Chapter 6: Audiovisual Translation

Activities

Extra warm-up activity
Look at Figure 1, showing the screenshot of an English-language template that was created in OOONA Create Pro for a Portuguese-language film titled 1111 (2009, Costa e Silva). What challenges would you be facing if you were to translate these English-language pivot subtitles into your working language?

Figure 1. Screenshot from 1111 film (2009, Costa e Silva). English Template created by Rita Menezes with OOONA Create Pro.

Video for Activity 1 (Portuguese-language short film)
In Chapter 6 (Activity 1) we ask that you translate a short Portuguese-language film titled 1111 (2009, Costa e Silva) using English pivot templates. The film can be downloaded from this page: www.indirectrans.com/personal-pages/other/indirect-translation-explained-materials.html. Please note that to unzip the video, you will need the password that we provide in the book (Chapter 6, instructions to Activity 1).
Pivot templates for Activity 1 (Portuguese-language short film)

In Chapter 6 (Activity 1) we ask that you translate a short Portuguese-language film titled *1111* (2009, Costa e Silva) using four different English pivot templates, knowing that:

- template A contains compressed dialogues and was not created with a further translation in mind (the subtitles are offered to the hearing viewers)
- template B contains a verbatim transcription. As such, it contains violations of some of the parameters
- template C contains compressed dialogues and annotations.
- template D contains subtitles created specifically for the deaf and hard of hearing people (SDH).

All the templates are available at this page: [www.indirecttrans.com/personal-pages/other/indirect-translation-explained-materials.html](http://www.indirecttrans.com/personal-pages/other/indirect-translation-explained-materials.html). Please note that to unzip the templates, you will need the password that we provide in the book (Chapter 6, instructions to Activity 1).

You will note that each template is provided in a few different formats, to increase the chances that you can open them in your software.

- .srt: this is one of the most common types of subtitle format. It should work in virtually any subtitling software. However, .srt format does not allow to show annotations. To work around this issue, you might want to consult the annotations in the relevant Word template (see above).
- .ezt: this format will allow you to open the templates (including annotations) in EZTitles (https://www.eztitles.com).
- .ooona: this format will allow you to open the templates (including annotations) in OOONA Translate Pro.

*About this short film:*

*1111* is a short film directed by M.F. Costa e Silva (script by Luís Diogo; production by Cine-Clube de Avanca). It tells the story of a man who finds a credit card and a beeper that displays a password to this card. Despite his initial excitement about the prospects of getting extra money for free, things do not unfold as desired. What initially seems to be a happy coincidence turns out to be a curse.

[https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2117799/](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2117799/)
Indirect Translation Explained

-Hanna Pięta, Rita Bueno Maia & Ester Torres Simón

As in many workflows, the times of the pivot templates should not be changed, but you can leave a note for the revisor to ask that they eliminate certain subtitles. If you want to lock the times in OOONA Translate Pro, you can do that like this: https://ooona.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/OHC/pages/51740710/Locked+Timecodes.

Adaptation of Activity 1

If Portuguese is one of your working languages, for Activity 1 you might want to work not on the Portuguese short film but instead on the Polish-language trailer, which is available below (Video for the Adaptation of Activity 1). The relevant English-language template for this trailer is also available below (Pivot template for the Adaptation of Activity 1). Although there are fewer template options than in the original activity developed in the book, you still will be able to practice and reflect about translating from pivot, which is the main point here.

Video for the Adaptation of Activity 1 (Polish-language trailer)

In the adaptation to Activity 1 we ask that you translate a Polish-language trailer of the film titled Ucieczka na srebrny glob (2021, Mikurda) using an English pivot template. The trailer can be downloaded from this page: www.indirecttrans.com/personal-pages/other/indirect-translation-explained-materials.html. Please note that to unzip the video, you will need the same password that we provide in the book (Chapter 6, instructions to Activity 1).

About this film:

Ucieczka na srebrny glob (The Escape to the Silver Globe, dir. Kuba Mikurda, production: Daria Maślona) is a documentary about the upheavals in the making of a film that was arguably the first Polish mega science-fiction production. Featuring photos from the original film set, archival material as well as interviews with Polish filmmakers, journalists, actors and critics, the documentary aims to provide a holistic, historical perspective on a complex moment in the historiography of Polish cinema. More information here: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt15223788/?ref_=nv_sr_srg_0 (in English).
Pivot templates for Adaptation of Activity 1 (Polish-language trailer)

In the Adaptation to Activity 1 we ask that you translate a Polish-language trailer (2021, Mikurda) from an English pivot template. This templates are available at this page: www.indirecttrans.com/personal-pages/other/indirect-translation-explained-materials.html.

Please note that to unzip the templates, you will need the same password that we provide in the book (Chapter 6, instructions to Activity 1).

Pivot Audio Description


In this activity you are asked to test if pivot approaches help prevent significant cultural loss in audio description, particularly when peripheral languages and cultures are involved. Pick a film produced locally, in your country. This film should include visual references to the source culture (gestures, monuments, cloths) or cultural references.

Create an AD script in your language (we assume that this language will correspond to the culture in which the film is embedded which the film was produced), making plenty of use of notes to explain culture-specific elements mentioned above. Transform it into an AD template (For an example see here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qYbiItnZOWxDVktpZVm3tnzSTZSqKKmh/edit#gid=708801808).

Ask a colleague to translate this template into English, making plenty of use of notes to explain culture-specific elements mentioned above. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qYbiItnZOWxDVktpZVm3tnzSTZSqKKmh/edit#gid=708801808)

Ask a second colleague to first describe the clip in another language (without using the templates created so far in this activity).

Now have the same colleague describe the clip in their language, but this time using the English script created in this activity. Your colleague will now be translating indirectly. Reflect on the results. Were there any “eureka” moments? Were there any clear differences? Was any of the options deemed easier? For increased accuracy, both audiodescriptions should be recorded.