



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

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

Error Category	Examples of Errors
<p>1. Distortion: An element of meaning in the source text is altered in the target text.</p> <p>A distortion can occur in an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.</p>	<p>a) Source language text: <i>This week the government announced that all public servants would get a pay rise.</i> <i>Correct version:</i> <i>Ovog tjedna je vlada izjavila da će svi državni službenici dobiti povišicu.</i> <i>Incorrect version:</i> <i>Vlada je izjavila da će svi državni službenici dobiti povišicu ovog tjedna.</i> (Moving the phrase <i>ovog tjedna</i> changes the time reference from the announcement to the pay rise, thereby altering the meaning of the target text.)</p>
	<p>b) Source language text: <i>The witness described the thief as a young man with <u>black</u> hair.</i> <i>Correct version:</i> <i>Svjedok je opisao lopova kao mladića sa <u>crnom</u> kosom.</i> <i>Incorrect version:</i> <i>Svjedok je opisao lopova kao mladića s <u>plavom</u> kosom.</i> (Incorrect translation of the adjective, thereby altering the meaning of the target text.)</p>
<p>2. Unjustified omission: An element of meaning in the source text is not transferred into the target text.</p> <p>An unjustified omission can occur with an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.</p>	<p>Source language text: The largest increases in soil carbon levels are obtained in the first 6–8 years after changes in land management, <u>and after 35 years the rate of change drops to zero.</u></p> <p><i>Correct version:</i> <i>Najveći porasti nivoa ugljika u tlu se postižu u prvih 6-8 godina nakon promjena u gospodarenju zemljišta, a nakon 35 godina stopa promjene pada na nulu.</i></p> <p><i>Incorrect version:</i> <i>Najveći porasti nivoa ugljika u tlu se postižu u prvih 6-8 godina nakon promjena u gospodarenju zemljišta.</i> (Omission of the underlined clause results in a major loss of meaning in the context of the whole sentence.)</p>



<p>3. Unjustified insertion: An element of meaning that does not exist in the source text is added to the target text.</p> <p>An unjustified insertion can occur with an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.</p>	<p>Source language text: <i>This would guarantee that people leaving the workforce in their mid-60s enjoyed a financially secure retirement.</i></p> <p>Correct version: <i>Ovo bi zajamčilo da će ljudi koji napuštaju radni odnos u svojim srednjim 60-im, uživati finansijski sigurno umirovljenje.</i></p> <p>Incorrect version: <i>Ovo bi zajamčilo da će ljudi koji napuštaju radni odnos u svojim srednjim 60-im, uživati finansijski sigurno umirovljenje i to za ostatak života, bez obzira koliko dugo bi živjeli.</i></p> <p>(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.)</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>a) Source language text: <i>In a recent judgement, the Criminal Court <u>handed down</u> a three-month suspended sentence.</i></p> <p>Correct version: <i>U nedavnoj odluci, Kazneni sud <u>je izrekao</u> uvjetnu kaznu od tri mjeseca.</i></p> <p>Incorrect version: <i>U nedavnoj odluci, Kazneni sud <u>je izdao</u> uvjetnu kaznu od tri mjeseca.</i></p> <p>(In the legal register, the wording usually used is that a court <i>izriče</i> rather than <i>izdaje</i> a sentence.)</p> <p>b) Source language text: [in minutes of board meeting] <i>The Chairman expressed his <u>extreme displeasure</u>.</i></p> <p>Correct version: [u zapisniku upravne sjednice] <i>Predsjedatelj je izrazio svoje <u>veliko nezadovoljstvo</u>.</i></p> <p>Incorrect version: [u zapisniku upravne sjednice] <i>Predsjedatelj je rekao <u>da se jako ljuti</u>.</i></p> <p>(The phrase <i>da se jako ljuti</i> conveys the correct meaning but is too informal in this context.)</p>



<p>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.</p>	<p>a) Source language text: <i>Smog is a <u>big</u> problem in many cities.</i> <i>Correct version:</i> <i>Smog je <u>velik</u> problem u mnogim gradovima.</i> <i>Incorrect version:</i> <i>Smog je <u>golem</u> problem u mnogim gradovima.</i> (In this context, the word <i>velik</i> is more commonly used, but <i>golem</i> can still be understood.)</p> <p>b) Source language text: <i>Correct version: Subjected <u>to</u> intense criticism</i> <i>Correct version:</i> <i>Biti izložen <u>intenzivnoj</u> kritici.</i> <i>Incorrect version:</i> <i>Biti izložen <u>k</u> intenzivnoj kritici.</i> (The verb <i>biti izložen</i> is normally collocated without a preposition, but the meaning can be understood.)</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>a) Source language text: <i>The symptoms include <u>dizziness</u>.</i> <i>Correct version:</i> <i>Među simptomima je <u>vrtočlavica</u>.</i> <i>Incorrect version:</i> <i>Među simptomima je <u>vrtočlavo</u>.</i> (Incorrect word form, i.e. use of adjective instead of noun)</p> <p>b) Source language text: <i>Last month he <u>brought</u> me ...</i> <i>Correct version:</i> <i>Prošlog mjeseca mi je <u>donio</u> ...</i> <i>Incorrect version:</i> <i>Prošlog mjeseca mi <u>donosi</u> ...</i> (Incorrect verb tense, i.e. present tense instead of past tense)</p> <p>c) Source language text: <i>Strokes <u>are</u> quite common</i> <i>Correct version:</i> <i>Moždani udari <u>su</u> prilično učestali</i> <i>Incorrect version:</i> <i>Moždani udari <u>je</u> prilično učestali</i> (Agreement error between noun and verb, i.e. use of singular verb form instead of plural)</p>



	<p>d) Source language text: <i>He picked up a chair and put <u>it</u> on the table</i> <i>Correct version: Podigao je stolicu i stavio <u>ju</u> je na stol.</i> <i>Incorrect version: Podigao je stolicu i stavio <u>ga</u> je na stol.</i> (Incorrect gender of pronoun to refer to <i>stolica</i>.)</p> <p>e) Source language text: <i>They <u>have provided</u> the information</i> <i>Correct version: Oni <u>su dostavili</u> informaciju.</i> <i>Incorrect version: Oni <u>imaju</u> informaciju <u>dostavljeno</u>.</i> (Separation of the first verb from the participle results in a sentence that has a distorted meaning.)</p>
<p>7. Error of spelling: Error in forming words with letters or characters. E.g. misspelling of a word/character, incorrect capitalisation.</p>	<p>Source language text: <i>That case will have to be tried in the <u>Supreme</u> Court.</i> <i>Correct version: Sudski postupak će se morati voditi na <u>Vrhovnom</u> sudu.</i> <i>Incorrect version: Sudski postupak će se morati voditi na <u>vrhovnom</u> sudu.</i> (Capitalisation error, i.e. as <i>Vrhovni</i> is part of the name of the court, it should have a capital letter.)</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Source language text: <i>The government will change its policy on the taxation of trusts.</i> <i>Correct version: <u>Vlada</u> će promjeniti svoju politiku u svezi oporezivanja zaklada.</i> <i>Incorrect version: <u>Vlada</u>, će promjeniti svoju politiku u svezi oporezivanja zaklada.</i> (Incorrect comma usage, i.e. the comma incorrectly separates the subject from its verb.)</p>