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# HASHTAG

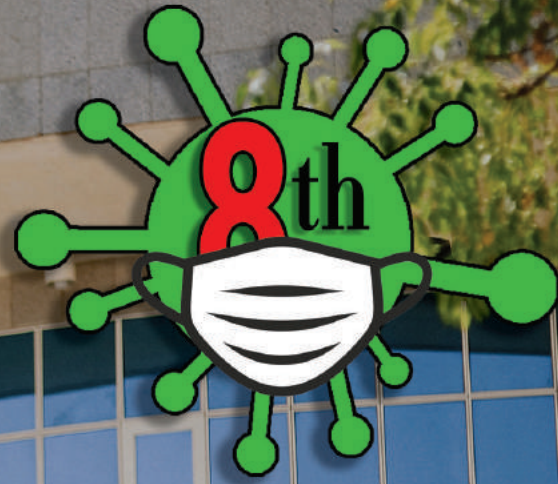
NOT CAPABLE OF  
DISCERNING  
GENERAL STRENGTHS?

WONDER  
OF  
ALICE!

LOST  
IN  
TRANSLATION?

ARTIFICIAL  
INTELLIGENCE

TO BE A SUCCESSFUL  
DISTANCE LEARNER



A REVIEW ON  
WHITE

BRAIN AND  
LANGUAGE

PROCESSING



University of Kashan

# HASHTAG

MAGAZINE

June - 2021



## About us

With this issue, **#Hashtag** enters its eighth 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:** Ghazaal Reza Zadeh

# THE PREEMINENT REASONS WHY INDIVIDUALS ARE NOT CAPABLE OF DISCERNING GENERAL STRENGTHS

So many researches have been conducted on why people experience difficulty in thinking constructive thoughts and deliberating on the beauties. Appealingly, this complication is so common that it is named negativity bias. According to negativity bias, most adults tend to pay more attention to irritation, disaster, and disappointment than desirable attributes. Negativity bias causes some problematic behaviors. In this essay, two principal reasons of this problem are to be precisely examined.

**F**or a start, undergoing psychological reluctance is what people have been struggling with the most. The truth is that many people deliberately choose to allocate their time and energy to investigation of their weaknesses than their intricacies of strengths. Unique composition of strengths makes people who they are, so it is prudent for everyone to invest in their strengths. There can be no doubt that shifting the negative focus to proper consideration is the best way to have a better understanding of who you truly are.

Moreover, another reason why people turn a blind eye to what is regarded as a strength is that the concept of strength is too narrowly interpreted. Many psychiatrists do advocate the balance between strengths and weaknesses. People should bethink that there exists no person who is adept at everything. On the other hand, everyone has something special and a reason to exist. Therefore, the best way to self-improvement is to focus equally on strengths and weaknesses.

Ultimately, this article has astonishingly generated new ideas to help people expand the range of their knowledge of the capacity to see the glass half full. Next time you begin to doubt your capabilities, try to think of these ideas to have a broader view of your strengths.



**WRITTEN BY:**

**Shayesteh Kazemi**

TEFL (98)

# WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A SUCCESSFUL DISTANCE LEARNER?

Needless to say, the world is changing dramatically. We are dealing with unavoidable and underlying challenges in different fields such as education. Undoubtedly moving from a traditional style of learning and teaching to a new one can sometimes be problematic and demanding. Previous semester we got a taste of distance learning and acquired remarkable, exciting experiences which offer considerable insight into new approaches we should take to help facilitate the transition from in-person learning process to online-only learning model. Although we are still exploring and familiarizing with the new teaching style, resources, and tools, we should not lessen the amount of effort we used to put in throughout face-to-face courses. This paper seeks to suggest beneficial tips on how to reinforce the ways in which online classes are held and how we as teachers and students can make the most of this opportunity.

When it comes to online learning, some students may find it difficult to occupy themselves and become involved in the learning process as much as they used to in the absence of their tutor. Often, they are likely to forget about their assignments and might even lose their interest in studying. In order to avoid such issues from happening to us, we as students should be well-organized. In other words, self-discipline is a necessity and comes first in the process of learning. By creating a daily agenda/to do list teachers can be of considerable assistance to help students stay focused and encouraged. In fact, teachers should monitor their students' progress and create an environment in which learners strive to learn beyond what is being said inside the class. If you are a teacher, you had better adjust your expectations around quality not quantity!! Simply put, both teachers and students should be at their most effective. As for the most things, the more well-prepared you are, the more likely you are to take full advantage of the journey.





