

The Effect of Comprehension on Omissions in English-Arabic Simultaneous Interpreting

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Abstract—This study aims to investigate the relationship between comprehension, based on the problem triggers as an indicator, and accuracy, based on the criterion of omission during English-Arabic simultaneous interpreting. In these cases, the less comprehension, the more omissions in the interpretation, the lower the accuracy. The performances of 5 MA students at the Department of Translation, College of Arts, University of Mosul, are transcribed and analyzed using the hybrid model of Larson's (1984) "Translation Quality Assessment" and Gile's (2009) "Effort" Models. Having analyzed the accuracy of the interpretations, a significant number of omissions were noticed due to inappropriate allocation of the processing capacity for comprehension. The study concludes that comprehension is the essential processing capacity effort and a vital determinant of the accuracy of the interpretation. The different levels of exercising the comprehension processing capacity measured by the SL problem triggers lead to different accuracy levels starting with high accuracy and ending with inaccuracy.

Index Terms—simultaneous interpreting, comprehension, accuracy, omission, processing capacity

I. INTRODUCTION

Interpretation and translation have gained a broad interest, given the increasing communication and exchange among languages and cultures worldwide. However, the growing demand and interest in interpretation due to rapid technological developments have shifted research and practice from written translation into interpretation. Many scholars have begun giving greater attention to interpretation regarding two aspects. The first is practical, through which interpretation was applied and practiced by most interpreters in different settings. The second aspect is theoretical, in which various theories, models, approaches, and methodologies have been developed.

It is evident that comprehension plays a crucial role in achieving an acceptable level of accuracy in the final product of simultaneous interpreting. The level of accuracy varies according to the level of comprehension. So, a lack of comprehension leads to cases of omission. The insufficient processing capacity to cover the needs of all active efforts for some students raises capacity requirements beyond what is available to the student. This can lead to inaccuracies and many cases of omission in the interpretation since the student can not fully comprehend the source language.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Translation Studies vs. Interpreting Studies

The rise of globalization, the reinforcement of multicultural societies, social networks, and technological advances have widened the scope of research and training in translation and interpreting in the 21st century. There has been a need to approach translation and interpreting not only as practicing or teaching but as scientific disciplines. Thus, these concepts have emerged and experienced different scopes of development as relevant research sub-fields. However, both are considered two aspects of everyday cross-linguistic and cross-cultural communicative activity (Ladmiral, 1979).

At the beginning of its history, translation studies passed through a phase where its knowledge was not as widespread as it is today. In the 1970s and 1980s, it gained recognition as an independent academic discipline and has substantially expanded into an interdisciplinary field, including cultural, historical, and ideological studies. Alongside the emergence of translation studies as a distinct interdisciplinary entity, the push to develop interpreting studies came from two strong personalities who led this movement – Danica Seleskovitch and Ghelley Chernov (Pöchhacker, 2015). In the mid-1980s, interpreting studies has been open to a broad range of methodologies. It has extended to new interdisciplinary fields ranging from neurocognition, psycholinguistics, and neurophysiological imaging methods to interpreting strategies and the quality of interpreting, methods of teaching sub-skills of and analyzing cognition during simultaneous interpreting (Setton, 1999). It progressively established itself as an independent scientific field in the 1990s, although it maintains close ties to translation studies and other fields including applied linguistics, cognitive psychology, anthropology, communication sciences, and sociology (Pöchhacker, 2004).

B. *The Cognitive Model of Simultaneous Interpreting*

Interpreting models are of great significance for interpreters in terms of theory and practice. In simultaneous interpreting, several models have been developed to investigate the mental processes of interpreting. Compared with other models, the most popular are the cognitive models since the interpreting process has been viewed as a cognitive-based process. In cognitive models, the true meaning does not lie in words but in the brain of speakers, who put their thoughts into word reproduction. By these models, interpreters must strike a balance between adequate comprehension and proper delivery, and as a result, effective communication can be achieved, and trust for interpreters themselves can be built (Stewart et al., 1998). In Gile's Effort Models, The multitasking nature of simultaneous interpreting and the complexity of mental operations involved have been illustrated. Gile (2009) shows that simultaneous interpreting can be modeled as a process consisting of three core efforts: Listening and Analysis Effort (L), which concerns all comprehension-oriented operations, Memory Effort (M), which is a storage mechanism where information is temporarily stored before further processing occurs (Liu, 2008), Production Effort (P) which covers the mental representation of the message's meaning to be delivered to the actual delivery of that meaning. The interpreter, then, has only limited processing capacity, which he divides equally between these efforts seeking to better performance. If one effort rises over the other, the interpretation may be disturbed.

Gile (1999) aims to account for errors and omissions observed in the performance of simultaneous that could not be easily attributed to inappropriate allocation of processing capacity among the efforts, inadequate linguistic abilities, insufficient extra-linguistic knowledge, or poor conditions in the delivery of the source text. To manage problems that arise during the process of interpreting and preventing their negative effect on the target language version, interpreters opt for a series of different strategies and tactics to tackle processing capacity deficit, knowledge gap, linguistic incompetence, and time pressure constraints (Kohn & Kalina, 1996; Gile, 2009). Different scholars named the strategies differently; thus, the most common names are compression, omission, addition, substitution, delaying response, anticipation, repetition, etc. Problems could occur under this model if capacity is distributed ineffectively. For instance, when problem triggers (numbers, speed, accents, poor sound, etc.) arise, or when too much time is spent on an elegant formulation rather than good listening and analysis, it can result in more significant capacity needs and potential for regional or complex breakdowns (Gile, 2009).

