

Kyriaki Kourouni
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
Universitat Rovira i Virgili. Spain

Poster Presentation

Tick tack! Tick tack!

Methodological considerations for examining students' performance when translating under time pressure

Translating under time pressure is not an unfamiliar concept in the field of translation. Taking into account the increasingly shorter deadlines and turn-around times in the current era of globalization, it becomes of utmost importance to prepare undergraduate translation students for their transition into the real world, where time is a very important factor. In studying how students can learn and/or be taught to translate well under pressure, it becomes relevant to look specifically at students' learning styles, as this can be hypothesized to strongly influence their ability to cope with time pressure. A methodology is proposed for testing the hypothesis that "*Learning styles affect translation quality under pressure*" on the basis of results from a pilot study conducted in 2008 and on-going experimentation at Aristotle University, Thessaloniki. Triangulation is achieved thanks to the combination of pre-test questionnaires and qualitative assessment of students' output with tools of process-oriented research such as keystroke logging and eye-tracking in order to establish whether variables interact in some consistent way. The hope is to demonstrate that by diagnosing the learning styles of otherwise comparable students, we can predict who will most likely be able to cope with time pressure and how and, at a later stage, take "therapeutic" measures, if necessary.

Key words

Time pressure, translation quality, learner styles, translation pedagogy, translation processes, Translog, eye-tracking