechon; pana→ estudio, apartamento donde todo esá en una sola pieza; carro viejo para ir a trabajar; compañero, amigo, socio→efficiency apartment; transportation (old car only for ~); partner

- estar definido, con definición muscular→to be “cut”

- Jompear el carro →dar un “cablazo” o hacer un puente→jump start the car

- Ser pompero, rufero, carpetero→ trabajador en una gasolinera, como techero o reparador de techos, como instalador de alfombras→pump attendant; roofer; carpet layer

- Efiche; transportechon; pana→ estudio, apartamento donde todo esá en una sola pieza; carro viejo para ir a trabajar; compañero, amigo, socio→efficiency apartment; transportation (old car only for ~); partner
Esperanto (which was artificially and scientifically created), is a phenomenon that has sprouted on its own, without any government or academic support. However, it is here, knocking at our door, and should not be ignored.1

Not too long ago, Haitian Creole was looked down upon as a patois (“parler local employé par une communauté gênér. rurale et restreinte.”) Le Petit Larousse, 2005, page 795), which translates as “local speech used by a generally rural and restricted community.” However, it has become, at least in the U.S., one of only three languages in which court interpreters can become federally certified (the two others are Spanish and Navajo—see www.uscourts.gov/interpretprog/infosheet.html). Haitian Creole is spoken by about 5.7 million people in Haiti, and by over 100,000 in the adjacent Dominican Republic, and by 200,000 in New York. A much smaller percentage of speakers are in Canada and Puerto Rico. In the U.S., Navajo is mostly spoken in Arizona and New Mexico. Spanglish, on the other hand, is being used in many U.S. states, as well as by many Hispanics in other countries, including Spain.

Furthermore, those who are concerned about the “purity” of the Spanish language, especially in light of the overwhelming diffusion of English and the rise of “sub-variants” like Spanglish, should be aware that Spanish is probably stronger now than it ever was (except, perhaps, when the old colonial Spanish empire was at its peak during the 16th and 17th centuries). Most, if not all, U.S. universities and colleges with some foreign language teaching include courses in Spanish. Spanish has, without a doubt, become the second language of the U.S. Spanish is the first foreign-modern language here as well as in other countries, and its importance within the framework of the European Union is increasing.

One last consideration: Spanglish is not the only modern sub-variant or combination of languages in contact: let us not forget Franglais, Frenglish, Joul, Espanglish (Gibraltar), Cadian-Cajun, and others that have developed and still live a healthy life. The only substantial difference is perhaps the fact that these variants are not so strongly condemned a priori as Spanglish. Some examples: le courriel (from courier électronique/electronic [e]mail); Je vais debugger; on va faire un copy file; Tuscannes toute la zone? OK, je me log off et j’arrive2; la gasoline est très chère!

Spanglish is alive and well, despite frequent condemnation and a lack of support from academic, linguistic, or “official” establishments. Why? For many reasons: Spanish-English contact; the need to save time (Spanglish phrases use shorter words from both languages); and the desire to reach bilingual communities (which is good for the economy, especially since U.S. Hispanic businesses generate hundreds of millions annually). Its popularity could also be simply due to the fact that certain terms and neologisms in English have no translation yet, or the fact that such translations, when made, never “catch” on among speakers (think, for instance, of blog, scuba, and snuba diving).

In the translation and interpreting program at the University of Nebraska, Kearney campus (the only campus within the university and state to offer such a program), the use of Spanglish is not taboo. We do not offer Spanglish Literature 100 or Spanglish Literature 400, but we do recognize and use the language in our classes (González, 2004). By doing so, our graduates will be able to recognize and translate/interpret from Spanglish, without having to request an intralinguistic translation from the very Hispanic person for whom they are interlinguistically translating/interpreting3.

The following are examples of mixed Spanglish and “special” Spanish:

• Trabajaba de carpetero cuando la vieja se me alivió...
• Your Honor, the interpreter needs clarification!
• Señor, ¿qué quiere decir carpetero (¿desk clerk?) y que la vieja se le alivió?
• Que hace carpetas, m’hija, vaya, alfombras y que la mujer dio a luz...
• I was working as a carpet layer when my wife/woman delivered...

The following examples of pure Spanglish indicate the significant time-saving aspect of the language:

• Salí del ejército y me metí a trabajador hasta que me llegó el dough pa’l college...(20 syllables). Note: in this example, speakers must know English and Spanish.

• Intralinguistic (or is it already interlinguistic translation?): Salí del ejército y me metí a trabajador de (empecé a trabajar en) una gasolinera hasta que me llegó el dinero (la plata, la lana) para estudiar en la educación superior...(41 syllables).

• Interlinguistic version: I left/got discharged from the army and started to work as a gas station attendant until I received the money for college...

Even if we proclaim ourselves staunch anti-Spanglishers, we cannot help but realize that in the second example above there is a reason for Spanglish: the Spanglish speaker
saves quite a bit of time! Those versed in linguistics know that at least one of its laws has been followed by the users of Spanglish. Also, in the first example on the previous page, can we deny the fact that Spanglish carries a considerable amount of emotion? As linguists, we should at least take an interest in this phenomenon. As translators/interpreters, we must be familiar with such occurrences. They happen frequently and unexpectedly. Are we ready to translate/interpret Spanglish?

Notes
1. Esperanto was designed by Polish physician Ludwig Lazarus Zamenhof in 1887. A language with total phoneme-grapheme correspondence, with no exceptions in grammatical rules (for example, all nouns and adjectives end in the same letter), it was hailed by V.I. Lenin in Bolshevik Russia as “The language of Socialism.” In spite of such support, extended by other countries and governments, its popularity has dwindled, probably due to its very artificiality and “perfection.”

2. On this matter, see, among others, the French websites listed in the references section below.

3. Intra-linguistic translation/interpreting occurs within the same language.
Examples:
- What do you mean?—What I mean is…
- (Judge to Jury): I will explain the law now before you retire to deliberate…A first degree felony is the kind of serious crime that…

Interlinguistic translation/interpreting occurs between different languages.
Examples:
- What do you mean?—¿Qué quiere decir?
- Felony is defined as…El delito mayor se define como…

References


S. Edmund Berger Prize
In Excellence in Scientific and Technical Translation

The ATA and the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation (AFTI) invite nominations for the annual award of the S. Edmund Berger Prize.

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Nominations must be received by September 17, 2005, and will be judged by a three-member national jury. The recipient of the award will be announced during the 2005 ATA Annual Conference in Seattle, Washington, November 9-12.
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Registration Deadline: July 22, 2005

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Registration Deadline: July 22, 2005

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Registration deadline: September 9, 2005

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Registration Deadline: June 17, 2005

Brazil
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July 2, 2005
Registration Deadline: June 17, 2005

The Netherlands
Utrecht
September 10, 2005
Registration Deadline: August 26, 2005

Attention Korean Language Translators and Interpreters!

A special interest group has been formed to explore the possibility of establishing a Korean Language Division within the American Translators Association. If you are interested, please subscribe to the discussion listserv by sending an e-mail to ATA_KLD-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

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Zoi White
Los Angeles, CA
Internet Fraud Tips from the National Consumers League’s Internet Fraud Watch (http://fraud.org/tips/internet/fakecheck.htm)

Tips for Recognizing and Avoiding Fake Check Scams

If someone you don’t know wants to pay you by check, but wants you to wire some of the money back, beware! It’s a scam that could cost you thousands of dollars.

- There are many variations of the fake check scam. It could start with someone offering to buy something you advertised, pay you to do work at home, give you an “advance” on a sweepstakes you’ve supposedly won, or pay the first installment on the millions that you’ll receive for agreeing to have money in a foreign country transferred to your bank account for safekeeping. Whatever the pitch, the person may sound quite believable.

