

Special issue dedicated to International Translation Day Translation Programme of FL Department for Technical Faculties



Verse Translation Contest

LIMERICK POEM

The Week of Translation dedicated to the International Translators' Day was held on September 26-30 at the FL Department for Technical Faculties. Translation Programme students participated in various language contests. Among others the participants translated a limerick, a 5-line humorous rhyme of Irish origin. Fourteen NSTU students have taken part in the competition. Below are the offered text and the three best translations:

**There was a young lady named Bright
who traveled much faster than light.
She set out one day
in a relative way,
and came back the previous night.**

Знаком я с девицей одной,
Что свет обгоняет порой.
Сегодня опять
Пошла погулять -
Вчера возвратилась домой.

Юная леди по имени Света
Может двигаться быстрее света.
И отправилась как-то раз
Не вперед, а назад в день и час,
И вернулась вчера до рассвета.

Живёт у нас девушка Света.
Порхает со скоростью света.
Труд Эйнштейна прочла
И сегодня ушла
У моря гулять прошлым летом.



Tanyana Lemeshko,
Translation Program student, I prize

Maria Makashova,
Translation Program student, II prize

Maxim Tereshchenko,
Translation Program student, III prize

The history of the holiday



International Translation Day is a professional holiday of translators. Its history goes back to 419. This day was dedicated to the memory of Ieronim Stridonosky who made a complete translation of the Bible into Latin language. Since that time he is considered saint patron of translators. The holiday was officially established by International Federation of Translation in 1991.

Happy International Translation Day!

About the Translation Programme

Our programme "Translation in professional communication" started in 1999. The aim of the programme is to train professional translators. After completing the course of studies students get a Diploma of NSTU. This Diploma gives them a chance to be more competitive in the labour market. The graduates will specialize in the fields of economics or engineering. The programme lasts 5 semesters.

Every week students have 10 hours of language classes which take place in well-equipped rooms. Over the time more than 700 students have successfully completed this programme. This course is famous for:

- creative teachers and gifted students
- interesting books and interactive classes
- exciting events and nice traditions
- cooperation with the best translation agencies of Novosibirsk
- classes with native speakers
- useful optional courses.

Technical knowledge vs linguistics: is it possible to succeed in both?

Outstanding translators with technical background

Traditionally people are thought to be humanities-minded or technically minded due to such ideas as «right-brain and left-brain» dominating popular belief.

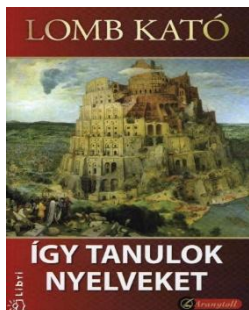
That is why most people are sure that a left-handed person whose body is governed by the right brain hemisphere possesses well-developed creative abilities. By training corresponding limbs we train the hemisphere that is responsible for these actions.

Most people have one dominating hemisphere – the left or right one. When a child is born, he uses all the possibilities of his both hemispheres. However, mathematical schools do not focus on arts and literature while the art schools devote less time to logical thinking.

Good news is that you can train your both hemisphere. So famous Leonardo da Vinci was ambidextrous thanks to his regular trainings. He was both a creative person and an analytic thinker showing his genius in various fields of activities.

With the following short biographies we would like to prove that there are no «technically-minded» or «humanities-minded» people, but there are talented and target-driven people who demonstrate their great abilities both in linguistics and technical sciences. Here is our list of engineers and translators.

To sum up, we should note that these outstanding people obtained their engineering education with deep knowledge of mathematics, physics and chemistry. They are the proof that a hard-working man of purpose can be successful at any field of knowledge. Basic technical knowledge and linguistic skills complement each other like yin and yang in Chinese philosophy



