Lesson 1
Specialized Communication and Terminology
Profª Dra. Chelo Vargas
Lesson 1: Specialized Communication and Terminology

Methodology:

1. Time organization
2. Lesson structure
3. Teaching method
Lesson 1: Specialized Communication and Terminology

- **Methodology:**
  - **Time organization**
    - 1st week
    - 1 session
    - in-/out-of-class activities: 2/3 h
    - Lecture: 1h
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Core Concept:

Methodology:

Lesson structure:

1. Presentation of information
2. Explanation of content
3. Learning activities
4. Classroom assessment
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❖ Methodology:

- **Teaching method**
  - Lecture
  - Problem-solving

**MATERIAL:** RECORD FOR THEORETICAL CLASSES
Lesson 1: Specialized Communication and Terminology

- The introduction
- The objectives
- The outline
- The content
Lesson 1: Specialized Communication and Terminology

The introduction

Differences and similarities between General and Specialized communication

The concept of language for special Purposes (LSP)
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The objectives

As a result of this lesson students will be able to:

1. identify the features that make special languages different from general language and artificial languages.

2. identify the role that terms have in specialized texts as knowledge carriers and organisers.
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The outline

1. Differences and similarities between general and specialized communication.
2. Terminology is natural language.
3. What is LSP?

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The contents

What is an LSP?

Is this sentence true?: «Specialized translation only needs to transfer one language into another»

Do you think it is important for a translator to learn an LSP? Why?
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The contents

To translate a special text you need actually to “know” what you are talking about, which means understanding the concepts behind the terms and using a special language as an expert will do.

LSP is the language used to discuss specialized fields of knowledge.

Translators need to familiarize with both the concepts in the subject field and the language.
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The contents - Differences and similarities LG & LSP

- Specialized communication process may seem similar to general communication process
- What are the differences?
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The contents - Differences and similarities LG & LSP

Jakobson (1960): in every concrete speech act

sender
uses code

MESSAGE

receiver
has context

is transmitted

medium
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The contents - Differences and similarities LG & LSP

Communication diagram:

- Code
- Message
- Sender
- Medium
- Receiver
- Context

Specialized communication
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The contents - Differences and similarities LG & LSP

- Experts in a specific area of knowledge
- Their context is limited to the area of knowledge that the parties share
- The communication system that is used includes general language
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The contents - Differences and similarities LG & LSP

❖ Each communication factor is the focal point of a relation, or function, that operates between the message and the factor:

- REFERENTIAL: The Earth is round
- EMOTIVE: Oh, my God!
- CONATIVE: Come here!
- PHATIC: Hello?
- METALINGUAL: What do you mean by ‘mafic’?
- POETIC: The fire burned violently
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The contents - Differences and similarities LG & LSP

Formally, 2 basic differences:
- Type of oral and written texts produced
- The use of a specific terminology
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The contents - Terminology is natural language

Terms:
- Don’t belong to an independent system of words, but come together with words to form the vocabulary of speakers
- Can be analyzed from different points of view (linguistic, cognitive, communicative)
- Share the specialized communication space with other signs (non-linguistic)
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The contents - Terminology is natural language

Terms:

El término es tan signo lingüístico como cualquier unidad léxica de las áreas no especializadas, y los hablantes científicos y técnicos son tan hablantes como el resto. Las diferencias entre "término" y "no término" son de tipo pragmático, no formal, funcional ni semántico. Esto hace que muchos de los postulados tradicionales de la terminología sean desmentidos, o al menos puestos en entredicho, por la práctica cotidiana. (Alpízar, R., 1997: 8)
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The contents - Terminology is natural language

- Specialized Knowledge Unit (SKU)
  - Units that represent and transmit knowledge

TERMINOLOGY
OBJECT

are

linguistic
cognitive
communicative
### Specialized Knowledge Unit (SKU)

- They are created within a linguistic system and are formed by a signifier and a signified.
- They allow to represent and fix the specialized knowledge.
- They transmit and spread the specialized knowledge.
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The contents - Terminology is natural language

- **Typical SKU: terminological units,**
  - **form** (number and type of morphemes): *sphere*, *spherulite*, *twinning*, *handpolisher*, *gantry crane*, *ISO*, *perpend*, *Pa*
  - **functions** (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs): *karst*, *cap*, *igneous*, *perpendicularly*
  - **meaning** or kind of **concept** they represent (objects, processes, properties, relations): *aggregate*, *bore*, *breccia-like* ..
  - **Origin:** *lithofacies*, *gneiss*
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The contents - Terminology is natural language - SKU organization

❖ Organization of the SKU:

SKU

Natural Language Units

Artificial Language Units
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The contents - Terminology is natural language - SKU organization

Organization of the SKU:

- Natural Language Units
  - Specialized Morphological Units (prefixes, suffixes, formatives)
  - Specialized Lexical Units (n., v., adj., adv.)
  - Specialized Phraseological Units (NPhr, VPhr, AdjPhr, AdvPhr, PrepPhr)
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The contents - Terminology is natural language - SKU organization

Organization of the SKU:

Artificial Language Units

- Symbols
- Formulas
- Nomenclature
- Iconography
## Lesson 1: Specialized Communication and Terminology

The contents - What is LSP?

