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## CHALLENGES AND TECHNIQUES OF DOMAIN-SPECIFIC CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETING

*The article explores the challenges and techniques of domain-specific consecutive interpreting (DSCI) as an essential component of modern translation and interpreting studies. It emphasizes the growing strategic importance of accurate and contextually adequate interpreting for Ukraine's critical infrastructure, diplomacy, and humanitarian coordination under wartime conditions. The research combines functional, cognitive, and pedagogical approaches to explore how linguistic, pragmatic, and neurolinguistic factors determine interpreter performance and decision-making in specialized communication. Based on L. Molina and A. Hurtado Albir's functionalist taxonomy of translation techniques, the study examines the use of adaptation, amplification, borrowing, compression, modulation, description, and established equivalence as context-dependent microprocedures that ensure terminological precision, informational clarity, and communicative balance. The article also integrates insights from Ukrainian and international scholarship, including N. Gach (2017), S. Skrylnyk et al. (2020), R. Povoroznyuk (2023–2024), A. Gillies (2017), and R. Jones (2014), to highlight the interaction between theoretical constructs and interpreter training practice. It is demonstrated that functional techniques, when explicitly incorporated into interpreter education, facilitate efficient message processing, cognitive optimization, and discourse coherence under stress and time constraints. The analysis further identifies existing research gaps: the absence of empirical studies on interpreter performance in crisis and high-stakes settings, insufficient integration of cognitive models with translation techniques, and the lack of standardized methodological frameworks for training interpreters in emergency and infrastructure-related contexts. The study concludes that the systematic application of translation techniques within DSCI enhances the interpreter's professional adaptability, strengthens national communicative security, and supports Ukraine's international collaboration and post-war recovery through the development of resilient, context-aware linguistic mediation.*

**Key words:** domain-specific consecutive interpreting, translation techniques, functionalism, cognitive approach, interpreter training, crisis communication, Ukraine, critical infrastructure.

**Statement of the problem.** In the modern globalized world, consecutive interpreting plays a crucial role in facilitating communication across various professional domains such as medicine, law, business, and technology. However, domain-specific interpreting presents significant challenges that go beyond linguistic competence. Interpreters must master specialized terminology, understand the conceptual frameworks of particular fields, and maintain accuracy and coherence under time pressure. Despite the growing demand for qualified interpreters, there is still a lack of systematic research on effective strategies and techniques that ensure high-quality performance in specialized contexts.

The problem, therefore, lies in identifying and analyzing the key challenges that interpreters face when working in domain-specific settings and in determining the techniques that can enhance the quality, accuracy, and efficiency of consecutive interpreting. Addressing this issue is essential for

improving interpreter training programs and for bridging the gap between theoretical linguistic research and practical application in professional communication.

In the context of Ukraine's ongoing war, the need for highly qualified consecutive interpreters has become even more urgent, especially in sectors related to critical infrastructure, defense cooperation, energy security, healthcare, and international humanitarian assistance. Effective interpreting in these areas directly affects decision-making processes, the implementation of international projects, and coordination between Ukrainian and foreign specialists. Misinterpretation or lack of linguistic precision can lead to serious misunderstandings with potential operational or security consequences. Therefore, research aimed at improving the quality and reliability of consecutive interpreting in such high-stakes environments is not only scientifically relevant but also of vital national importance.

From a scientific perspective, this topic contributes to the development of translation and interpreting studies by deepening the understanding of cognitive, linguistic, and pragmatic aspects of interpreting in specialized domains. From a practical standpoint, the findings of such research can be directly applied to enhance interpreter education, develop crisis communication protocols, strengthen Ukraine's professional interpreting standards, and support effective multilingual collaboration in critical infrastructure sectors during wartime and post-war recovery.

#### **Analysis of recent research and publications.**

Recent studies on domain-specific consecutive interpreting demonstrate the growing integration of theoretical, cognitive, and practice-oriented approaches to the development of interpreter competence. Ukrainian and international researchers have produced a substantial body of literature that collectively reflects the professionalization of interpreting studies as both an academic discipline and a field of applied linguistic expertise. The reviewed works can be broadly grouped into two complementary trends: practical and pedagogical research aimed at developing interpreting skills and techniques, and theoretical and cognitive research focusing on the mechanisms underlying interpreter performance and decision-making.

The practical direction is represented by a series of Ukrainian training manuals that emphasize hands-on skills development and domain-specific application. N. Gach (2017) offers a systematic introduction to consecutive interpreting from English into Ukrainian, highlighting note-taking, reformulation strategies, and the importance of accuracy in the transfer of meaning [1]. S. Skrylnyk, M. Hrytsenko, Yu. Loboda, B. Movchan, and B. Pliushch (2020) in their two-part Practicum on Consecutive and Simultaneous Interpreting expand this approach by providing graded exercises and classroom simulations that model real interpreting conditions [5]. Their work lays the foundation for practical skill formation and demonstrates the gradual transition from controlled linguistic tasks to spontaneous interpreting performance.