Some students suffer from lack of self-confidence. Now that classes are held online, they might even find it harder to present themselves inside the class. As a student you should know that no one is born with extraordinary self-esteem and it takes time to finally visualize yourself the way you want to. Start boosting your self-esteem by turning your negative thoughts to positive ones. The more you practice avoiding negative attitudes, the more successful you will be at building up your self-confidence. Teachers should also consider the fact that students are studying under various conditions, with different access to internet, other resources, and the ability to stay focused during this time of transition.

Without any doubt, getting used to the dramatic changes we are facing with is not an easy job. Therefore, being able to adapt ourselves to recent transitions keeps us constantly well-prepared to succeed. Apart from adaptability there are some other beneficial lifelong learning skills which we as students are required to accomplish, such as creativity, problem solving skill, and critical thinking. Teachers should also set their goals according to the demands of their students, so that both students and teachers will feel empowered for remote teaching and learning.

All in all, sitting in front of your laptop is just a part of the process, not the whole story. This new teaching and learning style is definitely a challenge, but a kind of challenge which provides us with valuable experiences and opportunities to learn new skills. Take your time finding out about the ways in which you can sharpen your online learning experience and make full use of anything you have at hand.



**WRITTEN BY:**  
**Zahra Khalifeh**  
Translation (97)



**WRITTEN BY:**  
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Translation (97)

# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: A TANTALIZING PROSPECT

The thoughts of a machine being able to demonstrate the very same attitude as a human being have been toyed with repeatedly in the one last decade or two. It has been a topic of significant interest in movies such as *2001: A Space Odyssey*, games like *Red Dead Redemption 2*, and even a cause of concern by the greatest minds of history e.g., Stephen Hawking, Elon Musk, Sam Harris, and Nick Bostrom. Essentially the goal we strive to achieve is to recollect hundreds of millions of years of evolution and mutation, just to fit it inside a machine. Consequently, the first questions that pop into one's mind are "how?" or "is it even possible?" Well, we do not know the proper answer. On the flip side, if chance mutations can lead to intelligence such as ours, is it that complex?

As of today, both of the best players in *Chess and Go* have been annihilated by artificial intelligence, think about it. These individuals dedicated their entire life to perfecting and improving these games. If they are to be rendered passé, who is to say it cannot be extended to other activities? If they become more capable than us in those fields and potentially every field, then what is our purpose in existence? What should we do for a living?



Here are two paragraphs, it is a little test, which one do you believe is written by artificial intelligence?

- "Tuesday was a great day for W. Roberts, as the junior pitcher threw a perfect game to carry Virginia to a 2-0 victory over George Washington at Davenport Field."
- "A shallow magnitude 4.7 earthquake was reported Monday morning five miles from Westwood, California, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The temblor occurred at 6:25 A.M. pacific time at a depth of 5.0 miles."

Both of the given paragraphs are written by AI (Artificial Intelligence) with little help from an individual. The second one was published by Ken Schwencke. He woke up due to an earthquake only to find the system has already written a report on the matter. I think we had it up within three minutes;" Schwencke said. "Whenever an alert comes in from the U.S. Geological Survey about an earthquake above a certain

size threshold, Quakebot is programmed to extract the relevant data from the USGS report and plug it into a pre-written template.” (Will Oremus, 2014)

AI used to be about stuffing codes into a box and praying an acceptable outcome would come out, pretty much like a smoothie. Whilst nowadays, it is more complicated than that and it involves multiple algorithms and machine learning. Imagine how a baby learns the fundamentals of living. At first, it is just an



oblivious amalgamation of meat and bone that occasionally moves and screams, but the brain is not dysfunctional, so it has to be doing something. The answer is straightforward, it is watching for patterns it can adopt; bright colors equal fun, fire equals not fun, etc. Machine learning is pretty much similar. We give the machine an end, a goal that should be achieved, and we give it room to exercise and improve upon itself by trying. Machines do not have the same limitations as human-being, for example, a human brain has to fit inside a cranium while machine storage can be the size of a warehouse. In this case, why would we assume that the intelligence of an AI would stop at the human level? An AI can function at the speed of light as well as providing itself with new information with no help required from an individual. This, even on a theoretical level, is a scary thought.

Machine intelligence is the last thing humans will invent, after that machines will be better at inventing than we are. To draw comparisons between human and machine intelligence, let's go with the following example. Under normal circumstances, most of us are negligent about the ants, we do not have some old and traditional rivalry with them. However, if they happened to come in the way of our evolution, we could not care less about their existence. How do we even explain to them that they are in the way? It is impossible, they simply lack intelligence.