Comprehension is a more profound cognitive process that demands an equal or even higher mental activity from the interpreter. According to Gang (2005), analysis and synthesis are essential components of comprehension in interpretation; they can be developed subconsciously or consciously and include linguistic and non-linguistic factors. It has been suggested that interpreters must devote 80% of their effort or cognitive ability to listening and comprehension and only 20 % to speech production (as cited in Bajo, 2000). It's explained that it is essential to shedding light on the complementarity between linguistic knowledge and extra-linguistic: "The higher the level of each of these two components of comprehension, the better the resulting comprehension" (as cited in Gile, 2009). In other words, the better the interpreter is equipped with linguistic and extra-linguistic knowledge, the better interpreting- performance can be achieved.

Instead of being seen as a binary variable with two possible values—high comprehension or no comprehension—the concept of comprehension should be seen as having values along a continuum that ranges from non-comprehension to incomplete comprehension to what could be referred to as full comprehension (Gile, 2009). Three levels of comprehension are used in the present study to test the students 'performance: Full comprehension, incomplete comprehension, low comprehension, and non-comprehension.

C. *Obstacles to Effective Listening Comprehension*

In the listening process, various obstacles have been discussed from different points of view. These obstacles interfere with or hinder adequate listening comprehension for interpreters, such as interpreters 'proficiency in their first and second language, noise, working memory, background knowledge, information overload, speed of delivery, foreign accent, etc. These are the common barriers that will influence both the result and the quality of the interpretation. According to Goh (1997), the speaker's accent is one of the most critical aspects affecting interpreter comprehension. Therefore, unfamiliar accents may interrupt the whole listening comprehension process and make comprehension impossible for the interpreters. Underwood (1989) explains that there are some barriers to the effective listening comprehension process. The main challenge in listening comprehension is that the listener has no control over the speaker's speech rate. Second, listeners have a limited vocabulary. Third, listeners may lack contextual knowledge. Gile (2009, p. 171) refers to these obstacles as problem triggers, defined as "anything that increases the processing capacity requirements of an interpreter." These triggers are high source speech density, sound quality deterioration, strong accents, unusual linguistic style, unknown names, saturation, low anticipation of the source speech, numbers, etc.

D. *Accuracy Assessment From Different Points of View*

Accuracy is a much-controversial topic in the field of translation and interpreting studies. However, it is crucial to clearly define the concept in terms of translation in general and interpreting in partial. Rahimi (2004) defines accuracy as a proper and thorough interpretation of the original content and the delivery as accurately as possible. According to Seleskovitch (1978), transmitting the message with total accuracy is achieved when an interpretation ensures a communicative effect equivalent to the comprehension attained by the original listeners. There are different conceptual

approaches investigated by different scholars indicating that accuracy has been used as an evaluation criterion without a uniform definition of how it is measured. Barik (1975) measures accuracy as gauged by omissions, additions, and substitutions; Mackintosh (1983) measures the semantic equivalence of the meaning unit; Gile (1999) investigates his tightrope hypotheses through errors, omissions, and infelicities.

In her meaning-based translation, Larson (1984) proposes three main criteria to test and assess a translation: accuracy, clarity, and naturalness. While Larson's model of translation quality assessment is primarily designed for evaluating the quality of written translations, it can also be applied to interpreting. Accuracy is what the present study will follow; the other two will be excluded. Accuracy consists of studying the lexicon, grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural context of the source language text, analyzing it to determine its meaning, and then reconstructing this same meaning using the lexicon and grammatical structure which are appropriate in the receptor language and its cultural context (as cited in Larson, 1998). In assessing the accuracy, a translator must be meticulous in adding, ignoring, or reducing the message since the meaning of the source language should be appropriate with the equivalence in the target language. Larson (1984) conceives of two levels for the accuracy of a translated text. These levels are accurate Translation and inaccurate Translation. Thus, a translation is categorized as accurate if the meaning in the target language text could be equivalent to the source text; there is no addition, omissions, and wrong/different information. In this study, omission only is taken as an indicator to assess the accuracy of the interpretation. To ensure accuracy in interpreting, Hale (1997a), Gile (2009), and others highlight that omissions may be necessary and that an acceptable target speech may demand deviations from a linguistic equivalence.

E. The Impact of Directionality on Comprehension and Accuracy

It has long been debated whether simultaneous interpretation should be performed only from a foreign language to the mother tongue or whether it should be performed from the mother tongue to a foreign language (as cited in Chanprapun, 2020). Several linguistic, cognitive, and social factors can influence the success or failure of an interpretation. One factor debated among professional interpreters is the influence of directionality. Some contend that a language's special features or an interpreter's level of fluency in each of the relevant languages determine performance with regard to directionality. Although directionality has received attention from researchers for several decades and has been investigated from many different perspectives, particularly its impacts on input accuracy, no consensus has been reached.

Some theorists have argued that interpreters must only interpret in their first language to provide an accurate output in the target language (Seleskovitch, 1978). Darò (1996) indicates that interpreters make more language use errors while interpreting the target language resulting in lower accuracy and completeness of the target language message. According to Denissenko (1989), the only interpreting method that may provide perfect message comprehension and, consequently, increased accuracy and completeness of the translated rendition is second-language interpreting, in which the interpreter gets the source language input in their native language. Receiving the source language input in a native language does not necessarily result in better comprehension of the message or improved accuracy and completeness of the interpreted rendition. This is due to a higher level of linguistic understanding of the source speech makes it more difficult for interpreters to detach themselves from the linguistic form of the message, resulting in lower quality of the target language output (as cited in Viaggio, 1991).

III. METHODOLOGY

The corpus of the study is live speeches interpreted simultaneously from English into Arabic. The collected data in this study consist of the Arabic interpretations of 5 MA students at the Department of Translation, College of Arts, University of Mosul. The MA students had already passed two semesters practicing simultaneous interpreting in the fourth year of their undergraduate study. The link for each speech is provided for more information. The interpretations of the SL speeches are recorded, transcribed, and finally analyzed regarding the criteria of the hybrid model adopted in this study. The study model combines the model proposed by Gile (2009) to assess the level of comprehension capacity of interpreters (no comprehension, incomplete comprehension, full comprehension) and Larson's (1984) translation quality assessment which suggests three levels of accuracy (accurate, less accurate, inaccurate).