- Fake check scammers hunt for victims. They scan newspaper and online advertisements for people listing items for sale, and check postings on online job sites from people seeking employment. They place their own ads with phone numbers or e-mail addresses for people to contact them. And they call or send e-mails or faxes to people randomly, knowing that some will take the bait.

- They often claim to be in another country. The scammers say it’s too difficult and complicated to send you the money directly from their country, so they’ll arrange for someone in the U.S. to send you a check.

- They tell you to wire money to them after you’ve deposited the check. If you’re selling something, they say they’ll pay you by having someone in the U.S. who owes them money send you a check. It will be for more than the sale price; you deposit the check, keep what you’re owed, and wire the rest to them. If it’s part of a work-at-home scheme, they may claim that you’ll be processing checks from their “clients.” You deposit the checks and then wire them the money minus your “pay.” Or they may send you a check for more than your pay “by mistake” and ask you to wire them the excess. In the sweepstakes and foreign money offer variations of the scam, they tell you to wire them money for taxes, customs, bonding, processing, legal fees, or other expenses that must be paid before you can get the rest of the money.

- The checks are fake, but they look real. In fact, they look so real that even bank tellers may be fooled. Some are phony cashier’s checks, others look like they’re from legitimate business accounts. The companies whose names appear may be real, but someone has dummied up the checks without their knowledge.

- You don’t have to wait long to use the money, but that doesn’t mean the check is good. Under federal law, banks have to make the funds you deposit available quickly—usually within one to five days, depending on the type of check. But just because you can withdraw the money doesn’t mean the check is good, even if it’s a cashier’s check. It can take weeks for the forgery to be discovered and the check to bounce.

- You are responsible for the checks you deposit. That’s because you’re in the best position to determine the risk—you’re the one dealing directly with the person who is arranging for the check to be sent to you. When a check bounces, the bank deducts the amount that was originally credited to your account. If there isn’t enough to cover it, the bank may be able to take money from other accounts you have at that institution, or sue you to recover the funds. In some cases, law enforcement authorities could bring charges against the victims because it may look like they were involved in the scam and knew the check was counterfeit.

- There is no legitimate reason for someone who is giving you money to ask you to wire money back. If a stranger wants to pay you for something, insist on a cashier’s check for the exact amount, preferably from a local bank or a bank that has a branch in your area.

- Don’t deposit it—report it! Report fake check scams to the National Fraud Information Center/Internet Fraud Watch, a service of the nonprofit National Consumers League, at www.fraud.org or (800) 876-7060. That information will be transmitted to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.
Elsevier’s Dictionary of Medicine
Author: Ana Hidalgo Simón
Publisher: Elsevier
Publication date: 2004
Entries: 772 pages, 28,000 entries
Price: $175
Available from: www.elsevier.com
Reviewed by: Michael Blumenthal

In the “Author’s Note” prefacing Elsevier’s Dictionary of Medicine, Ana Hidalgo Simón states that “The main intended users of this dictionary are doctors in clinical practice—with English or Spanish as their mother tongue—who have to deal with patients, documents, bibliographies, lectures, or conversations in the other language.” This is quite different from the advertising at www.elsevier.com, which describes the publication as a “comprehensive medical and scientific dictionary for the 21st century.” This review is written from the perspective of a working medical translator who recognizes the need for just the type of work touted by the publisher. This dictionary has 361 pages dedicated to Spanish-to-English, 396 for English-to-Spanish, plus an “Author’s Note” in English and Spanish. Because of the nature of my own translation work, this review will concentrate on the Spanish-to-English section.

Construction
The binding is excellent. The approximately 6.5 x 9.5 inch size makes the nearly 800-page hardbound book portable. The font used is san serif, which, although it gives the text a clean appearance, might prove hard to read for some of us.

Filler Words
Filler words are herein defined as words that are not pertinent to the specific specialty area of the text in question. To the author’s credit, there are very few filler words in this dictionary. Outside of verbs such as “acordar” (to remember) or nouns such as “hijo” (son), the text is composed almost entirely of words that could be encountered in a medical context. Entries are in keeping with the author’s declared audience and purpose.

Cognate Words
Note the following 29 consecutive entries: bioequivalente/bioequivalent; bioestadística/biostatistics; bioética/bioethics; biofagia/biophagy; biófago/biophagous; biofarmacéutica/biopharmaceutical; biofísica/biophysics; biólogo/biophysicist; biogénesis/biogenesis; bioinformática/bioinformatics; biología/biology; biólogo/biologist; bioluminescencia/bioluminescence; biomasa/biomass; biometría/biometry; biosíntesis/biosynthesis; biomasa/biomass; biopsia/biopsy; bioquímica/biochemistry; bioquímico/biochemist; biosfera/biosphere; biodiversidad/biodiversity; biotecnología/biotechnology; biótica/biotic; biotina/biotin; biotipo/biotype; and biotomo/biopsy. While I have chosen an especially egregious string to make a point, an estimate made after analysis of 200 entries is that as a whole, about 80% of the entries are cognate words with anticipated changes in spelling. There is no doubt that medical terminology is largely based on Greek and Latin roots, which results in many English cognates. Although the inclusion of such terms is not totally avoidable, it is nevertheless the responsibility of the author to search for and include only those words and meanings that will have value to the target audience.

Word Choices
Interestingly, the first word in the book is “¡ay!” (ouch!, an expression of sudden pain). This is an onomatopoeic, almost universal expression (and an unlikely term ever to be looked up in a medical dictionary).

Terminology selections from the Elsevier dictionary were compared to other commonly used medical dictionaries: Dorland’s in Spanish (1997), Stedman’s in Spanish (25th edition, 1993), and the McElroy/Grabb Spanish↔English dictionaries (1996). The 25 most frequently encountered and problematical Spanish medical terms were selected, and then each of the four dictionaries was reviewed. The words chosen were: adenopatía; agregado; altitúasica; amigdalectomía; antibiograma; apófisis; borde; cara; cintura; consultorio; derrame; dorsolumbar; estadiaje; infiltración; irradiación; irrigación; linfadectomía; luz; médula; patente; placa; riego; sección; sonda; and vaciamiento.

In terms of inclusion of these words, only altitúasica, amigdalectomía, estadiaje, and vaciamiento were not found in Elsevier’s. In comparison, altitúasica, consultorio, and riego were not found in Stedman’s; altitúasica, antibiograma, and vaciamiento were not found in McElroy/Grabb; and amigdalectomía, antibiograma, consultorio, and riego were not found in Dorland’s.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Additional Meanings</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>agregado</td>
<td>adventitious</td>
<td>Ruidos agregados o adventicios: El tejido pulmonar o la pleura anormales pueden generar ruidos anormales. Adventitious sounds: Abnormal lung tissue or pleura can generate abnormal sounds. <a href="http://escuela.med.puc.cl/publ/ModRespiratorio/Mod5/default.html">http://escuela.med.puc.cl/publ/ModRespiratorio/Mod5/default.html</a> datos de artrosis agregada. Evidence of concomitant degenerative joint disease.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aggregate</td>
<td>concomitant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brim</td>
<td>rim</td>
<td></td>
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<td>edge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>limit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cara</td>
<td>surface or</td>
<td>cara anterior de rótula. The anterior surface of the patella. cara posterior del antebrazo. Posterior aspect of the forearm cara posterior del corazón. Posterior wall of the heart.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>face</td>
<td>aspect</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>face</td>
<td>wall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cintura</td>
<td>lower back</td>
<td>dolor de cintura. Lower back pain. The cintura escapular pectoral girdle is cited, but not the cintura pélvica pelvic girdle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>waist</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>girdle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>consultorio</td>
<td>doctor’s office</td>
<td>Acudió a mi consultorio. She visited my office.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>surgery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>consulting room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dorsolumbar</td>
<td>thoracolumbar</td>
<td>contractura de la musculatura paravertebral dorsolumbar. Paravertebral thoracolumbar muscle contractions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dorsoolumbar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irradiación</td>
<td>radiation (as</td>
<td>irradiación ciática. Sciatic radiation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>radiation (as energy</td>
<td>energy emission)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irrigation supply</td>
<td>perfusion</td>
<td>irrigación cerebral. Cerebral perfusion. déficit de irrigación cerebral. Cerebral hypoperfusion, cerebrovascular insufficiency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>luz</td>
<td>lumen</td>
<td>la aterosclerosis disminuye la luz de una arteria. Atherosclerosis reduces the lumen of an artery. dar a luz. Give birth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>light</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Definitions