Nick Bostrom, in his speech about AI (2015), stated that a question was purposed to leading AI experts saying, "By which year do you think there is a 50% probability that we will have achieved human-level machine intelligence?" It is noteworthy that we explain by HLMI (human-level machine intelligence) we mean that the machine is capable of performing any task as well as an adult individual. Top 100 experts explicitly agreed on the fact that by the year 2050 we will have achieved this goal. If such a big chapter of our history is so close to becoming a reality, why are we being so rash about an event so important that can either be the most revolutionary in the history of mankind or just a ticking clock to our extinction?



**WRITTEN BY:**  
Arezoo Abbasian  
Translation (97)

# Lost in Translation

**I**t has probably happened to you that you just cannot come up with the exact equivalent for a word, phrase, or idiom while translating a text. Well, you are not alone. The meaning loss during the translation process is common and sometimes inevitable. It happens because of the differences in the languages or even cultures. Language is an incredibly complicated phenomenon, and due to its complex nature, a literal translation is nearly impossible. There are always words, idioms, phrases, and sayings in a language that might be absent in another, hence cause the loss in translation. Some might use description to make up for the shortcomings, but obviously, it is not the same.

Sometimes the translators' misinterpretation, inadequate knowledge in language or the subject of the text, lack of precision or creativity can be the reason for the meaning loss in translation. A convenient example is a movie title translation; the movie is called "lost in translation" and it is translated as "گمشده در ترجمه" in Persian. Somewhat ironic.



The question is, what should we do? Or is there anything to do? Well, although we cannot entirely overcome the loss of meaning in translation, it doesn't mean we cannot reduce the chances.



First of all, a translator should be able to read the text correctly. It might seem obvious but reading the text in the right way is critical. If one doesn't read the text accurately, then they might misinterpret the content resulting in a faulty translation.

Another point is to learn the proper use of sources like dictionaries, glossaries, online services, etc. Everyone has a dictionary but do they use it properly? By proper use, I mean one should check for all the possible meanings of a word or phrase and choose the one that suits the context best; not just write the first equivalent they find.

A translator needs to be up to date. It means that they should be familiar with specific terms and new idioms in different areas, such as movies, comics, computers, health, etc. It doesn't mean that you should know every technical term in every field, but to be acquainted with them in your areas of interest and translate texts in those fields.

The last but not least, is gaining background knowledge. This might overlap with the previous point, but is a bit more extensive. Acquiring background knowledge is not just limited to knowing the terminology. Translators should know the subject at hand to comprehend and interpret the source text with minimum errors.

In conclusion, achieving an ideal translation that is faithful, accepted in the target language while preserving the meaning and style of the source text might be far-fetched in practice. However we can do our best to get as close to it as possible.



Written By:  
**Masoumeh Jafari**  
 Literature (97)

# A Review on **THREE COLORS: WHITE**

**W**hite is the second part of one of the most famous trilogies in the history of cinema. When I watched the first part Blue, I was on the edge of my seat till the end. One of the points of all the three parts is music. Music plays a huge role throughout the movie. It weeps with you, fails with you and directs the movie. As we know, music is an essential symbol in French cinematography; and as this trilogy is about three important saying in the French history- equality, freedom and liberty- so it certainly is going to use music to unravel what is concealed. A critic says:

*“Three Colors White, is based on the colors of the French flag and upon the precepts of liberty, freedom and equality, is the easiest of the three films to negotiate but by no means the least in weight. It's the kind of comedy only a hopeful pessimist could have made and, if that sounds like a contradiction in terms, you don't know Kieslowski very well.”*



*Three Colors: White* is written and directed by Krzysztof Kieslowski, the Polish director. It is about a young man with low self-esteem named Karol who is after his lost dignity. The movie starts with a scene in an airport in which a suitcase is being wandered around, as if its owner has left it quite inadvertently, and this is the sign of all the troubles and difficulties that Karol will go through. Then, we are exposed to a court room in which Karol and his gorgeous French wife is getting a divorce. Some critics assume Karol as a symbol of Poland, the country where Kieslowski is from, and he is trying to maintain his attachment to France and Europe, that is to be his wife. He suffers a lot from miseries to gain such a thing; he returns to Poland in a humiliating

way, becomes homeless and loses his beautiful wife, but when he is back in his country and visits his older brother, a mid-aged hairdresser who owns a small business, he gradually finds some ways to promote himself and at the end he turns to this wealthy proud man, but he hasn't forgotten about his wife, which here means his lost equality; he will go back to France and find her.

