



# PROTEUS

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## FTC ENDS INVESTIGATION

*Like an angry Greek god who is not easily appeased, the Federal Trade Commission has reluctantly declared that NAJIT is free of the dread "monopolitis," a disease we knew we never had. Mary Lou Steptoe, acting director of the Bureau of Competition (!) of the FTC, has written to Daniel J. Ratner, our legal adviser, stating that the FTC has concluded its investigation. The letter follows.*

As you know, the Federal Trade Commission has conducted an investigation into whether the National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators ("NAJIT") has violated the Federal Trade Commission Act by publishing fee schedules and standard contract terms.

Upon further review of this matter, it appears that no further action is warranted by the Commission at this time in regard to NAJIT. Accordingly, pursuant to authority delegated to it by the Commission, the investigation has been closed. This action is not to be construed as a determination that a violation may not have occurred, just as the pendency of an investigation should not be construed as a determination that a violation has occurred. The Commission reserves the right to take such further action as the public interest may require. I wish to note that the antitrust laws have long condemned trade association adoption and dissemination of fee schedules for use by their members in agreeing on the price they will charge for goods and services. See, e.g., Goldfarb v. Virginia State Bar, 421 U.S. 773 (1975); United States v. National Association of Real Estate Boards, 339 U.S. 485 (1950); American Column and Lumber Co. v. United States, 257 U.S. 377 (1921); Northern California Pharmaceutical Ass'n v. United States, 306 F.2d 379 (9th Cir.), cert. denied, 371 U.S. 862 (1962). Thus, the Commission will examine closely any association that publishes such schedules and will take whatever law enforcement action that it deems appropriate.

## Interpreters in the Tower of Babel

NAJIT, founded in New York in 1978 as the Court Interpreters and Translators Association, has grown to become the only national organization composed exclusively of judiciary interpreters. In commemoration of its fifteenth year, NAJIT returns to the city of its origins with a program combining seriousness and satire, with surprises in store for the uninitiated and overworked interpreter alike. Over 100 interpreters of different languages are expected to attend.

Courts nationwide are seeing a dramatic rise in the use of foreign language interpreters. Many jurisdictions now depend upon a small but active army of interpreters to carry meaning across the barricades of hotly contested legal battles. Linguistic skills, mental flexibility and objectivity make interpreters a rare commodity in the babel of the marketplace. Even as the computer revolution heralds dizzying sophistication in information processing, nothing has yet approached the efficiency and flair of a human multilingual mind at work. At NAJIT's New York conference, interpreters will gather both to analyze and celebrate their trade.

### ELECTION RESULTS

Of the 284 ballots mailed to members in good standing, 131 ballots were filled out and returned, and 3 ballots invalidated for lack of signature.

There were four candidates for three vacancies. The three with the largest number of votes will serve two-year terms, commencing in 1994. The candidates received the following votes:

Mirta Vidal Orrantia	119 votes
A. Samuel Adelo	103 votes
Susana S. Sawrey	86 votes
Buddy Strittmatter	57 votes

Thank you to all candidates for their willingness to serve.

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Dear Colleagues:

A great deal of time and energy has been devoted in recent months to organizing the May conference in New York, and I think those efforts will be well rewarded. That has not kept us, however, from tending to many other affairs that are vital to the smooth functioning and growth of the association.

The recruitment drive we launched at the beginning of the year has begun to bear fruit. New memberships are coming in at a steady pace each week, with California in the lead. I would like to give a hearty welcome to all those who have just joined.

Close to 1,000 pieces of promotional material have gone out so far, and 500 more will be sent out by mid-May. I would like to stress, however, that the best way to bring in new members is through personal contact. Organizing is the only way to ensure that our profession will grow in strength and influence, leading to improved working conditions,

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### **NAJIT is the only organization addressing the unique needs of court interpreters.**

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higher pay and recognition. And while there are many organizations for translators and interpreters, NAJIT is the only one that addresses the unique and specific needs of those who work in the legal system, whose ranks continue to grow. So please remember to talk about NAJIT to your colleagues, particularly in the state and local courts, where there is an enormous but untapped source of talent that is often underrepresented and not heard from.

