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عنوان
Title

Fundamentals of Translation and Its Techniques

أساسيات الترجمة وتقنياتها



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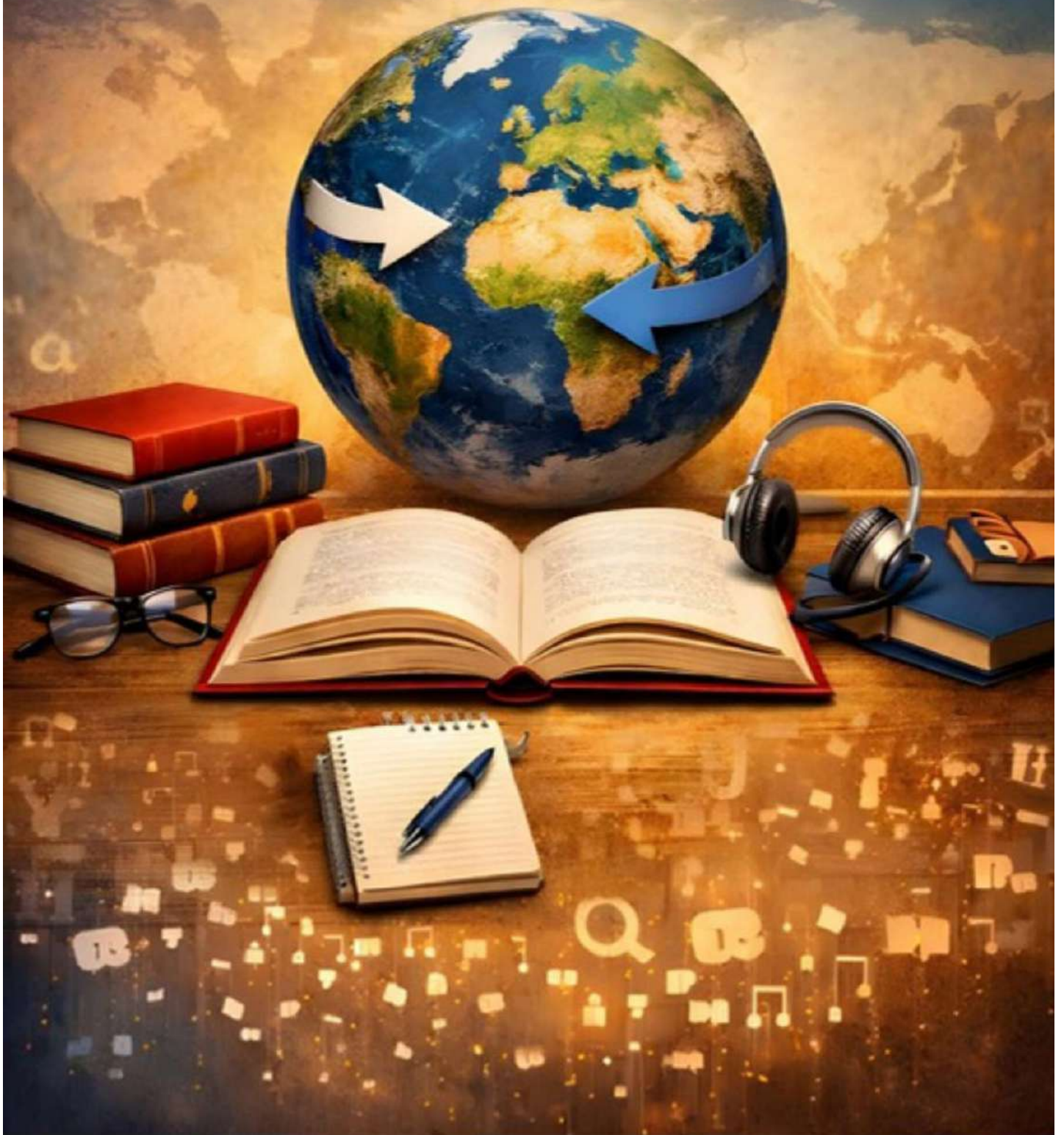
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تعاون أكاديمي
ACADEMIC
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Fundamentals of Translation

— and Its Techniques —

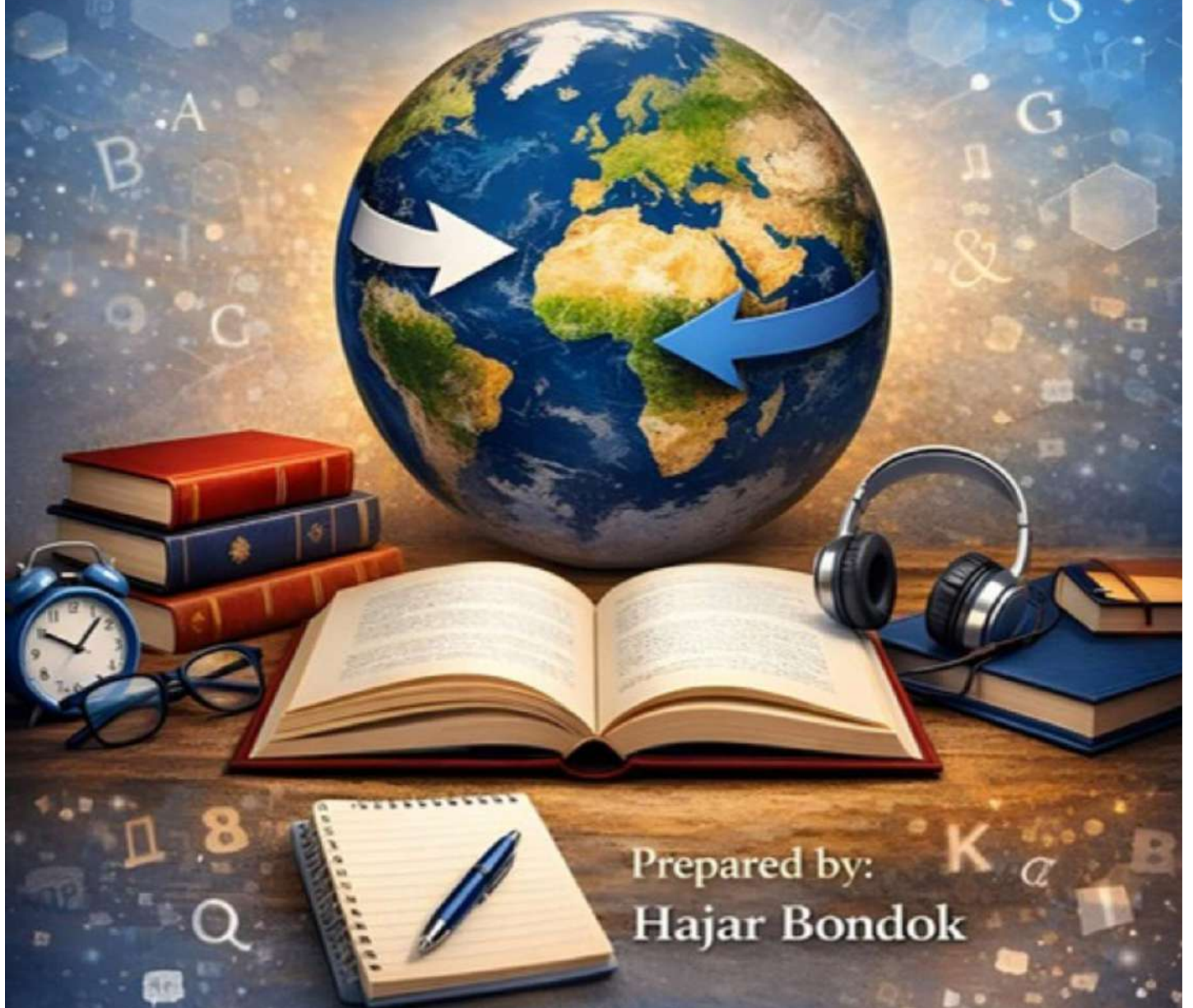




الجامعة الإسلامية في مينيسوتا
Islamic University of Minnesota

Fundamentals of Translation

— and Its Techniques —



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2026

إهداء

إلى أمي الحبيبة

أكتب اسمك في أول صفحات هذا العمل؛ لأنك أول حكاية في حياتي،
وأجمل نجاح أعتر به وأفخر.

إليك يا أمي، يا من حببت إليّ مادة اللغة الإنجليزية، وكنت - بعد الله -
سبباً في تعلقي بها؛ إذ كان تخصصك الذي برعت فيه، وكنت أرى في
حديثك عنها أنها ليست مجرد لغة جديدة يكتسبها المرء فتتسع بها
معارفه، بل هي أداة رسالة ونبل، وجسر تواصل وهداية. فقد سخرتها
بحكمة في الدعوة إلى الله تعالى، والتواصل مع غير الناطقين بالعربية،
فكنت خير سفيرة لدينك وقيمك.

فأسأل الله العلي القدير أن يجزيك عني خير الجزاء، وأن يجعل كل حرف
علمتنيه في ميزان حسناتك، وأن يبارك في عمرك، ويحفظك بما يحفظ
به عباده الصالحين.

اللهم اجعل هذا العمل برّاً بها، وتقبله مني ومنها يارب العالمين.

وإلى أبي الحبيب

قدوتي ومثلي الأعلى في الحياة،

الذي كان دعاؤه يسبق خطاي دائماً.

أسأل الله أن يديم عليّ ظله، وأن يجزيه عني خير الجزاء،

وأن يجعل هذا العمل ثمرة من ثمار تربيته،

ومما تقر به عينه ويفخر به





Introduction

The Importance of Translation

- ❖ Translation is an essential field that plays a vital role in effective communication by connecting people from different languages and cultures. In an increasingly globalized world, translation acts as a bridge that overcomes linguistic barriers and enables individuals, institutions, and societies to understand one another clearly and accurately.
 - ❖ Translation is not merely the process of converting words from one language into another; rather, it involves the **transfer** of meaning, ideas, and cultural context. Through translation, knowledge, literature, scientific research, and technological advancements can be shared across borders, allowing people worldwide to benefit from human intellectual achievements.
 - ❖ One of the most important functions of translation is facilitating **cross-cultural communication**. It allows values, traditions, and perspectives to be exchanged between cultures, promoting mutual understanding, respect, and peaceful coexistence among nations.
 - ❖ Translation also plays a crucial role in **education and knowledge dissemination**. Since academic and scientific materials are produced in various languages, translation ensures that this knowledge becomes accessible to a wider audience, supporting learning, innovation, and intellectual development on a global scale.
 - ❖ Therefore; studying translation helps students **develop** strong linguistic abilities, cultural awareness, and critical thinking skills. Translation is considered a fundamental tool for global communication and mutual understanding between societies.
- 



Fundamental Translation and Its Techniques

Translation Methods and Practice

Arabic to English Translation

Translation Steps

1. Read the whole sentence and understand its overall meaning

Before translating, read the entire sentence carefully to understand the main idea and context.

2. Identify the subject, verb, and object

Determine the grammatical elements of the sentence to ensure correct sentence structure in the target language.

3. Identify the tense

Recognize whether the sentence is in the past, present, or future tense.

4. Translate the meaning, not word by word

Focus on conveying the intended meaning rather than translating each word literally.

5. Check grammar

Review the translation to make sure it follows correct grammatical rules and sounds natural in English.



Fundamental Translation and Its Techniques

Translation from Arabic to English Examples with Tenses and Grammar Rules

1. أنا أحب القراءة.

I like reading.

Tense: Present Simple

Rule:

The present simple is used for habits, likes, and general facts.

The verb like is followed by a gerund (verb + -ing).

2. يذهب الطالب إلى الجامعة كل يوم.

The student goes to the university every day.

Tense: Present Simple

Rule:

The present simple is used for daily routines.

With third person singular, we add -s to the verb (goes).

3. كانت السماء صافية أمس.

The sky was clear yesterday.

Tense: Past Simple

Rule:

The past simple is used for actions or states completed in the past.

The verb to be in the past takes was / were.

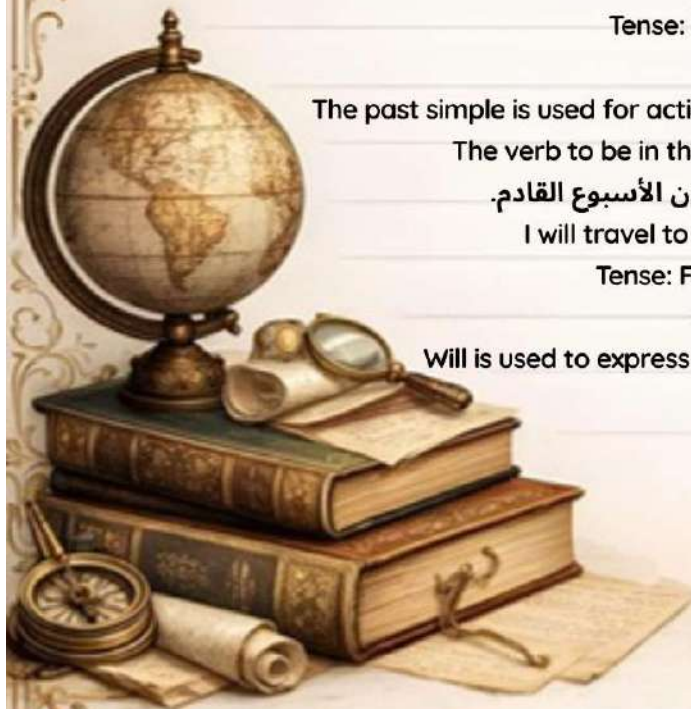
4. سوف أسافر إلى لندن الأسبوع القادم.

I will travel to London next week.

Tense: Future Simple

Rule:

Will is used to express future plans or intentions.





Fundamental Translation and Its Techniques

5. يعمل المعلم بجد من أجل طلابه.

The teacher works hard for his students.

Tense: Present Simple

Rule:

The present simple is used for facts and habitual actions.

Adverbs like hard usually come after the verb.

6. اللغة الإنجليزية مهمة في العالم الحديث.

The English language is important in the modern world.

Tense: Present Simple

Rule:

The present simple with to be is used to express general facts.

7. قرأتُ هذا الكتاب مرتين.

I read this book twice.

Tense: Past Simple

Rule:

The past simple is used for completed actions.

Time expressions like twice indicate completed frequency.

8. يحب الأطفال اللعب في الحديقة.

Children like to play in the park.

Tense: Present Simple

Rule:

Like can be followed by to + verb or verb + -ing with no change



Fundamental Translation and Its Techniques

English to Arabic Translation

You can follow the same steps, while paying special attention to:

- Arabic sentence structure
- Correct verb conjugation
- Gender and number agreement

Translation Steps

1. Read the sentence carefully
2. Understand the main idea
3. Rewrite it in correct Arabic style
4. Change word order if needed

Note

Good translation depends on understanding, grammar, and correct style, not literal translation.

Common Mistakes

- Literal Translation
- Ignoring the tense
- Wrong word order
- Forgetting auxiliary verbs



Fundamental Translation and Its Techniques

English → Arabic Translation

Translation Exercise

Instructions

Translate the following sentences into Arabic.

Sentences

1. I study English.
2. She goes to school every day.
3. They played football yesterday.
4. He was very tired last night.
5. I will visit my friend tomorrow.
6. English is widely spoken around the world.
7. She has finished her homework.
8. Students should respect their teachers.

Key Answers

1. أنا أدرس اللغة الإنجليزية.
2. هي تذهب إلى المدرسة كل يوم.
3. لعبوا كرة القدم أمس.
4. كان متعبًا جدًا الليلة الماضية.
5. سأزور صديقي غدًا.
6. تُتحدَّث اللغة الإنجليزية على نطاق واسع حول العالم.
7. لقد أنهت واجبها.
8. يجب على الطلاب احترام معلمهم.



Basic Translation Techniques

1. Literal Translation

Definition

Literal translation means translating word for word while keeping the same structure.

When to use

When structure and meaning are similar in both languages.

Example

I am happy

2. Free Translation

Basic Translation Techniques

Definition

Free translation focuses on meaning rather than exact words.

When to use

To make the text natural in the target language.

Examples

He kicked the bucket last year

He died last year.

Time is money

Time is very valuable, so it should not be wasted.

My old computer finally kicked the bucket

My old computer stopped working
completely.

Basic Translation Techniques

3. Adaptation

Definition

Adaptation means changing an expression to fit the culture of the target language.

When to use

It is used when the original expression may not be understood because of cultural differences.

Examples (Meanings in English)

He kicked the bucket → He died.

Time is money → Time is very valuable.

Break the ice → To start a friendly or relaxed conversation.



Basic Translation Techniques

4. Borrowing

Definition

Borrowing means using a word from another language without translating it.

When to use

It is used for modern, scientific, or technical terms.

Examples (Meanings in English)

Computer → An electronic device used for processing information.

Mobile phone → A device used to make calls and send messages.

Internet → A global network for sharing information.

Software → Programs used to operate a computer.



Basic Translation Techniques

5. Modulation

Definition

Modulation is a translation technique that changes the point of view or the way an idea is expressed, without changing the meaning.

When to use

It is used to make the sentence sound more natural and natural-sounding in the target language.

Examples

The glass is half empty

The glass is half full (same situation, different point of view)

He is not poor.

He is rich (negative form changed to positive)

The test was not easy.

The test was difficult (expression changed, meaning stays the same)

Basic Translation Techniques

Basic Translation Techniques

Exercise 1

Identify the Translation Technique + Meaning

Computer

Technique: Borrowing

An electronic device used to process and store information.

I am happy.

Technique: Literal Translation

I feel joy or pleasure.

It's very cold today.

Technique: Free Translation

The weather today is extremely cold.

He kicked the bucket.

Basic Translation Techniques

Technique: Free / Idiomatic Translation

He died.

The glass is half empty.

Technique: Modulation

The situation is seen in a negative way.

Exercise 2

Choose the Best Translation + Meaning

Time is money.

Technique: Free Translation

Time is very valuable and should not be wasted.

She uses the Internet every day.

Technique: Borrowing

She uses the online global network daily.

He is not poor.

Basic Translation Techniques

Technique: Modulation

He is rich.

Exercise (3)

Match each sentence with the correct translation technique

Techniques

- A. Literal Translation
- B. Free Translation
- C. Borrowing
- D. Modulation

Sentences + Meaning

1 He is a doctor.

Answer: A - Literal Translation

His job is a medical doctor.



Basic Translation Techniques

2 It's raining cats and dogs.

Answer: B - Free Translation

It is raining very heavily.

(The meaning is translated, not the words.)

3 Internet has changed the world

Answer: C - Borrowing

The Internet has greatly affected communication, work, and daily life.

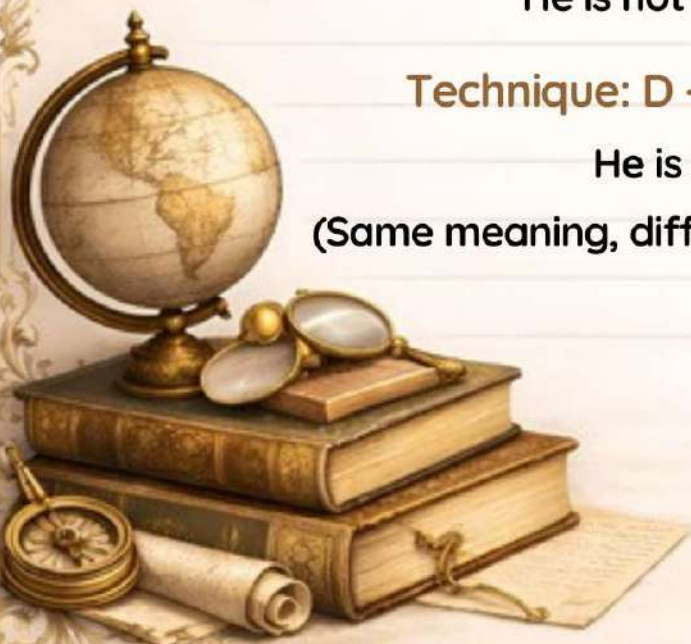
(Extra example for Modulation - to understand it better)

He is not wrong.

