

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AS A TOOL AND ENGINE OF TRANSLATION PRACTICE

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ABSTRACT	KEYWORDS
<p>The article explores the transformation of the translator's profession in the context of rapid advancements in information technology. The author analyzes the impact of tools such as machine translation systems, Translation Memory, and translation management systems on translation quality, speed, and efficiency. It is emphasized that information technologies have evolved from auxiliary tools into an integral part of a translator’s workflow, expanding professional capabilities and increasing competitiveness. At the same time, the article underlines that technology does not replace linguistic expertise but serves as a powerful instrument in the hands of a qualified professional.</p>	<p>Translation, information technology, machine translation, Translation Memory, TMS, digital tools, professional translator, translation automation, linguistics, translation technologies.</p>

Introduction

In the dynamic world of global communication, where language barriers are rapidly losing their insurmountability, the role of the translator is of particular importance. However, traditional translation methods, based solely on linguistic intuition and encyclopedic knowledge, are no longer always able to effectively cope with colossal volumes of information and high demands on speed and accuracy. Today, the role of a translator is undergoing fundamental changes. Information technology is no longer just an auxiliary tool but is becoming an integral part of the workflow of a modern linguist-translator. This is no longer just a trend, but rather a fundamental transformation of the profession, providing powerful tools for increasing efficiency, quality and reach.

Historically, translation was a largely manual activity requiring deep linguistic knowledge, cultural awareness, and painstaking work with text. However, with the advent and development of information technology, the translation landscape has begun to change steadily. Today, a translator who ignores the possibilities of information technology risks finding himself on the sidelines of the professional community.

Materials and Methods

A modern translator can no longer imagine their work without a whole arsenal of technological solutions. Machine translation systems (MTS) such as Google Translate, DeepL and Yandex.Translate have revolutionized the industry. By providing an instant rough translation, they allow the translator to significantly reduce the time spent on initial text processing, especially when working with large volumes. Although the quality of machine translation still requires human expertise, it serves as a valuable starting point, allowing you to focus on nuances of meaning, style and cultural adaptation.

Translation Memory (TM) technologies have become a real salvation for translators working on recurring projects or within a specific subject. TM systems save previously translated text segments and offer them to the translator when similar fragments are found in a new text. This not only increases the speed of work and ensures uniformity of terminology, but also allows for a significant reduction in translation costs.

Translation management systems (TMS) are comprehensive platforms that integrate various tools and resources needed to effectively manage translation projects. TMS automate workflows, facilitate interaction between translators, editors, proofreaders and clients, ensure quality control, track progress and meet deadlines. They become a kind of control center for the entire translation cycle.

In addition to specialized translation tools, a modern translator actively uses a wide range of publicly available information technologies. Online dictionaries and encyclopedias such as Linguee, Word Reference and Wikipedia provide quick access to lexical and encyclopedic information necessary for an accurate understanding of the context and selection of equivalents. Corpus linguistic resources containing huge arrays of texts in various languages allow you to study usage, identify stable phrases and check the adequacy of translation solutions, as well as optical character recognition (OCR) programs and tools for searching and analyzing information.

Results and Discussion

Let's list some of the most popular and effective programs and online translation services, with their main characteristics and properties:

1. Google Translate:

Features:

- Supports over 100 languages.
- Translation of text, voice, images (via camera or upload), documents and web pages.
- Offline translation (language packs must be downloaded).
- Phrasebook for saving frequently used phrases.
- Integration with other Google applications.
- Possibility to listen to the pronunciation of the translated text.
- Determining the original language.
- Translation of handwriting.
- Instant translation of text from camera.

Properties:

- Free for most users.

- Convenient and intuitive interface.
- Wide language support.
- Multifunctionality.
- Availability on various platforms (web, Android, iOS).
- Translation quality may vary depending on the language pair and the complexity of the text.

2. DeepL Translate:

Features:

- Supports fewer languages than Google Translate, but provides high translation quality.
- Translation of text and documents.
- Integration with CAT (Computer-Assisted Translation) tools.
- Possibility to choose formal or informal translation style (for some languages).
- API for developers (paid).

Properties:

- It is considered one of the most accurate free online translators, especially for European languages.
- Handles complex texts and language nuances well.
- The free version has limitations on the volume of text and the number of documents.
- Paid subscriptions offer advanced features.
- Available as a web version and as applications for Windows and Mac.

3. Yandex Translate:

Features:

- Supports over 90 languages.
- Translation of text, voice, images, documents and web pages.
- Offline mode (language packs must be downloaded).
- Simultaneous translation of speech.
- Translation from images and photos.
- Ability to view examples of how words are used in context.
- Integrated dictionary with transcription.

Properties:

- Free for most users.
- Works especially well with Russian and CIS languages.
- Multifunctionality.
- User-friendly interface.
- Available in web version and as mobile applications (Android, iOS).

4. Microsoft Translator (Bing Translator):

Features:

- Supports over 70 languages.
- Translation of text, voice, images and web pages.

- Standalone language packs.
- Translation of conversations between several people in real time.
- Ability to view alternative translations of words.
- Integration with Microsoft products (Bing, Office, Edge, Skype).

Properties:

- Free.
- Offers group conversation translation functionality.
- Good integration with Microsoft ecosystem.
- Available in web and app versions.

5. Reverso Context:

Features:

- The main focus is on contextual translation and search for examples of the use of words and phrases in real texts.
- Translation of text.
- Offers synonyms and antonyms.
- The function of verb conjugation.
- Possibility to save translations to favorites.

Properties:

- The free version has limitations.
- Very useful for learning the language and understanding the nuances of translation.
- Provides many context examples.
- Available in web and app versions.

Other popular programs and services:

iTranslate: Paid translator with a wide range of features, including voice translation, conversation modes and offline translation.

PROMT (Translate.ru): Russian developer of professional translation systems, offers both free online services and paid solutions for business.

Multitran: A popular online dictionary and translator with a large community of users, offering many translation options for individual words and phrases.

Papago (Naver Papago): Developed by the South Korean company Naver, it works well with Asian languages (Korean, Japanese, Chinese).

The choice of a translation program or service depends on your specific needs, language pair, text type, and quality requirements. Free online translators are often enough to quickly understand the general meaning, while more accurate and professional translation may require paid tools or professional translators using CAT systems.

Conclusion

Thus, information technology for a modern translator is not just a fashionable trend that can be ignored. It is an inevitable reality and a powerful tool that allows:

- Increase productivity: Automating routine tasks, reusing translations, and quickly accessing information significantly speeds up your workflow.
- Improve quality: Ensuring consistency in terminology, identifying potential errors using QA tools, and using corpora to check the adequacy of the translation all contribute to improving the quality of the final product.
- Expand the range of services: Mastering modern information technologies allows translators to work with more complex and large-scale projects, as well as offer new types of services, such as post-editing of machine translation and localization.
- Staying competitive: In the context of growing demand for translation services and high competition in the market, knowledge of information technology is becoming a key factor for success.

However, it is important to emphasize that technology does not replace human intelligence and linguistic expertise. A modern translator must have not only technical skills, but also a deep knowledge of the language, culture, subject area and the ability to think critically. Information technology is only a tool in the hands of a qualified specialist, allowing him to do his job more efficiently and efficiently. In conclusion, the integration of information technology into the work of a modern translator is not just a temporary trend, but a fundamental change in the profession. Knowledge of information technology is a prerequisite for successful work in the modern world, turning from a simple tool into an indispensable partner, enriching and expanding the capabilities of a linguist-translator.

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