

ЗАХІДНОУКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ

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H. OBST THE WHITE HOUSE INTERPRETER:

Навчально - методичні рекомендації

для самостійної роботи з домашнього читання

для філологів-перекладачів

курсу «Бізнес-комунікація англійською мовою»

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Навчально-методичні рекомендації містять неадаптований англійський текст роману Г. Обст «Перекладач Білого дому», а також розроблену систему завдань та вправ для розвитку ділового мовлення, вдосконалення мовленнєвої, лінгвокраєзнавчої та перекладацької компетенцій студентів. Особливу увагу приділено поглибленню розуміння студентами ролі перекладача у сучасному суспільстві.

ЗМІСТ

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POST –READING DISCUSSION

САМОСТІЙНА РОБОТА

Самостійна робота студента – це форма організації навчального процесу, при якій заплановані завдання виконуються студентом під методичним керівництвом викладача, але без його безпосередньої участі. Загалом, самостійна робота студентів – це невід’ємна частина навчального процесу, що сприяє поглибленню й розширенню знань, посиленню інтересу до пізнавальної діяльності, формуванню творчої особистості спеціаліста, здатного до самовдосконалення та самоосвіти.

Щоб самостійна робота була ефективною, студент має глибоко усвідомити її необхідність, мету й подальшу корисність для себе.

Фактори успіху у самонавчанні:

- Наявність справжньої мотивації
- Допитливість
- Використання системного підходу
- Уважливість
- Працьовитість, жорстке подолання власних лінощів
- Поступове формування звички здійснювати самонавчання індивідуально
- Регулярне коригування методики самонавчання

Тому, враховуючи вище перераховані фактори успіху у самонавчанні, варто підкреслити, що виконання завдань

самостійної роботи створює базу для формування як внутрішньої мотивації вивчення іноземної мови, так і навчання студентів загалом. Як правило, студент, який володіє навичками самостійної роботи, активніше і глибше засвоює навчальний матеріал виявляється краще підготовленим до творчої праці, до самоосвіти і продовження навчання.

При обмеженні навчального аудиторного часу, а також з урахуванням обов'язкової умови інтенсивного та систематичного характеру вправ для оволодіння іноземною мовою, виникає необхідність навчати студентів самостійно працювати в позааудиторний час. Самостійна робота студентів – важлива складова ефективної підготовки фахівців будь-якого освітньо-кваліфікаційного рівня та будь-якої спеціальності. Оскільки інтереси студентів філологічного профілю концентруються навколо їхньої майбутньої професії, то зміст і характер самостійної позааудиторної роботи узгоджується з найбільш глибокими й значущими мотивами їхньої діяльності, пов'язаними з профілюючою спеціальністю.

Самостійна робота призначена для більш поглибленого вивчення найважливіших питань курсу. Вони додатково опрацьовуються студентами, які окремо зацікавилися курсом. Викладачем надаються відповідні додаткові індивідуальні консультації, що розширюють професійний світогляд.

Для самостійного опрацювання студентам пропонується стратегія домашнього читання, яка розглядає навчання

адекватного розуміння художнього тексту як цілісної одиниці, а також передбачає формування лексичної, граматичної, мовленнєвої, соціокультурної, міжкультурної та перекладацької компетенції.

Завдання для домашнього читання базуються на матеріалах книги Х. Обст «Перекладач Білого дому» (Harry Obst White House Interpreter.USA, 2010, 270p.), в якій описуються особливості ділової комунікації та роботи перекладача адміністрації американського президента, та вміщуються як матеріали для читання, так і вправи, які інкорпорують навички з розмовної практики, письмові та усні творчі завдання. Завдання самостійної роботи включає комплекс вправ та питань для усного та письмового контролю.

**WHITE HOUSE INTERPRETER.
THE ART OF INTERPRETATION
HARRY OBST, USA: AUTHORHOUSE, 2010.**

What is going on behind closed doors when the President of the United States meets privately with another world leader whose language he does not speak. The only other American in the room is his interpreter who may also have to write the historical record of that meeting for posterity. In his introduction, the author leads us into this mysterious world through the meetings between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev and their highly skilled interpreters. The author intimately knows this world, having interpreted for seven presidents from Lyndon Johnson through Bill Clinton. Five chapters are dedicated to the presidents he worked for most often: Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Reagan. We get to know these presidents as seen with the eyes of the interpreter in a lively and entertaining book, full of inside stories and anecdotes. The second purpose of the book is to introduce the reader to the profession of interpretation, a profession most Americans know precious little about. This is done with a minimum of theory and a wealth of practical examples, many of which are highly entertaining episodes, keeping the reader wanting to read on with a minimum of interruptions.

PART 1. READING COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY

PP. 1-29

1. Explain the meaning of the word *acknowledgement* in the paragraph below. Find as many synonyms as possible in the extract and find out the other meanings of the word.

Acknowledgements

First and foremost, I am deeply grateful to my friend Robert E. Field of Pennsylvania. Without his motivational prodding, generous support, caustic but productive criticism, and his conviction that this book was needed to fill a long-existing gap, it might never have been completed.

Next, I wish to thank my wife Elnina, who keeps an orderly and clean house, for putting up with endless months of boxes, piles of papers, and books cluttering up the family environment.