Technique: D - Modulation

He is right.

(Same meaning, different point of view.)





Effective Strategies for Facilitating Translation

1. Build Strong

Source-Language Comprehension

Before starting the translation process, the translator must have a clear and complete understanding of the source text. This includes understanding the main idea, context, and any implied meanings—not just individual words. Languages often contain idiomatic expressions and culturally specific terms. If the translator misunderstands the source text, the translation will be inaccurate, even if the grammar is correct.

Example:

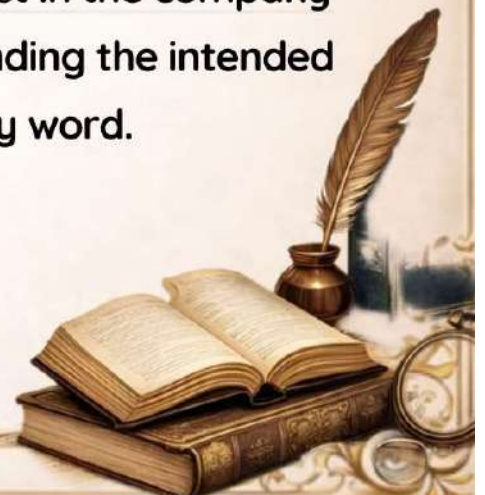
“The company is facing mounting pressure from stakeholders.”

To translate this correctly, the translator analyzes:

mounting pressure → increasing pressure

stakeholders → people who have an interest in the company

Accurate translation depends on understanding the intended meaning, not translating word by word.





Effective Strategies for Facilitating Translation

Benefit:

- ✓ Prevents misunderstanding.
- ✓ Reduces incorrect or misleading.

2. Strengthen Target-Language Skills

- A successful translation should sound natural and fluent in the target language. The reader should feel that the text was originally written in the target language.
- Literal translation often produces awkward or unnatural sentences. Therefore, translators must have strong writing and stylistic skills in the target language.



Effective Strategies for Facilitating Translation

Example:

He gave me a hand.

✗ Literal translation: He gave me his hand

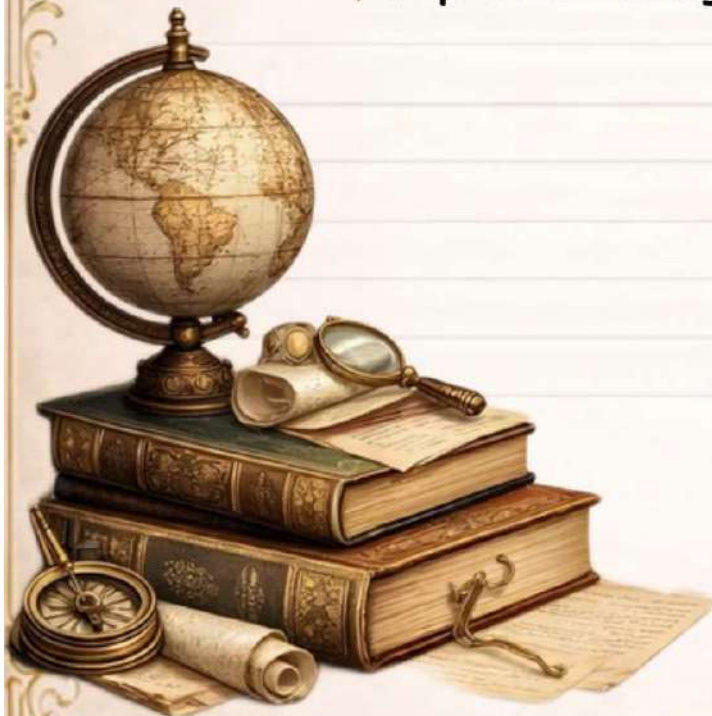
✓ Natural translation: He helped me.

This shows how meaning is more important than literal wording.

Benefit:

✓ Produces smooth and reader-friendly translations

✓ Improves clarity and readability





Effective Strategies for Facilitating Translation

3. Teach Translation Strategies Explicitly

Different types of texts require different translation strategies. Translators should be trained to recognize the text type and apply the most appropriate approach.

For example, technical and instructional texts require clarity, accuracy, and precision. In such cases, literal or close translation is often preferred to avoid confusion.

Example:

(Technical Text)

Press the power button to start the device.
A clear and direct translation is necessary to ensure correct usage of the device.

Benefit

Ensures accuracy in technical texts.

Reduces ambiguity and misinterpretation.





Effective Strategies for Facilitating Translation

Conclusion

Facilitating translation involves:

Strong comprehension of the source language

High proficiency in the target language

Effective use of appropriate translation strategies

Together, these strategies help produce accurate, natural, and high-quality translations

4. Consider Cultural Context

Translation is not only about language but also about culture. Some expressions, references, or humor may not have the same effect in another culture.

The translator must adapt the message so it is appropriate and understandable for the target audience.





Effective Strategies for Facilitating Translation

Example:

He kicked the bucket.

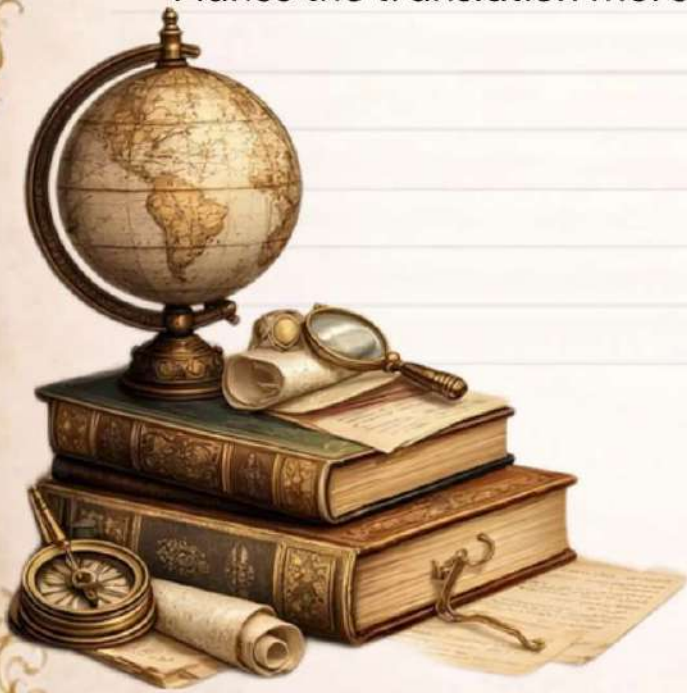
A literal translation would be confusing.

A culturally appropriate translation would convey the meaning "he died."

Benefit

Avoids cultural misunderstanding

Makes the translation more appropriate and meaningful





Effective Strategies for Facilitating Translation

5. Use Appropriate Translation Tools

Modern translators can benefit from translation tools such as dictionaries, corpora, and computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools. These tools help improve consistency and accuracy.

However, tools should support the translator, not replace human judgment.

Example:

Using a terminology database ensures the same technical term is translated consistently throughout the text.

Benefit

Increases accuracy and consistency.

Saves time and effort.





Effective Strategies for Facilitating Translation

6. Revise and Proofread the Translation

Translation does not end after the first draft. Revising and proofreading are essential steps to ensure quality.

The translator should check grammar, spelling, meaning, and style.

Example:

Reading the translation aloud can help detect awkward phrasing or errors.

Benefit

Improves overall quality.

Eliminates linguistic and stylistic.





Effective Strategies for Facilitating Translation

7. Understand the Purpose of the Text

Every text has a purpose (to inform, persuade, instruct, or entertain). The translation strategy should match this purpose

Example:

An advertising text may require creative translation, while a legal text requires strict accuracy.

Benefit

Ensures the translation meets its communicative goal.
Adapts style and tone appropriately.

Final Summary

- Effective translation is facilitated by
 - ▲ Understanding the source text.
 - ▲ Mastery of the target language.
 - ▲ Applying suitable translation strategies.
 - ▲ Considering culture, tools, revision, and purpose.
- These strategies work together to produce clear, accurate, and natural translations.



Applied Models in Practical Translation

Applied models focus on practical translation practice rather than theory alone

They aim to train translators to transfer meaning accurately while producing natural and fluent target texts

Goal

Accurate meaning transfer

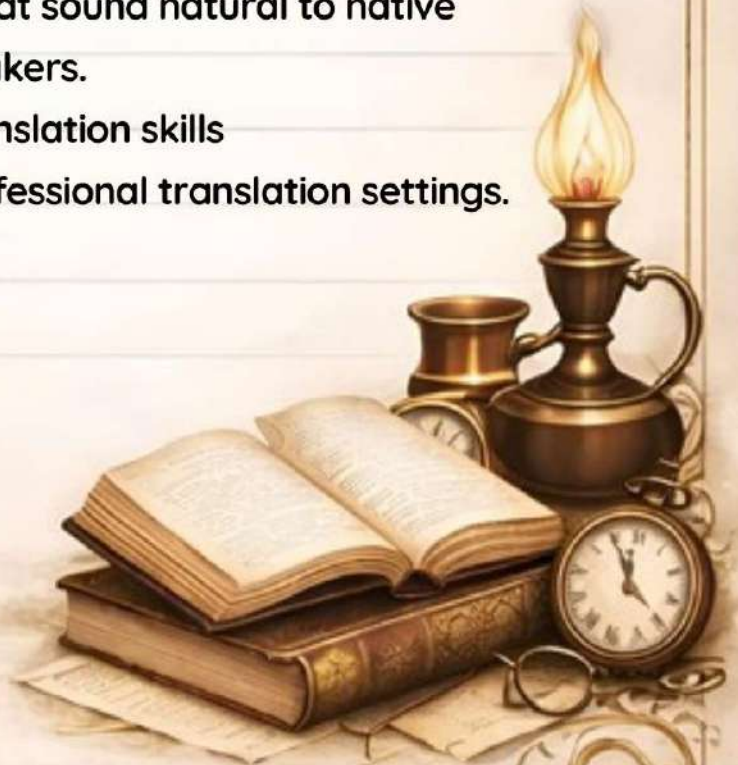
Conveying the intended message of the source text correctly.

Natural target language

Producing translations that sound natural to native speakers.

Real-life translation skills

Developing skills used in professional translation settings.





Applied Models in Practical Translation

Importance of Applied Models

- ✓ Help learners understand translation in a practical and realistic way.
- ✓ Develop linguistic and analytical skills.
- ✓ Improve the accuracy and naturalness of translations.
- ✓ Effectively train students and professional translators.





Applied Models in Practical Translation

Core Elements of Applied Translation Models

1. Using Authentic Texts

Working with real-world texts taken from different fields such as:

Literature

Media

Law

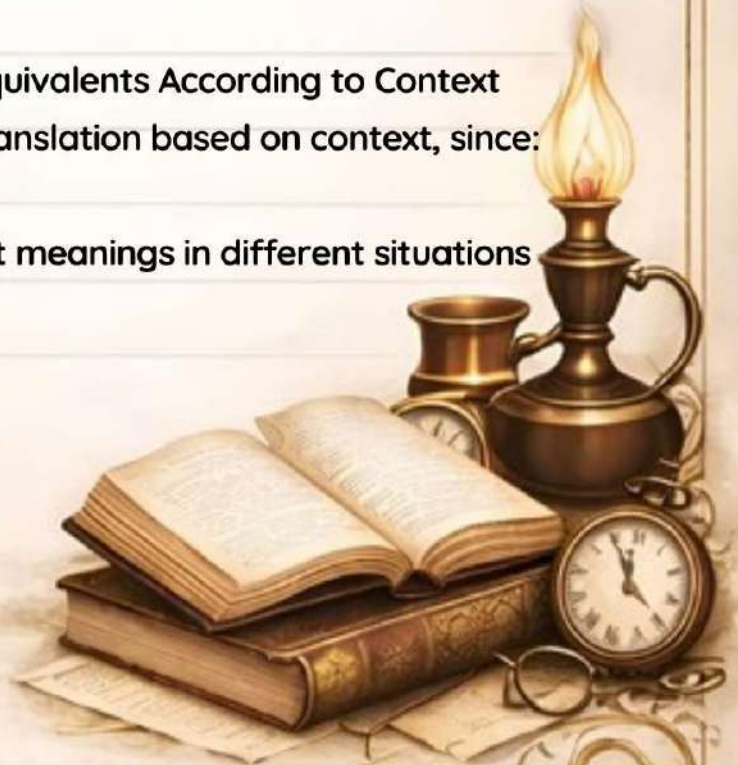
Technology

These texts reflect actual translation tasks.

2. Choosing Appropriate Equivalents According to Context

Selecting the most suitable translation based on context, since:

One word may have different meanings in different situations





Applied Models in Practical Translation

Developing strategies to deal with common translation difficulties:

Idiomatic expressions

Phrases whose meanings cannot be understood literally.

Cultural differences

Adapting the translation to fit the target culture.

Specialized terminology

Using accurate terms in technical or professional fields.





Applied Models in Practical Translation

Applied Translation Models

Examples:

1. Translating Authentic Texts (Media)

Examples:

The government announced new economic reforms

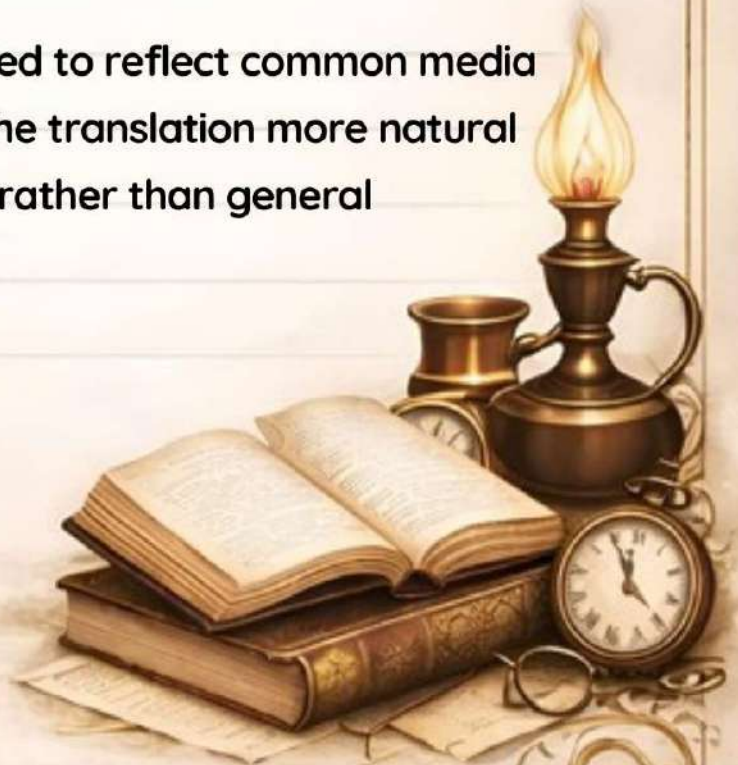
✗ Weak literal translation

أعلنت الحكومة إصلاحات اقتصادية جديدة

✓ Better contextual translation:

أعلنت الحكومة عن حزمة جديدة من الإصلاحات الاقتصادية

The word package is added to reflect common media style in Arabic, making the translation more natural and informative rather than general





Applied Models in Practical Translation

2. Choosing the Appropriate Equivalent According to Context

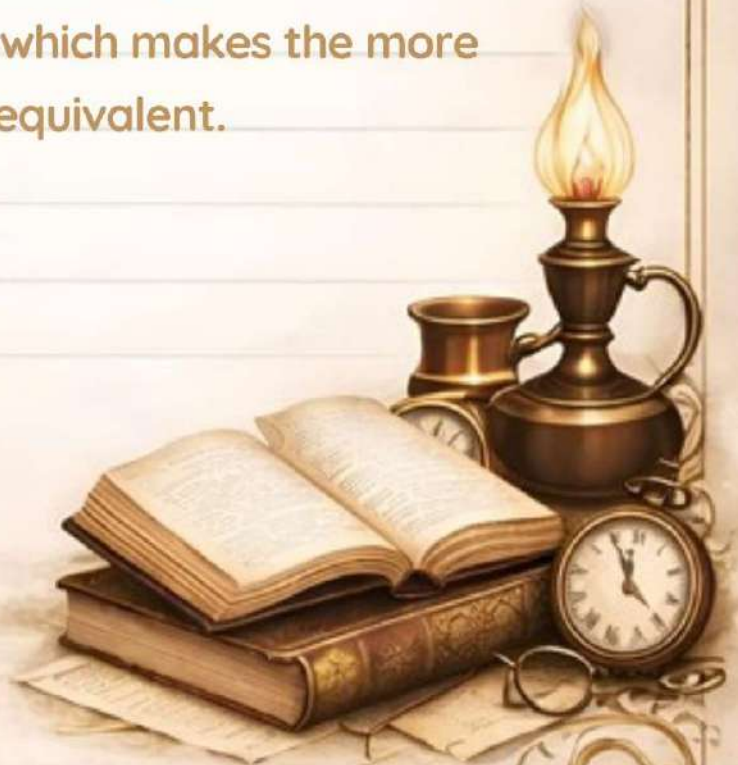
Example:

The issue was raised during the meeting.

- ✗ Inaccurate translation اثيرت المشكلة أثناء الاجتماع
- ✓ More accurate translation تمت مناقشة القضية أثناء الاجتماع

The word issue does not always mean “problem.”

In formal or official contexts, it often means
“topic” or “matter,” which makes the more
suitable equivalent.





Applied Models in Practical Translation

3. Literal vs. Meaning-Based Translation

Example:

● Time is money

الوقت هو المال

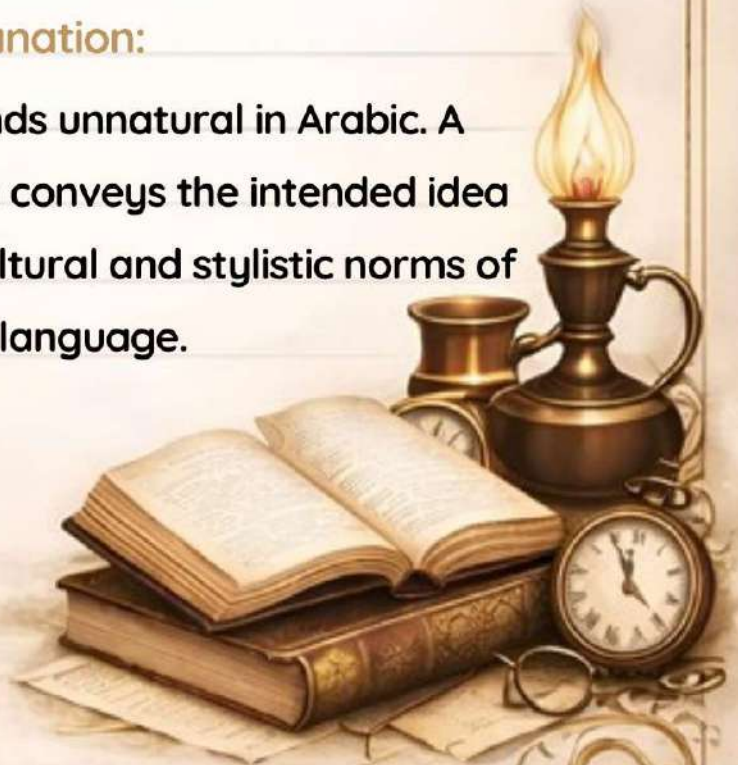
✗ Literal translation

الوقت ثمين

✓ Meaning-based translation

Explanation:

A literal translation sounds unnatural in Arabic. A meaning-based translation conveys the intended idea more clearly and fits the cultural and stylistic norms of the target language.