Except for a few exceptions that will be mentioned later, the majority of the definitions or explanations of the meanings of terms are accurate and clear. The author understands and expresses succinctly the principle definitions of the entries. Of 25 words, adenopatía, antibiograma, infiltración, linfadectomía, médula, riego, sección, and sonda provided simple, but complete definitions. For example, the entry for “antibiograma” (antibiogram, test to determine bacterial sensitivity to different antibiotics) is clear and to the point, as is “infiltración” (infiltration, accumulation of fluids, particles, or cells in a tissue or cell). The entry for “apófisis,” while correct, was not precise in that its translation as a process is the only one I have encountered in my work. “Derrame” was well defined, but there was no referral to “derrame pleural” (pleural effusion) to exemplify the word in context.

Although most of the words expected to be found in this dictionary were indeed included, the definitions were incomplete. The words listed in Table 1 missed one or more frequently encountered meanings.

In fact, subentries for the many medical terms that have multiple meanings are relatively few. To me, this is a very telling limitation of this dictionary, since this is a critical area in which special care must be taken. For the translator, this lack of depth can lead to critical translation errors.

There were a few words that simply had incorrect uses. For example, the word “celulitis” in Spanish was translated as “cellulite” in English. While it is true that for the average English speaker cellulite is synonymous with cellulitis, “celulitis” in Spanish is a true medical condition. The author recognized “diffuse skin inflammation involving the connective tissue,” but misunderstood that cellulite (at least for Americans) refers to the dimpled and fatty accumulation, especially at the back of the thighs.

A somewhat humorous error occurred with “apnea,” which was defined as a “breeding pattern disruption,” as opposed to “breathing pattern disruption.” Another was “apestado,” which is defined as a person infected with plague. However, in common vernacular, all “apestado” indicates is that a

### Table 1, Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Additional Meanings</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>patente</td>
<td>open, evident</td>
<td>La artería responsable del infarto estaba patente a los 60 minutos de aplicado el medicamento. The artery responsible for the infarct was open 60 minutes after the application of the medication. <a href="www.scielo.sa.cr/scielo.php?pid=S1409-4142199900100005&amp;script=sci_arttext&amp;tlng=es">www.scielo.sa.cr/scielo.php?pid=S1409-4142199900100005&amp;script=sci_arttext&amp;tlng=es</a> Cuando este problema es patente, la solución corre a cargo de la cirugía. When this problem is evident, the solution is handled surgically. <a href="www.tesorosocultos.com/pages/soluc-senos.htm">www.tesorosocultos.com/pages/soluc-senos.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>placa</td>
<td>plate, film, slide</td>
<td>placa radiográfica. Radiographic plate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
person is sick. There were also some typographical errors, which struck me as being unacceptable in a book with this kind of price tag, (e.g., “con-squillas” for “cosquillas” and “oasis” vs. “loasis”). Typos like these leave the reader wondering what other basic editing problems are yet to be found.

Abbreviations

Although the attempt to include abbreviations in this text is laudable (and very necessary in the field of medical translation), the number of entries is quite limited, and even those entries are frequently either obvious or incomplete.

The first abbreviation in the book is “AA alcohólicos anónimos” (AA Alcoholics Anonymous). The second entry, “AC quality assurance; QA (see control de calidad),” left me wondering what AC represents. I thought that perhaps if I were to look under QA in the English half of the dictionary, I would find the answer. Unfortunately, the entry is “QA; quality assurance CC; control de calidad,” and nothing more. The third entry is “ACTH.” The adrenocorticotropic hormone ACTH was given as an entry, but not HACT (hormona adrenocorticotrópica). What is the purpose of ACTH for the English-speaking reader? Cross-referencing is inconsistent and incomplete.

Appendices and Special Sections

There are no special sections in the dictionary like those found in other medical dictionaries. There are no pictures, drawings, or appendices of any kind.

Summary

If the quality of a book were based only on paper quality, book weight, and binding, Elsevier’s Dictionary of Medicine should be highly valued. Unfortunately for Elsevier, at least from a medical translator’s point of view, content is what counts. The most valuable dictionaries are those that have hard to find abbreviations and terms and offer a comprehensiveness of definition that others do not. This dictionary does not offer this kind of value.

References


The Translation Studies Reader (second edition)

Edited by: Lawrence Venuti
Publisher: Routledge: London and New York
Publication Date: 2004

Yes, add [both books] to the list of books essential for anyone interested in knowing what Western translators and non-translators have been saying about translation for the past 2,500 years.

The wide-ranging documents in both Robinson’s and Venuti’s books include much of interest for cultural historians in general, as well as for those specifically interested in translation. And both books...should be required reading for anyone attempting to review a work of literature in translation.

This review is only of the new portions of Venuti’s recently published second edition, which includes

Michael Blumenthal is a Spanish-to-English medical translator, writer, and speaker based in Austin, Texas. Contact: mblumenthal@austin.rr.com.
pre-20th-century material and thereby partly overlaps the material in Robinson’s book. Venuti’s new edition also includes some new articles, and excludes some of the articles in the original edition. The results are mixed.

Three newly-included articles from the “1990s and beyond” are illustrative of the successes and failures of the new material: Jacques Derrida’s “What is a ‘Relevant’ Translation?” translated into English by Venuti himself, as well as Abé Mark Nornes’ “For an Abusive Subtitling” and Ian Mason’s “Text Parameters in Translation: Transitivity and Institutional Cultures,” both written originally in English.

The punning answer to Derrida’s question is: a translation (into French), which includes the word “relève” or some variant of it. The line in question to be translated is from Shakespeare’s The Merchant of Venice, and most of Derrida’s overly long article is about the play itself rather than about translation. At 24 pages, the article does not earn its space in Venuti’s book, and, despite the fame of the author, Venuti should either have included it entirely or excerpted the few parts of it relevant to translation.

Abé Mark Nornes’ article does deserve a place in Venuti’s book, or rather, would have deserved a place had it been better written, or edited before it was printed. Nornes discusses the history of film subtitling and argues for what he calls “abusive” translation rather than the standard “corrupt” translation. His argument is interesting, though his bad writing keeps getting in the way of it. By “corrupt” translation, he seems to mean the production of a text in the target language, which obliterates all traces of both the source language and the fact that the text is indeed a translation rather than an original. By “abusive” translation, he seems to mean one that calls attention to both the original and the translation process. Among Nornes’ many interesting examples is one in which a character’s profanity in the original film, which, due to censorship, would have been omitted in a “corrupt” subtitling, was instead abusively subtilted “!%&$!@!!” (465).

Ian Mason’s article suffers from its not being about what it is supposed to be about. Presumably it asks whether the translation guidelines of large institutional employers of translators, such as the Canadian government and the European Union, influence the translations produced. For various reasons discussed by Mason himself, such as the vagueness of the guidelines, the fact that many translations are done by outside contractors not really subject to the guidelines, and the relatively small number of translations available for comparison, this question is unanswerable. What is valuable in Mason’s article is the discussion of transitivity, i.e., the way sentences are cast in one of five modes, as someone or something doing something, saying something, sensing something, being something, or having something. Mason shows that the inherent structures of different languages often suggest or even force a sentence in one transitivity mode to be translated into a different transitivity mode. He argues that a few transformed sentences in a text do not make much of a difference, but a wholesale transformation of many sentences can completely change the tone or even the meaning of, for example, a diplomatic text.

