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

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) **Source language text:** <u>This week</u> the government announced that all public servants would get a pay rise. **Correct version:** ´I <u>he uikeni</u> na'e tala he pule´anga, ko e kau ngaue fakapule´anga kotoa 'e hiki 'enau vāhenga **Incorrect version:** Na'e tala he pule´anga ko e kau ngaue fakapule´anga kotoa 'e hiki ´enau vāhenga <u>he uikeni</u>. (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 <u>blond</u> hair. **Correct version:** Na'e fakamatala'i 'e he tokotaha fakamo'oni 'a e tokotaha kaiha'a ko e ki'i talavou 'oku <u>lanu kelokelo</u> hono 'ulu. **Incorrect version:** ko e fakamatala ´a e tokotaha fakamo´oni na'e <u>lanu ´ulu´uli</u> ´a e la´i ´ulu ´a e kaiha´a. (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.	**Source language text:** The largest increases in soil carbon levels are obtained in the first 6–8 years after changes in land management, and <u>after 35 years the rate of change drops to zero</u>. **Correct version:** Ko e tupu lahi taha 'i he levolo 'o e kaponi 'oku 'i he kelekele 'oku ma'u ia 'i he 'uluaki ta'u 'e 6-8 'o e pule'i 'o e kelekele pea <u>hili 'a e ta'u 'e 35 ko e vave 'o e liliu 'oku tō ki he noa</u>. **Incorrect version:** Ko e tupu lahitaha 'i he levolo 'o e kaponi 'oku 'i he kelekele 'oku ma'u ia 'i he 'uluaki ta'u 'e 6-9 'o e pule'i 'o e kelekele. (Omission of the underlined clause results in a major loss of meaning in the context of the whole sentence.)

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3. 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.	**Source language text:** *would guarantee that people leaving the workforce in their mid-60s enjoyed a financially secure retirement* **Correct version:** na´e fakapapau´i ko e kakai ´oku nau toki malolo mei he ngaue´anga ´I he konga ki loto 'o e ta´u onongofulu tupu te nau ma´u ha fiemalie fakapa´anga ´I he taimi ´o ´enau malolo. **Incorrect version:** Na´e fakapapau´i ko e kakai ´oku nau toki malolo mei he ngaue´anga ´I he konga ki loto 'o e ta´u onongofulu tupu te nau ma´u ha fiemalie fakapa´anga ´I he taimi ´o ´enau malolo, <u>´o pehe ai pe ki he toenga ´o ´ene moui, neongo pe ko e ha ´a e fuoloa ´o ´ene moui</u>. (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 <u>handed down</u> a three-month suspended sentence.* **Correct version:** ´I he fai tu´utu´uni ki mui ni, na´e <u>tuku mai</u> 'e he fakamaau'anga 'o e kau maumau lao 'a e tautea mahina 'e tolu kae toloi. **Incorrect version:** ´I he fai tu´utu´uni ki mui ni, na´e <u>´omi</u> 'e he fakamaāu´anga, ka toe maumaulao 'a e fai hia ´I loto he mahina 'e tolu 'e toki hilifaki ´a e tautea ´i he taimi ko ia. (In the legal register, the wording usually used is that a court tuku mai rather than 'omi a sentence.) **b) Source language text:** *[in minutes of board meeting] The Chairman expressed his <u>extreme displeasure</u>.* **Correct version:** *[´I he miniti na´e hiki mei he fakataha poate]* na´e fakaha he seā ´a ´ene <u>loto ta'efiemalie 'aupito</u>. **Incorrect version:** Na´e lea 'a e seā 'o pehe, ´oku ne <u>loto ´ikai sai aupito.</u> (The phrase loto ta'efiemālie 'aupito conveys the correct meaning but is too informal in this context.)

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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.	**a) Source language text:** *Smog is a big problem in many cities.* **Correct version:** Ko e kakapu ko e palopalema lahi ki he ngaahi kolo lahi (pe ko e loto kolo). **Incorrect version:** Ko e kakapu ko e palopalema fu'u lahi ki he ngaahi kolo lahi (pe ko e loto kolo). (In this context, the word lahi is more commonly used, but fu'u lahi can still be understood.)
	b) Source language text: *subjected to intense criticism* **Correct version:** na'e fai hono fakaanga'i lahi **Incorrect version:** na´e fu'u lahi 'a hono fakaānga'i ia (The verb fai is normally collocated with the preposition hono, but the meaning can 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:** *the symptoms include dizziness* **Correct version:** ko e taha 'o e ngaahi faka´ilonga ko e ongo'i ninimo. **Incorrect version:** ko e taha 'o e ngaahi faka´ilonga ko e fie vilivilo. (Incorrect word form, i.e. use of adjective instead of noun)
	b) Source language text: *last month he brought me...* **Correct version:** he mahina kuo ´osi na´a ne 'omi ma´aku… **Incorrect version:** he mahina kuo ´osi na´a ne fakatau ia ma´aku… (Incorrect verb tense, i.e. present tense instead of past tense)

Error Category	Examples of Errors
6. Error of grammar, syntax (continued): 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.	**c) Source language text:** <u>strokes are</u> quite common **Correct version:** Ko e <u>pākalava</u> ´oku fa´a hoko. **Incorrect version:** ko e <u>pakalava</u> ko e meā noaia. (Agreement error between noun and verb, i.e. use of singular verb form instead of plural)
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 case will have to be tried in the <u>Supreme</u> <u>Court</u>.* **Correct version:** ko e keisi ko ´ena 'e pau ke ´ave ia ke hopo´i he <u>Fakamaāu´anga lahi</u>. **Incorrect version:** ko e keisi ko ´ena 'e pau ke ´ave ia ke hopo´i he Fakamaāuanga <u>mahuinga</u>. (Capitalisation error, i.e. as Supreme is part of the name of the court, it should have a capital letter.)
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:** <u>The government</u> *will change its policy on the taxation of trusts.* **Correct version:** 'E hanga he pule'anga 'o liliu ´a e tu´utu´uni fekau´aki pea mo e tukuhaū ki he pa´anga 'oku tauhi ma ha taha pe ha ni´ihi. **Incorrect version:** 'E hanga he puleanga<u>,</u> 'o liliu 'a e tu´utu´uni fekau´aki pea mo e tukuhaū, ki he pa´anga 'oku tauhi ma ha taha pe ha ni´ihi. (Incorrect comma usage, i.e. the comma incorrectly separates the subject from its verb.)