IV. DATA ANALYSIS

CASE (1)

The recent speech was delivered on July 28th, 2022, by Inger Andersen. The speech is devoted to several environmental issues and resolutions recognizing the right to a healthy environment. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oykGxLQaNXs>.

"Well, congratulations to the Member States because today, a huge leap forward was made when the United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution. A resolution on the right to a 61 healthy, clean, and sustainable environment is now being recognized by Member States. Huge thanks to Member States and countries, to civil society, to youth, to indigenous groups, to lawyers, to activists, and to businesses that have stood up for this. You've advocated, you have been active, and today this is a right recognized by the United Nations General Assembly. We have waited a long time for this, but this demonstrates that there is now solidarity with billions of people who are feeling the weight of the triple

planetary crisis; the crisis of climate change, the crisis of nature loss, and the crisis of pollution. The UN General Assembly has truly made history. This resolution triggers environmental safeguards. It helps people to have the right to stand up, to insist on having access, to breathe clean air access, to safe and clean water, to healthy food, healthy ecosystems, and a non-toxic environment in which to live, to work, to study, and to play. No one can take nature, or clean air, or clean water, or a stable climate away from us not without a fight. So now is the time to press the accelerator to make that right a reality”.

Translation (TL):

حسنًا، تهنينا للدول الأعضاء لأنه اليوم تم تحقيق فقرة هائلة إلى الأمام عندما اتخذت الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة القرار. وتعترف الدول الأعضاء الآن بقرار بضمن الحق في العيش في بيئة صحية ونظيفة ومستدامة. شكرًا جزيلًا للدول الأعضاء والدول المشاركة والمجتمعات المدنية والشباب والمواطنين الاصليين والمحامين والناشطين والشركات التي دافعت عن هذا الحق. لقد دافعنا عن هذا الحق وكنا نشطاء في ذلك واليوم هذا الحق تقره وتعترف به الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة. لقد انتظرنا وقتًا طويلًا لهذا، ولكن هذا يدل على أن هناك الآن تضامن مع المليارات من الناس الذين يشعرون بثقل أزمة الكوكب الثلاثة التي تتمثل بأزمة تغير المناخ وأزمة خسارة الطبيعة وأزمة التلوث. لقد صنعت الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة التاريخ حقًا. يقدم هذا القرار ضمانات بيئية عدة. فهو يساعد الناس على الحصول على الحق في النهوض من جديد والإصرار على الوصول وتنفس هواء نقي والحصول على مياه آمنة ونظيفة والغذاء الصحي واستعادة النظم البيئية الصحية والعيش في بيئة ملائمة للعيش والعمل والدراسة واللعب. لا يمكن لأحد أن يسلبنا الحق في التمتع والعيش في الطبيعة أو الهواء النقي أو المياه النظيفة أو المناخ المستقر كما يحلو له لأننا سنقف بوجهه. لذا فقد حان الوقت للعمل الجاد والسريع لجعل هذا الحق حقيقة واقعة.

Subject (1):

أود اليوم ان اهنئ اعضاء الدول لانهم اليوم احرزوا تقدم ملحوظ عندما اعترفت الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة بهذا القرار للحصول على بيئة نظيفة مستدامة وهذا هو القرار الذي اعترفت به اعضاء الامم المتحدة، شكر عظيم لكل الدول واعضاء المجتمع المدني والمحامين والنشطاء والطلاب الذين وقفوا من اجل هذا الحق، لقد انتظرنا وقت طويل من اجل الاعتراف بهذا القرار الا انه يوضح بأنه هناك تضامن مع المليارات من الناس الذين يواجهون بهذا الخطر الثلاثي ... لقد صنع اليوم التجمع العام للأمم المتحدة التاريخ حيث ان هذا القرار يساعد الناس بأن يقفوا او يطالبوا من اجل حقوقهم بأن يحصلوا على هواء نظيف وماء صحي ونظام بيئي غير ملوث وغير سام، لا يحق لاحد ان يسلب منا بيئة نظيفة وحقنا في ان نملك هواء نظيف دون ان نقاتل من اجل هذه الحقوق، وعلينا ان نقف من اجل ان نجعل هذا الحق حقيقة.

Analysis and Discussion

This interpretation can be accurate based on Larson’s classification because the SL message’s propositional content is not distorted while conveyed to the TL. Although there are a few cases of omission in the interpretation, as shown in Table 1, the message still successfully conveys the SL sense to the TL. The subject uses accurate and appropriate correspondences to replace the SL linguistic elements in the TL structure and succeeds in maintaining the formal equivalence regarding the form and content with the SL text. The omission cases slightly affect the accuracy of the TL text, especially if simultaneous interpreting is considered. Any interpreting act aims to provide efficient interactive communication while adhering to the two properties of the SL text’s literality and the TL text’s correctness. The SL message is interactively communicated to the TL audience, allowing the TL interpretation to be labeled as accurate.

TABLE 1
THE OMITTED INFORMATION

SL	TL	Omission in the TL
the crisis of climate change, the crisis of nature loss, and the crisis of pollution	أزمة تغير المناخ وأزمة خسارة الطبيعة وأزمة التلوث	Omitted

According to Gile, the comprehension of this subject is seen as falling within the level of full comprehension. The interpretation demonstrates that the subject can process the SL speech and successfully overcome trigger problems in most cases. The subject doesn’t show any severe knowledge gap or linguistic incompetence. The subject’s total processing capacity equals the total interpreting requirements in many parts of the SL text. This indicates that even if the subject has high comprehension, he may omit some information. The reason behind omission is that the subject doesn’t allocate his processing capacity appropriately in some part which leads to cognitive load that forces the subject to omit, perhaps unconsciously, what he cannot extract the message from the source utterance. The subject seems to have sufficient linguistic and extra-linguistic knowledge that enables him to achieve an appropriate level of comprehension. Such a level can only be attained when these two comprehension components are higher (Gile, 2009, p. 83). Ultimately, this level of comprehension helps the subject produce a better and more accurate interpretation of the SL text.

