TPCI B

a.a. 2023/2024

Prof.ssa Francesca Raffi

f.raffi@unimc.it

Books on the reading list for this course

Only 1 adopted textbook

BENJAMINS

TRANSLATION

Computers and Translation

edited by
Harold Somers

LIBRARY
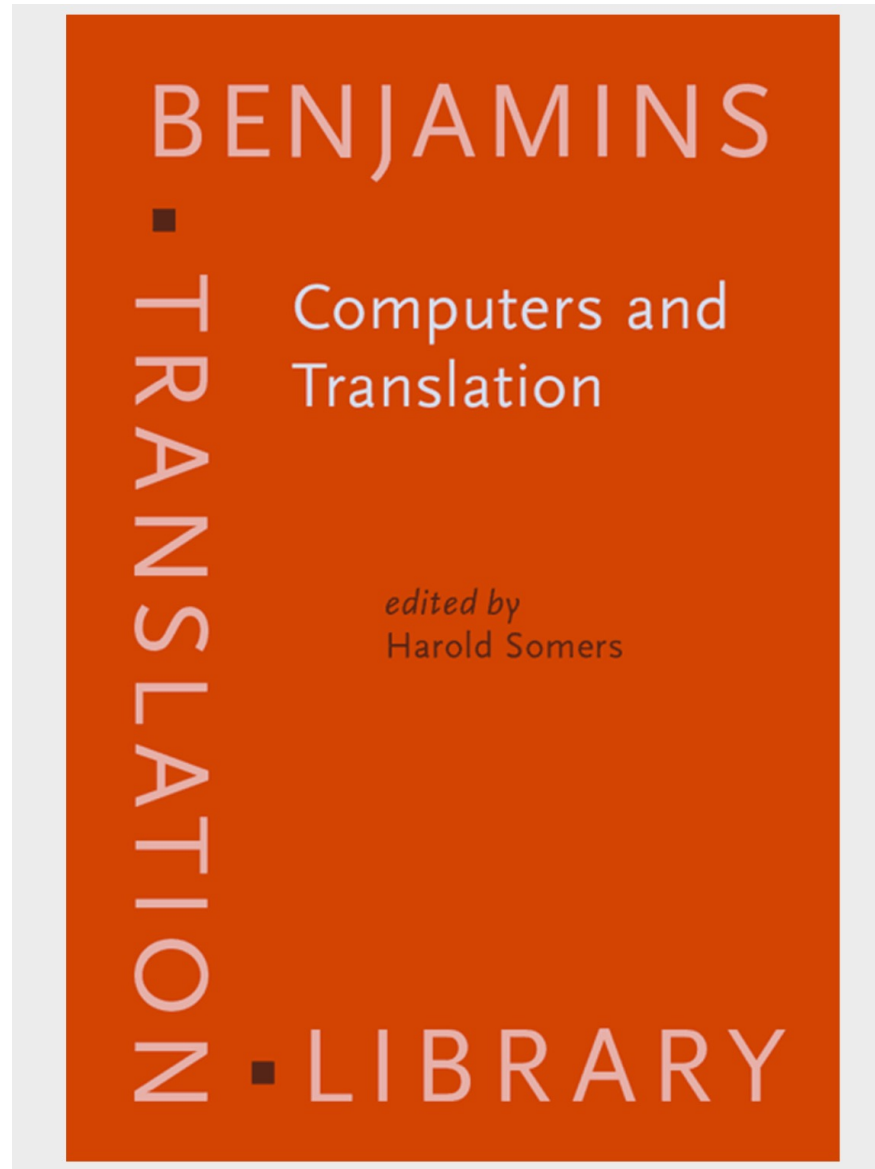
Books on the reading list for this course

In addition, there are recommended/suggested books

Austermühl, F.; Electronic Tools for Translators; St. Jerome Publishing; 2001; Capitoli: 1-2-3-4-5-7-8-10; 9781315760353.

Quah, C.K.; Translation and Technology; Palgrave MacMillan; 2006; Capitoli: 1-3-4-5; 9780230287105.

O'Hagan, M.; The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Technology; London: Routledge; 2020; Capitoli: 1-2-4-5-7-10-19-22; 9781138232846.

«DISPENSA» → ACTIVITIES

www.google.co.uk

Search engine Google

URLs (Internet addresses):   www.google.com
                             www.google.co.uk   (UK English)
                             www.google.fr   (French)
                             www.google.de   (German)
                             www.google.it   (Italian)
                             www.google.es   (Spanish)

Tips and tricks for effective searches (note that searches are not case sensitive):

"AAAA BBBB CCCC"   =   returns hits containing the words (as many as you want) in this exact sequence

"XXXX * YYYY ZZZZ"   =   returns hits containing the sequence of words XXXX, something unspecified in the middle and then YYYY ZZZZ
                            (the * is a *wildcard*)

+KKKK   =   returns hits containing this word (+ is not necessary for a single word)

–JJJJ   =   returns hits that do not contain this word

You can use these symbols in combination to perform advanced textual searches, e.g.:

+"XXXX * YYYY ZZZZ" +KKKK –JJJJ   (leave one blank space between the search criteria)

The course: 4 main topics

- the Internet, search engines and online resources for specialised translation

- overview of computer-assisted translation (CAT)

- tools: translation memory (TM) software and terminology management packages

- overview of machine translation (MT), including pre-, post-editing and controlled language

- corpora for specialised translation.

