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THE MULTILINGUAL VOICE





What's Inside ?

Interpreters in the News

Interpreting is an exciting career with a variety of outlets to choose from. From courts to education, interpretation is a skill, and those who choose to pursue a career in this field know the rewarding feeling of seeing effective communication happening. Take a look inside this issue to learn about one interpreter that has sparked controversy...

What is the SAFE AI Task Force?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a part of hundreds of professions. These professions are utilizing AI to enhance the work, ease the workload, and improve the profession. AI is particularly becoming a large part of the interpreting and translation fields. So how do interpreters and translators feel about it? What is ensuring them their profession is not at risk of being 'taken over' by AI? Read along to learn about a Task Force created to protect the profession, ensure end users privacy remains private and their ultimate goal...

International Translation Day

September 30 has been established as the International Translation Day by the United Nations to recognize all those who work and serve in the language industry.

WELCOME TO THE MULTILINGUAL VOICE

ALL YOUR LANGUAGE NEWS IN ONE PLACE

The language profession is expanding at an incredibly fast pace and veterans in the field are finding ways to keep up with the latest trends and technology developed to aid and enhance the work, while those starting out are discovering the fascinating road to an incredibly rewarding career.

This issue focuses on the technology available today for language needs, SAFE AI, the latest jobs in the language industry, ethics, and more!

Thank you for reading, The Language Services Team



Interpreting is a skill. Performing is a talent. To perform as an interpreter, you require practice, experience, and a skillful talent. As humans, communication is necessary for growth, knowledge, and meaning. Being able to enable two parties to communicate by interpreting is a gift. That is why this profession is never boring, always challenging, and extremely rewarding.



Shohei Ohtani and Ippei Mizuhara Image credit: cnn.com

Regardless of the field in which you interpret, a code of ethics and standards of practice are omnipresent. You can't see them, but you know they are there. These codes of ethics and standards of practice provide a uniform responsibility to skilled interpreters to maintain a professional, respectful, and transparent image when hired. Whether it is in the medical, judicial, educational, or sports sectors, interpreters abide not only by the profession's rules and guidelines but also by the culture and professionalism of the sector they are working in. Now, imagine being hired to interpret for one of the highest-paid athletes in U.S. history. The interpreter hired for that job will be known as an "escort interpreter" because they go wherever the client goes. In other words, the escort interpreter will facilitate any and all communication encounters between the client and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) individuals. As described, this could be a job that some would love to have or would absolutely hate. It can be an exciting experience or an exhausting one; it truly depends on the person's capabilities and willingness to work long hours.

In recent months, a shocking accusation was brought forth in the sporting world. Sports gambling, an illegal practice in most U.S. states and countries around the world, is punishable by law and can result in prison time if one is found guilty. The case made headlines due to the athlete it was related to: Shohei Ohtani, who became a household name in recent months when he accepted a trade from the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim baseball team to the Los Angeles Dodgers—a move that made him the highest-paid athlete of all time in the U.S.

A native of Japan, Ohtani has limited English proficiency and hired an escort interpreter to ease his transition into U.S. sports. His interpreter became more than just that; he became a friend Ohtani trusted, and a friend who betrayed that trust and almost cost him his career. When news first broke, all accusations were pointed at Ohtani due to the financial connection discovered in the sports gambling bust. However, after a careful and thorough investigation, it was discovered that Ohtani's interpreter, Ippei Mizuhara, was behind it and had gambled close to \$16 million of Ohtani's money between 2021 and March 2024, when the bust occurred. Since the accusation came to light, the Dodgers have fired Mizuhara, who is now facing up to 30 years in federal prison if sentenced.

Codes of ethics and standards of practice are established to protect and professionalize a career. Mizuhara's actions are not justified; they are simply separate from his role as an interpreter.



Interpreting SAFE-AI Task Force

Stakeholders Advocating for Fair and Ethical AI in Interpreting.

The SAFE-AI Task Force was "created, established, and led by experts and professionals in the field with the mission to establish, disseminate, and promote industry-wide guidelines and best practices for the responsible adoption of AI in interpreting, through facilitating dialogue and acting among vendors, buyers, qualified practitioners, end users, and other stakeholders." (safeaitf.org/mission)

With interpreters and translators in mind, the SAFE-AI Task Force works tirelessly to protect the work they do. They have been studying, researching, and testing the use of AI in the field and collecting data to establish clear objectives and industry-wide guidelines that will benefit the profession as AI progresses. Through the release of its comprehensive Guidance for the Safe and Ethical Use of AI in Interpreting, the SAFE-AI Task Force "...was informed by a comprehensive, dual-track research initiative and complemented by the analysis of case studies assessing AI's impact in real-world interpreting scenarios." (newswire.com) The Guidance is designed to establish a clear and firm ethical foundation for the use of AI in interpreting services across all settings and fields. The focus is on several key principles:

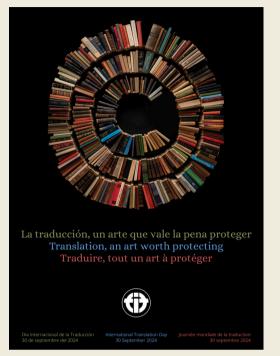
- End-User Autonomy
- Enhancing Safety and Wellbeing
- Transparent Operations
- Human Oversight
- Privacy and Security

Don't miss your chance to learn more about the SAFE-AI Task Force from one of its founding members, Dr. William Rivers, at the 8th Annual Interpreters and Translators Conference on Friday, October 3, 2024! Visit https://link.ocde.us/ITC2024 to register.

To learn more, visit www.safeaitf.org.



