

Translating and Interpreting

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What we're going to cover

- What are translating and interpreting?
- The Russian language
- The Russian alphabet
- Translation as art, not science

Translating vs Interpreting

- Definition
- Why? When?
- Similarities and differences
- Skills required

Types of Interpreting

- Consecutive
- Simultaneous...now you try it!

Russian vs. English

- Alphabet
- Grammar
 - Gender for nouns
 - Case endings for nouns/adjectives
 - Person endings for verbs
 - Three tenses

Russian vs. English

■ Syntax

- Near me two of hand (у меня две руки)
- 1 hand, 2/3/4 of hand, 5-20 of hands, 21 hand, 22/23/24 of hand, etc.
- No articles
- No "to be" – I very good translator

■ Culture

- Не плохо = not bad = good
- Norms of politeness
 - Ты / вы
 - Минуту, Да

The Russian Alphabet

- A form of Cyrillic – Cyril & Methodius, 10th century A.D.
- Largely derived from Greek
- Generally phonetic
- Compare with crazy English:
 - Tough, rough, cough, plough, bough, dough, though, through
- Let's try it!

Let's read Russian!

- математика
- план
- такси
- кафе
- кофе
- меню
- трактор
- ресторан
- парашют
- класс
- шоколад
- интервью
- директор
- эквивалент
- эксперт
- инженер

Fun stuff: Onomatopoeia

■ Animal sounds

- Гав-гав / gav-gav
- Кукареку / kukareku
- Хрю-хрю / khryu-khryu
- Ква-ква / kva-kva
- Чик-чирик / chik-chirik
- Жужжать / zhoozhat

Fun stuff: Onomatopoeia

■ Other stuff

- Хихикать / heeheekat
- Хохотать / hohotat
- Икота / eekota
- Свистеть / sveestyet
- Шелест / shelest
- Шушукать / shooshookat
- Шёпот / showput
- Кашлять / kashlyat
- Чихнуть / chikhnoot

The Art of Translation

- One word, many meanings
 - Draft
 - Mug
 - Ось - axis; axis pin; axle; arbor; axle-tree; axletree; beam; capstan; center line; center pin; center shaft; gudgeon; kingbolt; kingpin; pin; pin hinge; pintle; pivot; pivot axle; pivot journal; pivot spindle; pivot pin; shaft axle; spill; spindle; stud; tree

The Art of Translation

- Many correct answers!
 - Поцеловав маму, Наташа встала и пошла к двери.
 - Having kissed her mother, Natasha stood up and walked toward the door.

The Art of Translation

■ Register

- James R. Smith, age 88, died yesterday after a long battle with cancer. He is survived by a daughter and two grandsons. Burial services will be held at noon on Sunday, July 12.
- Didya hear that old Mr. Smith finally kicked the bucket yesterday? Yeah, it was the big C that did him in. His poor daughter and her two kids. I hear they're going to put him in the ground at noon this Sunday.

The Art of Translation - Idioms

- Give me a hand
- Get out of my hair
- We paid peanuts for it
- It's the cat's pajamas/the bee's knees
- Go fly a kite
- You're pulling my leg
- Early bird catches the worm
- Don't look a gift horse in the mouth
- An elephant stepped on his ear
- Let's return to our sheep
- You're hanging noodles on my ears

Oops! Coca-Cola in China

- Ke-ke-ken-la
 - "bite the wax tadpole"
 - "female horse stuffed with wax"
- Ko-kou-ko-le
 - "happiness in the mouth"

Oops! More Bloopers

- Hydraulic rams = wet sheep
- From a brochure of a car rental firm in Tokyo:

When passengers of foot heave in sight, tootle the horn. Trumpet him melodiously at first, but if he still obstacles your passage, then tootle him with vigor.

And Another Blooper

From an elevator in Serbia:

To move the cabin, push button for wishing floor. If the cabin should enter more persons, each one should press a number of wishing floor. Driving then going alphabetically in national order.

Final Bloopers

