

STAGES OF TRANSLATION HISTORY IN FRANCE (EXPERIENCE OF ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE)

Translation history in France comprises 4 main stages; they are 14–16th centuries, 17–18th centuries, 19th century, 20–21st centuries. Nicole Oresme, the chaplain of Charles V, made the first and rather precise translation into French in 1370. The source texts were such Aristotle's works as Ethics, Politics, Economics. His followers were Pierre Bershuar (Livy's translator) and Robert Gagen (Caesar's translator). The Renaissance saw a lot of translations from Latin, and classical works of such famous authors as Homer, Virgil, Aristotle, Cicero and Horace were the first to be translated. But the works of Ovid, Livy and Demosthenes were not so popular among translators. Since the translator tried to make the works attractive and comprehensible to the French general public, the translations of 16th century were characterized by the numerous anachronisms, local realias and notions contemporary to those times. Meanwhile, the humanists used the translations to disseminate new ideas and to develop their own language.

At the forefront of all translation there was a desire (not always properly fulfilled) to render the meaning of the source text and "beauty of both languages" in the same time, in attempt to avoid word-for-word translations and to enrich the French language with new words and phrases.