

October - November 2020  
Mehr - Aban 1399

# HASHTAG

دانشگاه اویلیات و زبانهای خارجی

ONLINE LEARNING  
DURING COVID-19

POLYGLOT  
OR  
BILINGUAL?

TECHNOLOGY  
&  
EDUCATION

INCESSANTLY  
CONNECTED?

7<sup>th</sup>  
Issue  
Hashtag  
Magazine

WOMEN OF  
TRANSLATION  
HISTORY

A REVIEW ON  
BLUE



دانشگاه کاشان

University of Kashan

# HASHTAG

## MAGAZINE

October - November 2020



### About us

With this issue, [#Hashtag](#) enters its seventh publication under the attempt and management of a group of diligent students who have endeavored for the production of this magazine from the beginning. Having fulfilled so prominent an objective by unifying and connecting ambitious and cooperative members to organize an academic community, [#Hashtag](#) is now more determined than ever to keep up its work towards a greater goal and a better future. This purpose in view, [#Hashtag](#) anticipates the expansion of its team to include new members who will passionately contribute to the further advancement of the magazine as well as the achievement of its primary goal, that is, to help us learn, grow, change, and share our experiences. In case you would like to join us, [#Hashtag](#) would be honored to use your company as an invaluable part of its family alongside your knowledge and skills congruent with its needs.

Furthermore, all your comments, recommendations, and criticisms concerning the development of this magazine are much welcomed. Should you have any questions or need any further information regarding how to join [#Hashtag](#) magazine, please do not hesitate to contact us.



: [@Hashtag\\_Magazine](#)



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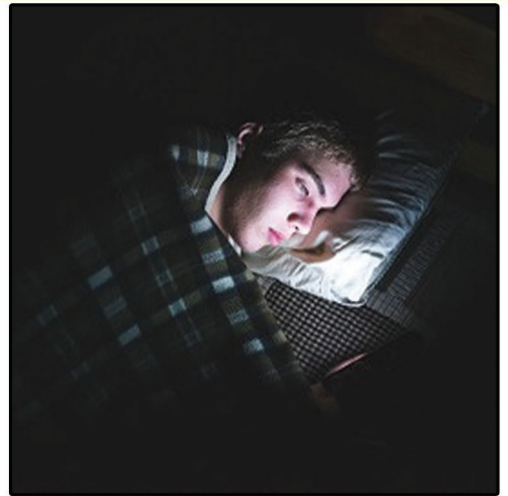
**Cover Photos:** Abolfazl Zamani

# INCESSANTLY CONNECTED?

*The repercussions of never switching off*

**H**ave you ever given appreciable thought to the reason why everyone is given ample opportunity to allay their own lives and alleviate their obstacles with which they are tackling by using Internet? Even though the main aims of cyberspace are to fabricate more productivity, augment more time to make the most of the leisure time, and aggrandize more efficiency, it has been highly averred that the opposite is taking place. Now, some of the momentous side effects of being used to overusing Internet are presented below.

In order of importance, it has been scientifically proved that spending too much time on texting, chatting, checking messages, or surfing the net can generate high amount of dopamine, which is what a drug addict gets when drugs are consumed, and human's brain is so dependent on that, so it is axiomatic that mitigating the number of hours wasted on the Internet is so arduous. In addition, according to psychiatrist Kyla Greenham, "The light from our devices has severe effects on sleeping cycle." Consequently, when it is not feasible to get adequate sleep, brain is not expected to function as it has to.



Following that, it is affirmed that technology is minimizing face-to-face interactions traditionally experienced. Namely, outside activities, such as going to the clubs, taking in a movie, and shopping at the malls are no longer done with high level of alacrity in comparison with the past. Instead, more sedentary pursuits like watching movies at home or shopping online are done with real ardor, and these types of activities are regarded as factual anodynes.

As a final point, people have become so conditioned to being successively online that they face disconnecting anxiety as soon as the connection goes away. Digital world and the serviceable innovations we have access to are so sensational from which no one wishes to be excluded, but this must be considered that staying connected to values and to each other are also so imperative. Additionally, switching off smart devices from time to time can play an influential role in staying both physically and mentally healthy.



