**Unit 4**

**Learning Objectives**

This unit deals with different editing types a translator has to implement when editing translated texts, which ensures higher quality of translations.

**Keywords**

* editor, editing, revision, elimination, mistakes, register

**REGISTER** is a variety of language that a language user considers appropriate to a specific situation. The register variations are divided by the following parameters:

- **field of discourse**: what is relevant to the speaker´s choice of linguistic items, depending on the kind of action they are participating (talking about sport, medicine, news, etc.).

- **tenor of discourse**: what relationships there are between the people taking part in the discourse (mother/child, doctor/patient) - formal, informal, conversational. In translation, you have to decide on the level of formality from the perspective of the source culture or the target culture.

- **mode of discourse**: what role the language is playing (speech, essay, lecture, instructions) and what is the transmission medium (spoken, written).

Different groups within each culture have different expectations about what kind of language is appropriate to particular situations. The translator has to decide what impact the text created on source audience, and transform the similar impact into target text.

 (Baker, Mona. *In Other Words: A Coursebook on translation.* Abingdon: Routledge, 2011.)

TASK 1: Comprehension check:

**Read the paraghraph below and decide what is the role of the text, the relationship between the two sides and the transmission medium:**

All the documents mentioned above shall be handed over to the Buyer in duplicate in writing and one-time printed on CD-ROM. All documents produced by the Supplier shall be in German and English language. If required by Russian law, CE-guidelines and/or Russian authorities, such documents shall also be translated into the Russian language.

All translators should be able to perform a **register analysis** for two reasons:

1. to have an understanding of the text they are translating which goes beyond the simple level of denotation and allows them to choose the appropriate register in the target language

2. when they are required to tackle new subject matters they can produce their own analysis of the registers available for that subject in both the source and target languages.

The assumption is that the registers appropriate in a given situation will vary between languages. Register shifts would have to occur in the process of translation.

  (Gouadec, Daniel. *Translation as a Profession.* Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2007.)

TASK 2: Comprehension check:

**Read the sentences below, compare them and fill in the missing words, which refer to the theory of register.**

1. The goods should be delivered within two weeks from the day of order.

2. I should be able to send you the goods in two weeks after your order.

Both sentences deal with between and supplier. The first sentence is and written. The second sentence is less and can be spoken as well.

**Basic register distinctions:**

They are defined in non-linguistic terms, e.g. newspaper editorials are distinguished as being a) written, (b) published in a newspaper, and (c) primarily intended to express an informed opinion on matters already in the news.

The four major registers considered are **conversation**, **fiction**, **newspaper** **language**, and **academic prose**. These registers have the virtue of being (a) important, highly productive varieties of the language, and (b) different enough from one another to represent a wide range of variation.

Conversation differs from the other three registers in being spoken, directly interactive, and arguably the most basic form of human communication.

All three written registers differ from conversation in many of these respects: they are written, not directly interactive, lack specific addressees, and have communicative purposes not focused on the personal concerns of the writer/reader.

There are major sub-registers within each of these four register categories, and thus there is a considerable amount of linguistic variation within each category.

For example, newspaper writing includes not only news reportage, but also editorials, reviews, etc. Further, newspaper texts have been collected from different kinds of newspapers (e.g. the Wall Street Journal v. the Daily Mirror). Similarly, academic prose texts have been collected from several major disciplines, and fiction texts include a wide range of subregisters (e.g. adventure fiction, romance fiction, and modern-day classics).

  (Biber, Douglas, et al. *Longman Student Grammar of Spoken and Written English.* Harlow: Pearson Education Ltd., 2007.)

TASK 3: Comprehension check:

**Identify the following texts and choose the correct answer:**

1. The following text is an example of academic text:

A subway car derailment that killed three people and injured 162 may have been triggered by a dragging motor that hit a track switch, federal investigators said Thursday.

  True False 

2. The following text is an example of fiction:

Breeding site tenacity is widely believed to be characteristic of most species of birds that depend on relatively stable resources. Potential advantages include intimate familiarity with the food resources and habitat characteristics of a site, the latter possibly beneficial for birds seeking refuge from predators or defending sites in intraspecific conflicts.

True False 

**According to error typology, we differentiate between register:**

1. Inconsistent with Source Text (LA-RE-IS)

2. Inappropriate for Target Language (LA-RE-IN)

The letters in brackets refer to the specification of the particular error.

Glossary of terms

**Collocation** (kolokace) - the co-occurrence of two lexical items, known as collocates.

**Cut and Paste functions** (kopírovat/vložit) - functions which enable you to copy the text and insert it wherever needed.

**Grammar-check** (oprava gramaticky) - program in the word processor, it helps you to check grammar when writing.

**Register** (funkční styl) - tendency to pattern language behaviour in relation to a particular type of activity, level of formality, etc.

**Spell-check** (oprava pravopisu) - program included in the word processor that helps when you are writing.

Points to remember

It is useful for translator when editing to use **spell- check** and **grammar check**, as well as **cut** and **paste functions** for rearranging words or paragraphs.

**The translator must carry out five basic checks and controls:**

- of material quality (translation is completely translated and follows any required specifications)

- of language, style and register quality (spelling, grammar, syntax, terminology, phraseology)

- of technical-factual-semantic quality (factual information, data and logical sequences)

- of transfer quality (relevant and significant elements from the ST are present in the translation)

- of homogeneity and consistency (essential when there are several translator of one material)

**Four major registers**: conversation, fiction, newspaper language, and academic prose. Further they are divided according to the media of transmission, their purpose and relationship between participants.