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STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING INTERPRETATION SKILLS

During the interpreting process, the interpreter will typically need to use **translation strategies** to enhance the interpreter's effectiveness and ensure that his translations are accurate, understandable, and culturally appropriate.

The characteristics of oral translation indicate the wide use of strategies, which include: decompression strategy, compression strategy, trial and error strategy, forecasting strategy, delaying strategy, and expectation strategy. Interpreters often use several strategies equally or select one strategy as the key one and use others as support.

The first three strategies are *content-based* and *audience-oriented*, aimed at reproducing a clear, concise and understandable message that retains the pragmatic impact of the target text on the listener. The **decompression strategy** is manifested in the use of similar or additional words in the process of translating in order the recipients understand the source text better. It occurs when it is necessary to better convey the logical and semantic load or to explain a phenomenon or process more clearly if direct equivalents in the target language are absent or insufficient. In addition, the use of this strategy is motivated in the case of stylistic differences between the source and target languages. In contrast, **the compression strategy** is manifested in the use of laconic, concise equivalents in order to avoid overload or redundancy in the text. It aims to shorten the text in the source language in cases where the information is clear or familiar to the audience, and additional explanations would only overwhelm the listeners. The **trial and error strategy** is quite controversial, as it can sometimes create a “hit or miss” situation for the translator, when the first translation of a certain term may differ from the real meaning and confuse an attentive listener. However, much more often, the use of this strategy allows an experienced translator to gradually find the necessary meaning of a word in the target language. It is most relevant in cases where the speaker uses ambiguous words without a clear context. A reasonable algorithm for the translator's actions in this case is a smooth movement from a broader to a narrower meaning of the word or a variation of the transition to a more adequate equivalent with additional clarification or explanation.

The following three strategies are the most typical for *simultaneous interpreting*, as they are aimed specifically at saving time, which is often one of the defining components of successful interpretation. In particular, the **forecasting strategy** consists of forecasting logical, template phrases, stable expressions, well-known facts, etc. It allows for a reduction in the speech distance between the speaker and the interpreter, and in some cases, to eliminate it altogether, reducing the interpreter's stress level. The **delaying strategy** and the **expectation strategy** may seem quite similar at first glance, since they are based on the use of pauses, but there is a fundamental difference between them. Thus, **expectation strategy** involves using short pauses during translation in order to obtain a broader context and, accordingly, the opportunity to choose a more successful equivalent. Using this strategy, interpreter makes short and unnoticeable pauses in speech, waiting for additional information from the speaker. The **delaying strategy** does not involve physical pauses. Using this strategy, the interpreter expands his speech through interjections, repetition of information already heard, duplication of data, in order not only to hear a probable explanation or clarification of a particular term or phenomenon, but also to recall a particular word in order to ask a colleague for help (when working in a pair of several simultaneous interpreters), etc.

References:

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