**TRA6001 Translation Technology: Knowledge and Skills**

Supplementary Handout 18

Post-editing for C-E Translation (Part 2: Checklist of Common Issues)

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| **Issue** | **Examples** |
| **1**  **Singular / Plural Nouns**  **單複數名詞** | 1. 你的牛仔褲太緊了。   Your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ too tight.  Your jeans are too tight.   1. 恭喜！   ??  Congratulations!   1. 博覽群書會增加你的詞彙量。   Wide reading will increase your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  Wide reading will increase your vocabulary.   1. 香港有七百萬常住居民。   There are seven \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ permanent residents in Hong Kong.  There are seven million permanent residents in Hong Kong.   1. 我們有許多許多書。   We have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of books.  We have millions of books.   1. 我下星期要交十頁報告。   I have to write a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ report for next week.  I have to write a ten-page report for next week. |
| **2**  **Countable and Uncountable Nouns**  **可數及不可數名詞** | 1. 這家商店出售帳篷和其他野營用具。   The store sells tents and other camping \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  The store sells tents and other camping equipment.   1. 每名乘客可攜帶兩件三十公斤的行李。   Each passenger was allowed two \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, weighing up to 30 kg each.  Each passenger was allowed two pieces of luggage, weighing up to 30 kg each.   1. 他們搬家時有幾件傢具丟失了。   Some \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were lost when we moved.  Some articles of furniture were lost when we moved.   1. 幹這個工作，他的經驗還是不足的。   He hasn’t got enough \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the job.  He hasn’t got enough experience for the job.   1. 上個月我有段奇怪的經歷。   I had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ last month.  I had a strange experience last month.   1. 這個學校教書都是用英語的。   All \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in this school \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in English.  All instruction in this school is in English.   1. 這個機器的用法說明很清楚。   The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for using this machine \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ very clear.  The instructions for using this machine are very clear. |
| **3**  **Articles**  **冠詞** | 1. 他已經好幾天沒見著太陽了。   He hasn’t seen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for days.  He hasn’t seen the sun for days.   1. 這個政府不關心老人。   This government doesn’t care about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  This government doesn’t care about the elderly/old.   1. 南華早報是本港一家英文報章。   \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is an English newspaper in Hong Kong.  The South China Morning Post is an English newspaper in Hong Kong.   1. 他喜歡大自然。   He loves \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  He loves nature.   1. 鐵與金的性質有很大區別。   \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of iron differs greatly from that of gold.  The nature of iron differs greatly from that of gold.   1. 適應社會，並非總是容易。   It isn’t always easy to fit in with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  It isn’t always easy to fit in with society.   1. 她加入了電影學會。   She has joined \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  She has joined the film society.   1. 她在八十年代經營業務。   She ran a business in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  She ran a business in the 1980s. |
| **4**  **Subject-verb Agreement**  **主謂一致／主詞與動詞一致** | 1. 我借給你的十塊錢在哪裏？   Where \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that ten dollars I lent you?  Where is that ten dollars I lent you?   1. 父子倆對這部電視劇都不感興趣。   Neither the father nor the son \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ interested in the TV drama.  Neither the father nor the son was interested in the TV drama.   1. 兩盞交通燈都失靈了。   Neither of the two traffic lights \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ working.  Neither of the two traffic lights is working.   1. 他們都不會講英語。   None of them \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ English.  None of them speaks English.   1. 人口中百分之二十為窮人。   20% of the population \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ poor.  20% of the population is poor.   1. 百分之二十的書是平裝本。   20% of the books \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ paperback.  20% of the books are paperback. |
