

# How to translate a book using Transifex

Siyavula Education

## What is Transifex?

Transifex is an open-source computer aided translation tool. It is a web application that allows teams of people to manage and perform translations of texts. You can read more about Transifex here: <https://www.Transifex.com/>. Siyavula runs its own copy of Transifex at <http://translate.siyavula.com>, this is where you will do your translations.

## Step 1: Registering a new user account

Go to <http://translate.siyavula.com> in your browser. You should see something like:

The screenshot shows the Transifex website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Transifex logo (a stylized 'TX' in blue and orange) and the text 'Transifex Integrated translation platform'. To the right of the logo, there are links for 'Sign in' and 'Register' (the 'Register' link is highlighted with a red box). Further right, there is a language selector showing 'en'. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and a 'Search Projects' button. The main content area has a light blue header with the text 'Welcome to Transifex'. Below this, there is a section titled 'Transifex is a service aimed at helping translators keep track of their favorite translation projects.' followed by a search bar and a 'Search Projects' button. On the right side, there is a 'Sign in' box with a user icon, a description 'Sign in to add or modify projects, work on translations, and other stuff.', fields for 'Email or username: \*' and 'Password: \*', a 'Remember me for a month: \*' checkbox, and a 'Sign in' button with a key icon.

Click on the ``Register'' button in the top right corner to create a new account, if you have not done this already.

You will be taken to the registration page which looks like this:


The screenshot shows the Transifex registration page. The header includes the Transifex logo, a language dropdown set to 'en', and a search bar. The main section is titled 'Register' and contains the following fields:

- Username \***: ezietsman
- Email \***: ewald.zietsman@gmail.com
- Create password \***: [masked with dots]
- Repeat password \***: [masked with dots]



A green checkmark icon and the text 'Sign up' are visible in a button at the bottom left, which is highlighted with a red rectangle.

Please choose a username and enter a valid email address. Choose password and enter it into the two password boxes. Click in the ``Sign up'' button when you are done. You will receive an email at the address you entered. The email contains a link which you must click on to activate your account. You will then be taken to this page:

Transifex  
Integrated translation platform

Welcome ezietsman! |  Sign out | en ▾

**Projects** Languages

   Search Projects

✔ Your account has been activated and you have been signed in.

Account

- Edit profile
- Change email
- Change password
- Notification settings
- Social login

Edit Profile

First name

Last name

Location

Languages  
Afrikaans (af)  
Afrikaans (South Africa) (af\_ZA)  
Akan (ak)  
Albanian (sq)

Interested in

Mugshot  
 No file chosen

Blog

LinkedIn

## Step 2: Finding the project you will work on

Let's assume you have been assigned to the "Atomic Combinations 1" resource under the "Physical Sciences Grade 11" project. Clicking on the "Projects" link at the top of the page should take you to a page that looks like this:

## My Projects on Transifex

[All projects](#)

MAINTAINING NO PROJECTS YET

CURRENTLY NOT TRANSLATING SOMETHING

**YOUR TRANSLATION TEAMS**

COORDINATING ONE TEAM

[Afrikaans - Physical Science Grade 11 CAPS](#)

[Edit](#)

NOT PARTICIPATING IN ANY TEAM SO FAR

**YOUR WATCHES**

NOT WATCHING ANY PROJECT

NOT WATCHING ANY RESOURCE TRANSLATION

If you are a member of any translation teams, you will see a link under "Participating in xxx teams" in the above image. Click on the link that says "Physical Sciences Grade 11" (or whichever project you are contributing to).

You will then see the resources that have been uploaded to the project. The Siyavula team will do this. Look for the link that says "Atomic Combinations 1" and click on it:

# Physical Science Grade 11 CAPS

Physical Science Grade 11 CAPS

Project Overview

Teams



Widgets

Details

[Watch project](#)

Maintainer:  transifex

Project Resources

Resource name	Category	Last Updated	Importance
<a href="#">Atomic Combinations 1 »</a>	None	Sep 03, 02:24p.m.	
<a href="#">Atomic Combinations 2 »</a>	None	Sep 03, 02:24p.m.	
<a href="#">Atomic Combinations 3 »</a>	None	Sep 03, 02:24p.m.	
<a href="#">Atomic Combinations 4 »</a>	None	Sep 03, 02:24p.m.	
<a href="#">Atomic Combinations 5 »</a>	None	Sep 03, 02:24p.m.	


