

Practical Translation Skills and International Exams: Working with Instructions and Communicative Tasks in the Speaking, Listening, and Reading Sections

Task 1. Analysing Exam Instructions and Tasks (Speaking Section)

- 1.1 Study the wording of tasks in the Speaking and Listening sections.
- 1.2 Paraphrase the instructions in your own words, discuss the meaning of key words and phrases in pairs.

Task 2. Translating Communicative Tasks in Spoken Practice

- 2.1 Translate the questions and tasks from English to Ukrainian.
- 2.2 Students A, B - Role-play short dialogues based on exam scenarios, focusing on accuracy and naturalness of speech.
- 2.3 Student C, D – Translate the dialogues into Ukrainian

Task 3. Common Errors and Strategies to Avoid Them

- 3.1 Discuss most frequent inaccuracies in oral translation and task responses.
- 3.2 Analyze audio or video recordings of students' answers, work in pairs to correct mistakes.

Task 4. Improving Accuracy and Fluency in Speech

- 4.1 Using translation strategies to maintain naturalness in conversation.
- 4.2 Deliver mini-presentations or monologues applying precise and quick translation skills, and receive feedback from peers.

Task 5 Developing quick and accurate oral translation (interpretation): Listen – Interpret – Summarize

1. Listen to a short audio excerpt (20–40 seconds) from an international exam listening task (IELTS/TOEFL/Cambridge). Listen once without taking notes.
2. In pairs, Student A orally translates (interprets) the key information from the audio into Ukrainian, focusing on accuracy and meaning, not word-for-word translation.
3. Student B then gives a spoken summary in English, using their own words to reconstruct the original message.
4. Students switch roles with the next audio fragment.

Focus:

- developing quick and accurate oral translation (interpretation)
- training attention to detail in listening
- improving spontaneous spoken production in English
- strengthening comprehension of exam-style audio

Task 6. Translating and Explaining – Reading-to-Speaking Integration

1. Students are provided with a short excerpt (3–5 sentences) from a Reading task used in international exams (IELTS/TOEFL/Cambridge).
2. In pairs, Student A orally translates the excerpt into Ukrainian as accurately and naturally as possible.
3. Student B listens and then explains in English what the main idea of the excerpt is, using their own words.
4. Students switch roles with the next excerpt.

Focus:

- accuracy and clarity of oral translation
- paraphrasing skills in English
- understanding of key vocabulary and structure
- smooth, fluent delivery