

# **ARE YOU BILINGUAL?**

## **Enjoy Making It Pay!**

Jonathan T. Hine Jr., PhD, CT

Scriptor Services LLC

American Translators Association

# Ask us about:

- **How to choose a career**
- **Translating**
- **Interpreting**
- **Other careers for bilinguals**
- **Your questions**

# The world is waiting

Foreign language  
&  
subject matter



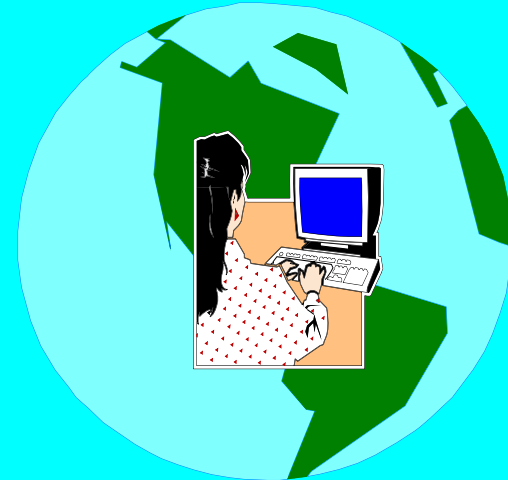
learn the profession:  
skills, techniques &  
network



**Private sector**

**Public sector**

**Media, publishing**



**Teaching & research**

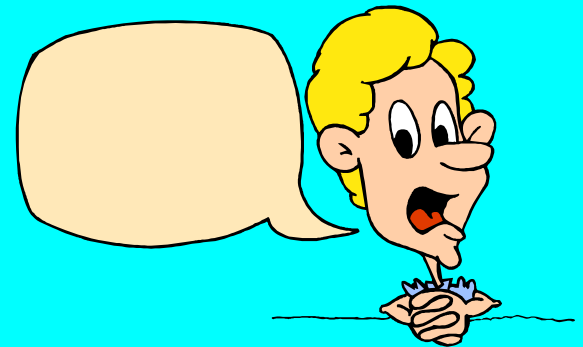
# Flight Attendant Barbara D'Arcy

“...speaking another language provides the opportunity to bypass more senior colleagues to work flights whose language of destination you are fluent in. The opportunity to interact on a more personal level with passengers you would otherwise just serve a meal to speaks for itself.”



# THERE IS A DIFFERENCE

- Translation – written
- Interpreting – spoken
- The Mission:  
Communication



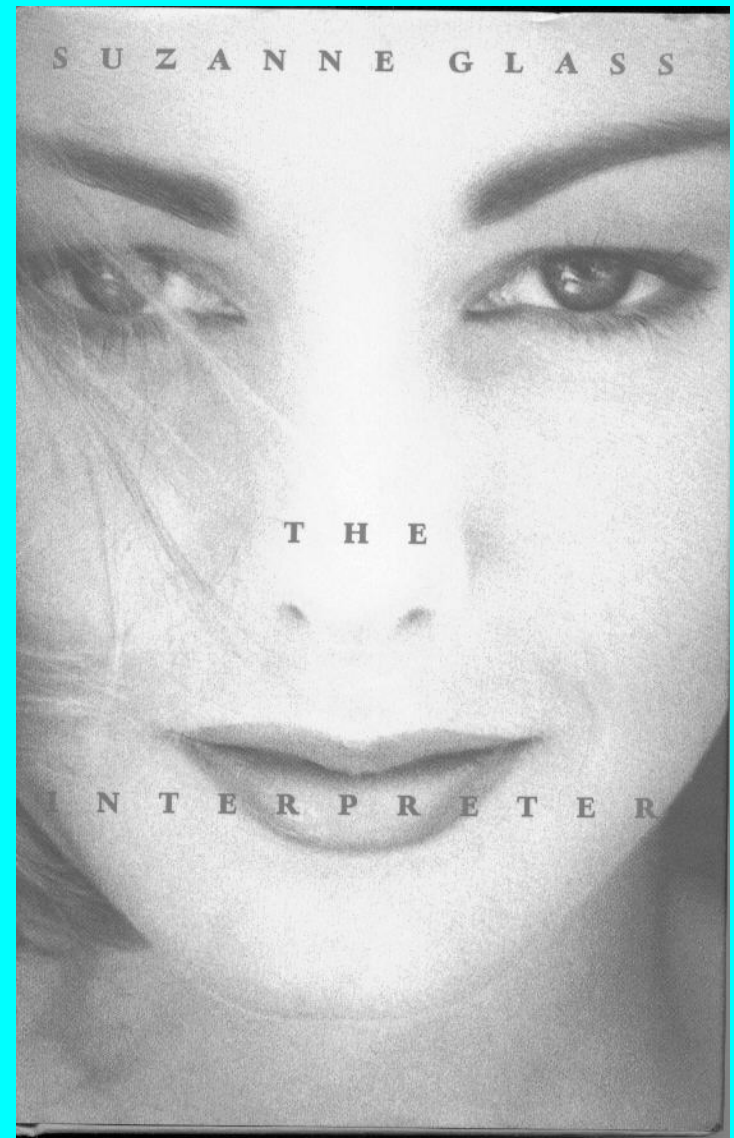
# HOW & WHERE DO **TRANSLATORS** WORK?

