

**Open Learning**  
**Translation Department**

**Third Year**  
**First Term**

# Consecutive Translation

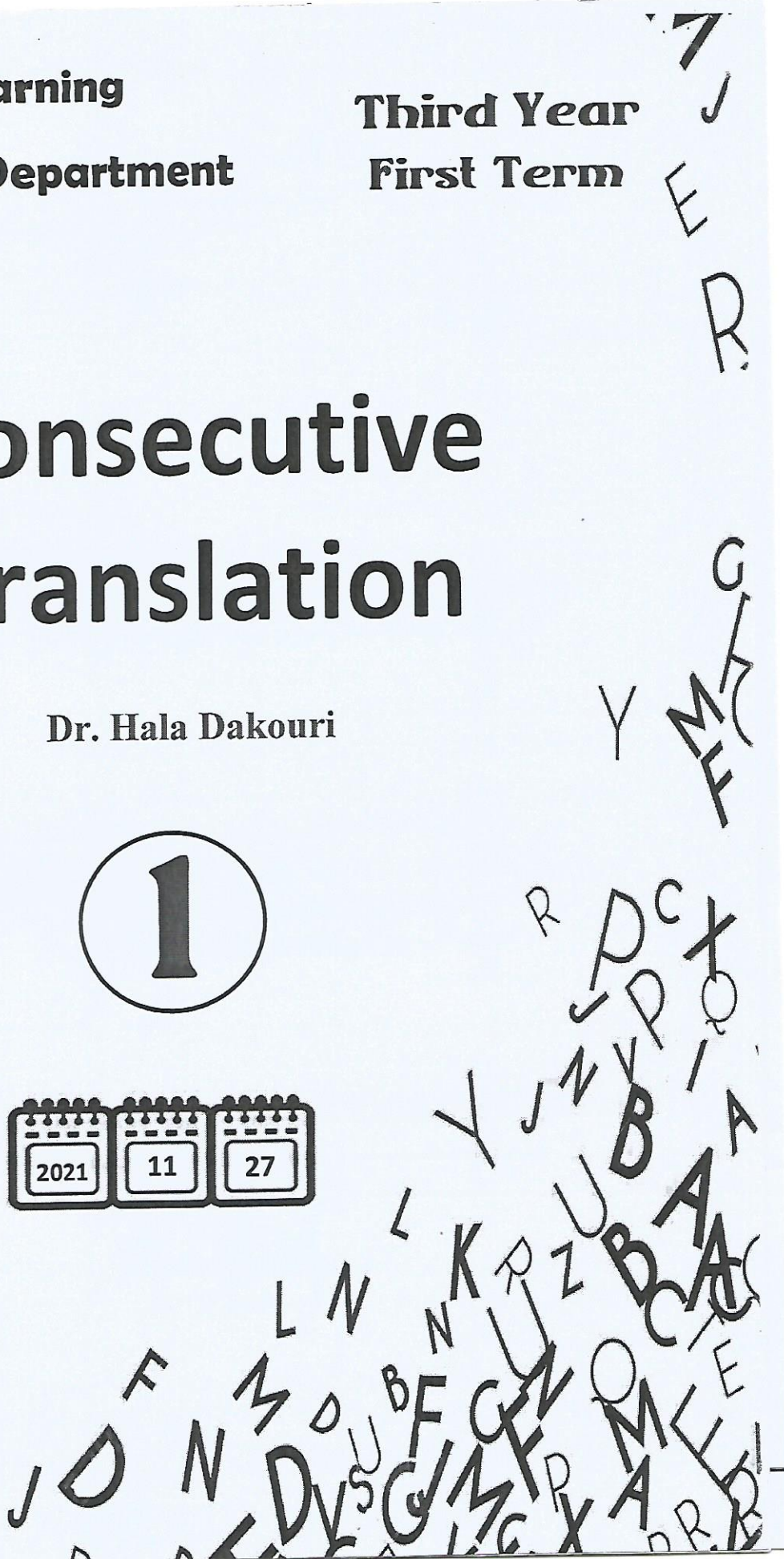
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Let's study!  
English



# *Hello everyone!*

*Our subject for this semester is CONSECUTIVE TRANSLATION and SIGHT TRANSLATION.*

What do we mean by *consecutive*? It is a mode of interpreting in which the speaker makes a speech (or says few sentences) whilst the interpreter takes notes. The interpreter then reproduces what the speaker has said for the audience.

There are two main types of translation: we have **Translation** and **Interpretation**.

