



TEACHING TRANSLATION THROUGH MODERN DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

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ABSTRACT

This article reveals the use of modern digital technologies in the field of translation. As digital technology changes most industries, translations industry also needs change, helping students to learn modern and useful skills. More and more discussions show that using digital tools in translation training is becoming very important.

KEY WORDS: *Computer-Assisted Translation (CAT), Digital Technologies, Machine Translation (MT), Technology-Driven Approaches, Translation Education, Translation Technologies.*

INTRODUCTION

This paper examines the impact of digital technologies on translation education, highlighting both their advantages and the challenges they introduce. The growing integration of machine translation (MT) and computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools has transformed the skill set expected of translation professionals. While some traditional skills have become less relevant, others—such as technical proficiency and critical evaluation of automated outputs—have gained importance [1; p.110]. By analyzing digital resources used in translation projects, this paper argues for a balanced approach that combines traditional translation methods with technological advancements.

Current Trends in Translation Education

Translation education is changing as new technologies become common in these days. Today's programs focus not only on developing students' language and cultural knowledge, but also helping them learn how to use digital tools [7; p.10]. As machine translation (MT) systems and cloud-based platforms are used more often in real translation work, students need to practice skills like post-editing, managing terminology, and working in online teams [2; p.54]. Technologies offer many benefits, such as faster translation processes and easier access to information but it also raises important questions about the future role of human translators. O'Hagan suggests that technology is changing how translators work, pushing them to become part of a more connected and technology-focused environment. Although translation has gradually become one of the dominant factors in English language teaching, but there have been limited number of studies which have given attention to the teaching methods applied in the field. Generally, the specific courses focusing on translation have not been much concerned with the debates and issues emerging in recent years in the field of language teaching [3; p.235]. Even the published reports in specific fields of language learning were limited and organized for specific objectives, although the exceptions such as the study of interlanguage use in relation to discourse domains existed [6; p.65]. Considering other methods, Gerding-Salas [4; p.98] proposed a cooperative translation work procedure for training the translators at undergraduate levels in which, the instructors act a facilitator in learning and students accomplished in the translation task via collective and individual practices. Through studying translation within functional perspective, Holmes proposed framework for translation studies in an attempt to develop the map for the field via focusing on what was referred to as the missing link of Holmes' map of translation studies. The gap was regarded as training in translation which could be the evolution of translation studies and a basis for other works like Holmes' map of translation studies.

The Role of Digital Technologies

Digital technologies in translation cover a wide range of tools, including both hardware (such as computers and mobile devices) and software (such as CAT tools, online dictionaries, and terminology databases). These tools not only support the translation process but also enhance the overall learning experience by making training more interactive and accessible. 1. CAT tools were the big revolution in the translation field and undoubtedly changed how translator work thanks to the implementation of translation memory, term bases and QA checks. While at the beginning CAT tools were deemed to be a threat to human translators, it soon became how much they had to offer. Linguists became more productive and efficient, found in the m



in ways to reduce human errors. Now it seems invincible to work without them. The following are among the most significant benefits associated with these tools: they use translation memories, i.e., databases containing all the texts we have previously translated, allowing us to reuse content we have translated before. This reduces both the cost and time required for the translation. It also helps ensure a consistent style to achieve a good-quality final text.

2.They can analyze files and provide word counts that include repetitions and words that are already in the memory and, thus, do not need to be translated again.

3.They include glossaries.

4.They convert the translated files to the same format as the original.

5.They allow you to add notes for translators and editors and set limits on translation lengths.

Machine Translation (MT) can be considered next big revolution. This technological solution was created to help meet that fast demand for fast translation services at a cheaper cost. Basically, machine translation is an automated process of translating one language into another using computer software. It uses natural language processing, a branch of artificial intelligence, to analyze and understand the source text in its original language before translating it into the target language. This technology has revolutionized the way we communicate across languages and can now provide real-time translations of entire documents or conversations with a few clicks. It is important to consider the primary advantages offered by machine translation:

1. Increased Accuracy

Machine translation technology has come a long way in recent years. Many MT engines use artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms to improve translation quality over time. As a result, businesses can expect a high level of accuracy, especially for common phrases and sentences.

2. Increased Efficiency

Machine translation can produce large volumes of text in a short amount of time, making it especially useful for projects with tight deadlines.

3. Cost-Effectiveness

Using MT can reduce the overall cost of translation, particularly for initial drafts or for content that does not require perfect stylistic quality (such as technical documentation).

4. Multilingual Support

Modern MT systems can handle a wide variety of languages, making it easier to translate content into multiple languages without the need for a large team of translators.

Challenges in Digital Translation Training

Despite its benefits, integrating digital tools into translation training presents several challenges:

1. Complexity of Digital Tools

The sophisticated nature of some translation software presents a steep learning curve for both students and instructors. Effective use of tools like SDL Trados or memoQ requires additional training and practice, which can be challenging to incorporate into existing course structures, especially when resources are limited (ResearchGate, December 2024). One of the primary challenges in teaching technical translation today is to make sure that students are proficient in the use of digital tools such as CAT tools, machine translation systems, and terminology management software. Bowker and Fisher [1; p.43] noted that many translation programs do not integrate these tools into their curricula, which makes students unprepared for the realities of the modern translation industry.

2. Quality Assurance and Standardization

Quality assurance processes, including the use of translation standards such as ISO 17100, are a critical expectation in technical translation. Students need to be trained in the principles of translation quality, including accuracy, consistency, and adherence to client specifications. This involves teaching the importance of revising and proof reading translations.

CONCLUSION

Digital technologies are transforming both the teaching and practice of translation. While these tools introduce new possibilities for improving efficiency and fostering collaboration, their successful adoption depends on thoughtful integration into educational programs. It is essential for educators to maintain a balance between developing students' traditional linguistic and cultural competencies and equipping them with the technical skills required in a digitally driven workplace. Looking ahead, translation training should prioritize not only proficiency in digital tools but also the cultivation of critical thinking, ethical judgment, and professional flexibility. The primary challenge lies in ensuring that technology complements — rather than replaces — core translation abilities. By combining theoretical knowledge with practical, hands-on training, translation programs can better prepare graduates to meet the changing expectations of the translation industry.



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