I owe thanks to several colleagues and friends who volunteered to read a chapter or two and helped to weed out my mistakes.

My gratitude also reaches back to several presidents and their assistants, from Lyndon Johnson to George Herbert Walker Bush, who have graciously provided me with copies of official photographs, some of which help to illustrate this book.

Finally, I wish to salute the interpreters and translators of the Office of Language Services of the Department of State in Washington, an office that I had the privilege of heading from 1984 to 1997.

Frequently understaffed and underfunded, and often underappreciated, they have served the White House, the cabinet officers, and the leaders of Congress with outstanding professional skills, deep patriotic loyalty, and tireless and unselfish devotion.

2. What *long-existing gap* Harry Obst wants to fill by his book.
3. Explain the meaning of the prefix *under-* in the words *understaffed*, *underfunded*, *underappreciated* and provide its antonym. Whom did the author describe with these adjectives?
4. When did the author head the Office of Language Services of the Department of State in Washington, USA?
5. Who the author describes in the following sentence:
...they have served the White House, the cabinet officers, and the leaders of Congress with outstanding professional skills, deep patriotic loyalty, and tireless and unselfish devotion.

INTRODUCTION

6. **Historical Significance of Political Talks** between the Soviet Union and the United States in 1985-1988. Why the author used this figure of speech to describe the challenges of the talks:

On those turbulent waves of suspicions and frequent misunderstandings of each other's true motives, of general overtures, specific suggestions, and calculated probes rode the fragile ship of

mutual hope and basic goodwill that had brought the two leaders together in the first place.

7. **The Role of the Interpreters in the Talks.** Comment on the following:

The success or failure of these private meetings did not just rest on the shoulders of the two principal interlocutors. They rested in large measure on the analytical abilities, intellectual acumen, communication skills, and emotional stability of the only two people the leaders could fully understand - their professional interpreters.

8. **Complexity of Interpretation.** Comment on the following extract:

They know what lawyers, engineers, architects, and brain surgeons are all about. But the art of interpretation is a mystery to many. They may assume that it consists of bilingual people changing words spoken in one language into the same words of another language. That is not at all what professional interpretation is. In challenging situations, accurate interpretation is no less sophisticated, complex, and intellectually demanding than brain surgery. The professional interpreter is required to carry more general knowledge into each job than architects and engineers need in the daily exercise of their profession. It requires the analytical skills of trial lawyers and their acting ability in the

courtroom.

It also requires a great deal of creativity. It is a true profession in the academic sense of the word, but American universities have not bothered to seriously analyze it and embrace it. As a result, they neither understand it nor offer it a home alongside other professions of equal value for the welfare of their country.

9. Neglect of Interpretation in the U.S. and its economic and social consequences. Comment on the authors' ideas.

Our ignorance and neglect of the professions of interpretation and translation is costing the United States hundreds of billions of lost export earnings each year and thousands of American and foreign lives lost in the wars that we are drawn into. There is much other damage done to our society because of this neglect: letting criminals go free and innocents go to jail because of faulty interpretation, depriving foreign visitors or speakers of other languages of proper medical care in our hospitals and doctor's offices, and even exonerating wife beaters while deporting their battered spouses.

10. Comment on the Author's Main Purposes to Write The Book

The first object of this book is to explain to the reader what the art of interpretation is and what it covers, from diplomatic interpreting to practicing the profession in the courtroom, hospital, the European Union, on live television, or escorting foreign visitors on long study

tours.

The second purpose is to sound a trumpet call for long overdue action in overhauling this profession in the United States. There are more high quality interpreting schools at the academic institutions of tiny Finland than in all of the universities of the United States combined.

11. How Harry Obst advocates for a better understanding of interpretation as an important profession in a civilized society, emphasizing its significance in the United States.

12. Describe Author's Experience.

PRESIDENTIAL VIGNETTES.

LYNDON B. JONSON. 1963-1969

DINNER AT BLAIR HOUSE

13. Explain the meanings of the following expressions from the chapter:

Government guesthouse, escort assignment, consecutive notes and ideograms, seasoned professional, diplomatic attire, between-the-lines messages, whiff of perennial torture interpreters suffer at banquets, challenging and mentally exhausting experience, curfew

14. Harry Obst had been hired as the only German staff interpreter. Obst felt nervous and unprepared for such a high-level assignment. What

advice from Seasoned Interpreters he got on how to handle the assignment.

15. What Harry Obst learned from the veteran interpreter about mistakes and errors in interpreting. Comment on the following extract.

But it was not only Johnson I was awed by. Heinz Weber's English renditions flowed like a river on a sunny day. He delivered them seemingly effortlessly. I did not discover any mistakes or omissions.

He

also used a small pad that he carried in his jacket pocket. By contrast, I occasionally had trouble reading my notes or my memory and made several minor mistakes. Weber noticed them but never corrected me. He taught me a valuable lesson immediately. You do not correct minor mistakes of your colleague unless they damage the substance of the conversation. Usually, nobody but the other interpreter notices them anyhow. Do not sweat the small stuff. There are enough big problems to solve to achieve accurate interpretation.

16. Describe Obst's observations on President Johnson's commanding presence and his natural fit for the role of president.