- Most work alone.
- Detail and quality.
- Deadline.
- Research.
- Tools.
- All kinds of subjects.

# *The Interpreter*

by Suzanne Glass

Steerforth Press: 2001



# HOW & WHERE DO INTERPRETERS WORK?

- Large & small audiences.
- Conferences often in teams.
- Variety: VIP escort, conferences, hospitals, courtrooms, meetings, home (telephone), etc.
- Travel.



# Svetlana Guggenheim, Freelance Interpreter

- **“This is blood, sweat, and tears, yet it can be an incredibly rewarding experience. The sheer joy of realizing that you are communicating with native speakers and being understood is probably the most exciting thing one can ever experience.”**



# A GOOD TRANSLATOR IS...

- A strong writer
- Curious
- Independent, creative
- A good researcher
- Self-motivated

## James Stephan, FBI linguist

**Speaking the same language and understanding different cultures helps ... gain acceptance in the communities that have traditionally feared and mistrusted the FBI and law enforcement in general.**



# A GOOD INTERPRETER ...

- Can speak clearly in both languages.
- Can handle stage fright.
- Is willing and able to travel.
- Is knowledgeable in various fields.
- Is flexible.
- Is able to do several things at once.
- Is physically fit.

# **A.J. Bellido de Luna, Police Lieutenant**



**Learning another language is important, education is important. ...Any language is helpful to be a police officer but Spanish is very useful. ... We maintain a list of names of officers who speak different languages so we can call on them if we need to.**

*The Interpreter*  
a film by Sydney  
Pollack



# Who can use my languages?

- **Business**
  - Manager in any business
  - Translator
  - Bilingual employee
  - Civil service
- **Government**
  - Contractor
  - Military
- **Publishing**
  - Radio, TV, Movies
  - Editorial staff
- **Schools**
  - Teaching
  - Book translation
  - Research



## HOW DO I GET THERE?

- Languages and other courses in school & college
- Keep up any family language and build on it.
- Family and community interpreting & translation
- Degree/certificate in translation
- Living & working abroad
- Volunteer work
- Clubs and associations



# The ultimate challenge: being funny

*From a real court case:*

*Q: How do you catch a Unique Rabbit?*

*A: Unique up on it.*

*Q: What do you get from a pampered cow?*

*A: Spoiled milk.*

*Q: What do you call Santa's helpers?*

*A: Subordinate Clauses.*

# Mistranslations can be deadly!

Sign in a tailor shop in Greece:



Order your summer suit. Because is big rush, we will execute customers in strict rotation.