"In 2017 we achieved an historical milestone for all professional translators, interpreters and terminologists, with the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopting Resolution A/RES/71/288, recognising the role of professional translation in connecting nations, and fostering peace, understanding and development. In the same resolution, the United Nations General Assembly declared 30 September to be UN International Translation Day, celebrated across the entire UN network."



(International Federation of Translators)

The poster is available for download under Creative Commons licence. Share or print the poster for use in your ITD celebrations.



Join us as we celebrate International Translation Day on September 30th!

This special day honors the work of language professionals who bridge cultural and linguistic divides, fostering understanding and communication across the globe. Let's come together to appreciate the art and science of translation and recognize the vital role it plays in our interconnected world. Don't miss the chance to celebrate the diversity and richness of languages!

<u>Register now</u> and join us on September 30th from 8:30 am to 11:30 am at the Norma Hertzog Community Center in Costa Mesa, CA!

Spaces are limited, so hurry and register today!



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS





KATHARINE ALLEN

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION EDUCATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION LANGUAGE SERVICES

INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLATORS CONFERENCE **BRIDGING COMMUNITIES THROUGH** LANGUAGE ACCESS, EDUCATION, AND **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

Join us at the 8th Annual Interpreters and Translators Conference and learn from experts in the language services field, network with peers, and earn CEU's!





OCTOBER 3-5, 2024

DR. EILEEN FORESTAL

https://link.ocde.us/ITC2024



MANAGER'S CORNER

Language services in education are pivotal in creating inclusive and equitable learning environments. By providing translation, interpretation, and localization support, these services ensure that students, parents, and educators who speak diverse languages can fully participate in the educational process. Whether it's translating essential documents, offering real-time interpretation during meetings, or adapting educational materials for cultural relevance, language services bridge communication gaps and enhance understanding.

For educational institutions, investing in these services demonstrates a commitment to diversity and accessibility, fostering a community where every voice is heard and valued. At the Orange County Department of Education, the Language Services team within the Educational Services Division aims to support all school districts in and around Orange County through training, resources, and professional development opportunities.

Visit us at www.ocde.us to learn more about all we offer!



What is your name and what do you do?

My name is Lizbeth Segura Vazquez, I am a Spanish-English interpreter/translator for the Anaheim Union High School District.

How long have you been working in this field?

I have been working as an Interpreter/Translator in Education for 15 years now.

What is your favorite thing about what you do?

I grew up as the oldest daughter in the family. Over the years, I witnessed the struggles my parents had to communicate with my teachers, doctors, over-the-phone service providers, etc. Many times they would opt out of participating in certain events because of the language barrier. My goal when choosing this field was to be able to empower Spanish speakers so that they did not feel they could not participate in something because of their limited ability to speak English. My favorite thing is giving our families a voice and seeing how parents feel heard and included.

What advice can you give those who are starting in this field?

Never stop learning. Language is constantly evolving so there is always something new to learn. Also, stay curious and ask all the questions you may have.

Do you have any tips for success?

Take advantage of any professional development opportunity that comes your way, even when it is about a topic you have already covered.

TRENDING WORDS TO TRANSLATE

• **IYKYK** is a simple acronym; if you know, you know.

D-

- **FITSPIRATION** (fitness + inspiration) refers to the people, pictures, and social media posts that inspire us to keep pushing ourselves and staying committed to staying in shape.
- **GIRL DINNER** noun. an often attractively presented collection of snacks that involve little preparation, such as small quantities of cold cuts, cheese, fruit, etc. deemed sufficient to constitute a meal for one.
- **GREEDFLATION** noun. a rise in prices, rents, or the like that is not due to market pressure or any other factor organic to the economy but is caused by corporate executives or boards of directors, property owners, etc., solely to increase profits that are already healthy or excessive.

FUN FEETS

- **THe THing about "TH"** Speaking of sounds and letters, the "th" sound in English "THanksgiving" or "THeater" is actually pretty uncommon in languages around the world. That's why many English learners have a hard time <u>producing this sound</u>... because it's not in their first language! Even in English, there are many dialects around the world that replace the "th" sound with other sounds like "f" or "t." For example, in the Cockney dialect of London, "thank you" is pronounced "fank you."
- Simultaneous signing If you've only ever studied spoken languages, you're used to learning to say words or meanings one at a time: First you say "the," then you say "cat," then you say "yawns." But in signed languages, words and meanings can be produced at the SAME. EXACT. TIME. That's right: Since signers use both hands, plus facial expressions and their bodies, to communicate, they often sign multiple words at once! Amazing! The left hand could be forming one word, the right hand another, and even movement between them could be expressing a third meaning.
- **Spilling the tea** Beyond the fact that chai tea is a <u>double name</u>, this warm, steeped beverage has an interesting linguistic history! There's a divide around the world between the languages that call the drink tea (or something similar) and those that use chai (or something that sounds like chai). The division goes all the way back to the spice trade! The term for this cozy cup of caffeine depends on how a community first encountered it. Ch'a (Mandarin for tea) spread to Russian (чай chai), Persian (cha), Greek (tsai), Arabic (shay), and Turkish (çay). On the other hand, tea, which comes from the word in Amoy (also spoken in China!), spread to Europe due to the Dutch East India Company. That's why you'll see the in French, té in Spanish, and Tee in German.

(Source: www.duolingo.com)

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that there are languages around the world that can be entirely whistled?! The sound of a whistle reaches farther than spoken language, so people in communities around the world developed whistled versions of their language to communicate across longer distances (such as mountainous areas). But, how can they tell apart words and sounds in the whistled version? Just like you do for any spoken language! The shape of the mouth, placement of the tongue, the pitch and rhythm, and other features change in whistled languages just like in their spoken versions.



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For more information about Language Services, visit www.ocde.us

