AL-FARABI KAZAKH NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
International Relations Department
Chair of Diplomatic Translation
Translation business in the field of international and legal relations
Practice of Simultaneous Interpretation
2021-2022 academic year spring semester

Lecture

Module 1: General Principles in Training Translators and Interpreters

Lecture 4: Strategies in Simultaneous Interpretation

Plan of the lecture

1. Introduction
2. Strategies in Simultaneous Interpretation in different language combinations
3. Conclusion
4. References

Aspects of the lecture

1. Interpreter glossaries
2. Advance preparation
3. Last-minute preparation
4. In-conference knowledge acquisition

Goals of the lecture

1. Explain the phases of consecutive interpreting
2. Introduce note-taking techniques
3. Familiarize with sentence-by-sentence consecutive
4. Highlight the importance of coordination and presentation skills

Basic concepts

Conference programme, briefings and rehearsals, multilingual general assemblies, concepts and terminology, terminology and phraseology and etc.

For the sake of the discussion, the preparation of conferences can be divided into three stages: advance preparation, last-minute preparation, and in-conference knowledge acquisition.

a. Advance preparation

Conference organizers are systematically asked by interpreters to provide them with full sets of conference documents in all the relevant working languages well before meetings are due to start. This is regarded as an important part of working conditions. The documents requested include the conference programme, the list of participants, texts with background information about the conference, and, most important, documents on the content of the conference, including drafts of papers to be read or presented, abstracts, etc. These documents are by definition highly relevant to the conference and are used extensively by interpreters for preparation. Unfortunately, in the field, documents are not always provided to them, and when they are, they often turn out to be insufficient. In such a case, interpreters try to acquire relevant information by other means, and in particular by using the internet.

b. Last-minute preparation

There are several reasons why conference documents are not always made available to interpreters in advance: papers are often finalized at the last moment, speakers are not always made aware of the interpreters' needs, they may not wish to disclose the content of their papers in advance, they may consider their papers confidential and are afraid of security breaches. Many documents are only available at the very last moment, on the premises. A relatively recent trend is to prepare powerpoint presentations which are brought to the conference venue on USB devices. Interpreters may be allowed to copy them onto their own USB keys and can study them on the spot if they have brought along their own laptops. A considerable amount of knowledge acquisition revolves around documents made available just before the beginning of the conference.

c. In-conference knowledge acquisition

Finally, much information is gained during the conference itself, partly through documents which are handed out after it has started, partly through conversations with participants during breaks, and partly by listening to presentations and discussions, which may provide more information than do documents. New knowledge gained at any point during the conference is useful, because it improves conditions for interpreting subsequent presentations and statements. In particular, during the conference, information may be heard in languages for which no documents were available. Listening to the delegates in all languages is a good opportunity to build up relevant terminological and phraseological knowledge.

Follow-up questions

1. Name three phases of knowledge acquisition

2. Speak about types of translators' glossary

3. Describe In-conference knowledge acquisition in the context of Communicative Situation

4. Speak about meeting formats

References

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