| **5**  **Tenses and Modals**  **時態及情態詞** | 1. 我保證再也不抽煙了。   I promise I don’t smoke any more.  I promise I won’t smoke any more.   1. 「昨晚九點鐘在做甚麼？」「正在看電視。」   ‘What did you do at nine o’clock yesterday evening?’ ‘I watched TV.’  ‘What were you doing at nine o’clock yesterday evening?’ ‘I was watching TV.’   1. 他會上哪兒去了呢？他不大可能上學去了——今天是星期天。我想，他可能是去游泳了。   \*Where can he have gone? He can’t have gone to school – it’s Sunday. He can have gone swimming, I suppose.  Where can he have gone? He can’t have gone (or can hardly have gone) to school – it’s Sunday. He could (or may / might) have gone swimming, I suppose.   1. 「要是你不太忙的話，我可以問你一件事嗎？」「是的，當然可以。」   \*‘Could I ask you something, if you are not too busy?’ ‘Yes, of course, you could.’  ‘Could I ask you something, if you are not too busy?’ ‘Yes, of course, you can.’   1. 「上星期我們到北京去了。」「那一定很有意思。」   \*‘We went to Beijing last week.’ ‘That must be nice.’  ‘We went to Beijing last week.’ ‘That must have been nice.’   1. 他遲到了。我想他可能誤了火車。   \*He’s late. I think he may miss the train.  He’s late. I think he may have missed the train. |
| **6**  **Transitive and Intransitive Verbs**  **及物動詞與不及物動詞** | 1. 他們要去燒烤。   \*They’re going to barbecue.  They’re going to have a barbecue.  They’re going to barbecue some chicken wings.   1. 他不會聽我的。   \*He wouldn’t listen me.  He wouldn’t listen to me.   1. 委員會由學生組成。   \*The committee is consisted of students.  The committee consists of students.   1. 發生了一件奇怪的事情。   \*A strange thing was happened.  A strange thing happened.   |  | | --- | | * Transitive verbs: verbs being able to take a direct object * Intransitive verbs: verbs not taking a direct object (Note: An intransitive verb expresses that someone or something takes action to do something—by itself. The verb does not accept an object complement. No passive structure can be formed.) | |
| **7**  **-ing forms, -ed participles, to-infinitive, and bare infinitive**  **帶-ing形式、-ed分詞、帶to及不帶to的不定式** | 1. 他們避談死亡。   \*They avoid to talk about death.  They avoid talking about death.   1. 你是怎樣說服他的？   \*How did you manage convincing her?  How did you manage to convince her?   1. 他們都停止了說話。   \*They all stopped to talk.  They all stopped talking.   1. 他們停下來欣賞風景。   \*They stopped admiring the view.  They stopped to admire the view.   1. 她讓我用她的電話。   \*She let me to use her telephone.  \*She let me using her telephone.  She let me use her telephone.   1. 任何人碰著那根電線就會觸電。   \*Anyone touches that wire will get a shock.  Anyone touching that wire will get a shock.  (Anyone who touches that wire will get a shock.)   1. 應邀參加聚會的人有一半沒來。   \*Half of the people were invited to the party didn’t turn up.  Half of the people invited to the party didn’t turn up.  (Half of the people who had been invited to the party didn’t turn up.)   1. 沿著大街走，她又看見了同一個男子。   \*Walk down the street, she spotted the same man again.  Walking down the street, she spotted the same man again. |
| **8**  **Moods**  **語氣** | 1. 我去年要是有一百萬就好了。   I wish I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a million dollars last year.  I wish I had had a million dollars last year.   1. 要是我有一百萬，我會到希臘去。   If I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a million dollars, I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ go to Greece.  If I had a million dollars, I would go to Greece. (I don’t have a million dollars.)   1. 建議他先修讀入門課。   It is recommended he take the introductory class first.   1. 他必須出席會議。   It is essential he attend the meeting.   1. 老師建議她下學期不要修讀超過二十一學分。   My teacher suggested she not take more than 21 credits next term.   |  | | --- | | * The subjunctive mood 虛擬語氣／假設語氣 is used to express a wish or possibility * The subjunctive is typically found in rather formal English constructions with that and with verbs such as suggest, demand, insist, ask, recommend, etc. | |
| **9**  **Collocation**  搭配 | 1. 濃茶   Strong tea   1. 濃湯   Thick soup   1. 汽車的速度比自行車的速度快得多。   A car is much faster than a bicycle.  The speed of a car is much higher than that of a bicycle.   1. 醫生要他每天服藥三次。   \*The doctor told him to eat the medicine three times a day.  The doctor told him to take the medicine three times a day. |
| **10**  **Connotation**  **內涵意義／隱含意義／聯想意義** | 1. 橡皮   rubber/eraser (condom?)   1. 眼紅   green-eyed (jealousy)   1. 望子成龍   Hoping one’s son will become a dragon   |  | | --- | | In stories and legends, a dragon is an animal like a big lizard. It has wings and claws, and breathes out fire. (Collins COBUILD)  1 a large fierce imaginary animal, usually represented with wings, a long tail and fire coming out of its mouth  2 INFORMAL an unfriendly and frightening woman: She’s a real old dragon. (Cambridge) |   Hope one’s children will have a bright future; Have great ambitions for one’s child; Hold high hopes for one’s child |