**WRITTEN BY:**

**Shayesteh Kazemi**

TEFL (98)

# THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION

Technology is a communicative academic tool between educators and instructors to build dramatic and appealing learning via the digital environment. Learning by technology can create a bright future for the innovators who can adjust themselves to society and their future life. As in the past, presenting colorful textbooks aided students to learn better, these days, employing technology does the same and opens up a novel approach for learners. Technology is an unlimited world that can even make it possible for learners to get into information outside the classroom. Learning online and using technological means for educational aims can boost fertility and enhance students' perception of concepts. Entering technology into the educational system requires being acquainted with its advantages and disadvantages and technological tools which facilitate the learning procedure.

## Advantages

Applying digital cameras, mind training softwares, powerpoint presentations, 3D visualization devices are regarded as excellent resources to encourage learners to comprehend concepts much better and make the learning process amusing and funny in the classroom.

Technology proposes copious resources and up to date data for learners, parents, and educators. Multiple websites comprise curriculums and school courses so that learners can review or solve school problems or gain informative information to heighten their consciousness level.

Learners can acquire several skills through technology. The skills such as leadership, collaborating with others, critical thinking, dealing with complex problems, and boosting different forms of communication as well practical ones including writing emails, creating educational contents, learning to identify unreliable sources from reliable ones on the internet, and maintaining proper online etiquette.

## Disadvantages

According to Susan Dynarsk, professor of education at the *University of Michigan*, in *New York Times*: "college students learn less when they use computers, tablets, and laptops during lectures and tech students may find it hard to concentrate in class when a wide range of digital devices are around them."



Gazing at a computer or laptop screen can cause problems, including ocular application, feeling exhausted, blurred vision, and even gaining weight caused by inactivity for long times. It may also result in a critical problem called *Computer Vision Syndrome* according to a report from *CBS News*, "heavy computer use among children may put them in the risk of *Myopia*, in people of 12 or older, the prevalence of *Myopia* is nearly 60%".

The idea of utilizing technology in the education system brings some difficulties for schools. Some teachers complain about the absence of time, low internet speed, lack of enough experience, and uncertainty about hardware breakdown, inconsistent softwares between home and school, and out of date softwares existed mostly at schools while students use up to date softwares at home. The most popular digital training tools for learners and instructors are suggested here.



*Edmodo* is an educational tool for learning online which links educators and instructors and is similar to a social network. In this case, instructors can create various participatory groups, estimate students' performance, and interacting with parents. "Ed Modo has more than 34 million users around the world."



*Storybird* is an instructive tool that aims to provide writing and reading skills. Teachers introduce training artistic books online embedded in blogs, sent by email, and printed. Teachers keep in touch with students and answer their questions. This software raises motivation for reading in students.



*Kahoot* is an educational tool based on questions and games. Through this tool, teachers can create tests and questions for students to respond while playing and learning at the same time. *Kahoot* is an exciting device that augments students' impulse and engagement.



Technology has positive and negative aspects. Attempting to benefit from it, learners and instructors should not allow the negative impacts to push them back from achieving improvements and advancements. By using the digital environment, both educators and learners can be trained and skilled in their field. The digital environment can be fundamental to gaining significant improvements in both the learning and teaching field. Hence it is time for every educational system to dedicate a large number of expenses to triggering technological tools in the instructional environments and see remarkable progress in the world of education.



**WRITTEN BY:**  
**Sahar Sheykhi**  
Translation (97)

# POLYGLOT



Language is truly one of the most fascinating human attributes. Statistics depict that over 6500 languages are used across the world today. Your brain seems to be wired to learn language from birth, so what makes some people better at learning languages than others? Research into language ability clearly suggests that bilingual people have better mental control, as they are always choosing which language to speak. Other research shows that being fluent in a number of languages might help your brain to age better. In the following, the questions pertinent to these terms will be highlighted.

There are some definitions that depict a *polyglot*. A *polyglot* is one who has mastered and notably speaks several languages. Chrystia Freeland, Jeong Su-il, Janet Hsieh, Ivan Rakić and Richard Simcott are eminent people who have been noted in accredited sources as speaking many languages fluently.



According to *Wikipedia*, you need to be fluent in at least six languages to consider yourself a *polyglot*. “Learning one language makes one a monolingual, two makes one bilingual, three makes one trilingual, and more than four makes one a tetraglot or a quadrilingual, though nobody

uses those words.” *Duolingo* (the most popular language-learning platform and the most downloaded education app in the world, with more than 300 million users.) claims.