All students should have access to online computers outside and inside class

INFO

https://docenti.unimc.it/f.raffi/courses

• If you have a problem, question or doubt, do not wait and get in touch!

• How do we structure the class

THEORY + PRACTICE (2 sections)

start at 11 am
end at 1:30 pm

EXAM

L'esame ORALE finale, in lingua inglese, comporterà la verifica dell'acquisizione dei contenuti presentati nel modulo in merito all'impiego di una gamma di strumenti e tecnologie applicabili alla traduzione specialistica per la coppia di lingue inglese-italiano.

Criteri di valutazione: correttezza tecnica dei contenuti, esaustività e chiarezza, tenendo conto della qualità complessiva dell'inglese utilizzato.

FAREMO INSIEME DELLE SIMULAZIONI DURANTE LE ULTIME LEZIONI

OUR FIRST TOPIC:

THE INTERNET, SEARCH ENGINES AND ONLINE RESOURCES

Translation Technology

Much translation work is carried out in a computer-assisted translation (CAT) environment, which may vary from a standard desktop equipped with word processing software and a browser to a full-blown translator workstation consisting of a multiplicity of tools specifically created for translators of technical texts and localizers.

Translation Technology

Much translation work is carried out in a computer-assisted translation (CAT) environment, which may vary from a standard desktop equipped with word processing software and a browser to a full-blown translator workstation consisting of a multiplicity of tools specifically created for translators of technical texts and localizers.

Translation agencies organize their workflow around project management systems that distribute translation tasks, memories and terminologies to and around individual translators.

Translation technologies

Electronic dictionaries and terminological databases, the arrival of the Internet with its numerous possibilities for research, documentation and communication, and the emergence of computer-assisted translation tools.

Translation is a complex process which comprises tasks of various types.

Numerous computer tools can, or could, be used to enhance the efficiency, speed or quality of some of these tasks or their results.

DEGREES OF TRANSLATION AUTOMATION

The term **traditional human translation** is understood to refer to translation without any kind of automation

Fully automatic high-quality translation (FAHQT) means translation that is performed wholly by the computer, without any kind of human involvement, and is of "high quality"

Human-aided machine translation (HAMT) refers to systems in which the translation is essentially carried out by the program itself, but aid required from humans

Machine-aided human translation (MAHT) comprises any process or degree of automation in the translation process, provided that the mechanical intervention provides some kind of linguistic support.

Tools vs. Resources

- The word **tool** refers to computer programs that enable translators to carry out a series of functions or tasks with a set of data that they have prepared and, at the same time, allows a particular kind of results to be obtained.

  - Internet search engines
  - Word processor
  - Trados, Wordfast, Déjà Vu, Across, OmegaT, …
  - Antconc, Wordsmith…

- By **resources** we refer to all sets of previously gathered linguistic data which are organized in a particular manner and made available in some electronic format so that they can be used or looked up or used by translators used in the course of some phase of processing. Terminological databases (e.g. IATE), glossaries…

  - (online) dictionaries
  - British National Corpus,…

# WHY AND HOW CAN WE MINE THE WEB?

FIRST, THEORY…

Extended units of meaning

- the study of words "by presenting them in the company they usually keep - that is to say, an element of their meaning is indicated when their habitual word accompaniments are shown"

- "**Extended units of meaning**" at work in language
- (Sinclair, 1996)

