Introduction
Translation is the process of transferring written text from one language into another, and anything and everything needs translating. Working as a professional translator is challenging and requires a special combination of skills and experience but in return it offers opportunities for uniquely interesting experiences and can be hugely rewarding.

Interpreting is the transfer of one spoken or signed languages to another. Working as a professional Interpreter is challenging and requires a special combination of skills and experience but in return it offers opportunities for uniquely interesting experiences and can be hugely rewarding.

This career path opens up global job opportunities and continues to be in demand, especially as public services in the UK increasingly see the use of community languages as an equality and diversity issue.

Key Resources
Institute of Translation & Interpreting
www.itl.org.uk/about-industry/advice-newcomers
An independent professional association for practising translators and interpreters in the UK which offers guidance to those entering the profession and advice to those who offer language services. The website has sections on:

- Careers in Translation - which includes entry requirements and qualities needed for the role, has a description of the different types of interpreting and some tips for making applications.
- Careers in Interpretation - gives advice on how to make it in this competitive field.
- Directory of Members - Lists qualified providers of language services.

The Institute also offers students membership at £48, which is a significant reduction on their standard price, and allows you the opportunity to attend careers and networking events.

Lingo24
www.lingo24.com
Lingo24 are a company offering translation services. Their Translation Industry Career Guide includes information about what makes a good translator, the qualifications required, the best approach to get into the industry and case studies from those working in the field. (Please note, to go between pages, click on the hyperlink in the bottom right hand corner, below the text. It’s not immediately clear that you need to do this!)

Translation
Association of Translation Companies
www.atan.org.uk
Professional group representing the interests of translation companies in the world and the needs of translation purchasers. Their website includes some vacancies, information about translation courses (at both undergraduate and postgraduate level) and contact details for numerous agencies and employers.

British Centre for Literary Translation
www.belt.org.uk
Organisation promoting literary translation. Site features publications, an e-newsletter and events listings. BCLT also organise a summer school in Norwich, which is hosted by the University of East Anglia.

National Network for Translation
www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/translation
Part of Routes into Languages, a government funded initiative that funds 14 different projects to promote languages. There are a number of different information sources under the “resources” tab.

Interpreting
Signature: Excellence in Communication with Deaf People
www.signature.org.uk/learn
Signature is a registered charity whose aim is to improve communication between deaf and non-deaf people. It offers a range of qualifications in sign language and other forms of communication with deaf people, which may help your job search.

International Association of Conference Interpreters
www.aiic.net/interpreting=explained
The AIIC represents professional conference interpreters worldwide. Their website contains information about the profession, what a working day consists of, and the difference between the main types of employment as an interpreter – freelance, consultant and staff.

Directorate General for Interpretation.
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation/index_en.htm
European Commission’s interpreting service. Contains information on becoming an interpreter, which is particularly useful if you’re interested in working in the European Union.

Other resources
Aquarius Directory of Translators and Interpreters
www.aquarius.net
Online “marketplace” for translation professionals, which aims to bring suppliers and buyers of translation services together.
King’s CareerConnect
www.kcl.ac.uk/careerconnect

King’s CareerConnect is our exclusive online career portal enabling students and recent alumni to engage with our services. Once logged in, you can access our vacancy board and search hundreds of part-time roles, placements, internships and graduate-level opportunities, book one-to-one careers or application guidance appointments, apply for exclusive King’s Internships and view our full events calendar to book attendance at our many events throughout the year.

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With thanks Languages Work for the information contained in the Introduction section

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