



WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

Article

Talk

Read

Edit

View history

Search

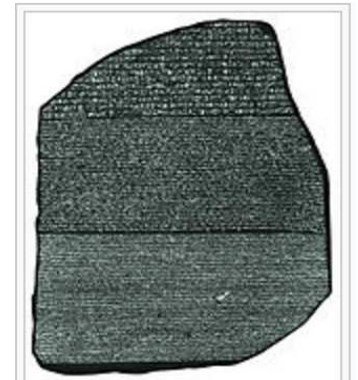
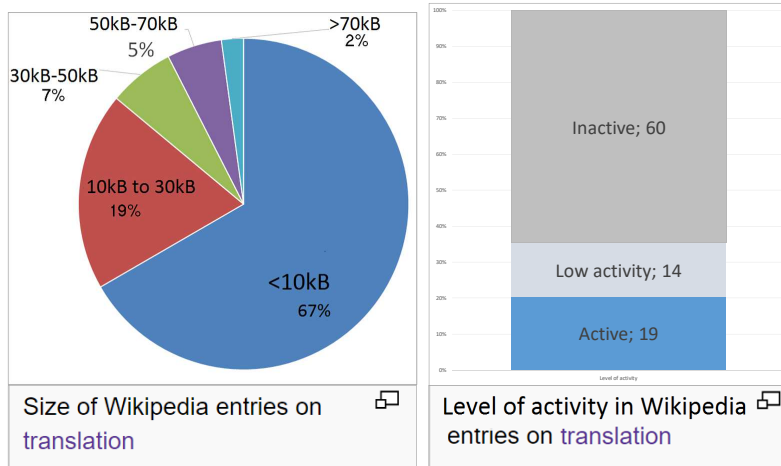


# The conceptualization of translation in Wikipedia

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This **research** analyzed how [translation](#) is approached in Wikipedia. It covers the 93 languages of Wikipedia that have an entry for this concept, out of possible 293 languages. It looks at size, activity and images of translation, as well as main topics in all articles and keywords in small-sized articles.

## 1. Overview



The [Rosetta Stone](#) is the most common image used to represent [translation](#): it appears in 46 entries out of 51 with a picture (90%)

## 2. Main concepts in all languages

After a bottom-up analysis, the most common topics in all entries were:

- 56% .... Machine or human translation?
- 42% .... Translation types (legal, literary, audiovisual...)
- 40% .... Local history of translation (usually bible translation and literary translation)
- 40% .... Mistranslations and bad translations
- 39% .... Professional status of translation
- 32% .... Translation strategies
- 18% .... L1 translation
- 16% .... Translation associations
- 3% .... Ethics

## 3. Keywords in short articles (<1Kb)

There are 18 wikis with less than 1,000 bytes. These wikis define translation with the words:

OTHER 100% ,TEXT 89% , PERSON 67% , MOTHER TONGUE 22%  
And either: MEANING 33%, COMMUNICATION 39% OR TRANSFER 28%

## 4. Conclusions

Wikipedia offers a classical presentation of translation: locally recognized interlingual activity, done by humans into their mother tongue - still with mistakes because translation is a literary form of art, but better than Machine Translation. This definition is far away from the professional practice and established academic research.

If Wikipedia is a crowd wisdom influencer, researchers should invest some time in including other forms of translation in Wikipedia. If Wikipedia reflects the wisdom of the crowd, we should invest some time in reaching the general public and giving visibility to other forms and shapes of translation.

This page was last modified on 11 September 2016, at 08:03.

Images are available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License](#); additional terms may apply. Further questions can be addressed to [ester.torres@urv.cat](mailto:ester.torres@urv.cat).

data collection

- January 2015
- 93 languages
- Google Translate
- Online dictionaries
- Informers
- Bottom-up analysis
- Keywords & topics

Edit links

languages ( by size)

- Македонски >70kB
- English
- Українська 50-70kB
- עברית
- O'zbekcha/Ўзбекча
- Polski
- Русский
- 한국어 30-50kB
- Català
- Français
- Español
- Latviesu
- Suomi

80 more

Edit links

some clichés

- Traduttore, traditore
- Belles infidèles
- Translation is art

Edit links

Wikipedia problems

- Groupthink situation (English version)
- Self promotion (English, Persian Bengali, Italian)
- Editing war (English)

Edit links