### LGP vs LSP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LGP = language for general purposes</th>
<th>LSP = language for special purposes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>language we use everyday to talk about ordinary things in a variety of common situations</td>
<td>the language used to discuss specialized fields of knowledge (chemistry, gastronomy, biotechnology ...)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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The contents - What is LSP?

LGP & LSP: overlap

De-terminologization
(Meyer & Mackintosh, 2000)

E.g.: AIDS, diabetes, anorexia

**LSP: striking features**

- **Example: LSP of Chemistry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms</th>
<th>sodium chloride, nitroglycerine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formulas</td>
<td>NaCl, C\textsubscript{3}H\textsubscript{5}(NO\textsubscript{3})\textsubscript{3}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Collocations        | Verbs+‘experiment’? - ‘to do an experiment’?  
- experiments are typically ‘conducted’ or ‘carried out’. |
| Passive v.          | ‘the experiment was conducted’ rather than ‘X conducted the experiment’ |
| Style               | -Stating the purpose of the experiment  
- Describing the equipment used  
- outlining the methodology, etc. |
### Lesson 1: Specialized Communication and Terminology

**The contents - What is LSP? – Artificial languages and special languages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artificial languages</th>
<th>LSPs are not artificial</th>
<th>LSPs = AL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ &quot;invented&quot; languages. &lt;br&gt;□ constructed using natural language &lt;br&gt;□ a previous, controlled conceptualization, &lt;br&gt;□ unable to admit new units not previously set and conceptualized. &lt;br&gt;□ unambiguous (no synonyms or polysemous terms) &lt;br&gt;□ reduced syntax &lt;br&gt;□ reduced inventory of signs first established in written form. &lt;br&gt;□ valid wherever used. &lt;br&gt;□ no scope for meaning variation.</td>
<td>□ cannot be considered &quot;invented&quot;, but participate in the general language. &lt;br&gt;□ not constructed with language as a point of reference, as they form a part of language. &lt;br&gt;□ can admit new units, even if, it is desirable to control their growth. &lt;br&gt;□ permit synonyms. &lt;br&gt;□ all the syntactic possibilities offered by the LGP &lt;br&gt;□ inventory of signs that grows steadily</td>
<td>□ prior conceptualization that is relatively controlled &lt;br&gt;□ do not usually admit new terms unless the concept has been defined and named &lt;br&gt;□ do not have (in theory) polysemous terms (polysemy in general language is homonymy in special languages) &lt;br&gt;□ written form of terms takes priority over the spoken form &lt;br&gt;□ many terms are valid internationally &lt;br&gt;□ have the same limited functions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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The contents – What is LSP? - Who uses LSP?

- Experts: people who have training or experience in the specialized field in question
- Semi-expert
- Non-experts
  - Students
  - Experts from related fields
  - Technical writers
  - Translators
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The contents - What is LSP? – Different levels of LSP communication

- Experts
- Semi-expert
- Non-experts
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The contents - What is LSP? – Different levels of LSP communication

HIGHLY SPECIALIZED LANGUAGE
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The contents - What is LSP? – Different levels of LSP communication

TERMS + EXPLANATIONS (text books)
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The contents - What is LSP? – Different levels of LSP communication

Fewer terms + words for simplified descriptions of concepts
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The contents – What is LSP? - Learning an LSP

- Acquire two broad types of knowledge:
  - specialized terms, collocations, grammatical structures and stylistic features.
  - information about the specialized concepts described using the LSP.

Translators need to actually know what they are writing or taking about, which means understanding the concepts behind the terms.
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The contents – What is LSP? - Learning an LSP

- Translators need to familiarize with:
  - Concepts in the subject field
  - Language used to describe them

- How?
  - Learning the LSP terms and structures with texts or corpora
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The contents - What is LSP? - Learning an LSP