It is worth comparing some of Venuti’s “Foundational Statements” (pre-20th-century material) with the same material in Robinson’s book. Both books include Jerome’s “Letter to Pammachius,” Venuti’s (in a translation by Kathleen Davis), and Robinson’s (in a translation by Paul Carroll). Overall, both translations appear to me to be equally good, though Carroll’s has more extensive notes. In a very few places, the two translations differ in meaning, and it was not possible for me to determine which is correct. However, Robinson also includes a paragraph from Jerome’s “Preface to the Pentateuch,” translated by Moses Hadas, in which Jerome debunks the myth of the 70 translators of the Septuagint (the translation of the Old Testament into Greek) who legendarily produced 70 separate but identical translations. As someone who was told this myth was true when I was a child in Hebrew school, I regard the inclusion of this paragraph as very important.

Both Robinson and Venuti give essentially the same excerpt from Dryden’s Preface to Ovid’s Epistles, though Robinson gives an additional article by Dryden.

Friedrich Schleiermacher’s seminal 1813 article, “On the Different Methods of Translating,” is translated quite differently in the two books. Susan Bernofsky’s new translation, in the Venuti book, follows the cadences and clause structure of the original German much more closely than does Robinson’s translation in his own book. She thereby follows Schleiermacher’s own prescription to bring the reader to the author, rather than vice versa, more closely than does Robinson. However, both translations are worth reading.

Both the Goethe and Nietzsche
pieces in the Venuti volume are very short, perhaps too short. More material from both authors is included in Robinson’s book. As for the Schleiermacher article, the translation of the Goethe article in Venuti’s book, by Sharon Sloan, is closer to the original German in cadence than is Robinson’s own translation of that same article. For the article by Nietzsche included in both books, the translator is the same: Walter Kaufmann.

Overall, the potential for Venuti’s second edition has not been realized. There is far more “foundational” material in Robinson’s book. The new translations of this material in Venuti’s volume are fine, but they are not a reason to purchase his new edition. And the recent material Venuti included should have been far more heavily edited, in collaboration, if necessary, with the original authors (in fact, the article by Ian Mason does represent a revision of what Mason originally wrote). If that was impossible, Venuti should have either omitted the new recent material or commissioned entirely new articles as he did translations for the pre-20th-century material.

Mark Herman is a literary and technical translator, chemical engineer, playwright, poet, lyricist, musician, and actor. In collaboration with Ronnie Apter, he has written 20 opera translations which have received numerous productions in the U.S., Canada, and England. Contact: hermanapter@earthlink.net.

Elsevier’s Dictionary of Engineering (English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese/Brazilian)
Compiled by: M. Bignami
Publisher: Elsevier
Publication date: 2004
No. of pages and entries: 1,490 pages (1,453 numbered and 37 unnumbered); 10,987 term entries with a code number
ISBNs: 0-444-51467-8 (Set = Part 1 + Part 2) (Hardbound) 0-444-51735-9 (Part 1) (Hardbound) 0-444-51736-7 (Part 2) (Hardbound)
Price: $295
Available from: www.elsevier.com

Fields:
1. Architectural Engineering and Buildings
2. Civil Engineering
3. Engineering
4. Geology
5. Geotechnical Engineering
6. Hydraulics
7. Hydrogeology
8. Hydrology
9. Mechanical Engineering
10. Mechanics
11. Mining Engineering
12. Petroleum Engineering
13. Science and Technics
14. Surveying
15. General

Reviewed by: Arnoldo Higuero

The following general comments apply to the various languages included in this dictionary, but the translation examples indicated later on in this review pertain specifically to the Spanish portion of the dictionary.

The preface of this dictionary indicates that the author has worked “for more than 44 years in feasibility studies and construction projects involving 15 large dams in 7 different countries.” Therefore, he certainly has the hands-on experience required for this type of dictionary.

An Elsevier promotional leaflet indicates that this dictionary “is a basic tool for all contractors abroad,” and that it will “offer adequate technical support for specialists evolving in an international environment.” The leaflet also identifies the “audience” as: “Construction works specialists, including contractors, technicians, surveyors, civil and geotechnical engineers, consulting engineers and supervisors, geologists, architects, mechanical, mining and petrol engineers, university graduates, young engineers [sic] candidates, ecologists and translators.” Notice that “translators” is the last entry.

The reviewer indeed agrees that this dictionary will be valuable to technical personnel working overseas who know the subject matter in English and who wish to have a general translation of a particular term. For translators who wish to be very specific and who may not know the difference between two similar terms, the dictionary becomes less valuable. The dictionary is more valuable to those translators who are already fully knowledgeable of the subject matter.

In this review, when a number appears in parentheses after a word in italics, this is the code number assigned to said word in the dictionary.
Organization:
The dictionary has two parts. Part 1 (Basic Table) contains:
a) Terms listed alphabetically in English and showing a code number from 1 to 10987.
b) Related field(s) (from the 15-field list shown at the beginning of this review).
c) Related subfield(s) (out of 177 subfields).
d) Translation of terms into German, French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Part 2 (Indices) contains five sections—German, French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese. Each section lists the terms alphabetically in German, French, etc., respectively, showing a corresponding code number, so that the reader can then refer to said number in Part 1 and find the English translation.

Strengths:
1. Both volumes are hardbound, and the type and quality of binding is excellent, as is the quality of paper.
2. Format is good, with appropriate use of bold type for the code numbers and English entries. Italics indicate other languages (d for German, f for French, etc.).
3. Convenience of look-up is also good, as well as the grammatical information.
4. The compiler has hands-on experience in the field, so he knows the subject matter.
5. The preface, introduction, and table of contents appear in all the languages covered.
6. The abbreviations and symbols section, as well as the bibliography have a combination of languages.
7. The dictionary contains a large number of technical words and special groups of words found in engineering projects.
8. In some places this dictionary differentiates between British and American usage, and for some terms it indicates usage in Argentina, Mexico, Peru, and Latin America.
9. There are not too many filler words. Even though castle (1489) and cathedral (1503) appear, they are part of the architecture and building field.
10. A number of words found in this dictionary, such as zooxanthellae (10987, Geology), saskaite (9028 and after 9814, Geology), and piscifactoria (3695, Civil Engineering), are not commonly found in other similar dictionaries.
11. Of the 20 technical English terms the reviewer looked up, 17 appeared in this dictionary.

Weaknesses:
1. The typeface style is adequate, but the font size could be a little larger.
2. Although page numbers are not so important in a dictionary with code numbers, if you are looking for a particular page, you cannot fan the pages to see the page numbers, as they are located near the binding instead of near the right/left edge of the paper.
3. British English seems to prevail over American English. For instance, the British English word tyre (10323, General) appears, but not the corresponding American English tire.
4. Some English words are written in an old style. For example, under-exposed (10354) is normally found in other dictionaries as underexposed.
5. The dictionary seems to alphabetize two words as if there were no space between them. Thus, safety valve precedes safe yield. Most dictionaries do not do this.
6. This dictionary follows old Spanish alphabetization rules and includes Ch and Li as separate letters (they were eliminated as separate letters in Spanish over 10 years ago).
7. The 171 subfields appear only in English. Water handling and water measurement are some of the 171 subfields listed, but they do not appear as one of the 10,987 entries listed in Part 1. So, to find their translation the reader has to find these terms in the English table of contents and then go to the equivalent Spanish table of contents.
8. Some Spanish-speaking persons consistently use different Spanish words that translate as one English word. This dictionary normally just lists one word or the other. Perhaps a better choice would have been to list both words in the same entry. For instance, some Spanish-speaking people translate the word flood as creciente and others as avenida. This dictionary used one word or the other in different entries for different uses of the word flood, without any indication that both words mean flood to different people.
9. Sometimes several related English words are shown, but only one Spanish word is provided. For example, an entry lists jade, jadeite, and Chinese jade (5334) in English, but the only Spanish translation given is jade.
10. Of the 20 technical English terms the reviewer looked up, three did not appear in this dictionary.

