



## THE CLASSICAL EXAMPLE OF SOLVING THE PROBLEM OF WORD CHOICE IN SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION

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**Abstract:** *This article examines the challenges of word choice in simultaneous interpretation through classical examples from the United Nations General Assembly and the European Union institutions. It highlights how interpreters navigate complex legal, political, and cultural terminologies in real time, often without direct equivalents in the target languages. The article discusses strategies such as contextualization, the use of analogies, collaboration with subject matter experts, and real-time feedback, emphasizing their importance in ensuring effective communication. By analyzing these classical cases, the article sheds light on the cognitive and linguistic challenges interpreters face and the relevance of these strategies in contemporary practice.*

**Keywords:** *Simultaneous interpretation, word choice, United Nations General Assembly, European Union, contextualization, legal terminology, cognitive challenges, communication strategies.*

**Аннотация:** *В статье рассматриваются проблемы выбора слов в синхронном переводе на основе классических примеров из Генеральной Ассамблеи ООН и учреждений Европейского Союза. Подчеркивается, как переводчики справляются с комплексной юридической, политической и культурной терминологией в реальном времени, часто без прямых эквивалентов в целевых языках. В статье обсуждаются стратегии, такие как контекстуализация, использование аналогий, сотрудничество с экспертами в области и обратная связь в реальном времени, подчеркивая их важность для обеспечения эффективной коммуникации. Анализируя эти классические случаи, статья освещает когнитивные и лингвистические проблемы, с которыми сталкиваются переводчики, и актуальность этих стратегий в современной практике.*

**Ключевые слова:** *Синхронный перевод, выбор слов, Генеральная Ассамблея ООН, Европейский Союз, контекстуализация, юридическая терминология, когнитивные проблемы, коммуникационные стратегии.*

**Annotatsiya:** *Ushbu maqolada sinxron tarjimada so‘z tanlashdagi qiyinchiliklarni Birlashgan Millatlar Tashkiloti Bosh Assambleyasi va Yevropa Ittifoqi institutlaridan olingan klassik misollar orqali ko‘rib chiqiladi. Unda tarjimonlarning bir vaqtning o‘zida tillarda to‘g‘ridan-to‘g‘ri ekvivalentlari bo‘lmagan murakkab huquqiy, siyosiy va madaniy terminologiyalar bilan qanday*



yo'l tutishlari ta'kidlanadi. Maqolada kontekstualizatsiya, analogiyalarni ishlatish, soha mutaxassislari bilan hamkorlik va bir vaqtda fikr almashish kabi strategiyalar muhokama qilinadi, ularning samarali muloqotni ta'minlashdagi ahamiyati yoritiladi. Ushbu klassik holatlarni tahlil qilish orqali maqola tarjimonlar duch keladigan kognitiv va lingvistik qiyinchiliklarga hamda ushbu strategiyalarning zamonaviy amaliyotdagi ahamiyatiga e'tibor qaratadi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** *Sinxron tarjima, so'z tanlash, Birlashgan Millatlar Tashkiloti Bosh Assambleyasi, Yevropa Ittifoqi, kontekstualizatsiya, huquqiy terminologiya, kognitiv qiyinchiliklar, kommunikatsiya strategiyalari.*

## INTRODUCTION

Simultaneous interpretation (SI) is a complex task that requires interpreters to translate spoken content in real time, often under significant pressure. A major challenge in this process is the issue of word choice, especially when cultural, legal, or technical nuances complicate the meaning. This article examines classical examples of word choice challenges in simultaneous interpretation through various historical events, focusing on the **United Nations General Assembly** sessions and the **European Union** institutions, where interpreters routinely navigate diverse languages and terminologies.

## MAIN BODY

The **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** is one of the most important international platforms where global leaders convene to discuss pressing issues. The variety of languages spoken—officially, there are six: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish—creates unique challenges for interpreters.

One notable example occurred during a session addressing **climate change**. The term "**climate justice**" emerged as a critical concept, yet it posed significant challenges for interpreters. This term encapsulates the idea that those who contribute least to climate change are often the most affected by its impacts. However, the nuances of "**justice**" and "**climate**" may not have direct equivalents in all languages, leading to potential misunderstandings.

