Corpora & E-learning questionnaire

Results Summary

First Published: 20/06/2005

Updated: 20/04/2006

As a partner in the MeLLANGE project ITI was responsible for creation, marketing, targeting, data collection and results dissemination of the questionnaire for Corpora & E-learning.

The survey ended in June 2005 and the summarised results are contained in the following booklet.

In comparison with other recent surveys the response to this questionnaire was extraordinarily high and reflected the level of interest in the subject matters.

On behalf of the MeLLANGE project ITI would like to thank all those (ITI members or otherwise) who took part.

Alan Wheatley
ITI General Secretary

MeLLANGE partners

University Denis Diderot Paris 7 – Project leader

University of Vienna

University of Leeds: Centre for Translation Studies

Institute for Applied Linguistics, Translation and Interpreting, University of Saarland (Saarbrücken)

Advanced School of Modern Languages for Interpreters and Translators of the University of Bologna (Forli)

University Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona)

Institute of Translation and Interpreting

Praetorius France

Olomouc Training Centre, Czech Republic

Ecole de Traduction et d'Interprétation at the University of Geneva

Survey Overview

Instructions Provided To Respondents

Answer questions as they relate to you. For most answers, check the boxes most applicable to you or fill in the blanks.

Respondent Metrics

Total Respondents: 1015   (Paper = 451, Web = 564)

Respondents by country:	UK	France	Germany	Italy	Spain	Undefined
	567	125	25	19	4	275

First Response: 06/04/2005
Last Response: 25/04/2006

Survey Results

Section A - About Yourself

1. Are you a Student or Professional?

74.0%   Professional
26.0%   Student

2. Are you a Translator or Interpreter

77.8%   Translator
22.2%   Interpreter

3. Do you work full-time or part-time

61.9%   Full-time
38.1%   Part-time

4. Do you have more or less than 5 years experience

67.1%   More than 5 years experience
32.9%   Less than 5 years experience

5. Do you work freelance or as a salaried employee

85.6%   Freelance
14.4%   As a salaried employee

Section B - Using the web to research terminology

1. Do you use Google to research terminology

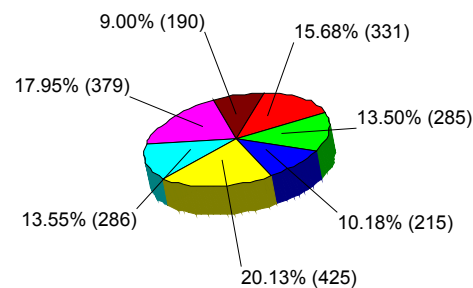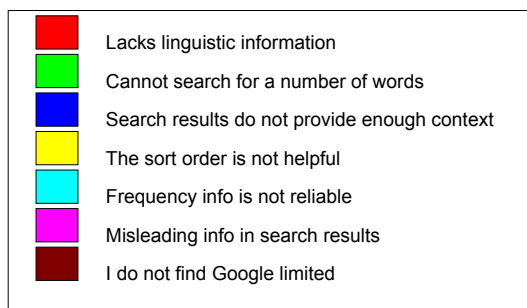94.4%   Yes
5.6%   No

2. Do you search by

59.2%   Subject keywords
40.8%   Company/product

3. Do you limit your searches by language or country to refine the results (e.g. by limiting your search to French pages from Canada)

72.2%   Yes
27.8%   No

4. In which ways, if any, do you find Google is limited for finding information on language use

20.1%   The sort order is not helpful
18.0%   Misleading info in search results from material outside the domain
15.7%   Lacks linguistic information (eg finding different forms of the same head
           word)
13.5%   Frequency info is not reliable
13.5%   Cannot search for a number of words occurring in single sentence but not
           necessarily next to each other
10.2%   Search results do not provide enough context to be useful
9.0%   I do not find Google limited

Lacks linguistic information
Cannot search for a number of words
Search results do not provide enough context
The sort order is not helpful
Frequency info is not reliable
Misleading info in search results
I do not find Google limited

9.00% (190)   15.68% (331)
17.95% (379)   13.50% (285)
13.55% (286)   10.18% (215)
20.13% (425)