Now, we are going to explain what we mean by:

**Simultaneous Interpretation:** it takes place or happens at the same time when the speaker is speaking or delivering their information.

Now, we have something else which is called **Consecutive Translation or interpretation** and this means that there is a pause of the speaker between the speaking; meaning: between the speaking shots, we have some time left for the interpreter to deliver the already stated information, like:

**Student:**

*من دمشق ستبث مباريات بين المنتخبين العربي والسوري*

**Instructor:** *from Damascus, the football game between the Arabian and Syrian teams is going to be life to all.*

Just notice that I waited until she finished the first part, and then I began translating. When I finish, she is going to continue something else. For example:

**Student:**

*دمشق عاصمة الثقافة العربية*

**Instructor:** *Damascus is the capital of the Arabic culture.*

**Student:** *وهي مهد الحضارات و الديانات*

**Instructor:** *it is that cradle of civilizations and religions.*

**Student:** تضم ديانات عدة

**Instructor:** *it has a lot of religions*

**Student:** وثقافات مختلفة

**Instructor:** *and different cultures.*

لكن مو لهذه الدرجة لأن consecutive ليس كلمة بكلمة أو جملة

بجملة

If you are in Syria or in Arab world, you are going to listen to the speaker speaking for about 6, 7 or 8 minutes. Do you think that you are able to remember every word they said? Of course not

Now, if you are translating consecutively for a foreigner, they will bear the interpreter in mind; they will consider the presence of a person who will do the process of translation. That is why they are going to make short sentences that do not go longer than a minute. They will keep speaking for a minute and they will stop, or they will look at you all the time.

They have an eye on you as a translator or interpreter, and if you say (mmm<sup>1</sup>), they will stop and they just consider you. Now, they evaluate the job or the profession of the interpreter; actually, they stop then you can make a paraphrasing or translation of what you have just heard.

But even if this one full minute is going slowly, can you cover all the ideas?

**Students:** No

**Instructor:** Okay, that is why in *simultaneous interpretation*, you do not need anything. Actually, we need a lot of things, but we do not need to write anything. It is only speaking and you can hardly catch

<sup>1</sup> (امم) أي إشارة على أنك لم تعد قادر على الحفظ أكثر لذلك يتوقفوا

up with everything. That is why you do not have enough time to write unless there is a split of senses.

إذا كان عندنا فصل الحواس يمكننا فعل ذلك

Now, when we speak about *consecutive interpretation*, this means that we should have a notebook; we should have a pen and write down the notes. So, we have to exercise or to have a skill of note-taking. Without note-taking, you will never be able to remember everything.

Suppose that I say for example,

غداً سأقدم لامتحان يتعلق بإدارة الأعمال وسيجري هذا الامتحان في الهمك؛ كلية الهندسة الميكانيكية الكهربائية وسيكون الامتحان عبارة عن امتحان مؤتمت يدوم 75 في مئة دقيقة وعليك أن تحذر من استخدام الآلة الحاسبة لأن ذلك ممنوع ولا تنسى أن أي وسيلة للغش سوف تؤدي بك إلى الخروج من الامتحان و سوف تحرم دورتين من التقدم إلى تلك الجامعة مرة أخرى.

Can you just remember everything I said?

**Students:** no

**Instructor:**

لذلك ماذا يجب أن نفعل؟ و أنا اتحدث يجب أن تدونوا بعض الملاحظات في دفتر الملاحظات مثل:

*Tomorrow*

*Exam*

*BA*

*Business*

*Hammack*

*75 questions*

*100 minutes*

*Cheating*

*Deprivation*

*Out of two terms*

*Calculator is prevented*

You should write these notes vertically because if you write horizontally then you will write the whole speaker's words. When I write vertically, I make the

column narrow, and it will not give me any chance to write full sentences. That is why I take notes and this is called **notes-taking**.

Sometimes, if the speaker speaks for two minutes, three minutes, four minutes or ten minutes, what would happen? I will forget. Even with the notes that I have already taken, I will forget and that is why I will leave some space for my memory to remember things. If I write everything, this means that I am just acting like a recorder, but I am not a recorder because there is a leak (تسريب).

أي يجب أن يكون هناك تسريب بذاكرتي؛ مثقوبة من طرف ما ومن المستحيل أن تعطوني الفكرة كاملة

That is why Consecutive Translation or interpretation is not 100% accurate unless you enjoy a good memory and you have very good notes. Good memory and good notes mean perfect consecutive translation.

For memory, we have imperfect or incomplete information. So, you have to train your memory for this kind of information to make it a longer-term memory because all of us have fish memory. Now, the more you practice consecutive translation, the longer your memory will be. This is what we are going to focus on.