Subject (2):

حسنًا، تهنينا الى الامم المتحدة لان اليوم جهودا عظيمة قد بذلت عندما قامت جمعية الامم المتحدة بعمل حل للحفاظ على البيئة من قبل الدول الاعضاء. جهود عظيمة اليكم المحامين والنشطاء والاعمال التي قد بذلت لقد كنتم نشطاء لإيجاد حل لتلك المشاكل وهذه الان قد تم السيطرة عليها فهذه الازمات قد كانت ازمات عن التغيير المناخي وفقدان البيئة وازمات التلوث. هذه الحلول قد ظهرت لمساعدة الناس لتحقيق حقوقهم لتنفس هواء نظيف وشرب مياه عذبة وهذا من اقل الحقوق التي يجب ان يحصلوا عليها كالدراسة واكل طعام صحي لن نحصل كل هذه الاشياء الا بعد بذل جهود عظيمة من قبلكم فشكرا لكم.

Analysis and Discussion

The interpretation of subject (2) is relatively less accurate due to the omissions of some SL lexical items and segments essential for the comprehension of the TL audience. Omissions in the subject’s rendering, as shown in Table 2, change the information in some TL segments. They also result in information loss which may lead to miscommunication. The subject may have deliberately resorted to the omission tactic due to the cognitive load, unfamiliarity with the SL speech, or to save time. However, the recurrent omission phenomena in the TT of essential and highly informative ST information words or segments can considerably affect the information flow of the

transferred message, deteriorate the comprehension of the TL audience, distort the SL speech meaning, and primarily result in a loss in significant parts of the SL message, thus decreasing accuracy.

TABLE 2
THE OMITTED INFORMATION

SL	TL	Omission in the TL
the right to a healthy, clean, and sustainable environment	الحق في العيش في بيئة صحية ونظيفة ومستدامة	Omitted
solidarity with billions of people	التضامن مع المليارات من البشر	Omitted
the triplet planetary crisis	ازمة الكوكب الثلاثية	Omitted

Based on the omissions mentioned above, it is noted that the accuracy of the subject's (2) interpretation is categorized as less accurate. This less accurate level of accuracy is attributed to comprehension. Since the allocation of the processing capacity of the comprehension is inappropriate, they face many triggers. Such triggers include enumerations (thanks to member states to business, the right to.... and to play) and terms considered linguistic triggers such as (Member States, UN General Assembly). These problem triggers can be viewed as a result of the lapse of attention of speech segments with specific features. Thus, according to Gile's classification, the subject's (2) comprehension is incomplete.

Subject (3):

تهانينا، اليوم حدث عظيم... سوف يتم... جمعية الامم المتحدة تبنت العديد من الحلول للحفاظ على بيئة نظيفة... فشكرا للأمم المتحدة والمجتمعات... للمحامين للنشطاء ولرجال الاعمال... يجب ان تكونوا نشطين في ادرا... المتبناة من قبل الامم المتحدة... ليس هناك صعوبات لا يمكن التغلب عليها... للتحدث عن الازمات... عن التلوث... والامم المتحدة قامت بعمل الاجراءات اللازمة لضمان حياة امنة للوقوف بوجه الازمات... لتنفس هواء نظيف وماء عذب وغذاء صحي لنعيش بسلام. لا احد يستطيع... مالم يتم الحفاظ على البيئة لجعل ذلك واقعا.

Subject (4):

نهني اعضاء... لان اليوم اجتماع كبير عندما الامم المتحدة الجمعية العامة قدمت هذه القرارات للصحة والنظافة وادامة... من قبل اعضاء... شكرا للأعضاء للمحامين للنشطاء و... يجب ان تكون هذا... انها ادراك من قبل الامم المتحدة... هذه المظاهرة تتضامن مع الذين... الازمة... الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة هذه القرارات تساعد الناس على الاصرار للوصول الى ماء نظيف وطعام لنعمل ونعيش في ماء نظيف وبيئة نظيفة ومناخ... وانه حان الوقت لنحصل على هذا الحق.

Subject (5):

نهني اعضاء المؤتمر اليوم عندما الامم المتحدة تبنت هذه القرارات ل... اشياء كثيرة... للشباب للنشطاء... يكونوا نشطاء... لقد فعلنا هذا منذ زمن طويل والتضامن مع ملايين الازمات التي... وازمة ال... الامم المتحدة... هذا القرارات... للوصول الى... العمل وال... والان انه الوقت حان لجعل هذا الحق حقيقة.

Analysis and Discussion

The interpretations of these subjects include noticeable cases of omission that can be observed in the deletion of an entire clause, partial or complete loss of an idea, and even the complete disappearance of specific significant SLS chunks, as shown in Table 3. More importantly, the relative length of inter-sentence pauses affects not only the SI fluency but the information density as well. According to Gile (2008), Pauses help interpreters have cognitive relief while processing the SL speech segments and avoid cognitive load in interpreting the subsequent segments. However, the length and quantity of these subjects' inter-sentence and inter-clause pauses manifest their inadequacy to mentally process the SL speech concerning comprehension and reformulation. The more pauses in interpreting, the lesser accuracy of the interpreting output.

