NZSTI CONFERENCE

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF
TRANSLATORS & INTERPRETERS
Te Rōpū Kaiwhakamāori ā-waha, ā-tuhi o Aotearoa

Unlocking Success: Navigating the Opportunities and Challenges of Teamwork in Translation Projects

Pham Hoa Hiep
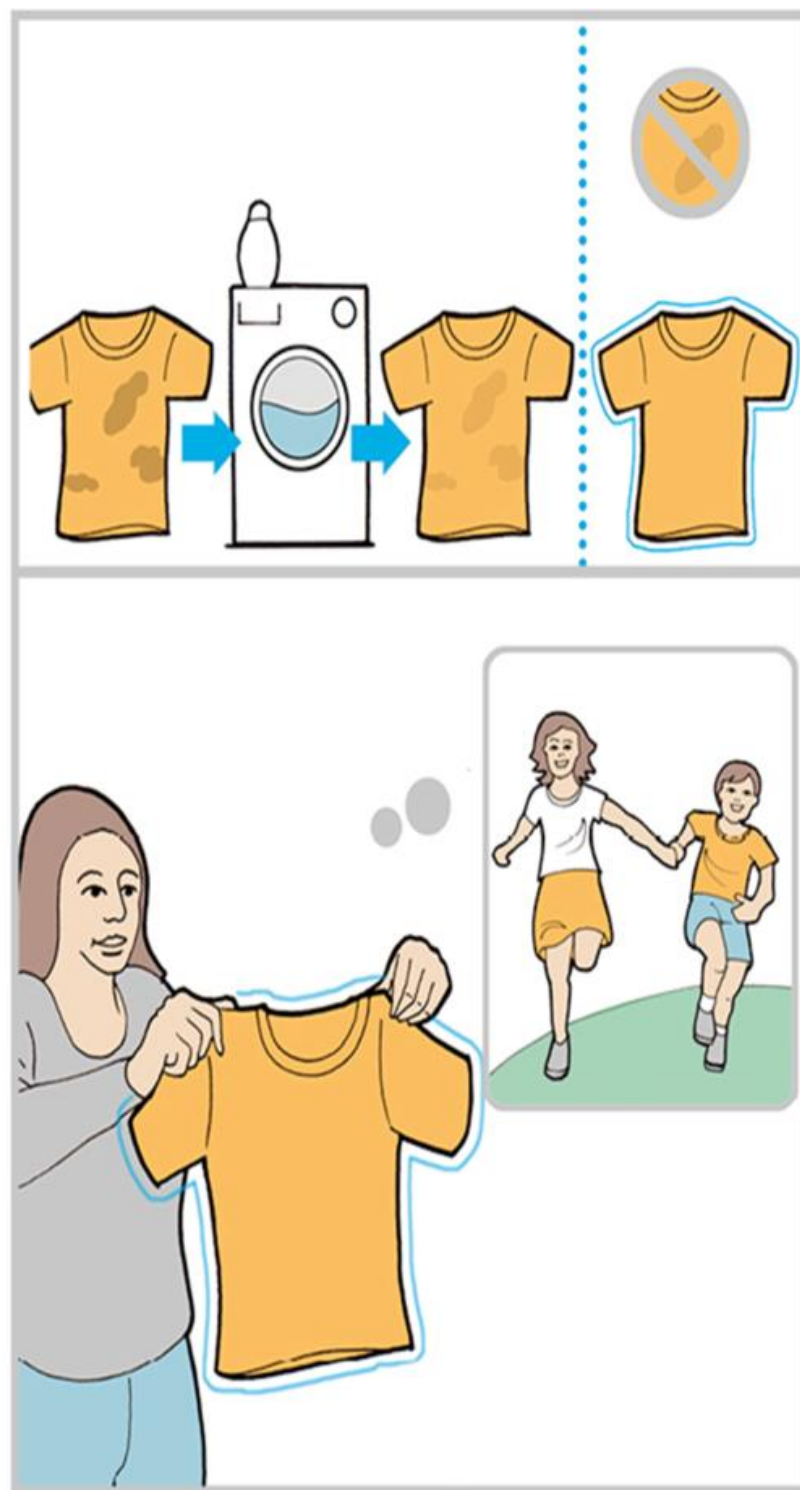
Freelance Translator

Contents
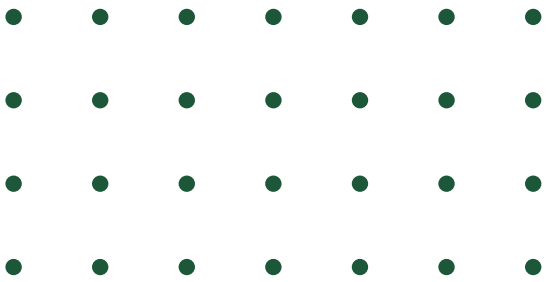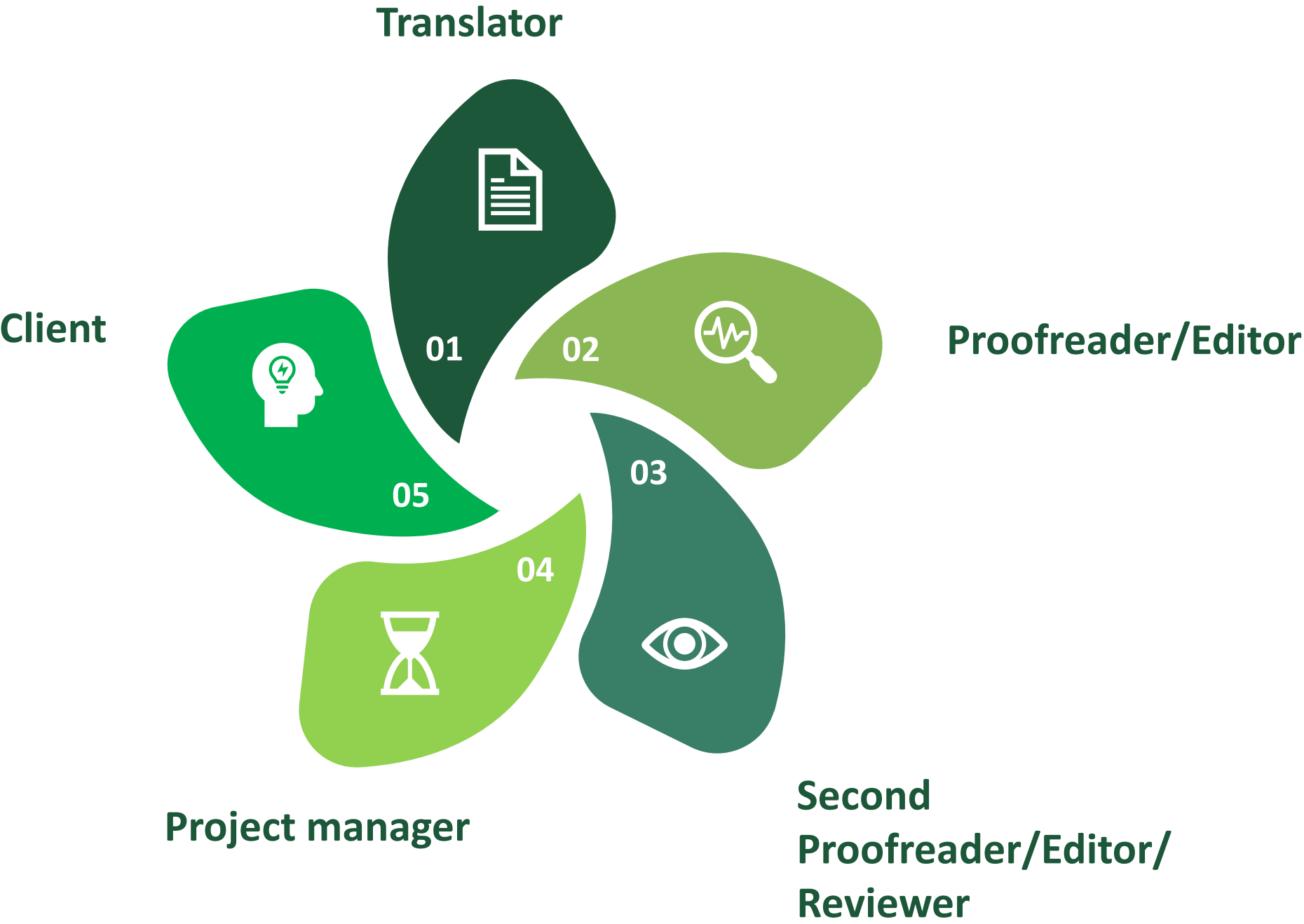
GIÚP ~~TRÁNH CÁC~~ NGĂN NGỪA VẾT ~~ĐƠ~~ BẨN

Lan phải xử lý rất nhiều vết ~~đơ~~ bẩn khác nhau ~~nơi~~ trên áo quần của gia đình mình mỗi ngày. Cô biết cách để xử lý chúng, nhưng việc này khiến cô mất rất nhiều thời gian và công sức.

Cô đã dùng thử loại ~~nước giặt~~ sản phẩm giặt tẩy mới '~~chống lại vết đơ~~' giúp ~~tránh~~ ngăn ngừa để các vết ~~đơ~~ bẩn thâm nhập sâu vào ~~ở sâu bên~~ trong sợi vải và ~~tẩy sạch~~ chúng sẽ được loại bỏ hoàn toàn trong lần giặt ~~tiếp theo~~ sau đó.

