

LANGUES APPLIQUEES MASTER 2 ITLS

TRADUCTION VERS L'ANGLAIS

Some guidelines in translating into the second language

A starter check list to be completed

1. Before you translate

1.1 What sort of a text do you have to translate?

- Narrative
 - o What is the sequence of events?
 - o What is the resulting tense structure?
 - NB present historic in French -> preterit in English
- Expository
 - o How are the points ordered, and how is this made clear?
- Argumentative
 - o What are the markers of argument?
 - What is their purpose?
- Instructive
 - o Does the text follow generally accepted principles of instructional writing
 - Address the user directly
- Descriptive

1.2 What is the aim of the text ?

- Can I explain the different points of the text?
- Can I summarize the text?
- Can I say in one sentence what the message of the text is?

1.3 Who is the text aimed at?

- Is the translation aimed at the same type of readership?

1.4 Documenting the translation

- primary sources
 - making a corpus
- finding out about the author, the institution, the subject

- secondary sources
 - o glossaries

2. Translating the text (“L’animation territoriale de santé”)

- First principle
 - o Work well within your means

*animation
les acteurs de la vie publique*

*Toute démarche territorialisée de santé suppose en effet un territoire
- supposes **that there is** a territory...*

- Second principle
 - o Look systematically at alternative constructions
la mise en œuvre d’un ensemble cohérent et intégré d’activités

 - o *for someone to implement ?*
 - o *implementing ?*
 - o *implementation ?*

Elle répond à une nécessité

- *it responds to*
- *it is a response to...*

- review the principles of transcategorization

- Sensitivity to cultural differences

*quels que soient son sexe, son âge, son origine culturelle
- gender, community ?*

Particular constructions

Noun phrases

analytical or synthetic translation ?

dans le domaine de la santé

- *in the field of health ?*
- *in the health field ?*

possessives

la santé d'une population

- *a population's health ?*
- *the health of a population ?*

abstract noun phrases in French – verb construction in English (transcategorisation)

le partage des connaissances

- *to share knowledge/information*

La première question à se poser est l'identification

- *question is to identify...*

Count in French – uncount in English

les connaissances : knowledge, information

un état des lieux : ?

une attention particulière : particular attention

“middle voice” – reflexive verbs in French – passive in English : *se définit : is defined, can be defined.*

Postpositional adjectives

Les ressources disponibles

- *available resources ?*
- *resources available ?*

choosing the best synonym of Latin/Germanic doublets

- *élaborer le plan d'action : elaborate an action plan/work out an action plan ?*

Modals in English for non modal in French

- *L'animation territoriale de santé se définit – can be defined...*

Support verbs

- *une attention particulière doit être portée : pay attention....*
- *développer une politique ?*

Particular lexical items

Permettre

*l'animation territoriale de santé permet : - de mobiliser tous les acteurs
the health programme should stimulate concerted action*

*La première étape doit permettre de dresser un état des lieux
The first step should lead to an assessment of the current situation
must get all public and private health professionals involved
will allow (for?) concerted action of both private and public...,
allow all public and private sectors to take an active part,
must make it possible to mobilize all public and private players
is to mobilize all parties, private and public,
the outcomes... are the mobilisation of both private and public territorial agents*

considérer comme

considérés comme légitimes : considered legitimate

3. Reviewing my translation

Check list :

How have I achieved my goals... (to be continued...)

Translation principles taken from

« Modalités d'application de l'article 108... »

1. Translating within ones means

modalités : detailed rules (otherwise?)

2. Recategorisation

renseignements dont elle a besoin : all necessary additional information

3. Adjectival/verbal construction -> preposition

un règlement de procédure relatif à : regulation on ...

au moyen d'un formulaire : on a form

dans un délai qui ne dépasse pas un mois : within a period of less than one month

4. Tense : preterit or present perfect ?

le Conseil a adopté le présent règlement : adopted or has adopted ?

5. Translating generalising tout

tout projet : any plans; toute aide : any aid

6. Translating singular by plural or plural by singular:

tout projet : any plans;

7. Noun phrases in French verbalised in English (transcategorisation)

tout projet d'octroi : any plans to grant new aid

sauf accord de la Commission : unless otherwise agreed

La notification doit être effectuée : It must be notified

8. Prepositional noun phrase in French – synthetic or analytical construction in English

ouvrir la procédure formelle d'examen : initiate formal investigation proceedings

9. Postpositional adjective or participle

Etat membre concerné : Member State concerned

10. Ce dernier :

toute autre disposition pertinente de ce dernier : thereof

11. Support verbs

susciter des doubts : raise doubt

12. (not) separating verb and complement in English

*Si la Commission constate, après un examen préliminaire, que la mesure notifiée.. :
Where, after a preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified
measure..*

13. Set phrases

Sauf indication contraire : Save as otherwise provided

14. Latin or Germanic vocabulary

set out the doubts : exposer les raisons qui incitent à douter

15 French present : English future (French timeless ; English set in future at least at time of writing)

A partir du 1^{er} janvier 2006, les notifications sont transmises : will be transmitted

16. Style

Who is the text aimed at ? Official bodies.

- therefore much more official – noun groups

The TS group added the following principles

17. French and English do not follow the same rules for capitalising

Here, in legal English, special terms (usually terms that are part of the metalanguage : *Paragraph, Annex, Article...*) start with a capital letter. In French capitals are also used (*Conseil, Etat, etc.*), but for entities which generally correspond to a capital in English.

18. Acronyms

The translation of acronyms is a vexed question. Here we see in English that *TFEU* does not correspond directly to *functioning of the European EC Treaty*.