Lingua e Traduzione I: prassi traduttiva EN<=>ITA

BA_Mediazione
Anno I, Semestre 2
This week’s class:

→ Revision of text of week 1
  Any questions about it?

→ what is translation?

→ text types: news report

→ introduction to useful online tools for translators
What is translation?

**(to) translate**: express the *sense* of (words or texts) in another language ☞ be expressed or be capable of being expressed in another language.

→ **translation** = the action or process of translating; a text being translated. (Concise Oxford Dictionary)

**Tradurre**: **Trasferire**, volgere un testo, una frase o una parola in una lingua diversa dall’originale.

→ **traduzione** = trasferimento di un testo in una lingua diversa dall’originale. (Devoto-Oli)
What is translation?

“ [...] One may talk of translation as a process or as a product, and identify such sub-types as literary translation, technical translation, subtitling and machine translation; moreover, while more typically it just refers to the transfer of written texts, the term sometimes also includes interpreting. [...]” (Cowie, 1997)
Defining translation: Intralingual, interlingual, intrasemiotic (Jakobson, 1959)

**Intralingual** “interpretation of verbal signs by means of other signs of the same language” → e.g. paraphrase

**Interlingual** “interpretation of verbal signs by means of some other language”

**Intrasemiotic** “interpretation of verbal signs by means of signs of nonverbal sign systems” → e.g. Audiodescription

→ **INTERLINGUAL** translation is what we’ll be concerned with!
Defining translation: introducing the concept of equivalence

“[Translation is] the result of a text-processing activity, by means of which a source-language text is transposed into a target language text. Between the resultant text in L2 (the target-language text) and the source text in L1 (the source-language text) there exist a relationship, which can be designated as translational or equivalence relation” (Koller. 1995)

→text-processing activity
→ST/SL & TT/TL are related through a translational or equivalence relationship

KEY ISSUE, but what does EQUIVALENCE mean?
Defining translation: introducing the concept of equivalence

- the quality or state of being alike: the quality or state of having the same value, function, meaning, etc. (Merriam-Webster Online)

- the condition of being equivalent; equality of value, force, importance, significance, etc. (Oxford English Dictionary)

- the fact or state of being equal in value, amount, meaning, importance, etc. (Oxford Learners Dictionary)

→ TS scholars have discussed this equivalence over the years, however this is a very controversial concept.
**Linguistic equivalence (Jakobson)**

No full equivalence in interlingual translation → “equivalence in difference”

There are systematic mismatches between languages at different levels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Italian</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>Portuguese</th>
<th>Russian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>do</td>
<td>Did</td>
<td>Has done</td>
<td>has/had been</td>
<td>doing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fare/faccio/fanno.</td>
<td>facevo/facevi/fac</td>
<td>Ha fatto</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>His phone</td>
<td>Sua figlia</td>
<td>I suoi amici</td>
<td>II suo libro</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>siblings</td>
<td>serendipity</td>
<td>Doggy-bag</td>
<td>nuts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Text types: news reports

We are concerned with text types, the concept of text type is based on the context in which the text is embedded. (Baker, 1992)

→ news reports belong to **journalistic text type**

By journalistic text it is meant textual material actually written by journalists.
News reports are probably the most representative genre within journalistic texts.

→ main function is to INFORM

→ the structure of the news report is fixed and generally follows the INVERTED PYRAMID metaphor

"The Lead": The most important info
Approximately 30 words (1-2 thin paragraphs)
May include a "hook" (provocative quote or question)

"The Body": The crucial info
Argument, Controversy, Story, Issue
Evidence, background, details, logic, etc.
Quotes, photos, video, and audio that support, dispute, expand the topic

"The Tail": extra info
Interesting/Related items
May include extra context in blogs, columns, and other editorials: the assessment of the journalist
Features of English news writing may not be mirrored in Italian news writing.

Some features relevant to both languages:

→ headlines: deletion of redundant grammatical items

→ leads: concentrate information about the fact
Online tools for translators: an introduction

The Internet is a great resource for translators, BUT it is necessary to be selective and critical of the sources and tools you can find online.

→ the adage
I-GOOGLE-THEREFORE-I-AM generally does not work, particularly with translation.
Online tools for translators: an introduction

Some good dictionaries you can access online:

EN:
- https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/
- http://www.ldoceonline.com/
- https://www.merriam-webster.com/
- http://www.thesaurus.com/ → synonyms
- http://www.dictionary.com/

IT:
- http://dizionari.corriere.it/
- http://www.garzantilinguistica.it/

We’ll introduce other online tools in the following classes :)
Take 5 :)
Grammar point: l’articolo determinativo

Generalmente reso con “THE”, che in inglese è INVARIABILE in genere e numero.