Project Releases



This will take you to the page detailing the languages for this resource:


## Physical Science Grade 11 CAPS / Atomic Combinations 1

Physical Science Grade 11 CAPS


Details

 Total Strings 101 (1772 words)

 Priority Level 

 Accepting



 Release:

physicalscience-gr11-caps.all-resources

Available languages (2)

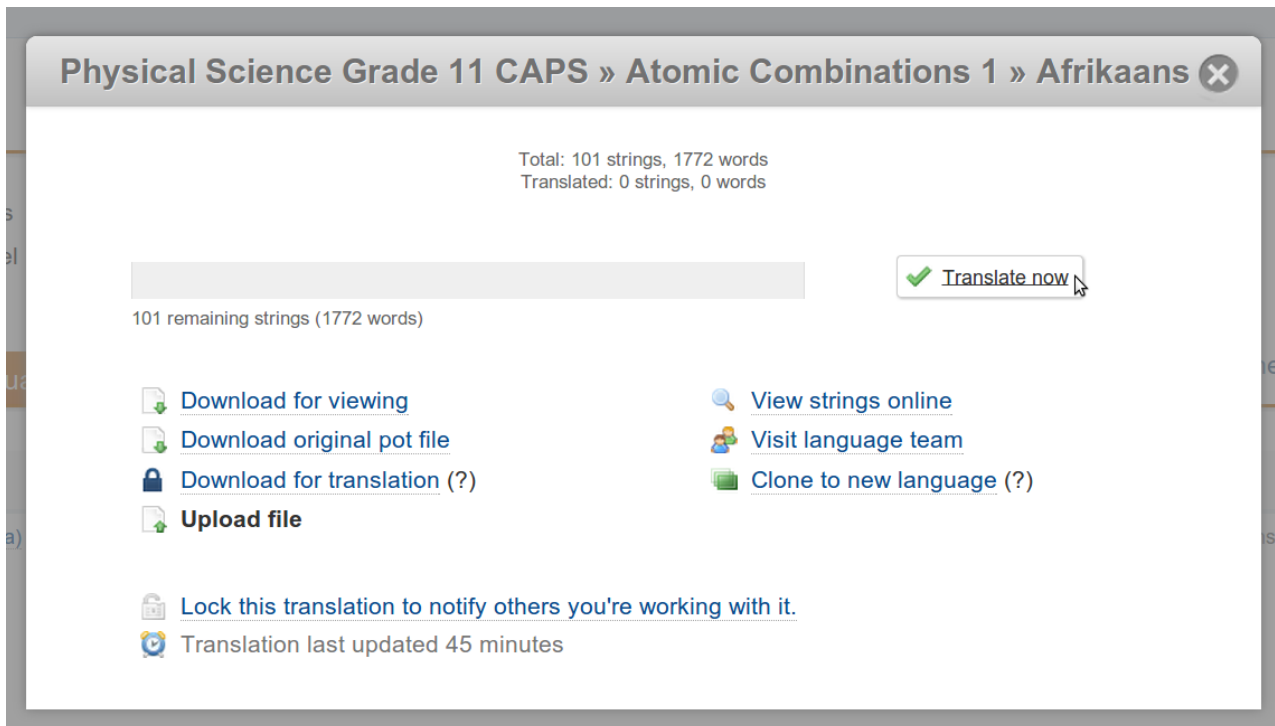
[Add new translation](#)

Language	Completion	Last Updated
English (South Africa) (en_ZA) (source language)	<div><div></div></div> 100%	Sep 03, 02:10p.m. by transifex
<b>Afrikaans (af)</b>	<div><div></div></div> 0%	Sep 03, 02:24p.m.

History

 The resource [Atomic Combinations 1](#) of the [Physical Science Grade 11 CAPS](#) project has been changed by transifex 58 minutes ago.

If you are going to translate into Afrikaans, click on the link that says ``Afrikaans''. You will be presented with a pop-up box:



Click on the button that says ``Translate now''. This will take you to the online translation editor.

### Step 3: Translating strings online

You should find yourself in the online translation editor. This is where the translations occur. The window on the left shows the source language strings (English in our case) and on the right you may see some Afrikaans strings or empty boxes, where the strings have not been translated yet. It looks like this:

# Physical Science Grade 11 CAPS / Atomic Combinations 1

## / Afrikaans (af)

Translated	0	0.00%	
Untranslated	101	100.00%	✓
Reviewed	0	0.00%	
Total	101		

Filter by users ▼ More languages ▼

Showing 1 to 50 of 101 entries

Search translations Shortcuts

Source String	Translation
Atomic combinations	
We live in a world that is made up of many complex compounds. All around us we see evidence of chemical bonding from the chair you are sitting on, to the book you are holding to the air you are breathing. Imagine if all the elements on the periodic table did not form bonds but rather remained on their own. Our world would be pretty boring with only <_number-1/> or so elements to use.	
Imagine you were painting a picture and wanted to show the colours around you. The only paints you have are red, green, yellow, blue, white and black. Yet you are able to make pink, purple, orange and many other colours by mixing these paints. In the same way, the elements can be thought of as natures paint box. The elements can be joined together in many different ways to make new compounds and so create the world around you.	
In Grade 10 we started exploring chemical bonding. In this chapter we will go on to explain more about chemical bonding and why chemical bonding occurs. We looked at the three types of bonding: covalent, ionic and metallic. In this chapter we will focus mainly on covalent bonding and on the molecules that form as a result of covalent bonding.	
In this chapter we will use the term molecule to mean a covalent molecular structure. This is a covalent compound that interacts and exists as a single entity.	

