

ISSUES OF EQUIVALENCE IN SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION**Anvar Mirzakulov**Teacher at Samarkand State Institute of Foreign Languages,
Samarkand, Republic of Uzbekistan
Phone number: +998945190959
E-mail: mirzaqulovanvar@gmail.uz**Annotation**

This article examines the issues of equivalence in simultaneous interpretation and analyzes the linguistic and cognitive factors that influence the process of achieving equivalence between the source and target languages. Special attention is given to the difficulties interpreters face when conveying meaning, intention, and stylistic features of the original speech under time pressure. The study also discusses the role of translation strategies and transformations used by interpreters to maintain semantic and pragmatic equivalence. The research highlights that equivalence in simultaneous interpretation is not always absolute and often requires flexible decision-making and adaptation to communicative context. The findings contribute to a better understanding of the mechanisms of equivalence in real-time interpreting practice.

Keywords:

Simultaneous interpretation (SI), equivalence, translation strategies, interpreting process, linguistic transformation, cognitive processes, pragmatic equivalence, source language (SL), target language (TL).

Аннотация

В данной статье рассматриваются проблемы эквивалентности в синхронном переводе и анализируются лингвистические и когнитивные факторы, влияющие на достижение эквивалентности между исходным и переводным текстами. Особое внимание уделяется трудностям, с которыми сталкивается переводчик при передаче содержания, намерения и стилистических особенностей исходной речи в условиях ограниченного времени. Также рассматривается роль переводческих стратегий и трансформаций в обеспечении семантической и прагматической эквивалентности. Результаты исследования показывают, что эквивалентность в синхронном переводе не является абсолютной и зависит от коммуникативной ситуации, контекста и профессиональных навыков переводчика.

Ключевые слова:

Синхронный перевод (СП), эквивалентность, переводческие стратегии, процесс перевода, языковые трансформации, когнитивные процессы, прагматическая эквивалентность, исходный язык (ИЯ), язык перевода (ПЯ).

This is a study of simultaneous interpretation (SI), a service provided to international meetings so that participants might speak and follow proceedings in their own languages. We are concerned here exclusively with conference SI as practised in professional conditions, in which interpreters sit in a sound-proof booth equipped with headsets, control consoles and microphones, and with a direct view on the meeting room, and deliver versions of the discourse in different languages 'on line' with a lag of a few seconds, alternating every 20-30 minutes or as Speakers take turns on the conference floor [1,33]. SI has been practised in its modern acoustically-assisted form for about fifty years, and has become the standard medium of multilingual communication in international organizations, both intergovernmental and private.

At the United Nations, delegates communicate through SI in six languages, while the European Parliament routinely uses eleven, or 110 possible combinations in a single meeting. Conference interpreters constitute a distinct profession, and are usually first trained in consecutive interpretation, in which discourse is rendered in five or ten-minute segments with the help of notes; consecutive interpretation was the standard medium of debate at the League of Nations, the UN's ancestor, and continues to be widely used at small, bilingual meetings and ceremonial occasions. As an object of study in linguistics, SI is distinct from other forms of speech behaviour in combining several conditions : (i) Translation, with input and output in different languages ; (ii) Goal orientation, in which comprehension is oriented to production : this is an entirely different goal from those normally set for subjects in experiments, or which direct our processing by default, such as recalling words or gist, taking notes for PREVIEW Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner [3,44]. Further reproduction prohibited without permission. 2 future reference, scanning for possibly useful information or food for thought, learning, or being entertained or stimulated ; (iii) External pacing, and the relative immediacy of production following comprehension ; (iv) Simultaneous listening and speaking, in which listening is intensive, and speaking is externally sourced : what is expressed is the product of someone else's thoughts, assumptions, reasoning, priorities, and objectives.

The combination of these conditions makes SI a challenge to existing models of how language works, and to our knowledge no comprehensive attempt to describe it has been attempted within established linguistics research. The immediacy of SI, the overlapping activities of comprehension and speech production, and the involvement of two different languages, require initial assumptions on two parameters: 1. the resources and limitations of the interpreter, with assumptions about competence and the flexibility of cognitive architecture; 2. the constraints and flexibilities inherent in languages, and their use in particular communicative situations (pragmatics). Existing accounts of SI have not, in our view, satisfactorily reconciled theories about language with theories about cognitive architecture. Information-processing (IP) theory has been a popular source of models, but the tendency is to divide the SI act into distinct component processes, adopting models of coordination from cognitive psychology but making simplifying assumptions about language in communication (Gerver 1976; Massaro 1978) [12, 25].

