than one language. It is axiomatic to conclude that text alignment is an obligatory first step for making use of multilingual corpora.

After selecting the appropriate text alignment method, the task gets more intricate by knowing which paragraphs or sentences correspond to their counterparts in the other language (sentence and paragraph alignment). The next problem lies in learning which word tends to be translated by which other word. Manning and Shutze (2002:469) clarify the difficulty by stating that "translators do not always translate one sentence in the input into one sentence in the output…. Human translators change and rearrange material so the output text will flow well in the TL, even when they are translating material form quite technical domains".

The example below (ibid: 469) shows extracts from a document in English and its French version. The middle and right columns show the French and English versions with arrows connecting parts that can be viewed as translations of each other. The italicized text in the left-handed column is a literal translation of the French text. The two sentences show a variation in word order and content. Moreover, large pieces of content can disappear. For example, the final English words *achieved above-average growth rates*. These words were implied in the French version.