Revision of a Non-Specialised Translation: List of Error Categories for Candidates (English into Arabic)

The translation includes errors at word, phrase or sentence level across the following categories:

Error Category	Examples of Errors
1. Distortion : An element of meaning in the source text is altered in the target text. A distortion can occur in an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.	a) Language source text: This week the government announced that all public servants would get a pay rise. Correct version: أعلنت الحكومة هذا الأسبوع أن جميع الموظفين الحكوميين سيحصلون على زيادة في الأجور هذا الأسبوع. (Moving the phrase this week changes the time reference from the announcement to the pay rise, thereby altering the meaning of the target text.)
	b) Language source text: The witness described the thief as a young man with blond hair. وصف الشاهد السارق بأنه شاب أسود الشعر. Incorrect version: وصف الشاهد السارق بأنه شاب أسود الشعر. (Incorrect translation of the adjective, thereby altering the meaning of the target text.)
2. Unjustified omission: An element of meaning in the source text is not transferred into the target text. An unjustified omission can occur with an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.	Language source text: The largest increases in soil carbon level are obtained in the first 6-8 years after changes in land management, and after 35 years the rate of change drops to zero.

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Unjustified insertion : An element of meaning that does not exist in the source text is added to the target text.
An unjustified insertion can occur with an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.

Language source text: ...this would guarantee that people leaving the workforce in their mid-60s enjoyed a financially secure retirement.

Correct version: ... ستضمن تمتّع الأشخاص الذين يتركون صفوف القوى العاملة في منتصف الستينيات من عمر هم بفترة تقاعد مستقرّة ماليًا. المحامدة المتوافقة المتوافقة الأشخاص الذين يتركون صفوف القوى العاملة في منتصف الستينيات من عمر هم بفترة تقاعد مستقرّة ماليًا تنقّى من حياتهم بصر ف النظر عن المدة التي يعيشونها.

(The underlined words were not found in the original text, nor were they implied, and inserting them has a major impact on the transfer of meaning.)

- 4. Inappropriate register: An expression or variety of language considered by a native speaker to be inappropriate to the specific context in which it is used.
- **a)** Language source text: The judge ordered that evidence be given by two witnesses who were not called at the beginning of the trial.

Correct version: أمر القاضي بسماع شهادة شاهدين لم يتم استدعاؤهما في أول المحاكمة. Incorrect version: طلب القاضي سماع شهادة شاهدين لم يتم استدعاؤهما في أول المحاكمة

(In the legal register, the judge orders rather than requests.)

b) Language source text: The Chairman expressed his extreme displeasure.

Correct version: أعرب رئيس مجلس الإدارة عن امتعاضه الشديد.

Incorrect version: قال رئيس مجلس الإدارة إنه متضايق جدًا

(The phrase said he was very annoyed conveys the correct meaning but is too informal in this context.)

- 5. Unidiomatic expression: An expression sounding unnatural or awkward to a native speaker irrespective of the context in which the expression is used, but the intended meaning can be
- a) Language source text: Smog is a big problem in many cities.

Correct version: إن الضباب الدخاني مشكلة كبيرة في مدن كثيرة. Incorrect version: الضباب الدخاني مشكلة بليغة في مدن كثيرة.

(In this context, the word big is more commonly used, although large can still be understood.)

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understood.	b) Language source text: These issues cannot be swept under the carpet.
	Correct version: لا يمكن التغاضي عن هذه المسائل.
	Incorrect version: لا يمكن كنس هذه المسائل تحت السجادة.
	(Only ARA/ENG bilingual people can probably understand the incorrect version, but it is idiomatically incorrect. It is literally translated.)
	a) Language source text: The symptoms include incontinence. : Correct version
	Incorrect version: تشمل الأعراض <u>سلاسة</u> البول.
	(Incorrect word form, i.e. use of adjective instead of noun.)
6. Error of grammar, syntax: Error in structuring words, clauses and phrases of a language. E.g. incorrect word type/form; incorrect verb tense/form; agreement error between subject- verb, noun- pronoun, adjective- noun, etc.	b) Language source text: <i>last month he brought me</i> د جلب لي في الشهر الماضي
	Incorrect version: يجلب لي في الشهر الماضي (Incorrect verb tense, i.e. present tense instead of past tense.)
	c) Language source text: Three men will attend the meeting. Correct version: سيحضر الاجتماع ثلاثة رجال.
	Incorrect version: سيحضر الاجتماع <u>ثلاث</u> رجال. (Agreement error between gender and number.)

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	d) Language source text: He bought the device but forgot it at the store. اشترى الجهاز لكنه نسيّه في المتجر. Incorrect version: اشترى الجهاز لكنه نسيّها في المتجر. (Incorrect pronoun to refer to device.)
	e) Language source text: He asked if he could go overseas until his next hearing date. Correct version: سأل ما إذا كان باستطاعته السفر إلى الخارج باستطاعته إلى حين موعد جلسة محاكمته القادمة. Incorrect version: سأل ما إذا كان السفر إلى الخارج باستطاعته إلى حين موعد جلسة محاكمته القادمة.
7. Error of spelling: Error in forming words with letters or characters. E.g. misspelling of a word/character, incorrect capitalisation.	Language source text: You can send your claim via email. د يمكنك إرسال طلب تعويظك بالبريد الإلكتروني. Incorrect version: يمكنك إرسال طلب تعويظك بالبريد الإلكتروني. (Spelling, although it could be a typographical error.)
8. Error of punctuation: Error in use of marks that separate sentences and their elements, and clarify meaning. E.g. incorrect comma, full-stop, apostrophe, inverted commas, etc.	Language source text: The government will change its policy on the taxation of trust funds. Correct version: ستغيّر الحكومة سياستها بشأن الضرائب المفروضة على صناديق الائتمان. Incorrect version: ستغيّر الحكومة سياستها، بشأن الضرائب المفروضة على صناديق الائتمان. (Incorrect comma usage, i.e. the comma unnecessarily separates two parts of the sentence.)