Along these lines, I would also like to propose that we make a concerted effort to have libraries in the courts where we work get a subscription to *Proteus* (\$16) or, preferably, an institutional membership to NAJIT (\$150). Librarians should be able to see the wisdom of carrying a publication that is of such immediate interest to its users.

Everyone by now is aware of the election results, as reported elsewhere in this issue. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Susana Stettri Sawrey, our newest Board member and NAJIT's new Secretary. She brings a wealth of experience, not only as an interpreter and activist, but as someone who has developed and taught courses for

interpreters, as well as helping to design the certification test in the state of Washington. Susana is a most welcome addition to the team, and we look forward to working with her.

On behalf of the entire Board, I also want to express our sincere thanks to Alee Alger-Robbins, who declined to run for re-election after a long stint as Secretary. Alee made many important contributions during her term as Board member, bringing the West Coast perspective to the decision-making process. We wish her every success in her many other activities.

At its last meeting via telephone on March 16, the Board discussed the NAJIT by-laws extensively and proposed a series of revisions to reflect changes in the functioning of the organization. In the next few weeks you will receive the proposed revisions, a rationale for each one and voting instructions.

As is also reported in this issue, the Federal Trade Commission finally deigned to send us formal notice of the end of their investigation of NAJIT. We would have appreciated being informed of this two years ago, when the investigation was in fact discontinued, but there is cause to rejoice in the news that we can finally put that vexing chapter behind us.

Now that the actual figures are in, I would like to announce that NAJIT's Educational Conference held in Austin last November, contrary to what early figures showed, actually netted a profit of \$1,000; we hope that this will set a trend for future events.

With Arlene Stock's invaluable help, we are now reissuing NAJIT publications that have been out of print or unavailable. Nancy Festinger's *Key Verbs for Court Interpreters* is being offered as a bonus to the first 100 new members, and it has already attracted a number of them. Janis Palma's *Primer for Court Interpreters*, just revised and updated, should be ready by late May.

Finally, I would like to invite everyone to begin thinking beyond New York, which is already upon us, to the next annual meeting, slated for 1995 in San Francisco. Given the enthusiasm and interest that interpreters in California have shown, it promises to be a truly productive and exciting event. I invite everyone in the coming months to help plan and build our next conference.

MIRTA VIDAL  
Chair, Board of Directors

## TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT How to Get it in Writing

The Board sent a memorandum to NAJIT members on February 14 with a model letter which can be used to ensure a legally binding contract with attorneys or other firms that use interpretation or translation services. The model is provided so that each member may fill in the specific contractual arrangements pertaining to the assignment while ensuring that the attorney or firm, and not a third party, is responsible for payment. It is suggested that members use the model to avoid delays in

payment or possible misinterpretation of an oral agreement.

While NAJIT does not recommend or suggest specific service fees, it is customary to negotiate various types of compensation for provision of services, including: cancellation fees, higher fees for evening, weekend or extended assignments, transportation and delivery costs, etc. It is advisable to be familiar with market conditions in your area.

### AGREEMENT

Date:

Re: Agreement for Provision of Interpretation or Translation Services

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

This letter shall confirm that \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Firm") has engaged me to provide interpreting/transalting services to the Firm in connection with the provision of legal services to the Firm's clients.

Services shall be performed commencing on \_\_\_\_\_ and shall continue thereafter as directed by the Firm. I will be paid at the rate of \_\_\_\_\_ for such services.

It is understood that the interpretation/translation services are furnished to the Firm and that payment for services shall not be contingent on third-party fulfillment of any financial obligation to the Firm in regard to the interpretation/translation services.

Payment for interpretation/translation service shall be made immediately upon completion of service.

Please sign at the bottom to acknowledge acceptance.

Very truly yours,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Interpreter)

ACCEPTED AND AGREED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Firm Name)

## CUESTIONES DE NUESTRO LENGUAJE

Santiago Illescas del C.