THE OVAL OFFICE

17. First Experience with Simultaneous Interpretation and «annoying subjects». Comment on the following paragraph:

Another baptism of fire awaited me here, my first plunge into serious simultaneous interpretation. Most of my training had been in consecutive interpretation, working from memory and notes with ample time for analysis of the message hidden behind the spoken words. Working in simultaneous, from memory only, just three to five words behind the speaker, affords too little time for reliable analysis. It is hard for accomplished interpreters and murder for a mere beginner, as I was that day.

18. Comment on the interpreter's cultural skills of the in following passage:

Even more important is that he will be more familiar with the cultural and regional peculiarities of his country than the visiting interpreter. In the 1960s, no European interpreter could have guessed the meaning of "I think it is time to punt." American football was not yet known in Europe. Conversely, an American interpreter might have been baffled by the statement "And all of this happened in the eighty-ninth minute!" not knowing that soccer games last ninety minutes. Reagan once said, "When it comes to weapons systems, I am from Missouri." A European interpreter may have had a hard time

interpreting this as “When it comes to weapons systems, you will have to prove it to me first.” A literal translation would not have made any sense to most foreign leaders. They might have assumed a literal translation to mean “When it comes to weapons systems, I am as ignorant as a farmer from Missouri.”

Interpreting has little to do with transferring words to another language.

*It is all about accurately capturing messages. Even more so than the always reliable Kusterer, Heinz Weber was not only a master in correctly analyzing messages, he sometimes was a **magician** when it came to finding the most suitable formulation in the other language. From our first encounter on, he became the yardstick by which I measured my own progress in gradually mastering the art of diplomatic interpretation.*

RIGHT EAR - LEFT EAR

- 19.. Interpreters' challenge with hearing-impaired leaders. Positioning close to the right ear of the speaker and dilemma of proximity to the bad ear of their principal. Challenges in formal events and informal meetings.

FLIGHT TO CAPE CANVERAL

20. Background of the visit to Cape Canaveral. Role of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Interpretation of the Unpleasant encounter. Interpreter's note-taking techniques

FIDDLING WHILE WASHINGTON IS BURNING

21. Martin Luther King's assassination and the subsequent riots in Washington in April 1968. Riots and looting were occurring in Washington during the chancellor's visit, with limited police intervention due to President Lyndon B. Johnson's orders to avoid using force.

22. A state of emergency and evening curfew were imposed in Washington due to the riots. Despite the ongoing riots, a state dinner was held for the Austrian leader with a touch of Vienna, featuring music and conversation reminiscent of Nero playing the violin while Rome burned Comment on the idiom in the subheading above.

23. Stranded Interpreter: The interpreter, after the state dinner, was left without accommodation as hotels were full. Driving home was deemed dangerous due to the curfew. President Johnson generously offered his limo to the interpreter to ensure his safe journey home.

ONE HUNDRED DECISIONS IN BED

24. LBJ's Respect for Interpreters: President Johnson had a deep respect for interpreters, recognizing their knowledge and abilities. He would seek their advice on foreign leaders and valued their unique skills.

25.Private Conversations: Johnson occasionally engaged in private conversations with interpreters, discussing topics such as his nightly routine of making decisions in bed. Comment on the following:

Chief Interpreter Donald Barnes once told a story at a staff meeting that reflects LBJ's respect for diplomatic interpreters. A foreign labor leader asked the president what he would do if his entire cabinet went on strike and did not show up for work. LBJ responded with a grin that this would not be a problem. He would temporarily appoint interpreters to run each department.

"These guys and gals have enough general knowledge in their heads and have enough smarts that they could hold down any secretary's job for about a month without embarrassing me. After a month, though, they would run out of ammunition. But by then, I would have settled the strike."

26.Johnson's Leadership Style. Evolution of Ethics: Johnson's ethics seemed to have evolved from sometimes using unethical means earlier in his career to becoming more honest and trustworthy as President.

THE VIETNAM DEBACLE

27.Historical Context. President Truman and President Eisenhower were both concerned about Communist takeovers in Southeast Asia. Eisenhower introduced the concept of "falling dominoes" in 1954, suggesting that the spread of communism in the region could

jeopardize U.S. and friendly countries' security. LBJ inherited these concerns and the growing problem of Vietnam; it was not his creation. Many strategic thinkers in the Soviet Union, China, and Western countries considered South Vietnam a crucial domino in the Communist quest for global domination. The potential for blocking vital shipping lanes in Southeast Asia added urgency to the conflict. Several countries, including South Korea, Thailand, and Australia, sent troops to support the U.S. in Vietnam.

28. Comment on the meetings between Lyndon Johnson and German-speaking European leaders focused on the Vietnam War and the public perception of the war differed from the strategic perspective held by insiders advising the president.

29. General Lin Piao's theory of conducting "wars of national liberation" by gradually taking over small nations was a key element in the Communist strategy. The war in Vietnam was seen as a part of the global conflict with communism, not just a regional conflict. Comment on the «salami strategy».

30. Personal Impact of the War on Lyndon Johnson. Why the author believes that Johnson's contributions to American society are often underrated.

PART 2

READING COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY PP.

