

TRA6001 Translation Technology: Knowledge and Skills

Supplementary Handout 2

MT Issues

A. Strengths and Weaknesses of MT

1. Strengths: Speed, Cost and Consistency
2. Weaknesses: Wrong word order and Wrong expressions

B. Ambiguity and Disambiguation

1. Lexical ambiguity: Bank, Book and Cleaner
2. Structural ambiguity
 - old men and women
 - I saw the boy in the park with a telescope.
3. Disambiguation
 - Linguistic knowledge
 - Extra-linguistic knowledge

Example 1

The farmer's wife sold her daughter because she needed money.

Example 2

The mother with babies under four is ...

The mother with babies under forty is ...

C. Other Factors

1. ST style
2. ST types
3. Language pairs