**Y**a no sólo para nuestros estudiosos de su lenguaje sino también para nuestros destacados amigos hispanistas de Europa, América y Asia --con perdón sea dicho-- continuaremos registrando algunas de las voces de origen náhuatl todavía audibles unas más que otras.

**Tompiate** es palabra relativa a un recipiente en forma de cabás o esportilla de forma cilíndrica, apropiada principalmente para llevar o guardar comestibles, hecho el de hojas de palma o tule.

Los de palma suelen ser tejidos con mucho arte, y con tiras de muchos colores, y los usa la gente como adornos y para guardar ropa en ellos. Su etimología náhuatl es **tompiatl**. El aparato fónico de los mexicanos se ha negado a producir sonidos como ese **tl**, y al **tompiatl** indígena le han dado la pronunciación más fácil de **tompiate**.

Eso me hace recordar al adjetivo **huilo**, que se aplica en Sonora a la gente delgada. Yo no puedo asegurar que ese **huilo** sonoreño, de origen cahita, dicen, tenga su base etimológica en el **cuillotic** náhuatl, pero se ha reconocido el muy antiguo parentesco de los cahitas con los náhuatl. Difícil es averiguar hoy esto. Lo único malo es que **cuilontia** en náhuatl era cometer ese pecado nefando, por el que en aquel tiempo quemaban a ciertas personas de sexo dudoso.

**Camote** es una palabra muy usual en México, el camote es bulbo de la familia de las convolvuláceas, batata fue nombrada por los españoles cuando la conocieron en el Caribe, y con su masa fabricaban pan. Hoy el camote se vende aún en las calles mexicanas, cocido con piloncillo. Recuerdo, nostálgico, cuando en algunos lugares de México desayunaba leche fresca acompañada con camote enmielado, y algunas otras cosillas rancheras criollas preparadas con carne.

Otra especie muy usual de ella es el "camote del cerro" al que nuestros rancheros le atribuyen propiedades incitadoras del deseo sexual.

Y todavía se oye por estos rumbos decir que

algunas mujeres de mal carácter "se **molonquearon**". Y no es que la gente comentadora no sepa decir que se "jalaron de las greñas" por ejemplo, sino que la voz **molonquear** tiene una progeñe indígena antigua.

**Molonquearse** era enredarse a golpes. **Molonqul**, en nahuátl, era una planta enredadora llamada, ya a la española, "tripa de Judas". De allí salió sin duda, ese molonquearse: enredarse a golpes.

Y parecida a esta voz tenemos a **molote**. Se oye decir por algunas personas que la mujer tal o cual se **hace un molote** o molotillo en la cabeza.

Ese **molote** es generalmente un ovillo, un mal atado de cabellos que se hacen en la parte posterior de la cabeza. La etimología de esta palabra es **molotl**, nombre que los nahuátl daban a todas las cosas que daban idea de un ovillo: como el **olotl**=**xolotl**, al ajolote o batracio, etc.

Algunos jóvenes de hoy, a la moda extranjera, están usando molotes de muy diversas y raras especies, a la manera de ciertos artistas pelicularos cinematográficos.

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# INTRODUCING THE GUILD

The Translators and Interpreters Guild is a labor union for translators and interpreters. It was chartered in April 1991 as The Translators' Guild and adopted its current name in December 1993. The Guild's purpose is to raise the standard of living to which competent translators and interpreters, and freelancers in particular, can reasonably aspire. It focuses on bread and butter issues: finding work, lobbying for favorable legislation, helping beginners get into the field and improving working conditions.

The Guild is a nationwide "Local" of The Newspaper Guild, which in turn is part of AFL-CIO and the Canadian Labour Congress. The Newspaper Guild provides financial, legal and other assistance, plus good old union solidarity on lobbying, marketing and other efforts.

As a union, the Guild is open to labor (freelance and in-house translators and interpreters, and those aspiring to become such), but not to management (translation bureau owners and operators and in-house translation managers). As of January 1994, the Guild had about 380 members and two chapters —or Units— in California and Washington, D.C.