TABLE 3
THE OMITTED INFORMATION

SL	TL	Omission in the TL		
		Subject 3	Subject 4	Subject 5
Member States	الدول الاعضاء	Omitted	Omitted	Nil
healthy, clean, and sustainable environment	بيئة صحية ونظيفة ومستدامة	بيئة صحية ومستدامة	Nil	Omitted
the crisis of climate change, the crisis of nature loss, and the crisis of pollution	ازمة تغير المناخ وازمة خسارة الطبيعة وازمة التلوث	Omitted	Omitted	Omitted
triplet planetary crisis	ازمة الكوكب الثلاثية	Omitted	Omitted	Omitted

It can be concluded that the omissions mentioned above adversely affect the accuracy of the conveyed message of the SLS. According to Larson's classification, the subjects' interpretations are considered inaccurate since they fail to communicate the SLS message appropriately. The correlation between a satisfactory level of accuracy manifested by ideational clarity, linguistic acceptability, and terminological accuracy is weakened by the omission evident in the subject's output performance.

The inaccuracy is attributed to the comprehension capacity effort of these subjects. The cognitive capacity to comprehend and process the SL speech can be assessed by the personal ability to comprehend and reformulate triggers in the SL text. The subjects face many triggers during the interpreting process that control the comprehension processing capacity as a part of listening efforts. The triggers can be seen in enumerations, e.g. ("a healthy, clean, and sustainable environment," the crisis of climate change," etc.). Other triggers are related to linguistic and extra-linguistic knowledge (e.g., Member states, UN General Assembly, ecosystem, etc.).

Many pauses and breaks in the middle of their utterances suggest that the subjects' processing capacity is insufficient since the processing capacity requirements exceed available capacity, possibly resulting in a disordered performance. The information gaps are not filled, causing interruptions to the real-time oral communicative purpose of their simultaneous interpreting regardless of other incompetency in the accurate use of terminology, irrelevant additions, unnecessary omissions, and recurrent cases of wrong information attributed to comprehension problems. Thus, according to Gile's classification, the comprehension of these subjects is low.

CASE (2)

The recent speech was delivered on December 12th, 2022, by Inger Andersen about joining the World Restoration Flagships Announcement Gala. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qI8zDEB6h3Q>.

"One billion hectares, more than three times the size of India, is the area of land that governments have promised to bring back to life, but where exactly is this ecosystem restoration happening? How are people on the planet benefiting? And how much progress has been made? To find out, we've asked partners and member states to show us how and where they restore. The responses have been tremendous. Of 150 initiatives from more than 60 countries were received and, of course, reviewed, and we've now selected the ten most inspiring initiatives as our first world restoration flagship. From the peaks of mountains to the bottom of oceans, we will show you where people are succeeding in reviving our planet. Is your country part of the race to restoration? Join me in the Virtual gala to find out".

Translation (TL):

مليار هكتار، أي أكثر من ثلاثة أضعاف مساحة الهند، هي مساحة الأرض التي وعدت الحكومات بإعادة الحياة الطبيعية إليها، ولكن أين تحدث هذه الاستعادة للنظام البيئي بالضبط؟ وكيف يستفيد الناس من ذلك على هذا الكوكب؟ وما مدى التقدم الذي تم إحرازه في هذا المجال؟ ولمعرفة ذلك، طلبنا من الشركاء والدول الأعضاء أن يوضحوا لنا كيف وأين يعملون على استعادة هذه الحياة الطبيعية؟ وكانت الردود عظيمة. فقد تم استلام ومراجعة 150 مبادرة من أكثر من 60 دولة، حيث وقع اختيارنا على المبادرات العشر الأكثر إلهامًا لتكون أول مبادرة رائدة في مجال استعادة الحياة الطبيعية. وسنبين لكم أين ينجح الناس في إعادة الحياة إلى كوكبنا من قمم الجبال إلى قاع المحيطات. والسؤال هنا هو: هل يشارك بلدك في هذا السباق إلى إعادة الحياة إلى كوكبنا؟ انضم إلينا في المنصة الافتراضية "كالا" لمعرفة ذلك.

Subject (1):

أكثر من ثلاثة مرات بان ... الأرض ترجع للحياة.. بان نظام الأيكون.. كيف الحفاظ على النباتات لإيجاد ذلك يجب ان نتداول الامور ونختارها... لأكثر من مئات السنين.. لأكثر من ستين سنة ناقشناها.. كما عملنا عليها لأول مرة من نقطة البداية.. هؤلاء هم الناس الناجحون على زراعة النباتات والحفاظ على مجملها على رصيف كالا.

Subject (2):

واحد مليار هكتار أكثر من ثلاث مرات من هند ان الأرض التي يستعيد الحياة إلى الأرض كيف واين يستعيدون ... أكثر من 60 دولة يستقبلون والان اخترنا استعادة لدولتنا كيف ان الناس ينجحون في استعادة البيئةانضموا الي في منصة كالا.

Analysis and Discussion

As illustrated in Table 4, omission can be seen in the absence of the most critical SLS chunks. These omissions lead to the distortion of the meaning and failure in successfully conveying the message to the TL. The relative length of inter-sentence pauses affects not only the SI fluency but also the information density. However, the length and quantity of these subjects' inter-sentence and inter-clause pauses demonstrate their inability to adequately comprehend and reformulate the SL speech. Thus, the accuracy of the interpreting output decreases with the number of pauses in the interpretation.

TABLE 4
THE OMITTED INFORMATION

SL	TL	Omission in the TL	
		Subject 1	Subject 2
size of India	مساحة الهند	Omitted	مساحة
governments have promised	تعهدت الحكومة	Omitted	Omitted
the ten most inspiring initiatives	المبادرات العشر الأكثر إلهامًا	Omitted	Omitted
first world restoration flagship	أول استعادة عالمية رائدة	Omitted	Omitted

The inaccuracy is attributed to the comprehension capacity effort of these subjects. The ability to overcome triggers in the SL speech can be used to assess the subject's cognitive capacity to comprehend and process the SL speech. During the interpretation process, the subjects encounter a variety of triggers that restrict their comprehension. The triggers can be seen in numbers, e.g. (1 billion hectares, etc.). Other triggers are related to linguistic knowledge (e.g., ecosystem, etc.) and extra-linguistic knowledge (e.g., Virtual gala.). Thus, the pauses made due to omissions in the middle of their utterances suggest that the subjects' processing capacity is insufficient since the processing capacity requirements exceed available capacity, possibly resulting in a disordered performance. Thus, according to Gile's classification, the comprehension of these subjects is low.

