

FROM SPEECH TO SPEECH: THE IMPACT OF OMITTING WORDS IN  
TRANSLATION

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Consecutive translation, often simply called "consecutive interpreting," is a method of oral translation where an interpreter listens to a speaker in one language and then conveys the message in another language. Here's how it typically works: The speaker delivers a segment of their speech or message in the source language. The interpreter listens attentively, takes notes, and processes the content. Once the speaker pauses or finishes a segment, the interpreter then translates the message into the target language. This process alternates between the source and target languages, with the interpreter bridging the language barrier by conveying the content in a consecutive manner. Consecutive translation is commonly used in situations like meetings, negotiations, courtrooms, medical consultations, and diplomatic discussions. It allows for a more deliberate and accurate exchange of information between people who speak different languages, as the interpreter has time to carefully process and convey the message.

The role of interpreters in the context of consecutive translation is crucial, and they face several challenges while performing their duties:

**Role of Interpreters in Consecutive Translation:**

**Language Bridge:** Interpreters serve as the vital bridge between people who speak different languages, enabling effective communication. **Accuracy:** They must ensure the accurate and faithful transfer of the speaker's message from the source language to the target language. **Cultural Understanding:** Interpreters often need a deep understanding of the cultures associated with the languages they are working with to convey not only words but also the cultural nuances and context. **Neutrality:** They are expected to remain neutral and not insert their own opinions or biases into the translation. Their role is to be an objective conveyor of the message. **Note-taking:** Interpreters often take notes to assist them in recalling important details and terminology, especially in lengthy or complex speeches.

**Challenges for Interpreters in Consecutive Translation:**

**1. Time Constraints:** Translating in real-time can be challenging, as interpreters have limited time to process and convey the message. This is where the practice of omitting words can be helpful. **Maintaining Focus:** Staying focused for extended periods is demanding, and interpreters must maintain concentration to ensure accurate translation. **Cultural Sensitivity:** They need to be aware of and navigate cultural differences and sensitivities, ensuring that translations are culturally appropriate. **Complex Terminology:** Translating technical or specialized terminology accurately can be challenging, as it requires a deep understanding of the subject matter.

Pressure and Stress: High-stress situations, such as legal proceedings or emergency medical situations, can add to the pressure on interpreters to perform flawlessly. 6. Context Switching: Interpreters often switch between languages and must adapt to the nuances and structures of each language, which can be mentally taxing. Maintaining Neutrality: Remaining neutral and not getting emotionally involved in sensitive or emotionally charged conversations can be difficult. Overcoming Omissions: Choosing which words to omit without altering the core meaning of the message while ensuring that the translation is still coherent can be a skill that interpreters need to master. Successful interpreters in consecutive translation must be skilled linguists, culturally aware, and capable of managing these challenges to facilitate effective cross-lingual communication.

Omitting words in consecutive translation holds significant importance for several reasons:

**Maintaining Fluency:** One of the primary benefits of omitting words is that it helps interpreters maintain fluency in their translations. By selectively omitting non-essential words, they can deliver the message more smoothly and in a timely manner. This is crucial, especially in fast-paced conversations or during speeches, where pauses can disrupt the flow.

**Retaining Essential Content:** Omitting words is not about sacrificing the message's core content. Instead, it involves the skillful removal of redundant or less essential words while preserving the message's essence. This ensures that the key information is accurately conveyed to the audience. **Efficiency:** Omitting words contributes to the overall efficiency of the interpretation process. It allows interpreters to convey the message within a reasonable timeframe, reducing the need for lengthy pauses or interruptions between the source and target languages.

**Enhanced Audience Understanding:** Omitting unnecessary words can lead to greater audience comprehension. Instead of overwhelming listeners with a literal word-for-word translation, interpreters can focus on delivering the essential information in a manner that is easier for the audience to follow. **Effective Communication:** Omitting words is a strategy that helps interpreters navigate the challenges of real-time translation. It enables them to keep up with the speaker's pace and maintain effective communication between people who speak different languages. **Minimizing Interpretation Errors:** By omitting non-essential words, interpreters reduce the likelihood of making errors or misunderstandings during the translation process. They can concentrate on ensuring that the core message is accurately conveyed. **Adaptation to Language Differences:** Different languages have varied sentence structures and word orders. Omitting words allows interpreters to adapt the translation to the natural flow of the target language while preserving the original meaning. **Time Management:** Omitting words is an essential technique for managing time during consecutive translation. Interpreters can use this method to stay synchronized with the speaker, ensuring that the message is not delayed or rushed.



In summary, omitting words in consecutive translation is a valuable skill that interpreters use to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of cross-lingual communication. It enables them to strike a balance between maintaining the core message's integrity and delivering it in a manner that is fluent, clear, and concise for the target audience.

In the article, we explored the practice of consecutive translation, focusing on the significance of omitting words. The key points can be summarized as follows: Introduction: Consecutive translation involves oral translation between languages, with interpreters playing a critical role in bridging language barriers. Role of Interpreters: Interpreters in consecutive translation act as language bridges, ensuring accuracy, cultural understanding, and neutrality in their work. Challenges for Interpreters: Interpreters face challenges like time constraints, maintaining focus, handling complex terminology, cultural sensitivity, and the pressure of high-stress situations. Significance of Omitting Words: Omitting words is a crucial technique that helps interpreters maintain fluency, retain essential content, and improve the efficiency of communication. Efficient Communication: Omitting words enables interpreters to deliver messages more smoothly and timely, enhancing audience understanding and minimizing interpretation errors. Adaptation to Language Differences: It allows interpreters to adapt translations to the natural flow of the target language, considering differences in structure and word order. Time Management: Omitting words aids in managing time during consecutive translation, keeping the translation synchronized with the speaker. In conclusion, omitting words in consecutive translation is a valuable skill that facilitates effective cross-lingual communication by balancing fluency and core message integrity. Interpreters play a crucial role in this process, overcoming various challenges to ensure accurate and efficient translations.

#### **REFERENCE:**

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