31-111

THE ART OF INTERPRETATION

1. Read the following passages and comment on the difference between a translator and an interpreter.

a. Even journalists still confuse interpreters with translators, unaware that interpretation and translation are two different professions, requiring distinctly different methods of training and execution of the work.

b. The renowned diplomatic interpreter, when asked to describe the difference between interpreting and translating, stated that translating is like walking on a rope lying on the ground, interpreting is like walking on a rope suspended ten feet in the air.

2. Why is professional interpretation an art and profession rather than a useful skill like driving a racecar or juggling for a circus act? Why should it need university training? Do you agree?

Like all other professionals, the professional interpreter begins each phase of his work with careful analysis of many factors, of which the spoken words are but the starting point and one component. I will explain this in more detail as we move along. If his analysis is

faulty, the interpreting product in the other language will be inaccurate or even counterproductive, no matter how elegantly he may phrase it. The most crucial component of all successful interpreting is a quick but careful and comprehensive analysis. Faulty analysis is the most frequent cause of error when poor interpreting occurs, in consecutive as well as in simultaneous interpretation.

3. A much bigger obstacle to correct analysis is the multitude of meanings that are attached to the same word. Some common words carry a dozen different meanings; many words carry three or four. Provide your examples of multitude of meaning of the same words.

THE MODES OF INTERPRETATION: SENTENCE BY SENTENCE, CONSECUTIVE, AND SIMULTANEOUS

4. What is the difference between a trained professional consecutive interpreter and untrained one or an amateur? Why professionals hate to do sentence by sentence.

5. Provide the Ukrainian equivalent to the word *reservation* in the following paragraph:

Here is a simple example. One person asks the other, "Will you take your wife to London again for your vacation, like the last two

summers?”

This sentence contains no analytical problems for the interpreter. But now comes the answer, “Well, I have my reservations.” The interpreter, if not waiting for another sentence, may assume the speaker is talking about plane and hotel reservations and puts this into the target language accordingly. But the next sentence states, “Doris complained about the London weather last year and probably would prefer Spain or Italy.” The interpreter now has to backtrack and apologize, because he had to analyze without the benefit of the following sentence, he was lacking the subsequent context and, as a result, misread the meaning of reservations.

6. Describe the word by word technique of interpreting. Why the order or suggestion to the Interpreter “*please translate everything word for word or each part of the sentence separately*” can be a mousetrap.

7. Describe the consecutive interpretation and explain the reason why consecutive is more reliable and obvious .

8. *The client rightfully expects that the professional interpreter will accurately duplicate in the other language everything that was said in those few sentences, without omissions, additions, or distortions.*

It becomes a major challenge when the speaker cannot express

himself well in his own language or is required—as is often the case in international conferences—to make his presentation in one of the official languages, which he may not have a good command of and may speak with an accent or improper intonation.

Given all of these requirements and intellectual challenges, how can a professional interpreter retain many sentences without losing anything? What three major tools to accomplish this the author identified.

9. Define the three main tools in interpreting: *anticipation, visualization, and a form of note taking*

10. What is «strategic listening and why it is important».

11. Describe the three major tools of holding information accurately in the interpreter's short-term memory are *visualization, association, and anticipation.*

PROFESSIONAL INTERPRETING NOTES

12 Read the following passage and comment on author's ideas:

Without the assistance of notes, many difficult interpreting tasks cannot be performed properly, even by people of great intelligence and with exceptional memories.

Second, the essence of good interpretation is the correct analysis of the

meaning behind the words. These words have to be analyzed while they are being heard. The notes should reflect the product and structure of that analysis. If the interpreter spends his time writing down all or most of the words, he cannot productively analyze while the speaker is speaking; he misses most of his body language, tone, emphasis, irony, and so on. Nor can he manipulate his memory properly, because his energy and concentration is flowing onto the paper. He is now forced to analyze a written text like a translator. Translators have time to do that. Interpreters do not.

Third, the notes are needed to assist the memory in replicating the structure and sequence of the thoughts expressed by the speaker. Thus the notation must reflect the same structure that underlies the process of strategic listening. Who does what to whom? When? Where? Why? How?

The analytical thinking process of the interpreter must be reflected in the structure of his notes, so that the two can complement and assist each other.

13. What are the major advantages of employing ideograms in notation?

14. What language (or mother tongue) is better to select as a notation language?

15. Define the term of **Simultaneous interpretation**.

Is whispering the translation into the ears of the listeners the same type?.

16. Do you agree on the author's idea that *Simultaneous interpretation confronts the interpreter with two considerable obstacles to the task of correct meaning analysis: lack of analysis time and lack of subsequent context.*

17. What are the two largest employers of simultaneous interpreters in the world?

18. Provide an explanation of *the logistics of simultaneous interpretation*

19. Why *For the interpreters, simultaneous interpretation is much more stressful and tiring than consecutive.? Explain the figure of speech.*

Imagine driving down a major highway in the center lane, with a lot of traffic in all three lanes going in the same direction. Suddenly, a car from the other side of the road, going in the opposite direction, crosses over the grassy median and comes toward you while you are doing sixty-five miles per hour. A shot of adrenalin zips through your body and your brain. You now need to make many observations and decisions in split seconds. What cars are in the lanes

to your left and right, and how far apart are they? Can you squeeze over

to one lane or the other by rapidly accelerating, or do you need to hit

the brakes? Is the wayward car likely to hit a car in the left lane first and

push that car into you? The car behind you shows up very close in your

rear mirror. Is it not better to brake hard and be rear-ended by it than

to be hit from the front? Or is it too late for that option?

