

Tests and revision

Tests are essential. They are the means by which the translator checks the correctness of the translation and evaluates it in case of error. It is usually done after defining the hypotheses (meaning and reformulation) and in groups that include a series of translation units (usually a sentence and above) at the end of each stage.

1- Plausibility Test

This test is based on the principle that the meaning that the translator sets as soon as he reads the translation unit is a hypothesis or a possible meaning among a set of available meanings (Hatim & Mason, 1990, p. 10). This hypothesis or possible meaning must be verified systematically by asking two questions:

- Is this hypothesis logically consistent with the rest of the text, and is there an opposition with other passages?
- Does this hypothesis fit with the translator's prior knowledge?

Hence, the test of plausibility is related to the co-context or the relation between the translation unit and the units that preceded and followed it, and it is something that we test through the information that the translator acquires from reading the text, knowledge and base or documentary research. The importance of testing the plausibility of the hypothesis helps avoid falling into the trap of preliminary interpretations, which is often defective and false because the semantic picture is incomplete due to lack of information.

Importantly, the plausibility reasonableness test is based on knowledge (both linguistic and non-linguistic) that the translator possesses as a result of his experience, years of work and even his daily life, or obtained either from reading the original text or from searching in external sources...

Fidelity Test

It is about testing reformulation hypotheses to check if they are wrong or subject to deletion and/or addition. The idea converges with the concept of equivalence vs. correspondence presented by Lederer (2012). The translator performs this test to check quality through comprehensiveness. Comprehensiveness is to convey all the elements of the text, including the cognitive context in which the text is produced and the knowledge loaded issues.

Acceptability Test (Test d'acceptabilité)

It is about respecting the standards of editorial acceptability for each reformulation unit. That is, the translator investigates the quality of his writings in terms of clarity, correctness of language, fluency and correct use of terms. The test also checks if the TT matches the cultural and social standards of the target community to serve the desired function presented in the ST (Gile, 2009, p. 104).

Aggregate Test

Through the translation process, the translator deals with successive translation units. He understands them, tests them, and then translates them to test them again. He moves linearly from one unit to another until he completes them all. However, the translator may find himself required to maintain a style, which will not necessarily happen if he deals with each unit separately, but rather requires a more comprehensive view and dealing at a level greater than the level of a single unit, a paragraph, several paragraphs or even the entire text (Gile, 2005, p. 125). Gile believes that from time to time the translator must perform plausibility, fidelity and acceptability tests on entire text passages (several translation units), paragraphs or pages for the following reasons:

- The translator may drop a translation unit or units inadvertently because he does not read the text once from its beginning to its end (especially if the text is long). Indeed, the process must take a movement forth and back to check if a word, sentence, or page was dropped. In addition, reading the text may lead to additional information and thus to a deeper understanding, which requires a re-translation of previous units.
- The acceptability of a translation unit does not imply the admissibility of the text as a whole; there may be an opposition in the way the terms are used or a difference in style between the beginning and the end of the text (Gile, 2009, p. 106).

Tests of all types and at various stages are a necessary reminder that takes place in the opposite direction of translation. That is, after the translation of a unit, group of units or the text as a whole the translator reviews his text and tries to find out the mistakes he did and/or the units he dropped. Circumstances accompanying the translation process such as first impressions, the transition between the stage of comprehension and the stage of reformulation or from one unit to another, or the speed of work makes the translation less focused and therefore more prone to error and forgetfulness.