Applied Models in Practical Translation

Applied Translation Models

Examples:

● 4. Common Translation Challenges

A. Idiomatic Expressions

Example:

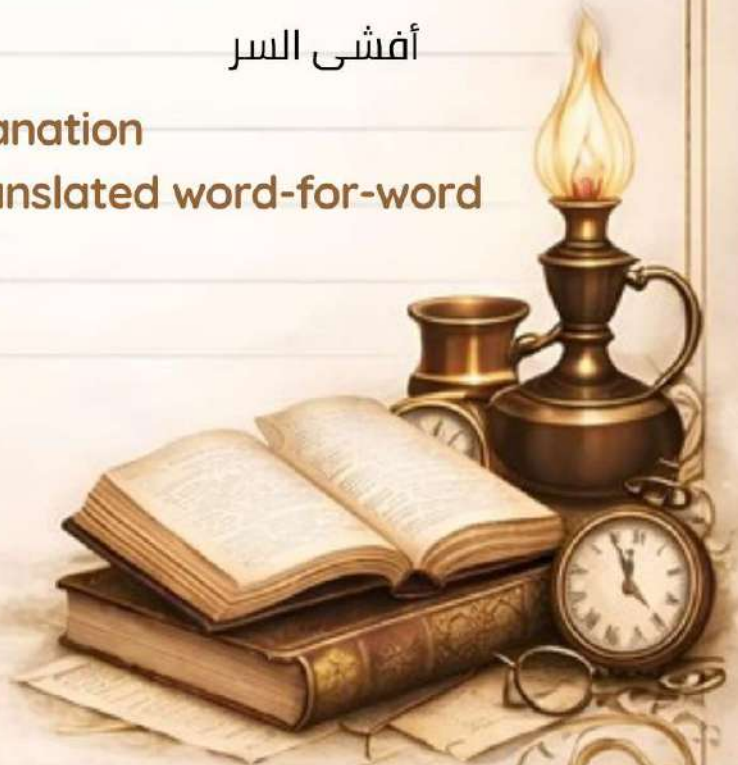
He let the cat out of the bag

⊗ Literal translation أخرج القطعة من الحقيبة

✓ Correct translation أفشى السر

Explanation

Idioms cannot be translated word-for-word





Applied Models in Practical Translation

The correct translation focuses on the intended meaning, not the literal words

B. Cultural Differences

Example:

Welcome! Please feel free to help yourself

⊗ Literal translation

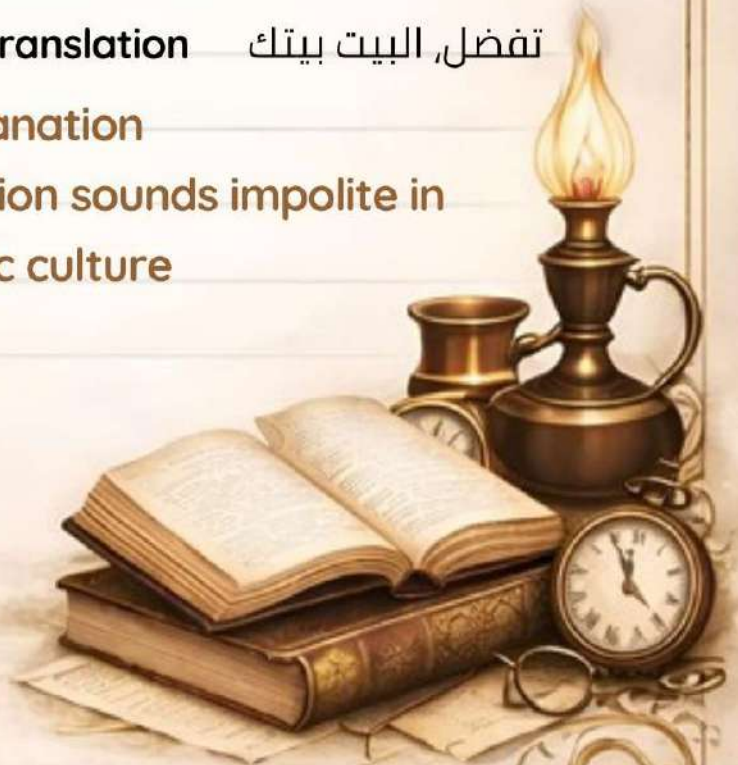
ساعد نفسك

✓ Culturally appropriate translation

تفضل، البيت بيتك

Explanation

The literal translation sounds impolite in Arabic culture





Applied Models in Practical Translation

The adapted version reflects common cultural expressions of hospitality

C. Specialized Terminology (Technology)

Example:

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly evolving.

⊗ General translation الذكاء الصناعي يتطور

✓ Accurate translation

يشهد الذكاء الاصطناعي تطورًا متسارعًا

Explanation

The improved translation uses precise terminology and a formal structure suitable for technical and academic contexts.





Distinguishing Between Literal and Figurative Meaning in Translation

In translation, literal and figurative meaning refer to two very different ways language creates meaning—and choosing between them is one of a translator's biggest challenges.

1. Literal Meaning

Literal meaning is the direct, surface meaning of words—the definition you'd find in a dictionary.

Key features:

- Word-for-word meaning

Closely tied to grammar and vocabulary

Often used in technical, legal, or scientific texts





Distinguishing Between Literal and Figurative Meaning in Translation

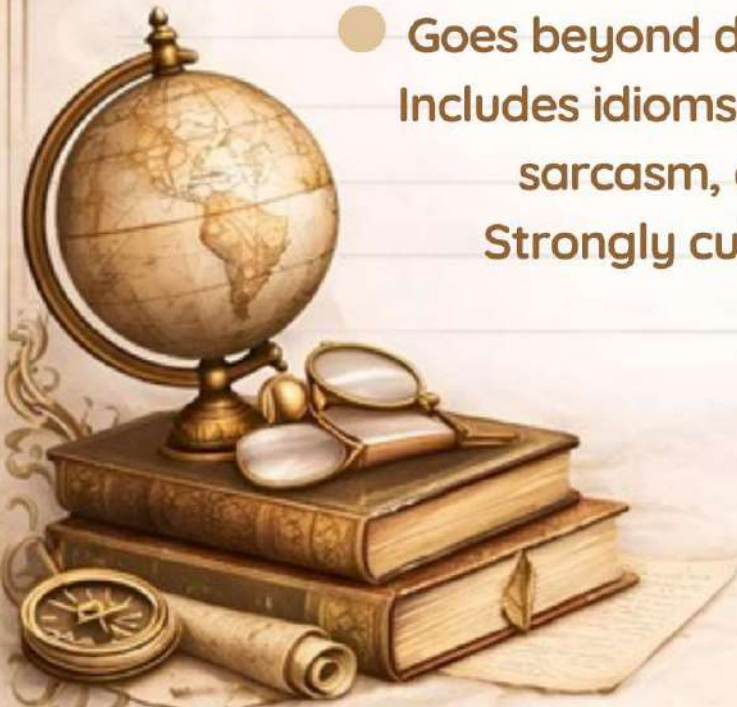
- Literal translation works well when
The text is factual or technical
No idioms, metaphors, or cultural references are involved

2. Figurative Meaning

- Figurative meaning is the implied or symbolic meaning—what the speaker actually intends to communicate.

Key features:

- Goes beyond dictionary definitions
Includes idioms, metaphors, similes, sarcasm, and symbolism
Strongly culture-dependent





Distinguishing Between Literal and Figurative Meaning in Translation

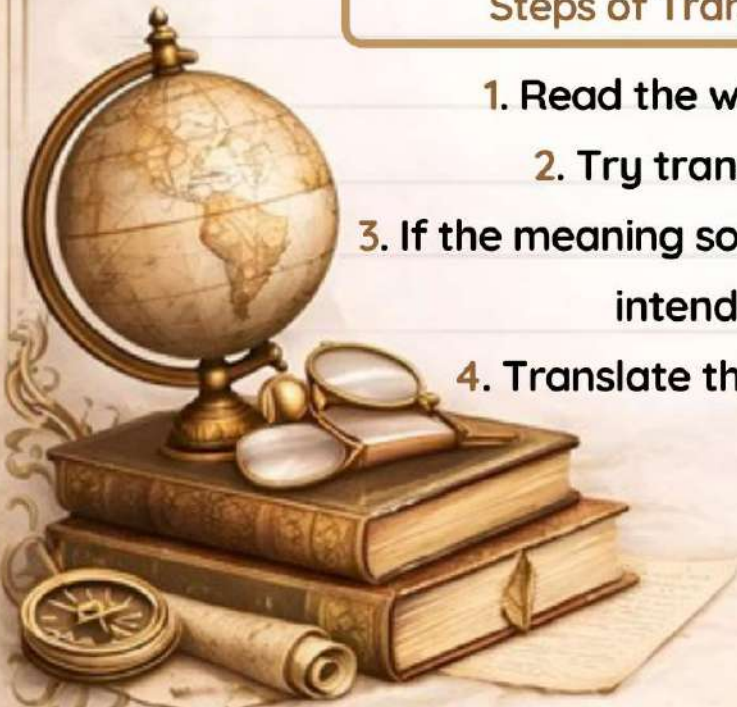
- How to distinguish between the literal meaning and figurative meaning?

Guiding Questions

- ➔ Is the sentence logical if taken literally?
- ➔ Does it express a feeling or an idea?
- ➔ Is it a common expression or idiom?

Steps of Translation

1. Read the whole sentence first.
2. Try translating it literally.
3. If the meaning sounds strange, look for the intended meaning.
4. Translate the idea, not the words





Distinguishing Between Literal and Figurative Meaning in Translation

Note

➡ Literal meaning focuses on the exact words.
Figurative meaning focuses on the intended message

➡ The Difference Between Literal and Figurative
Meaning in Translation

Exercise

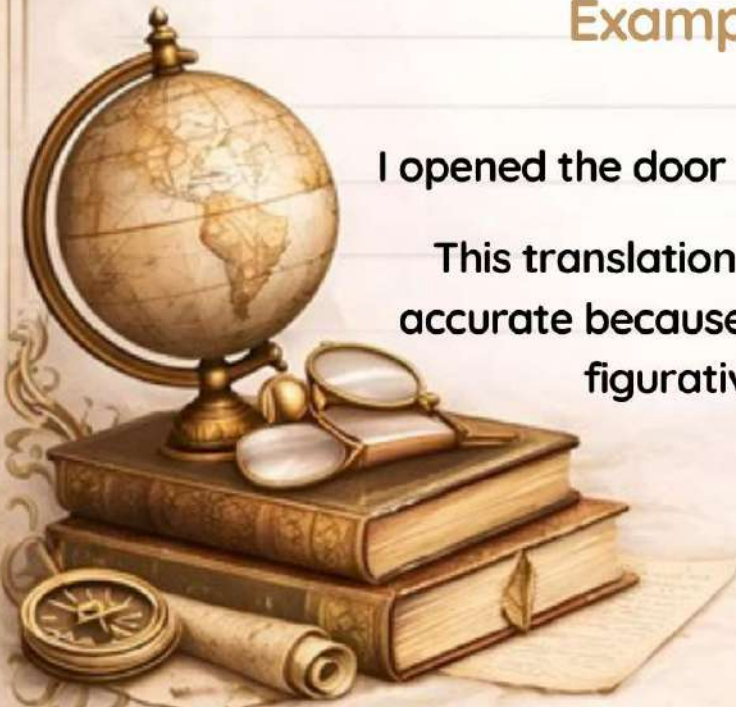
Firstly

Literal Meaning

Example:

I opened the door أنا فتحت الباب

This translation is direct, clear, and accurate because the sentence has no figurative meaning.





Distinguishing Between Literal and Figurative Meaning in Translation

Secondly

➔ Figurative Meaning

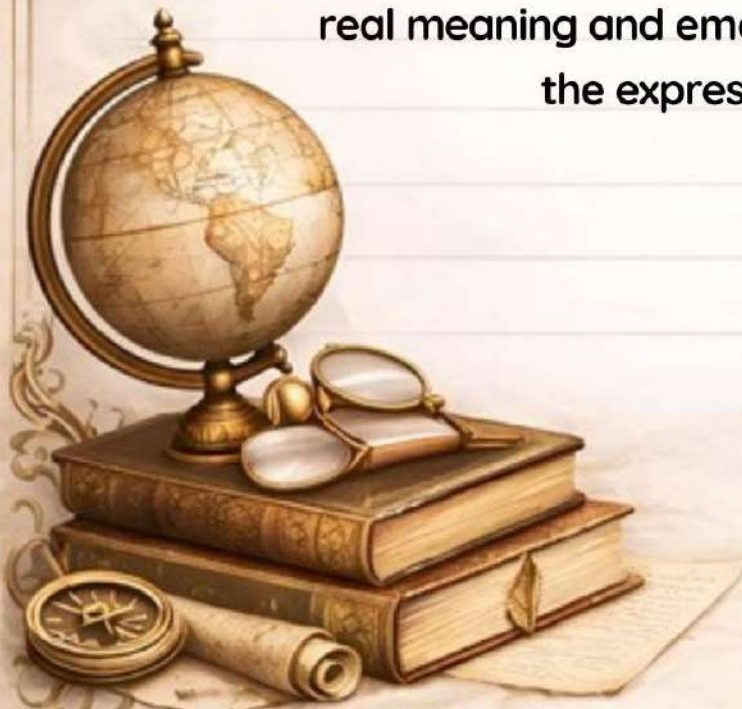
Example

➔ He has a heart of stone لديه قلب من حجر

➔ Literal Translation هو قاسي القلب

Correct translation

The figurative translation conveys the real meaning and emotional effect of the expression.



Difficulties in the translation process

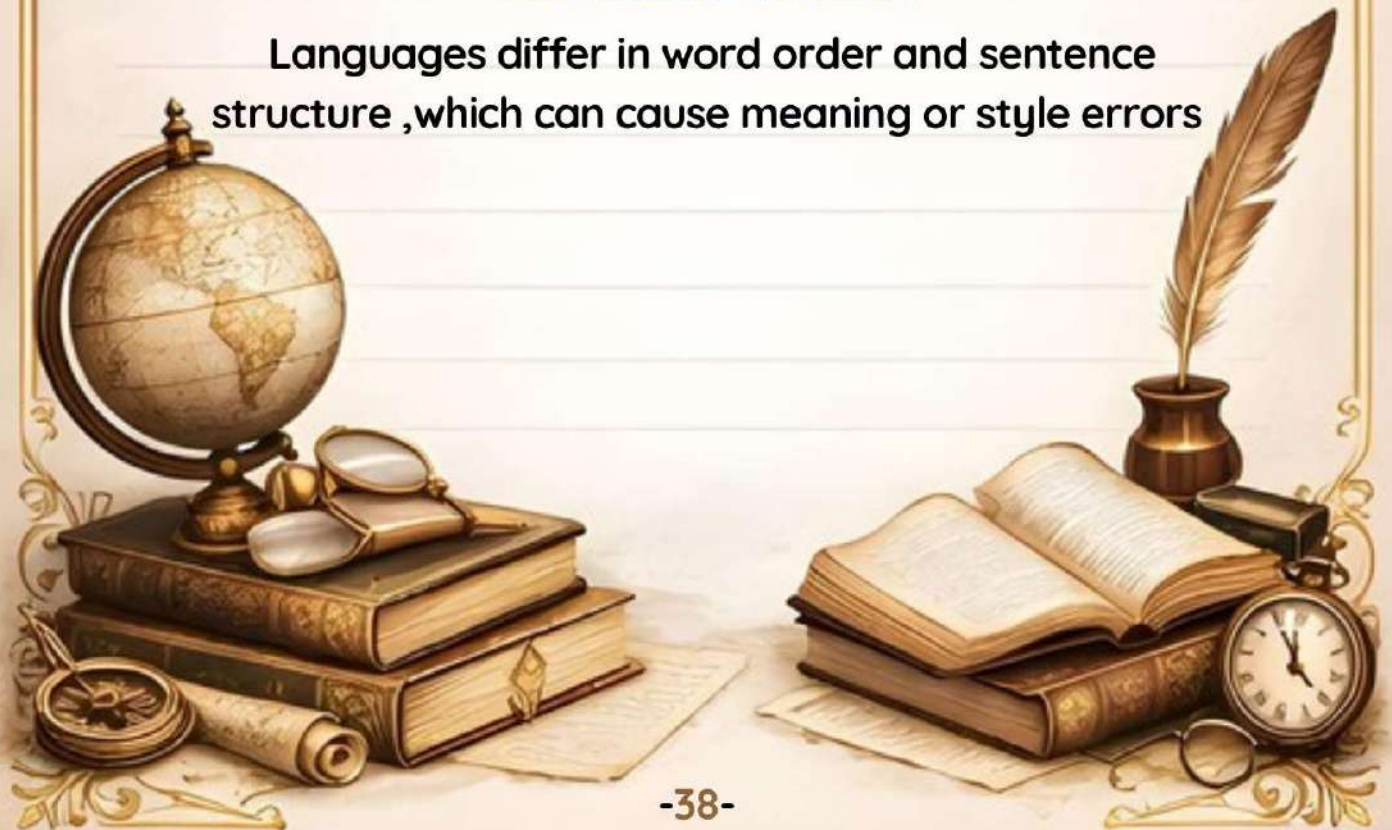
Translation is not just transferring words from one language to another,
It is a complex process that requires understanding meaning, context, and culture.

1. Meaning and Context Differences

A single word can have multiple meanings ,and the correct meaning depends on the context.

2. Sentence Structure

Languages differ in word order and sentence structure ,which can cause meaning or style errors



Difficulties in the translation process

3. Idiomatic Expressions

Idiomatic Expressions cannot be translated literally because they have figurative meanings.

4. Cultural Differences

Some concepts are culture-specific and have no direct equivalent in another language.

5. Polysemy (Multiple Meanings)

One word may have several meanings.

6. Technical and Specialized Terms

Specialized fields require precise terminology.



Difficulties in the translation process

7. Tone and Style

Tone reflects the speaker's attitude and style.

8. Over-Literal Translation

Excessive literal translation sounds unnatural.

Exercise

Meaning & Context

He runs a company.

هو يركض شركة

يدير شركة

Run = manage / (حسب السياق) يدير

Sentence Structure

She quickly finished her homework.

× هي بسرعة أنهت واجبها

✓ أنهت واجبها بسرعة

Difficulties in the translation process

Idiomatic Expressions

It's raining cats and dogs.

تمطر بغزارة ✓

تمطر قططًا وكلابًا ✗

Cultural Differences

Break a leg!

حظًا موفقًا ✓

اكسر ساقك ✗

Expression used for encouragement.

Polysemy

The bank is closed

المصرف مغلق ✓

الضفة مغلقة ✗

Technical Terms

The patient needs surgery.

المريض يحتاج عملية ✗

المريض يحتاج إلى جراحة ✓

Difficulties in the translation process

Tone & Style

Could you possibly help me?

هل تستطيع مساعدتي؟ ✕ هل يمكنك مساعدتي من فضلك؟ ✓

Over-Literal Translation

I look forward to hearing from you.