The Guild is dedicated to operating in a spirit of democracy. The membership is the supreme authority of the Guild. New initiatives often originate with a member's request to the Executive Committee and, when major decisions need to be made, the matter is put to a vote of the membership. Because of this dedication to democratic process, and because of the organization's youth, the Guild is open to being shaped by members with good ideas.

Guild services include:

**The Referral Service** -- The Guild advertises translation services to direct clients and refers requests to members. An Interpreters Referral Service will be in operation by mid-1994. (Referral Service membership is not automatic. Members fill out a separate application and are carefully screened before being approved.)

**Mentoring** -- For beginners, for members who do not yet qualify for the Referral Service and for more

established members who need help in a certain area, the Guild offers lists of members who have offered to provide the necessary assistance.

**Union Privilege Benefits** -- AFL-CIO offers all its members a package of benefits including favorable mortgage, loan and MasterCard arrangements, discounts on prescriptions and legal services, and reasonably-priced life insurance and supplemental health and accident insurance.

**Health Insurance** -- The Guild's California Unit offers a group arrangement on the Kaiser health plan, and the Guild is currently attempting to negotiate a group health insurance policy nationwide.

**Lobbying** -- The Guild's "Policy Issues" committee examines legislative and regulatory changes which could make a difference to its members. For example, it lobbied for a restoration of the 25% deduction of health insurance premiums for the self-employed and an increase in the deduction to 100%.

**Seminars** -- The Interpreters Committee and the Washington, D.C. Unit are both planning to offer seminars on various aspects of professional development beginning in 1994. These will be open to non-members for a slightly higher fee.

**Dictionaries** -- The Guild is compiling a list of dictionaries owned by members so that they can call each other for help looking up elusive terms.

**Newsletter** -- The Translators' Voice appears bimonthly.

Guild dues are \$72/year, plus a one-time initiation fee of \$10. (If you later join the Referral Service as well, you pay an additional \$48/year -- or \$60/yr. for the Interpreters Referral Service -- plus 10% of the fees you collect on Referral Service work.)

If you fit the membership criteria outlined above and would like more information on the Guild, call 1-800-992-0367 or write 1008 North Randolph St., #201, Arlington, VA 22201. You will receive more information, along with an application card.

## Research Update

# IDEAS FOR RESEARCH -- Part II

José L. Varela-Ibarra



Laypersons often ask writers how they come up with ideas. Writers, like other creative beings, are surrounded with idea sources and face new and unexplored path-ways wherever they turn. Translators and interpreters who wish to do research and write for publication can come up with ideas by following several routes. Relax and observe your surroundings, take a day off and visit the journal section of your friendly university library, let your eyes wander over bibliographies at the end of articles or books, talk with your colleagues over raspberry cobbler and ice cream at your local restaurant —ideas will come. Here are some that have come to me:

**Translation/Interpretation Skill Acquisition.** Translating and interpreting are complex skills. What are the determinants of performance in their acquisition? What kinds of abilities predict individual differences in performance? What personality aptitude interactions are at play?

**Learning Strategy Classification and Implications.** Self-directed learning vs. task-oriented learning strategies. Which is more appropriate for T/I students? Do they depend on text density/difficulty? Can all learning strategies in T/I be classified as self-directed or task-oriented?

**Development of T/I Skills in Children.** I have been collecting data on the childhood experiences, positive and negative, my T/I students have had as interpreters. Can children be taught T/I skills? What relationship does interpreting as a child have on the future knowledge, skills and attitudes of that child?

**Moral Action in T/I.** With a book on virtues on the bestseller list and ethics workshops required not only of California Court Interpreters but also of University of Texas faculty members, moral decisions and ethics education seem to be crying for a research base more solid than the purely anecdotal foundation of what I have seen thus far.

