



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

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

Error Category	Examples of Errors
<p>1. Distortion: An element of meaning in the source text is altered in the target text.</p> <p>A distortion can occur in an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.</p>	<p>a) Source language text: <i>This week the government announced that all public servants would get a pay rise.</i></p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sa'o: <u>O le vайaso nei</u> na fa'asilasila mai e le Malo e fa'apea o le a maua si'itaga o totogi a tagata faigaluega uma a le Malo.</p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sese: Na fa'asilasila mai e le Malo e fa'apea o le a maua si'itaga o totogi a tagata faigaluega uma a le Malo i le <u>vайaso nei</u>.</p> <p>(Moving the phrase “vайaso nei” changes the time reference from the announcement to the pay rise, thereby altering the meaning of the target text.).</p> <p>b) Source language text: <i>The witness described the thief as a young man with <u>blond</u> hair.</i></p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sa'o: Na fa'amatalaina e le molimau le gaoi o se ali'i talavou e <u>enaena</u> lona lau'ulu.</p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sese: Na fa'amatalaina e le molimau le gaoi o se ali'i talavou e <u>uliuli</u> lona lau'ulu.</p> <p>(Incorrect translation of the adjective, thereby altering the meaning of the target text.)</p>
<p>2. Unjustified omission: An element of meaning in the source text is not transferred into the target text.</p> <p>An unjustified omission can occur with an individual word, phrase, clause or entire sentence.</p>	<p>Source language text: <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></p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sa'o: O le si'itaga tele o le maualuga o le karaponi o le eleele e maua mai i le 6-8 tausaga muamua pe a mae'a suiga i le pulega o eleele, <u>ma i le tuana'i ai o le 35 tausaga ua pa'ū ai le fua fa'atatau i le 0.</u></p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sese: O le si'itaga tele o le maualuga o le karaponi o le eleele e maua mai i le 6-8 tausaga muamua pe a mae'a suiga i le pulega o eleele.</p> <p>(Omission of the underlined clause results in a major loss of meaning in the context of the whole sentence.)</p>



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

Fa'amatalaga sa'o: o le a mautinoa ai e fa'apea o tagata ua tuua le galuega i le ogatotonu o le 60 o latou tausaga e mautū ma maua se fa'amanuiaga tau tupe pe a fa'amalolo litaea.

Fa'amatalaga sese: o le a mautinoa ai e fa'apea o tagata ua tuua le galuega i le ogatotonu o le 60 o latou tausaga e mautū ma maua se fa'amanuiaga tau tupe pe a fa'amalolo litaea mo le olaga atoa tusa lava po'o le a le umi e latou te soifua ai.

(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.)



Error Category	Examples of Errors
4. Inappropriate register: Incorrect variety of language or inappropriate vocabulary for the text type (e.g. inappropriate level of formality or informality).	<p>a) Source language text: <i>In a recent judgement, the Criminal Court handed down a three-month suspended sentence.</i></p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sa'o: I se fa'aiuga talu ai nei, na <u>tu'uina mai</u> ai e le Fa'amasinoga o Soligatulafono se fa'asalaga e tolu masina e fa'amalolo lē tumau ai.</p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sese: I se fa'aiuga talu ai nei, na <u>tu'uina atu</u> ai e le Fa'amasinoga o Soligatulafono se fa'asalaga e tolu masina e fa'amalolo lē tumau ai.</p> <p>(In the legal register, the wording usually used is that a court “tu'uina mai” rather than “tu'uina atu” a sentence.)</p> <p>b) Source language text: <i>[in minutes of board meeting] The Chairman expressed his <u>extreme displeasure</u>.</i></p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sa'o: [i minute o fonotaga a le komiti fa'atino] Na fa'aalia e le Taitaifono lona <u>lē fiafia tele</u>.</p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sese: Na fai mai le Ta'ita'ifono ua <u>matuā ita</u> lava o ia.</p> <p>(The phrase “matuā ita” conveys the correct meaning but is too informal in this context.)</p>
5. Unidiomatic expression: An expression sounding unnatural or awkward to a native speaker irrespective of the context in which the expression is used, but the intended meaning can be understood.	<p>a) Source language text: <i>Smog is a <u>big</u> problem in many cities.</i></p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sa'o: Auaoa o se fa'afitauli <u>matuā ita</u> i tele o taulaga.</p> <p>Fa'amatalaga sese: Auaoa o se fa'afitauli <u>lapo'a</u> i tele o taulaga</p> <p>(In this context, the word “matuā ita” is more commonly used, but “lapo'a” can still be understood.)</p> <p>b) Source language text: <i>subjected <u>to</u> intense criticism</i></p> <p>Faamatalaga sa'o: noatia <u>i</u> faitioga tele</p> <p>Faamatalaga sese: noatia <u>ma</u> faitioga tele</p> <p>(The verb “noatia” should be collocated with the preposition “i”, but the meaning can be understood.)</p>