When someone is able to speak three, four, or even ten or twelve languages, many people are of the opinion of that they have a strong photographic memory or they are able to store zillions of bits of information in their brains at will. *Polyglots* are no more unique and genetically gifted to learn languages than anyone else in the world. The only obvious difference is that they have committed to take



# WOMEN WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH TRANSLATION AND WRITING

WRITTEN BY:

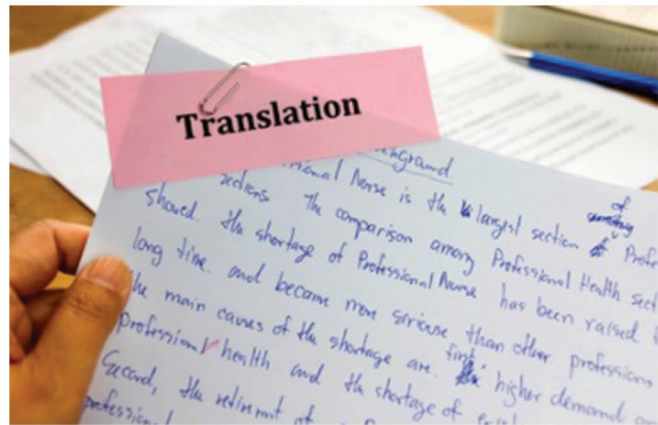
Zahra Khalifeh

Translation (97)



Throughout the history some women have had a conspicuous impact on forming our outlook on our life, culture, and community. Women translators who have not been afraid to struggle, have long fought to be heard, and have succeeded in bringing about a change through their ingenious, thought-provoking, and refreshing translations and writings despite the repressive system trying to marginalize their presence and voices. Nowadays, more noteworthy strides are being made towards equality by women translators who have always turned threats into opportunities to stand out in their career as a translator or interpreter.

Having access to education has always been one of the most significant inequalities between men and women which resulted in fewer job opportunities available for women. During the middle ages and the Renaissance women translators and writers were often restrained from publishing their original work. Even if they were lucky enough to publish their own work, it was frequently undisclosed. In other words, there has always been a vicious cycle for women not only in the process of publishing, but also in the acceptance stage.



Julia Evelina Smith (1792-1886) who put her heart and mind into the translation of *Bible* as the first and only woman was an unforgettable exception to this rule. Mary Sidney Herbert countess of Pembroke (1561-1621) is also remembered for her translation of Robert Barnier's *Mark-Antoine*. Another living eminent translator of all time must be Emily Wilson whose translation of *Odyssey* is considered as a masterpiece. This woman, endowed with greatness, has always reminded us of the huge debt we owe to women translators who came before us and paved the way. Lauren Shadi, a translator and interpreter working in the criminal justice system can be nominated as one of the most renowned women on the front lines of the effort to advertise and promote the works of women all around the world. As a professional French-English interpreter she mirrors whatever lies within criminals and the voiceless.

Throughout the history, translating was one of the very few jobs that women could participate in. They usually did not have equal rights or opportunities in translation. The gap between the number of men and women translators have always existed regardless of time or place. For instance, In the US and UK, almost all the most prominent translators of Greek, Roman and Latin literature have been men. Translation was a prestigious job in Britain in the 18th century but between the two available genres (translating from classic languages, and translating from modern languages), only translating from modern languages was open to women.

If we look at Britain in the 18th century as an example we will see that male translators were generally aware of their crucial role as literary mediators, but it was not the same for female translators of the time. One of the reasons for this disparity was due to the fact that the prestigious works from classical language were exclusively men territory, since women did not have access to formal educations. There were a few exceptional women who entered the field of translating from classical languages; such as Susannah Dobson and Elizabeth Carter.



In Britain, it was in the 20th century that we can see a massive inclusion of women to the world of work including translation. When the second world war happened, women were required to pick skill jobs to aid the war efforts and for women translators, professional interpreting was born and with-it women interpreters.

In conclusion, all the prominent women translators and interpreters have one thing in common and that is thirst for making a way to express themselves, to bring about a difference in today's world through their awe-inspiring, motivating, and intellectual works. They see themselves as the representors of their nation and women all around the world in general. They can evoke all sorts of emotions in people, make them believe in their dreams, and inspire them to make them come true. Helen Keller says, "Character can not be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, vision cleared, ambition inspired, and success achieved." Dare to struggle today so you can win tomorrow.



