Leston Chandler Buell, PhD

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Freelance translator, editor, and language teacher, with extensive experience in writing for publication. Competence in several languages in addition to his **native** English. Former academic career as a theoretical linguist, specialised in syntax.

Translation and Editing:

Native speaker of English. Born and raised in Portland, Oregon, USA. Lived ten years in Egypt. Have lived in the Netherlands since 2005.

Language pairs: **Dutch**>English, **French**>English, **Spanish**>English, **Arabic**>English, **Esperanto**>English, English>**Esperanto**, **Swahili**>English (limited).

Chartered Institute of Linguists **Diploma in Translation**, Dutch to English, 2014. With distinctive "mention" for translation of two of the specialised texts.

CAT tools: Trados Studio (own licence), Wordfast.

Translation clients include Academisch Talencentrum (Leiden University), Bluebird Translations, UvA Talen (University of Amsterdam), Logrus Global, and TranslateMedia.

Cairo, Egypt, 1991–1993, Clinical Services Improvement Project, translator (Arabic and English, both directions).

Degrees and Qualifications:

DELE (Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera), **advanced level (C1) Spanish** exam 2009.

PhD, September 2005, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), in **linguistics**. Dissertation title: *Issues in the Zulu Verbal Morphosyntax*.

BA, *summa cum laude*, June 1997, UCLA. Majored in **linguistics**. Coursework included **Africa**-related humanities courses, advanced **Swahili**, and extensive coursework in **French**.

Employment:

Since 2012, owner of **Zo Te Zeggen/So To Speak**, a small business (*eenmanszaak*) based in Amsterdam, offering translation, editing services, and language instruction.

From 2008 to 2012, University of Amsterdam, **postdoctoral fellow** in the NWO project Functional Categories in Analytic Languages, research and teaching duties.

From 2005 to 2008, Leiden University, **postdoctoral fellow** in the NWO project Word Order and Morphological Marking in Bantu, research and teaching duties.

Languages:

Languages in which I have a high degree of competence: Arabic (Egyptian and Standard), Dutch, English (first language), Esperanto, French, Spanish, Swahili.

Other languages that I have studied at some depth: Chinese, Ewe, German, Italian, Japanese, Modern Hebrew, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Zulu.

Major Translation and Editing Projects:

Translation of Rens Bod's *Een wereld vol patronen* from Dutch into English as *World of Patterns: A Global History of Knowledge*, approx. 150,000 words, John Hopkins University Press, 2022.

Regular translator English>Esperanto for the user interface of a well-known commercial online software package.

Regular evaluator of Esperanto content and translations for use in improvement of automatic translation and speech recognition services for a major Internet search and content delivery company.

Copyediting of numerous books for major publishing houses, including:

- Michael Axworthy, *A History of 18th Century Iran*, Oxford University Press, 2018.
- Judith Huber (ed.), *Motion and the English Verb: A Diachronic Study*, Oxford University Press, 2018.
- Rens Bod, A New History of the Humanities, Oxford University Press, 2013.
- Hilda Koopman, Dominique Sportiche, and Edward Stabler, *An Introduction to Syntactic Analysis and Theory*, Wiley-Blackwell, 2013.

Copyediting of numerous PhD and habilitation theses, including:

- Hang Cheng, All Structures Great and Small: On Copular Sentences with shi in Mandarin, Leiden University, 2021.
- Anja Weingart, Anaphoric Dependencies in Spanish and European Portuguese: A Minimalist Analysis, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, 2020.
- Rosalinde Tialda Stadt, *The Influence of Dutch (L1) and English (L2) on Third Language Learning*, University of Amsterdam, 2019.

Co-editor, with Jenneke van der Wal and Kristina Riedel, of a special issue of *Lingua* entitled *Word Order and Movement in Bantu*, vol. 121, issue 5, 2011.

Teaching Experience:

Primary **Arabic instructor** at UvA Talen, 2014 to present. I built up the programme from zero and am responsible for setting curricula and designing exams. Regularly teach courses Arabic 1, 2, and 3; occasionally teaching higher-level courses, as well as individually tailored courses.

Created and maintain hub for learners of Arabic at drbulbul.com.

Taught private and group **advanced English courses** for Academisch Talencentrum and UvA Talen, 2012–2014.

Various undergraduate and postgraduate syntax and other **linguistics courses** at Leiden University and University of Amsterdam, 2005–2012.

Egyptian Arabic instructor, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), summers of 1998 and 2005. Standard Arabic instructor and facilitator, Northwestern University summer abroad program in Alexandria, Egypt, 1994, 1995 and 1996.

Short Selection of Publications and Writings:

Author of Bite-Size Arabic: Learn to Read and Write Arabic Using the Tiniest Bit of Vocabulary and Grammar, published in 2016. See website at BiteSizeArabic.com.

I have published extensively in the field of linguistics. The following is only a very small selection of my most important recent writings and publications:

"Subject raising in Zulu and the nature of PredP", with Merijn de Dreu, *The Linguistic Review 30* (2013), pp. 423–466.

"The Bantu languages", an overview article in the 2nd edition of *Walter de Gruyter's Handbook on International Syntactic Research*, as invited contributor.

"Class 17 as a non-locative noun class in Zulu", *Journal of African Languages and Linguistics 33* (2012), pp. 1–35.

Issues in Zulu Verbal Morphosyntax (2005), UCLA dissertation.

"Un paseo por el parque", short story in Spanish included in *Burbujas: Cuentos hacia el Reloj del Dom* (2014).

Academic Presentations:

I have given over forty presentations in English and Dutch at conferences, university colloquia, and similar events, including many times as an invited speaker including at SOAS (London), MIT (Boston) and Inalco (Paris). Topics have included syntactic, morphological, and phonological aspects of Arabic, Ewe, Swahili, Zulu, and other languages.

Advising:

I was a **thesis advisor** (*co-promotor*) for two **PhD candidates** and the advisor for one **MA candidate** 2005–2008 at Leiden University. I am currently *co-promotor* for one PhD candidate at the same university.

Computer Skills:

Word processing: extensive experience with **Microsoft Word** and **LibreOffice**.

Translation software: SDL Trados Studio, WordFast Anywhere.

Computer programming. Experience in Python, Java, JavaScript, and CGI programming, and to a lesser extent in Scheme (LISP), Basic, and Prolog. Web management, WordPress, CSS. Highly proficient in **HTML**.

Server management. Administration of **Linux** systems.