



TRANSLATION IN THE ERA OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

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Abstract: *It is widely acknowledged that the 21st century is essentially an era of technological revolution. There is no sphere of our lives untouched by the influence of technology. One of the factors that has significantly accelerated this process is Artificial Intelligence (AI). As AI continues to evolve, it has triggered various concerns, doubts, and questions among translators, as it has in many other professions. This article provides a detailed exploration of these issues.*

Keywords: *Artificial Intelligence, translation, the future of human translation, machine translation.*

Artificial Intelligence: Will human translation become obsolete?

There are diverse opinions regarding this matter. While some views are constructive, others are more skeptical. However, it is highly unlikely that Artificial Intelligence will completely replace humans in the field of translation. One primary reason is that every enterprise, institution, company, and state possesses confidential secrets intended only for a narrow circle. Naturally, communicating or preserving these secrets through a human intermediary is considered far more secure than uploading them to a publicly accessible AI platform.

Furthermore, there are several areas where AI's capabilities remain questionable, which inherently sustains the demand for human translation. For instance, AI-driven translation often fails to grasp the full context, cultural nuances, or—most importantly—the emotional depth of a text, which can lead to linguistic awkwardness or inaccuracies. This creates a continuous need for human translators who can ensure cultural sensitivity, contextual integrity, and meaningful depth.

Where will human translation prevail?



Research indicates that although AI-based machine translation records high scores in terms of grammar and fluency, it remains inadequate in translating context, humor, irony, and other cultural elements. To put it more precisely, human intervention is essential to convey the deep metaphorical meanings and true essence of a text.

Moreover, studies conducted by organizations such as 'CSA Research' (Common Sense Advisory) suggest that the role of human translators is not disappearing; rather, it is evolving into a collaborative process where humans edit and refine translations initially generated by AI.

What skills should a modern translator master?

In this era of technological revolution, the most vital skills a modern translator must acquire are technological competencies. The following stages are crucial:

1. Post-editing machine translation (PEMT): This is perhaps the most critical skill. A translator must take the output generated by AI and adapt it culturally, correct it linguistically, and ensure contextual flow to achieve a high-quality final product.

2. Computer-assisted translation (CAT) Tools: Translators must become proficient in using tools such as SDL Trados Studio, memoQ, and Memsource, as well as managing Translation Memories (TM) and Terminology Bases.

Economic Impact: Price vs. Professional Standards

The high efficiency of AI translation significantly lowers the cost of translation services, which fundamentally impacts the living standards of professional translators. AI drastically reduces prices because machines operate many times faster than humans. While translation was previously expensive due to the human labor involved, AI has made basic translation almost free. Companies now prefer to pay lower rates for the simple editing of AI-generated content. Consequently, the market price for standard human translation is decreasing.

In such a landscape, the solution for translators lies in specializing in high-stakes fields where AI struggles—such as legal documentation, diplomatic acts, and



complex medical texts. This allows professionals to maintain their relevance and value in the industry.

The Role of Universities in the AI Era

Universities specializing in translation must now equip students with new, technology-driven, and highly specialized skills. Teaching traditional concepts and grammar alone is no longer sufficient. Translation education should pivot toward these four core areas:

Technological Literacy: Mastery of MTPE (Post-editing) and CAT tools to manage translation memories and large-scale projects.

Data Management and Analysis: Learning to build and manage corpora (parallel texts) to train machine translation systems and maintaining specialized glossaries.

Specialization and Deep Context: Focusing on "Vertical Specialization" (Medicine, Law, IT) and 'Transcreation' (creative translation for marketing and literature) where cultural impact is more important than literal word-for-word accuracy.

Critical Thinking and Ethics: Evaluating AI output for "hallucinations" or errors, understanding algorithmic bias (cultural or gender-based), and managing the legalities of data privacy.

In summary, regardless of how deeply Artificial Intelligence (Machine Translation) penetrates the industry, it cannot entirely replace human translation due to the complexities of security, cultural nuance, and the need for creative adaptation.

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