Subject (3):

واحد مليون هكتار هو حجم ثلاثة اضعاف ... ان الحكومة وعدت به وهذا هو نظام الأيكون كيف نحافظ على النباتات ... كيف ... ونحن الان نختار أكثر من عشر دول....

Subject (4):

أكثر من بليون.. أكثر من ثلاثة... ذلك حجم الأرض التي وعدت به الحكومة لأعادتها إلى الحياة وهل هذا سيحدث هل سيستفيدون من ذلك وما هو التقدم الذي يحققونه...

Subject (5):

مليار هكتار حجم ثلاثة من هند... الحكومة وعدت ... نظام ال... 150 ...

Discussion and Analysis

These subjects' interpretations are very poor and don't meet the accuracy and even quality criteria since they fail to convey the intended meaning of the SLS entirely. They fail to produce a coherent text with a clear, meaningful, and communicative message. The failure is due to their comprehension failure and incompetent processing capacity. Their failure in simultaneously interpreting the SLS is manifested in and aggravated by their incompetence to interpret distinctively informative triggers such as (numbers, names, terms, etc.) and triggers of extra-linguistic knowledge since they lack sufficient background knowledge. The comprehension effort is critical for student and professional interpreters. Yet, the subjects cannot even maintain the minimum level of comprehension to communicate the SL message. Their inability distorts the propositional structure of the SL speech and disconnects the information flow. It can be concluded that their available processing capacity of comprehension throughout the interpreting process is less than required; thus, they fail to interpret the whole speech and transfer the appropriate meaning faithfully.

CASE (3)

The recent speech was delivered on February 22nd, 2022. It was about UN General Assembly reconvening the emergency special session to debate the war in Ukraine ahead of the anniversary of Russia's invasion. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0UbcVODbISK>.

SL speech (1): "Mr. Secretary General, excellences, distinguished delegates; today we mark the grim first anniversary of the war in Ukraine. One year of despair, displacement, destruction, and death on a scale not seen in Europe indicates. The Staggering scale of loss defies the human ability to absorb. Thousands of civilians and soldiers dead, countless more were injured, eight million refugees spread across Europe and beyond, and six million people were displaced, two-thirds of them women and children with families separated, often not knowing about the fate of their loved ones. The systemic targeting of civilian infrastructure has left millions of Ukrainians without energy, water, and heat in the depth of winter. To be clear, the targeting Civilian infrastructure is a direct violation of International Humanitarian Law. When these are the headlines of our day, we are indeed in a new chapter of history. We are facing stock choices about who we are as an International community and how we will rebuild the trust lost among us here in this hole and in us by the world's people. The choices will either set us on a path of solidarity and collective resolve to uphold the tenets of the U.N Charter or a path of aggression war normalized violations of International Law and collapsed Global action".

Translation (TL):

السيد الأمين العام ، أصحاب السعادة ، المندوبون الموقرون ، نحني اليوم الذكرى القاتمة الأولى للحرب في أوكرانيا عام كامل من اليأس والنزوح والدمار والموت على نطاق لم تشهده أوروبا من قبل. ان مقياس الخسارة المذهل يتخطى قدرة الإنسان على فهمه فالآلاف من المدنيين والجنود قد قتلوا، وأصيب عدد لا يحصى من الجرحى ، وانتشر ثمانية ملايين لاجئ في مختلف اصقاع أوروبا وما بعدها ونزح ستة ملايين داخليا تلتهم من النساء والأطفال وتشتت الاسر والتي غالبًا لم تعد تعرف مصير أحبائها. أدى الاستهداف الممنهج للبنية التحتية المدنية إلى ترك ملايين الأوكرانيين بدون طاقة وماء وتدفئة في خضم الشتاء ولنكون أكثر وضوحا ، فإن استهداف البنية التحتية المدنية يشكل انتهاكًا مباشرًا للقانون الدولي الإنساني فنحن نواجه قرارات صعبة تحدد هويتنا كمجتمع دولي وكيف سنعيد بناء الثقة التي خسرتها فيما بيننا هنا في هذه القاعة وثقة شعوب العالم فينا. هذه الخيارات اما ستضعنا على طريق التضامن والعزم الجماعي لتعزيز مبادئ الأمم المتحدة أو مسار حرب عدوانية و تطبيع انتهاكات القانون الدولي وانهيار العمل العالمي.

Subject (1):

السيد الأمين العام ، أصحاب السعادة ، المندوبون الموقرون اليوم نحني الذكرى القاتمة الأولى للحروب في أوكرانيا فقد مر عام كامل من اليأس والنزوح والدمار والموت على نطاق لم تشهده أوروبا سابقا. يتخطى مقياس الخسارة المذهل قدرة الإنسان على فهمه فالآلاف المدنيين والجنود قتلوا، وأصيب عدد لا يحصى من الجرحى كما وانتشر ثمانية ملايين لاجئ في مختلف انحاء أوروبا وما بعدها ونزح ايضا ستة ملايين داخليا تلتهم من النساء والأطفال وتشتت الاسر والتي غالبًا لم تعد تعرف مصير أحبائها. ان الاستهداف الممنهج للبنية التحتية المدنية أدى إلى ترك ملايين الناس بدون طاقة وماء وتدفئة في الشتاء البارد ولنكون واضحين ، فإن استهداف البنية التحتية المدنية يشكل انتهاكًا مباشرًا للقانون الدولي الإنساني فنواجه قرارات صعبة تحدد هويتنا كمجتمع دولي وكيف سنقوم بإعادة الثقة التي خسرتها فيما بيننا في هذه القاعة وثقة شعوب العالم فينا. ان هذه الخيارات اما ستضعنا على طريق التضامن والعزم الجماعي لتعزيز مبادئ الأمم المتحدة أو مسار حرب عدواني و تطبيع انتهاكات القانون الدولي وانهيار العمل العالمي.