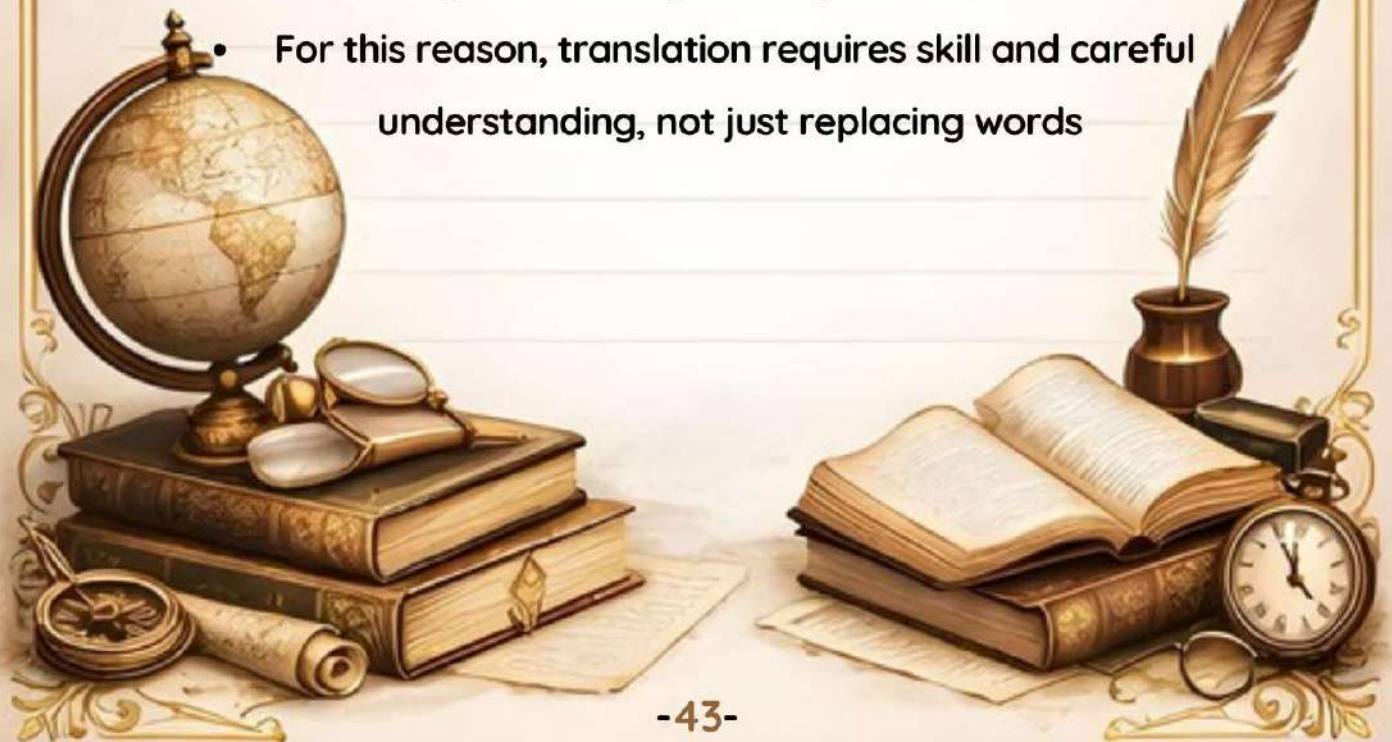
أتطلع إلى السماع منك ✕ أتطلع إلى ردك ✓

Difficulties in the translation process

Summary

✓ Difficulties in the Translation Process

- The translation process faces many difficulties.
- One of the main problems is the difference between languages in grammar and vocabulary.
- Cultural differences also make translation difficult because some words or expressions have no exact meaning in the target language.
- In addition, translators may find it hard to keep the original meaning and style of the text.
- For this reason, translation requires skill and careful understanding, not just replacing words



Difficulties in the translation process

Note

- ✓ Good translation depends on meaning, context, and culture.

Translation practices in Media and Journalism

Introduction

Translation in media and journalism plays a vital role in sharing news and information across the world.

It helps people understand events happening in different countries, even if they do not speak the same language.

What Is Media and Journalism Translation?

It involves translating different types of media content such as:

1. News articles and reports
2. Television and radio news
3. Online news websites
4. Interviews and press statements
5. Headlines and breaking news
6. The main aim is to deliver information clearly, quickly, and accurately.

Translation practices in Media and Journalism

Importance of Translation

Media

Translation in media is important because:

1. It informs the public about global events.
2. It promotes awareness and understanding between cultures.
3. It supports freedom of information.
4. It helps media organizations reach international audiences.

! Any mistake may change the meaning of the news.



Translation practices in Media and Journalism

Characteristics of Media Translation

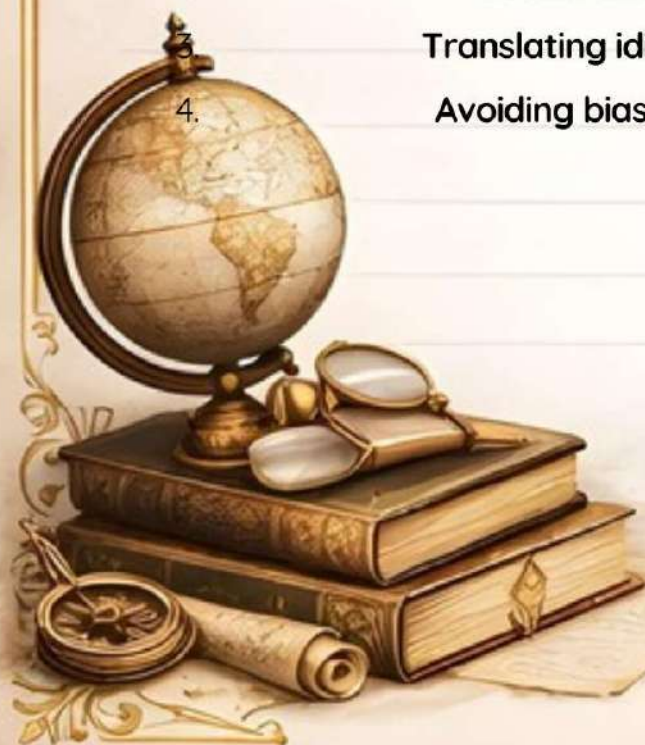
Media translation has special features

1. Speed is very important.
2. Language must be simple and clear.
3. Headlines should be short and attractive.
4. The translator must remain neutral and objective.

Challenges in Media and Journalism Translation

Translators may face challenges such as:

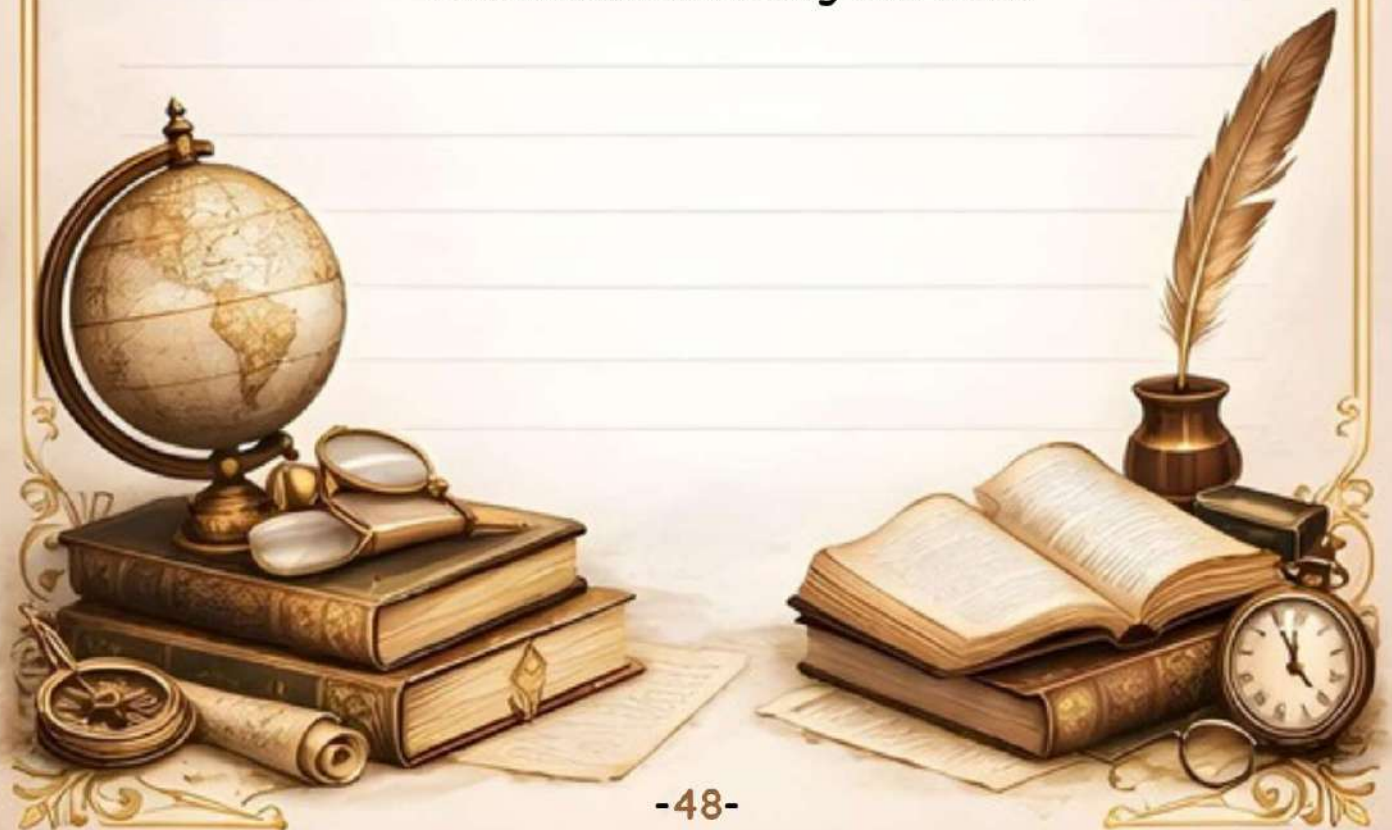
1. Time pressure and deadlines
2. Political and cultural sensitivity
3. Translating idioms and expressions
4. Avoiding bias or misinterpretation



Translation practices in Media and Journalism

Note

- Translation in media and journalism connects the world through news.
- It helps people stay informed and understand global issues.
- Accurate and responsible translation is essential to maintain credibility and trust.



Translation practices in Media and Journalism

Practical Examples of Translation Practices in Media and Journalism

1. News Headlines Translation

Government Faces Growing Pressure Over
Economic Crisis

Translated (Arabic - Media style):

الحكومة تواجه ضغوطًا متزايدة بسبب الأزمة الاقتصادية

Practice:

Avoids literal translation

Uses clear and concise language

Matches journalistic tone

Translation practices in Media and Journalism

2. Political Statements

Source:

The minister said the situation is under control.

Translation:

صرّح الوزير بأن الوضع تحت السيطرة.

Practice:

Uses formal and neutral language

Avoids personal interpretation

Maintains objectivity

3. Idioms in Media Texts

Source:

The president broke the ice during the meeting.

Translation practices in Media and Journalism

Literal: كسر الجليد

Media Translation:

نجح الرئيس في كسر الحواجز خلال الاجتماع.

Practice:

Replaces idioms with culturally
appropriate expressions

4. Cultural Adaptation

Source:

The White House announced new
measures.

Translation:

أعلن البيت الأبيض عن إجراءات جديدة

Translation practices in Media and Journalism

Practice:

Uses metonymy common in journalism
Keeps meaning familiar to target audience

5. Simplifying Complex Information

Source:

Inflation rates surged due to fiscal policy adjustments.

Translation:

ارتفعت معدلات التضخم بسبب تغييرات في
السياسات المالية



Translation practices in Media and Journalism

Practice:

Simplifies technical language

Ensures accessibility for general readers

Key Point for Media Translators

Accuracy, clarity, and audience awareness are essential in media and journalism translation





Common Translation Errors and How to Avoid Them

What are Translation Errors?

Translation errors occur when the meaning of the original text is not correctly transferred into the target language.

These errors may:

- Change the message
- Confuse the reader
- Cause cultural misunderstandings





Common Translation Errors and How to Avoid Them

1. Literal Translation Errors

أخطاء الترجمة الحرفية

Literal translation errors happen when a text is translated word for word without considering the meaning.

Example:

He kicked the bucket.

هو ركل الدلو ❌

توفي ✅



Common Translation Errors and How to Avoid Them

How to avoid it:

The translator should understand idioms and expressions before translating.

2. Grammatical Errors

Grammatical errors occur when the translator does not follow the grammar rules of the target language.

Example:

She go to school every day

هي يذهب إلى المدرسة كل يوم ✕

هي تذهب إلى المدرسة كل يوم ✓





Common Translation Errors and How to Avoid Them

How to avoid it:

The translator must have strong knowledge of grammar in both languages

3. Cultural Errors

Cultural errors happen when cultural differences are ignored

Example:

تفضل، البيت بيتك

✗ Literal translation: The house is your house.

✓ Culturally correct translation: Make yourself at home.





Common Translation Errors and How to Avoid Them

How to avoid it:

The translator should be aware of cultural background and context

4. Vocabulary Errors

Vocabulary errors occur when the wrong word is chosen.

Example:

The manager discussed the issue

ناقش المدير المشكلة ✕

بحث المدير المشكلة ✓





Common Translation Errors and How to Avoid Them

How to avoid it:

Using dictionaries and understanding context help avoid vocabulary errors.

5. Omission and Addition Errors

These errors happen when the translator removes or adds information not found in the original text.

Example:

The meeting starts at 9 a.m.

يبدأ الاجتماع في الصباح



يبدأ الاجتماع في الساعة التاسعة صباحًا





Common Translation Errors and How to Avoid Them

How to avoid it:

The translator should translate all information accurately without omission or addition

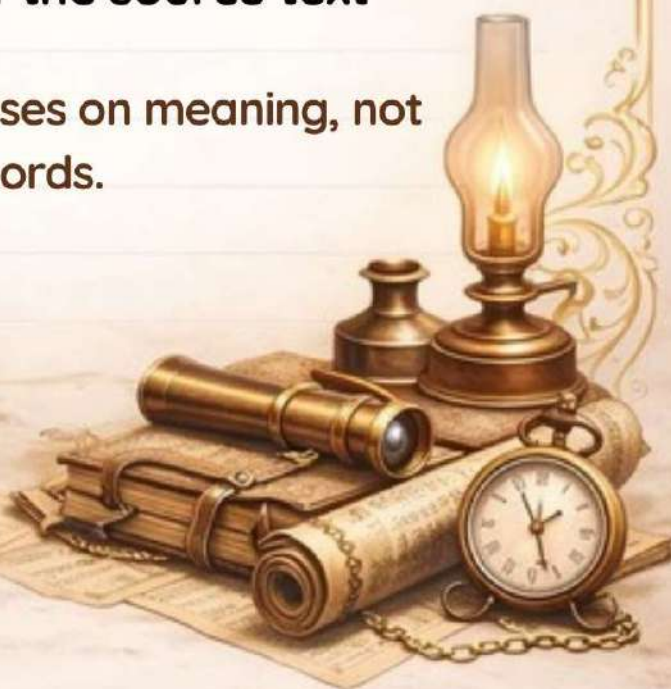
Note:

★ **Avoiding translation errors requires:**

- ✓ Practice
- ✓ Cultural knowledge
- ✓ Careful reading of the source text



good translator focuses on meaning, not just words.





Types of Translation

Translation can be divided into different types depending on the method and the text. Each type requires special skills.

1. Written Translation

Deals with written texts such as scientific, literary, or media texts.

Allows careful choice of words and sentence structure.

Key points

Accuracy and style are very important.



Types of Translation

2. Oral (Spoken) Translation

Done verbally, usually in real-time.

Two main types

Simultaneous Translation

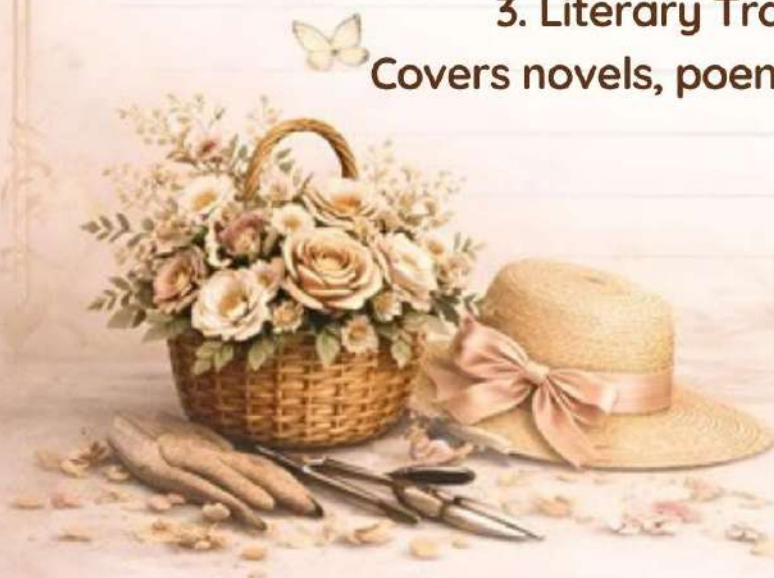
Translating while the speaker is talking (common in conferences).

Consecutive Translation: Translating after the speaker pauses.

Skills needed: Quick thinking, listening, and speaking.

3. Literary Translation

Covers novels, poems, and stories.





Types of Translation

Focuses on meaning, style, tone, and cultural nuances. Creativity is essential to preserve the beauty and flow of the original text.

4. Technical and Scientific Translation

Involves specialized fields like medicine, engineering, law, or technology.

Requires knowledge of technical terms and concepts. Accuracy is crucial as small mistakes can change the meaning



Types of Translation

Exercises:

1. Written Translation

Source Text:

Climate change is one of the most serious challenges facing the world today.

Translated Text

تغيّر المناخ هو أحد أخطر التحديات التي تواجه العالم اليوم.

This example shows written translation of a scientific/media text.

2. Oral (Spoken) Translation – Simultaneous

Types of Translation

Speaker says

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the international conference.

Interpreter says at the same time:

سيداتى وسادتى، مرحباً بكم فى المؤتمر الدولى.

The interpreter translates while the speaker is talking.

2. Oral (Spoken) Translation - Consecutive

Speaker says (then pauses)

Our company achieved great success last year.

Interpreter says:

حققت شركتنا نجاحاً كبيراً العام الماضى

The interpreter waits, then translates.

Types of Translation

3. Literary Translation

Source Text

.She walked alone under the silent moon.

Translated Text

سارت وحدها تحت ضوء القمر الصامت.

This example focuses on style, emotion, and imagery .

4. Technical and Scientific

Source Text:

The device operates at a voltage of 220 volts.

Translated Text:

يعمل الجهاز بجهد كهربائي مقداره 220 فولت.

Accuracy and correct terminology

are essential here.





Register and Style in Translation (Examples and Explanation)

What is Register?

Register refers to the level of formality used in language depending on:

- Who is speaking or writing?
- Who the audience is?
- The purpose of the text
- The situation or context

In translation, choosing the wrong register can make the translation sound unnatural or inappropriate, even if the meaning is correct.

Types of Register

Formal Register

Formal register is used in:

Academic writing

Official documents

Legal texts

Business communication

News reports





Register and Style in Translation (Examples and Explanation)

Characteristics:

Polite and serious tone

Complete sentences

No contractions (do not, not don't)

Passive voice is common

No slang or casual expressions

Examples:

Arabic:

يرجى تعبئة النموذج وإرساله في أقرب وقت ممكن.

Formal English Translation:

You are kindly requested to complete the form and submit it as soon as possible .

Arabic:

تشير الدراسة إلى أن
التغير المناخي يؤثر على الاقتصاد العالمي.





Register and Style in Translation (Examples and Explanation)

Formal English Translation:

The study indicates that climate change has an impact on the global economy.

2. Semi-Formal Register

Semi-formal register is used in:

Emails to teachers or colleagues

Reports

Professional but friendly communication

Characteristics:

Polite but not very strict

Clear and direct language

Some contractions allowed

Active voice is common.