**Identifying Successful T/I.** Tony Robbins has made a fortune with books and programs promising "power" and a rich, rewarding and happy life. His formula: seek out successful people, analyze what they do, reduce it to a step-by-step plan, package,

market and sell it. Can we do the same? Who are the successful translators and interpreters? How did they get that way? What steps did they take? Can we follow in their footsteps towards the eternal goal?

**The Role of Practice in the Development of T/I Skills.** What kind of practice? How much of it? When? Where? What is the role of feedback? What kind of feedback? How much of it? When? Where?

**Teacher Expectations and Student T/I Performance.** Do expectations predict performance? Expectations of student ability and of text difficulty. Are there any other perceptions by the teacher that influence the student's performance?

**Effects of T/I Training Programs on Older Adults.** The European Community does not consider applicants over the age of 35 for interpreting positions. Is this fair? Can older adults be trained to become successful interpreters? Do older interpreters perform as well as younger ones? How old is old? How young is young?

**Coping with T/I Difficulties by Professional T/I.** How do pros cope with perceived text difficulties?

**Gender Differences Between T/I.** Are there any gender differences in the performance of any aspect of T/I work? Are there other-than-gender differences?

**Self-Esteem and Professional Self-Worth.** Is there a relationship between self-esteem and T/I performance? Is professional self-worth judged according to self-esteem? What sources of information --education, language dominance, training, job, rank, income-- does the T/I use to determine self-worth?

**Effect of Mental Practice on T/I Performance.** A lot of research has gone into mental practice and basketball performance. Often quoted are the results of a study that concluded that a group that practiced only mentally improved as much as one that practiced physically and more than the control group that did not practice at all. More recent studies suggest that a combination of physical and mental practice produce the best results. Can we train ourselves mentally? Can we combine mental and physical practice to improve our T/I performance?

**Caring about Injustice: The Moral Self-Perception of Professional Court Interpreters or Judiciary Translators.** Any gender differences?

**Self-Confidence and T/I Performance.** Perceptions of self-efficacy (Bandura's model), anxiety,

*(continued on page 7)*

# DEADBEAT LAWYERS

Ruth Kohn

In January, 1991, I interpreted at a 4:30 pretrial conference. Defense attorney Michael Pollack asked me to go with him to the jail at 6:30 p.m. that evening to assist him in discussing the case with his client. Although it was inconvenient for me and meant a two-hour wait, I consented and told him my fee was \$135.

After the interview I billed him, and then an entire year elapsed with neither check nor explanation. During that time I called his office numerous times but was never put through to him; he was always "busy." Months later I met him by chance and reminded him of the payment due. He promised to send the check "as soon as I get back to the office." I am still waiting for him to get to his office.

Finally I decided to take him to Small Claims Court. I spent an hour registering my complaint and three more at the trial, to which he never came. On July 27, 1992 I received a judgment in my favor for the money owed, plus interest and court expenses. Happy ending, right? Not really.

When additional phone calls produced no results, I turned the case over to a marshal. It cost \$15, which amount is to be added to the amount collected from the delinquent debtor. The marshal's office sent me two letters informing me that the attorney had no accounts at certain banks. When I called the marshal last week, his secretary told me that Mr. Pollack's law office had closed and that I would be so notified by letter. I never received the marshal's letter, either.

I knew by then I was not going to recover the money from the scoundrel, so I sent his name to the disciplinary committee of the Bar Association. They have not acknowledged my letter.

From time to time I hear complaints from other interpreters about unpaid bills from attorneys or translation agencies. Sometimes it takes months and countless phone calls (occasionally long distance) to get paid. Fortunately, my loss was not large, but some are. If unethical attorneys and agencies become confident that there is little we can do to make them pay, they will become bolder.

I think we should keep a list of deadbeats, similar to the one compiled by the Better Business Bureau. If anyone has suggestions about how to organize it, I would be eager to hear from them.

You can write to me care of *Interpreters Office, US District Court, SDNY, Foley Square, New York, NY 10007 (attn: Proteus).*

## RESEARCH UPDATE

(continued from page 6)

effort expenditure, and performance can be assessed and relationships studied.

