

Communicative Situation in Simultaneous Translation

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Abstract: This article deals with the difficulties in communicative situation of simultaneous translation.

Key Words: simultaneous translation, translation, co-occurrence, anticipation and compression strategies, syntagma, utterances, coherent message, organized phenomenon.

INTRODUCTION

Today simultaneous translation enjoys ever-increasing popularity, especially within the official international events. It is connected with striving of the modern society for maximum openness and transparency, active interaction in the fields of human activity, such as policy-making, economy, culture, science, educations, etc. Therefore, the value of international seminars, conferences, symposiums, forums, and summits steadily increases. In particular, the Group of Eight (G8) is an important international forum dealing with the most topical issues in the field of financial and economic relations. Taking into account obvious advantages of simultaneous interpreting, which involves tremendous saving of time (approximately twice as little as consecutive interpreting), increase in dynamism of communication process and possibility to interpret the speaker at the same time into several languages. The use of simultaneous interpreting becomes an invariable attribute of the abovementioned events, imposing increased requirements to simultaneous interpreters. In order to meet these requirements, the interpreter needs not only a proficient command in two or more languages and solid expertise in interpreting, but also an ability to make use of different methods, techniques, and strategies in the process of simultaneous interpreting. The anticipation and compression strategies have been chosen as the most prominent and effective means of simultaneous interpreting in terms of this research.

METHODS

Before studying the essence of these strategies, it is expedient to examine the distinctive features of economic discourse, which are to be a good foundation in understanding the underlying principles of the complex application of the strategies in question. The concept of discourse represents the cognitive process connected with production of speech and text. Furthermore, the text is the end result of speech activity process, expressed in the finished and recorded form. The economic discourse is a of kind of professional discourse in its broad understanding, whereas by narrow consideration it reflects the main characteristics of business communication between participants of communication in the field of the financial, fiscal, commercial, and industrial relations. Knowledge of lexical and grammatical features of economic discourse is crucial for the simultaneous interpreter as lexical units and rules of their co-occurrence represent clichés, which promote increase in subjective redundancy of the speech on economic subject. Literature review As it has already been mentioned, for successful performance of simultaneous interpreting of economic discourse the simultaneous interpreter needs to use various translation strategies and methods, among which the strategies of compression and anticipation are considered to be effective ones. The anticipation strategy is inextricably intertwined with the mechanism of probabilistic projections. The probability theory became the tool for research of the various repeating phenomena. The character of probabilistic projections is directly connected to the activity of an individual, his/her purposes, requirements, opportunities to influence the situation and the course of events. Forecasting of events and planning of actions for achievement of desirable results

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are the integral aspects in the activity of any person and enter many conceptual systems of science studying behavior, differently refracted in various theories (N. Bernstein, P. Anokhin, A. Leontyev, S. Rubenstein, D. Uznadze, E. Sokolov, etc.). According to Feygenberg, probabilistic projections can be of diverse nature, when dealing with various sides of the future. The strategy of anticipation involves early determining by an interpreter of linguistic components of the text, which will appear further in the source language utterance. Applying this strategy, the simultaneous interpreter can foresee the verb that will be in the text of the original before its emergence in the discourse.

RESULTS

The strategy of anticipation in translation theoretical works is described as the strategy that is mainly applicable to the language pairs, in which normal word order is not the same. Simultaneous interpreters may deal with grammatical structures and sentences having the verb in the last position as, for instance, in Turkic languages, or when the key predicate nominative is in the end of a sensegroup. According to G. V. Chernov, Russian linguist, translator, and expert in the field of simultaneous interpreting and cross-cultural communication, the probabilistic projections mechanism is the psycholinguistic mechanism that underlies the simultaneous interpreting process (Chernov G. V., 1978). The probabilistic projections became a target of research for the scientists working in various directions: psychology, medicine, ecology, economy, etc. In methodical and psychological literature there is a number of definitions for the concept of probabilistic projections. The term probabilistic projections was introduced for the first time by Feygenberg I. M., who explains it as follows: "Emergence of the situation A is a signal for preparation of the organism for the reaction adequate to the situation B, having maximum conditional probability of emergence after the situation A. The wider a range of the events following the situation A with equal regularity in the past is (i.e. the more uncertain the forecast is), the wider range of physiological systems will be mobilized in response to the signal A. Such preparation to actions in the forthcoming situation relying on probabilistic structure of the past experience can be called probabilistic projections" (Feygenberg I. M., 1977). Therefore, he defines the concept of probabilistic projections as "an ability to compare the new information on the present situation with the information on the past experience, which is stored in memory and on the basis of these data to form hypotheses of the forthcoming events, attributing a certain emergence probability to them" (Feigenberg I. M., 1986). The term is also defined as: - "an ability of an individual to use information, which is available in his/her past experience to forecast the probability of these or those events that are supposed to take place in the forthcoming situation" (Frumkina R. M., 1971), - "generation of hypotheses, anticipation of the chain of events" (Solovova E. N., 2002), - "intellectual actions or operations in simultaneous interpreting, which are expressed in prediction of the arriving units of source text" (Nelyubin L. L., 2003). In scientific works of many psychologists and physiologists, devoted to the strategy of anticipation, it has been specified that the process of probabilistic projections underpins numerous sides of the person's mental activity, including speech activity. When the simultaneous interpreter perceives the speech of the original, his brain is capable of recreating various options of logical conclusion of an utterance or sentence depending on the author's communicative intentions. The essence of all above-mentioned concepts comes down to the fact that the adequate projection of the future is possible only due to the past experience that, in turn, has probabilistic nature.