The interpretive theory (IT), a more unified and holistic account, emphasizes the role of context in communication but glosses over possible inherent limitations of the human language processing system. There is little or no dialogue between the two schools, which are sharply divided over training and PREVIEW Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission. 3 theoretical issues such as the importance of language-specific factors. Neither paradigm offers a satisfactory account of intermediate representations, or the mental medium of translation. Recent work on SI has shown a trend towards more focused empirical studies (as reviewed in Gile 1990, 1995) but writers continue to draw broadly on concepts in cognitive science and linguistics (see review by Shlesinger 1995). The few overall models which so far have been proposed draw chiefly on information-processing theory (Gerver 1976; Moser 1976; Massaro 1978; Gile 1995), but have not presented corpora in support [6,46]. The most general IT account supported by a corpus (Lederer 1981) predates recent developments in pragmatics as an organized discipline. Some recent writing has appealed to pragmatics concepts like speech-acts and implicature (Chernov 1992, Jekat and Klein 1996, etc.) [2,4].

The peculiar combination of conditions described above makes it difficult simply to extrapolate to SI from theories based on the study of other forms of speech behaviour, either as



to how meaning is processed or how cognitive resources are coordinated. The task nature of SI, and observations of SI performance, suggest the need for a cognitive model which accommodates a goal-oriented configuration of basic cognitive resources such as memory. In terms of the linguistic processes involved, the situated nature of conference interpretation demands a pragmatic theory. In terms of performance development, a fuller understanding of the potential in the pragmatic dimension of discourse processing, in particular of how knowledge is used in SI, offers a better explanation of the observed effects of training and experience (Pinter 1969; Fabbro and Gran 1990), than is predicted by the assumption that performance is limited by processing capacity tied to input linguistic structures [11,2]. The central claim of this thesis is that the key to reconciling the dimensions of cognitive coordination and translation in SI lies in an understanding of intermediate representation: the construction of a single contextualized model of the discourse allows a more unitary account of coordination. In support of this claim the study PREVIEW Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission. 4 presents a new cognitive model for SI, combined with a pragmatic account based on a corpus in two language pairs, German-English and Chinese (Putonghua)-English.

New adjectives have been assigned to the notion of equivalence (grammatical, textual, pragmatic equivalence, and several others) and made their appearance in the plethora of recent works in this field.

An extremely interesting discussion of the notion of equivalence can be found in Baker (1992) who seems to offer a more detailed list of conditions upon which the concept of equivalence can be defined [8,36]. She explores the notion of equivalence at different levels, in relation to the translation process, including all different aspects of translation and hence putting together the linguistic and the communicative approach. She distinguishes between: Equivalence that can appear at word level and above word level, when translating from one language into another. Baker acknowledges that, in a bottom-up approach to translation, equivalence at word level is the first element to be taken into consideration by the translator. In fact, when the translator starts analyzing the ST s/he looks at the words as single units in order to find a direct 'equivalent' term in the TL. Baker gives a definition of the term word since it should be remembered that a single word can sometimes be assigned different meanings in different languages and might be regarded as being a more complex unit or morpheme [7,22]. This means that the translator should pay attention to a number of factors when considering a single word, such as number, gender and tense.

Grammatical equivalence, when referring to the diversity of grammatical categories across languages. She notes that grammatical rules may vary across languages and this may pose some problems in terms of finding a direct correspondence in the TL. In fact, she claims that different grammatical structures in the SL and TL may cause remarkable changes in the way the information or message is carried across. These changes may induce the translator either to add or to omit information in the TT because of the lack of particular grammatical devices in the TL itself. Amongst these grammatical devices which might cause problems in translation Baker focuses on number, tense and aspects, voice, person and gender. Textual equivalence, when referring to the equivalence between a SL text and a TL text in terms of information and cohesion. Texture is a very important feature in translation since it provides useful guidelines for the comprehension and analysis of the ST which can help the translator in his or her attempt to produce a cohesive and coherent text for the TC audience in a specific context. It is up to the translator to decide whether or not to maintain the cohesive ties as well as the coherence of the



SL text. His or her decision will be guided by three main factors, that is, the target audience, the purpose of the translation and the text type [10,24].

Pragmatic equivalence, when referring to implicatures and strategies of avoidance during the translation process. Implicature is not about what is explicitly said but what is implied. Therefore, the translator needs to work out implied meanings in translation in order to get the ST message across. The role of the translator is to recreate the author's intention in another culture in such a way that enables the TC reader to understand it clearly.

The notion of equivalence is undoubtedly one of the most problematic and controversial areas in the field of translation theory. The term has caused, and it seems quite probable that it will continue to cause, heated debates within the field of translation studies [9,40]. This term has been analyzed, evaluated and extensively discussed from different points of view and has been approached from many different perspectives. The first discussions of the notion of equivalence in translation initiated the further elaboration of the term by contemporary theorists. Even the brief outline of the issue given above indicates its importance within the framework of the theoretical reflection on translation. The difficulty in defining equivalence seems to result in the impossibility of having a universal approach to this notion.

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