Even if we do not practice here in the class, you have to do this at home. It means that you play a video on YouTube; you take notes and you try to reproduce your notes. We will practice how to make a reproduction. It is going to be a practical to help you in the exam, but I do not care so much about the exam because, at the end, what experience you have now will be applied in the labour market when you graduate.

Now, if I have a speaker speaking for a longer time than usual, I have to take notes and this is called “Consecutive translation”.

Sometimes, one speaker is going to speak, sometimes two speakers, or sometimes you are a consecutive translator for the whole meeting. Taking notes takes place in meetings and conferences. Now, we have zoom conferencing and it means you can just be the only interpreter interpreting for 10 hours or whatever.

Sometimes, you can be a co-interpreter and you can just coordinate that time with the other interpreter, and you can share that interpretation on the whole conference. So, this means that I have to be well equipped with technology. Nowadays, translation without technology is nothing.

You have to be good with technology if you want to be a good translator; translator in general

أيّ المظلة العامة لأن كل شيء يندرج تحتها ولكن نحن لدينا عدة أنواع.

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We have another kind of translation which is “liaison translation”.

I want two of you to speak with each other, one of you speak in Arabic and the other speak in English

**Student (1):** درست بقسم الإحصاء الرياضي في كلية العلوم

**Instructor:** *I studied the statistics in the faculty of science*

**Student (1):** وتخرجت عام 2015

**Instructor:** *I graduated in 2015*

**Student (1):** بمعدل 5,88

**Instructor:** *with the average of 88.5*

**Student (1):** وبحثت عن عمل ولكن لم أجد

**Instructor:** *I searched for a job and I did not find*

**Student (1):** فلهذا أنا هنا أدرس اللغة الإنكليزية

**Instructor:** *That is why I am here studying in the English department*

**Student (1):** *وأتمنى أن أحقق كل ما أريد*

**Instructor:** *I hope that I am going just to achieve what I want.*

الطالبة الأولى عرفت عن نفسها والآن جاء دور الطالبة الثانية

**Student (2):** *Nice to meet you and welcome in this department.*

**Instructor:**

مرحباً بك وتشرفنا بمعرفتك ومرحباً بك في هذا الفرع

**Student (2):** *This department is very important and interesting but you should train and attend every lecture*

**Instructor:**

هذا القسم ممتع جدا وبغاية الأهمية ولكن يتوجب عليك التدريب و حضور كل

المحاضرات

That is enough, thank you. So, this is a **liaison translation**.

I have only two people translating. Now, what the first party says to the other party, and what the second one says to the first party is called "**liaison translation**".

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We have something else which is called "**whisper translation**". We have a speaker for the conference and if there is only one who is a foreigner (he/she does not know the language the speaker uses), then I will just whisper in his/her ears to understand what the speaker says.

As for translation, there is something not connected to interpretation, but it is between translation and interpretation; we have something called "**Audio-visual translation**" and this means that we have a translation on the screen.

If you have, for example, a movie and you want to translate it, the movie is something that you see and hear, but it has to be or to appear on the screen.

**Student:** *subtitle*

**Instructor:** yes, this is subtitling, but it is not all the time subtitling because sometimes, when you are translating for TV, maybe there is a speaker on TV but there is a roll with words and it goes down; it rolls down.

So, you look then translate, and this is a part of audio-visual translation but at the same time, it is **sight translation**.

Now, the speaker is speaking a language and the words or sentences appear on a screen or part of the screen and they are rolling down. I have to read very quickly in the opposite language and this is a sight translation, but it is also a part of audio-visual translation.

So, **an audio-visual translation** is a translation of movies. Sometimes, we have this roll down screen and sometimes, we have translation of documentaries. Is the translation of documentaries the same as translation of movies?

**Students:** no

**Instructor:** ok, if we translate a movie and there is this sentence (what the hell are you doing), how do you translate it?

**Student:** *ماذا تفعل بحق الجحيم؟*

**Instructor:** ok. If we have (what the fuck), how do you translate it?

**Student:** *تباً لك*

**Instructor:** good, so

يجب أن تكون عبارة مناسبة أخلاقياً وأيضاً يجب أن تكون أمين في نقل الكلمات لكي لا تسيئ للثقافة والمكان المعين أي لا أنقل الأشياء المتدنية



الموضوعة على الشاشة ولكن أترجم بكلمات مناسبة للثقافة التي أنقل لها(على سبيل المثال النقل إلى اللغة العربية)

But you should translate these words<sup>1</sup> in text translation, certified translation and legal translation.