**WRITTEN BY:**

**Arezoo Abbasian**

Translation (97)

# A Review on THREE COLORS: BLUE

This is the first time I have watched a movie by Kieslowski and despite all the other popular opinions, I only happened to fall in love with one of the sequels of this trilogy; the first part, Blue. The movie starts with a peaceful scene in which a family is taking a road trip. But all of a sudden, they hit a big tree and in the next scene, we come to realize that the father and the little girl are killed but the woman is alive going under recovery in a hospital. She is traumatized when the news of her family is delivered to her. This is the beginning of the movie Blue. One of the breathtaking creativities used in the movie is the role of colors and in this part, blue. In fact, blue is so spread within the character twists and extreme of mind that we are eventually able to discover hidden features of this amazing color; what is the deal with this color and what is strange about this family?

*Three Colors: Blue* has Juliette Binoche as the wife of a prominent European composer, who goes into a mourning which denies everything about her old life, when a hideous car crash kills both her husband and her child. Her attempts to avoid the traps of going backwards or forward in her life which include the discovery of her husband's mistress, and the discovery of an uncompleted and bombastic Concerto for Europe which only she can finish are in the end abortive, but the movie suggests that she has found a new kind of freedom. What brings her back is first and foremost the music, from which she can never wholly escape. The Concerto for Europe has to be finished, despite all her fear and solitude.



At some point I found her willing to take revenge, but from what? Her past? Her married life and how his celebrated husband may have lied about many things going on in his career or secret affairs? It is as if she is now able to understand that she has missed out a lot in her past.

Krzysztof Kieslowski's *Blue*, the Polish director's French movie, is about Julie, a grieving widow and mother whose husband, "one of the most important composers of our time," and young daughter are killed in the car accident she survives.

The movie is the first in Mr. Kieslowski's trilogy *Three Colors: Blue, White, Red*, in which he examines the meaning of liberty (Blue), equality (White) and fraternity (Red), not as political or social concepts, which, he says, have

already been achieved in France, but in terms of the individual. This is a deep-dish endeavor.



“Blue, liberty; White, equality; Red, fraternity. We wanted to show what these well-known historical notions mean to us today, who already possess liberty, who are already equal, and for whom fraternity is a common ideal. Therefore, in Blue, liberty is not treated in a social or political way...but if we talk about liberty, we mean individual liberty, the liberty of life itself.” (Writers Krzysztof Kieslowski and Krzysztof Piesiewicz)

A lot depends on the music which is written by Zbigniew Preisner, whose score for Veronique was exemplary. I was so attached to the movie by its music. Music plays a fundamental role in developing the director’s ideas. It has somehow to suggest that her dead husband is one of the best composers in Europe and as a result it has its difficulties. The Concerto is pretty banal stuff upon which to end the proceedings. For all that, Blue remains an intense and moving tribute to the woman at its center who, in coming back from tragedy, almost refuses, but ultimately accepts the only real love that’s on offer.



All in all, it is a story of transmission from a long term state of life to a more detailed one in which so much of the past is in danger of being revealed. But this revelation could be the source of healing a deep and old scar in life of Julie.



**WRITTEN BY:**  
**Masoumeh Jafari**  
Literature (97)

*To be continued...*

# E-LEARNING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

According to Top Hat, “Online learning is a method of education whereby students learn in a fully virtual environment. First introduced in the 1990s with the creation of the internet and utilized in distance learning.” Nowadays as COVID-19 continues spreading in many countries, the increased participation in online courses plays a key role in the educational system, and nearly people all over the world use technology as a learning tool. The fact that online learning has become more centric in people’s lives, has some advantages, such as its convenience and its lower costs, and disadvantages, like time demand and technological issues, for the learners, which are going to be discussed below.

The great merit of having an online class, is its convenience, due to which the resources are available from anywhere and in anyhow. With the several courses available online, you can actually sit at home, learn, and choose your own learning environment that works best for your needs. It could be in your bedroom, your study room, or you can even listen to your instructors' lecture podcasts while in your office.

The next benefit of e-learnings, is the lower costs and expenses. Studying online means that you just have to pay for online applications fee, possibly book supplies, and a few other items. This kind of education alleviates housing costs by giving students this opportunity to take courses in their current living situation. Moreover, transportation costs can be considerably reduced when college students take online courses.