In another article, a critic has written, "*White*, the second chapter of Krzysztof Kieslowski's *Three Colors* trilogy, is different from *Blue* in more ways than the color it centers on and the ideals represented. Instead of the dark, somber tone adopted *Blue*, this film aims for something lighter. Additionally, while *White* possesses a sardonic quality never sought after by its predecessor, the emotional tapestry of this picture is not the other's equal."



Another dominant factors of the movie, is the vast plainness and whiteness used in different scenes; snow is one of those elements that has contributed crucially in the movie. This whiteness illustrates the main theme of the second part of this trilogy; equality. In the below, we read a different point of view:

"Nevertheless, despite its flaws, *White* is an excellent character study, and the presentation of a twisted love story is compelling. The Chaplinesque Zbigniew Zamachowski delivers a performance that displays the depth and breadth of his considerable talent. In addition to portraying desperation, pain, and triumph, Zamachowski gets an opportunity to do a little light comedy. Julie Delpy, who was so impressive as Sam Shepard's tragic girlfriend in *Voyager* (and also had roles in *Europa*, *Europa* and Disney's *The Three Musketeers*), is luminescent in limited exposure. She's very effective, and her cold portrayal of Dominique during the film's opening scenes does nothing to endear the character to the audience."

However, the thing that disappointed me as an audience, was the unbelievable twist of the quality of this movie despite the success of the first part; *Blue* which was a masterpiece. One could not find the incredible details of *Blue* in *White*. Even the music has sadly a lower class in comparison to *Blue*. Here, a critic proves my point:

"Anyone who has seen the austere, pretentious *Blue* the first film in Krzysztof Kieslowski's *Three Colors* trilogy, will scarcely believe that the witty, deadpan *White* was made by the same man."

All in all, Karol here is the figure who attempts to rebuild the forgotten thing, to make mistakes but also to erase them and start a new life, but is his mission accomplished? Does his wife come back to him? Does equality replaces itself with humiliation, homelessness, and dictatorship? Let us find out all this after watching *Three Colors: White*.

*To be continued...* 10



WRITTEN BY:

Sahar Sheykhi

Translation (97)

# THE UNKNOWN FACTS ABOUT *ALICE* *IN WONDERLAND*

**A**lthough 150 years have passed from the fascinating and amazing story of Alice in Wonderland, we still love to read its interesting incidents and take ourselves through its mysterious adventures. The story has been far beyond the children's mind of the mid-19th century for whom it was written. The reason is that Alice's adventures were a turning point of children's literature. Before that, books and stories aimed to transfer moral principles and concentrated on educational issues. Most of them tended to teach children how to be good and polite boys and girls rather than to entertain and arise their imaginative power, but the author changed all of it by creating such a book. In many books, we see that children are instructed by an adult or educator but in this story, Alice is a little girl lecturing adults, inviting others to behave correctly, and censuring the residents for their impudence and general madness.

Alice knows best that adults are illogical, unreliable, and insane. This converse feature entirely demonstrated children and adults in the story. The author, Lewis Carroll, uses his little narrative to deride the Victorian education system. Alice uses it in her speech because she thinks it is important. At school, the concepts are like ambition, word-play, derision, and parody that are basic ingredients of today's stories, thanks to Carroll.

The reason to consider Alice successful around the world is a bit complicated and controversial. It can be bounded to conceptions concerning to quintessential Britishness of the book. Interestingly enough, there are events and characters such as tea parties, queen, king, and games of croquet and household servants that represent the sentimental view of the ideological Victorian society.

Seemingly, some hesitations and aspersions have arisen among the readers on the basis of the story that has been originally written for Alice Diddle, a little girl to whom Carroll was attracted. It has been related that Carroll did take photographs of young girls so that he would select her person in question. Although these aspersions have been nearly disapproved by scholars, this controversial gossip has still remained strong.

Going deeper to the text, Alice refuses to eat the characters in the Wonderland. It may be referred to Freud's oral stage of psychosexual development. The question "Who are you?" that she is permanently asked can be referred to the topic of self-analysis which guided her to discover this odd but a fundamental question.

As we celebrate the 150th birthday of Alice, it is worth remembering that this book and its exciting adventures will always remain as a puzzle for the world.