However, in audio-visual translation (sight translation) if I convey these subjects, then they will say that “translators are traitors” because there are ethics that I should consider when I translate to the opposite language or to the opposite culture, and that is why it is very difficult.

Now, we will move to translation in general. **Translation** is translating from a source text to a target text. If I am translating a book, an article or an essay, a research, a studying or whatever, I have to be so keen on producing the same idea, the same shadows of meanings conveyed to the opposite language.

Do you think that a reader should be undermined, undervalued, or they do not understand? They understand maybe better than we do. That is why we have to be so keen; we have to be so accurate when we convey from one culture to another or from one language to another. So, we have to shoulder a very big responsibility when we are translating for readership.

Now, what is the meaning of text translation? It is translation of books, novels, newspapers or whatever. So, whether it is electronic or on paper, this is something that you have some appropriate time to finish, but on **audio-visual translation**, I do not have time and my time is very short. I cannot take all the time that I need.

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<sup>1</sup>بأمانة شديدة يجب نقل هذه المواضيع أي كل الكلمات الموجودة باللغة الأولى يجب أن تترجم كما هي للغة الثانية

The **text translation** is not only one type; it is a lot of types. These kinds are: legal, economic, political maybe financial, educational, medical, medical, historical, geographical, cosmological, physical or whatever.

Now, we are depending on the kind, the specialization, or the major itself. In this case, I can divide the translation. Keep in mind that there is no one pure specialization in translation.

مستحيل يأتكم نص طبي فقط ممكن أن يأتي طبي و سياسي أو طبي و شي متعلق بالجغرافيا أو طبي شيء متعلق بعلم النفس

So, there is no pure specialization; all the time, we have interrelated specialization under the umbrella of translation.

**Student:** *I have a question: in your opinion, for example, in a medical article, was the person responsible for translating a specialist in this field or the translator who studied translation?*

**Instructor:** a person who has studied the translation is better at formulating sentences, giving the right structure, using the right syntax, producing the text in the right style, and using the right terminology because they may not have enough information in the field. That is why a translator, a person from this specialization can better translate these terminologies.

We have a lot of specializations, why? Because I, as a translator or interpreter, do not translate medical files as perfectly as the doctor unless I have a lot of information and a very rich background and experience. That is why I cannot just be a good translator for medical purposes unless I practice and do this over and over again.

If you get an invitation to educational conference, you will find the first time find difficult, but if this

organization asked you for another type of translation, you will have better information this time.

So, there are some difficulties with the first time; maybe you are not getting interested for those terms but you are there just to do a kind of typing. Translation is typing; it is not only searching for the terminology because you are already familiar with the information. So, you are good, but there is a better person than you in every field.

Now listen, I said that there is **text translation**. It has a lot of ties. So, what is the certified translation?

**Student:** ترجمان محلف

**Instructor:** is it only legal?

**Student:** no

**Instructor:** ok, I have certified translation about translating a contract between two companies on importing and exporting. It means that this is business.

Sometimes, I contract between two governments, for example, on exchange of medical expertise, so it is not commercial, but when I speak, for example, under this contract, the first party is allowed to bullsh or to cancel this contract when they deem it appropriate.

أي يحق للطرف الأول أن يلغي أو ينهي العمل بموجب...

So, this is legal and it means that I have a lot of things. So, it is not only one kind, but we have a lot of kinds. If I am translating for presidents, for example, am I interpreting political only? Of course, no

Sometimes, they speak about the exchange of prisoners of war, political purposes, or humanitarian helps; it means social related to the public, to the people or to the population, but again, there are some political considerations in the first place. There are

economic considerations and sometimes there are regional considerations.

So, here, I have different types; economic interpretation, investments interpretation, tourism interpretation, legal interpretation and lot of specializations.

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In this course, we will deal with sight translation, consecutive translation and also text translation.

What do we mean by **Sight translation**? It means that I look at this page and:

The main purpose of organization as an administrator is creating enthusiasm in employees for some reasons:

A. To achieve this work

B. To organizing individuals and resources to achieve this work.

C. Ensuring that the results conform to schemes or plans

D. The conformity between options and the ways of implementation.

حاولوا كل يوم تدربوا على الترجمة أي نص ترونه ترجموه إذا حابين  
تكونوا افضل بالترجمة

If you practice for a long time, you will be a fortunate translator. So, this is what we are going to do throughout the term; working on three main types of translation and maybe we will have some kind of consecutive or interpretation.

That is all for today.

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*Thank you very much,  
See you next time!*