11. Typographical errors were found, such as expansión (2865, 9734, and 10447), although expansión was correctly spelled elsewhere (9736).

12. Some translators who translate in just one language pair may complain about the cost of purchasing a dictionary with languages they do not use. A multilingual dictionary is bulkier than a bilingual dictionary, requires two volumes instead of one, is more cumbersome to use, and occupies more shelf space.

**Overall Evaluation:**
- For technical personnel working overseas who know the subject matter in English and who wish to have a general translation of a particular term: very good.
- For translators who wish to be very specific and who may not know the difference between two similar terms: fair.
- For translators who are fully knowledgeable of the subject matter and the Spanish language, and who want an additional dictionary as a reference: good.

Compiling a dictionary is a never-ending task, and the author of this dictionary should be commended for all the time and effort he has put in the preparation of this detailed multilingual volume.

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**Dictionary Update:**
Those wishing to purchase Raquel Yaker's *Glossary of Petroleum and Environment: English-Spanish/Spanish-English* (reviewed by Tom West in the March issue), please contact:

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The pull of technological and scientific terms in a language is so powerful that it even changes the way the Translation Inquirer looks at texts from non-scientific and pre-scientific eras. Now, as a technical translator, when I read “Wie lenkt’ ich sicher den Kiel zu König Markes Land,” a line from Richard Wagner’s poem written in the mid-1850s for Tristan und Isolde, my mind instantly focuses on the verb lenken (to steer). The assignment on my desk today, from the automotive industry, has, I think, too many specialized car-related words that derive from this verbal root. The associations are not those that Wagner intended, to put it mildly.

[Abbreviations used with this column: D-Dutch; Da-Danish; E-English; F-French; Fi-Finnish; G-German; I-Italian; Pt-Portuguese; R-Russian; S-Spanish; Sw-Swedish.]

New Queries

(E-D 5-05/1) In finance and investments, what are overlay programs? In typical prospectus language related to fiduciary management, a ProZ user found this: We would also assess the appropriateness of different benchmarks, the active-passive split in each asset class, the role of active overlay programs and the selection of specific active management products. What are they?

(E-G 5-05/2) Is the term prudential requirements in the world of banking a euphemism for something else? The context was the reform of the banking system in China, and the problem term was mentioned along with risk control procedures, which is clear enough. How about some elucidation of what is meant by prudential requirements and an attempt to render it into good German?

(E-I 5-05/3) Evidently in the world of vacuum sewage systems, there is the concept of a slug, seemingly a discrete body of material that flows along to wherever the system is taking it. Transport is said to proceed in slugs as a result of difference in pressure in front of and behind this slug...It is said to be affected by gravity and will flatten out after a time...Low points are needed in the piping where the slug can form again. What on earth is it, and what would be good Italian for it?

(E-Sp 5-05/4) The legal concept of a fee farm grant evoked two quite different responses on ProZ, so the Translation Inquirer decided it was worthwhile to toss it out to the thousands of eligible responders in this column. Here’s some boilerplate for context: To acquire by purchase, exchange, lease, fee farm grant or otherwise, either for an estate in fee simple or for any less estate or other estate or interest.... Well, that’s probably enough. What would the Spanish be?

(E-Sw 5-05/5) From a ProZ member comes a query about the travel carriage of a crane. The test speaks of methods or devices that protect all parts from oil-seeping travel carriages of cranes. What are these, and what would they be in Swedish?

(F-E 5-05/6) Here’s a French acronym. It has been a long time since we had one of those in this column. The trouble is, a slash is such an inarticulate symbol that one does not know whether the concepts here are three synonyms or three consecutive steps, but in any case all are related to triage measures in the event of a major accident or catastrophe. The query is about “PMA/CARI/morgue,” and the middle concept is the one causing the trouble. What is it?

(F-E 5-05/7) In the world of French project management, a Lantra-l user had trouble with (7.a) “les automatismes,” (7.b) “les courants forts,” and (7.c) “les courants faibles,” all of which fell under the overall category “choix du critère fonctionnel.” Who wants to try them?

(G-E 5-05/8) The concepts of (8.a) “Profi-Schaumfront” and (8.b) “Hornreiber,” which are some of the subordinate items listed in a product description for a speaker (“Lautsprecher”), were problematic for a ProZ subscriber. What are they?

(G-E 5-05/9) In a text having to do with mechanical balances, the word in bold print in the following sentence caused problems for a ProZ user: “Durch die spezielle Kalibrierung ist ein Eckenabgleich der Waage nicht erforderlich.”

(I-E 5-05/10) Referring to a job involving a printing press, a ProZer had trouble with “bacchetteo” in this context phrase: “Problema bacchetteo, bisogna togliere i colori e lavori completi per questo problema.”

(Pt-E 5-05/11) Cliff Landers poses this question regarding prescription drugs. The sheet of paper put into a box of drugs that includes detailed instructions on usage is called a “bula” in Brazilian Portuguese. Does English have a standard term for this (usually small-print) document?
(Pt-E 5-05/12) Again from Cliff Landers, the Brazilians use “cartela” to describe the plastic-covered packet of a prescription drug, such as birth control pills, that you put out, one by one, to use. Is there an English expression for it? Cliff went to medical professionals in search of an answer to this query and the previous one, and no one could help.

(R-E 5-05/13) The phrase A Vas’ka слушает, да ест appeared in an article about how the mayor of Baikonur, Kazakhstan, being told to stop assisting oil companies in a tax evasion scheme, kept it up nevertheless. Behind the immediate context, however, is the awareness that this phrase comes from a poem by I. A. Krylov about a cat named Vas’ka who keeps on eating the roast, despite the cook’s reproaches.

(Sw-E 5-05/14) What is “försäljningsmat?” It appeared in a Swedish text as part of an advertising campaign. And is there anything in English for it?

Replies to Old Queries

(E-Da 3-05/x) (eyelets): Suzanne Blangsted consulted the Dansk-Engelsk dictionary by Vinterberg and Bodelsen and found these to be “snørehul.” The word “mallet” has sometimes been used in translation for eyelet, but is incorrect because it really means hook and eye.

(E-Sp 9-04/1) (never gets old): Sonia Claro says it would not do to translate this idiom literally as “nunca se avezenta.” Rather, she suggests “Nunca está de más” or “siempre es agradable.” For example: “El honor de estar entre las 500 mejores franquicias nunca está de más” or “siempre es agradable” (see page 56, September 2004 Chronicle).

(F-E 11-04/5) (“métiers mobilisauteurs”): Ricky Lacina understands “métier” more as trade, craft, type of job than as position, as Michele Segina proposed on page 61 of the February Chronicle.

(Fi-E 2-05/3) (“sähkötsys”): Peter Christensen says this means twitch, and the entire phrase, found on page 61 of the February Chronicle, means Tapping causes a twitch primarily in the proximal direction behind the ears. The original meaning of “sähkötsys” is transmission. This is not terribly close to the meaning of twitch, but probably the latter is what the medical author was driving at.

(I-E 2-05/6) (“oro sabbiano”): Berto Berti says this is brushed gold. Leonid Gornik points out that “sabbiare” means to treat something by sand blasting. It is derived from “sabbia,” meaning sand. He prefers sand-blasted gold.

(Pt-E 2-05/8) (“habilitações local de residência”): Elza D’Agosto says this obviously came from a job application form in which a comma was not included. It should be “habilitações, local de residência” (skills, place of residence).

(R-E 2-05/9) (А на ногах были сандалии на босу ногу): Inna Persits-Gimelberg likes He had sandals on his bare feet, and on the wrong feet at that. Leonid Gornik: He wore sandals with bare feet, with the shoes on the wrong feet.