20. Why Interpreters normally get rotated every thirty minutes?

Why the interpreters at the European Union once went on strike, contending that thirty minutes was too much.

20. Read and Comment on the following example.

While I was a staff interpreter at the Department of State in Washington,

I once was stuck with having to do simultaneous interpreting by myself

all day at a highly classified military meeting. Nobody else was available

that day who also held the three needed clearances: Top Secret, NATO

COSMIC, and Q (the Q clearance has to do with nuclear

weapons).

I had to work in the booth in both directions, into English and into

German. This is also necessitated by flipping a switch in the booth each time

I changed languages. Apart from a brief lunch, there was one ten-minute

break in the morning and one in the afternoon. This meant interpreting

four stretches of almost two hours each without a break, handling highly complex and technical subjects into two target languages.

When it was over, I stepped out of the booth and leaned against a wall. My heart was still racing from all the adrenalin. My hands were

trembling as I fingered my pockets for a cigarette (at that time, I was

still stupid enough to smoke). My brain, finally released from all the

torture, went into total limbo. My eyes were closed when I heard a voice

calling out, "Harry, Harry." I opened my eyes to blankly stare at the

man standing in front of me. I did not recognize or acknowledge him.

"Harry, do you hear me?" he kept asking. "It's me, Bill." At last,

my brain was able to recognize who was in front of me. It was William Krimer, the senior Russian staff interpreter and a good friend, who had come down to the conference room to see if my ordeal was over. Bill was not annoyed that I did not recognize him. He was a fellow professional who well understood why I was in that condition. Simultaneous interpreting can so exhaust your brain that you can no longer recognize a close friend who is standing in front of you or recognize his voice.

Relay Interpreting

21. What is relay interpreting? What two methods are used to reduce the number of needed interpreters.

PRESIDENTIAL VIGNETTES

Richard M. Nixon. 1969–1974

A QUANTUM LEAP FROM RESPECT TO DISTRUST

22. Describe the author's opinion of President M.Nixon.

Comment on the interpreter's personal and professional policy to the clients:

For a professional interpreter, liking or disliking an important client creates emotional hurdles that you need to jump over every day. You have sworn an oath of loyalty to your government, and professional ethics forbids you from being anything but totally impartial.

VERNON A. WALTERS

23. Comment on the problem of trusted interpreters and the following passage.

In fact, Walters's welcoming speech was a little better than Nixon's. Everybody was happy. He probably got a lot of praise for his interpreting. But if he had done this translation for an interpreter examining board at the State Department, his chances of passing the exam would have been slim.

GETTING KICKED OUT OF THE OVAL OFFICE

24. How to conduct written and unwritten rules in interpreting job?

GETTING DRESSED DOWN FOR BEING DRESSED PROPERLY

25. The problem of dress code for interpreters.

A DARK FORTRESS SHIELDING AN OLIGARCHY

26. How to do your job in the atmosphere of culture of fear and intimidation,

occasional rudeness and air of arrogance.

27. Dwell on the author's opinion of the personality of Kissinger

PRESIDENTIAL VIGNETTES

Gerald R. Ford 1974–1977 **FROM SALZBURG TO HELSINKI**

MEETING ANWAR SADAT IN SALZBURG

28. Describe two examples of the lack of knowledge of and experience with diplomatic interpreting on the part of White House aides and trip directors, and how the absence of that knowledge fails to serve the interests of the president.

THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. GENEVA

Certifying that bilingual or multilingual agreements have the same meaning in each individual sentence is a step all nations take before signing them.

29. What were the objections raised in the Russian and German subcommittees during the negotiations? How were the Soviet Union and East Germany's linguists proven wrong by experts from other countries, and why did they refuse to compromise?

30. What were the political instructions that the Soviet and East German linguists were operating under, and what was their goal in incorporating "fuzzy and misleading" language into the accords?

31. What strategy did the narrator and Klaus Merten develop for dealing with the East German linguists in the subcommittee? How did

the narrator become involved in the subcommittee and contribute to the committee's decision-making process? What role did the author play in letting the East Germans have some small victories in the negotiations?

JERRY FORD'S MOSQUITO AND THE SHARPSHOOTERS

32. What challenges the interpreter faced during long overseas trips with the president, where they often arrive tired and have to work through a demanding schedule of meetings and events.

Describe the situation which happened during an outdoor press conference in Bonn when a snake landed on President Ford's collar. The narrator hesitated to remove it due to the presence of sharpshooters aiming at their group. If you were the interpreter, what would you do?

THE HELSINKI SUMMIT OF THIRTY-FIVE NATIONS

33. Highlight the author's cultural experience of Finnish culture, observations of Finland, of the city and its people, emphasizing the modernity, cleanliness, and the physical appearance of the local population and the challenges he faced due to language differences.

HELLO, VICTOR!

34. Describe the author's experience of unexpectedly having to interpret a meeting between Henry Kissinger and the Hungarian foreign minister, despite having no proficiency in the Hungarian

language, the author's concerns, challenges, and ultimate solution to conducting the meeting in German are discussed.

