

TRANSLATION IN NATIVE LANGUAGE

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ABSTRACT

It is a common notion that translators are more efficient at translating into their mother tongue rather than into any other language because of their erudition in the linguistic and cultural knowledge of their native language. Furthermore, researchers in the field of cognitive psychology have shown that the degree to which incoming information is processed so that it can be tied to or incorporated with the existing memories, will strengthen the memory for that information. Taking this thought into consideration, the current paper focuses on enhancing the ease with which people can learn any foreign language if they relate it with their own native language.

This current paper is an attempt to meliorate Hindi speakers' ability to learn German by relating it to their cultural experience and thought process.

KEYWORDS: Translation in Native Language

INTRODUCTION

Human beings accomplish great things because they can exchange their ideas, information and knowledge by the medium of language. It has been found in every existing society. We have more than 6000 languages all have their own grammar and literature. It is not possible to learn each language and hence for the means of communication we use the medium of translation. As Charles Darwin said "Man has an instinctive tendency to speak as we see in the babble of our young children while no child has an instinctive tendency to bake, brew or write." (Source) It is a process that involves the translator taking a number of decisions focusing on the appropriate way to interpret the source text.

Translation involves the transmission of notion or concept, not just sentences. The frequent mistakes made by amateur translators are that they translate every word literally, rather than to make some efforts and get the meaning or sense of what author actually meant. Mostly amateur translators pick the words that seem to be correct instead of actually picking the right ones. In the list of most common errors made by amateur translators includes what is called *die False Freunde*, a false component in German. *Die False Freunde* are the words which are similar in spelling and in pronunciation but the meaning is entirely different due to their connotations. The amateur translator frequently makes this mistake as he cannot differentiate between these words and picks the wrong meaning.

A professional translator will either guide in achieving the most crucial goal of conserving the author's voice and his original style and idiom as nearly as possible or in producing something with a new idiom, voice and style communicating the original content more efficaciously in the target language. He may also attempt to find a satisfactory compromise between these two methods. He not only uses various resources but also applies technical skills to deliver the text in the target language.

In addition to the above mentioned skills of a professional translator he uses instruments such as lexicons and nomenclature to find the appropriate words promptly. Their efficacy is further facilitated by computer assisted translation that accelerates their work and improves their accuracy. However, this technology only compliments the skills of a human translator rather than substituting it.

It is a proven fact that professional translators are more effective than the amateur ones as they have a larger knowledge base of both the languages. In addition to this, their effectiveness increases when they translate into their own native language because of the aforementioned reason. For instance, non-native English speakers make more errors in speaking as well as written translation than native English speakers.

Taking into consideration the above mentioned premise that translation would be easier in the native language one has to focus on learning a foreign language not as per grammar rules but through the set parameters of literature. Of course we cannot ignore the Grammatik portion but when we read a text in German and translate it into Hindi we can associate it with our native language more easily as compared to any other language.

For example, here is a paragraph from a German short story “**Die Küchenuhr**” **The Kitchen Clock by Wolfgang Borchert**. It was translated into English and in Hindi and was provided to German learners of Amity University only. It was observed that when students were reading German paragraph they demonstrated little to no interest and being beginners they didn’t understand much. However, when they were showed the English translation of it, they started reading it as they were able to understand and began relating the German words to English words. Following this, they were given the piece of the Hindi translation of the same text. They demonstrated more interest while reading it. Hindi being their native language, they immediately began associating German words with Hindi words and started associating it with their own lives as then had some sense of belongingness.

Given below is the German Text

So spät wieder, sagte sie dann. Mehr sagte sie nie. Nur: So spät wieder. Und dann machte sie mir das Abendbrot warm und sah zu, wie ich aß. Dabei scheuerte sie immer die Füße aneinander, weil die Kacheln so kalt waren. Schuhe zog sie nachts nie an. Und sie saß so lange bei mir, bis ich satt war. Und dann hörte ich sie noch die Teller wegsetzen, wenn ich in meinem Zimmer schon das Licht ausgemacht hatte. Jede Nacht war es so. Und meistens immer um halb drei. Das war ganz selbstverständlich, fand ich, dass sie mir nachts um halb drei in der Küche das Essen machte. Ich fand das ganz selbstverständlich. Sie tat das ja immer. Und sie hat nie mehr gesagt als: So spät wieder. Aber das sagte sie jedes Mal. Und ich dachte, das könnte nie aufhören. Es war mir so selbstverständlich. Das alles war doch immer so gewesen.

The English Translation of the above Mentioned German Text is given below

So late again, she would say then. She never said more than that. Only: so late again. And then she would warm up my supper and would watch me eat. At the same time she would always rub her feet against one another, because the tiles were so cold. She never put her shoes on at night. And she would sit there for as long as it took, until I was full. And then I would hear her still clearing away the dishes after I had already turned off the light in my room. Every night it was like that. And mostly always around two thirty. I just took for granted that at two thirty in the morning she would prepare a meal for me. I just took for granted. She would always do that. And she never said more than: So late again. But she said that every time. And I thought it would never stop. It was so natural to me. It had always been like that.

In Hindi

वो कहती थी "फिर इतनी देर से" | उसके आगे वो कभी कुछ नहीं कहती थी | फिर मेरे लिये वो रात का भोजन गरम करती थी और मुझे खाते हुए देखती थी | इस दौरान वो अपना एक पैर दूसरे पैर पर रगड़ती रहती थी क्योंकि किचन का फर्श बहुत ठंडा था | रात में वो कभी जूते या चप्पल नहीं पहनती थी | वह वहाँ तब तक बैठती थी जब तक मेरा पेट नहीं भर जाता था | जब मैं अपने कमरे की लाइट बंद कर चूका होता था तब मुझे आवाज़ आती थी की वो मेरी प्लेट वहाँ से हटा के धुल रही होती थी | हर रात ऐसे ही होता है और अक्सर २:३० बजे | वो मेरे लिए देर रात २:३० बजे खाना बनाती थी और मेरे लिए यह एक आम बात थी | यह सच मे मेरे लिए एक मामूली सी बात थी | वो मेरे लिए ऐसा हमेशा से करती थी और वो इससे ज़्यादा कभी कुछ नहीं कहती थी की "फिर इतनी देर से" | लेकिन यह वो हर बार कहती थी और मुझे लगता था कि यह कभी खत्म नहीं होगा | मेरे लिए यह बहुत स्वाभाविक सी बात थी क्योंकि ये हमेशा से ऐसे ही चलता आ रहा था |

CONCLUSIONS

Ralph Manheim one of the great translators from Germany had once said, "Translators are like actors who speak the lines as the author would if the author could speak the target language". (Source Author Book) Based on the observations made, it would not be farfetched to say that learning a foreign language by translating it into the native language is perhaps the easiest way to develop the understanding of a language develop its spoken skills too. Beginners as well as advanced learners would benefit if they learn a foreign language by associating it with their native language as they are more familiar with it and have a larger knowledge base for it. Researches in the field of cognitive psychology have shown that the degree to which incoming information is processed so that it can be tied to or incorporated with the existing memories, will strengthen the memory for that information. Learning a foreign language (in this case German) by relating it to the native language (in this case Hindi), not only makes it easier to learn it but also strengthens the memory for it.

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