(R-E 2-05/10) (протирать штаны в офисе): For the overall sentence, Inna Persits-Gimelberg suggests I just think that you have to work on far more serious problems instead of collecting dust sitting in the office, thinking up sheer nonsense to brainwash honest taxpayers with on TV.

(Sp-E 11-04/10) (“sulfilado”): Ricky Lacina is more inclined to accept Matilde Farren’s solution of whipstitched than Michele Segina’s oversewn (too literal, says Ricky), which appeared on page 62 of the February Chronicle.

(Sp-E 11-04/11) (“Mma”): Depending on the context and period, says Patricia Beiger, “madama” could mean either Madame or Madam. The latter refers to a woman in charge of a brothel.

This column presented a good variety and coverage by our readers of queries. Peter Christensen, our Finnish respondent, writes that this is the first time he has provided an answer in the column. In view of the extreme rarity (a regrettable thing) of Finnish in this column, I am not surprised. Thanks to all!
In the November/December 2004 column, I included some English sentences that were “impossible” to translate for both meaning and overall effect, and I invited readers to try to translate them into any other language. Although several readers submitted additional sentences, only two submitted actual translations.

Here is a sentence from my original column:

Do you think that that “that” that that guy used was correct?

And here is Dominique Anderson’s translation into French, for which I congratulate her:

Ce “que” que ce type a écrit, est-ce que vous pensez qu’il (grammatiquement) correct?

Dominique Anderson also sent me a new “impossible” French sentence, which originally appeared in a periodical and was later given as an exercise to translation students by an English professor at a French university:

Moi, ma soeur, sa bicyclette, elle est cassée.

What makes the above so difficult to translate is not its meaning, but its odd segmentation and register. To translate it into English, Ronnie Apter came up with:

That sister of mine, her bike’s broke.

The other translation submitted as a result of the first column was by Wendy Ebersberger, not of a sentence from that column, but of a Japanese sentence of her own creation:

Toiu to iu to, to to iu to iu.
Say you say ‘you say’; you say ‘you’, you say ‘say’.

There were two submissions of new sentences in Spanish. Elizabeth M. Lewis found this in the Costa Rican newspaper La Nación, in a column by Luis Vidal titled “Graffiti”:

El único hecho que me duele haber hecho es el hecho de no haber hecho un hecho que no se haya hecho ya de hecho.

This literally means, I think:

[The only thing I regret having done is the fact/act of not having done a deed that in fact should not now be done.]

And Alex Schwartz found the following exchange in a high school Spanish textbook:

¿Cómo come usted?


Finally, Alan Clarke submitted the following, which I like because it sounds more natural than the two sentences included in my previous column:

That that is is.
That that is not is not.
That that is not that that is is that that is not.
That that is not that that is not is that that is.
reinvention of certain proper names. The Spanish translators did, in fact, go so far as to make a mid-course correction: they had translated “Professor Sinistra” as (a masculine) Profesor Sinistra, and had to make a quick gender change to Profesora Sinistra when they found her dancing with Mad-Eye Moody in Book IV.

Retranslations are commonplace with great literature. Is it possible that once the series is finished, and perhaps after a generation has passed, other translators, who might be able to work at leisure, would want to tackle the saga anew, in the quest of new versions that might reach a fuller potential? Maybe. But for now, our current translators have only one thing on their minds. A birthday, this summer.

References
For more information on the Harry Potter translators, see the following resources, which in part informed this series:


Special thanks to Gili Bar-Hillel and Lia Wyler for their generosity in sharing their illuminating insights into the translation experience. The author is also extremely grateful to the many Northern California Translators Association members who contributed their impressions, opinions, and encouragement, without which this series would have been by far the poorer: Thank you Catherine Theilen-Burke, Brigitte Keen, Anne Milano Appel, Naomi Baer, Martin Hoffman, and Christoph Niedermair.

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Informative Sessions
As at past IJETs, Saturday and Sunday will be packed with sessions. Saturday will begin with an opening ceremony and a speech by ATA President Scott Brennan. Shortly thereafter, Cornelius Iida, interpreter to Presidents Carter and Reagan, will give the keynote address. After lunch, presentations on topics relating to translation and interpretation will be given in three breakout rooms. Sunday will feature more presentations, again in three breakout rooms.

IJET-16 received a very generous $3,000 grant from ATA's Japanese Language Division. Some of the grant money has been allocated toward the keynote speaker. The remainder will be used as honoraria for expert speakers who are not necessarily translators. These recognized experts will share their knowledge with IJET-16 attendees.

The organizing committee received so many excellent proposals for presentations that we decided to have two extra days for field-specific presentations. Tentatively, a seminar on biomedicine will be given on Friday afternoon before the Zenyasai, or pre-conference dinner. A post-conference seminar on patents is slated for Monday morning. The June 3 and 6 sessions are being sponsored by the University of Chicago Graham School of General Studies (http://grahamschool.uchicago.edu), which offers a Certificate in Translation Studies. The Graham School of General Studies is the venue for the seminars.

There's More
IJET conferences are an excellent place to catch up on industry trends and network with colleagues, but it’s hard to do everything in the two days normally allotted for an IJET. That’s why IJET-16 will be a four-day conference. In addition to the Friday and Monday field-specific seminars, there will be meetings of special interest groups (SIGs) on Monday morning. In a roundtable format, each SIG will cover one theme directly or indirectly related to translation (e.g., pharmaceuticals, parenting and translation, finance, tax issues). SIGs will meet in a restaurant, park, coffee shop, bar, or other location instead of a stuffy conference room. Feel free to propose a SIG of your own. In addition, an exhibit hall featuring translation companies and vendors of translation tools and software will be open on Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday.

Find Information
Visit www.jat.org/ijet/ijet-16 and follow the links for more information.
Contact: Ben Tompkins, organizing committee chair, at ijet-16@jat.org.

Earn 1 ATA Continuing Education Point per hour of educational session time (up to a maximum of 10 points).
Win A Free Registration To ATA's Annual Conference!

Join ATA’s School Outreach movement and start educating clients one classroom at a time.

It’s easy • It’s fun • It’s free

…and it could win you free registration to this year’s conference in Seattle, Washington, November 9-12, 2005.

Here’s how:

• Visit ATA’s website at www.atanet.org.
• Click on School Outreach.
• Pick the age level you like the best and click on it.
• Download a presentation and deliver it at your local school or university.
• Get someone to take a picture of you in the classroom.
• Send it to ATA’s Public Relations Committee at pr@atanet.org (subject line: School Outreach Contest), or mail it to ATA at 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 590, Alexandria, VA 22314. Please include your name and contact information, the date of the presentation, the school’s name and location, and a brief description of the class.

Deadline: July 15, 2005.

The best photograph wins free registration at this year’s ATA conference in Seattle, Washington. The winner will be contacted by August 15, 2005. Any member of ATA or of any ATA-affiliated organization is eligible to enter.

Any questions? Contact:
Amanda Ennis, germantoenglish@earthlink.net
Lillian Clementi, lillian@lingualegal.com

ATA Honors and Awards Committee Seeks Readers

The Honors and Awards Committee needs to expand its corps of readers for its two translation prizes: the Ungar German Translation Award for a distinguished literary translation from German into English, awarded in odd-numbered years, and the Lewis Galantière Translation Award for translations from any language, except German, into English, awarded in even-numbered years. The first reader for each book nominated must be fluent in the source language; the second reader need not be. Readers are furnished with a formal report form and have roughly two months in the summer to evaluate the book(s). There is no honorarium, but readers may keep the book(s) they evaluate. For more information on responsibilities, please e-mail Honors and Awards Chair Marilyn Gaddis Rose (mgrose@binghamton.edu). Anyone ready to volunteer now should e-mail Gaddis Rose, with a copy to Teresa Kelly (teresak@atanet.org) at ATA Headquarters.
Continuing Education

Eligible Continuing Education

If you are now certified, your first 3-year reporting period ends on January 1, 2007. If you become ATA-certified after January 1, 2004, your first reporting period ends 3 years after the certification date.