Additionally, dwell upon the general difficulties that interpreters faced when dealing with unfamiliar languages and topics in diplomatic meetings.

FEASTING WHILE THE PRESIDENT IS SUFFERING

35. Dwell upon the interpreter's dilemma and frustration when the East German interpreter took the author's chair and unexpected turn of events as the author was left without a place to sit and interpret.

PART 3

READING COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY PP.

113-142

INTERPRETING AT ECONOMIC SUMMITS

Origin of the Summits

1. What world economic and financial issues caused the idea of holding annual economic summits by George Shultz, the secretary of the US treasury, Helmut Schmidt, Germany's, Tony Baker, the defense minister in the UK, Valery Giscard d'Estaing, the French finance minister, Aldo Moro, the president of the council of ministers of Italy?
2. What Shift in Global Economic Power happened. Comment on the quotation: "Countries like China, India, Russia, Brazil, and South Korea became big players in production and consumption."

A FORMIDABLE CHALLENGE FOR INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLATORS

3. What does the word *formidable* in this context mean? What are the other meanings of this word.
4. Highlight the roles of Interpreters and Translators and the demanding nature of their work, the challenges teams of interpreters and translators faced during these economic summits.

5. Comment on the Quote: *"Teams of fifty to eighty interpreters and translators are needed for the smooth functioning of the two- or three-day annual event."*

6. Describe the challenges of Translation and Interpretation: translating documents overnight, handling split-second interpretations, and dealing with differences in terminology among languages, meeting urgent deadlines.

7. Highlight the Educational and Observational Opportunities
Interpreters gain about economic and financial matters, learning from summit discussions despite not having studied the subject at a university.

Quote: *"It was at economic summits that I finally had an opportunity to have a private chat with such famous diplomatic interpreters..."*

SUMMIT EXPERIENCES. PUERTO RICO 1976

8. Compare President Ford who hosted the Second Economic Summit in Puerto Rico in 1976, showcasing a relaxed and friendly demeanor and the Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau with his informal and respectful interaction with interpreters during an unexpected encounter left a lasting positive impression. Describe the Challenges Interpreters faced during this summit.

Bonn 1978

9. Highlight the Main Characters, key issues of the Summit. Describe the Translation Challenges that showed linguistic and poetic skills, attempting a poetic translation of Schiller's lines, showcasing a resourceful and creative approach to the unexpected translation challenge. Comment the quotations .

"The problem was that Carter's statement did not name the poem from which the lines were extracted." "Not a single interpreter or translator in Bonn that day had been able to trace the poem from the English lines."

Williamsburg 1983

10. Describe the Main Characters and key issues of the summit.

11. Highlight the challenges faced by interpreters at Williamsburg: inadequate accommodations and workspace, the interpreter's management mission rather than an interpreting assignment, leading to confrontations with the on-site coordinator.

12. Highlight the interpreting challenges and cultural differences: interpreting Kohl's complex language and contrasting treatment of interpreters in different diplomatic contexts - interpreters like friends, and instances of suspicion or dismissal.

London 1984

13. Highlight the main characters and key issues of the summit

Comment the narrator's quote: "*In my entire career, I never encountered a better English-German diplomatic interpreter than Heinz Weber.*"

14. Explain the *interpreter role reversal and interpreter expertise and adaptability* required of interpreters to navigate unexpected situations without preparation, demonstrated the interpreter's ability to handle challenging scenarios on short notice, showcasing their proficiency and quick thinking.

Tokyo 1986

15. Highlight the main characters, key issues and interpreter's challenges of the summit

Comment on cultural differences and adjustments - the stark contrast between the interpreter's American upbringing and the highly formal and traditional customs of Japanese culture. Comment the following. *Always a curious person, I peered out the window intently and carefully studied everything that appeared before my eyes as we entered the downtown area of gigantic Tokyo. The bus stopped at one of the hotels at precisely 4:00 pm. Across the street from the hotel were two tall skyscrapers, filled with offices. Hundreds of office workers, most of them men, were streaming out of the buildings after the day's work. To my amazement, all of them wore similar dark suits and ties, carried the same type of briefcase, walked in the same stiff but hurried manner, and exhibited the unemotional facial expression*

of professional poker players. They looked like so many black ants pouring out of an anthill.

As they were approaching the bus, a chill ran down my spine. I must be on another planet. These could not be human beings. They had to be androids. How could we possibly compete with workers like that? I had only seen such scenes in science fiction movies.

I felt that I had just landed on another planet. Subsequent events were to confirm that feeling.

What a quantum leap from the diversity of American society in the 1980s to the stoic homogeneity of the Japanese.

16. Misunderstandings due to cultural practices:

The humorous misunderstanding and embarrassment caused by the interpreter's unintended bow, revealing the disparity in cultural norms between the two countries. *"I felt more embarrassed than honored."*

17. Cultural observations and reflections: the interpreter's reflections on the cleanliness, attire, gender roles, and behavior of the Japanese people, providing insights into their society.

"The women, especially, were attractively attired, their faces and hair neatly arranged."

"Though they were clearly still second-class citizens in 1986, they smiled a lot."

