Chapter 1. Introduction

Resources

*IndirecTrans Publication list*
List of academic publications related to indirect translation. IndirecTrans is a network of researchers working with indirect translation.

*Irish Times Blog*
Article “The importance of being earnest in translation” discussing the essentials of indirect translation in literature, by James Hadley.
https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/books/the-importance-of-being-earnest-in-translation-1.3923291

*Leiden University Translation Talks*
Online talk by Hanna Pięta, giving a quick intro to indirect translation, focusing on main trends in practice, research and training.
https://video.leidenuniv.nl/media/t/1_5nekb9f3

*Blog Taus*
A blog post by Anna Samiotou, in two parts. The first part offers an overview of cases where pivot languages are used. The second part looks at more areas where pivot languages can be used, and particularly with regard to translation technologies.
https://blog.taus.net/is-the-pivot-language-approach-ever-a-good-option-part-i (Part 1)
https://blog.taus.net/is-the-pivot-language-approach-ever-a-good-option-part-ii (Part 2)

*On (pivot) machine translation in low-resource contexts*
A collection of resources related to machine translation of low-resource languages. The resources are managed by Daniel Whitenack, and some focus on pivot (bridge) approaches. The collection includes mainly scientific papers. However, there are also a few links to more accessible videos and videos. https://datadan.io/blog/resources-for-low-resource-machine-translation
ACL Anthology

This website is maintained by the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL). At present it hosts thousands of papers on the study of computational linguistics and natural language processing that have been presented at various ACL conferences and workshops. Many of the papers report on academic research. Particularly useful resource for those keen to learn about recent developments in machine translation for low-resource languages, including pivot (bridge) approaches. https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/

List of learning objectives in this book

By completing this book you will be able to:

★ Problematize the concept of indirect translation, using appropriate terminology. (chapter 1)
★ Discuss common misperceptions associated with this practice. (chapter 1)
★ Analyze an already translated source text to identify potential translation difficulties, such as the presence of domesticated cultural items (measurements, currencies, historical references, legal terms, names of places, reference titles, etc.) or displaced indexicality (here, there, now, then, etc.).(chapter 2)
★ Summarize, rephrase, restructure, adapt and shorten rapidly and accurately in at least one target language, using written and/or spoken communication, keeping the most relevant features. (chapter 2)
★ Process multimodality. (chapter 2)
★ Develop and implement quality control and quality assurance strategies to produce mediating text, using appropriate tools and techniques (including writing for translation). (chapter 3)
★ Develop and implement quality control and quality assurance strategies to produce indirect translations, using appropriate tools and techniques. (chapter 3)
★ Check, revise and or review your own work and that of others (including machine translation) according to standard or work-specific quality objectives, to mitigate the chances of errors reaching the final translation. (chapter 3)
★ Work in multiprofessional and plurilingual teams, where translators are not competent in all the working languages, and collaborate in producing a translation with recourse to a third common language. (chapter 4)
★ Use the most relevant software to translate from multiple source texts and languages. (chapter 4)
★ Pre-edit source material for the purpose of potentially improving further translation, using appropriate pre-editing techniques. (chapter 4)
★ Assess the relevance and accuracy of intermediary versions of a source text (chapter 5)
★ Use previous corresponding translations in other languages in a legal, ethical and constructive way. (chapter 5)
★ Take into account the potential risk of domesticating effects of central language mediation. (chapter 5)

★ Translate for further translation, i.e., produce a translator-friendly text that can be conveniently used as a pivot text (e.g., a pivot template) for subsequent translations into a third language. (chapter 6)

★ Translate general and domain-specific material in one or several fields from an already translated text (e.g., a pivot template) in one or several source languages into your target language(s), producing a 'fit for purpose' translation. (chapter 6)

★ Assess the relevance and accuracy of intermediary versions of a source text. (chapter 7)

★ Summarise, rephrase, restructure, adapt rapidly and accurately using already translated written and/or spoken communication, keeping the most relevant features. (chapter 7)

★ Take account of and adapt the organisational and physical ergonomics of the specific working environments where translation is done from multiple sources and languages either individually or in plurilingual teams, where translators are not competent in all the working languages, and collaborate in producing a translation with recourse to a third common language. (chapter 8)

★ Be aware of and comply with the current market demands and conditions for translating from and for translation in different fields. (chapter 8)

★ Organise, budget and manage translation projects that make use of previous translations (the intellectual property of previous translators) and/or produce texts to be used for further translations. (chapter 8)

★ Critically approach the use of mediating languages in online translation memories. (chapter 8)