Handbook of Interpreter Training (HIT)

Hossein Bahri, MA Mahvash Gholami, PhD 2012

Front Cover: Nuremberg WWII crimes trial, which tasted from November 1945 to October 1946. This event marked the introduction of simultaneous interpreting.



سرشناسه: بحرى، حسين، ١٣٥٦-

Hossein, Bahri

عنوان و نام بدیدارر: Handbook of Interpreter Training (hit)/ Hossein Bahri, Mahvash Gholami. عنوان و نام بدیدارر:

مشخصات نشر: تهران: رهنما، ۱۳۹۰ = ۲۰۱۱م.

مشخصات ظاهري: ١٤٢ ص.

مسخصات طاهری: ۱۲۱ ص.

شابک: ۷-۷۷۱-۲۲۷-۱۹۰

ياددائت: انگليس.

آوانويسي عنوان: هندبوك...

موضوع: ترجمه - - راهنمای آموزشی

موضوع: مترجمان - - أموزش

شناسه افزوده: غلامی، مهوش. ۱۳۳۸-شناسه افزوده: Mahvash, Gholami

ردەبندى كنگرە: ۲۸۹ ۱۳۹۰ بـ ۳۸۰ ۳۸۹

ردهبندی دیویی: شماره کتابشناب علی: ۲۵۵۲۰۷۱

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حق هاپ برای ناشر محفوظ است

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Preface

As instructors at Tarbiat Moallem University we have always been faced with growing demand by our students, who comprise diverse groups of Iranian would-be teachers, translators and interpreters, to provide them with practical sources in the field of interpreting. We never hesitated to inform our students of the fact that this branch of applied translation studies, despite its long history, is rather fresh in terms of research and methodology, particularly when compared with language teaching or translation per se.

However, willing to respond to this real demand and considering the insufficient supply of references dealing with interpreter training, we concentrated our efforts on selecting, preparing and grading material from available sources for the development of this book.

Handbook of Interpreter Training or (HIT) is an attempt to provide both the trainers and the trainees with a self study, which gives them an overview of the field of interpreting and at the same time establishes grounds for further exploring practical issues regarding interpreting methodology, curriculum design and testing.

Chapter one surveys the development of interpreting throughout history and highlights the differences between interpreting and translation as the primary field of research in translation studies. Then various definitions of interpreting are discussed in terms of mode, type, and location.

In chapter two, basic approaches, methods, and skills in interpreter training are elaborated. We tried to include as many examples as we could in our discussion from a variety of different sources.

Building upon the approaches and skills mentioned earlier, chapter three's endeavor is to propose the right kind of syllabus, which is highly necessary for interpreting courses. Some key issues like material preparation and classroom planning and management are tackled.

In chapter four those characteristics of professional interpreters like personality, physical and ethical demands made on interpreters are discussed.

Chapter five provides the trainees and would-be interpreters with some of the practical strategies used by professional interpreters while encountering in-service challenges.

The appendices at the end of this book present a glossary of relevant terms in the profession and a few examples of the type of facts and figures commonly used in actual interpreting.

The authors of the book did their best to reduce the shortcomings and limitations of this draft. We eagerly welcome any comments or critiques of our work made by our respected colleagues and dear students in order to make amendments in future editions of this book.

Finally we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all our students at Tarbiat Moallem University and elsewhere who gave us incentive and encouragement to pursue the path to this endeavor.

Hossein Bahri & Mahvash Gholami, Tarbiat Moallem University Summer 2011