What do UN translators do?

eslvideo.com Quiz by: lulypty

1. What is the name of the translator speaking?

○ a.) Jamie Bethune

○ b.) John Smith

○ c.) Maria Garcia

2. What are Jamie's working languages?

○ a.) French, English, and Chinese

○ b.) Spanish, English, and French

○ c.) French, German, and Chinese

3. How long has Jamie been working at the UN?

○ a.) Two years

○ b.) Four years

○ c.) Six years

4. What types of documents does Jamie translate?

○ a.) Only reports

○ b.) Any document the organization needs

○ c.) Only personal letters

5. What is one quality a good translator must have?

○ a.) Good writing skills

○ b.) Good speaking skills

○ c.) Good listening skills

6. What does Jamie enjoy about her work?

○ a.) The salary

○ b.) The research on different topics

○ c.) The travel opportunities

7. What other activity related to translation has Jamie participated in?

○ a.) Editing

○ b.) Terminology

○ c.) Teaching

8. What does Jamie suggest about thinking of translators' work?

○ a.) It is unimportant

○ b.) It means they are doing their job well

○ c.) It is always necessary

9. How does Jamie feel about the impact of translation on people's lives?

○ a.) It is not significant

○ b.) It makes life more interesting and fulfilling

○ c.) It complicates communication

10. What does Jamie hope people will do regarding translators' work?

○ a.) Ignore it

○ b.) Appreciate it

○ c.) Criticize it

Transcript

My name is Jamie Bethune. I'm French, and I'm a translator at the UN. My working languages are French, English, and Chinese, and I've been working in the event for about four years as a translator at the UN.

I translate any document that the organization needs to have translated into French. This can be reports of the Secretary-General, or resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly or the Security Council, or diplomatic correspondence, budget documents, etc.

A good translator has, first of all, to have very good writing skills. They have to have excellent grammar and a good style. They also have to be very thorough and detail-oriented, and they have to be willing to always find ways to improve their skills as translators.

As a translator, I'm curious. I really enjoy the fact that my work at the UN allows me to do research on many different topics, and I've also been participating in other activities related to translation, such as terminology, which has been a very interesting opportunity for me.

If you find that you rarely think about the work that translators do, then it's probably a good sign. It means that we're doing our job well. However, it would really mean a lot to us if you could take a moment to think about all the ways in which translation is making your life more interesting, more fulfilling, and perhaps more peaceful.