Register and Style in Translation (Examples and Explanation)

Examples:

Arabic:

نرجو إبلاغنا في حال وجود أي استفسار .

Semi-formal Translation:

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Arabic:

يسعدنا التعاون معكم في المستقبل .

Semi-formal Translation:

We look forward to working with you in the future.

Informal Register

Informal register is used in:

Daily conversations

Messages between friends

Social media

Personal letters





Register and Style in Translation (Examples and Explanation)

Characteristics:

Casual and friendly tone

Contractions are common

Simple vocabulary

Slang and idiomatic expressions may be used

Examples:

Arabic:

انتظرني قليلاً.

Informal Translation:

Wait a sec.

Hang on a moment.

Arabic:

أنا متعب جداً اليوم .

Informal Translation:

I'm really tired today.





Register and Style in Translation (Examples and Explanation)

Same Meaning, Different Registers

Arabic sentence:

سأعود لاحقاً

Formal:

I will return at a later time.

Semi-formal: I will be back later.

Informal: I'll be back.

Meaning is the same, but style changes according to register.





Importance of Technical and Scientific Translation

This type of translation is very important because:

- It helps scientists share research worldwide.
- It supports technological development and innovation.
- It ensures safety in fields like medicine and engineering.
- It allows companies to use technology globally.

⚠ Even a small mistake can lead to serious problems.

Skills Required for Technical Translators

A technical or scientific translator must have:

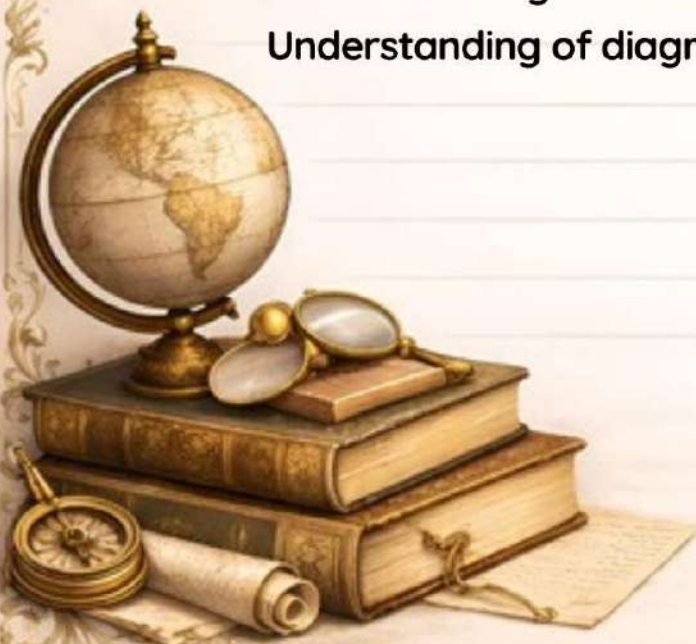
Strong knowledge of the subject field

Excellent language skills

Ability to use correct technical terminology

High attention to detail

Understanding of diagrams, symbols, and data





Importance of Technical and Scientific Translation

Challenges in Technical and Scientific Translation

Translators may face challenges such as:

Complex terminology

Rapid technological changes

Need for absolute accuracy

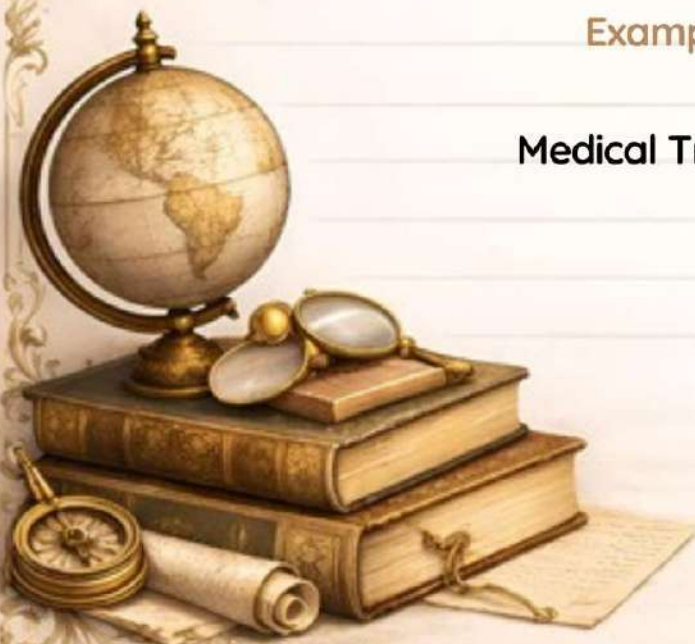
Lack of equivalent terms in the target language

Therefore, experience and continuous learning are essential

1. The text presents examples of technical and scientific translation between English and Arabic.
2. Its main purpose is to show how accuracy and correct terminology are essential in this type of translation.

Example 1

Medical Translation





Importance of Technical and Scientific Translation

English

The patient suffers from high blood pressure and requires daily medication

Arabic Translation

يعاني المريض من ارتفاع ضغط الدم ويحتاج إلى تناول الدواء يوميًا

This example explains that medical translation must be extremely accurate because any mistake could affect a patient's health.

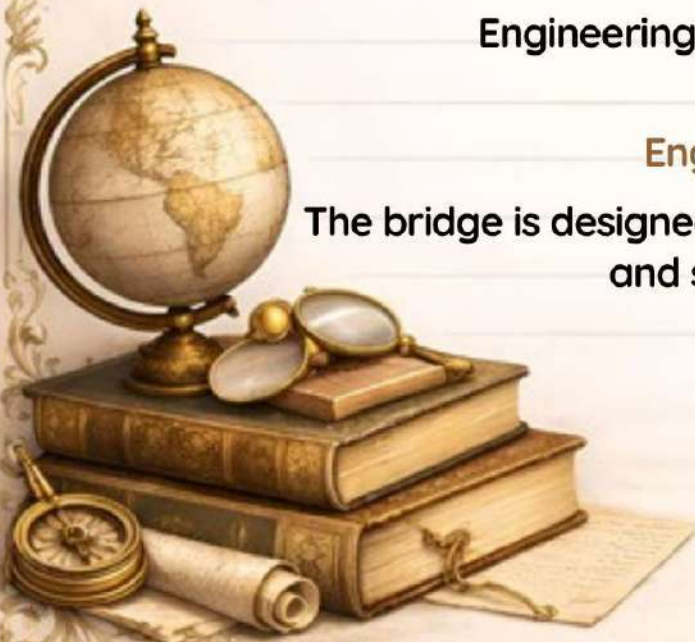
The sentence talks about high blood pressure and daily medication, which requires precise medical terms.

Example 2:

Engineering Translation

English

The bridge is designed to withstand to heavy loads and strong winds





Importance of Technical and Scientific Translation

Arabic Translation

تم تصميم الجسر لتحمل الأحمال الثقيلة والرياح القوية

This example focuses on engineering language. It shows that when translating texts about structures like bridges, using correct engineering terminology is very important to convey the correct meaning

Example 3:

Scientific Research

This example highlights scientific translation. The translation must clearly and accurately reflect scientific results, such as changes in temperature,

تظهر التجربة ارتفاعاً ملحوظاً في درجة الحرارة





Importance of Technical and Scientific Translation

Example 4:

Technical Manual

Press the power button for three seconds to restart the device

Arabic Translation

اضغط على زر التشغيل لمدة ثلاث ثوان لإعادة تشغيل الجهاز

This example shows instructions from a technical manual. Clarity is emphasized because unclear translation could lead to incorrect use of a device.

Example 5:

Information Technology

English

The software requires regular updates to improve performance

Arabic Translation

يتطلب البرنامج تحديثات منتظمة لتحسين الأداء





Importance of Technical and Scientific Translation

- This example explains that IT translations should accurately describe software requirements, such as regular updates, to ensure correct understanding.

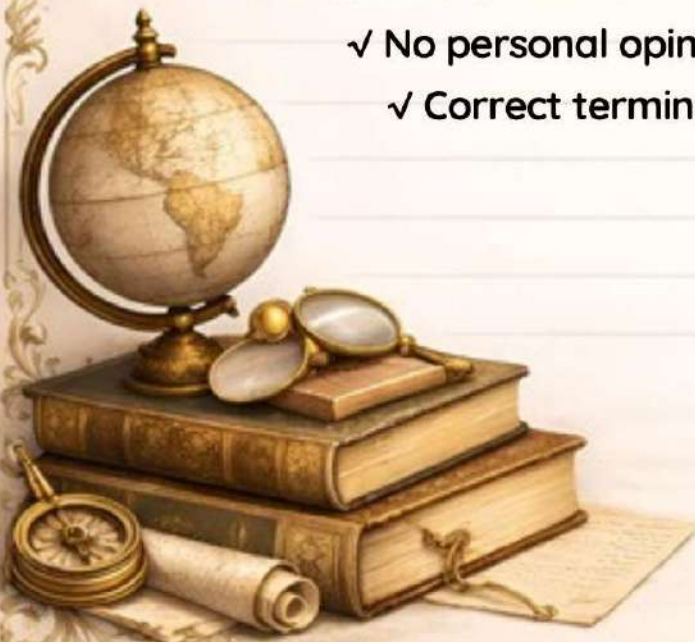
General Note for Students

The text concludes by emphasizing that:

- Technical and scientific translation focuses on accuracy
- Personal opinions and literary style should be avoided
- Using correct technical terminology is essential

Note for Students

- ✓ Technical and scientific translation focuses on accuracy.
- ✓ No personal opinion or literary style.
- ✓ Correct terminology is essential.



Key Elements of Literary Translation

Translating literary texts is different from translating ordinary or technical texts. The translator's task is not only to transfer words from one language to another, but also to convey the deeper meaning, emotional impact, and artistic style of the original text.

Literary works often contain:

Emotions and feelings

Imagery and figurative language

A unique artistic style

Rhythm and tone

If a literary text is translated word for word, it may lose its beauty and emotional power. Therefore, the translator must recreate the same effect and atmosphere in the target language.



Key Elements of Literary Translation

Note

Literary translation focuses on creativity, expression, and emotional resonance.

A successful literary translation makes the reader in the target language feel almost the same emotions as the reader of the original text, as if the work were written originally in that language.

Elements of Literary Translation , meaning, Emotion and Style

(Examples)

Meaning

Meaning is the most essential element in literary translation. It refers to the ideas, messages, emotions, and intentions that the writer wants to communicate, not just the dictionary meanings of words.



Key Elements of Literary Translation

In literary translation, the translator must understand two levels of **meaning**:

Literal meaning – the direct meaning of the words.

Implied meaning – the deeper meaning, such as symbolism, metaphor, or emotional suggestion.

A successful literary translator does not translate word for word. Instead, they may change the wording or sentence structure in order to preserve the core meaning and artistic effect of the original text.

Example

Arabic:

كان قلبه بحرًا من الحزن

Literal translation:

His heart was a sea of sadness.



Key Elements of Literary Translation

Literary translation:

His heart overflowed with sorrow.

Although the words are different, the literary translation expresses the same deep sadness in a more natural and expressive way in English. This shows how meaning is preserved even when the wording changes.

Example 2: Symbolic Meaning

Arabic:

كانت تسير في طريقٍ مظلم

Literal translation:

She was walking on a dark road.

Literary translation:

- She was walking a path filled with darkness.

Here, “dark road” does not only describe a physical place. It symbolizes confusion, fear, or despair. The literary translation keeps this symbolic meaning, allowing the reader to feel the emotional depth of the

Key Elements of Literary Translation

sentence rather than just imagine a dark street.

Key Point

In literary translation:

Words may change

Sentence structure may change

Expressions may change

But the central meaning, idea, and message must always remain the same.

This is why literary translation is considered an art as well as a linguistic skill—it requires understanding, interpretation, and creativity



Key Elements of Literary Translation

2. Emotion

- Literary texts often aim to evoke emotions such as sadness, joy, fear, or love.
- The translator must recreate the same emotional effect in the target language, even if different words or expressions are used.

Sometimes a literal translation fails to carry the same emotional strength.

Example

Arabic:

بكت حتى جفت دموعها

- Literal translation:
- She cried until her tears dried.

Key Elements of Literary Translation

Literary translation:

She cried until she had no tears left.

The emotion of deep sorrow is preserved and sounds natural in English.

Literary translation: The night crept in slowly.

The style remains poetic and atmospheric, even though the wording changes.

Note

Translating literary texts requires creativity as well as linguistic skill.

The translator must balance:

Accuracy of meaning

Emotional impact

Faithfulness to style

Key Elements of Literary Translation

A successful literary translation reads like an original literary work in the target language

Creativity in Meaning and Expression in Qur'anic Translation

Translating the Qur'an is not just about changing words from Arabic to another language.

It involves conveying meaning, style, and spiritual depth. Translations are usually called "Translation of the Meanings" because the exact literary beauty cannot be fully translated.

Why Qur'anic Translation Shows the Art of Translation

Arabic words in the Qur'an often have deep meanings and multiple layers.

Translators must preserve clarity, emotion, and guidance.

Literal translation is often not enough; creative choices are needed to maintain the essence.

This type of translation requires a combination of linguistic skill and sensitivity to spirituality.



Key Elements of Literary Translation

Examples

1• Surah Al-Sharh (94:6)

• Arabic: (إِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا)

English Translation: Indeed, with hardship comes ease.
The word يُسْرًا does not just mean “ease,” but also comfort and relief.

The translation captures both the simplicity and depth of the message.

2• Surah An-Nur (24:35)

Arabic: (اللَّهُ نُورُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ)

Key Elements of Literary Translation

- English Translation: Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth.
- Light here is metaphorical, representing guidance and divinity.
- The translator must choose a word that carries spiritual meaning, not only physical light.

3• Surah Taha (20:114)

Arabic: (وَقُلْ رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا)

- English Translation: And say, “My Lord, increase me in knowledge.”
- The simple words reflect humility and Translation preserves the tone of supplication and devotion.

Key Elements of Literary Translation

4• Surah Az-Zumar (39:53)

Arabic: (لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِنْ رَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ)

English Translation: Do not despair of the mercy of Allah.

تَقْنَطُوا conveys a stronger sense than just “don’t be sad.”

The translation must reflect psychological and spiritual depth.

Key Points for Students

Qur’anic translation is not word-for-word.

- ✓ The goal is to convey meaning, message, and spirit.
- ✓ Complete literary and rhetorical beauty cannot be fully translated.
- ✓ This makes it a perfect example of the art of translation



Important Pages on Translation

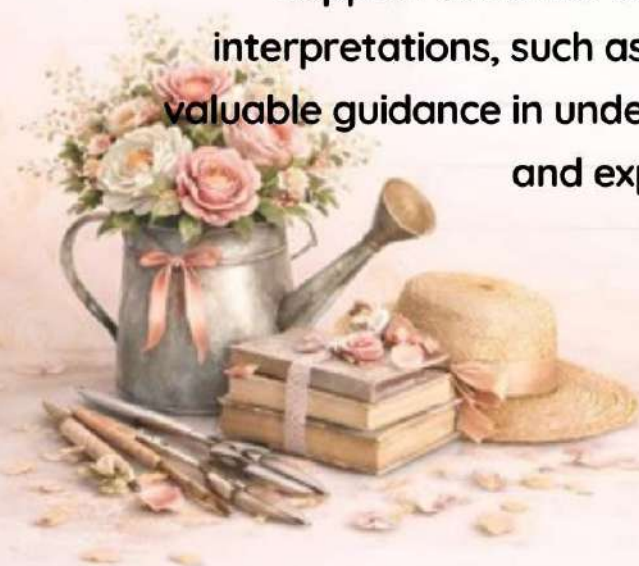
- Key Considerations in Translating the Holy Quran
- Translating religious texts, especially the Holy Quran, requires accuracy and careful consideration due to the sacred nature of the text.
- This process demands more than linguistic knowledge; it also involves religious and cultural understanding.
- A clear understanding of the original language is fundamental. Translators must be proficient in Classical Arabic to accurately grasp the meanings, expressions, and stylistic features of the Quranic text.
- Equally important is knowledge of the religious and cultural context. Familiarity with Islamic teachings, jurisprudence (Fiqh), and Quranic interpretation (Tafsir) helps translators understand the intended meanings of the verses and avoid misunderstanding.





Important Pages on Translation

- Literal translation may lead to loss or distortion of meaning; therefore, conveying the intended message clearly is more effective.
- Literal translation may lead to loss or distortion of meaning; therefore, conveying the intended message clearly is more effective.
- Clarity in the target language is also essential, provided that the original meaning is preserved. Translators should avoid adding personal explanations or altering the message of the text.
- Using reliable Quranic commentaries is necessary to support accurate translation. Well-known interpretations, such as Tafsir Ibn Kathir, provide valuable guidance in understanding complex concepts and expressions.





Important Pages on Translation

- Finally, it must be recognized that any translation of the Holy Quran represents an interpretation of its meanings and does not replace the original Arabic text.
- 





Important Pages on Translation

Examples of Quranic Meanings in Translation

1. رحمة - Mercy

Verse:

“وَرَحْمَتِي وَسِعَتْ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ”

Translation:

“My mercy encompasses everything.”

Explanation:

The Arabic word Rahmah (رحمة) is much richer than the English word mercy.

It includes:

compassion

tenderness

forgiveness

care and protection

It is not just kindness in a general sense, but an active, all-embracing mercy that reaches every part of creation.





Important Pages on Translation

1. توبة - Repentance

Verse:

“تُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ تَوْبَةً نَّصُوحًا”

Translation:

“Turn to Allah with sincere repentance.”

Explanation:

Tawbah (توبة) does not mean only feeling regret.

It means:

sincerely returning to Allah

stopping the sin

feeling true remorse

firmly deciding not to return to it

It is a complete inner and outer transformation

, not just an emotional feeling.





Important Pages on Translation

3. صلاة - Prayer

Verse:

“خَافِظُوا عَلَى الصَّلَوَاتِ وَالصَّلَاةِ الْوُسْطَى”

Translation:

“Maintain the prayers, especially the middle prayer.”

Explanation:

Ṣalāh (صلاة) is not just “prayer” as casual speech.

It is a formal act of worship with:

specific times

specific movements

specific recitations

It represents discipline, obedience, and a constant connection with Allah.





Important Pages on Translation

4. نور - Light

Verse:

“اللَّهُ نُورُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ”

Translation:

“Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth.”

Explanation:

Nūr (نور) here does not mean physical light only.

It symbolizes:

guidance

truth

clarity

divine direction

Allah is the source of all guidance that removes darkness from hearts and minds.





Important Pages on Translation

Examples of Quranic Meanings in Translation

Guidance - هدى - 5.

Verse:

“اهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ”

Translation:

“Guide us to the straight path.”

Explanation:

Hudā (هدى) means more than simple direction.

It includes:

showing the correct path

helping a person follow it

keeping them firm upon it

It is both knowledge and the ability to act upon it.





Important Pages on Translation

6. إيمان - Faith / Belief

Verse:

“الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ”

Translation:

“Those who believe and do righteous deeds.”

Explanation:

Īmān (إيمان) is not only belief in the heart or words on the tongue.

It includes:

belief in the heart

speech of the tongue

actions of the body

True faith naturally leads to good deeds.





Important Pages on Translation

Worship - نَعْبُد .7

Verse:

“إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ”

Translation:

“You alone we worship, and You alone we ask for help.”

Explanation:

Na‘budu (نَعْبُد) means more than worship rituals.

It means:

complete submission

obedience

love

humility

This verse declares exclusive devotion to Allah alone and complete reliance on Him for help in every aspect of life.





Important Pages on Translation

In short

Many Quranic words cannot be fully captured by a single English word.