→ qualcosa o qualcuno noto/conosciuto

E.g. Where are the twins?
→ dove sono i gemelli?
   Can you tell me the truth?
→ puoi dirmi la verità?
Grammar point: l’articolo determinativo

→ qualcosa o qualcuno citato precedentemente nel contesto

E.g. There are two postcards and an unusual letter in the letterbox. **The letter** is for you.

→ Ci sono due lettere e una cartolina insolita nella cassetta delle lettere. **La lettera** è per te.
Grammar point: l’articolo determinativo

→ qualcosa o qualcuno determinato da un complemento di specificazione o da una relativa

e.g. **The gold** of this beautiful necklace is 22 carats.
→ **L'oro** di questa splendida collana è a 22 carati.
Grammar point: l’articolo determinativo

NON si usa “THE” in luogo dell’articolo determinativo con

→ sostantivi usati in senso generico

E.g. Dove si comprano i francoaboli in Inghilterra?
→ Where do you buy stamps in England?

E.g. L’oro è un metallo prezioso.
→ Gold is a precious metal.
Take 5 :)

Analysis of a translated news report

ST: **Addicted to digital technology? Here's how to beat the habit** - The Guardian

TT: **Come superare la dipendenza da telefono** - Internazionale

1. Read the ST and outline the structure of the report according to the inverted pyramid
2. Read the TT
3. Comparative analysis between bits of ST and their corresponding TT
## ST Structure vs TT Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ST</th>
<th>TT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Headline</strong></td>
<td><strong>Headline</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 paragraph</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lead</strong></td>
<td><strong>Lead</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 paragraph</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 paragraph</td>
<td>3 paragraphs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Body</strong></td>
<td><strong>Body</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 paragraphs</td>
<td>3 paragraphs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conclusion</strong></td>
<td><strong>Conclusion</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 paragraphs</td>
<td>3 paragraphs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ 1 section headline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recently, I bought a piece of digital technology to help me conquer my low-level addiction to digital technology. Yes, yes, I know this makes me sound like a sucker, no better than those techno-junkies who queue overnight at the Apple store for an early glimpse at the meaningfulness of their lives.

Poco tempo fa ho comprato un congegno digitale per aiutarmi a vincere la dipendenza dalla tecnologia digitale. Sì, sì, lo so che questo mi fa sembrare un idiota, non meno di quei drogati della tecnologia che fanno la fila tutta la notte davanti a un negozio della Apple per essere i primi a vedere quanto è priva di senso la loro vita.
But bear with me: Ditto, which costs about £30, is a thimble-sized contraption that clips to my belt and vibrates when I get texts or calls from specific people. So I can stash my phone in my bag, out of sight and reach, confident I’ll be contactable for, say, a baby emergency. (Or by the editor of Guardian Weekend. Obviously!)
I love receiving photos of the baby while I’m at work; I love FaceTiming with faraway friends; I just hate the compulsion to stare absently at the web every five minutes. That’s the smartphone’s whole trick: all those addictive apps are essentially parasites.

Adoro ricevere le foto di mio figlio quando sono al lavoro. Mi piace usare Face Time per parlare con gli amici lontani. Quello che odio è la tentazione compulsiva di dare un’occhiata distratta al web ogni cinque minuti. Il guaio di questi strumenti è proprio questo: tutte quelle applicazioni dalle quali diventiamo dipendenti non sono altro che parassiti.
Incassi, Made in Italy debutta in testa
Secondo L'Uomo sul Treno, Chiamami col tuo nome esordisce 7/o

(ANSA) - ROMA, 29 GEN - Made in Italy, ritorno alla regia dopo 16 anni di Luciano Ligabue, esordisce in testa alla classifica del box office italiano. Il film con Stefano Accorsi e Kasia Smutniak ha incassato 1 milione 411 mila euro con una media di 3.283 su 430 schermi.

Debutta secondo L'Uomo sul Treno - The Commuter, thriller con Liam Neeson che ha guadagnato 1 milione 72 mila euro.

Chiude il podio, risalendo di una posizione, L'Ura più Bula di Joe.
Next class we will

→ revise today’s text

→ continue exploring the concept of equivalence

→ translate!