

PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE AS A REQUIRED COMPONENT OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS OF A FUTURE INTERPRETER IN THE AREA OF AVIATION

Abstract. *Profession of an interpreter appeared many centuries ago and has always been useful to people. In Ukraine, the importance of translation has been considered in the last few historical periods, because Ukrainian was not an official language for a long time. The significance of translation was realized only in the middle of the XX century, but many questions about the individual components of an interpreter and his professional competence were left unattended in the paradigm of modern scientific knowledge. The objective of our research is to determine the concept of proficiency of a future interpreter as a required component of his professional ethics.*

Keywords: interpreter, professional competence, professional attitude, responsibility, creativity, adherence to principles, accuracy.

Logic of research requires determining elements (components) of professional ethics of a future interpreter. Professional ethics is a number of rules and regulations forming the attitude of an expert on the basis of moral values, taking into account the characteristics of one's professional activity and specific situation; moral laws and principles of professional attitude of a specialist and his compliance with the code of honor. General ethics considers moral values of specialists and professional ethics deals with the activities in specific circumstances. Thus, we can state that there is a dialectical unity between general ethics and professional ethics, because professional ethics specifies the position of general ethics in a particular occupation.

The subject of ethics is a combination of moral principles and values that determine the system of rules and principles regulating a particular occupation. Translation activity is the occupation that has to comply with certain ethical rules and regulations in order to attain the goals in the area of social relations.

To effectively perform professional activities, a person should have a number of characteristics that are called Professional and Personal Attributes. Professional and personal attributes of a specialist provides the effectiveness of his professional activity. Professional and Personal Attributes is a combination of professional and personal qualities on the basis of the requirements, knowledge and skills that become important for one's effective professional activity.

Analysis of psychological and educational references shows that Professional and Personal Attributes can influence the professional activity of a specialist. Some researchers believe that these attributes should be multiprofessional for future interpreters in the area of aviation. Professional and personal attributes are individual characteristics of an interpreter while performing the professional activity in accordance with the requirements to a qualified specialist in Aviation English.

The aviation industry is one of the most heavily regulated in the world. From flight safety and avionics engineering, to airport security and flight data analysis, the global nature of the aviation sector means that translation and international communication is common.

Interpreters and translators enable the cross-cultural communication necessary in today's society by converting one language into another. However, these language specialists do more than simply translate words – they relay concepts and ideas between languages. They must thoroughly understand the subject matter in which they work so that they are able to convert information from one language, known as the source language, into another, the target language.

Interpreters convert one spoken language into another. This requires interpreters to pay attention carefully, understand what is communicated in both languages, and express thoughts and ideas clearly. Strong research and analytical skills, mental dexterity, and an exceptional memory also are important.

The first part of an interpreter's work begins before arriving at the jobsite. The interpreter must become familiar with the subject matter that the speakers discuss, a task that may involve research to create a list of common words and phrases associated with the topic. Next, the interpreter usually travels to the location where his or her services are needed. Physical presence may not be required for some work, such as radio-exchange. But it is usually important that the interpreter see the communicators in order to hear and observe the person speaking and to relay the message to the other party.

There are two types of interpretation: simultaneous and consecutive. Simultaneous interpretation requires interpreters to listen and speak (or sign) at the same time. In simultaneous interpretation, the interpreter begins to convey a sentence being spoken while the speaker is still talking. Ideally, simultaneous interpreters should be so familiar with a subject that they are able to anticipate the end of the speaker's sentence. Because they need a high degree of concentration, simultaneous interpreters work in pairs, with each interpreting for 20- to 30-minute segments.

In contrast to simultaneous interpretation's immediacy, consecutive interpretation begins only after the speaker has verbalized a group of words or sentences. Consecutive interpreters often take notes while listening to the speakers, so they must develop some type of note-taking or shorthand system. This form of interpretation is used most often for person-to-person communication, during which the interpreter sits near both parties.

Translating involves more than replacing a word with its equivalent in another language; sentences and ideas must be manipulated to flow with the same coherence as those in the source document so that the translation reads as though it originated in the target language. Translators also must bear in mind any cultural references that may need to be explained to the intended audience, such as colloquialisms, slang, and other expressions that do not translate literally. Some subjects may be more difficult than others to translate because words or passages may have multiple meanings that make several translations possible. Not surprisingly, translated work often goes through multiple revisions before final text is submitted.