Understanding their deeper meanings helps preserve the spiritual and conceptual richness of the Qur'an





Important Pages on Translation

Uses of Translation in Practical Life Communication

Translation helps people from different countries communicate and understand each other.

Business and Trade

Companies use translation for contracts, emails, advertisements, and international deals.

Education and Research

Translation allows students and researchers to read books and studies from all over the world.

Medicine and Healthcare

Doctors and patients use translation to understand medical reports and treatments.





Important Pages on Translation

Tourism and Travel

Translation is used in travel guides, signs, menus, and hotels.

Law and Legal Documents

Legal translation is important for laws, agreements, and official documents.

Media

TV shows, books, and games are translated for global audiences.

Technology and the Internet

Websites, apps, and software are translated to be used worldwide





Important Pages on Translation

Selected Arabic Texts with English Translations

Translated texts from Arabic to English

Text 1

Arabic

تلعب القيم الأخلاقية دورًا أساسيًا في بناء المجتمعات واستقرارها، إذ تسهم في تعزيز الاحترام المتبادل بين الأفراد.

English

Moral values play a fundamental role in building and stabilizing societies, as they contribute to strengthening mutual respect among individuals

Text 2

Arabic

يهدف التعليم إلى تنمية قدرات المتعلم الفكرية والعملية، وإعداده ليكون فردًا فاعلاً في مجتمعه





Important Pages on Translation

English

Education aims to develop the learner's intellectual and practical abilities and to prepare him to be an active member of society.

Arabic

التعليم لا يقتصر على المعرفة النظرية، بل يشمل المهارات العملية.
الهدف النهائي هو إعداد الفرد ليشارك بفعالية في المجتمع.

text 3

Arabic

أصبح البحث العلمي أداة رئيسية في تحقيق التقدم العلمي والتكنولوجي
في مختلف المجالات.

English

Scientific research has become a major tool in achieving scientific and technological progress in various fields.





Important Pages on Translation

البحث العلمي يقود التطور التكنولوجي.
يساهم في تحسين جودة الحياة وتطوير الصناعات المختلفة

Text 4

Arabic:

تؤدي الأسرة دورًا مهمًا في تنشئة الأبناء وغرس القيم الاجتماعية
السليمة في نفوسهم

English

The family plays an important role in raising children and
instilling sound social values in them.





Important Pages on Translation

Text 5

Arabic:

تسعى الدول إلى تحقيق التنمية المستدامة من خلال استثمار
الموارد البشرية والطبيعية بشكل فعال.

English

Countries seek to achieve sustainable development
through the effective investment of human and natural
resources.





Important Pages on Translation

Selected English Texts with Arabic Translations

Translated texts from English to Arabic:

text 1

English:

Education is a key factor in the progress and development of societies, as it helps individuals acquire knowledge and skills.

يُعد التعليم عاملاً أساسياً في تقدم المجتمعات وتطورها، إذ يساعد الأفراد على اكتساب المعرفة والمهارات.

text 2

English:

Scientific research contributes significantly to improving the quality of life by addressing social and economic challenges.

يسهم البحث العلمي بشكل كبير في تحسين جودة الحياة من خلال معالجة التحديات الاجتماعية والاقتصادية





Important Pages on Translation

text 3

English:

Effective communication plays an essential role in strengthening relationships within organizations.

يلعب التواصل الفعال دورًا أساسيًا في تعزيز العلاقات داخل المؤسسات

text 4

English:

Voluntary work helps promote cooperation and a sense of responsibility among community members.

يساعد العمل التطوعي في تعزيز التعاون والشعور بالمسؤولية بين أفراد المجتمع.





Important Pages on Translation

text 5

English:

Sustainable economic growth requires effective planning and efficient management of available resources.

يتطلب النمو الاقتصادي المستدام تخطيطًا فعالاً وإدارة كفؤة للموارد المتاحة.





Important Pages on Translation

Key Islamic Terms Explained in English

1. Core Islamic Beliefs | العقائد الأساسية

Islam (الإسلام)

- Islam means submission to the will of God (Allah).
- It is a monotheistic religion based on worshipping one God and following His guidance.

Muslim (مسلم)

- A Muslim is a person who believes in Islam and practices its teachings.
- Example: A Muslim prays five times a day and follows Islamic values.

Iman - Faith (الإيمان)

- Iman means believing in God, angels, holy books, prophets, the Hereafter, and destiny.

Example: Strong Iman guides a Muslim's actions.





Important Pages on Translation

Aqeedah - Creed (العقيدة)

- Aqeedah refers to the core beliefs of Islam.

Example: Correct Aqeedah strengthens faith and understanding.

Tawhid - Monotheism (التوحيد)

- Tawhid is believing that God is One, without partners.

Example: Tawhid is the foundation of Islamic belief.

2. Sources of Islam | مصادر الإسلام

The Holy Qur'an (القرآن الكريم)

- The Qur'an is the holy book of Islam revealed to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.
- It is the primary source of guidance for Muslims.





Important Pages on Translation

Prophetic Hadith (الحديث الشريف)

- Hadith are the sayings and actions of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.
- Example: Many Islamic rulings are derived from Hadith.

Prophetic Sunnah (السنة النبوية)

- Sunnah is the Prophet's way of life.
- Example: Following the Sunnah helps Muslims practice Islam correctly.

3. Islamic Law and Studies | الشريعة والعلوم الإسلامية

Sharia – Islamic Law (الشريعة الإسلامية)

- Sharia regulates worship, behavior, and social dealings.
- Example: Sharia promotes justice and morality.





Important Pages on Translation

Fiqh – Islamic Jurisprudence (الفقه الإسلامي)

- Fiqh explains how to apply Sharia in daily life.
- **Example:** Fiqh clarifies rules of prayer and trade.

4. Acts of Worship

Example

Reading the Holy Qur'an

Reading the Qur'an is considered a great act of worship in Islam.

Salah – Prayer (الصلاة)

- Salah is performed five times daily at fixed times.
- **Example:** Prayer connects Muslims with God.





Important Pages on Translation

Zakah - Almsgiving (الزكاة)

- Zakah purifies wealth and helps the needy.
- **Example:** Paying Zakah supports social balance

Sawm - Fasting (الصوم)

- Muslims fast during Ramadan from dawn to sunset.
- **Example:** Sawm teaches self-control and patience.

Hajj - Pilgrimage (الحج)

- Hajj is performed once in a lifetime if able.
- **Example:** Hajj unites Muslims from around the world.





Important Pages on Translation

5. Moral Values | القيم الأخلاقية

Examples of Moral Values in Islam

Honesty (Truthfulness)

Islam teaches Muslims to be honest in their words and actions.

Respect for Parents

Islam strongly emphasizes respecting and obeying parents.

Taqwa - God-consciousness (التقوى)

- Taqwa means being aware of God in all actions.
- **Example:** Taqwa encourages honesty and kindness.

Sabr - Patience (الصبر)

- Sabr helps believers endure hardship.
- **Example:** Sabr strengthens faith during difficulties.





Important Pages on Translation

Shukr - Gratitude (الشكر)

- Shukr means thanking God for blessings.
- **Example:** Gratitude increases contentment.

Tawbah - Repentance (التوبة)

- Tawbah allows believers to seek forgiveness.
- **Example:** God loves those who sincerely repent.

6. Halal and Haram | الحلال والحرام

Halal - Permissible (الحلال)

- Halal refers to what is allowed in Islam.
- **Example:** Muslims eat Halal food.

Haram - Forbidden (الحرام)

- Haram refers to what is prohibited.
- **Example:** Alcohol is Haram in Islam.





Important Pages on Translation

7. Community and Worship Places | المجتمع والعبادة

Mosque – Masjid (المسجد)

A mosque is a place of worship and community gathering.

Imam (الإمام)

- The Imam leads prayers and teaches religion.

Adhan – Call to Prayer (الأذان)

- Adhan announces prayer time.

Khutbah – Sermon (الخطبة)

- The Friday sermon addresses moral and social issues.

Note

These Islamic terms help to explain Islam clearly in English.





Important Pages on Translation

Further Reading on Translation

The Routledge Handbook of Translation Theory and Concepts

routledge.com

Contemporary Approaches to Translation Theory and Practice —

routledge.com

Modern Approaches to Translation and Translation Studies

Peter Lang

Western Theory in East Asian Contexts: Translation and Transtextual Rewriting

bloomsbury.com

CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES ON TRANSLATION AND TRANSLATION

STUDIES (2025) —

mjstjournal.com

Artificial intelligence contribution to translation industry

arXiv

The Translation of Circumlocution in Arabic Short Stories into English (2024)

arXiv

Textual aspects in Modern Translation Studies

journals.iium.edu.my



Translation as a Bridge Across Knowledge and Cultures

The Role of Translation in the Modern World

Introduction

Translation in the modern world is very important because people from different countries and cultures communicate more than ever before.

Translation helps us understand languages we do not speak and allows ideas, information, and culture to move across borders.

Importance of Translation

Translation plays a key role in many areas of life:

Education

Students can read books and research written in other languages.

Business

Companies communicate with international clients and global markets.

Politics and Diplomacy

Countries rely on translation to negotiate and cooperate.





Translation as a Bridge Across Knowledge and Cultures

Without translation, communication between nations would
be very difficult





Translation as a Bridge Across Knowledge and Cultures

Translation and Technology

Technology has greatly changed translation in the modern world:

- Machine translation tools help translate texts quickly.
- AI and online translators make translation easy and accessible.
- However, machines cannot fully understand culture, emotions, or context.

Therefore, human translators are still essential for accurate and meaningful translation.

Cultural Role of Translation

Translation is not only about words, but also about culture:

- It helps people understand different traditions and values.
- It allows cultures to share stories, ideas, and history.
- Good translation avoids misunderstanding and respects cultural differences.





Translation as a Bridge Across Knowledge and Cultures

In short

Translation in the modern world connects people and cultures.

It supports cooperation and mutual understanding.

Although technology is important, human translators remain necessary
to ensure accuracy and cultural sensitivity.





Developing Translation Skills

- This chapter focuses on the practical application of translation theories, strategies, and techniques discussed in the previous chapters. It aims to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world translation practice through structured exercises.
- Through various texts from different genres, students apply appropriate strategies, analyze linguistic and cultural challenges, and justify their translation choices. This process develops essential skills such as accuracy, clarity, consistency, and cultural awareness.
- By engaging in guided practice and critical evaluation, students enhance their linguistic competence and build professional translation skills necessary for academic and real-world
- These exercises demonstrate the practical application of translation strategies and highlight common challenges faced by translators. They aim to reinforce theoretical knowledge through guided practice and explanation





Developing Translation Skills

Section 1:

Arabic → English

(Simple Sentences)

Common Mistakes

1- أنا أحب القراءة كل يوم.

✗ Literal Translation: I love the reading every day.

✓ Correct Translation: I love reading every day.

Explanation: Articles like "the" are not needed in general statements. English uses "reading" (gerund) to express an activity.

2- لم أذهب إلى المدرسة لأنني كنت مريضًا.

✗ Literal: I did not go to school because he was sick.

✓ Correct: I did not go to school because I was sick.

Explanation: Literal translation changed the subject, which altered the meaning.

Always keep the subject consistent.





Developing Translation Skills

٣- الوقت مهم جدًا في حياتنا.

✗ Literal: The time is very important in our life.

✓ Correct: Time is very important in our lives.

Explanation: "The" is unnecessary, and "lives" pluralizes for natural English.

٤- على الرغم من التعب، أكمل عمله.

✗ Literal: Despite the tired, he completed his work.

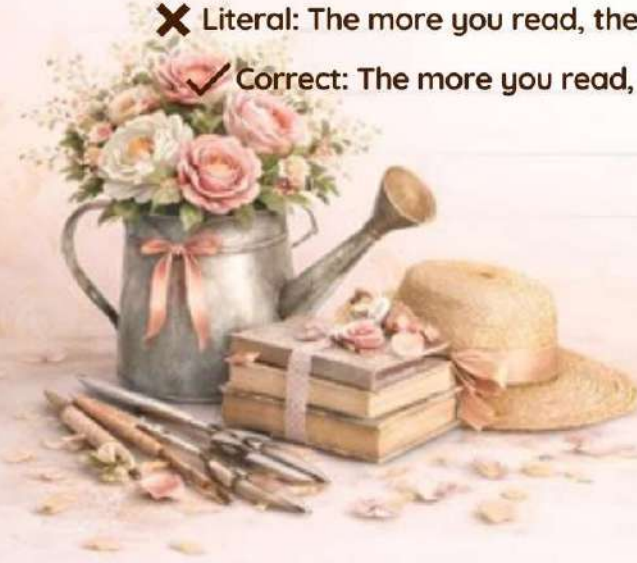
✓ Correct: Despite being tired, he completed his work.

Explanation: "Being tired" conveys the meaning naturally; literal translation of "التعب" fails grammatically

٥- كلما قرأت أكثر، زادت معرفتك.

✗ Literal: The more you read, the more your knowledge increases.

✓ Correct: The more you read, the more knowledge you gain.





Developing Translation Skills

Explanation: English uses "gain knowledge" rather than "knowledge increases" for natural expression.

٦- هي تدرس اللغة الإنجليزية منذ ثلاث سنوات.

✗ Literal: She studies English for three years.

✓ Correct: She has been studying English for three years.

Explanation: Present Perfect Continuous is used for an action continuing from past to present.

٧- على الرغم من الصعوبات، نجح الطلاب في الامتحان.

✗ Literal: Although the difficulties, the students succeeded in the exam.

✓ Correct: Despite the difficulties, the students succeeded in the exam.

Explanation: "Despite" is used to show contrast; literal "Although the difficulties" is grammatically incorrect.





Developing Translation Skills

8- يجب علينا أن نحترم القوانين.

✗ Literal: We should respect the laws.

✓ Correct: We must respect the laws.

Explanation: Both are acceptable, but "must" expresses stronger obligation in context.

9- لم يكن الحفل ممتعًا كما توقعنا.

Literal: The party wasn't fun as we

✗ expected.

✓ Correct: The party wasn't as enjoyable as we expected.

Explanation: English uses "as ... as" for comparisons; "fun" is informal, "enjoyable" matches formal context.





Developing Translation Skills

١٠-أمي تحب الطبخ في نهاية الأسبوع.

✗ Literal: My mother loves the cooking on weekend.

✓ Correct: My mother loves cooking on weekends.

Explanation: "Cooking" (gerund) is used; "on weekends" pluralized for general statement.





Developing Translation Skills

Section 2:

Arabic-English

(Simple Sentences)

Common Mistakes

Articles (a / an / the)

Arabic:

١-الحياة مليئة بالتحديات.

✗ Wrong:

The life is full of challenges.

✓ Correct:

Life is full of challenges.

Explanation (English):

We do not use “the” with general abstract nouns like life, love, happiness.





Developing Translation Skills

2-Uncountable Nouns

Arabic:

٢-أعطاني بعض النصائح.

✗ Wrong:

He gave me some advices.

✓ Correct:

He gave me some advice.

Explanation:

“Advice” is uncountable. It has no plural form.

3-Prepositions

Arabic:

٣-أنا مهتم بتعلم اللغات.

✗ Wrong:

I am interested to learn languages.

✓ Correct:

I am interested in learning languages.

Explanation:

The correct structure is:

interested in + verb (-ing)





Developing Translation Skills

4-Present Perfect vs Past Simple

Arabic:

٤-انتهيت من العمل منذ ساعة.

✗ Wrong:

I have finished the work an hour ago.

✓ Correct:

I finished the work an hour ago.

Explanation:

We use Past Simple with specific past time expressions
(yesterday, ago, last week).

5-Subject-Verb Agreement

Arabic:

٥-الناس يعتقدون ذلك.

✗ Wrong:

People believes that.

✓ Correct:

People believe that.

Explanation:

"People" is plural → use plural verb (believe).





Developing Translation Skills

6-Double Comparative

Arabic:

٦- هذا أكثر أهمية.

✗ Wrong:

This is more importanter.

✓ Correct:

This is more important.

Explanation:

Do NOT combine more + adjective + er.

7-Because vs Because of

Arabic:

٧- تم إلغاء الاجتماع بسبب المطر.

✗ Wrong:

The meeting was canceled because the rain.

✓ Correct:

The meeting was canceled because of the rain.

Explanation:

“Because” → followed by a clause.

“Because of” → followed by a noun.



Developing Translation Skills

8-Wrong Word Choice

Arabic:

٨- هو شخص حساس جدًا.

✗ Wrong:

He is a very sensible person.

✓ Correct:

He is a very sensitive person.

Explanation:

“Sensible” = practical / reasonable.

“Sensitive” = easily affected emotionally.

9-Countable vs Uncountable

Arabic:

٩- لدي الكثير من الواجبات.

✗ Wrong:

I have many homeworks.

✓ Correct:

I have a lot of homework.

Explanation:

“Homework” is uncountable.





Developing Translation Skills

10-Conditional Mistake

Arabic:

١٠-لو كنت أعرف، لأخبرتك.

✗ Wrong:

If I knew, I will tell you.

✓ Correct:

If I had known, I would have told you.

Explanation:

This is a third conditional (past unreal situation):

If + past perfect → would have + past



Developing Translation Skills

Section : 3

English → Arabic
(Simple Sentences)
Common Mistakes

1-She wants to travel next summer.

✗:Literal هي تريد السفر الصيف القادم.

✓:Correct هي تريد السفر في الصيف القادم.

Explanation: Adding "في" makes the sentence natural in Arabic.

2-He has finished his homework.

✓:Literal هو أنهى واجبه.

✓:Correct لقد أنهى واجبه.

Explanation: Using "لقد" reflects the Present Perfect meaning in Arabic.



Developing Translation Skills

3-It's raining cats and dogs.

✗ Literal: تمطر قطط وكلاب.

✓ Correct: تمطر بغزارة.

Explanation: Idiomatic expression → translate meaning, not words.

4-If you study hard, you will succeed.

✗ Literal: إذا تعمل بجد، سوف تنجح.

✓ Correct: إذا درست بجد، سوف تنجح.

Explanation: Conditional

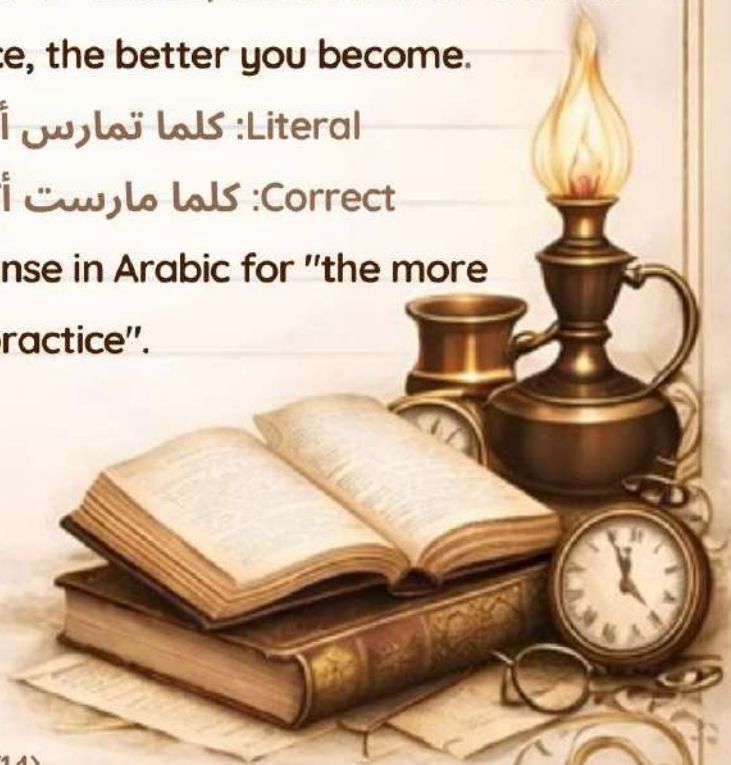
sentence Type 1 → past tense in "if" clause, future in main clause.

