

Reviewing translations from English to Korean requires many specific modifications to perfect your target text in a way that machine translation may not quite catch. By using Trados Studio's Regular Expressions, we can create rules that simplify this process, and make sure we catch every instance of these errors.

The screenshot shows a Trados Studio interface with two columns: Source (English) and Target (Korean). A tooltip at the top left points to a date in the source text: "On my birthday, which is 12/20/2004, my bully came up to me and asked me for 1 million dollars!". The corresponding Korean translation in the target column is: "내 생일 12/20/2004에 날 괴롭히는 사람이 나한테 와서 100만 달러를 물리고 했다." A red box highlights this entry in both columns.

A 'Verification Message Details - QA Checker 3.0' dialog is open, comparing the source segment content (the original English sentence) with the target segment content (the Korean sentence). It shows a suggestion for a date format difference: "EN-KO Date Check KO not localized: source matches count 1, target matches count 1".

The bottom pane shows a 'Messages' list with four errors related to date and formality checks.

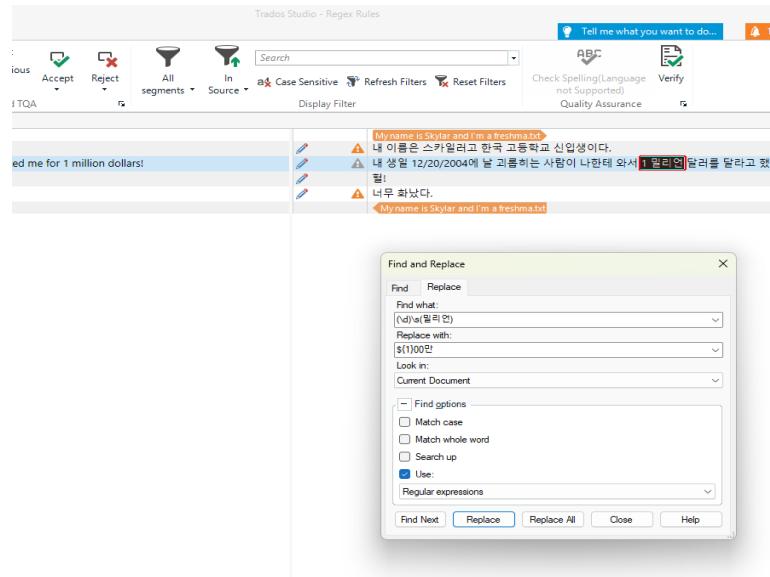
1. Korean uses a different date order than English (US), so this rule checks for the American date format with `\d{1,2}\.\d{1,2}\.\d{4}` in both the source and target text, so that the translator knows to change it to the Korean format YYYY/MM/DD.

The screenshot shows a Trados Studio interface with two columns: Source (English) and Target (Korean). A tooltip at the top left points to the number "3" in the source text: "My name is Skylar and I'm a junior at Hanguk high school." The corresponding Korean translation in the target column is: "내 이름은 스카일러고 한국 고등학교 3학년이다." A red box highlights this entry in both columns.

A 'Verification Message Details - QA Checker 3.0' dialog is open, comparing the source segment content (the original English sentence) with the target segment content (the Korean sentence). It shows a suggestion for a high school class system difference: "EN-KO High school class system difference KO doesn't show distinction: source matches count 1".

The bottom pane shows a 'Messages' list with six errors related to high school class system differences.

2. Korean high schools only have 3 years, so when translating an English source text, junior and senior would both translate to 3 학년, or third year student (since freshman and sophomore take up the first two slots). This rule checks the source text above for \bjunior|senior\b to be localized accordingly in the target text and ensure the students don't falsely come across as being in the same grade.
3. Formality and honorifics are extremely important in many Asian languages – including Korean, whereas there may be no obvious distinction for these differences in the source text other than register. In the above example, all the first person pronouns from the EN source text are being translated to 내, 날 etc., despite these informal pronouns not being appropriate for a literary context. This regex rule checks the source for [I|I'm|my|me] and the target for [나|나는|내|날] and gives the reviewer a warning if the Korean uses an informal translation. Make sure that you don't make this case sensitive!



4. We now explore Trados' Find and Replace feature. This rule checks the target text for a sequence of a digit, a space, and the word million (밀리언) and changes it to the appropriate Korean numerical formatting which, instead of groups of millions, traditionally groups numbers by 10 thousands. By using \${1}00 만, this rule rewrites 1 million to “100 ten thousands”, a more digestible number for the Korean audience.

Hope this helps you with your future English to Korean translations!