# What Brain Areas Are Involved in Language Processing?



WRITTEN BY:

Raziye Cheraghi

Literature (96)

**B**rain is a critical part of body that processes daily lives, especially in learning a new language. Learning a new language helps people to communicate better, sooner, and faster. In fact, people are not often informed of what happens in their brain during learning a language, and if they are informed, they will be surprised a lot. It has long been established that humans' capacity to use their native language is stored in the left hemisphere of the brain in over 90% of the normal population. In real, several parts of the brain must work together in language development which can be described below.

The main parts of the brain involved in language processes are the Broca's area, located in the left frontal lobe, which is responsible for speech production and articulation, and the Wernicke's area, in the left temporal lobe, that is associated with language development and comprehension. Broca's area is located in the frontal lobe of the brain, and is mainly responsible for language comprehension, and damage to this area results in receptive aphasia which is the loss of ability to understand and produce the language. There is evidence showing that people with Broca's aphasia can understand the language, but they cannot speak. For example, people who have strokes may find out what you say, but they cannot talk to you or show their feedbacks.

Wernicke's area is located in the cerebral cortex, and its role is significant in producing written and spoken language. When this part is damaged, people will be faced with Wernicke's aphasia in which people can speak, but they cannot comprehend a language. The primary auditory cortex is located in the temporal lobe, and it is connected to the auditory system. It identifies the pitch and loudness of sounds. In addition, the angular gyrus is located in the parietal lobe of the brain, and it processes spatial recognition and attention.

To sum up, learning a new language involves a complicated process in which the parts which play roles in learning a language must be in careful cooperation to make a person both realize and talk at the same time.





WRITTEN BY:

Zeynab Rouhollahi

Translation (97)

# *Kakh-e Chehel Sotoun*

**Discover One of the Iranian Classic Architecture Bodies in the City of Isfahan**

**A**s the philosopher, Martin Buber would say, "All journeys have secret destinations of which the traveler is unaware." If you plan to visit Isfahan, let your journey take you to one of the most impressive architectural gems of the whole world, recently added to UNESCO's Cultural Heritage list. Kakh-e Chehel Sotoun has a great history that goes back to the late 16th century. This splendid palace, along with its royal garden, is among many ancient sites of Isfahan, built in the Safavi Era. When Safavian took over the rule of Iran centuries ago, Shah Abbas I gave the order to create a long street crossing the middle of the city, called Chahar Bagh. He ordered to build several gardens all along the road, including Chehel Sotoun. Unfortunately, nowadays, only two of them are remaining and well-reserved, Chehel Sotoun and Hasht Behesht. The inner halls were used for feasts in which officials were invited from all around the country. When you visit this palace, you won't believe that the building is hundreds of years old, and that is what we owe Shah Abbas II, who ordered to ornate the palace fully.

But why do we call it Chehel Sotoun (literary Forty Columns)? When you step into the garden, you will see the stunning architecture of ancient Iran, but you would be confused and searching for the other twenty columns as well. Note that visiting this magnificent monument at night would



multiply its attractiveness. Back to the other missing halves of the columns; well, there is a large pool right in front of the palace, and if you look at the surface of the water, you will see the reflection of the building. The rest is only simple math. How unique and clever could something be? But this does not end the beauty of this palace; your journey begins when you step into the palace, enclosed with walls with astonishing paintings all over them. You may need hours to explore every bit of these drawings. The Great Hall (Throne Hall) is one of the finest places inside Chehel Sotoun, embellished by miniatures, frescoes, and ceramics. You can learn about the great history of the Safavi era and some of their greatest battles by only looking at the walls, not through reading but visually. Provided with a strong imagination, you may see yourself riding a horse with a spear speeding toward your enemy.

No wonder why Isfahan has been titled "The half of the world." Wonderful heritages and unique sites multiply the beauty of this city and provide ample reasons why Isfahan is a must-be-visited destination for at least every Iranian if not the rest of the world.

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“1”

I had the hand of it, so it seemed so easy  
“That think of trouble, hinder its happening for real”  
It's like, my life a ship, I, steersman to foresee  
Impediments, and bypass them via mind's ship-wheel

Leaning on this new light, I sought the seas  
In the middle, but , where's my men and crew?  
I wept through waves that did never ease  
“have I, a fool, forgotten, to think of solitude too?”

Nights fell and suns rose, but of no aid  
But of anyone to come, pity of passing pilots  
I burnt on rays and froze on shade  
Was I not even a preferable pick of pirates?

One wandering night, voices, brought me the breeze  
Of whom [I know not, nymphs, gods] passed me  
Of hope of heroes of help, those words I heed to seize  
Saying; “ ce'est toi, c'est toi, c'est toi, ton ami”



**Amin Shahsavari**

Literature (97)