5-The more you practice, the better you become.

✗ Literal: كلما تمارس أكثر، تصبح أفضل.

✓ Correct: كلما مارست أكثر، أصبحت أفضل.

Explanation: Use past tense in Arabic for "the more you practice".



Developing Translation Skills

6-Despite the challenges, the team completed the project successfully.

- ✗ Literal: على الرغم من التحديات، أكمل الفريق المشروع بطريقة ناجحة.
✓ Correct: على الرغم من التحديات، تمكن الفريق من إنجاز المشروع بنجاح.

Explanation: "تمكن من" conveys success better than simple "أكمل".

7-She has been learning English for four years.

- ✗ Literal: هي درست اللغة الإنجليزية لمدة أربع سنوات.
✓ Correct: هي تدرس اللغة الإنجليزية منذ أربع سنوات.

Explanation: Present Perfect Continuous → "منذ" indicates duration from past to present.

Developing Translation Skills

8-Education is the key to success.

✗ Literal: التعليم هو مفتاح النجاح.

✓ Correct: Same

Explanation: Literal translation works here because meaning is direct.

9-He apologized because he had made a mistake.

✗ Literal: اعتذر لأنه قد ارتكب خطأ.

✓ Correct: اعتذر لأنه كان قد ارتكب خطأ.

Explanation: Past Perfect → "كان قد" reflects the sequence of past events.

10-Modern technology has changed the way people communicate.

✗ Literal: التكنولوجيا الحديثة غيرت طريقة الناس للتواصل.

✓ Correct: التكنولوجيا الحديثة غيرت طريقة تواصل الناس.

Explanation: Arabic removes unnecessary prepositions; "طريقة تواصل" is idiomatic.



Developing Translation Skills

Section 4 :

Arabic → English

(Intermediate Sentences)

Common Mistakes

١- بالرغم من صعوبة المهمة، تمكن الفريق من إكمالها في الوقت المحدد.

Literal: Despite the difficulty of the task, the team managed to complete it on the fixed time. ✗

Correct: Despite the difficulty of the task, the team managed to complete it on time. ✓

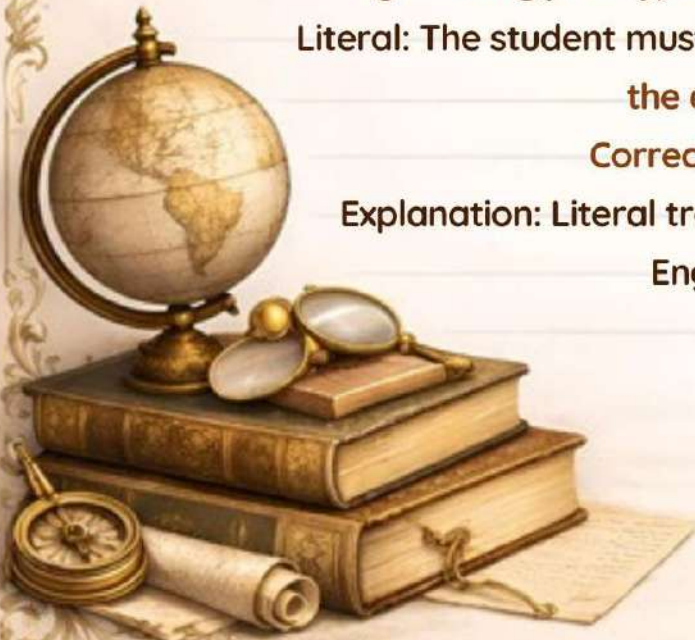
Explanation: "on time" is the idiomatic expression; "fixed time" is unnatural in English.

٢- على الطالب أن يراجع دروسه قبل الامتحان.

Literal: The student must review his lessons before the exam. ✓

Correct: Same ✓

Explanation: Literal translation works; natural English.





Developing Translation Skills

٣- التكنولوجيا الحديثة غيرت حياتنا بشكل كبير.

Literal: Modern technology has changed our life very much. ✗

Correct: Modern technology has greatly changed our lives. ✓

Explanation: Use "greatly changed" instead of "very much"; "lives" plural.

٤- بالرغم من الانتقادات، استمر في عمله بإصرار.

Literal: Despite the criticisms, he continued in his work with insistence. ✗

Correct: Despite the criticism, he continued his work with determination. ✓

Explanation: "Determination" conveys meaning naturally; "insistence" is awkward.

٥- كل شخص يجب أن يتحمل مسؤولية أفعاله.

Literal: Every person must bear the responsibility of his actions. ✗

Correct: Same ✓

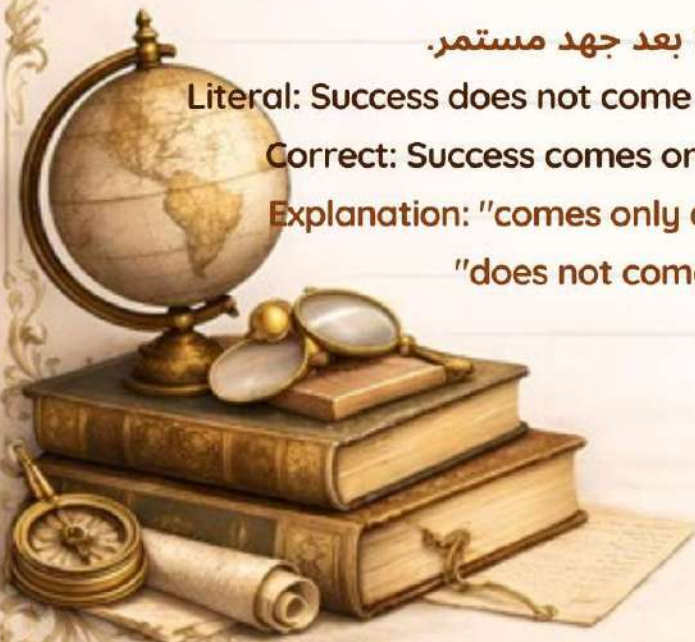
Explanation: Literal translation works; grammatically correct.

٦- النجاح لا يأتي إلا بعد جهد مستمر.

Literal: Success does not come except after continuous effort. ✗

Correct: Success comes only after continuous effort. ✓

Explanation: "comes only after" is more natural than "does not come except after".





Developing Translation Skills

٧-الأطفال يتعلمون اللغة بسرعة أكبر عندما يكون لديهم اهتمام.

Literal: Children learn language faster when they have interest. ✗

Correct: Children learn languages faster when they are interested. ✓

Explanation: "languages" plural; "are interested" is correct English structure.

٨-على الرغم من أن الجو كان ممطرًا، خرجنا للنزهة.

Literal: Although the weather was rainy, we went out for picnic. ✗

Correct: Although it was raining, we went out for a picnic. ✓

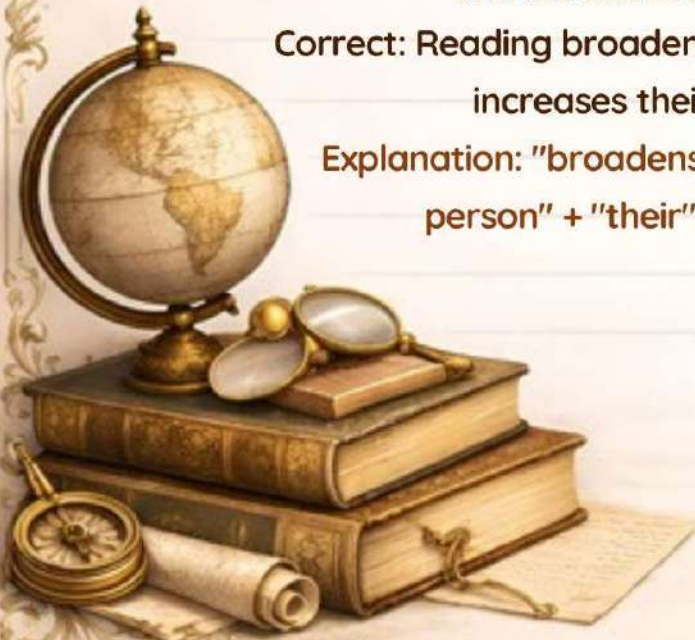
Explanation: English uses "it was raining" for weather; "a picnic" correct article.

٩-القراءة توسع مدارك الإنسان وتزيد من معرفته.

Literal: Reading expands the horizons of the human and increases his knowledge. ✗

Correct: Reading broadens a person's horizons and increases their knowledge. ✓

Explanation: "broadens horizons" idiomatic; "a person" + "their" natural English.





Developing Translation Skills

١٠- على الرغم من التحديات، تمكنت الشركة من تحقيق أرباح كبيرة.

Literal: Despite the challenges, the company managed to achieve big profits. ✗

Correct: Despite the challenges, the company managed to achieve significant profits. ✓

Explanation: "significant profits" is formal, natural English for business context.





Model Questions

Translation Practice and Skill Development Exercise One: Literal vs. Communicative Translation

1. Translate the following proverb using:

a) Literal Translation

b) Communicative Translation

Then explain which version is more effective in English and why.

Sentence:

الوقت كالسيف إن لم تقطعه قطعك •

2. Translate the following proverb using:

a) Literal Translation

b) Communicative Translation

Suggest a natural English equivalent if possible.

Then explain the difference between the two versions.

Sentence:

يد واحدة لا تصفق



Model Questions

Exercise Two: Cultural Expressions

رمضان مبارك

1. Translate the following cultural expression into English.
Then identify the translation strategy used and explain
your choice.

Expression





Model Answer

Translation Practice and Skill Development Exercise One: Literal vs. Communicative Translation

1. الوقت كالسيف إن لم تقطعه قطعك

Literal Translation:

Time is like a sword; if you do not cut it, it will cut you.

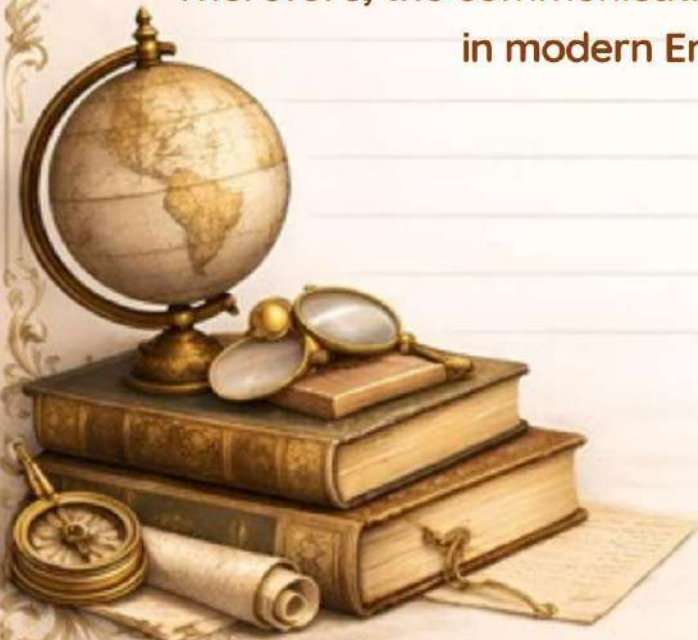
Communicative Translation:

Time must be managed wisely, or it will work against you.

Explanation:

The literal translation preserves the metaphor but may sound slightly unnatural in English.

The communicative translation conveys the intended meaning clearly and naturally to the target reader. Therefore, the communicative version is more effective in modern English usage.





Model Answer

2. يد واحدة لا تصفق

Literal Translation:

One hand does not clap.

Communicative Translation:

Cooperation is necessary for success.

or

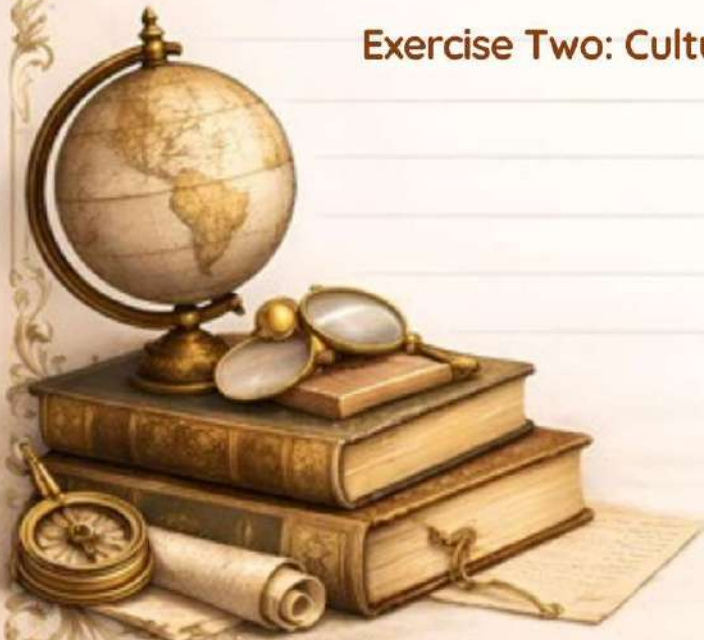
It takes two to tango.

Explanation:

The literal version keeps the original structure, but the communicative translation expresses the cultural meaning more clearly.

✓ "It takes two to tango" is a natural English equivalent

Exercise Two: Cultural Expressions





Model Answer

1. رمضان مبارك

Translation:

Ramadan Mubarak.

Strategy Used:

Cultural equivalence / Borrowing.

Explanation:

The expression is commonly transferred into English while keeping its cultural and religious meaning.





Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

(Arabic → English)

1-Focus on Meaning, Not Individual Words

Arabic:

"أشعر بالتعب بعد يوم طويل من العمل."

Natural English:

I feel tired after a long day at work.

Explanation:

The sentence is translated based on overall meaning. We don't translate word-by-word mechanically; we express the natural English equivalent.

2-Use Natural English Expressions

Arabic:

"الجو جميل اليوم."

Natural English:

The weather is nice today. ✓





Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

Explanation:

We use "The weather is nice" instead of something unnatural like "The atmosphere is beautiful." Choose expressions commonly used in daily English.

3-Adjust Word Order When Necessary

Arabic:

"صديقي اتصل بي أمس."

Natural English:

My friend called me yesterday.

Explanation:

Arabic and English sentence structures differ. English typically follows Subject + Verb + Object clearly.





Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

4-Translate the Meaning of Expressions, Not Literally

Arabic:

"بلا همّ أو قلق."

Natural English:

Without a care in the world.

Explanation:

Instead of translating literally ("without worry or anxiety"), we use an idiomatic English expression.

5-Pay Attention to Verb Tenses

Arabic:

"كنت أدرس طوال الليل."

Natural English:

I was studying all night.

Explanation:

The Arabic past continuous meaning requires "was studying," not just "I studied."





Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

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Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

6-Add Words if Needed for Clarity

Arabic:

"هو في المكتب الآن."

Natural English:

He is at the office now.

Explanation:

Arabic nominal sentences often omit the verb "to be," but English requires it.

7-Keep the Tone and Emotion

Arabic:

"فتحت الرسالة بيدين مرتجفتين."

Natural English:

She opened the letter with trembling hands.

Explanation:

The emotional tone must be preserved. "Trembling hands" conveys the same feeling.





Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

8-Use Collocations (Natural Word Combinations)

Arabic:

"اتخذ قرارًا مهمًا."

Natural English:

He made an important decision.

Explanation:

In English we say "make a decision," not "take a decision" in most common usage.

9-Simplify When Necessary

Arabic:

"أحب أن أذهب إلى النوم مبكرًا."

Natural English:

I like to go to bed early.

Explanation:

"Go to bed" is the natural collocation in English.





Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

10-Think Like an English Speaker

Arabic:

"لا أستطيع الانتظار لرؤيتك."

Natural English:

I can't wait to see you.

Explanation:

This is a fixed English expression. Translating literally into something else would sound unnatural.

Final Advice for Arabic _English Translation

Always ask: Does this sound natural in English?

Avoid translating Arabic structure directly.

Read your translation aloud.

Learn common English collocations and daily expressions.

Practice with longer sentences gradually.





Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

English _ Arabic

1-Focus on Meaning, Not Just Words

Tip: Don't translate word by word. Understand the full meaning of the sentence.

Example:

English: "I like to read before going to bed."

Natural translation: "

أحب القراءة قبل النوم."

Explanation: "قبل النوم" sounds natural in Arabic, whereas literal translation is awkward.

2-Use Natural Arabic Expressions

Tip: Use expressions and phrases common in everyday Arabic.





Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

Example:

English: "The weather is very hot today."

Natural Arabic:

“الجو حار جدًا اليوم.”

Explanation: “الجو” is preferred over “الطقس” in casual daily sentences.

3-Maintain Sentence Flow

Tip: Keep the sentence smooth; adjust word order if needed.

Example:

English: "My friend called me yesterday."

Natural Arabic: “

صديقي اتصل بي أمس.”

Explanation: Arabic often places the subject first for clarity.



Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

4-Convey Tenses and Timing Correctly

Tip: Pay attention to tense (past, present, future) and use proper Arabic verbs.

Example:

English: “I am learning English every day.”

Natural Arabic: “

أنا أتعلم اللغة الإنجليزية يوميًا.”

Explanation: Use “يوميًا” for “every day” to sound natural and fluent.

5-Adapt Idioms and Fixed Expressions

Tip: Replace English idioms with their Arabic equivalents instead of translating literally.

Example:

English: “Without a care in the world.”

Natural Arabic: “بلا همّ أو قلق.”

Explanation: Literal translation would confuse the reader; use idiomatic expressions.



Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

6-Include Contextual Details

Tip: Add words if necessary to clarify meaning or make the sentence sound natural.

Example:

English:

“They are cooking dinner at kitchen ”

Natural Arabic: “

هم يطهون العشاء في المطبخ الآن.”

Explanation: Adding “الآن” conveys the present continuous sense which is implied in English.

7-Avoid Overly Literal Grammar

Tip: English structures often don’t match Arabic; restructure the sentence for natural flow.



Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

Example:

English: "She is always late for class."

Natural Arabic: "

هي دائماً متأخرة عن حضور الصف."

Explanation: Use "عن حضور" instead of literal prepositions to match natural usage.

8-Preserve Emotions and Tone

Tip: Daily sentences often contain emotions; ensure they are conveyed in Arabic.

Example:

English: "She opened the letter with trembling hands."

Natural Arabic: "

فتحت الرسالة بيدين مرتجفتين."

Explanation: Maintain descriptive details and emotional nuances.



Guidelines for Translating Daily Sentences

9-Use Simple, Clear Vocabulary

Tip: Don't complicate daily sentences with rare or formal words unless needed.

Example:

English: "I need to buy some fruits and vegetables."

Natural Arabic: "

أحتاج إلى شراء بعض الفواكه والخضروات."

Explanation: Simple words keep sentences easy to understand and natural.

Practice Regularly with Variety

Tip: Translate sentences from daily life, messages, news, or short stories.

Goal: Develop intuition for natural Arabic structures and expressions



Literary Text (Translate into Arabic)

9-Use Simple, Clear Vocabulary

Tip: Don't complicate daily sentences with rare or formal words unless needed.

On a silent evening, the stars scattered across the sky like fragments of forgotten dreams. A gentle breeze moved through the trees, carrying with it memories of distant days. I stood alone beneath the vast darkness, wondering how something so quiet could speak so deeply to the heart. In that stillness, I realized that even the faintest light has the power to guide a wandering soul, and that hope often arrives in the softest whispers.