DISCUSSION

The future modelled by the subject does not bear absolute definiteness. The degree of the future modeling reliability depends on the data describing the present situation, information obtained by sense organs and memory use (organized in a special manner data on the past), hence the probabilistic nature of forecasting. The probabilistic projections mechanism is a multi-level and hierarchically organized phenomenon. This mechanism connects the conditional probabilities as successive elements of the speech chain within one sentence, as well as the units of higher hierarchy levels in the model of the anticipation strategy in the context of simultaneous interpreting. For a clear representation of the field of application of the probabilistic projections mechanism in simultaneous interpreting, as a multi-level phenomenon, there is the following scheme: "syllable - word - syntagma - utterance - coherent



message - communicative situation" (Chernov G. V., 1978). These speech levels are combined into tiers - a conditional name, which is used to designate areas where it is possible to apply specific probabilistic projection methods. There are four tiers: 1) prosodic tier, including levels of the syllable - words - syntagmas - utterances; 2) syntactic tier, including levels of syntagma - utterances; 3) semantic-semantic tier, including levels of syntagma - utterances - messages; 4) implicative-semantic tier, including levels of utterances - messages - communicative situation. In the process of simultaneous interpreting, the interpreter's brain perceives the message and evaluates the probability of the appearance of subsequent units of speech simultaneously at several levels. According to Chernov, "each higher level of probabilistic forecasting increases the reliability of the forecast at the central levels of the mechanism" (Chernov G. V., 1987). The efficiency, as well as the need to apply the anticipation and compression strategies are connected with the continuity of simultaneous interpreting process, acute shortage of time for simultaneous processing of the arriving verbal information in the source language, synthesis, and the subsequent reproduction of the processed speech segment by means of the target language; and also redundancy and of speech of the original, especially given the increased rate of its delivery. Besides, the interpreters often have no possibility of preliminary reading of the speech scripts. Owing to the above-mentioned objective and subjective factors accompanying the process of simultaneous interpreting, absolute information transfer from one language into another is impossible. Inevitable losses in contents of the delivered speeches are proper to almost any event involving simultaneous interpreting. In this regard, the simultaneous interpreters face the task to minimize the loss of significant semantic groups of the speech at the expense of compression of superfluous ones. The combined application of the anticipation and compression strategies can serve as a substantial contribution to the fulfillment of this task. In the course of simultaneous interpreting, they form a kind of "tandem" as the successful application of the first strategy leads directly to the proper functionality and efficiency of the second one that is ultimately conducive to the maintenance of high-quality interpreting, despite existence of some factors that can substantially complicate it. The redundancy of language is shown at different levels: phonetic, lexical, syntactic (harmonization of words in gender, case, tense, etc.), and semantic. R.G. Piotrovsky gives the following data for the official style of speech: Russian - 83,4-90,1%, English - 82,9-92,1%, French — 83,9-90,4%. (Piotrovsky, 1975). Thanks to the necessary level of redundancy of the message, the simultaneous interpreter can conduct speech recognition by key points of reference in the source language that provide the possibility to implement the anticipation and compression strategies. Studying the issue, theorists distinguish between objective and subjective redundancy of language. An objectively redundant message (for example, a report on scientific symposium) can subjectively have very low degree of redundancy for the simultaneous interpreter that impedes the mechanism of probabilistic projections and, in turn, becomes a severe problem in terms of performing simultaneous interpreting of decent quality.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the real redundancy of the message for the simultaneous interpreter depends on his/her knowledge in the field and experience in simultaneous interpreting. "The simultaneous interpreter in practice deals with the redundancy of the coherent message, which is determined by the unity of subject and communicative intention of the speaker" (Setton, R. A., 1997). Therefore, the higher the coherent message redundancy is, the stronger the connection between the speaker's communicative intention and discourse subject matter is, and the higher the probability of the use of lexical units and syntactic constructions is, which can be predetermined by the simultaneous interpreter in the course of the speech. Reversely: the lower the redundancy of the message is, the higher its information density is, and the less the probability of the correct prediction of further development of the communicative act is. The presence of context increases the redundancy that gives a better chance to the simultaneous interpreter to carry out probabilistic projections with greater accuracy. The researchers have established the redundancy causes: 1) repeatability of certain elements in the course of the speech; 2) interdependence of linguistic components of the message. Probabilistic projections help the simultaneous interpreter to anticipate the subsequent semantic groups during the speech of the orator and, based on the confirmed forecast, to carry out the compression of the given segment of speech, in



case there is such a necessity. As for the compression proper, it represents none other than decrease in the level of objective redundancy of the message.

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