Despite the advantages, there are few disadvantages. The first and foremost drawback of e-learning, is the time demand. According to Francis Wade, a trainer and researcher on time based productivity, the definition of time demand is “an individual commitment to complete an action in the future.”



Although it might seem that online education would take less time than a class you're physically present for, Sean Chamberlin, in the article "Ten Disadvantages of Online Courses," written for Montgomery College, points out that "All comments, questions and assignments are written in an online course, which often takes longer than simply speaking questions within a classroom context." Text-based communication is inherently slower than spoken communication.



The technical issues are the other serious obstacles to web-based learning. Since online classes are held completely via computers and mobile phones, technical issues can occur; which make it difficult to complete courses on time. Students must have modern computers or smartphones to run online classroom systems. When there are technical problems, it can be hard to access the classroom or to get online assistance, which can be a major disadvantage when deadlines arrive.

In a nutshell, these days Coronavirus has forced many students to take part in online classes. There are always two sides of a coin, as for some individuals, online learning is more appropriate because of its convenience and lower costs, while for others using face to face classes is the preferred delivery method, since it doesn't have the issues that may occur in e-classes, but the fact is that, despite all its disadvantages, online learning is more beneficial especially for those who are fully occupied with work. In other words, "the challenges are there, but they are only temporary challenges. Online education will flourish." (Regier)



**WRITTEN BY:**

**Maryam Roghanizadeh**

TEFL (97)

# THE BENEFITS OF BEING BILINGUAL

Statistics show that more than 50 percent of the people in the world are inclined to learn a second language for many reasons such as their business, education, and communication. Furthermore, they can be benefited from knowing a second language which is discussed below.

First, being multilingual gives your brain some remarkable advantages, and some of these are even visible, such as higher density of the grey matter that contains most of your brain's neurons and synapses, and more activity in certain regions when engaging in learning a second language.

Second, the heightened workout a bilingual brain receives throughout its life can also help delay the onset of diseases, like Alzheimer's and dementia by as much as five years. The idea of major cognitive benefits to bilingualism may seem intuitive now, but it would have surprised earlier experts.



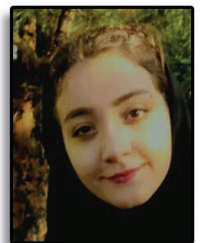
Third, before the 1960s, bilingualism was considered a handicap that slowed a child's development by forcing them to spend too much energy distinguishing between languages. However, recent research shows that the effort and attention needed to switch between languages trigger more activity in, and potentially strengthen, the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex. This is the part of the brain that plays a large role in executive functions, problem solving, switching between tasks, and focusing while filtering out irrelevant information.

To sum up, while bilingualism may not necessarily make you smarter, it does make your brain healthier, complex and actively engaged, so it is never late to learn a second language.

**WRITTEN BY:**

**Raziyeh Cheraghi**

Literature (96)



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## **A Letter to Nine and Nineties**

I was too once a new comer. My first day in UK, was on the last day of one summer. Luckily enough, I had this chance to live my collegiate life, even though too short it was. Before UK, I actually never knew what it meant to feel belonged to somewhere as soon as you step in there,

To feel at home on arrival,

To find family of your peers,

And teachers as dearest friends.

Till some new comer, not a welcomed one though, didn't let us enjoy further. Still, I learned that what UK has given me is somewhere within me not anywhere else, not limited to the time and space.

You might've heard what it is like to live a UK life;  
From Monday 2:00 PMs to the Godot Marathons,  
From Hashtag Runners to the ESA Conquerors,  
From Prose Stand-Ups to Poetry Flight-modes,  
From Reading Clubs to Reading Spots,  
From English Breakfasts to Movie-Clubs' Popcorn,  
From Belly-Laugh of Celebrations to Goodbye-tears of Graduations,  
From Campus Lawn Naps to Sarv-Haye Belzhiki Lunchtimes,  
From Gozar-e-Nasim Walks to Khane-Farhang Runs,  
And... from 30th Bahman 1398's Last Goodbye to the Very Today's e-Class...

You might wonder what these terms are,

That's what UK let us know.

Short may the Pandemic last,

May we meet before long...

**-Quoth one 97ie-**