

Multilingual mice – or technology-assisted translation, its chances and challenges

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The continuous development of technology has not spared the translation science. I am using the term science consciously, as technology usually affects the practice, not so much the study of the translation art. The use of technology in translation encloses several phenomena, starting with generally popular electronic offline and online dictionaries, language corpora and concordancers; then taking into account more recent technological achievements, such as the use of CAT tools and translation memory units, and finally, discussing the fairly controversial matter of machine translators, often involving Text-to-Speech or Speech-to-Text protocols, combined with artificial intelligence algorithms.

The paper would examine, among others, the level of work improvement in terms of time and accuracy in case of using electronic language materials and CAT tools. Also, such question as the accessibility of the tools and the awareness of them in the group of professional translators will be evaluated.

As far as the machine translation is concerned, the question of accuracy and pragmatic acuteness of the statements will be elaborated upon. The technological aspects of this type of translation (such as parsing) will be assessed in order to evaluate the usability of the process in the communication situations.

In conclusion, the chances and improvements provided by the use of technology will be established and compared with the challenges it still faces and inconveniences it presents.

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