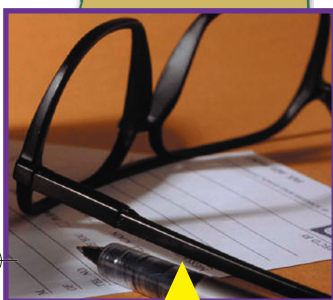


LANGUAGE PRACTICE



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LANGUAGE PRACTITIONERS form vital links in the local and international communication network and play an important role in a multilingual country like South Africa. Their work ranges from the translation of legislation and reports of government commissions to instruction manuals, tourist brochures, company reports, patents, scientific papers, advertisements, educational text and even literary works. This means that they not only need excellent language skills, but also require expertise in various fields.

Many translators translate on a freelance basis, operating from their homes. The market is competitive, which means that translators should ideally have a wordprocessor, telephone, fax machine and even e-mail and internet at their disposal in order to provide a professional service.

RECOMMENDED SCHOOL SUBJECTS

Languages.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A Senior Certificate or an equivalent qualification is required for studies at a university of technology and a Senior Certificate with matric exemption is necessary for admittance to studies at a university.

SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

Prospective language practitioners must have a flair for languages and be versatile enough to be able to cope with text in a variety of fields. They should also pay careful attention to detail and be able to do research on the content and background of a text.

TRAINING

UNIVERSITY

A three-year BA: Languages degree.

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

A four-year BTech: Language Practice.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

South Africa has 11 official languages, which means that you are needed in all levels in the public and private sectors. Institutions such as Parliament, the State Language Services, the National Terminology Service, provincial governments, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, SABC, universities and universities of technology, banks, insurance companies and the media, all make extensive use of language practitioners.

You can work as general language practitioner, translator, editor or proofreader, language advisor, consultant, technologist or broadcaster.