Kato Lomb was a Hungarian interpreter, translator and one of the first simultaneous interpreters in the world. Originally she graduated in **physics and chemistry**, but her interest soon led her to languages. Native in Hungarian, she was able to interpret fluently in nine or ten languages (in four of them even without preparation), and she translated technical literature and read belles-lettres in six languages. As she put it, altogether she earned money with sixteen languages (Bulgarian, Chinese, Danish, English, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Ukrainian). She learned these languages herself, without any teacher. Her aims to acquire these languages were most of all practical, to satisfy her interest. In her own words, her long life was highlighted not primarily by the command of languages but the actual study of them. Through her books, published in Hungarian in several editions as well as in some other languages, interviews (in print and on the air) and conversations, she tried to share this joy with young generations. As an interpreter, she visited five continents, saw forty countries, and reported about her experiences and adventures in a separate book («An interpreter around the world»)

Yan Fu was a Chinese scholar and translator, most famous for introducing western ideas, including Darwin's «natural selection», to China in the late 19th century. Yan Fu was born in a respectable scholar-gentry family in the trade of Chinese medicine. Yan Fu entered the Fujian Arsenal Academy in Fuzhou, a Western school where he studied a variety of subjects including English, arithmetic, geometry, algebra, trigonometry, physics, chemistry, astrology and navigation.

In 1877–79 he studied at the technical Royal Naval College, Greenwich, England. Yan stated in the preface to his translation of Evolution and Ethics that «there are three difficulties in translation: faithfulness,



expressiveness, and elegance». He did not set them as general standards for translation and did not say that they were independent of each other. However, since the publication of that work, the phrase «faithfulness, expressiveness, and elegance» has been attributed to Yan Fu as a standard for any good translation and has become a cliché in Chinese academic circles, giving rise to numerous debates and theses.

Valentin Bereztkov was born in St. Petersburg, studied English and German and received an engineering degree in 1938 from the University of Kiev. In July of 1941 interpreter to Joseph Stalin and Molotov at the Teheran conference in 1943, and also at the Yalta conference in 1945. In Teheran he interpreted Stalin's communication with Franklin D. Roosevelt when the two leaders met for the first time. Bereztkov also interpreted at the tree-way meetings between Stalin, Roosevelt and Winston Churchill in Teheran.

At historic conferences Bereztkov had to work under pressure without much rest or sleep, or even a mealtime. At the Yalta conference he was especially overloaded with work. One episode he recalled later with humor. He was so busy with interpreting between English, American, and Russian officials that he did not have a moment to eat and became really hungry at the end of the first day. The dinner was served to Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin, but they kept talking, obligating Bereztkov to translate. At one moment he took a bite, and the same moment Stalin asked Roosevelt a question. Bereztkov was not able to translate with his mouth full for a few seconds, and received an angry comment from Stalin: «You came to work, not to eat!» Bereztkov later recalled that his appetite was immediately gone.



Our graduates about the program

Katya Rudykh



When I first shared my thoughts about entering another university and getting the second specialization, all the friends suggested I'd taken leave of my senses. After five years at the faculty of foreign languages I still had a fervency to keep learning, to expand the horizons of my knowledge. And after two years of studying at the technical university I realized I'd made the right choice. Obviously, the learning process wasn't easy. On the contrary, that was challenging, as far as I had never had any experience with technical English. But with the help of my teachers and groupmates I struggled through the piles of texts and terms. I suddenly discovered a new world, exciting but yet non-explored, the world of technical language.

Needless to say that this experience opened up new opportunities to me. First of all, I had the chance to have practical training in one of the best translation agencies in the city. I also took part in some outstanding projects, organized by the faculty.

Lisa Lapushkina



I was a pupil in the school of a small village, when my mother took me with her to a big city to visit the Novosibirsk State Technical University (NSTU). A PhD student showed us new equipment and some microphotographs. He had just returned from an international traineeship from Germany and his speech was awesome, he didn't have even a slight accent.

That was amazing and it impressed me much. Since that time I had a dream to become a professional engineer and speak several foreign languages.

My dream came true, when I had a chance to participate in the student exchange program in Germany. European universities surprised me with different approach to studies, well-equipped classrooms and good libraries. I was happy that I didn't have any problems with my English. Thanks to our translation course and my fantastic NSTU teachers.

Yuliya Koteneva



This year I graduated from Novosibirsk State Technical University, Business Faculty with Distinction. Now I get a Bachelor degree and this year was very complicated for me.