  - collocation
  - colligation
  - semantic preference
  - semantic prosody

Words must be studied in context rather than in isolation

HOW DOES THE WORD "PRESSIONE" COLLOCATE IN ITALIAN?
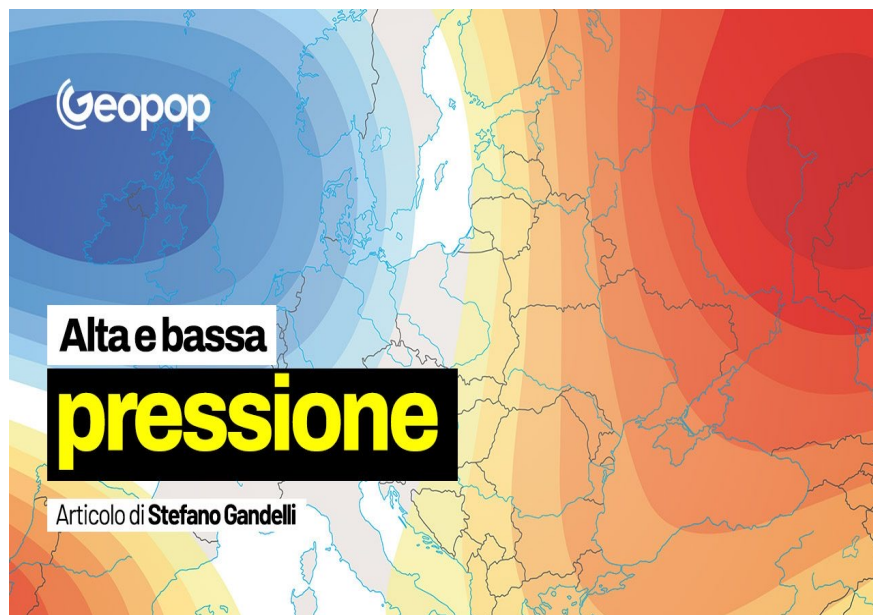
COLLOCATION

- "Tendency of certain words to co-occur regularly in a given language" (Mona Baker, 1992: 47).

As observed in actual texts (vs. intuition)

- Key features of collocations
  - language-specific (collocations vary from language to language)

- Collocations are not stable or fixed
  - they may change diachronically (over time) in general language
  - they may change in LSP vs. general language
  - they may change across LSP domains

SEMANTIC PROSODY

PROVIDE: tends to occur with words denoting, such as "information", "service(s)", "support", "help", "money", **things which are desirable, necessary or good** "protection", "food", "care"

cf. Italian "fornire" and "elargire"

CAUSE: tends to occur with words denoting **negative repercussions/consequences**, such as "pain", "damage", "harm"

cf. Italian "causare"

SEMANTIC PROSODY

- "A consistent aura of meaning with which a form is imbued by its collcates" (Louw 1993)

- "Feeling" or "aura" that is evoked by using certain words (reinforced by collocates, due to co-selectional implications and restrictions)

SEMANTIC PREFERENCE

- **COMMIT** is used with a group of semantically similar words, e.g. "murder", "crime", "suicide" (cf. Italian "commettere")

- **REVOKE** is used with e.g. "licence", "permit", "authorization"

SEMANTIC PREFERENCE

- Relation between a lemma and a set of semantically related words (Stubbs, 2001: 65)

- **Semantic prosody** → positive/negative evaluation

- **Semantic preference** → relation to words belonging to a particular, definable semantic field

COLLIGATION

- We heard the visitors leave/leaving.
- We noticed him walk away/walking away.
- We heard the band sing/singing.
- We saw it fall/falling.

COLLIGATION

- Relation between a pair of grammatical categories or a pairing of lexis and grammar (Stubbs, 2001: 65)

  - *hear, notice, see, watch* enters into **colligation** with the sequence of object + either the bare infinitive or the *-ing* form.
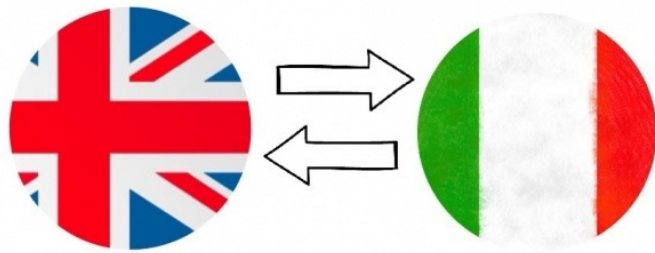
WHY AND HOW CAN WE MINE THE WEB?

NOW, PRACTICE!

Google 's a translator's best friend

dictionaries are not always sufficient

- Translators can use search engines to find/verify two kinds of things
  - o facts, pieces of information, knowledge (as an "encyclopaedia")
  - o words, terms, phrases, expressions, instances of language use
- We extract examples of real language in use, which we can analyse to infer repeated, common or typical linguistic behaviour
  - e.g. we can use the Internet via a search engine to look for patterns and regularities
  - **COLLOCATIONS / COLLIGATIONS /**
  - **SEMANTIC PROSODY / SEMANTIC PREFERENCE**

After looking at repeated uses in *context*

- we can establish with a good degree of confidence the lexical profile of several words and lexical items

  (i.e a combination of all the above information, a sort of ID of a word, describing its typical behaviour and environment)

- understand how they are used in extended units of meaning,

- observe the environment in which they are primed to occur

Tips and tricks for effective Internet searches

- Searches are <u>not</u> case sensitive

  - **"AAAA BBBB CCCC"**

    returns hits containing the words (as many as you want) in this exact sequence

  - **"XXXX * YYYY ZZZZ"**   **(the * is known as *wildcard*)**

    returns hits containing the sequence of words XXXX, something unspecified in the middle – one or more word(s) – and then YYYY ZZZZ

- Restricting the search to specific websites

  - **"AAAA BBBB CCCC" <u>site:.uk</u>**

    to search for a specific word sequence in .uk websites only

  - **"AAAA BBBB CCCC" <u>site:www.visitbritain.com</u>**

    to search for a specific word sequence within ONE specific website

- Restricting the search to specific file formats

  - **+KKKK filetype:pdf**

    to limit the search to pdf files

TECNOLOGY
WITH HUMANS

Come tradurreste "jet pack"
all'interno di un videogioco?

