

Proven Techniques for Test and Assessment Translation and Adaptation





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*The adaptation process takes full account of
linguistic and cultural differences.*

– ITC Guidelines
for Translating and Adapting Tests



First Things First: Some Definitions

What is translation?

Expressing the meaning of a text in another language.

What is adaptation?

Modifying elements for use by different linguistic and cultural populations.



TAR

**Translate, Adapt or Reject Items
for Tests, Exams and Assessments**



Why Translate and Adapt?

- Reach a wider target audience.
- Increase revenues.
- Ensure full and fair participation.
- Maintain test integrity.
- Satisfy a legal mandate.





200 Languages and Dialects

What language do your stakeholders speak?



Quality Systems, Quality Assurance

ISO 9001 certified

Variant of the LISA QA model



The Team

- Project manager
- Subject matter experts
- Psychometricians
- Translators
- Translation editors



The Documents

- Past translations (if available)
- Reference materials
- Source document
- Terms glossary
- Style guide



The Process

- Intake
- Triage
- Translation
- Adaptation
- Production/publishing
(if needed)
- Review
- Post translation

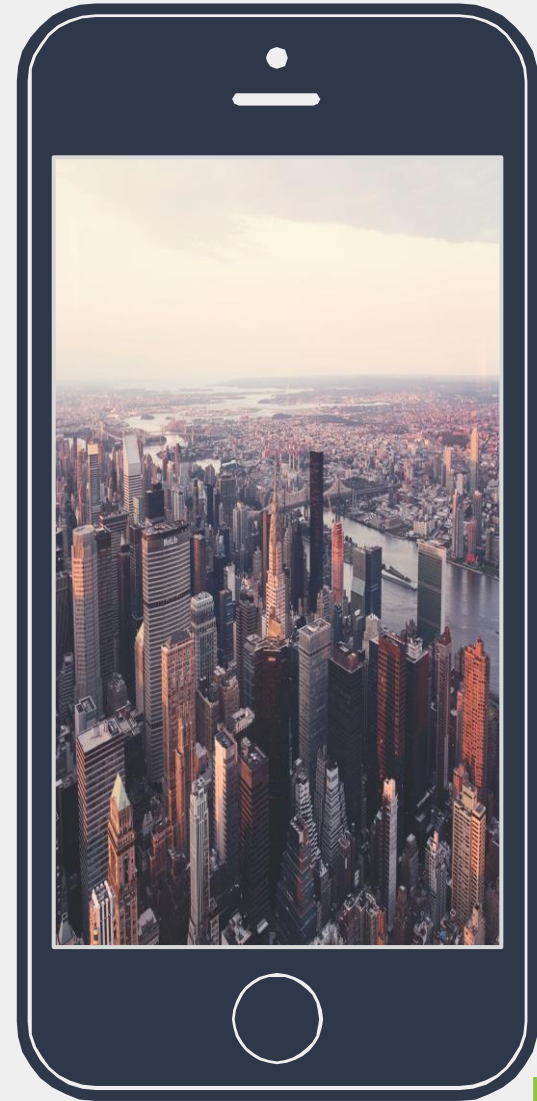


Let's take a closer look
at the process.



Intake

- Source proofed, checked for consistency
- Source language style guide prepared
- Repetition analysis
- Glossary analysis



Triage

- Triage source content for concept and context adaptability, rank items for translatability, adaptability or rejectability
- Glossary finalized
- Translation memory finalized
- Target language style guides prepared



