

# ISO/TR 20694:2018-04 (E)

## A typology of language registers

---

<b>Contents</b>		<b>Page</b>
	<b>Foreword</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
	<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Scope</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Normative references</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Terms and definitions</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>General principles</b> .....	<b>3</b>
4.1	Ability to vary and use language registers appropriately.....	3
4.2	Language registers and non-linguistic signals.....	3
4.3	Differences across languages.....	4
4.4	Descriptive and prescriptive registers.....	4
4.5	Text types, contexts, and linguistic characteristics.....	4
4.6	Language registers as formal to informal or high to low continua.....	4
4.7	Division into subregistries.....	5
4.8	Language registers and other language varieties.....	5
4.9	Languages used in document examples.....	6
4.10	Continuing evolution of language registers.....	6
<b>5</b>	<b>Markers of different language registers</b> .....	<b>6</b>
5.1	Lexical markers.....	6
5.1.1	General.....	6
5.1.2	Domain-specific vocabularies.....	7
5.1.3	Archaic words and phrases.....	7
5.1.4	Shortened and contracted form of words.....	7
5.1.5	Slang, swear words, profanities and taboo words.....	7
5.1.6	Use of foreign words and phrases.....	8
5.1.7	Register switch markers.....	8
5.2	Phonological markers.....	9
5.3	Grammatical features.....	9
5.3.1	General.....	9
5.3.2	Differences in morphology.....	9
5.3.3	Passive and impersonal constructions.....	9
5.3.4	Direct and active verb forms and use of specific tenses.....	10
5.3.5	Use of concise or periphrastic verb forms.....	10
5.3.6	Long/complex nominal phrases.....	10
5.3.7	Conjunctions and linking phrases.....	10
5.3.8	Sentence length.....	10
5.4	Honorifics and forms of address.....	11
5.4.1	General.....	11
5.4.2	Polite forms of address.....	11
5.4.3	Vocabulary and grammar in honorific forms of address.....	12
<b>6</b>	<b>Mapping registers between languages</b> .....	<b>12</b>
6.1	Register equivalence in different languages.....	12
6.2	Conveying language registers in translation.....	13
6.3	Inconsistencies in register.....	13
6.4	Loss of information in translation.....	13
6.5	Identifying language registers for translation memories.....	13

<b>7</b>	<b>Language registers and diglossia</b> .....	<b>14</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>15</b>
	<b>Alphabetic index of the terms and definitions</b> .....	<b>16</b>