5. Do you visit other web sites regularly

42.3%   Yes, sites belonging to particular companies
31.4%   Yes, sites which act as domain portals
19.6%   Yes, other
6.7%   No

Section C - Corpora

1. Do you collect domain specific texts

56.1%   No
43.9%   Yes

2. How do you collect them

69.6%   In electronic form
30.4%   On paper

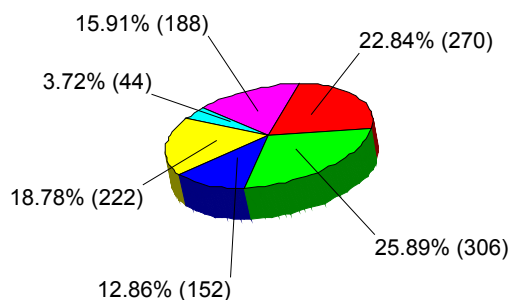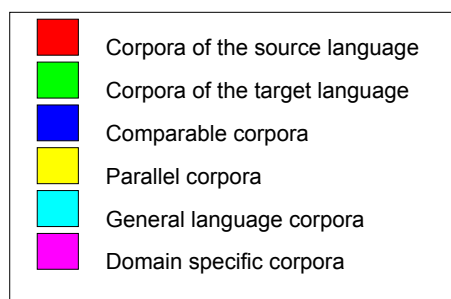## 3. How do you use them

53.4%   Read them
46.6%   Search through with software

4. Do you use corpora in your translation practice

58.2%   No
41.8%   Yes

5. If yes, do you use

25.9%   Corpora of the target language
22.8%   Corpora of the source language
18.8%   Parallel corpora
15.9%   Domain specific corpora
12.9%   Comparable corpora
3.7%   General language corpora

6. What do you use to search them

65.1%   Search facility in word processor
20.2%   Corcordancer
12.1%   Other search tools (Trados, Concordance in translation memory)
2.0%   UNIX utilities

7. If you do not use corpora, why

41.0%   Never heard about them
21.0%   I don't have time to build them
20.2%   I don't know how to use a concordancer
7.5%   I can't see any advantage over Google
6.7%   I can't see any advantage over translation memories
3.6%   Other (1 specified: Not sure will work with Macintosh)
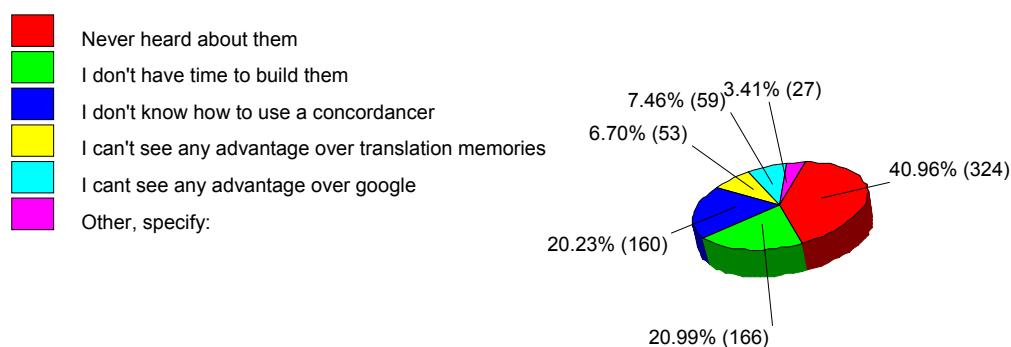
8. Would you be interested in a service which quickly provides domain and language specific corpora tailored to your needs

84.0%   Yes
16.0%   No

9. Would you be interested in a tool for extracting terms from a domain specific corpus

83.4%   Yes
16.6%   No

10. Would you be interested in learning more about the potential that corpora offer

85.9%   Yes
14.1%   No

Section D – e-learning

1. Do you participate in any email lists or other forums

55.6%   No
44.4%   Yes

2. If yes, could you comment on the usefulness of this activity

63.5%   Yes
32.0%   Not very useful
4.5%   I find them to be largely a waste of time

3. What in your opinion could e-learning offer the busy translator

22.2%   Can learn at a distance
20.9%   Can learn in your own time
20.7%   Can learn at your own pace
13.8%   Enables students to form communities regardless of location
13.1%   Facilitates real-time communication with peers and tutors traditional correspondence courses cannot
9.3%   Allows more practical, collaborative and project-based work than many forms of classroom teaching