Translation



Translation



**Quality
assurance (QA)
analysis**



Edit



QA analysis



Manual proof



QA analysis



Adaptation

**Content/
context
analysis by
assessment
language
specialist(s)**

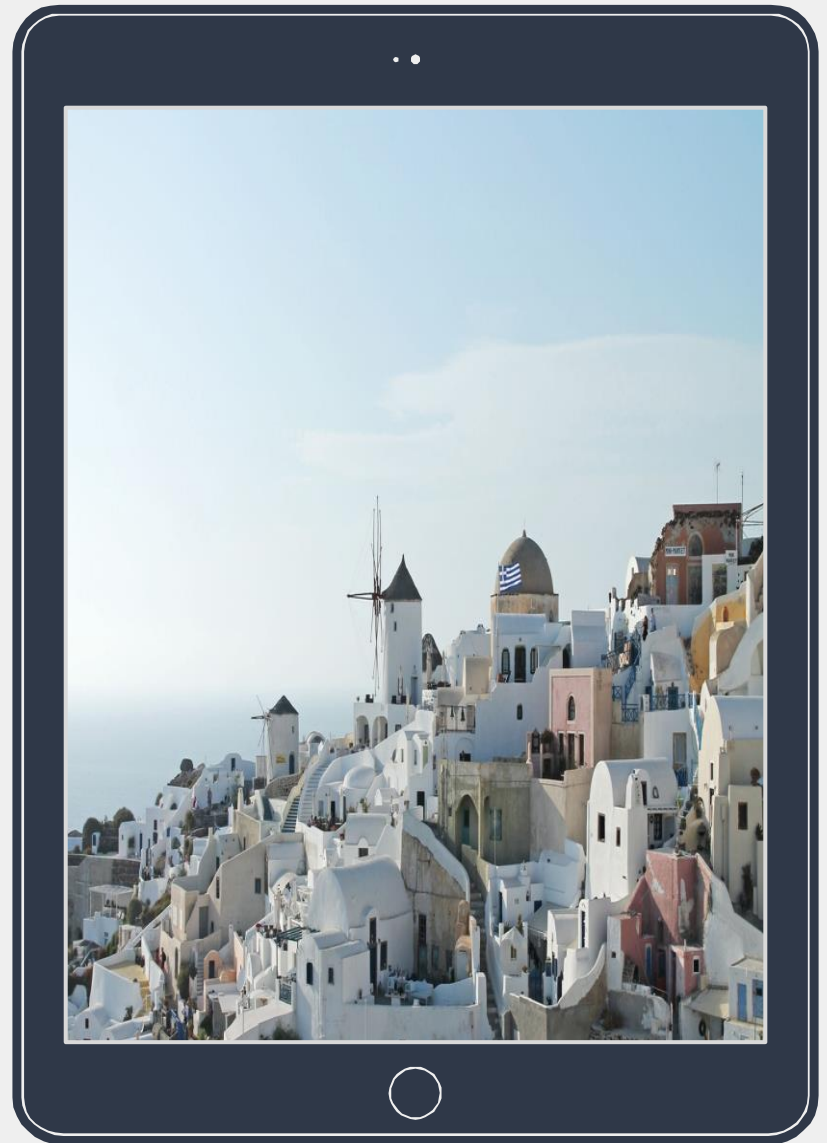
**Translation/
parallel
translation**

**Back
translation
(if needed)**



Production/Publishing

- Audiovisual (AV), web, print
- E-learning or test app tool integration
- Web localization
- Desktop publishing (DTP) layout
- Functional QA review



Review

- **Client review or focus group**
- **Client review harmonization**
- **Pilot testing or other validation**
- **Translation finalized**
- **QA analysis**



Post Translation

Translation memory,
glossary and style
guide changes
finalized

Post project review
for continuous quality
improvement

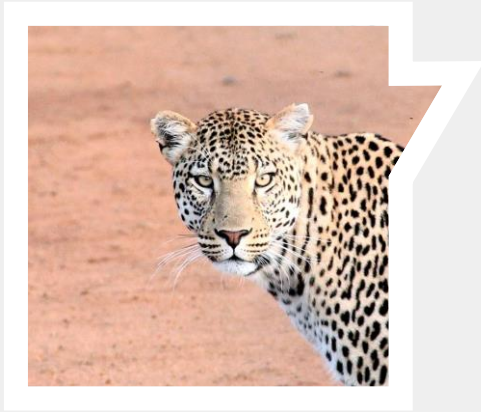


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Test developers/publishers should implement systematic judgmental evidence, both linguistic and psychological, to improve the accuracy of the adaptation process and compile evidence on the equivalence of all language versions.

– ITC Guidelines





Contact

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