

## Translating abbreviations and acronyms

One of the most frequent problems that translators have to deal with is the translation of abbreviations or acronyms. Note that an abbreviation is the formation of a word from the first letter of each of the words that are part of it. Acronyms, however, are abbreviations that are pronounced as a word.

### Latin Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Full Form	Meaning	Use
<b>A.D</b>	Anno Domini	In the year of our lord	Used to show years after the birth of Jesus Christ - <b>1600 A.D</b>
<b>a.m</b>	Ante Meridian	Before midday	Used for the hours after midnight and before noon - <b>10a.m, 2a.m</b>
<b>c. / ca.</b>	Circa	Approximately	Used for years/months when not sure of exact date - <b>ca. 1500</b>
<b>C.V</b>	Curriculum Vitae	Course of Life	A document summarizing a person's education and experience.
<b>e.g.</b>	Exempli gratia	For example	To give an example or instance of something - different cities, <b>e.g.</b> New York, Delhi, Beijing etc.
<b>Et al.</b>	Et Alii	And others	Used to show that there are more names that are unmentioned on a list - Tom, Jane, Jack <b>et al.</b>
<b>Etc.</b>	Et cetera	And other things	Used to signify similar things that are unmentioned on a list - milk, cheese, yoghurt <b>etc.</b>
<b>i.e.</b>	Id est	In other words / That is	Used in sentences to rephrase or show a connection between clauses - Jack, <b>i.e.</b> the most popular senior, likes Beth.
<b>p.a</b>	Per Annum	Through the year	Used to show something in the manner of 'yearly' - He earns 2 million dollars <b>p.a.</b>
<b>p.m</b>	Post meridian	After midday	Used to show the hours after midday and before midnight - <b>10p.m, 2p.m</b>
<b>P.S</b>	Post Scriptum	Something written after the main text was finished.	Used mainly in letters to add something extra after the signoff - Yours Shirley,  <b>P.S</b> - I'll be in Canada for 2 weeks.