

International Words and False Friends

Jun Blore

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International Words

- A word that is used in several languages and have the same or similar meaning.
- Often borrowed from one language.
- Is especially common in science, technology, politics, sports, food, and abstract notions

Examples

- Radio
- Computer
- Physics
- Revolution
- Mango
- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Absurd
- Football
- Чай
- Презентация
- Виноград
- Христос
- Перец
- Персик
- Стекло
- Реалистичный
- Рим

Pseudo-International Words

- Also known as your “false friends.”
- Words that are similar in form and sounds but with different meanings when translated.
- Your job as a translator is to make sure you know the difference between these international words and “false friends.”
- They are misleading, but not too difficult.

Examples

- Paragraph
- Accurate
- Compass
- Tank
- Ad
- Bank
- Canon
- Control
- Магазин
- Журнал
- Фабрика
- Макароны
- Кавказский
- Артист
- Интеллигентный
- Директор

- Some words are only misleading in part of their definitions:
 - Conservative/осторожный, elevator/ лифт, element/ стихия или фактор, etc.
- Words can be especially confusing when they have multiple meanings.
 - In this case you must use context clues to find the right translation.