Analysis and Discussion

According to Larson's classification, this interpretation can be accurate since the overall meaning of the SL message is transmitted effectively to the TL. The subject successfully retains the formal equivalence regarding the form and content with the SL text by substituting the SL linguistic elements in the TL structure with appropriate correspondences. The interpretation shows that the subject can process the SL speech and get beyond trigger problems. This demonstrates that the subject has neither manifested a significant knowledge gap or linguistic incompetence nor has suffered from a processing capacity deficiency. The subject's total processing capacity is equal to the total interpreting requirements of the SL text. The subject seems to have sufficient linguistic and extra-linguistic knowledge that enables him to achieve an appropriate level of comprehension. According to Gile, the comprehension of this subject is seen as full comprehension. Ultimately, this level of comprehension helps the subject produce a better and more accurate interpretation of the SL text.

Subject (2):

اليوم تمر الذكرى السنوية... التهجير والموت... على.. من خلال.. في اوربا... مات الالاف وعدد لا يحصى... هذه نقاط... الخيارات اما ستجعلنا... او ... العدوان الروسي على جيرانها لمدة 4 سنوات... الجمعية العامة والامين العام والمجتمع الدولي.. العدوان غير قانوني.. استعمار الجيران غير قانوني والتعدي.... على الدول الاخرى...

Analysis and Discussion

This subject's interpretation is relatively poor and doesn't meet Larson's criteria of accuracy since he fails to convey the intended meaning of the SLS entirely. The subject fails to produce a coherent text with a communicative message. The failure is due to comprehension failure and incompetent processing capacity. The lack of comprehension of this subject leads to failure in simultaneously interpreting the SLS since he faces triggers such as: (numbers, names, etc.) and triggers of extra-linguistic knowledge because of the lack of sufficient background knowledge. It can be concluded that the available processing capacity throughout the interpreting process is less than required. This leads to failure to interpret the whole speech and transfer the appropriate meaning faithfully.

SL speech (2): "The general assembly, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen; this week marks one year since Russia started its illegal invasion of Ukraine. This war remained a clear-cut case of aggression by a permanent member of the Security Council, and this is Russia; everybody knows this is a blatant violation of International Law and the principles of the United Charter. The world needs peace in Ukraine, and the people of Ukraine deserve peace after so much suffering. But not just any peace; we need peace grounded in the principles of the United Nations Charter. That's why we are in this hole. This is what the resolution presented by Ukraine is about. It's about reiterating our support for Ukraine and to set out the principles for peace. I want to stress that the war again Ukraine is not a European issue. It's not about the West versus Russia; no, this illegal war concerns everyone, the North, the South, the East, the West, the whole world. We are here today to reiterate our support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its International recognized borders as for any member of the United Nations".

Translation (TL):

الجمعية العامة المندوبون الموقرون السيدات والسادة يصادف هذا الأسبوع مرور عام منذ بدء روسيا اجتياحها الغير شرعي لأوكرانيا فقد بقت هذه الحرب قضية واضحة للعدوان من قبل عضو دائم في مجلس الأمن وهي روسيا فهذا يمثل انتهاكاً صارخاً للقانون الدولي ولمبادئ الأمم المتحدة وميثاقها. ان العالم بحاجة للسلام في أوكرانيا وشعب أوكرانيا يستحق السلام بعد كل هذه المعاناة و لكن ليس أي سلام نحن بحاجة لسلام يقوم على مبادئ ميثاق الأمم المتحدة وهذا سبب وجودنا في هذه القاعة. و هذا ما يدور حوله مشروع القرار الذي قدمته أوكرانيا والذي اتسم بإعادة تأكيد دعمنا لأوكرانيا ووضع مبادئ السلام. اود ان اؤكد ان هذه الحرب ضد أوكرانيا ليست قضية اوروبية و لا يتعلق الأمر بالغرب ضد روسيا ، كلا، ان هذه الحرب الغير الشرعية قضية الجميع في الشمال والجنوب والشرق والغرب و العالم بأسره. نحن هنا اليوم لنكرر ابراز دعمنا لسيادة أوكرانيا وسلامة اراضيها داخل حدودها المعترف بها دولياً مثل أي عضو في الأمم المتحدة.

Subject (3):

سيدي الرئيس الجمعية العامة الوفود السادة والسيدات هذا الاسبوع يمثل سنة على مرور غزو تبقى هذه... هي غزو.. من قبل عضو من اعضاء مجلس الامن وهي روسيا ان هذا خرق القانون الدولي وميثاق الامم المتحدة ان العالم محتاج السلام في اوكرانيا و شعب اوكرانيا يستحق السلام بعد هذه المعاناة ولكن ليس هناك سلام نحتاج السلام قائم على مبادئ وقانون الامم المتحدة هذا القرار الذي قدمته اوكرانيا ما هو الا قرار بشأن دعمنا لأوكرانيا من اجل ارساء قواعد السلام ان هذه الحرب ضد اوكرانيا ليست قضية اوروبية هي حرب غير قانونية تخص الجميع الجنوب والشرق والجنوب وجميع العالم وهنا نحن نعلن عن دعمنا لأوكرانيا وسلامتها الاقليمية وحدود...