To start translating, click on the empty box next to an English string and enter the translation. It may look something like:

Translated	1	0.99%	
Untranslated	99	98.02%	✓
Reviewed	0	0.00%	
Total	101		

Filter by users ▼ More languages ▼

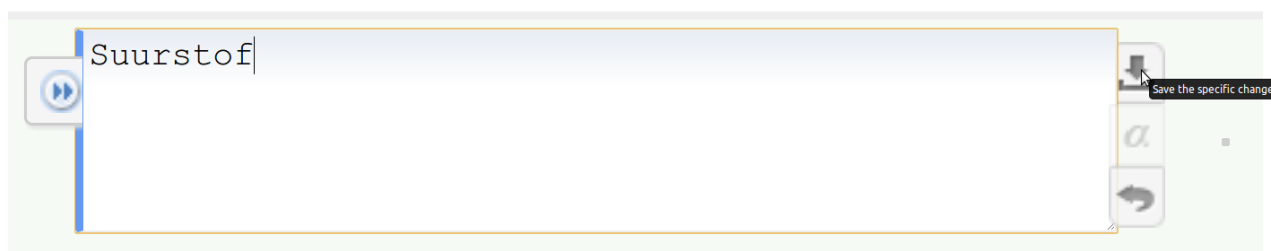
Showing 1 to 50 of 101 entries

Search translations Shortcuts

Source String	Translation
Atomic combinations	Atomiese kombinasies
We live in a world that is made up of many complex compounds. All around us we see evidence of chemical bonding from the chair you are sitting on, to the book you are holding to the air you are breathing. Imagine if all the elements on the periodic table did not form bonds but rather remained on their own. Our world would be pretty boring with only <_number-1/> or so elements to use.	Ons bly in 'n wereld wat van vele komplekse stowwe gemaak is.

details suggestions

When you are done you can hit the save button next to the box:



You can also just hit the `Tab` button on your keyboard to save the string and move to the next box automatically. When a string is saved, the left side of the box containing it turns green.

In some cases the translated string is the same as the original string, maybe its a number or a word that is the same in Afrikaans and English. In this case you can hit the `Copy` button to copy the entire string to the right-hand box. This will save you some time:



## NB!!

Sometimes you will find English strings that looks like the following:

Remember that it is only the `<_:emphasis-1/>` that are involved in bonding, and so when diagrams are drawn to show what is happening during bonding, it is only these electrons that are shown. Dots or crosses represent electrons in different atoms.

The important thing to note is the `<_:emphasis-1/>` that is contained within the string. This is a special marker that Transifex uses to show that a string that will be translated elsewhere is contained within the paragraph or sentence you are currently busy with. The `emphasis` means the the string is contained within a piece of text marked as **bold** or *italics* in the book and as such will be translated on its own. **Please make sure that you include this special marker in your translated string.** If you forget to include it, Transifex will warn you about it. You may see something like:



Source String	Translation
Atomic combinations	Atomiese kombinasies
<p>We live in a world that is made up of many complex compounds. All around us we see evidence of chemical bonding from the chair you are sitting on, to the book you are holding, the air you are breathing. Imagine if all the elements on the periodic table did not form bonds but rather remained on their own. Our world would be pretty boring with only &lt;_:number-1/&gt; or so elements to use.</p>	<p>Ons bly in 'n wereld wat van vele komplekse stowwe gemaak is.</p>

Number -1 is in the source string but not in the translation.

The warning will disappear if you include the entire marker <\_:emphasis-1/> in the text:

Source String	Translation
Atomic combinations	Atomiese kombinasies
<p>We live in a world that is made up of many complex compounds. All around us we see evidence of chemical bonding from the chair you are sitting on, to the book you are holding, the air you are breathing. Imagine if all the elements on the periodic table did not form bonds but rather remained on their own. Our world would be pretty boring with only &lt;_:number-1/&gt; or so elements to use.</p>	<p>Ons bly in 'n wereld wat van vele komplekse stowwe gemaak is. Ons sien chemiese bindings orals rondom ons, van die stoel waarop jy sit, die boek wat jy vashou tot die lug wat jy in asem. Verbeel jou dat die elemente in die periodieke tabel nie bindings gevorm het nie maar op hul eie gebly het. Ons wereld sou vervelig gewees as daar net &lt;_:number-1/&gt; elemente was om te gebruik.</p>