- videogioco strategico pubblicato
  dalla Infogrames nel 2000 per PlayStation e Windows

- il titolo è una parodia della frase inglese *dogs of war*.

Hogs of War | The Jetpack

Jetpack

Information

Type	Mobility
Range	Long
Damage	20 (direct hit)
Blast radius	Small
Knockback	Low

Equipped by

Singleplayer	Commando (1x)
	Hero (1x)
	Legend (3x)
	Ace (3x)
Multiplayer	Paratrooper (3x)

"As you progress throughout the game, you're faced with a variety of weapons, from sniper rifles to **jet packs**, from tanks to heavy artillery, each with its own special brand of characteristics and abilities."

- What's a *jet pack*?
  - **Google define** (define: jet pack)
  - **Google images** (search in Images tab)

Gmail Immagini   Accedi

Google

Cerca con Google   Mi sento fortunato

Italia

Pubblicità   Soluzioni aziendali   Come funziona la Ricerca   Carbon neutral dal 2007   Privacy   Termini   Impostazioni

https://www.dictionary.com/browse/jetpack

jetpack [jet-pak] SHOW IPA 🔊 ☆

Post-College Level

noun

1 a jet-powered backpack used by astronauts to move around in space away from a spacecraft.

https://ehlion.com/magazine/gaming-terminology/

Specific terms

Game-specific terms for Fortnite and Minecraft

Gmail   Immagini   Accedi

Google

Cerca con Google   Mi sento fortunato

Italia

How can we translate into English
*"un'**ampia**/una **vasta** gamma **di**…"*

Google's a translator's best friend

- ADJ-NOUN **collocational patterns** for a given NOUN

- How can we translate into English "*un'ampia/una vasta gamma di...*"

- Compare the collocates of two similar words (nouns)
  - RANGE
  - ARRAY

- What patterns do we search for? Some possibilities to start with

  - "a * NOUN"   - "an * NOUN"

  - "this * NOUN"   - "such a(n) * NOUN"

  - "have a(n) * NOUN" - "has a(n) * NOUN"

  - "our * NOUN"   - "their * NOUN"

Compare the collocates of two similar words (nouns)

- **ARRAY**
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4
  - 5
  - 6
  - 7
  - 8
  - 9
  - 10

- **RANGE**
  - A
  - B
  - C
  - D
  - E
  - F
  - G
  - H
  - I
  - J

Are there any differences in the use of these two similar adjectives?

powerful VS. potent

Preferred context-dependent uses and translating collocations into English

- search on google.co.uk for phrases such as "is a ADJ", "this/these ADJ", "very ADJ", "extremely ADJ", etc.

- pay special attention to the sources and surrounding words

- do these two adjectives seem to be used interchangeably?

- which one is more frequently found in medicine and/or chemistry?

Do you know what "al fresco" means in English?

How do you translate the adjective "suggestivo" into English?

Investigating marked collocational uses in L2 writing or translations

- Think of the Italian adjective "*suggestivo*", typical of tourism texts, e.g.
  - ○ "È situato a pochi minuti dalla stazione Termini ma in un angolo **suggestivo** e tranquillo della città"
  - ○ "Portofino è una località molto esclusiva immersa in un paesaggio **suggestivo** e in una natura incontaminata"
- The problem is how to translate the adjective "suggestivo" into English
- Under the entry for "suggestivo", most bilingual Ita-Eng dictionaries give e.g. "striking, attractive, evocative, charming, suggestive", etc.
- So, it seems a safe bet to translate into English with "suggestive", right?
- First let's check "in a suggestive" and "is a suggestive" on google.co.uk

Investigating marked collocational uses
in L2 writing or translations

• Search for these exact phrases on the language-specific search engines:

- ◦ "suggestive environment"
- ◦ "suggestive setting(s)"
- ◦ "suggestive position"
- ◦ "suggestive scenery"
- ◦ "suggestive landscape"

• When the phrases are attested on .uk webpages, what do they refer to?

• What does this situation suggest?

Homework – PAGINA DOCENTE

- Exercise 2:
  - on the brink of
  - on the verge of
  - on the cusp of

- Exercise 5: unusual animal sounds

- Exercise 6: groups/sets of animals and fruits