18. Language education and cultural export: the interpreter's observations on Japan's focus on language education and its potential impact on international business and trade. Comment on the following quote:

"This is how a nation builds opportunities for export business."

Houston 1990

20. Highlight the main characters, key issues and interpreter's challenges of the summit.

21. Harry Obst (Narrator): The head of the Office of Language Services at the Department of State, deeply involved in organizing language support for summits. Stephanie van Reigersberg (Stephie): Chief of the Interpreting Division, respected and skilled in managing interpreter teams.

22. Houston Summit Logistics: Harry's intense efforts to organize interpreting and translation services, facing challenges in logistics, obtaining interpreters, dealing with various local organizers, and security issues.

23. Visa Obstacles: the struggles faced in obtaining working visas for interpreters due to governmental regulations, particularly from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).

24. Summit Execution: arrival and briefing of interpreters, handling access problems at Rice University, and successful interpretation and translation services during the summit.

25. Summit Discussions: conversations and hopes centered around Mikhail Gorbachev's economic plans, perceptions of German reunification, and the friendly and relaxed atmosphere among lead

26. Logistical Challenges in Summit Preparation: the complexity of arranging language services at Rice University, Houston, highlighting difficulties in transportation, limited space, and coordination with various local organizers.

"The obstacles were considerable."

"The deck was stacked against us."

27. Study the words and expressions and recall the situations in the text where they were used:

Constellation- Сузір'я - A group of stars forming a recognizable pattern in the sky.

Bilateral meeting - Двостороння зустріч / двостороннє засідання -
A meeting involving two parties or countries.

Formidable - Страшенно / вражаючий - It describes something inspiring fear or respect due to its power or excellence.

Sherpas- Шерпи - Ethnic group from the Himalayas known for their expertise in mountaineering.

Rifling- Обшук / шукати / переглядати - It can refer to a thorough search or quickly searching through things.

Clad- Одягнутий / одягнена - Dressed or covered.

Rocked by- Потрясений чимось - To be greatly affected by something, emotionally or physically.

Buoyant mood- Піднесений настрій / бадьорий настрій - Feeling cheerful, optimistic, or uplifted.

Distant bell - Віддалений дзвін - A metaphorical reference to a vague or distant reminder of something.

Blueprints - проекти - Detailed plans or technical drawings.

Veteran cool cats - Ветерани з вигідною манерою / досвідчені круті типи - Experienced individuals with a stylish or impressive demeanor.

Aides- Помічники / асистенти - People who assist or support someone in their work.

Chancellery- Канцелярія / канцелярський відділ - The office or department of a chancellor or government official.

Belittling - Принижування / зниження значення - Making someone or something seem less impressive or important.

Quantum leap- Квантовий стрибок / радикальний стрибок - A sudden, significant, and often revolutionary advance or improvement.

Mind-boggling- Дивовижний / неймовірний - Extremely surprising or impressive to the point of being difficult to comprehend.

Carpool needs - Потреби у спільному користуванні автомобілем / організація спільних поїздок - Refers to the requirements or arrangements for sharing a car for commuting.

Ace - Майстер / професіонал / карта в аз - A person highly skilled in a particular activity or someone who excels.

Ducks in a row- Упорядковані справи / все під контролем - Refers to having everything organized or in order.

Painstaking exercise - Кропітка вправа / скрупульозне виконання - Refers to a task that requires a lot of care, effort, and attention to detail.

Hard nuts to crack - Важкі горішки для розбиття / складні завдання для вирішення - Refers to difficult problems or challenges that are hard to solve.

Photo ops- Фотосесії / ситуації для фотографування - Refers to situations or events organized for taking photographs, often for publicity purposes.

Balked at - Відмовитися / зупинитися перед чимось - To hesitate or refuse to do something due to apprehension or reluctance.

Hammer out- Вибивати / узгоджувати (у контексті угоди) - To negotiate or reach an agreement through discussion and compromise.

Per diem (in latin) - на день / денний (у контексті витрат) - An allowance or payment made on a daily basis, especially for travel expenses.

Sparingly - Заощадливо / обережно - Using or providing something in small amounts, conservatively.

Flowing nonstop- Постійний потік / неперервний рух - Continuous movement without interruption.

Chummy club - Товариський клуб / дружня компанія - A group or environment characterized by close and friendly relationships.

PART 4. READING COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY
PP. 143-170

JIMMY CARTER

GOOD INTENTIONS AND BAD SURPRISES

1. Portray the personality of President Jimmy Carter, describe Obst's insights into President Carter's leadership and the challenges of diplomatic communication and comment on the quote:

To make Washington atone for the sins of Watergate and the arrogance of the Nixon oligarchy, the American voters sent a lay preacher from the Bible Belt to the White House, a serious, introspective, and incorruptible governor from Georgia, speaking softly and flashing a big smile. Carter was also the unmistakable signal that the newly found economic power and huge population increase of the New South could hold its own politically against the already established state powerhouses of the West and the Southwest. Watch out California and Texas! We, too, have money and many electoral votes. Carter was the short Southern overture to the long Clinton opera that was to begin in 1993.

