# SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION AS A TYPE OF ORAL TRANSLATION

Fayziyeva S. Y.
Teacher, Department of Translation Theory and Practice,
Tashkent State University of Uzbek Language and Literature

**Abstract**

In order to establish a methodological foundation for the training of simultaneous interpreters at universities, this research explores simultaneous interpretation as a sort of oral translation in order to pinpoint its fundamental and distinctive characteristics. It defines its identical and particular qualities and contrasts simultaneous interpretation with other types of interpretation.

**Keywords:** simultaneous interpretation, consecutive interpretation, culture, memory, conference interpreting, booth, headphones.

**Абстракт**

В целях создания методологической базы подготовки переводчиков-синхронистов в вузах в данном исследовании рассматривается синхронный перевод как разновидность устного перевода с целью выявления его основных и отличительных характеристик. Он определяет его тождественные и особенные качества и противопоставляет синхронный перевод другим видам устного перевода.

**Ключевые слова:** синхронный перевод, последовательный перевод, культура, память, конференц-перевод, будка, наушники.

**Introduction**

The need for a new kind of translation became apparent in the 20th century, when many international organizations appeared, such as the League of Nations in 1919, the UN in 1945, etc. [Ilyukhin, 2001, p.7]. The idea of simultaneous translation was put forward by Eduard Filein, an American businessman. He noticed that consecutive translation in the League of Nations takes a very long time, and began to search for a solution to this problem. In 1925, E. Filein wrote to the secretariat of the League of Nations with a proposal to use a new method of translation, which could significantly save time. According to Filein's project, the interpreter had to sit in a booth equipped with a telephone and 10 microphones. The synchronizer had to listen to the speaker's

speech on the telephone receiver and at the same time pronounce the translation into the microphone, which was immediately broadcast into the headphones of those sitting in the hall [Whispering and the Origin…].

"According to some authors, when the idea of using the SI was first proposed, critics questioned its expediency (Lederer 1981:19)" [Cit. according to: Ilyukhin, 2001, p. 7]. However, after the test application of simultaneous translation in the League of Nations, critics changed their position. Because it turned out that the translation, going simultaneously with the speaker's speech, is feasible not only hypothetically, but also practically.

Simultaneous interpretation had a number of advantages over other types of interpretation. Consecutive interpreting was time-consuming, while "whispering" was inconvenient for both the interpreter and the listener, and did not fit well with the format of higher-level meetings. To successfully implement E. Filein's idea, special equipment was needed, and, according to various sources, in 1926 or 1927 a patent for equipment for simultaneous translation was issued to the Boston radio engineer Gordon Finlay and the president of IBM, Thomas Watson [Minyar-Beloruchev, 1999, With. 124]

**Theoretical Basis**

Simultaneous interpretation is a type of interpretation that involves almost simultaneous reproduction of a translated passage with the perception of the speaker's speech. Usually simultaneous interpretation is carried out in the booth, and listeners receive the interpreter's speech using headphones. Simultaneous translation involves the skill of simultaneous perception in the source language and reproduction in the target language while maintaining the pace of the speaker's speech. Simultaneous translation involves intense memory work, the ability to concentrate, make decisions instantly, make predictions about the further development of the utterance, perform speech compression if necessary, etc. (Osokin 2008: 29). Despite the fact that many interpreters are engaged in both consecutive and simultaneous interpretation, the English term 'conference interpreter' usually refers only to simultaneous interpreters. Conferences, as an event, can be defined as discursive transactions during which experts gather to develop strategies for progress on key issues (de Beaugrande 1992: 223). The concept of "transactions" in the above definition gives us the opportunity to consider interpretation as a phenomenon of interaction (Monacelli 2009: 69-70).