❖ A corpus can be a useful resource for learning about the linguistic features of an LSP, such as:
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The contents - What is LSP? - Learning an LSP

knowledge about terms
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The contents - What is LSP? - Learning an LSP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collocations</th>
<th>Concordance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| while early mornings are fast, problem with Dynamic IP Addressing Another problem you regular analog modems is the concept of Dynamic IP addresses. Most people on the Internet providers use is a method called Dynamic IP addresses. The advantage is that for the number of subscribers. If you have a Dynamic IP style of ISP, there are solutions of ISP, there are solutions for you at the Dynamic Domain Name Service page. Using are not ideal. Two reasons - speed and Dynamic IP addresses. These issues are over Ethernet-based DSL are now using Dynamic IP addresses. Even though this is semi-static IP addresses, but some do have Dynamic IP addresses that change each time software packages such as Synchronet) Dynamic DNS Services If you do not have a Telnet BBS. Here is information on what Dynamic DNS (Domain Name Server) is one of the few devices that provides Dynamic DNS registration of a computer on the internet connection's IP-address is dynamically assigned. DHCP server Box Experience If your ISP assigns you a Dynamic IP-address using DHCP, you'll have configured your PC to have a Dynamic IP-address in its network from the Linksys settings, and would dynamically get their IP addresses. Bliss for you too (using a technology called Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol or The DI-713 also serves as a DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol) server issues DSL accounts come with either a dynamically assigned TCP/IP address or very small businesses offer a single dynamically assigned address. The benefit to software available on the Internet. With a dynamically assigned address, it is more connections towards PPPoE, which uses dynamically assigned IP addresses and that someone has broken into your network. Dynamic DNS Dynamic DNS support allows broken into your network. Dynamic DNS Dynamic DNS support allows you to assign a your own web server. Some routers have Dynamic DNS services built-in, but check the personal financial information. Note that Dynamic IP (e.g., DHCP, PPPoE, PPPoA) is IP - that's a dangerous misconception. Dynamic IP just makes you a bit harder to personal financial information. Note that Dynamic IP (e.g., DHCP, PPPoE, PPPoA) is IP - that's a dangerous misconception. Dynamic IP just makes you a bit harder to
a dramatic slowdown of about 90% (2.5 Mbps as compared to 27 Mbps). Even with cable modems
of 4 channels would be about 2.5 Mbps, as compared to downstream capacity of 27 Mbps. If
with my Internet connection speeds as compared to my previous setup. As a quick
service. Cable modem: this is a simple config, compared to DSL. You will plug the router into the
in volume, reducing the per port cost dramatically compared to lower-volume proprietary DSLs.
 DSL service soars at speeds up to 6.141 Mbps. Compared to the standard modem speed of 56
you can see ADSL offers incredible performance compared to standard dial-up connections and is
to its relatively high cost and low performance compared to DSL, today ISDN is only a practical
the relative efficiency of these two possibilities compared to various DSL capabilities: Desired and
- it manages only 290 kilobytes per second, compared to 453 kilobytes without encryption. The
to US $25 to $30 per month for basic service, compared to US $50 for domestic providers. KT, for
the cable on the power-adapter is too short compared to the 3-prong standard power-cable you
Cons Dial-up connections are very slow compared to other connection types. When
have decided that DSL is an "also ran" when compared to cable. Many DSL service providers,
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The contents - What is LSP? - Learning an LSP

Conceptual characteristic

Relationships between two concepts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bridge/Router - A device that can provide the functions of a bridge, router, or both concurrently. Bridge/ router can route one or more protocols, such as TCP/IP and/or XNS, and bridge all other traffic. Bridge/router transmits data at high rates, generally greater than T1 speeds (1.5 Mbps). This</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>IP-Masquerading involves rewriting the source and/or destination addresses of IP packets as they pass through a router or firewall. Most systems using NAT do so in order to enable multiple hosts on a private network to access the Internet using a single public IP address. According to specifications, routers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>A local network uses one of the designated &quot;private&quot; IP address subnets (such as 192.168.1.x or 10.x.x.x), and a router on that network has a private address (such as 192.168.0.1) in that address space. The router is connected to the Internet with a single &quot;public&quot; address (known as &quot;overloaded&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>and a router on that network has a private address (such as 192.168.0.1) in that address space. The router is also connected to the Internet with a single &quot;public&quot; address (known as &quot;overloaded&quot; NAT) or multiple &quot;public&quot; addresses assigned by an ISP. As traffic passes from the local network to the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>source address in each packet is translated on the fly from the private addresses to the public addresses(es). The router tracks basic data about each active connection (particularly the destination address and port). When a reply returns to the router, it uses the connection tracking data it stored during the</td>
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The contents – KEY POINTS

- Specialized communication focused on the referent and the sender
- Terminology forms part of natural language.
- Terms share with other non-linguistic signs the space of specialized communication.
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The contents – KEY POINTS

❖ LSP is the language used to discuss specialized fields of knowledge. Terminology forms part of natural language.

❖ In addition to having a specialized vocabulary, an LSP may also have specialized collocational or stylistic features that differ from LGP.
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The contents – KEY POINTS

- There are different types of LSP users, including experts, semi-experts, and non-experts
- Two broad types of knowledge are required in order to become a proficient LSP user: linguistic and conceptual
- A corpus can be a useful resource for learning about the linguistic and conceptual features of an LSP.
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References


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The contents – Link to the following session

Does a clear-cut borderline exist between LGP and LSP?