You can begin accruing continuing education points on January 1, 2004, or as soon as you become certified. ATA-certified translators who will be 60 and older on the date their reporting period ends are exempt from continuing education requirements. All others must provide evidence of their continuing education activities as described here.

Keep track of your continuing education points and supporting documentation: this is your responsibility. Use the forms on pages 55 and 56 to request approval, if required, either before or after the event. ATA Headquarters will notify you and provide materials for reporting your continuing education points, when due.

You must earn 1 continuing education point on the ethics of translation and interpreting during your first 3-year reporting period. You may choose between attending an ethics workshop at the ATA Annual Conference or taking a self-directed course available online and in print. The self-directed course is available online at www.atanet.org/acc/ce_online_ethics_component.html. The Continuing Education Requirements Committee may approve other ethics classes.

A. Translation/interpreting courses, seminars, workshops, and conferences

Points: 1 point per hour for attending translation/interpreting seminars, workshops, and conferences (up to 10 points per event); 1 point per hour for college and university courses (up to 5 points per course); 2 points per hour for teaching/presenting classes, seminars, workshops, and conference sessions.

Maximum: Up to 10 points in any given year.

No approval required: ATA annual/regional conferences, preconference seminars, and professional development seminars. ATA chapter and division seminars, conferences, and workshops. Courses, seminars, and conferences offered by nationally accredited university translation/interpreting programs in the United States. ATA Certification Program grader training.

Approval required (before or after the event): Translation/interpreting courses, seminars, workshops, and conferences offered by other translation/interpreting associations in the United States or abroad, or by university translation/interpreting programs abroad. Privately offered seminars on translation/interpreting.

Approval process: While no approval is required, ATA chapters, divisions, and nationally accredited translation/interpreting programs in the United States are encouraged to submit an approval request to ATA Headquarters for record keeping prior to their classes, seminars, and conferences. For other events, use the forms on pages 55 and 56 to submit instructor credentials and a session abstract, course description, syllabus, conference proceedings, or other supporting documentation to the Certification Program Manager at ATA Headquarters for approval.

Examples: ATA Spanish Division Mid-Year Conference; NYU Translation Program online courses; Kent State University’s Terminology Summer Academy; conferences organized by the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators.

B. Other courses and seminars

Points: 1 point per hour for attending, 2 points per hour for teaching/presenting (up to 2 points per course or seminar).

Maximum: Up to 5 points in a 3-year period.

No approval required: Courses, seminars, and workshops in your area of specialization, such as law, medicine, finance, or technical fields. ATA translation/interpreting ethics workshop. Target-language grammar and writing courses. Seminars and workshops on translation-support software and other tools of the trade.

Approval required (before or after the event): Seminars and workshops on running your business.

Approval process: You will be asked to provide a statement at reporting time attesting that each course, seminar, or workshop relates to your specialization. You can claim the ATA ethics workshop only once. For seminars and workshops on running your business, use the forms on pages 55 and 56 to submit instructor credentials and a session abstract, course description, syllabus, conference proceedings, or other supporting documentation to the Certification Program Manager at ATA Headquarters for approval.

Examples: Financial Accounting course at the University of Vermont; California Bar Association online legal continuing education; training sessions on TRADOS, Deja Vu, Star, Transit, and other translation-support tools; Pharmacological Update at the Georgetown School of Nursing and Health Studies.
C. Memberships in professional associations

Points: 1 point for each current membership in a professional association of each type: translation/interpreting or specialization-specific.
Maximum: Up to 2 points per 3-year period.
No approval required: Membership in a translation/interpreting professional association.
Approval required: Membership in a specialization-specific professional association.
Approval process: You will be asked to provide evidence of membership at reporting time. For specialization-specific professional associations, you will be asked to provide a description of the association and how it relates to your translation work.
Examples: ATA and ATA local chapters; National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators; International Association of Conference Interpreters; Austin Area Translators and Interpreters Association; Société Française des Traducteurs; Society for Technical Communication; Society of Automotive Engineers; European Society of Clinical Pharmacy.

D. Mentors, mentees, and ATA Certification Program graders

Points: 1 point for each activity per year.
Maximum: Up to 6 points per 3-year period.
Approval required: ATA certification exam grading. ATA certification exam passage selection. Participating as a mentor or mentee in the ATA Mentoring Program.
Approval process: ATA Certification Program graders must have graded exams or selected passages during the year for which they claim points. Mentors and mentees must provide a statement from the Mentoring Committee Chair at reporting time.

E. New certifications and accreditations

Points: 1 point for each new certification or accreditation acquired from an approved professional organization or government agency.
Maximum: Up to 3 points per 3-year period.
No approval required: National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators, Federal Court, and foreign sworn translator credentials.
Approval required: Other credentials.
Approval process: National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators, Federal Court, and foreign sworn translator credentials are pre-approved, but proof must be provided. For other credentials, a description of the criteria for conferring the credential must be submitted to the Certification Program Manager at ATA Headquarters for approval. Attach a copy of the certificate awarded to your approval request.

F. Authoring articles or books

Points: 4 points for each new book published; 2 points for each new article published.
Maximum: Up to 4 points during the 3-year period.
Approval required: Published book on translation/interpreting. Published article on translation/interpreting in a professional journal/publication. (Translating a book or article is not counted as authoring a book or article.)
Approval process: Submit a copy of the title page of the book or article with the author’s name.
## Approval Request Form
### ATA Continuing Education Points (Individuals)

American Translators Association  
225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 590 • Alexandria VA 22314  
Tel: (703) 683-6100 • Fax (703) 683-6122 • E-mail: Certification@atanet.org • Website: www.atanet.org

Refer to CE Guidelines in print or online at www.atanet.org for further information!

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Name of requesting individual:</td>
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<td>ATA Membership Number:</td>
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<td>2. Event sponsor’s contact information</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name of Sponsor:</td>
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<td>Contact Person:</td>
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<td>3. Event/presentation:</td>
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<td>4. Brief description of content:</td>
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<td>For conference or multi-day events, please list names and titles of speakers on a separate sheet</td>
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<td>6. Date(s) of activity:</td>
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<td>8. Number of continuing education points requested:</td>
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<td>1 point per hour credit for seminars, workshops, and conferences, with a max. 10 points/event; 5 points max./university course</td>
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<td>9. Signature of requesting individual:</td>
<td>Date:</td>
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### For ATA Use Only

| Points approved: | Comments: |
|Reviewed by: |  |
|Date: |  |
## Approval Request Form

**ATA Continuing Education Points (Groups)**

American Translators Association  
225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 590 • Alexandria VA 22314  
Tel: (703) 683-6100 • Fax (703) 683-6122 • E-mail: Certification@atanet.org • Website: www.atanet.org

Refer to CE Guidelines in print or online at www.atanet.org for further information!

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<td><strong>1. Event sponsor’s contact information</strong></td>
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<td>Name of Sponsor:</td>
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<td>□ ATA Chapter/Division:</td>
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<td>□ Other*:</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Approval for non-ATA-sponsored activities must be sought by either the sponsor or the individual attending the activity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact Person:</td>
<td>Email:</td>
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<td>Address:</td>
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<td>Phone:</td>
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<td><strong>2. Event/presentation:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3. Brief description of content:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>4. Speaker’s name &amp; title:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>8. Signature of requesting individual:</strong></td>
<td>Title:</td>
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</table>

### For ATA Use Only

| Points approved: | Comments: |
| Reviewed by: |  |
| Date: |  |
Instructions for Completing ATA Continuing Education Approval Request Forms

General Information:
• ATA maintains a database of approved events at which ATA-certified members may earn continuing education points (CEPs).
• For events not listed, an ATA approval request form must be completed and submitted to ATA Headquarters.
• Approval may be requested either prior to an event or after an event, with the understanding that the approval may be denied if documentation is insufficient or if the educational content does not meet ATA criteria.
• Individuals and groups requesting CEPs will be notified by ATA Headquarters that the event has been approved for a particular number of CEPs or that approval is denied.
• Individuals must keep track of their earned CEPs and report them to ATA Headquarters every three years upon request.

