

Initiation to Translation Prof. Jebbar lecture 5

- After highlighting the two methods of 'word-for-word' and 'literal' translations, this week's class is on the third method listed by Newmark in his A Textbook of Translation (1988), called Faithful translation.
- Its position in the first line down to the right implies its faithfulness to the source text as the four methods listed on this line are SL oriented as explained in the fourth week while the four other methods listed on the second line up to the right are TL oriented.

➤ But is it faithful in form, in content or both?

Newmark defines Faithful Translation as follows: **A faithful translation attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the TL grammatical structures. It 'transfers' cultural words and preserves the degree of grammatical and lexical 'abnormality' (deviation from SL norms) in the translation. It attempts to be completely faithful to the intentions and the text-realisation of the SL writer**

- The first statement in the definition of faithful translation makes it clear that this method takes care of both the SL text and the TL text in its attempt to generate a text that is semantically SL oriented yet grammatically TL oriented.
- This means that the quality of being faithful to the source text is related mostly to its content

	SL	TL
Content	Source text content	Source text content
Form	SL form	TL form

- Based on the table, and in the light of 'faithful translation' method, the form of the source language text could be modified to fit 'the constraints' of the target language; nonetheless, the content is preserved and hence it is the same in both the SL and the TL.
- In the last statement, Newmark further confirms the absolute nature of this method in its endeavor to remain loyal to the 'intentions and the text-realisation of the SL writer'
- Every single writer has his/her own personal imprint that is governed by a number of variables, and any attempt to change or modify this imprint would eventually distort the final product (the translated text)