A distinctive contribution to the Ukrainian domain-specific consecutive interpreting research corpus has been made by Roksolana Povoroznyuk and her co-authors, whose publications cover diverse subfields of community and court interpreting. R. Povoroznyuk's *Community Interpreting. Tactical Medicine* (2023) introduces interpreting scenarios in emergency medical settings, providing applied

exercises for communication under stress, which are especially relevant in the current wartime context of Ukraine [13]. Together with I. Danylchenko (2023), R. Povoroznyuk explores interpreting in economics and entrepreneurship, addressing the linguistic and pragmatic features of business discourse [3]. In a later collaboration with L. Slavova and T. Donii (2024), she examines court and community interpreting from the standpoint of professional ethics, procedural accuracy, and confidentiality [4]. These studies collectively underline the necessity of domain-specific interpreter training that combines linguistic precision, situational awareness, and ethical responsibility.

At the international level, authoritative contributions by A. Gillies [6] and R. Jones [7] have become fundamental in shaping modern interpreting pedagogy. A. Gillies' *Note-taking for Consecutive Interpreting: A Short Course* provides a structured approach to notation and memory techniques, grounded in cognitive psychology and practical classroom methodology [6]. R. Jones' *Conference Interpreting Explained* contextualizes consecutive interpreting within the broader field of conference and institutional interpreting, emphasizing preparation, anticipation, and speech analysis as key skills [7]. Similarly, M. Kadrić, S. Rennert, and C. Schäffner [8] extend the discussion to the sphere of diplomatic and political interpreting, where issues of neutrality, pragmatic competence, and intercultural mediation are foregrounded. These studies collectively illuminate the high cognitive and ethical demands placed upon interpreters in sensitive professional domains.

The theoretical and cognitive strand of research is represented by recent interdisciplinary works that apply psycholinguistic and neurolinguistic frameworks to interpreting processes. R. Presner, N. Tsolyk, O. Vanivska, I. Bakhov, R. Povoroznyuk, and S. Sukharieva (2021) develop a cognitive and semiotic model of translation that accounts for meaning reconstruction and semiotic transfer during interpreting [14, c. 125–142]. Their approach integrates linguistic and cognitive mechanisms into a single explanatory model of meaning-making. H. Onyshchak, L. Koval, O. Vazhenina, I. Bakhov, R. Povoroznyuk, and A. Devitska (2021) further investigate the cognitive and neurolinguistic aspects of interpreting, focusing on working memory, attention, and processing speed as determinants of interpreter performance [11, c. 224–237]. In a subsequent study, H. Onyshchak, N. Liutko, A. Yarova, R. Povoroznyuk, I. Kolomiets, and I. Gontsa (2023) analyze pragmatic competence in political discourse interpreting, emphasizing

how interpreters manage communicative intent and socio-pragmatic meaning in highly charged political contexts [12, c. 376–399]. Together, these studies provide an essential cognitive-theoretical foundation for understanding the interpreter's mental operations and their implications for professional training.

Despite the substantial contributions of the aforementioned works, several gaps remain unresolved. First, there is a notable lack of empirical research on interpreter performance in high-stakes environments such as critical infrastructure, defense cooperation, energy security, and emergency medicine – domains that have become especially significant during Ukraine's ongoing war. While manuals like R. Povoroznyuk's (2023) *Community Interpreting. Tactical Medicine* simulate crisis situations [13], systematic field studies evaluating interpreter decision-making, accuracy, and resilience under wartime pressures are still absent. Second, standardized protocols for interpreting in emergencies or during the restoration of critical infrastructure have yet to be developed, leaving practitioners without unified methodological or ethical frameworks tailored to such contexts.

Another unresolved aspect concerns the creation of comprehensive bilingual corpora and terminological databases relevant to wartime and post-war recovery operations. Moreover, while cognitive studies [14; 11] advance theoretical understanding, few studies have linked these insights to practical training methodologies or field-specific interpreting strategies. Finally, the integration of modern technological tools – such as AI-assisted glossaries, secure digital note-taking systems, or remote interpreting platforms – into consecutive interpreting for critical sectors remains underexplored in the current scholarship.