Simultaneous translation is a special type of professional interlanguage activity carried out in extreme linguistic and psychological conditions, in an environment

hostile to the synchronist. Certain conditions are necessary for the success of this activity. First of all, it is the objective semantic discursive redundancy of the message in the source language and its subjective semantic redundancy for the translator. And if the former follows from repetitions and interdependence of discourse components at all levels of speech (syllable, word, phrase, syntagm, utterance, discourse, communicative situation), then the latter – subjective redundancy of the message – requires certain conclusions (cognitive, pragmatic, contextual, situational) (Chernov, Setton, Hild 2004: 200). "The act of simultaneous translation can be considered as an act of complex speech communication, as a speech operation, which is a link inserted into the break in the chain of communication from the speaker to the listener, provided that the first and second speak different languages" (Chernov 1971: 55). The translator must have an instant reaction to get used to the image of the speaker, while maintaining the skill of automatic sentence division and 24 distributions of its components, which is an intuitive analysis of speech (Steyer 1975: 105). The need for simultaneous perception of the original and reproduction of the translation predetermines other characteristic features of simultaneous translation. First of all, among them it is possible to distinguish a rigid time frame corresponding to the duration of the speaker's speech. To translate the same speech in sequential translation mode, the translator has twice as much time at his disposal as in synchronous mode. Compared to a written translation, this difference can be twenty- or even thirty-fold.

In addition to the rigid time frame, there is also a factor of the speaker's speech rate, which the simultaneous interpreter must match. Simultaneous translation is characterized by the "segment-by-segment nature" of its implementation, that is, the implementation of translation in parts (segments) as they arrive, in contrast to sequential and/or written translation, where it is possible to get acquainted with the text or its fragment in its entirety (Shiryaev 1979: 6-7). The simultaneous interpreter is busy performing the following actions simultaneously: 1) listening to the information spoken by the speaker, that is, receiving a message; 2) understanding the meaning, that is, decoding the message; 3) converting the value into the target language, that is, encoding the message; 4) voicing the translated version, that is, releasing the message. Each of these actions has a complex hierarchical structure. All of them are performed in real time, taking into account the lack of time (Klonowicz 1994: 214). A.F. Shiryaev identifies three phases of simultaneous translation. Before starting the translation, based on their knowledge, the translator builds a "probabilistic model of oratorical speech", which is tested with the beginning of the speaker's actual speech. Provided that the translator's "pre-setup" was adequate, he

can choose the right solution from those already prepared. If a mistake was made in the pre-configuration, then the search for a solution is carried out on the basis of experience, knowledge and landmarks highlighted in the translation. The first phase 25 is completed after the decision is made. The second phase, or "implementation phase" includes the completion of the translation based on the selected model. The last phase is the "control phase", during which the correctness of the translation is evaluated. The first two phases are characterized by transience, while the latter can be "stretched over time" (Shiryaev 1979: 17-18). It is also worth noting that the perception of the text should be carried out at the communicative level with the use of a critical assessment of what was heard (Lapshina 2005: 74-78)

## Disscussion

The concept of oral translation includes such types of professional translation that involve verbal (sound or gesture) transmission of an oral message from one language to another. Let's consider the types of interpretation, the allocation of which can be carried out for various reasons. Depending on the scope of application, a number of researchers distinguish communal translation and conference interpretation. Conference interpretation is the translation of public speeches at major international meetings using two or more languages. Communal translation is commonly understood as providing interlanguage/intercultural mediation in judicial, medical, administrative institutions, i.e. it is a type of cultural translation assistance to persons living in the country but not speaking its language (immigrants, refugees, etc.).

The tasks of oral translation are in many ways similar to the tasks of other types of translation activities. However, from the point of view of the main mechanisms of interpretation and the conditions for its implementation, oral translation has certain differences from written translation. The realization of this fact, due to the fact that in the second half of the XX century the scope of the use of oral translation has significantly expanded, led to a systematic study of the patterns and features of interpretation and the emergence of a special theory of interpretation. Moreover, within the framework of the theory of interpretation, the theory of consecutive translation and the theory of simultaneous translation began to be distinguished.

Oral translation as a type of translation activity can be defined as follows:

Oral translation is a type of translation in which the original and its translation appear in the translation process in an unfixed form, which determines the one-time perception of the original segments by the translator and the impossibility of subsequent comparison or correction of the translation after its execution. When interpreting, the creation of the translation text can occur either in parallel with the

perception of the original, or after the perception of the original is completed [Berkov, 1971, p.91].

