# Article information:

Definitions | Translation: A Very Short Introduction | Oxford Academic  
<https://academic.oup.com/book/792/chapter/135426491?login=true>

# Article summary:

1. Every language has its own terms for "translation" that do not completely equate to the English definition.

2. The word "translation" has evolved and been used in various contexts, including transplanting trees, metamorphosis, and scientific processes.

3. Different activities such as interpreting, subtitling, and website localization are related to translation but also involve additional technical aspects.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "Definitions | Translation: A Very Short Introduction" provides an overview of the concept of translation and explores how different languages and cultures have their own unique terms for it. While the article offers interesting insights into the complexities of translation, there are a few potential biases and missing points of consideration that should be addressed.

One potential bias in the article is its focus on non-Western languages and cultures when discussing alternative terms for translation. The examples provided include Japanese, Igbo, Malay, and ancient Rome. While it is important to highlight diverse perspectives on translation, it would have been beneficial to also include examples from Western languages to provide a more balanced view.

Additionally, the article makes unsupported claims about the limitations of translation. It states that there is no exact translation of any word and that different languages can never be brought into point-for-point alignment. While it is true that some concepts may not have direct equivalents in other languages, there are many instances where accurate translations can be achieved. The claim that there is no exact translation undermines the value and effectiveness of professional translators who work diligently to convey meaning across languages.

Furthermore, the article does not explore counterarguments or alternative perspectives on translation. It presents a narrow view that suggests translation is a fluid and subjective process without acknowledging the importance of accuracy and fidelity to the source text. By neglecting these considerations, the article fails to provide a comprehensive analysis of the topic.

Another missing point of consideration is the role of cultural context in translation. The article briefly mentions how historical moment, political situation, genre, context, purpose, and personal interpretation influence what constitutes a translation. However, it does not delve deeper into how these factors shape translations and impact their reception by readers or audiences.

The article also lacks evidence for some of its claims. For example, it states that subtitling and dubbing involve technical aspects such as timing and lip-synching that go beyond traditional notions of translation. While this may be true to some extent, no evidence or examples are provided to support this claim.

Overall, the article provides an interesting introduction to the complexities of translation but falls short in providing a balanced and comprehensive analysis. It would benefit from addressing potential biases, exploring counterarguments, providing evidence for claims, and considering the role of cultural context in translation.

# Topics for further research:

* Role of cultural context in translation and its impact on reception
* Counterarguments to the claim that there is no exact translation
* Examples of translation challenges in Western languages
* Importance of accuracy and fidelity in translation
* Evidence for technical aspects involved in subtitling and dubbing
* Influence of historical moment
* political situation
* genre
* context
* purpose
* and personal interpretation on translation

# Report location:

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