

Assignment 2: Lost in Translation

Task 1:

Find or create 5 examples of jokes, puns, or idioms in English that rely on lexical ambiguity. For each example, explain:

- The multiple meanings involved.
- Whether the ambiguity is due to homonymy, polysemy, etc
- The role of context in disambiguating the meaning.
- Translate each example into any other language
- Does the wordplay still work? Explain why or why not. (What changes/ does not change in translation.)

Task 2:

Choose a culturally significant word/phrase from an Indian language that is difficult to translate precisely into another language. The word should carry deep cultural, religious, or philosophical meaning (eg. *Jugad* in Hindi)

Write a short essay (300 words) analyzing the chosen word or phrase, covering the following aspects:

- Its sense (general meaning or connotation in the original language).
- Its reference (what it refers to in the real world).
- An attempted translation into English
- What gets lost in translation? (Is it the cultural depth, the exact meaning, or emotional undertones?)