Lan thấy các vết ~~đơ~~ bẩn đã được ~~tẩy sạch~~ loại bỏ mà không cần phải làm thêm điều gì ví dụ như ngâm hoặc cho thêm thuốc tẩy vào ~~để tẩy vết đơ~~. Quần áo của gia đình cô vẫn trắng sạch tuyệt vời ~~Cô đã giữ được sự trắng sáng cho áo quần của gia đình mình~~ nhưng với ít công đoạn hơn. Giờ đây cô cảm thấy an tâm hơn khi con cái mình bị vấy bẩn.

Importance of Collaboration in Translation

Translator

01

Proofreader/Editor

02

03

Second Proofreader/Editor/ Reviewer

04

Project manager

05

Client

Types of Translation Projects Requiring Collaboration

- **Simple translation projects**

- **Large-Scale Translation/Localization Projects(Multilingual Website, Software and App)**

- **Harmonization Projects**

- **Marketing and Branding Translation Projects**

- **Cognitive Debriefing (Linguistic Validation) Projects**

- **Other Collaborative Translation Projects (technical documentation, legal translations, and subtitling)**

Benefits of Collaboration

• Improved Accuracy and Consistency

• Enhanced Expertise and Specialization

• Faster Turnaround Times

• Enhanced Cultural Sensitivity

• Learning and Professional Development

• Emotional Support (e.g. combating Isolation)

Challenges of Collaboration

- Scenario #1: A project manager who does not speak the target language uses Google Translate or back translation to comment on your translation work, questioning its quality or accuracy

- Scenario #2: A fellow translator disagrees with your translation choice for the term "you," suggesting a different form based on regional or contextual preferences

- Scenario #3: A developer overseas comments that your translation is too lengthy compared to the source text, potentially impacting the design, user interface (UI), or functionality of a digital product.

Challenges of Collaboration

- Differences (cultures, backgrounds, beliefs, ideologies, working styles...)

- Communication barriers, coordination, and project management (e.g time zones)

- Technology challenges (different tools and platforms)

- Managing client expectations and QA (back translation/ in-country reviewer...)

Enhancing Collaborative Efforts

- Foster Open Communication: Regular check-ins, clear documentation, and feedback loops
- Build trust and navigate the complexities of differing/ conflicting perspectives
- Project managers, translators, and proofreaders must be well-informed about the entire process, the specific roles, contributions, and limitations at each step
- Clearly defined procedures and comprehensive training

Effective Teamwork in Translation Projects

- **Commit to Team Collaboration:**

  - Actively engage in team discussions and meetings.

  - Share insights and constructive feedback to enhance project outcomes.

  - Support team members in achieving shared goals.

- **Cooperative Attitude:**

  - Foster a positive and inclusive environment.

  - Show respect for diverse perspectives and expertise.

  - Collaborate openly with translators, proofreaders, and project managers.

Effective Communication

Dear Hiep

We have reviewed your recent translations and have a few questions that need your input. Could you please review the attached translation table and address the comments in the Discussion column?

While no inaccuracies are implied, some sections require reconciliation with the source text per the back-translation. If revisions are needed, kindly provide an updated translation without removing the original. Please include a back-translation and explanation in the Discussion column.

Thank you for your collaboration.

Summary

- **Collaboration Improves Quality**

- **Effective Communication is Key**

- **Leverage Team Strengths**

- **Address Challenges Proactively**

- **Continuous Learning and Adaptation**

- **Building a Collaborative Culture**

More about my teamwork experience

- **Good Proofreaders / Bad Proofreaders (Translation Journal)**
  https://translationjournal.net/journal/58proofreader.htm

- **Translating and Harmonizing Health Questionnaires: Navigating the Complex Journey (The ATA Chronicle)**
  https://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/chronicle/20240506/index.php?startid=22#/p/18

Let's stay in touch!

Email: hiepsuu@gmail.com

Translating and Harmonizing HEALTH Questionnaires: Navigating the Complex Journey

Harmonizing health questionnaires is not just a task. It's a complex journey that demands significant teamwork to navigate linguistic nuances, cultural sensitivities, and logistical intricacies.

By Pham Hoa Hiep

www.ata-chronicle.online

Over the past decade, I've devoted a significant part of my career to translating and harmonizing patient questionnaires. I've contributed to over 100 projects, working closely with project managers, developers, and fellow translators from various countries. Some projects have progressed smoothly while others have encountered challenges requiring considerable effort to overcome. Here, I'll share key insights focusing on the health questionnaire harmonization process and the challenges that might arise. Although I use examples from the Vietnamese language, many of these insights are applicable to other languages, including Chinese, Spanish, French, and German.

Why Is It Important to Translate Health Questionnaires?

Health questionnaires play a pivotal role in the translation industry for many reasons. Health questionnaires enable medical precision by providing health care providers with accurate insights into patients' medical history and symptoms, ensuring effective diagnosis and treatment. Precise translations uphold patient well-being by mitigating the risks associated with misinterpreted medical data, ensuring that patients receive appropriate care. Precise and culturally appropriate translations also ensure compliance with legal mandates for language accessibility and accurate translation of medical documents to uphold health care standards

American Translators Association 19