[=]LTA
LiveTextAccess

UNIT 2

Element 2 – LO1-2-3. Terminology management

and implementation

TRANSCRIPT

Table of contents

1   Slide 1

LiveTextAccess: Training for real-time intralingual subtitlers.

2   Slide 2

This is Unit 2. Linguistic competence. Element 2. Strategies to acquire and develop specific thematic knowledge.

3   Slide 3

Terminology preparation, management and implementation.

Created by UAB and SSML.

4   Slide 4

The learning outcomes for this unit are: search terminology, identify reliable sources, generate specific glossaries, manage terminology, and implement terminology in real time working situations.

5   Slide 5

In this unit we will be dealing with the following points: Terminology definition, terminology in real time subtitling, terminology preparation and main challenges. We will finish with a summary.

6   Slide 6

Terminology.

7   Slide 7

Terminology is a key aspect of the real-time intralingual sublitler's job to ensure the quality of the subtitles. According to Cabré: "Terminology is the set of units of expression and communication which allow specialised knowledge transfer."

8   Slide 8

Terminology is not limited to science and technology. Politics, which very few would classify as scientific, has a rapidly evolving specialised terminology and can be one of the most challenging specialised fields for a real-time intralingual subtitler, often due to mentions to legislation. Even sports, the domain of supporters and emotion has specialised vocabulary.

9   Slide 9

In terms of operation for a particular working context the real-time intralingual subtitler should try to build up as many concepts and establish as many relations as possible in order to facilitate and speed up the subtitling process. Knowledge will not be limited to the topic matter per se, but it will also be extended to how the topic is discussed, and to what end, by whom, and from what perspective. The more the real-time intralingual subtitler knows, the more he and she can predict, the better his and her knowledge is of any given topic and the faster he and she can predict the results. The real-time intralingual subtitler cannot restrict him or herself to learning words without seeking to find what they express.

10   Slide 10

Well, each working context contains a source text with both neutral and difficult speech segments. The following example shows segments classified as difficult in square brackets and bold type and as neutral in italics. For instance, part of neutral language would be: "Today psychiatrists are stuck with a distinction that started over 100 years ago." This would be part of neutral speech However, as specified in square brackets and bold type. "Psychiatrist Emil Kreplin" which is a proper noun or "Dementia precox", or "Schizophrenia" would be terms specific and classified as difficult speech segments.

11   Slide 11

Terminology in real-time intralingual subtitling.

12　Slide 12

Terminology in real-time intralingual subtitling it's a highly cognitively demanding task. Professionals have to struggle with unfamiliar concepts that have to be previously prepared. Also there are fast-paced speakers with difficult pronunciation specially in the case of non-native speakers. There are the memory constraints, the human short-term memory. So there is a consistent recall of specific terms uttered by the speaker that professionals have to manage for providing the output text.

13　Slide 13

Terminology preparation.

14　Slide 14

Each working context has its specificities but common tasks in all working contexts are: to know the topic of the speech, to search for specific terms, to familiarise with specific terminology and to introduce terms in the system. Once the real-time intralingual subtitler knows what sort of topic will handle, and once she or he has the specifics of the working context, it's time to search for specific terms as well as other words that will be used in a specific working context. This process allows the professional to familiarise with specific terminology and the last step is to introduce the detected terms in the system.

15　Slide 15

Information sources. Terminology preparation will depend on the working context. But there are three main common sources of information that apply to all working contexts. First of all the world wide web, which is the most common used information source. Also depending on the context there is the documentation, such as list of speakers, program or agenda. Finally, another information source can be the background information and terminology resources that depending on the type of job, our costumer or employer can provide us. It can be papers on the subjects and organisations involved, documents to be discussed, texts of speeches to be delivered, PowerPoint presentations and the speakers' notes, summaries or minutes of previous meetings, bionotes of the speakers. Those are relevant information sources that we can obtain and request from our customers.

16   Slide 16

In terms of tools they have the ability to manage terms previously introduced by professionals in the system. Such as, proper names, numbers, acronyms and entities. Once the terminology is extracted from the information sources it should be introduced in the system in order to have a proper management.

17   Slide 17

Glossaries, after all this terminology preparation the final product is usually a glossary that contains specialised terms.

18   Slide 18

The main aim of this terminology preparation is to reduce the cognitive load on real-time intralingual subtitlers. Because such systems have the potential to reduce the cognitive load of real-time intralingual subtitlers by allowing professionals to concentrate on fluent and accurate production of the target message.

19   Slide 19

Main challenges.

20   Slide 20

Main challenges. We cannot forget that all this terminology preparation, and management and implementation has some added challenges. Some of them are: when no material is available, the terms are too technical. There's also the common problem which is the time pressure. The collection is mainly done manually so it's a very time consuming task. And preparing terminology alone cannot guarantee a successful retrieval during the real-time intralingual subtitling practice.

21   Slide 21

Summary.

22   Slide 22

As a summary we should stress the following points: First terminology occurs in context, which means that we have to be familiarised with the overall terminology, not only to specific terms. Second, advanced terminology preparation supports the real-time intralingual subtitling process. Third, terminology preparation helps professionals to reduce the cognitive load during a work. And lastly, preparing terminology alone cannot guarantee a successful retrieval during the real-time intralingual subtitling job.

23   Slide 23

Exercises.

24   Slide 24

The exercises for this video lecture are in the trainer's guide and PowerPoint file.

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Authors: UAB, SSML

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