🟥	Can learn at a distance
🟩	Can learn in your own time
🟦	Can learn at your own pace
🟨	Allows more practical and project-based work
🟦	Enables students to form communities
🟪	Facilitates real-time communication with peers and tutor

13.06% (433)
22.17% (735)
13.78% (457)
20.93% (694)
9.32% (309)
20.75% (688)
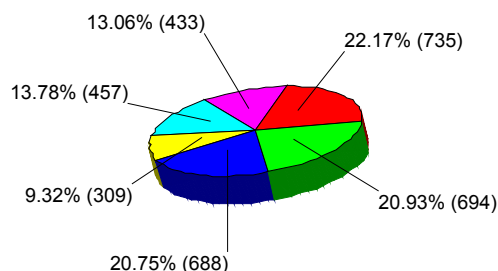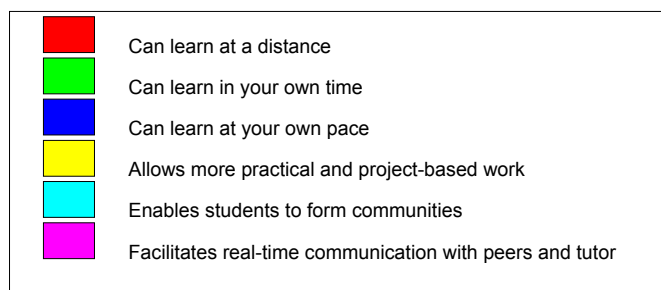
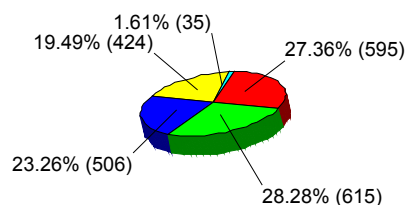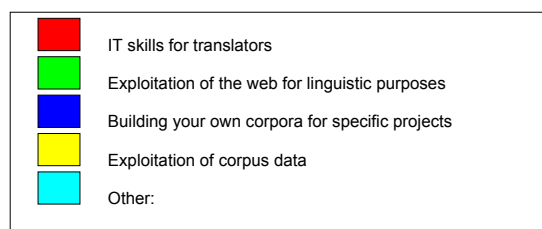## 4. If you were to follow an e-learning course, would you prefer to

44.3%   Meet tutors at intervals
30.8%   Meet students at intervals
24.9%   Learn exclusively at a distance

5. Which of the following learning strategies do you think would work well

26.6%   Open forums in which students and tutors can discuss anything
25.8%   Tests to check comprehension
23.6%   Downloading reading materials to use as the basis for online discussion
23.3%   Activity and project based learning in collaboration with other students
0.7%   Other

6. If e-learning courses were available, which of the following subjects might interest you

28.3%   Exploitation of the web for linguistic purposes
27.4%   IT skills for translators
23.3%   Building your own corpora for specific projects
19.5%   Exploitation of corpus data
1.6%   Other

Legend:
- IT skills for translators
- Exploitation of the web for linguistic purposes
- Building your own corpora for specific projects
- Exploitation of corpus data
- Other:

Pie chart values:
- 27.36% (595)
- 28.28% (615)
- 23.26% (506)
- 19.49% (424)
- 1.61% (35)

7. Would you be interested in e-learning packages tailored to translators

48.1%   Yes (Email supplied)
19.7%   Yes (No contact details supplied)
13.8%   No

Analysis of cross-tabulated results

Professionals only - Do you use Google to research terminology
94.6%   Yes
5.4%   No

Students only - Do you use Google to research terminology
94.6%   Yes
5.4%   No

Professionals who use Google - Do you search by
57.3%   Subject keywords
42.7%   Company/product

Students who use Google - Do you search by
65.5%   Subject keywords
34.5%   Company/product

Professionals only - Do you collect domain specific texts
45.6%   Yes
54.4%   No

Students only - Do you collect domain specific texts
37.9%   Yes
62.1%   No

Professionals only - Do you use corpora in your translation practice
44.2%   Yes
55.8%   No