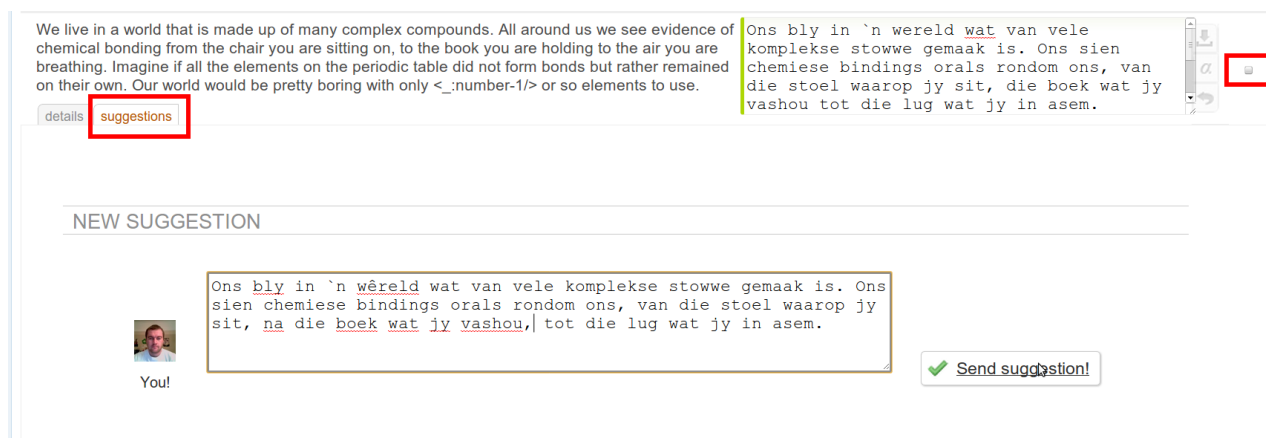
**Note:** in the screenshots above the special marker was called <\_:number-1/>. You will see various kinds of markers starting with <\_: and ending with /> while you do translations. Please remember to include them in the translated strings. Many of them contain special commands that denote chemical symbols, units, numbers etc.

Sometimes it can be difficult to translate a string properly if you cannot see the strings contained within the special markers. In these cases it will help if you consult the PDF version of the chapter you are working on. You should be able to hit **ctrl** and **f** simultaneously on your keyboard while inside your PDF reader, that will bring up a search box into which you can type the english string you are translating. This will find that string for you in the document and let you scrutinise the full original string in context.

## Step 4: Reviewing translations

If you are reviewing other people's translations, you can mark them as reviewed and correct by clicking the checkbox next to the translated string. This checkbox is marked on the

image below with the red box on the right. If you have a suggestion for a different or better translation, you can click the `suggestions` tab beneath the English string and enter your suggestion there:



The screenshot shows a translation interface. At the top, there are two text boxes. The left box contains English text: "We live in a world that is made up of many complex compounds. All around us we see evidence of chemical bonding from the chair you are sitting on, to the book you are holding to the air you are breathing. Imagine if all the elements on the periodic table did not form bonds but rather remained on their own. Our world would be pretty boring with only <\_number-1/> or so elements to use." The right box contains Afrikaans text: "Ons bly in 'n wêreld wat van vele komplekse stowwe gemaak is. Ons sien chemiese bindings orals rondom ons, van die stoel waarop jy sit, die boek wat jy vashou tot die lug wat jy in asem." Below these boxes are two tabs: "details" and "suggestions". The "suggestions" tab is highlighted with a red box. Below the tabs is a section titled "NEW SUGGESTION". It contains a text area with the Afrikaans text: "Ons bly in 'n wêreld wat van vele komplekse stowwe gemaak is. Ons sien chemiese bindings orals rondom ons, van die stoel waarop jy sit, na die boek wat jy vashou, tot die lug wat jy in asem." To the left of the text area is a small profile picture of a man and the text "You!". To the right of the text area is a button labeled "Send suggestion!" with a green checkmark icon.

## Miscellaneous

### Special characters

To get the ê or ë and other accent signs in Windows:

**Programs » Accessories » System Tools » Character Map.**

This will open the character map for you. To do the same in Ubuntu Linux use: **<Alt>-<F2>** and type ``character map".

### Reading the original text in context

It may be useful to have the PDF of the section you are translating open. This will enable you to search for the strings you are translating and view them in context. To search for a string in Adobe Acrobat Reader hit **<Ctrl>-<F>** in Acrobat Reader and type the string you want to search for. This is a fast way of locating text in a document.