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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Error Category</th>
<th>Examples of Errors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **1. Distortion**       | a) *Source language text:* This week the government announced that all public servants would get a pay rise.  
  මිරී බොහෝ පළාතේ මෙමන්නවූ මුහුණත්වය සම්මත භාෂාවේ පුවත කරන කළ මෙමන්නවූ මුහුණත්වය සම්මත භාෂාවන්න සිටී.  
  *Correct version:*  
  මෙය මෙය පොළවා මෙමන්නවූ මුහුණත්වය සම්මත භාෂාවන්න සිටී.  
  *Incorrect version:*  
  (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) *Source language text:* The witness described the thief as a young man with black hair.  
  ආයිත්තව මෙමන්නවූ මුහුණත්වය සම්මත භාෂාවන්න සිටී.  
  *Correct version:*  
  ආයිත්තව මෙමන්නවූ මුහුණත්වය සම්මත භාෂාවන්න සිටී.  
  *Incorrect version:*  
  (Incorrect translation of the adjective, thereby altering the meaning of the target text.) |
| **2. Unjustified omission** | Source language text: The largest increases in soil carbon levels are obtained in the first 6–8 years after changes in land management, and after 35 years the rate of change drops to zero.  
  මෙමන්න මෙමන්නවූ මුහුණත්වය සම්මත භාෂාවන්න සිටී.  
  *Correct version:*  
  මෙමන්න මෙමන්නවූ මුහුණත්වය සම්මත භාෂාවන්න සිටී.  
  *Incorrect version:*  
  (Omission of the underlined clause results in a major loss of meaning in the context of the whole sentence.) |
### 3. Unjustified insertion: An element of meaning that does not exist in the source text is added to the target text.

**Source language text:** would guarantee that people leaving the workforce in their mid-60s enjoyed a financially secure retirement.

**Incorrect version:**

would guarantee that people leaving the workforce in their mid-60s enjoyed a financially secure retirement.

**Correct version:**

would guarantee that people leaving the workforce in their mid-60s enjoyed a financially secure retirement. 

(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) Source language text:** In a recent judgement, the Criminal Court handed down a three-month suspended sentence.

**Incorrect version:**

In a recent judgement, the Criminal Court handed down a three-month suspended sentence.

**Correct version:**

In a recent judgement, the Criminal Court handed down a three-month suspended sentence. 

(In the legal register, the wording usually used is that a court hands down rather than gives out a sentence.)

**b) Source language text:** [in minutes of board meeting] The Chairman expressed his extreme displeasure.

**Incorrect version:**

The Chairman said he was really annoyed.

**Correct version:**

The Chairman expressed his extreme displeasure.

(The phrase said he was really 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 understood.

**Language source text:** Smog is a big problem in many cities.

**Incorrect version:**

Smog is a large problem in many cities.

**Correct version:**

Smog is a big problem in many cities. 

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

| a) Source language text: `last month he brought me` ...  
Incorrect version: `last month he brings me` ... |
|---|
| මැට ඔහු මා යේ ඔහු මා යේ මා යේ. Correct version  
(Incorrect verb tense, i.e. present tense instead of past tense) |

| b) Source language text: `Apple orchards are quite common in Australia.`  
Correct version |
|---|
| ඔපළ බහුලයෙන් පිරිවී එකුතු. Correct version  
(Incorrect verb tense, i.e. use of singular verb form instead of plural) |

| c) Source language text: `he picked up a chair and put it on the table`  
Correct version |
|---|
| ඔහු පුටුවකු පුටුවකු අතාරමු. Correct version  
(Incorrect pronoun to refer to chair.) |

| d) Source language text: `they have provided the information`  
Correct version |
|---|
| ඔවුන් පිරිවී ඔවුන් පිරිවී එකුතු. Correct version  
(Incorrect sentence structure) |
| 7. **Error of spelling:** Error in forming words with letters or characters. E.g. misspelling of a word/character, incorrect capitalisation. | **Source language text:** That application will have to be submitted to the *Immigration Department*.  
ඇම ඉල්ලුේ පත්‍ර සඳහා උපකාරයට කෘති පැළිය. Correct version  
එම ඉල්ලුේ පත්‍ර සඳහා උපකාරයට කෘති පැළිය. Incorrect version  
(Spelling 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. | **Source language text:** Allen inspected the house with his wife.  
දෙලන් ඇම්ජයේ රත්න අග්නි ශ්‍රී විශේෂ හැඳින්වීම. Correct version  
ඉලන්, ඇම්ජය රත්න අග්නි ශ්‍රී විශේෂ හැඳින්වීම. Incorrect version  
(Incorrect comma usage, i.e. the comma incorrectly separates the subject from its verb.) |