WEEK 12 ASSIGNMENT

Write a 1-2 page structured paper in response to your readings. The paper must focus on a single question; you may choose from the list below, but you are encouraged to formulate your own question. Your paper must follow the format explained in the Homework section of the site.

Tentative questions for your reading response:

1. Discuss the impact of machine translation on basic linguistics, both in terms of new theoretical models and the changing practice of linguistic studies. What are the positive and the negative aspects of this impact? Are there any parallels with other fields of science?

2. Suppose you are advising the National Science Foundation on whether to fund machine translation studies as a way to advance basic science. Discuss pros and cons and give your verdict.

3. Has machine translation been a success in practical terms? Why?

4. Suppose you are advising the Department of Homeland Security on whether to fund a machine translation project to help anti-terrorism efforts. Discuss pros and cons and give your verdict.