**4. Dialectics of translation**

1. Inseparability of form and meaning

A translator is to convey not only the ideas and themes of the source text (meaning, sense); she/he should also pay attention to the adequate form to express these ideas. She/he should not become carried away with a free (loose) form of translation, nor force the target language by following the source text word for word. A translator always bears in mind a standard language of the target text, for, as W. Benjamin put it figuratively, «while content and language form a certain unity in the original, like a fruit and its skin, the language of the translation envelops its content like a royal robe with ample folds».

1. Social functions

Translation does not exist outside of society. It appeared in society when communities began to trade and exchange ideas. At the same time, translation helps the world community develop. Nations could hardly have achieved the technological success as it is in the 20thcentury if there had been no translations in electronics, physics, chemistry and other branches of science and technology.

According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, in the 20thcentury most of the world’s people speak one of about 75 primary languages. A small minority speak one of 450 secondary languages, and more than 4,400 other languages are in use. Without translation and translators, the world would not be able to progress.

1. Translation and culture are inseparable

Translation could not have developed without culture. Literature, science, and philosophy influence translators’ conceptualizations. On the other hand, culture could not have developed without translation, since translations enrich nations with the cultural values of other nations.

1. Reflection and creativity in translation

Translation reflects the source text but it does not copy it. To translate adequately, a translator must do his or her best to find a proper means of expression. A translator bears in mind that the receptor has a cultural background other than that of a receptor of the original text; therefore, s/he has to be very resourceful in producing the same impact upon the receptor as that of the source text. Special problems arise in translating dialects, foreign speech, puns, poetry, etc. And a translator is in constant search for new tools to solve translation problems.

1. Translation is an art and a science

Translation is dominated by objective, scientific, and linguistic description and explanation. At the same time, it is a subjective choice of means preserving stylistic equivalence of the source text.