

Direction: Summarize the following excerpt from a journal article. Remember to write the main ideas only.

The expansion of research on the task of translation is important for several reasons. First, as already mentioned above, the evidence observed in one paradigm in L2 research often does not converge with evidence observed when participants perform a different task, suggesting that different processes, routes or levels of representation may be involved. Determining how processing is affected by the different tasks may help to clarify crucial issues concerning how bilinguals represent and process lexical items from the L2. Second, although very easy to perform (from a methodological point of view), the largely neglected task of translation has, to date, been only narrowly investigated in psycholinguistic research. In 1993, Snodgrass made the criticism that 'relatively little information exists on performance in the translation task' (Snodgrass, 1993: 85), and concludes that 'the research on the bilingual lexicon using the technique of translation times needs more data rather than more theory' (Snodgrass, 1993: 110). More than 10 years later, little has changed in this respect. New paradigms and research methods have been employed in L2 research (for review, see Kroll and De Groot, 2005), but only a small number of studies have focused on translation. Moreover, the topics addressed in this area of research are rather few. In most cases, the translation task is used to investigate asymmetries in bilingual processing (backward vs. forward translation) and to explore possible processing routes used by bilingual participants of different proficiencies by comparing the speed of their performance in word naming, picture naming and translation.

Source: **Bordag, D & Pechmann, T.** (2008). Grammatical gender in translation. *Second Language Research*. 24,2; pp. 139-166