**Implicit vs. Explicit Knowledge.** Explicit learning is rule-based. Implicit learning is unselective. Can a T/I explain what s/he is doing? Can they explain what another T/I has done? Do T/I skills have a high or low degree of implicitly learned techniques?

**Does Anxiety Reduce the Performance Excellence of T/I?**

**Physical Fitness Capacities in Professional T/I.** Is physical fitness related to performance? Is it related to anxiety, which may reduce levels of performance?

**Cooperative Learning in T/I.** People can approach learning in one of three ways: alone, in competition with others, and in cooperation with others. Over 700 studies indicate that when students help each other they learn more, retain information at a deeper level, have more positive feelings and are more accepting of each other's differences. Have we taken advantage of opportunities to learn together? If not, what stands in our way?

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## From our Catalanian Counterparts

*The following letter from the President of the Association of Judiciary Interpreters of Catalonia was addressed to Mirta Vidal.*

Querida Colega:

Tengo el placer de haceros llegar un ejemplar del boletín de la asociación que tengo el honor de presidir. Como sabes, soy uno de los socios europeos de NAJIT. Aquí también nos hemos dado cuenta de que además de una asociación genérica de traductores, es preciso que exista una asociación que represente los intereses específicos de los traductores e intérpretes judiciales, así que hace un año decidimos fundar AIJC, que ya tiene 97 socios nominales y un socio honorífico (Daniel Sherr, que aprovechando su estancia en España dictó a nuestros asociados una interesante conferencia sobre la situación de la profesión en Estados Unidos).

Quizás es muy pronto todavía, pero deberíamos empezar a pensar en una especie de vinculación internacional de las asociaciones que representamos a la misma profesión en los distintos países del mundo. Como sabes, tanto la ATA como APETI están unidas en la FIT. También nosotros podríamos hacer algo parecido --mucho más modesto y familiar-- que agrupara a las asociaciones o a los socios. Yo estoy en contacto con la Asociación de Traductores Judiciales de Francia (único país de Europa que también posee una asociación específica como las nuestras) y con el Colegio de Traductores Públicos de Argentina. Te agradeceré que me des tu opinión sobre el particular.

Confiando verme honrado con el placer de tu respuesta, recibe el cordial saludo de tu colega,

JOSEP PEÑARROJA  
Presidente

*The address of the Associació d'Interprets Jurats de Catalunya is: Navas de Tolosa 314, 1-1, 08027 Barcelona. Telèfon/Fax: 351 04 57*

## Research on Discourse Analysis

To the Editor:

I have come across a brief note about *Proteus* in the journal *The Linguist* in the U.K. and I know that

you recently published an article on court interpreting. I have just started my research on the discourse analysis of court interpreting and I am sure your newsletter will be of great interest to me.

ESTER CHU  
Lancaster, UK

## Hold the Phone

To the Editor:

With regard to the telecommunications words list [*Proteus*, winter 1993 ], you asked for comments, so I'm going to offer a few. First, a question. Was some of the source material from Spain? I noticed that the word *vídeo* appears in the second translation for "common carrier." I don't know of any place but Spain that gives the word that pronunciation.

I hope that people realize a conference call need not be limited to three people; the translation should fit the particular circumstances. I also wonder about *auricular portátil plegable* for "hand-held cellular phone." I myself have a hand-held cellular phone that is not *plegable*. Why not just *auricular portátil*? Finally, about *correo electrónico* for "voice mail": the first thing that brings to mind is E-mail of a computer rather than a telephone message. I found out recently that in Mexico at least, technicians use the literal *correo de voz*.

ELLIE DE LA BANDERA  
Jamesburg, NJ

## Items of Interest

**June 22 - August 17, 1994. Monterey, CA.** French or Spanish for Translation and Interpretation. Tuition: \$2600.

**July 20 - August 17, 1994. Monterey, CA.** English for Translation and Interpretation. Tuition: \$1400.

Advanced level practice. No translating or interpreting experience required, but applicants must demonstrate superior knowledge of oral and written language. Contact: Monterey Institute of International Studies, (408) 647-4115; fax (408) 647-3534.



