LINDENWOOD
U N I V E R S I T Y

What Is Translation?

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STUDENT ACADEMIC SHOWCASE

Introduction

Translation is a process by which ideas and language can be exchanged between people from diverse backgrounds. It has long been used to fulfill an essential function in society, bridging the communication gap between nations and cultures. This presentation will explore the meaning of translation and how it can be utilized to bridge language barriers and create greater connections between people while also attempting to analyze the decisions made with the translation I performed. Using an example of literary translation, I will demonstrate how translations enable us to better understand diverse cultures while creating a more inclusive society. In addition, this essay will consider how people use translated material for international cooperation and collaboration by sharing knowledge, culture, ideas and products across countries. Through this exploration, it will become evident that translation remains an integral part of modern life – one that continues to foster global understanding through connection at its most universal level: dialogue regarding our common desires for knowledge exchange and social progression.

Methods

There are two different categories for translations interlingual and intralingual. Interlingual translation is the process of translating a text from one language to another, while intralingual translation is the process of translating a text within the same language. (CHMIEL et al., 2017) Interlingual translation is often used when translating a text from one language to another, such as translating a text from English to Spanish. Intralingual translation, on the other hand, is used when translating a text within the same language, such as translating a text from British English to American English. Furthermore, interlingual translation is a more complex process than intralingual translation, as it requires a translator to be familiar with both the source language and the target language. The translator must be able to accurately convey the meaning of the source text in the target language, while also taking into account cultural differences between the two languages. Does this mean that the translator must be completely "fluent" in both languages to perform the translation? This question then proposes another question of where one crosses the line of becoming fluent. In Idra Novey's article *Writing while translating* she argues that being bilingually fluent in both languages is not a requirement to perform interlingual translations. I was able to perform the translation successfully without being completely fluent. However, she does mention that the more fluent the translator the easier the translation process can be. (*Writing While Translating*, 2016). In my interlingual translation, I would consider myself highly fluent in English however not as fluent in Spanish. This caused issues when I came across words that I had never seen before. I have a few ways to fix this issue. Such as asking my Spanish speaking friends.

Data and Results

Original Text

¿Qué es la anestesia?
La anestesia es un tratamiento médico que evita que los pacientes sientan dolor durante procedimientos como una cirugía, ciertas pruebas de detección y diagnóstico, extracción de muestras de tejido (por ejemplo, biopsias de la piel) y tratamientos dentales. La anestesia permite a las personas someterse a procedimientos que llevan a una vida más larga y saludable.

Para anestesiar, los médicos usan medicamentos llamados anestésicos. Los científicos han diseñado una variedad de anestésicos con diferentes efectos. Estos medicamentos incluyen anestesia general, regional y local. Con la anestesia general, el paciente queda inconsciente durante un procedimiento, mientras que con la anestesia local y regional, solo se duerme una parte del cuerpo, lo cual permite que el paciente permanezca despierto.

Según el tipo de alivio del dolor que se necesite, los médicos administran anestésicos por medio de inyecciones, inhalaciones, cremas tópicas, aerosoles, gotas para los ojos o parches en la piel.

Translated Text

What is anesthesia?
Anesthesia is a medical treatment that prevents patients from feeling pain during procedures such as surgery, certain screening and diagnostic tests, removal of tissue samples (such as skin biopsies), and dental treatments. Anesthesia allows people to undergo procedures that lead to a longer, healthier life.

To anesthetize, doctors use medicines called anesthetics. Scientists have designed a variety of anesthetics with different effects. These medications include general, regional, and local anesthesia. With general anesthesia, the patient becomes unconscious during a procedure, while with local and regional anesthesia, only a part of the body is asleep, allowing the patient to stay awake.

Depending on the type of pain relief needed, doctors give anesthetics through injections, inhalations, topical creams, sprays, eye drops, or skin patches.

Explanation

Translation can be considered a political act because it is a form of communication that has the power to shape the way people think and act. It is a way of conveying meaning from one language to another, and it can be used to influence the way people perceive and interact with the world. Translation can be used to spread ideas, to create a shared understanding, and to bridge cultural divides. It can also be used to manipulate and control the way people think and act. Thinking of translation as a political act means recognizing the power of language to shape our understanding of the world. It means understanding that language is not neutral but is instead a tool that can be used to influence and control. It means recognizing that translation can be used to spread ideas, to create a shared understanding, and to bridge cultural divides. It also means understanding that translation can be used to manipulate and control the way people think and act.

Conclusion

In conclusion, translations are essential in breaking down language barriers, promoting cultural exchange, and facilitating global communication and understanding. Nobody can truly understand what translation means until they experience it. This is why I have performed a literary translation of my own to further understand what it truly means. Given the same source text nobody ,no matter the fluency level, will produce the exact same translation. For as long as the translator can understand their own translation then the translation was successful. The tricky part of translation is when translations are done for others. This is where culture, language identity, politics and so much more give translation its complexity. Others believe that translations can be disrespectful or even discredit a language. This type of backwards thinking is what is preventing the world from promoting translations and disregarding old ideologies about what translations really are and how crucial they are in understanding others.

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