Literary Text (Translate into Arabic)

Model Translation

في مساءٍ صامت، تناثرت النجوم في السماء كأنها شظايا
أحلامٍ منسية. هبّت نسمةٌ لطيفة بين الأشجار، تحمل في
طياتها ذكريات أيامٍ بعيدة. وقفتُ وحيدًا تحت ظلمةٍ
شاسعة، أتساءل كيف لشيءٍ بهذا السكون أن يخاطب
القلب بعمقٍ كهذا. وفي تلك السكينة، أدركتُ أن حتى
أضعف ضوءٍ يملك القدرة على هداية روح تائهة، وأن الأمل
غالبًا ما يأتي في أرقّ الهمسات.

Simple Explanation of the Translation

Imagery and Atmosphere





Literary Text (Translate into Arabic)

- We translated “silent evening” as “مساءً صامت” to keep the calm and peaceful mood.
 - The phrase “stars scattered” became “تناثرت النجوم” to preserve the visual beauty of the image.
 - We translated “fragments of forgotten dreams” as “شظايا أحلام منسية” to keep the poetic metaphor.
 - The goal here was to maintain the soft and reflective atmosphere of the original text.
 - Word Choice and Tone
 - “A gentle breeze” was translated as “نسمّة لطيفة” to keep the softness of the scene.
 - “Carrying memories” became “تحمل في طياتها ذكريات” to sound more natural and literary in Arabic.
 - We used “ظلمة شاسعة” for “vast darkness” to reflect depth and emotional intensity.
 - We chose words that sound elegant and expressive, not overly simple.
- 



literary text (Translate into English)

في تلك الليلة الهادئة، كان القمر يتسلل بخيوطه الفضية عبر نافذتي، كأنه يهمس للروح بأسرار قديمة. جلستُ أراقب السماء، وأتأمل كيف يمكن للظلام أن يحتضن النور دون أن يطفئه. تذكرتُ أن الحياة، رغم قسوتها أحياناً، تخبئ في أعماقها بذور الأمل، وأن القلب الذي يعرف الصبر لا يعرف الانكسار.

Model Translation

On that quiet night, the moon slipped its silver threads through my window, as if whispering ancient secrets to the soul. I sat watching the sky, reflecting on how darkness can embrace the light without extinguishing it. I remembered that life, despite its occasional cruelty, hides within its depths the seeds of hope, and that a heart acquainted with patience never knows defeat





literary text (Translate into English)

• Simple Explanation of the Translation

Word Choice

- We chose words that sound soft and poetic because the original Arabic text is literary and emotional.
- We used “slipped” to show gentle and quiet movement.
- We kept “silver threads” to preserve the beautiful image of moonlight.
- We used “whispering” because it creates a calm feeling.
- The word “ancient” sounds more poetic than “old.”
- We used “embrace” to show that darkness and light can exist together peacefully.
- The word “extinguish” is more formal and suitable for literary writing.
- We kept expressions like “seeds of hope” to maintain the metaphor.
- Instead of using very simple phrases, we chose slightly elevated vocabulary to match the literary tone.



literary text (Translate into English)

- Overall Idea
- The goal was to:
- Keep the imagery
- Keep the metaphors
- Maintain a calm and reflective tone
- Avoid translating word-for-word in a way that sounds unnatural in English





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 1

Arabic Paragraph:

"على الرغم من الصعوبات التي واجهها في بداية حياته المهنية،
تمكن من تحقيق نجاح كبير بفضل جهوده المستمرة وإصراره."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Despite the difficulties he faced at the beginning of his
career, he managed to achieve big success thanks to his
continuous efforts and insistence. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Despite the difficulties he faced at the beginning of his
career, he managed to achieve great success thanks to
his continuous efforts and determination. ✓





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Explanation (English):

"big success" → unnatural in English; "great success" is idiomatic.

"insistence" → incorrect meaning; "determination" correctly conveys perseverance.

Sentence structure is smooth and natural in English.





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 2

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips
"التعليم هو أساس تقدم المجتمعات، وكلما زادت معرفة الفرد،
كانت قراراته أكثر دقة وحكمة."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Education is the foundation of the progress of societies, and
the more the individual knowledge increases, the more
accurate and wise his decisions are. **X**

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Education is the foundation of societal progress, and the
more knowledge an individual gains, the more accurate and
wise his decisions become. **✓**

Explanation (English):

- "societal progress" → more natural than "the progress of societies"
- "the more knowledge an individual gains" → idiomatic; correct tense "become" instead of "are" matches English structure for comparative clauses"



Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 3

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

"على الرغم من الانتقادات والضغط الكبير التي واجهها خلال السنوات الأولى من حياته المهنية، لم يفقد ثقته بنفسه واستمر في تطوير مهاراته حتى أصبح مثالاً للنجاح."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Despite the criticisms and big pressures he faced during the first years of his career, he did not lose his confidence and continued developing his skills until he became an example of success. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Despite the criticisms and great pressures he faced during the early years of his career, he did not lose confidence in himself and continued to develop his skills until he became a model of success. ✓





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Explanation (English):

.big pressures" → unnatural; "great pressures" is correct"
example of success" → literal; "model of success" is"
.idiomatic

Added "in himself" to make sentence natural





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 4

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

"العمل الجماعي يعزز من فرص النجاح، حيث يساهم كل فرد بخبراته ومهاراته في تحقيق الهدف المشترك."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Teamwork enhances the chances of success, where each person contributes with his experiences and skills in achieving the common goal. **X**

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Teamwork increases the chances of success, as each individual contributes their experience and skills to achieving the shared goal. **✓**

Explanation (English):

"increases the chances" → more natural than "enhances the chances"
"each individual contributes their experience" → inclusive and idiomatic"
.English

"shared goal" → better than "common goal" in formal English"



Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 5

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

"على الرغم من التحديات الكبيرة التي تواجهها الشركات في السوق العالمية، يمكن للتخطيط الجيد والإدارة الذكية أن يحقق نتائج إيجابية."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Despite the big challenges facing companies in the global market, good planning and smart management can achieve positive results. **X**

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Despite the significant challenges companies face in the global market, effective planning and intelligent management can produce positive outcomes. **✓**





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Explanation (English):

"big challenges" → "significant challenges" is formal and idiomatic.

"achieve positive results" → "produce positive outcomes" sounds more professional.

Adjusted word order to fit natural English flow.





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 6

Arabic Paragraph:

النجاح لا يأتي إلا بعد بذل جهد مستمر، كما أن التعلم من الأخطاء "يعد جزءًا مهمًا من التجربة."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Success does not come except after making continuous effort, and learning from mistakes is an important part of the experience. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Success comes only after continuous effort, and learning from mistakes is an essential part of the experience. ✓

Explanation (English):

"does not come except after" → unnatural; "comes only after" is idiomatic.

"an important part" → "an essential part" sounds stronger and more natural.



Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English:
Correction & Tips

Exercise 7

"على الرغم من الانتقادات، ظل العلماء ملتزمين بأبحاثهم
حتى حققوا اكتشافات مهمة."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Despite the criticisms, the scientists stayed committed
to their researches until they achieved important
discoveries. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Despite the criticisms, the scientists remained
committed to their research until they made significant
discoveries. ✓





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Explanation (English):

"researches" → uncountable noun in English →

"research"

"important discoveries" → "significant discoveries"
more formal and natural.

"remained committed" → smoother than "stayed
committed".





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 8

التخطيط الجيد يساعد المؤسسات على مواجهة التحديات
وتحقيق أهدافها بكفاءة.

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Good planning helps institutions to face challenges
and achieve their goals efficiently.

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Effective planning helps organizations tackle
challenges and achieve their objectives efficiently.

Explanation (English):

"Effective planning" is stronger than "good planning".

"tackle challenges" is more natural than "face challenges".

"organizations" is more formal than "institutions" depending on
context.





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 9

"التواصل الجيد بين أعضاء الفريق يزيد من فرص نجاح المشروع
ويقلل من الأخطاء."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Good communication between team members increases the
chances of project success and reduces the mistakes. **X**

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Effective communication among team members increases
the likelihood of project success and minimizes errors. **✓**

Explanation (English):

"increases the likelihood" → more formal than "increases the
chances".

"minimizes errors" → better English than "reduces the
mistakes".

"among team members" → idiomatic.



Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 10

"على الرغم من الصعوبات الاقتصادية، تمكنت الشركات الصغيرة
من النمو بفضل الابتكار والإدارة الجيدة."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Despite the economic difficulties, small companies managed
to grow thanks to innovation and good management. **X**

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Despite economic challenges, small businesses managed to
grow thanks to innovation and effective management. **✓**

Explanation (English):

"economic challenges" → more formal than "economic
difficulties".

"small businesses" → common collocation, better than
"small companies".

"effective management" → sounds professional.





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 11

الاستثمار في التعليم والتدريب المستمر يساهم في تطوير
مهارات القوى العاملة وزيادة الإنتاجية.

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Investing in education and continuous training
contributes to developing workforce skills and
increasing productivity. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Investing in education and ongoing training contributes
to the development of workforce skills and enhances
productivity. ✓



Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Explanation (English):

"ongoing training" → more natural than "continuous training".

"enhances productivity" → better style than "increasing productivity"





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 12

على الرغم من الضغوط الكبيرة، حافظ المدير على هدوئه واتخذ القرارات
الصحيحة في الوقت المناسب.

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Despite the big pressures, the manager kept his calm and made the
right decisions in the suitable time. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Despite significant pressures, the manager remained calm and
made the right decisions at the right time. ✓

Explanation (English):

"significant pressures" → idiomatic

"remained calm" → smoother than "kept his calm"

"at the right time" → idiomatic expression





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English:

Correction & Tips

Exercise 13

"الابتكار والتعاون بين الفرق المختلفة يؤديان إلى نتائج أفضل
ويزيدان من جودة العمل."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Innovation and cooperation between different teams lead to
better results and increase work quality. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Innovation and collaboration among different teams lead to
better outcomes and improve work quality. ✓

Explanation (English):

"collaboration" → more professional than "cooperation"

"lead to better outcomes" → idiomatic and formal

"improve work quality" → natural English





Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English: Correction & Tips

Translating a Short Arabic Passage into English:

Correction & Tips

Exercise 14

"المهارات الشخصية مثل التواصل وحل المشكلات تلعب دورًا مهمًا في نجاح أي مشروع."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Personal skills like communication and problem solving play an important role in the success of any project. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Soft skills such as communication and problem-solving play a crucial role in the success of any project. ✓

Explanation (English):

"Soft skills" → professional term for personal/people skills

"crucial role" → stronger than "important role"

Hyphen in "problem-solving" is standard in English





Translating a Short Arabic Paragraph into English: Correction & Tips

Exercise 15

"على الرغم من الانتقادات، واصل الباحث عمله بحماس لأنه كان يؤمن بأهمية ما يقوم به."

Literal Translation (Incorrect):

Despite the criticisms, the researcher continued his work with enthusiasm because he believes in the importance of what he does. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful):

Despite the criticisms, the researcher continued his work enthusiastically because he believed in the importance of what he was doing. ✓

Explanation (English):

"Adjusted tense to past "believed / was doing enthusiastically" → adverb form, sounds natural in English"





Tips for Practicing Paragraph Translation:

- 1- Read the paragraph carefully
- 2- understand the meaning fully before translating
- 3- Identify idioms or expressions translate meaning, not word-for-word.
- 4- Check tense consistency → Arabic past, present, future must match English.
- 5- Adjust sentence structure → English prefers subject-verb-object order.
- 6- Compare literal vs. meaningful translation → learn why literal may sound unnatural.





Translating a Short English Passage into Arabic: Correction & Tips

Exercise 1

- English Paragraph (Short Passage)

The old library smelled of books and memories. Every corner held a story, and the faint light from the windows seemed to whisper secrets of the past.

- Literal Translation (Incorrect)

المكتبة القديمة كانت تشم رائحة الكتب والذكريات. كل زاوية كانت تحتوي على قصة، والضوء الخافت من النوافذ كان يبدو أنه يهمس بأسرار الماضي. X

Correct Translation (Meaningful & Natural)





Translating a Short English Passage into Arabic: Correction & Tips

المكتبة القديمة تفوح برائحة الكتب والذكريات. كل ركنٍ فيها يحمل قصة، وكان الضوء الخافت المنبعث من النوافذ يهمس بأسرار الماضي. ✓

Explanation (English)

“smelled of books and memories” → translated literally as “كانت تفوح” is awkward in Arabic. Using “تشم رائحة الكتب والذكريات” is more natural and literary.

“Every corner held a story” → “كل زاوية كانت تحتوي على قصة” is grammatically correct but unnatural; “كل ركنٍ فيها يحمل قصة” flows better.

“seemed to whisper secrets of the past” → “يبدو أنه يهمس” is a literal translation; “وكان الضوء... يهمس بأسرار الماضي” keeps the poetic tone.





Translating a Short English Passage into Arabic: Correction & Tips

Tips

Avoid word-for-word translation; focus on meaning and flow.

Use poetic or descriptive expressions naturally in Arabic.

Adjust sentence structure to maintain smoothness and readability.

Preserve imagery and metaphors to keep the emotional tone.





Translating a Short English Passage into Arabic: Correction & Tips

Exercise 2

Translating Short paragraph into Arabic

Correction and Tips

She walked along the beach, letting the waves touch her feet.
The sunset painted the sky in shades of orange and pink, filling
her heart with peace.

Literal Translation (Incorrect)

مشيت على طول الشاطئ، وسمحت للأمواج بلمس قدميها. غَسَّت الشمس
الأفق بألوان البرتقالي والوردي، وملأ قلبها بالسلام. ✗

Correct Translation (Meaningful & Natural)

سارت على طول الشاطئ، وسمحت للأمواج أن تداعب قدميها. رسم الغروب
السماء بدرجات البرتقالي والوردي، وملأ قلبها بالسلام. ✓





Translating a Short English Passage into Arabic: Correction & Tips

Explanation (English)

“letting the waves touch her feet” → literal translation is awkward; “أن تداعب قدميها” is more poetic and natural in Arabic.

“painted the sky” → translated literally as “غَسَّت الشمس” is incorrect; “رسم الغروب السماء” conveys the meaning in literary style.

Sentence structure is adjusted to sound smooth and reflective.





Translating a Short English Passage into Arabic: Correction & Tips

Tips for Translating Short English Passages into Arabic

Avoid literal word-for-word translation; focus on meaning and flow.

Keep poetic or descriptive expressions natural in Arabic.

Adjust sentence structure if necessary to maintain smoothness.

Use literary verbs and adjectives to preserve the tone of the original.

Pay attention to metaphors and imagery, translate them in a way Arabic readers will feel the emotion





Translating a Short English Passage into Arabic: Correction & Tips

The Best Translation Apps You Can Use

Whether you want to translate short texts , voice conversations , or even images , here are the best translation apps with practical examples:

1-Google Translate

- One of the most popular translation apps in the world Supports 100+ languages.
- Offers text, voice, image, and real-time conversation translation.

Example of Use:

You type:

“How are you?”





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It shows the translation: “كيف حالك؟”

You point your phone camera at a foreign-language sign

The text is translated instantly on your screen

Great for travel and quick conversations.

2- iTranslate

- A powerful app for translating texts and voice conversations
- Includes a useful phrasebook for travel and communication

Example of Use:

You say:





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“Please show me the way to the metro station.”

➡ The app translates it into your chosen language in both text and voice.

It also includes common phrases like:

- “Where is the restroom?”
- “How much does this cost?”

Ideal for travelers and everyday communication.

3-DeepL

- Known for its high accuracy
- Excellent for long and professional texts





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Example of Use:

You paste a long paragraph from an article or email
You receive a smoother and more natural-sounding
translation compared to some other apps
Perfect for academic or work-related translations.

4-Microsoft Translator

- Allows real-time conversations between two people speaking different languages
- Displays translated text for both users

Example of Use:





Translating a Short English Passage into Arabic: Correction & Tips

You speak in Arabic

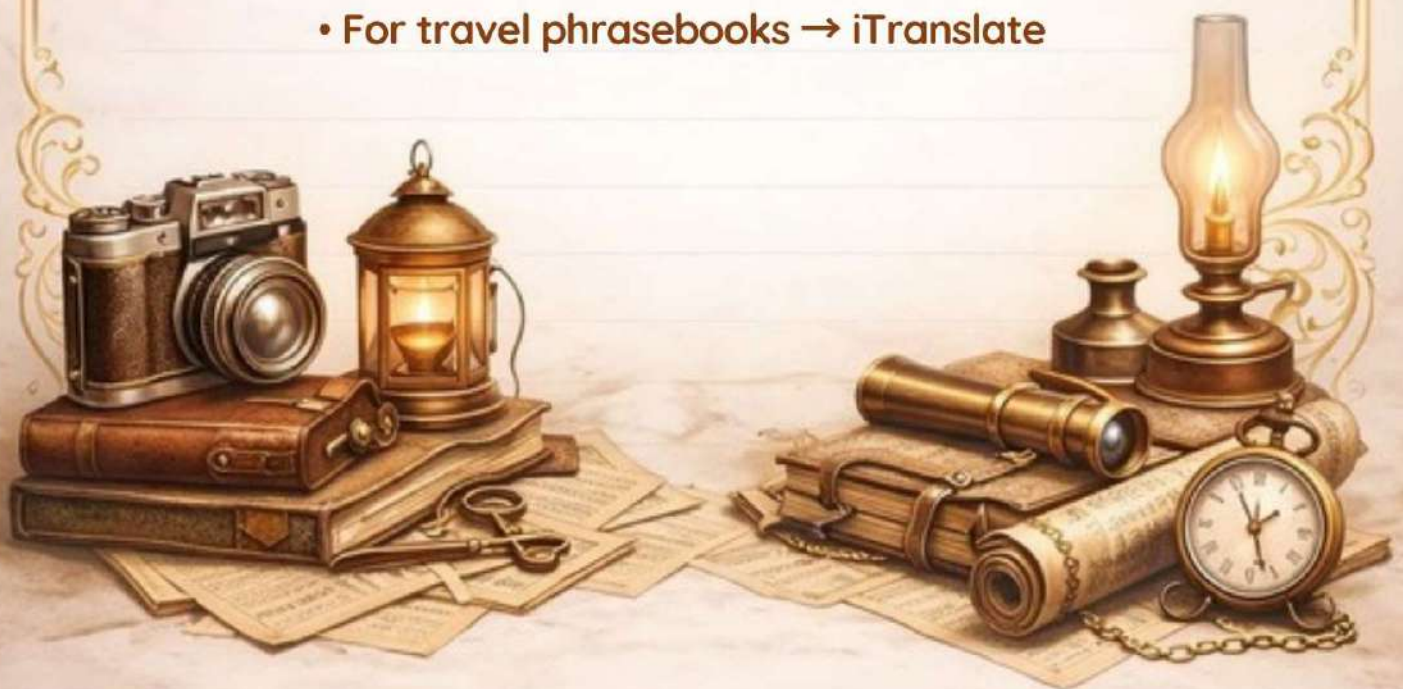
➡ The other person sees the translation in their language
They reply in their language

• You see the translation in Arabic instantly

*Great for meetings and international conversations.

Quick Summary

- For travel & quick use → Google Translate
- For professional texts → DeepL
- For live conversations → Microsoft Translator
- For travel phrasebooks → iTranslate



Conclusion

In conclusion, this research has highlighted the significant role of translation as a bridge between languages and cultures.

Through analyzing different translation strategies and challenges, the study demonstrates that translation is not merely a linguistic process, but also a cultural and communicative act that requires accuracy, awareness, and creativity. Effective translation contributes to the exchange of knowledge and the understanding of diverse perspectives across societies.

Therefore, continuous research and development in the field of translation remain essential to enhance translation quality and to meet the growing demands of global communication.

Therefore, studying translation helps students develop strong linguistic abilities, cultural awareness, and critical thinking skills. Translation is considered a fundamental tool for global communication and mutual understanding between societies.



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