	<p>a) Source language text: <i>the symptoms include dizziness</i></p> <p>Faamatalaga sa'o: o auga e aofia ai le <u>faaniniva</u></p> <p>Faamatalaga sese: o auga e aofia ai le <u>niniva</u></p> <p>(Incorrect word form)</p> <p>b) Source language text: <i>last month he brought me...</i></p> <p>Faamatalaga sa'o: i le masina talu ai na ia <u>aumaia</u> ia te a'u...</p> <p>Faamatalaga sese: i le masina talu ai ua ia <u>aumai</u> ia te a'u...</p> <p>(Incorrect verb tense, i.e. present tense instead of past tense)</p> <p>c) Source language text: <i>strokes are quite common</i></p> <p>Faamatalaga sa'o: <u>ma'i ua poloka alatoto</u> e fai lava <u>si taatele</u></p> <p>Faamatalaga sese: <u>ma'i ua poloka alatoto</u> e fai lava <u>le taatele</u></p> <p>(Agreement error between noun and verb, i.e. use of singular verb form instead of plural)</p>
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Error Category	Examples of Errors
6. Error of grammar, syntax: Error in structuring words, clauses and phrases of a language. E.g. incorrect word type/form; incorrect verb tense/form; agreement error between subject- verb, noun-pronoun, adjective- noun, etc.	<p>d) Source language text: <i>he picked up a chair and put <u>it</u> on the table</i></p> <p>Faamatalaga sa'o: sa ia si'iina i luga se nofoa ma tuu i luga o le laulau</p> <p>Faamatalaga sese: sa ia si'iina i luga se nofoa ma tuu <u>o ia</u> i luga o le laulau.</p> <p>(Incorrect pronoun to refer to chair.)</p> <p>e) Source language text: <i>they <u>have provided</u> the information</i></p> <p>Faamatalaga sa'o: ua latou <u>tuuina mai</u> ni faamatalaga</p> <p>Faamatalaga sese: o lo'o <u>jai</u> ia latou ni faamatalaga na <u>tuuina atu</u></p> <p>(Incorrect sentence structure)</p>
7. Error of spelling: Error in forming words with letters or characters. E.g. misspelling of a word/character, incorrect capitalisation.	<p>Source language text: <i>That case will have to be tried in the Supreme Court.</i></p> <p>Faamatalaga sa'o: O lea mataupu e ao ona faia i luma o le Faamsinoga <u>Sili</u>.</p> <p>Faamatalaga sese: O lea mataupu e ao ona faia i luma o le Faamsinoga <u>sili</u>.</p> <p>(Capitalisation error, i.e. as "Sili" is part of the name of the court, it should have a capital letter.)</p>
8. Error of punctuation: Error in use of marks that separate sentences and their elements, and clarify meaning. E.g. incorrect comma, full-stop, apostrophe, inverted commas, etc.	<p>Source language text: <i>The government will change its policy on the taxation of trusts.</i></p> <p>Faamatalaga sa'o: O le malo o le a suaia ana faiga faavae i lafoga o mavaega.</p> <p>Faamatalaga sese: <u>O le malo</u>, o le a suaia ana faiga faavae i lafoga o mavaega.</p> <p>(Incorrect comma usage, i.e. the comma incorrectly separates the subject from its verb.)</p>