

Cognitive Translation & Interpreting Studies today

An introduction for linguists

Ricardo Muñoz Martín

Università di Bologna

Cognitive Translation & Interpreting Studies (CTIS) is grounded in cognitive science, particularly linguistics and psychology. It empirically investigates the cognition of participants in multilectal mediated events to improve human communication. This presentation will review emerging trends. Insights from reading research illuminate the dynamics between texts and readers' behaviors. Metacognition is crucial for professional growth, with an emerging focus on attributive metacognition (ToM, perspective-taking) in CTIS research. Emotions, stress, and their impact on the performance of mediators are explored, but it crucially extends to measuring emotions in audiences of audiovisual products, audio, and texts.

The concept of multimodality gains importance, with research comparing mediators' tasks and conditions to discern differential relevance of cognitive processes such as planning, monitoring and assessment. The expanding role of technology emphasizes the significance of ergonomics and Human-Computer Interaction. CTIS's ergonomic studies reveal challenges in computer-assisted translation tools, assessing their impact on cognitive processes. The relatively recent yet established job profile of post-editing has predominantly undergone quantitative scrutiny, focusing on aspects like effort prediction and productivity gains.

Socio-cognitive approaches investigate the interconnectedness of human cognition, social practices, and translation technologies. Observational methods, particularly in workplace and ethnographic studies, play a significant role. Qualitative approaches offer valuable insights into project management, team dynamics, and processes over extended time scales in CTIS research. The rise of non-professional, often crowdsourced translations, and the increasing use of free MT tools calls for MT literacy to foster a universal multilectal mediation culture beyond professional realms.