The services of interpreters and translators are needed in a number of subject areas. While these workers may not completely specialize in a particular field or industry, many do focus on one area of expertise. Some of the most common areas are described below; however, interpreters and translators also may work in a variety of other areas, including aviation, business, social services, or entertainment.

Conference interpreters work at conferences that involve non-English-speaking attendees. This work includes international business and diplomacy, although conference interpreters also may interpret for any organization that works with foreign language speakers. Employers prefer high-level interpreters who have the ability to translate from at least two passive languages into one active (native) language (for example, the ability to interpret from Spanish and French into English). For some positions, such as those with the United Nations, this qualification is mandatory.

Much of the interpreting performed at conferences is simultaneous; however, at some meetings with a small number of attendees, consecutive interpreting also may be used. Usually, interpreters sit in soundproof booths, listening to the speakers through headphones and interpreting into a microphone what is said. The interpreted speech is then relayed to the listener through headsets. When interpreting is needed for only one or two people, the interpreter generally sits behind or next to the attendee and whispers a translation of the proceedings.

Technology has made the work of interpreters and translators easier. However, technology is not likely to have a negative impact on employment of interpreters and translators because such innovations are incapable of producing work comparable with work produced by these professionals.

Simultaneous interpreting is the most difficult form of interpreting. Only a small percentage of interpreters can truly interpret simultaneously, that is: listen to someone speaking one language, and, without pausing, speak the same idea in another language. A professional simultaneous interpreter should be able to speak both languages fluently, without a strong accent that would make him or her hard to understand. The best interpreters also speak in an interesting way so that their voices are a pleasure to listen to.

Analysis of references (I. Alekseeva, I. Zymnya, I. Korunets, O. Kretova, L. Latyshev, E. Porshneva, I. Haleeva, K. Herding-Salas, P. Newmark et al.) confirms that the Ethics of an interpreter is based on moral principles, ethical standards of professional attitude, requirements to professional competence, etiquette and familiarity with the technical support of translation.

According to the point of view of O. Kretova, professional competence is usually understood as natural conditions for the implementation of certain activities, including psychological motivation. [1] Professional competence is defined as a combination of psychological characteristics of an individual, which influences the effectiveness of the development of a specific labor activity and its performance. Firstly, professional competence is considered as a combination of capabilities and characteristics of an individual in order to determine his competence to a particular activity (activities). Secondly, professional competence is as a combination of acquired professional skills, knowledge and capabilities, as well as psychological, physiological and other qualities and characteristics that ensure effective performance of professional tasks [2, p. 6]. It is necessary to emphasize the motivational aspect of one's professional activity indicated by the motivational value criterion of professional ethics of an interpreter, which is based on the hierarchy of professional interests and developed professional motivations. Among the qualities that determine the professional competence of an interpreter, it is important to distinguish speech reactivity, attention, mental stability, communicability and intelligence.

Interpreters working at conferences, in negotiations, dialogues or in the media are expected to render a professional service, based on the skills and competences they have acquired during their training. If they fail to perform properly, misunderstandings may arise, the atmosphere between communication partners may be affected or communication between the different linguistic groups may break down altogether. Thus the skills that interpreters have must enable them to provide their services in such a way that participants in a multilingual event who do not speak or understand each other's language may nevertheless communicate successfully and that no disturbances of proceedings arise from the fact that interpreters are at work. In a conference situation, the interpreting process is rarely taken much note of and it is rather at points where interpreting does not function properly, either for technical reasons or owing to the performance of the interpreters concerned, participants who rely on interpreters wonder what it is that makes a good interpreter.

The role of the interpreter may also vary depending on the interpreting situation in which one is expected to perform, and in some situations the interpreter's attitude and competence in interaction may be just as crucial as one's linguistic skills. Among the prerequisites people generally think of as necessary for good interpreting are the linguistic skills, i.e. the knowledge of as many languages as possible, and being able to speak and listen at the same time. The linguistic skills of interpreters have to be excellent, which means more than being 'fluent' in one's working languages (*Sylvia Kalina*).

Speech activity is an ability to perceive another's speech and generate their own, which is considered to be natural characteristics of an individual. It is important for people who are characterized by excessive nervous speech reactivity to control the ability to speak intensively. Some people, however, are not able to develop the fluency of their speech, which suggests that such persons are not advisable to become interpreters, especially simultaneous interpreters.

