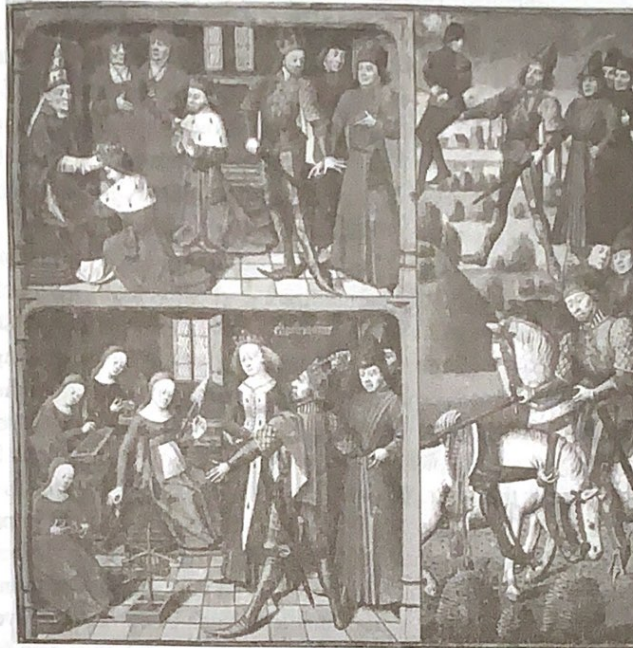


PART 3 LOST IN COMMUNICATION



1. Read the following definitions of 'Translation'. Do you agree with them? Why or why not?

- Reading a translation is like looking at a tapestry on the wrong side. – *Cervantes*
- Poetry is what is lost in translation. – *Robert Frost*
- Pope's translation of Homer is a portrait endowed with every merit except that of likeness to the original. – *Edward Gibbon*
- It is as impossible to translate poetry as it is to translate music. – *Voltaire*
- The Latin translations of the Bible are not versions but perversions. – *St. Jerome*
- An interpreter is the one who enables two persons of different languages to understand each other by repeating to each what it would have been to the interpreter's advantage for the other to have said. – *Ambrose Bierce*
- Prose can be translated, but poetry can only be transmutilated.
- Some writers are so obscure, they are untranslatable even into their own language.
- Translations are like women: if they are faithful, they are not beautiful; if they are beautiful, they are not faithful.



2. Some people say that at some time in the future machines will be able to translate from one language into another better than humans, and there'll be no need in translators and interpreters. Do you agree? Why or why not?

3. Work in pairs. Read the article on electronic translators by Mark Harris from the Sunday Times and then decide whether the statements after the passage are true or false. Correct the false statements.

You've ordered your latte flawlessly in the charming Sicilian cafe, but when it comes to asking about parking restrictions you may need linguistic assistance. Electronic translators have several advantages over phrasebooks. They're often smaller and more comprehensive, with intelligent search functions to track down your chosen phrase in seconds. The latest models, including all six mentioned here, can speak foreign words and phrases out loud, and some can recognise and translate speech at the touch of a button.

All these translators can interpret French, German, Italian and Spanish and at least one other language. If you're travelling further afield, the Franklin and Ectaco iTravel can translate Chinese and Russian, among oth-