Select one of the following forms to complete:
1. If you represent a chapter, regional group, organization, institution, or other sponsor of activities, complete the Approval Request Form for Groups (page 56).
2. If you are an individual, complete the Approval Request Form for Individuals (page 55).

CEP Request Form for Groups
1) Provide the name and contact information for the group sponsoring the event.
   a) Check the appropriate box for your group and provide the group’s name.
   b) “Other” can include affiliated groups, international translation organizations, and universities.

   All ATA chapter educational events are automatically eligible for continuing education points. Events not sponsored by ATA or ATA chapters must be approved individually. Approval may be denied if documentation is insufficient or if the educational content does not meet ATA criteria.

2) Provide the name of the event or presentation.
3) Provide a brief description of the content of the event or presentation—two or three sentences should be sufficient.
4) Provide the speaker’s name and title.
   a) If this is a single session, one name and descriptive title are sufficient.
   b) If this is a conference or multi-day event, provide all names and titles on a separate page.
5) Provide the date(s) of the event.
6) Provide the starting and ending times.
   a) If this is a conference or multi-day event, provide the number of session hours for each day of the event. Session hours do not include breaks or meals.
7) Provide the number of CEPs you are requesting for your attendees—one hour of creditworthy activity equals one CEP—no partial hours can be counted.
8) The form must be signed and dated by the individual recommending the presentation or event for CEP approval.

CEP Request Form for Individuals
1) The individual requesting the CEPs must provide his/her ATA membership number and sign and date the form.
2) Provide the name and contact information for the group sponsoring the event.

   All ATA chapter educational events are automatically eligible for continuing education points. Events not sponsored by ATA or ATA chapters must be approved individually. Approval may be denied if documentation is insufficient or if the educational content does not meet ATA criteria.

3) Provide the name of the event or presentation.
4) Provide a brief description of the content of the event or presentation—two or three sentences should be sufficient.
5) Provide the speaker’s name and title.
   a) If this is a single session, one name and descriptive title are sufficient.
   b) If this is a conference or multi-day event, provide all names and titles on a separate page.
6) Provide the date(s) of the event.
7) Provide the starting and ending times.
   a) If this is a conference or multi-day event, provide the number of session-hours for each day of the event—session hours do not include breaks or meals.
8) Provide the number of CEPs you are requesting—one hour of creditworthy activity equals one CEP.

REMINDER
• ATA offers 1 CEP per hour for approved seminars, workshops, conferences, and presentations based on full hours (not including meals and breaks), up to a maximum of 10 CEPs per event. No partial hours will be counted.
• ATA offers a maximum of 5 CEPs for an approved college, university, or other course regardless of its length.
• The requesting group or individual will be notified if ATA does not approve the number of points requested.
• When reporting points, an ATA member is allowed a maximum of 10 CEPs for any given year.
### American Translators Association

#### Officers

**President**
Mr. Scott Brennan  
14211 Lotus Lane, #5112  
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Fax: (215) 635-9259  
jiri@cetra.com

#### Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone/Fax</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Kirk Anderson</td>
<td>9208 Carlisle Avenue</td>
<td>Tel: (305) 322-7252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Surfside, FL 33154</td>
<td>Fax: (305) 332-0885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel: (703) 997-0963</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: (619) 549-5293</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Dr. Nicholas Hartmann</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fax: (414) 271-4892</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jnh@hartmann.com">jnh@hartmann.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Virginia Perez-Santalla</td>
<td>1153 Ridge Drive Mountainside, NV 07092</td>
<td>Tel: (908) 232-2559</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fax: (908) 654-1182</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:virginiaisp@scomcast.net">virginiaisp@scomcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Dorothee Racette</td>
<td>668 Pulp Hill Road Saranac, NY 12981</td>
<td>Tel: (518) 293-7494</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: (518) 293-7494</td>
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<td>Fax: (518) 293-7659</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dracetteracette@direcway.com">dracetteracette@direcway.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Tony Roder</td>
<td>9485 SW Bayou Drive McMinnville, OR 97128</td>
<td>Tel: (503) 232-2559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: (503) 232-2559</td>
<td>Fax: (503) 232-2559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Timothy Yuan</td>
<td>89-33 Pontiac Street Queens Village, NY 11427</td>
<td>Tel/Fax: (646) 827-1163 <a href="mailto:yuan@pipeline.com">yuan@pipeline.com</a></td>
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#### Committee Chairs

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<tr>
<th>Review</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Phone/Fax</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Membership Review</td>
<td>Mr. Timothy Yuan 89-33 Pontiac Street Queens Village, NY 11427</td>
<td>Tel/Fax: (646) 827-1163 <a href="mailto:yuan@pipeline.com">yuan@pipeline.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification</td>
<td>Lillian Novas Van Vanken Spring, TX</td>
<td>Tel: (281) 374-6813 Fax: (208) 474-9927 <a href="mailto:linnov@houston.rr.com">linnov@houston.rr.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Education Requirements</td>
<td>Izumi Suzuki Novi, MI</td>
<td>Tel: (616) 667-1502 Fax: (616) 457-0631 <a href="mailto:rcroese@sbcglobal.net">rcroese@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapters</td>
<td>Robert A. Croese Jenison, MI</td>
<td>Tel: (616) 248-0909 Fax: (248) 344-0992 <a href="mailto:izumi.suzuki@suzukimyres.com">izumi.suzuki@suzukimyres.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dictionary Review</td>
<td>Boris M. Silversteyn Venice, FL</td>
<td>Tel/Fax: (941) 408-9643 <a href="mailto:bsilversteyn@comcast.net">bsilversteyn@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divisions</td>
<td>Dorothee Racette Saranac, NY</td>
<td>Tel: (518) 293-7494 Fax: (518) 293-7659 <a href="mailto:dracetteracette@direcway.com">dracetteracette@direcway.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and Pedagogy (Non-ATA Programs)</td>
<td>Claudia Angelelli San Diego, CA</td>
<td>Tel: (619) 594-1678 Fax: (619) 594-5293 <a href="mailto:claudia.angelelli@sdsu.edu">claudia.angelelli@sdsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>Muriel M. Jérôme-O’Keefe Alexandria, VA</td>
<td>Tel: (703) 548-7570 Fax: (703) 548-8223 <a href="mailto:muriel@tgj-inc.com">muriel@tgj-inc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Jiri Stejskal Melrose Park, PA</td>
<td>Tel: (215) 635-7090 Fax: (215) 635-9239 <a href="mailto:jiri@ctera.com">jiri@ctera.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors and Awards</td>
<td>Marilyn Gaddis Rose Binghamton, NY</td>
<td>Tel: (607) 774-9910 Fax: (607) 777-1635 <a href="mailto:mgrose@binghamton.com">mgrose@binghamton.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation Policy</td>
<td>Christian Degueldre San Diego, CA</td>
<td>Tel: (619) 594-6210 Fax: (619) 594-5293 <a href="mailto:cdeguel@gmail.sdsu.edu">cdeguel@gmail.sdsu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentoring</td>
<td>Courtney Sears-Ridge Seattle, WA</td>
<td>Tel: (206) 938-3600 Fax: (206) 938-8308 <a href="mailto:courtney@germanlanguageservices.com">courtney@germanlanguageservices.com</a></td>
</tr>
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#### Division Administrators

<table>
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<th>Language</th>
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<tbody>
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