Experiments for usability assessment of BRACorpus System

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The research presented here has as objective the integration of ergonomic methodology to theoretical and methodological principles of translation studies pedagogy in order to assess the usability of BRACorpus System (Carneiro, 2014). As a specific objective, I present data collection experiments which aim at the development of applications for this Terminological Database Management System (TDMS).

It is a multilingual New Information and Communication Technology (ICT), developed for the automated processing of Portuguese, French, Spanish and English. In a few words, the BRACorpus System aims at training specialized translators by means of a textual approach to terminology (Bourigault & Slozdian, 1999), which is directly related to Corpus Linguistics Methodology. Looked at from that point of view, it is used a parallel concordancer from COPA-TRAD (Fernandes & Silva, 2014). It offers a set of analysis procedures in translated texts, for example, the extraction of bilingual terminology and phraseology in a legal field corpus, managed by BRACorpus. It should be noted that the System users undergraduate students in Foreign Languages Applied to Multilingualism and the Information Society (LEA-MSI) course at the University of Brasilia who take the disciplines "Language lexicon and terminology 1", and "Languages lexicon and terminology 2".

The central concern of the study is to facilitate the use of the interface of the BRACorpus System for the object vs. users (students of the disciplines do LEA-MSI) interaction with respect to 3 fundamental means: i. a task structured teaching unit (Borja Albi, 2007) entitled "The use of new ICTS on legal translators training" (controlled experiment); ii. two questionnaires (diagnostic and formative); iii. a testing environment (uncontrolled experiment). On the one hand, these test experiments make it possible to test the adequacy of the Brazilian Standards of Usability (Brasil, 2010) and its updating to the web standards settled by the Brazilian Electronic Government. And, on the other hand, it shows the viability of interdisciplinary research between Ergonomics and Translation Studies as an enhancer of efficiency in human-computer interaction.