After the second year of studying I decided to start the translation course in our University. It was a challenge for me. Our classes usually started in the evening, so I often felt extremely tired. At the beginning I thought that the course would be just like a speaking club, without any home work, difficult tasks and long texts, but the course appeared to be very busy, with a lot of work; a lot of interesting exercises, writing and speaking activities. It was really amazing.

I can't help mentioning the fact that translation programme gave me the chance to be part of a very interesting project devoted to veterans of the Great Patriotic War. The work has become unique opportunity to learn the history of our country and to meet outstanding people who contributed a lot in the fight against fascism. We visited our veterans, asked them about the war and then translated all their stories into English. All of these people have become part of my life and nowadays we try to keep in touch with them and offer our help. The project has changed much in my understanding of life. Surely, I will tell the story of our veterans to my children and to my grandchildren. Moreover, it improved my English a lot.

This summer I entered Higher School of Economics in Moscow. One of the necessary exams was English language, many students failed this exam but I was successful!

I express my great thanks to all the teachers and lecturers who took part in the course of professional communication for their support, creativity and kindness. I will always come to see them.



Editors:
Y.A. Ryzhova,
N.P. Medvedeva

Anastasiya Klushnikova

Firstly, I got my BA in Philology with Distinction at NSTU. I always felt the need to improve my English. So I decided to take a Translation in Professional Communication course at NSTU. This was a great incentive for me. Although I learnt a lot about translation practices, I was more focused on spoken English because speaking was my weak point in language. In terms of this Business English course was very rewarding. As a result, I got the desired skills and now I can speak English fluently, correctly and without any problems.

After completing the course I passed IELTS with 7.0 overall band (could have been better though) and got a certificate of Teaching English as a Foreign Language by Trinity College London. Now I can work abroad as a teacher of English. In May 2016 I got a job offer from Shanghai, China but at the same time I received a letter of admission to take Master's program so I decided to continue my education.



I feel so lucky that I chose Translation in Professional Communication programme because it opens new horizons to explore the world and helps to achieve my goals. I am not a genius at all, I just worked hard on my English and had a strong motivation to study at one of the top 150 universities

Vasilisa Boeva



We had more than two wonderful years. In the beginning, it was very difficult to study in the evenings and to do our home tasks because all of us were full-time students of NSTU as well. However, after a few months I was amazed to realize how easily I could translate grammatically complicated sentences. In my school, I had been learning English for 10 years, but I could not write correctly. Now I can translate technical texts easily, moreover, even the texts outside my field of study. We did many interesting things at our classes, including listening to classical English literature masterpieces, writing various types of essays and official papers, and, translating technical articles and real academic books and communicating with each other by conversations, making presentations and playing role games. We were given not only practical, but also theoretical courses, we found out a lot of interesting things about Russian and English linguistics, etymology, phonetics, grammar and literary stylistics. I wish to express my gratitude to all our amazing teachers for their patience and their knowledge, which they pass to us.

Alex Zenkov

I decided to apply for translation courses after the first year of my studying at NSTU. I wanted to improve my English, but did not have enough time to go for another full 4-year degree. So this program was perfect match for me.



The program helped me to evolve from someone who just can speak English into someone who can translate as a professional. Besides, I got one more benefit – networking – which seems to me equally important. I met a lot of interesting people, both among students and teaching staff. Some of these acquaintances led to a few freelance projects that I took, some of them became my friends whom I still have and hope to have forever.

After finishing the program in late 2012, I began to take advantage of my new language skills and the diploma. I've had a few translation jobs both full-time and part-time, I did an internship in a global company, trained volunteers at the Sochi Olympics and started to travel more independently (for now 24 countries and counting).

Now I have another part-time job. I work as an editor and translator for a website which covers technology and venture business – something that I was interested in long before I got this job. And this is probably my favorite part of working as a translator – the chance to discover something new, grow as a professional and enjoy at the same time.

Olga Votrina

I think that this course gives you a great chance to be a good specialist in your field. Thanks to this program you can continue your education, for example, in Europe. You can also have a work experience in international companies and your career will grow quickly. During the academic year you will make new contacts with interesting students from NSTU. Highly professional and gifted teachers will deliver interesting and fruitful classes. So, if you are an ambitious person who wants to be the best specialist in the world – join the courses of translators!