In summary, recent publications demonstrate a clear evolution in the study of domain-specific consecutive interpreting, combining pedagogical innovation with cognitive and pragmatic analysis. However, the literature reveals an insufficient focus on empirical, context-sensitive research addressing the realities of interpreting in conditions of national crisis and infrastructural vulnerability. Consequently, further studies are needed to design evidence-based protocols, develop specialized terminological resources, and enhance interpreter resilience and performance in high-pressure, wartime environments. Addressing these challenges would not only contribute to the theoretical advancement of interpreting studies but also strengthen Ukraine's communicative capacity and international cooperation in safeguarding its critical infrastructure.

**Task statement.** The present study aims to investigate the main challenges and effective techniques of domain-specific consecutive interpreting, with particular attention to the Ukrainian context and the growing need for high-quality interpreting in critical infrastructure sectors during wartime. The research seeks to identify the linguistic, cognitive, and pragmatic factors that influence interpreter performance across professional domains, as well as to determine the strategies that enhance accuracy, resilience, and efficiency under high-pressure conditions.

The study also aims to bridge the gap between theoretical frameworks and applied interpreting practice. It strives to integrate cognitive and neurolinguistic findings with methodological approaches to interpreter training, thus contributing to the development of evidence-based pedagogical models. In doing so, the research responds to the urgent national demand for professional interpreters capable of ensuring reliable multilingual communication in fields such as energy security, defense, healthcare, and humanitarian coordination.

#### **Outline of the main material of the study.**

The present research focuses on the practical and theoretical foundations of domain-specific consecutive interpreting (DSCI) through the prism of translation techniques, as defined by L. Molina and A. H. Albir in their dynamic and functionalist approach [10, c. 498–512]. Within the framework of modern translation studies, consecutive interpreting in specialized fields – such as law, diplomacy, medicine, or critical infrastructure – requires a complex combination of linguistic, cognitive, and pragmatic competencies [11, c. 224–237; 4]. Therefore, the functional implementation of translation techniques becomes a crucial component of interpreter training and performance evaluation, particularly under crisis conditions.

In their influential study *Translation Techniques Revisited: A Dynamic and Functionalist Approach*, L. Molina and A. H. Albir propose a comprehensive typology of translation techniques, conceptualized as micro-level procedures that affect the outcome of a translation within a broader methodological framework [10, c. 9–12]. The authors stress that techniques differ from translation methods and strategies in scope and function: while methods reflect the global orientation of the translator, and strategies concern decision-making during the process, techniques are observable linguistic actions that produce specific textual results [10, c. 10–11]. According to L. Molina and A. H. Albir, translation techniques include such

categories as adaptation, amplification, borrowing, calque, compensation, description, discursive creation, established equivalent, generalization, particularization, linguistic amplification, linguistic compression, modulation, transposition, substitution, and variation [10, c. 11–13]. Each of these techniques is context-dependent and functionally motivated rather than prescriptively determined.

This functionalist interpretation aligns with the communicative orientation of modern interpreting pedagogy, as seen in Ukrainian scholarship and training manuals [1; 5; 3]. These works implicitly employ a number of the aforementioned techniques, though rarely naming them explicitly. For instance, exercises designed to train the reformulation of culturally bound expressions or specialized terminology rely on adaptation, description, or established equivalence, while tasks focusing on real-time compression of speech segments involve linguistic compression or generalization [6; 7].

When applied to domain-specific consecutive interpreting, L. Molina and A. H. Albir's taxonomy proves particularly valuable. Consecutive interpreters operate within severe temporal and cognitive constraints, relying on note-taking, short-term memory, and rapid reformulation. In such conditions, the selection of appropriate translation techniques becomes not only a linguistic but also a cognitive and strategic decision [14, c. 125–142; 11, c. 224–237].

For example, compression and generalization are indispensable in high-pressure situations where interpreters must retain the core meaning of a message without unnecessary elaboration. These techniques enable interpreters to economize cognitive resources and ensure the coherence of speech. Conversely, amplification and description are essential when rendering technical or culturally specific concepts for an audience unfamiliar with the source context, particularly in domains such as tactical medicine or energy infrastructure, where misunderstanding could have critical consequences [2; 13].

Similarly, adaptation and established equivalence are crucial in legal and diplomatic interpreting, ensuring terminological consistency and cultural adequacy [8; 9]. In contrast, borrowing, calque, and literal translation serve when the accuracy of proper nouns, institutional titles, or technical designations must be preserved without semantic distortion. Modulation, transposition, and variation, as L. Molina and A. H. Albir emphasize [10, c. 12], allow interpreters to restructure syntactic and pragmatic patterns of speech to maintain naturalness and clarity in the target language. Meanwhile, compensation

provides a mechanism for recovering lost nuances caused by rapid speech or note-taking limitations.