Subject (4):

السيد الرئيس جمعية الامم العامة الزملاء الحاضرون سيداتي وسادتي يصادف هذا الاسبوع مضي سنة كاملة على الغزو الغير قانوني الروسي لأوكرانيا كانت هذه السنة واضحة للخرق الغير القانوني الذي قامت به روسيا وهو خرق القانون الدولي... يحتاج العالم الى السلام في اوكرانيا وخاصة بعد المعاناة الكثيرة التي قد عاناها ولكن ليست اي سلام نحتاج سلام يتمحور حول المبادئ التي تنص عليها مبادئ الامم المتحدة والميثاق ولهذا نحن هنا اليوم.. هذا ما يمثله قرار اوكرانيا... هنا تحاول اوكرانيا نص قانون جديد ليسود السلام في اراضيها مرة اخرى الحرب ضد اوكرانيا هي ليست حربا اوروبية انها تخص الغرب الشمال الجنوب وجميع العالم نحن هنا اليوم لنشر و اظهر دعمنا لأوكرانيا لاسترداد حقوقها و اراضيها حالها كحال اي دولة من دول الامم المتحدة.

Subject (5):

سيداتي و سادتي سوف نبداً.... انها تبقى قضية واضحة... انها روسيا كما يعلم الجميع.. القانون العالمي... ليس هناك اي حجة... بعد الكثير من المعاناة... ليس هناك سلام السلام مبني على اساس ميثاق الامم المتحدة لهذا نحن هنا في هذه القاعة واحدة من اهم الحلول لحرب اوكرانيا... من اجل اقامة مبادئ السلام لذا انا اركز على هذا الموضوع.... انه ليس طلب لروسيا لكنها حرب... تتضمن شمال و جنوب و شرق و كل العالم اليوم سوف... من اجل اي عنصر من عناصر الامم المتحدة....

Analysis and Discussion

Regarding the subjects' renditions, Subjects (3&4) are relatively less accurate since the message's meaning is partially conveyed to the TL, and some cases of omission can be traced. In contrast, subject 3 interpretation is viewed as inaccurate due to long pauses and omissions made during the interpreting process, which declines the level of accuracy.

The table below shows some cases of omission made due to a comprehension problem on the part of the interpreters. The inability of the interpreter to comprehend the lexical unit would result in meaning loss or awkward speech production, thus giving rise to different information in the receptor's language.

TABLE 5
THE OMITTED INFORMATION

SL	TL	Omission in the TL		
		Subject 3	Subject 4	Subject 5
Distinguished delegates	حضرات المندوبين	Nil	Omitted	Omitted
The General Assembly	الجمعية العامة	Nil	Nil	Omitted
this week's marks one year since Russia started its illegal invasion of Ukraine	يصادف هذا الأسبوع مرور عام على بدء روسيا اجتياحها الغير شرعي لأوكرانيا	بدء روسيا اجتياحها الغير شرعي لأوكرانيا	Nil	Omitted
The world needs peace in Ukraine, and the people of Ukraine deserve peace	ان العالم بحاجة للسلام في أوكرانيا و شعب اوكرانيا يستحق السلام	Nil	Nil	Omitted
This is what the resolution presented by Ukraine is about. It's about reiterating our support for Ukraine and to set out the principles for peace	هذا ما يدور حوله القرار الذي قدمته أوكرانيا حيث يتعلق بإعادة تأكيد دعمنا لأوكرانيا ووضع مبادئ السلام	Nil	حيث يتعلق بإعادة تأكيد دعمنا لأوكرانيا ووضع مبادئ السلام	هذا ما يدور حوله القرار الذي قدمته أوكرانيا حيث يتعلق بإعادة تأكيد دعمنا لأوكرانيا
the war again Ukraine is not a European issue	ان هذه الحرب ضد أوكرانيا ليست قضية اوروبية	Nil	Nil	Omitted

Subjects (3&4) don't allocate their processing capacity appropriately and find a balance among each interpreting phase. There are issues when processing capacity is improperly distributed among Efforts. For example, the subject might spend too much time producing an outstanding reformulation of a previously heard chunk of the source speech and run out of energy to complete a listening assignment on an incoming segment. As a result, omissions are detected in their interpretations. According to Gile's classification, it can be concluded that inappropriate allocation of the processing capacity affects comprehension as a part of listening and analysis efforts and lead to incomplete comprehension.

As for Subject (3), the processing capacity available for each effort isn't sufficient. For instance, a speaker's utterance may be fast and dense; therefore requiring the processing of more information per unit of time and raising capacity requirements beyond what is available to the subject, thus leading to a decrease in comprehension. It can be concluded that subject 5 comprehension falls at the low level.

V. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The analysis of the data of simultaneously interpreted speeches in the present study aiming at the investigation of the impact of comprehension on accuracy yields the following findings:

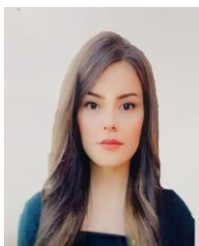
1. There are (32) cases of omission that can be observed in the deletion of an entire clause, partial or complete loss of an idea, and even the complete disappearance of specific significant SLS chunks, while simultaneously interpreting (4) speeches by (5) MA students.
2. The cases of omission have a significant impact on the accuracy of the interpretation—the more omissions in the interpretation, the lower the accuracy, and the more pauses in the performance.
3. The omitted information in the subjects' performance is caused by incomplete comprehension or non-comprehension of the SLS.
4. There are 1 out of 5 subjects had a high performance even though some omissions slightly affected the conveyed meaning compared with the other subjects. This is due to the inappropriate allocation of processing capacity among efforts in some parts of the SLS. They were successful to a large extent in preserving the SLS propositional meaning and conveying it into TL.
5. Signal distortions (a speaker's foreign accent, background noise, etc.), cognitive overload hindering the listening effort, processing capacity, and other factors can all lead to omissions that affect the output of simultaneous interpretations.

The paper concludes that comprehension alone is insufficient to achieve an accurate interpretation but rather the sufficient availability of processing capacity for comprehension effort since the limitations of the processing capacity can lead to omissions in the interpretation.

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