| **11**  **Tone and Register (formal and informal)** | 1. 身材苗條  * slender (written/approving) * slim (approving) * skinny (disapproving, informal) * scrawny (disapproving)  1. 很多  * a lot/lots of (less formal) * many/much/several/numerous/a large number/a large amount (formal)  1. 受歡迎  * hot (informal) * popular/appealing in demand (neither formal nor informal) * attractive/enviable (rather formal) * desirable (formal) |
| **12**  **Meaning and Usage**  **意思及用法** | 1. 除此以外  * besides（除此之外，還……）   We have lots of things in common besides music.   * except（除此之外，……都……）   They all came except John.   1. 取消  * abolish (often passive) (a law or system) * cancel (often passive) * scrap (often passive, rather informal, especially journalism) (something that are no longer practical or useful) * dismiss (law) (a trial or legal case) * do away with something (rather informal, especially spoken, often approving) * axe (often passive, rather informal, journalism) * call something off (a plan involving lots of people)  1. 能力  * ability (+ to do something) * capability (rather informal) (how able a company or country is to produce something) (+ to do something) (+ for something) * capacity (rather formal) (social, educational and work-related life skills) (+ to do something) (+ for something) * power (your body or mind) (+ to do something) |
| **13**  **Word order**  **語序** | 1. 她很喜歡游泳。   \*She likes very much swimming.  She likes swimming very much.   1. 他問我在做甚麼。   \*He asked me what had I been doing.  He asked me what I had been doing.   1. 我和朋友在路邊等待。   My friend and I stood beside the road and waited. |
| **14**  **Dangling modifiers**  **垂懸修飾語／連繫不當** | 1. 沿着大街走，樹木長得好看。   \*Walking down the street, the trees were beautiful.  As I was walking down the street, I found that the trees were beautiful.   1. 到了車站，太陽出來了。   (?) Reaching the station, the sun came out. |
| **15**  **Run-on sentences**  **粘連句／連寫句／不斷句／流水句** | 1. 現在快五點半了，天黑前我們無法進城。   \*It is nearly half past five, we cannot reach town before dark.   |  | | --- | | Avoid run-on sentences   * Use separate sentences   It is nearly half past five. We cannot reach town before dark.   * Use a semicolon   It is nearly half past five; we cannot reach town before dark.   * Use a coordinating conjunction (e.g., FANBOYS)   It is nearly half past five, so we cannot reach town before dark.   * Use a subordinating conjunction   Since it is nearly half past five, we cannot reach town before dark.  We cannot reach town before dark since it is nearly half past five.   * Use a conjunctive adverb   It is nearly half past five; therefore, we cannot reach town before dark.  It is nearly half past five. Therefore, we cannot reach town before dark. | |
| **16**  **Parallelism / Parallel structure**  **平行結構** | 1. 他喜歡登山、游泳、騎自行車。   \*He likes hiking, swimming, and to ride a bicycle.  He likes hiking, swimming, and riding a bicycle.   1. 如果這個項目失敗，不僅會影響到我們部門，還會影響整個機構。   \*If this project fails, it will not only affect our department, but also the whole organisation.  If this project fails, it will affect not only our department, but also the whole organisation. |
| **17**  **Relative clauses** | 1. 我住在倫敦的那個姐姐跟律師結婚了。   My sister who lives in London is married to a lawyer.   1. 我的姐姐住在倫敦，跟律師結婚了。   My sister, who lives in London, is married to a lawyer.   1. 這是我上星期買的那本書。 \*This is the book which I bought it last week.   This is the book which I bought last week.  This is the book I bought last week. |
| **18**  **Prepositions**  **介詞** | 1. 他此刻非常忙。   \*He’s very busy in the moment.  He’s very busy at the moment.   1. 上午給她打電話。   \*Phone her on the morning.  Phone her in the morning.   1. 他們星期六早上吃完早餐後離開了。   \*They left after breakfast in Saturday morning.  They left after breakfast on Saturday morning.   1. 她嫁給了一位老師。   \*She married with a teacher.  She married a teacher.   1. 紙是木材做的。   \*Paper is made of wood.  Paper is made from wood. |
| **19**  **Part of Speech 詞類** | 1. 他答應聽從她的勸告。   \*He promised to follow her advise.  He promised to follow her advice.   1. 資訊科技在很多方面會影響我們的生活。   \*There are many ways in which information technology can effect our lives.  There are many ways in which information technology can affect our lives. |
| **20**  **Chinglish / Unidiomatic expressions**  **不地道／不符合語言習慣的用語** | 1. 她很容易病倒。   \*She is very easy to get sick.  She gets sick very easily.   1. 他走過去開燈。   \*He went across and opened the light.  He went across and put the light on. (switch on / turn on)   1. 她一直夢想成為一個科學家。   \*She has always dreamed to become a scientist.  She has always dreamed of becoming a scientist. |