



The Pragmatics of Discourse: Implications for Interpreters

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Abstract

This paper has three objectives: first, it examines the pragmatic variables in an intercultural and interpersonal context. Second, it argues that the use of a common language across cultures does not always guarantee mutual understanding. Third, it highlights areas where miscommunication is likely to occur as a result of intercultural and interpersonal differences. Finally, this paper provides implications for interpreters as how to eliminate factors giving rise to intercultural/interpersonal misunderstanding.

About the Author

Said Shiyab is Professor of Linguistics & Translation and the Head of the Translation Studies Department at the United Arab Emirates University, UAE. Prior to this, he was working in the English Department at the University of Southern Indiana (USA) where he taught different courses of English and Linguistics. Professor Shiyab has been teaching English, linguistics, translation, and rhetoric and composition for over 17 years.

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