

Curriculum Vitae

Karen Chalmers

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<http://www.proz.com/translator/1306316>

<https://www.facebook.com/kctranslation?ref=hl>

Spanish to English translation services

- Native British English speaker.
- Providing freelance translation and proofreading services since 2010.
- Highly motivated, accurate, reliable, resourceful, and well-organised with strong problem-solving skills
- Substantial and constantly expanding knowledge base thanks to professional experience and lifelong learning.
- Good team player, skilled communicator, fast responses to enquiries.
- Proficient user of Trados Studio 2014 and Office 2010/365, new MemoQ user.

Key achievements

- 100% deadlines met.
- Collaborated with other translators and authors on the translation of the novel 'El Legado de Marie Schläu' to raise funds for Friedrich's Ataxia research.
- Over 64,000 words translated to date for Translators Without Borders.
- Many translations in publication including photo books on micro/sustainable architecture, interior design, tourism and arts and crafts.
- Co-organiser of The Coventry Language Cafe, a prize-winning non-profit organisation providing opportunities for people from many different cultures to gather and have fun while practicing languages. We also help people who have newly arrived in the city from different countries.
- 100% positive feedback on ProZ: <http://www.proz.com/wwa/1306316>

Professional Experience

- Many of the books I have translated have involved in-depth research, which has developed my research skills as well as my competence level in working with this text style.
- I frequently translate advertising materials for many types of health and beauty centres, from personal training holidays to health spas and beauty salons. These have often involved in-depth research and close collaboration with clients on both source and target texts to produce the exact style they require.
- I enjoy working with a great variety of tourist industry texts, including brochures, websites, guides and contracts, as well as funding applications. This is an area I particularly enjoy working in because it develops my geographical knowledge as well as giving me the opportunity to maintain my skills in many different types of discourse.

- Human resources documents and company press releases are also a major part of my work; we covered a lot of ground about this type of text during my university studies and I have been proofreading in this area for many years. This has built my knowledge base to a degree where I have the competence to translate texts.
- Market research is another of my favourite fields to work in, I particularly enjoyed a large-scale translation I did for a large music television company, which involved translating thousands of responses from every Spanish-speaking country imaginable. This developed my resourcefulness in particular as there were many vernaculars that I had no experience of and words that didn't even appear in internet searches.
- Translation for a large fashion company of Tweets, Facebook posts, press releases, websites, b2b communication, emails to customers, etc. with short notice and fast turnaround time.
- Volunteering for Translators Without Borders gives me many excellent opportunities to work with a great variety of texts, such as: field reports; magazine articles; hygiene kit/sanitary instalments instructions; HR documents; journals, and health and safety protocols. It also gives me the opportunity to work with different varieties of Spanish.
- General engineering translations allow me to maintain and build on the knowledge I gained whilst working for the former British Gas Research Station, where I had the good fortune to assist on projects such as LPG cars and the single-oxide fuel cell.

Relevant qualifications and courses studied

- A' Levels in French, German and Sociology, alongside a supplementary Spanish course
- University Diploma in Spanish
- University Certificate in Social Sciences
- Other University courses: linguistics, philosophy, psychology, and child development
- Literary Translation Masterclasses with Margaret Jull-Costa and Edith Grossman
- Ongoing attendance of post-graduate language seminars and lectures
- Courses on solar technology and sustainable development in Spanish and English

Languages:

1. British English – professional level
2. European Spanish – professional level
3. World Spanish – professional level
4. French – reading at professional level
5. German – reading at competent level
6. Portuguese – learning

Hobbies:

- Watching Spanish language films and television series
- Translating for Translators Without Borders and the International Digital Children's Library
- Taking my dogs to the woods
- Dining with friends
- Coventry Language Café meetings, events and fundraising for various charities
- Reading Spanish and English fiction and non-fiction
- Lifelong learning