## GRAMMAR NOTES FOR TRANSLATORS II

## Bipartite Nouns and Adjectives

George K. Green

With a form very similar to that of the bipartite verbs discussed in the last issue, certain nouns and adjectives of English combine the present tense root of a verb followed by a preposition, or adverb of direction, often of two syllables and rarely more than three, i.e. "sit-in," "tie-up," "play-off," "follow-through," "turn-on," "rip-off." They represent yet another of those terse syntactical idiosyncracies of the English language that pose a challenge to the translator or interpreter. Although most typical of the vernacular register, these bipartite nouns and adjectives have a way of inserting themselves in more formal contexts as well. Generally, they fuse a concept of motion with an idea of direction, in a form that often evokes a strong image or sound. For example, "rip off" is more graphic and specific than possible synonyms such as "robbery"; it brings to mind an object being forcibly detached from its mooring, with a sound that evokes a tearing of cloth. Moreover, "rip off" seems to suggest implicit protest against forcible theft of property in an age of increasing violence and disrespect for private property.

Current events articles in news magazines -- especially *Time*, which relies heavily on the vernacular -- contain numerous examples of bipartite nouns and adjectives. Talk in the Middle East of a crackdown on extremist Jewish settlers on the West Bank in order to avoid a complete breakdown in negotiations with the PLO; but the government of Israel seems unwilling to contemplate a pullout or pullback of troops in the face of fear of a takeover by the Palestinians in Jerico and Gaza. In domestic affairs, there is discussion of a coverup in relation to the bailout or cleanup of savings and loans associations. Then there are reports of a shutout victory in the World Trade Center trial verdicts.

In the March, 1994 issue of *Time*, the excerpt of Henry Kissinger's latest book, "How to Achieve the New World Order" is written in a formal style and not surprisingly contains none of the forms referred to above.

These two-word phrase units usually combine an Anglo-Saxon or Germanic verb root in the present tense ("sit," "run," "turn," etc.) and a particle that is normally used as a preposition ("in," "out," "through," "over," "on," "off," etc.) Curiously, the most utilized particles are those that indicate a clear spacial relationship in and of themselves, such as "in," "out," "up" and "down." Prepositions with an abstract reference ("for," "with," "at") do not seem

to be commonly employed to form bipartite nouns or adjectives; nor are compound prepositions such as "in front of," "inasmuch as," or "according to" used in this way.

Bipartite nouns and adjectives when they first appear in English usage are generally written as two distinct words, as in "That is a big turn off for me." Later they are hyphenated: "sit-in" or "tie-up," and in the final stage of their evolution they are consolidated into a single word that is not generally perceived as consisting of two different morphemes, such as "lockout" or "flashback." In case of doubt as to their form, an unabridged dictionary such as Webster's Third International should be consulted.

Virtually all of the examples cited in this article are nouns; however, bipartite adjectives derived from bipartite verbs are extremely common, even more so than nouns: "fold-down bed," "fold-up table," "fold-out illustration." Many such two-word combinations function as adjectives though they are unlikely to be used also as nouns except in very unusual contexts. Nouns such as "fold-out" and "fold-up" would not be used except in a discussion of portable tables in which the noun "table" were already clearly understood.

The bipartite nouns and adjectives of English often present a challenge to translators and interpreters because they express a precise combination of motion and direction in a very concise form. The search for a suitable translation invariably involves close examination of the exact meaning in context. In many cases, especially if one of these bipartite nouns or adjectives is a key word repeated numerous times in the source text, the solution may be to explain its meaning the first time it appears and then simply employ it in the target language as an italicized loan word. When such two-word nouns refer to a concrete object rather than a concept, there is a higher probability of finding one-word equivalents in other languages. For example, "turnover," meaning "a small pie made by folding back a circular crust over the filling" might be translated as *empanada* in Spanish, *pâté* in French, *pasticcio* in Italian, *empada* in Portuguese or *Blätterteigpastete* in German.

