



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

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

Error Category	Examples of Errors
1. Distortion: An element of meaning in the source text is altered in the target text. A distortion can occur in an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.	a) Source language text: <i>This week the government announced that all public servants would get a pay rise.</i> Correct version: <i>Ovog tjedna je vlada izjavila da će svi državni službenici dobiti povišicu.</i> Incorrect version: <i>Vlada je izjavila da će svi državni službenici dobiti povišicu ovog tjedna.</i> (Moving the phrase <i>ovog tjedna</i> changes the time reference from the announcement to the pay rise, thereby altering the meaning of the target text.). b) Source language text: <i>The witness described the thief as a young man with black hair.</i> Correct version: <i>Svjedok je opisao lopova kao mladića sa crnom kosom.</i> Incorrect version: <i>Svjedok je opisao lopova kao mladića s plavom kosom.</i> (Incorrect translation of the adjective, thereby altering the meaning of the target text.)
2. Unjustified omission: An element of meaning in the source text is not transferred into the target text. An unjustified omission can occur with an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.	Source language text: <i>The largest increases in soil carbon levels are obtained in the first 6–8 years after changes in land management, and after 35 years the rate of change drops to zero.</i> Correct version: <i>Najveći porasti nivoa ugljika u tlu se postižu u prvih 6-8 godina nakon promjena u gospodarenju zemljišta, a nakon 35 godina stopa promjene pada na nulu.</i> Incorrect version: <i>Najveći porasti nivoa ugljika u tlu se postižu u prvih 6-8 godina nakon promjena u gospodarenju zemljišta.</i> (Omission of the underlined clause results in a major loss of meaning in the context of the whole sentence.)
3. Unjustified addition: An element of meaning that does not exist in the source text is added to the target text. An unjustified addition can occur with an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.	Source language text: <i>This would guarantee that people leaving the workforce in their mid-60s enjoyed a financially secure retirement.</i> Correct version: <i>Ovo bi zajamčilo da će ljudi koji napuštaju radni odnos u svojim srednjim 60-im, uživati financijski sigurno umirovljenje.</i> Incorrect version: <i>Ovo bi zajamčilo da će ljudi koji napuštaju radni odnos u svojim srednjim 60-im, uživati financijski sigurno umirovljenje i to za ostatak života, bez obzira koliko dugo bi živjeli.</i> (The underlined words were not found in the original text, nor were they implied, and inserting them has a major impact on the transfer of meaning.)



4. Inappropriate register: Incorrect variety of language or inappropriate vocabulary for the text type (e.g. inappropriate level of formality or informality).	a) Source language text: <i>In a recent judgement, the Criminal Court <u>handed down</u> a three-month suspended sentence.</i> Correct version: <i>U nedavnoj odluci, Kazneni sud <u>je izrekao</u> uvjetnu kaznu od tri mjeseca.</i> Incorrect version: <i>U nedavnoj odluci, Kazneni sud <u>je izdao</u> uvjetnu kaznu od tri mjeseca.</i> (In the legal register, the wording usually used is that a court <i>izriče</i> rather than <i>izdaje</i> a sentence.) b) Source language text: [in minutes of board meeting] <i>The Chairman expressed his <u>extreme displeasure</u>.</i> Correct version: [u zapisniku upravne sjednice] <i>Predsjedatelj je izrazio svoje <u>veliko nezadovoljstvo</u>.</i> Incorrect version: [u zapisniku upravne sjednice] <i>Predsjedatelj je rekao <u>da se jako ljuti</u>.</i> (The phrase <i>da se jako ljuti</i> conveys the correct meaning but is too informal in this context.)
5. Unidiomatic expression: An expression sounding unnatural or awkward to a native speaker irrespective of the context in which the expression is used, but the intended meaning can be understood.	a) Source language text: <i>Smog is a <u>big</u> problem in many cities.</i> Correct version: <i>Smog je <u>velik</u> problem u mnogim gradovima.</i> Incorrect version: <i>Smog je <u>golem</u> problem u mnogim gradovima.</i> (In this context, the word <i>velik</i> is more commonly used, but <i>golem</i> can still be understood.) b) Source language text: Correct version: <i>Subjected <u>to</u> intense criticism</i> Correct version: <i>Biti izložen intenzivnoj kritici.</i> Incorrect version: <i>Biti izložen <u>k</u> intenzivnoj kritici.</i> (The verb <i>biti izložen</i> is normally collocated without a preposition, but the meaning can be understood.)
6. Error of grammar, syntax: Error in structuring words, clauses and phrases of a language. E.g. incorrect word type/form; incorrect verb tense/form; agreement error between subject- verb, noun-pronoun, adjective- noun, etc.	a) Source language text: <i>The symptoms include <u>dizziness</u>.</i> Correct version: <i>Među simptomima je <u>vrtoqlavica</u>.</i> Incorrect version: <i>Među simptomima je <u>vrtoqlavo</u>.</i> (Incorrect word form, i.e. use of adjective instead of noun) b) Source language text: <i>Last month he <u>brought</u> me ...</i> Correct version: <i>Prošlog mjeseca mi <u>je donio</u> ...</i> Incorrect version: <i>Prošlog mjeseca mi <u>donosi</u> ...</i> (Incorrect verb tense, i.e. present tense instead of past tense) c) Source language text: <i><u>Strokes are</u> quite common</i>



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