Recent cognitive and semiotic studies [14, c. 125–142; 12, c. 376–399] support the view that the choice of translation technique directly affects the cognitive load and processing accuracy in interpreting. The functionalist principle of *dynamic adequacy*—that a technique's value depends on context, purpose, and audience—proposed by L. Molina and A. H. Albir [10, c. 11–12], thus becomes central for interpreter training. Ukrainian domain-specific consecutive interpreting manuals [1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 13] adopt this notion implicitly through scenario-based learning, yet do not systematize the relationship between individual techniques and interpreting outcomes.

Furthermore, in wartime conditions and within the domains of critical infrastructure, as noted in the previous section, the interpreter's role acquires a heightened responsibility. Here, amplification and description ensure the transparency of information, while compression and modulation guarantee the efficiency and clarity of message transfer under stress. Integrating these functional techniques into interpreter training directly supports national communication resilience, ensuring that linguistic mediation does not compromise safety, accuracy, or coordination in crisis operations.

**Conclusions.** Our systemic analysis confirms that despite the conceptual richness of L. Molina and A. H. Albir's taxonomy, several gaps persist in its application to domain-specific consecutive interpreting. First, there is a lack of explicit methodological incorporation of this classification into interpreter education and no differentiation between techniques as micro-level translation operations, which limits students' metacognitive awareness of their interpreting choices. Second, empirical studies comparing the effectiveness of particular techniques under domain constraints are scarce. It remains unclear which techniques—e.g., compression versus amplification—yield higher accuracy, fluency, or listener comprehension under pressure. Third, there is a need to connect cognitive and neurolinguistic findings with functional taxonomies, thereby explaining *why* certain techniques impose heavier memory or attention loads. Fourth, domain specificity remains underexplored: legal interpreting prioritizes accuracy and formality, while medical or tactical interpreting values intelligibility and immediacy. Finally, current research lacks an integrated model that unites translation techniques, interpreting strategies, and stress-resilience mechanisms within one pedagogical framework – a gap this study

seeks to address. The integration of techniques into domain-specific consecutive interpreter training and assessment can enhance both linguistic precision

and situational adaptability, especially in high-stakes contexts such as law, diplomacy, and critical infrastructure communication.

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### Поворознюк Р. В. ОСНОВНІ ЗАВДАННЯ Й ТЕХНІКИ ГАЛУЗЕВОГО ПОСЛІДОВНОГО ПЕРЕКЛАДУ

У статті досліджуються основні завдання й техніки галузевого послідовного перекладу (ГПП), важливого компонента сучасних досліджень усного й письмового перекладу. Наголошується на зростаючій стратегічній важливості точного та контекстуально адекватного перекладу для критичної інфраструктури, дипломатії та гуманітарної координації України в умовах воєнного часу. Дослідження поєднує функціональні, когнітивні та педагогічні підходи для вивчення того, як лінгвістичні, прагматичні та нейролінгвістичні фактори визначають ефективність перекладача та прийняття перекладацьких рішень у галузевій комунікації. Ґрунтуючись на функціоналістській таксономії методів перекладу Л. Моліни та А. Уртадо Альбір, дослідження розглядає використання адаптації, ампліфікації, запозичення, стиснення, модуляції, опису та встановленої еквівалентності як контекстно-залежних мікропроцедур, що забезпечують термінологічну точність, інформаційну ясність та комунікативний баланс. Інтегровано результати українських та міжнародних фахових розвідок, зокрема Н. Гач (2017), С. Скрильника та ін. (2020), Р. Поворознюк (2023–2024), А. Гіллеса (2017) та Р. Джонса (2014), що висвітлюють взаємодію між теоретичними конструктами та практикою

*підготовки перекладачів. Доведено, що функціональні методи, коли вони чітко оприявлені в підготовці перекладачів, сприяють ефективній обробці мовленнєвих актів, когнітивній оптимізації та зв'язності дискурсу в умовах стресу та обмежень у часі. Актуалізовані існуючі прогалини в дослідженнях: відсутність емпіричних досліджень щодо роботи перекладачів у кризових та надзвичайних ситуаціях, недостатня інтеграція когнітивних моделей з техніками перекладу та відсутність стандартизованих методологічних рамок для підготовки перекладачів до роботи в надзвичайних ситуаціях та контекстах, пов'язаних з інфраструктурою. У підсумку, систематичне застосування технік перекладу в рамках ГПП підвищує професійну адаптивність перекладача, зміцнює національну комунікативну безпеку та підтримує міжнародне співробітництво України та післявоєнне відновлення шляхом розвитку стійкого, контекстно-залежного мовного посередництва.*

**Ключові слова:** *галузевий послідовний переклад, техніки перекладу, функціоналізм, когнітивний підхід, підготовка перекладачів, кризова комунікація, Україна, критична інфраструктура.*

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