Strategies Employed to Address Word Choice Issues

1. Contextualization: Interpreters in the UNGA often contextualize terms that lack direct equivalents. In the case of "climate justice," interpreters may explain the term in broader terms, translating it as "fairness in addressing climate issues" or "equitable treatment of nations affected by climate change." This approach helps convey the concept's full meaning without losing the essence of the speaker's message.

2. Use of Analogies and Examples: To clarify complex terms, interpreters might employ analogies or examples that resonate within the target language's cultural context. For instance, when explaining climate justice, an interpreter might refer to historical instances of inequality in disaster response, thereby creating a relatable framework for understanding the concept. This method can make the idea more accessible and relatable to listeners.

3. Adaptation of Legal Terms: During discussions of international law or human rights at the UN, interpreters frequently encounter terms like "**sovereignty**" or "**self-determination**." These terms can carry different connotations in various languages.



Interpreters adapt these terms by providing a brief explanation or using established legal phrases that resonate within the audience’s legal framework. For instance, in translating "sovereignty," an interpreter might choose to use “independence of a nation” if that captures the intended meaning more effectively in the target language.

4. Collaboration with Subject Matter Experts: In cases where highly technical language is involved, interpreters may collaborate with subject matter experts before or during discussions. This collaboration is essential when interpreting for specific agencies like the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, where terminologies like "**antimicrobial resistance**" or "**universal health coverage**" require precise understanding. By ensuring familiarity with the concepts, interpreters can select the most appropriate terms and avoid ambiguity.

### **The European Union Institutions: Another Example**

The **European Union (EU)** provides another rich context for examining word choice challenges in simultaneous interpretation. With its multiple official languages, EU meetings often require interpreters to navigate complex legal, economic, and political terminology. One illustrative case is the discussion around “**freedom of movement**” within the EU. This term has profound implications for citizens, affecting their rights to live and work in different member states. However, the nuances of this term can be challenging to convey accurately in all languages.

1. Clarifying Concepts: Interpreters often clarify the concept of freedom of movement by elaborating on its implications, such as the rights to travel, reside, and work in any EU country without discrimination. This elaboration helps listeners grasp the broader significance of the term rather than a mere literal translation.

2. Employing Regional Variations: In instances where regional dialects or variations exist within a language, interpreters must be sensitive to the local context. For example, the term "**integration**" may have different connotations in different EU member states. Interpreters can choose region-specific phrases that resonate more clearly with the audience, ensuring that the intended message is conveyed effectively.

3. Real-Time Feedback: In fast-paced environments like the European Parliament, interpreters often receive real-time feedback from their colleagues and the audience. If a term is unclear, they can adjust their interpretation based on the audience’s reactions. This adaptability is crucial for maintaining clarity and understanding during live sessions.

### **Cognitive and Linguistic Challenges**

Both the UNGA and EU institutions present significant **cognitive challenges** for interpreters, who must process and translate complex information rapidly. The diversity of languages and the specificity of terms require interpreters to be well-versed in legal and cultural contexts to ensure that their word choices align with the intended meaning. Interpreters must also be adept at switching between languages seamlessly, as discussions may involve multiple languages in quick succession. The linguistic differences—such as grammar, syntax, and cultural nuances—add layers of complexity to the word choice process.

### **Modern Relevance of Classical Examples**



The strategies employed by interpreters in the UNGA and EU institutions serve as valuable lessons for contemporary interpreters. Modern technology, including **real-time translation software**, is increasingly being integrated into interpreting practices. However, the fundamental challenges of word choice remain, emphasizing the need for interpreters to be skilled in both linguistic and cultural nuances. Training programs for interpreters increasingly incorporate lessons from historical contexts like the Nuremberg Trials and modern examples from the UNGA and EU, emphasizing adaptability, contextual understanding, and collaborative practices. As global communication continues to evolve, the ability to navigate word choice challenges will remain crucial in simultaneous interpretation.

### CONCLUSION

Word choice in simultaneous interpretation is a complex and nuanced task that demands a high level of linguistic skill and cultural understanding. Classical examples from the United Nations General Assembly and the European Union demonstrate the variety of strategies interpreters use to address these challenges effectively. By employing techniques such as contextualization, analogy, adaptation, and real-time feedback, interpreters ensure that the essence of the original message is conveyed, enabling clear communication in our increasingly interconnected world. The lessons learned from these examples continue to inform best practices in the field of interpretation, ensuring that the profession remains responsive to the evolving needs of global discourse.

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