*The author, a graduate of the Munich Interpreters Institute and co-founder of the translator and interpreter programs at the University of Texas at Brownsville, is currently preparing a translation textbook.*

## NOTES FROM THE FIELD

## NAVAJO NATION COURT INTERPRETER INSTITUTE

A. Samuel Adelo

Thirty-one Navajo participants attended a seven day course held between December 17 and 23 at the National Center for Interpretation and Testing at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Participants attended classes in sight translation and consecutive and simultaneous interpretation. Lectures supplemented laboratory training; general topics such as Features of English, New Mexico and Federal Court Procedure, Interpreter Protocol and Ethics, and Evidence alternated with specialized topics such as Child Abuse, Rape, Murder. The course, designed for rapid skills acquisition, trained participants in legal, medical, physiological, weapons and other specialized terminologies. They also received instruction on how to conduct themselves as professionals in the field.

The faculty consisted of federally certified Navajo interpreters Esther Yazzie and Alyse Neundorff, together with federally certified Spanish interpreters Linda Haughton and myself. Guest lecturers were Navajo Nation Judge Robert Yazzie, Ken Nuendorf, Esq. and Albuquerque Metropolitan Court Judge Teresa Gómez.

Efforts to develop and implement the first New Mexico State Navajo Interpreter Institute began in 1992 with a meeting in Aztec, New Mexico initiated by the Honorable Paul R. Onuska and Greg Ireland of the 11th judicial district of New Mexico. After they discussed the possibility of developing an institute specifically geared to Navajo interpretation, Judge Onuska and Mr. Ireland saw clearly that the need for Navajo interpreters went beyond the New Mexico court system and that other governmental and social service agencies had similar needs.

The December training institute can be considered particularly successful. Ninety-seven percent of the participants "strongly agreed" that the institute was a very beneficial experience; the remaining three percent "agreed" with that assessment. One student wrote: "Before this Institute, I had no idea what to expect, but being here I learned a lot. I know what to do, what to study, where to improve myself and how to prepare for the oral examination once it is offered by the state of New Mexico. "

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### NAJIT STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

MAY 11, 1993 - DECEMBER 31, 1993

INCOME

Dues	13,969.00
Advertising	95.00
Seminars ( Austin )	6,382.72
Journal	0
Bank Interest	0
Book Sales	271.00
Annual Meeting	0
Miscellaneous	0
Transfer, Santa Fe acct.	9,207.79
Transfer, New Jersey acct.	4,674.57
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>34,600.08</b>

EXPENSES

Management/administration	5,577.01
Office Supplies	0
Telephone	975.48
Postage	196.66
Printing and Copying	3,634.24
President's Expense	0
Special Consultants	0
Accountant	0
Attorney Fees	162.50
Board Expenses	4,407.21
Publications (printing, etc.)	2,019.18
Seminars (Austin)	5,317.20
Annual Meeting	0
Bank Fees	307.25
Miscellaneous	41.25
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>22,637.98</b>
<b>CASH ON HAND</b>	<b>11,962.10</b>

Carmen Pascual, Treasurer

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Federal Court Interpreter **Spanish/English** Written Examination  
and  
Federal Court Interpreter Written English Examination for **Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean,  
Arabic, Polish, Italian, Russian, Mien and Hebrew**

WRITTEN EXAM DATE: Saturday, August 27, 1994  
WRITTEN EXAM TIME: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for Spanish/English  
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for all others

Deadline for application

All applications must be postmarked no later than July 1, 1994.

Requirements and Eligibility

The Spanish/English written examination will test bilingual skills in both Spanish and English.

The written English examination for Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean, Arabic, Polish, Italian, Russian, Mien and Hebrew will test English proficiency only.

The difficulty of the written examinations are at the college level of proficiency.

THIS WRITTEN EXAMINATION CONSITUTES THE FIRST STEP IN ACHIEVING CERTIFICATION OR OTHERWISE QUALIFIED STATUS.

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