Chapter 1. Introduction

Activities

Food for thought on Activity 1C

How can you tell a translation was done indirectly (i.e., through another language)? From a methodological perspective that might be challenging, but the translation process is often the only solid basis for claiming a translation was indirect.
If you focus on linguistic cues, be aware that in some cases foreignness might not result from poor practice but from an intentional communication strategy. For example, advertising sometimes relies on the introduction of foreign elements to catch the public’s attention.
So, often it will be difficult to confirm by mere linguistic comparison that a certain text underwent an indirect translation, unless the mediating language has left a clear footprint.
Beware that language does not need to be transparent! Combining the textual (linguistic), comparative analysis with process-oriented or participant-oriented approaches (e.g. eye-tracking, interviews) may yield more reliable results.

To learn more about methodological challenges, you can read:

Follow up to Activity 2.

Trainers often forget to consider the cost-value associated with the translation work. The Spanish translators’ association ASETRAD (Asociación Española de Traductores, Correctores e Intérpretes) offers CalPro, an online spreadsheet where novice translators can calculate how much they need to charge in order to make a living by only translating.
The link to CalPro (Spanish only) is here: https://asetrad.org/preguntas-frecuentes/cuanto-cobro.

Ask your students to answer the questions and figure out what the rates would be for them if they lived in Spain. If any of your students (or yourself) is Excel-savvy, the file can be adapted to other languages/nations.

An alternative website to estimate what hourly rate should a freelancer practice to make a decent living can be found following this link:
https://blog.freelancersunion.org/2015/06/02/are-you-charging-enough-your-time-infographic
Extra activity 1. Understand essential concepts and use relevant terminology correctly

If you are reading this book, you probably want to learn more about indirect translation. One of the first things that you will need to do is to get familiar with some of the essential concepts related to the field of translation itself, as well as those pertinent to indirect translation in particular. What is more, you will need to learn the specialized terms used to describe these concepts. Finally, to better understand present-day instances of indirect translation, it is important to understand the historical evolution of this practice. Before you can walk the walk, you need to learn how to talk the talk!

Based on the content of the introductory chapter, complete the crossword puzzle (https://share.eclipsecrossword.com/play/81e2f5b8/indirect-translation-talk-the-talk). You can automatically check your answers after completing the relevant fields. For this, just click on the “CHECK ANSWERS” button. If you get stuck, you can try clicking the “SOLVE” button. But, ideally, before you progress to the next chapter you should be able to complete most of the crossword on your own!

Alternatively, you can find the printed version below. For Teachers: If you want to create a similar crossword for your students, you can do that by clicking on this link: https://www.eclipsecrossword.com. Please note that this app is only available for Windows.
ACROSS
4. When you interpret into a language that is not your native language, you are doing ...  
6. The most common pivot language today. 
9. Languages into which you translate more often and from which you translate less frequently.  
13. Process during which digital content (e.g. videogames, websites) is generalized so that it can be adapted to various languages and regions without the need for re-engineering.  
14. The text you use as a stepping stone between the original and the final translation. 
15. Group of medieval scholars responsible for many indirect translations of scientific and technical texts that were themselves Arabic translations of Greek and Roman works. 
16. When we translate within one and the same language, this type of translation is called…

DOWN
1. The mediating text can be produced by a human translator, or it can be created by a...
2. Translation done not from one but instead from several source texts. 
3. Language that has worked as an important pivot language for contacts between local languages and Lusophone Africa.

Indirect Translation Explained - Hanna Pięta, Rita Bueno Maia & Ester Torres Simón
5. Translating a source text which has been rendered into the same target language at least once before.

7. When you use target texts in other languages to find alternatives solutions in your target language.

8. Interpreting via a third language.

10. First translator.

11. In the audiovisual translation industry, indirect translation is often called.

12. When you are translating a translation back to its source language, you are...