A BAD SURPRISE IN WARSAW

2. Carter's visit to Warsaw and controversial translation incident related to President Carter's speech which caused '*a world media circus with the interpreter in Polish Seymour as a clown*'

3. How awkward and scandal translating helped the Language department to meet their needs.

WAS IMMER SEI, BERLIN BLEIBT FREI

4. Highlight Carter's visit to Berlin in Germany and translation challenges related to President Carter's speech on German reunification and how the interpreter facing controversy navigate unexpected situations. What reasons made Obst use the verb *hope* but not *pray* in the sentence

"We pray that Germany will be reunited one day, because that would be the expression of the will of the German people."

THE G7 SUMMIT IN GERMANY

5. Comment on the controversial translation incident related to President Carter's speech on German reunification.

Quotations:

"Heinz told me that my translation was utterly defensible, given the context in which the word pray appeared."

"For weeks, letters from outraged Germans arrived at the White House, the Department of State, and our embassy in Bad Godesberg."

TO VIENNA WITH GOOD INTENTIONS

6. Give your opinion on the narrator's ideas about the president's aides:

This flight confirmed to me what some of us at the Department of State had considered a mistake made by the president after his election. Being a good, kind, and loyal person, he had taken his Georgia aides with him to Washington and put them into important positions. All of them were young, bright, and action-oriented, but almost totally lacking in national and international experience. They were probably one of the

reasons that the Carter administration did not accomplish more than it did. With fifteen years of Washington government experience under my belt in 1979, I was astonished and disappointed to hear some of the arguments they made and the recommendations they ended up with.

7. Highlight the dispute over acknowledgments in Carter's arrival remarks at Schwechat Airport. Comment on the following:

“But we cannot do that,” I protested. “We will be landing on Austrian soil, greeted by the Austrian president, and all of Austria will look in on television. If we do not want to say anything about Austria, at least we will have to acknowledge the presence of the country’s two top leaders. The Austrians are a friendly nation. There is such a thing as diplomatic protocol.”

After some reflection, I decided against it. If the president was going to leave it out, I would leave it out. Why should I bail out his assistants after they brushed off my arguments like that? On arrival, Carter did not acknowledge anybody, nor did I. Nobody said anything to us in Vienna, but the next day, this diplomatic faux pas drew negative comments in a couple of Austrian newspapers.

A DAY OF UNEXPECTED ADVENTURES

8. Describe the unexpected outing to a monastery restaurant. Diplomatic faux pas regarding acknowledgments at the Hofburg.

KISSING BREZHNEV

9. Describe the importance of the signing of the second treaty between the United States and the U.S.S.R. on the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms.

10. Comment on the following quotation:

Looking up at the platform where the top dignitaries were seated, I had mixed feelings. I had escaped from the persecution of the East German Communists under a hail of bullets in 1949 and was accused White House Interpreter 169 of treason at the age of seventeen. Though all in favor of limiting the large and expensive arsenals of nuclear weapons, I had little hope that the Senate would ever ratify this treaty. My greater worry was that the Soviets saw Carter, who had attended a Catholic mass at the Hofburg the previous morning, as a weak and peace-loving president whom they did not have to fear while pursuing the continued expansion of the Communist quest to conquer the world for their crazy ideology. When Carter embraced and kissed Brezhnev after the signing, I felt a resentful twinge rather than any elation. Six months later, the Soviet tanks rolled into Afghanistan.

10. Study the words and expressions and recall where they were used
Courtesy call-A formal visit, often of a diplomatic nature, to show politeness or respect

Diplomatic faux pas-«An embarrassing or tactless act in a diplomatic context» дипломатичний промах

G7 Summit-Саміт G7 «A meeting of the leaders of seven major industrialized nations»

Salt 2 Treaty-An arms control treaty between the United States and

the Soviet Union concerning the limitation of strategic offensive arms-
Другий Договір про обмеження стратегічних наступних зразків.

Black Tie - A formal dress code for evening events, usually involving
a black bow - чорний галстук.

Diplomatic snub- A deliberate or intentional slight or insult in a
diplomatic context - дипломатичне приниження.

Doppler effect- The change in frequency or wavelength of a wave in
relation to an observer moving relative to its source.

POST-READING DISCUSSION

1. Communicative and mediating activity of a translator/interpreter in a multilingual intercultural business environment.
2. The place and role of the translator/interpreter in business intercultural communication.
3. Basics of translation/interpreting etiquette.
4. The ethnic factor of business intercultural communication.
5. National peculiarities of business etiquette of different countries of the world: USA, Great Britain, Canada, Australia, Brazil, China, Germany, France, India, Japan, Italy.
6. Peculiarities of the translator's/interpreter's work in the USA. The complexity of the translation/interpreting process.
7. The role of the translator/interpreter in diplomatic negotiations: communicative, sociolinguistic, sociocultural and psycholinguistic factors.
8. Ways of employment for translators and interpreters.
9. Recommendations for training of translators and interpreters. Notation techniques during translation.
10. The translator's attitude towards correcting mistakes in oral translation. Tips from experienced translators.

РИБАЧОК С. М.

H. OBST THE WHITE HOUSE INTERPRETER:

Навчально - методичні рекомендації

для самостійної роботи з домашнього читання

для філологів-перекладачів

курсу «Бізнес-комунікація англійською мовою»