An interpreter's memory must be flexible, in other words, it should allow one to absorb a large amount of information, and quickly forget unnecessary things. Long-term memory should contain a significant amount of active vocabulary of both a native and foreign language. Random access memory should be characterized by the ability to memorize for a while a much larger number of units than the memory of an ordinary person. We conclude that an interpreter ought to train his memory, because this is the objective of his entire professional activity.

Speaking of attention, we mean stability, distribution, volume and the ability to concentrate. Complex objects require active thinking, which causes long-term focus on them, and depends on the strength of nervous processes of a specialist interested in his effective professional activity. Stable attention, first of all, is to be an inherent feature of a simultaneous interpreter, whose objective is to accurately and logically reflect all the necessary details of information, usually by applying compression. Attention is one's mental ability to perceive simultaneously a number of objects or their components. Concentration of attention is the ability to focus on multiple objects at once. This feature of attention is associated with simultaneous effective implementation (combining) of two or more different types of activities (some activities). The ability to concentrate is very important for an interpreter in order to develop his skills to effectively translate amounts of words, phrases and sentences. This process can be compared to a transition from one operation or activity to another. Many experts in translation determine mental stability as the first factor among the qualities of professional competence. High speech activity, long talking, holding attention, frequent concentration, need to transmit people's thoughts and vision and control of one's own can cause mental overload. To avoid this, one should improve one's own mental and moral qualities.

Communicability is an inherent feature of each person. While performing one's professional activities, the level of one's communicability can increase or be limited. An interpreter should foster the contact process between the parties for which he translates.

Another important element is the intelligence of an interpreter. We do not mean encyclopedic erudition, but relevant education, variety of interests, active self-training and a continuous process of self-improvement.

Among personal traits that significantly influence the professional competence of an interpreter, we should distinguish the following ones: self-confidence, integrity, initiative, responsibility, punctuality. Confidence is usually found in certain types of activities in which an interpreter checks the adequacy of his capabilities to fulfill tasks required. This fact should be taken into

account in the training of future interpreters in the area of aviation, because self-confidence is important for the development of certain skills, and for the formation of all aspects of the personality of an individual and, consequently, his emotions.

Responsibility is defined as an important moral quality characterized by an appropriate attitude, a high sense of duty, high requirements to one's behavior and the behavior of others. A responsible interpreter completely understands his duties, demands on the quality of his work, and the tendency to fulfill orders promptly and accurately. Responsibility includes ingenuity and creativity.

Creativity is an ability that is determined as constant pursuit of independent actions and an active life-style of an individual. Creativity develops flexible thinking and one's ability to solve problems in situations that pertain to one's professional activity, in particular, to find the way out of conflicts with colleagues or customers and conflicts between communicants during negotiations. Creativity is related to the following professional qualities: efficiency, reliability, enthusiasm.

Adherence to principles is one of the qualities of one's self-reliance, which is highly appreciated in society and in relationships between people, because it allows one to confide in a person. Adherence to principles is associated with reliability that is considered to be professional quality and competence of an interpreter, taking into account his high moral requirements and his role as a primary source of information for an unknown recipient.

Accuracy is a character trait that is expressed in the ability to punctually (accurately, clearly, carefully) fulfill the tasks under conditions of a particular activity. Accuracy is connected with responsibility and patience.

According to some researchers (M. Prozorova, A. Shiryaev, V. Komissarov, U. Kautz, H. Risku), each kind of translation requires certain psychological characteristics of a specialist. For example, to successfully perform the translation, a specialist needs prudence and diligence, executive discipline, accuracy, patience, concentration, observation, reliable long-term memory. Consecutive translation requires concentration of an interpreter, effective logical and verbal memory, high level of his analytical skills, high self-control ability, and high sense of responsibility. Simultaneous interpretation requires qualities such as effective short-term memory, concentration, predictive ability, reaction time, ability to focus, clear diction, mental stability, and good physical shape.

Therefore, we have attempted to describe the individual psychological characteristics of an interpreter, which influence the efficiency of his professional activity. It is necessary to emphasize physiological characteristics of an interpreter (such as clarity of diction, health, etc.).

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