A more fractional classification of the types (subspecies) of oral translation may include the following:

•Consecutive one-way interpretation (translation of speeches);

•Consecutive paragraph-phrase one-way translation (translation of speeches, lectures, etc.);

•Consecutive paragraph-phrase two-way translation (translation of negotiations, interviews, conversations, etc.);

•Simultaneous interpretation [Breus, 2001, p.22].

Despite certain differences between different subspecies of interpretation, they all have something in common, which is determined when comparing oral translation with written translation. The following differences between oral translation and written translation can be noted:

•The form of perception of the original text and the creation of the translation text: oral and written, respectively. At the same time, elements of a different type of translation can be used in each of the types of translation. A translator can receive the original recorded on tape, or dictate his translation into a dictaphone. All the same, the translation remains written, since the texts of the original and the translation are stored in a fixed form, they can be viewed, compared, and the text of the translation can be changed. An interpreter may receive the text of an oral presentation in writing before starting work. But even here the main feature of oral translation remains: the inability to compare and correct the translation text before presenting it to the receptors.

• Operating with unequal segments of the original. In written translation, the translator translates one statement after another, but he has the entire text at his disposal, with which he correlates each statement. In interpretation - perception and translation of the text in segments without the possibility of referring to the entire text of the original.

•The nature of communication with participants of interlanguage communication. When translating in writing, the translator does not have direct or feedback with the communicants. When interpreting, the translator has direct speech contact (and sometimes personal) with the communicants. This gives more conditions for solving pragmatic translation problems [Garbovsky, 2004, p.88].

The essence of oral translation is that it is a process of conveying understanding. Its usefulness is rooted in the fact that the meaning of the speaker's words is better expressed in his or her native language, but is better understood in the language of

the listeners. Also, the respect shown when addressing the interlocutor in his native language contributes to the successful outcome of negotiations (Nolan 2005: 2)

**Conclusion**

In the communicative situation of simultaneous interpretation, the interpreter is no longer perceived as its active participant, since he is not visually present in the communicative space, and, therefore, the listeners evaluate only the verbal component of his activity. Thus, despite the above differences between the two types of interpreting, it seems appropriate to us to note that the components traditionally attributed to the specifics of simultaneous interpreting can also take place in the consecutive interpreting model. Thus, the probabilistic forecasting mechanism, often used by simultaneous interpreters due to the need to simultaneously perceive information and provide translation, can also facilitate the process of consecutive interpreting in a situation where the interpreter does not have time to record all the necessary information (in memory or on paper) due to the fast pace of speech the speaker, his inconsistency, or other external factors.

**References**

1. Gile D. Basic concepts and models for conference interpretation training, 1 st version. – Paris: INALCO & CEEI (ISIT), 1990. – 287 p.
2. Fayziyeva, S. Language, culture, and translation / S.Fayziyeva // Ta'lim fidoyilari: respublika ilmiy-amaliy jurnali. T., 2021.
3. Fayziyeva, S. Linguo-cultural aspects of simultaneous interpretation / S.Fayziyeva // Ilm-fan va ta'limning rivojlanish istiqbollari: konferensiya materiallari. T., 2022.
4. Temirova, N. Strategies and tactics in English-Uzbek and Uzbek-English simultaneous interpreting: Master's degree thesis / N. Temirova. Tashkent State University of Uzbek language and literature, 2021.
5. Temirova, N. The history of simultaneous interpretation as a type of interpreting / N. Temirova // Ta'lim fidoyilari: respublika ilmiy-amaliy jurnali. T., 2021.
6. Алексеева И.С. Профессиональный тренинг переводчика. Учебное пособие по устному и письменному переводу для переводчиков и преподавателей. – СПб.: Союз, 2001. – 288 с.
7. Алексеева И.С. Устный перевод. Немецкий язык. Курс для начинающих. – СПб.: Инъязиздат, 2005. – 281 с.
8. Бархударов Л.С. Язык и перевод (Вопросы общей и частной теории перевода). – М.: Международные отношения, 1975. – 240 с.

9.  Комиссаров В.Н. Слово о переводе. – М.: Международные отношения, 1973. – 216 с.
10. Комиссаров В.Н. Теория перевода (лингвистические аспекты). – М.: Высшая школа, 1990. – 253 с.