Updating Arab Translators' Skills and Tools:
Meeting the Challenges of Scientific and Technical Texts

By

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Abstract

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This study aims at assessing the English-into-Arabic translation of a sample of scientific and technical texts in terms of accuracy of translation and the use of the proper resources to see whether or not the intended message(s) is/are correctly conveyed to the target audience. It also tries to identify and categorize the errors committed in the translation of those texts. In an attempt to achieve these objectives, the researcher has investigated the translation of 14 texts distributed to 70 Arab translators.

In analyzing the corpus, the error analysis approach was followed. Errors found were calculated, categorized, and then attributed to their possible reason(s) of occurrence; alternative and maybe more appropriate translations of the source language erroneous renderings were also suggested. Close examination of the translated data shows that the scientific and technical texts
under investigation suffer from a number of lexical errors; these errors are related to wrong diction, addition, compounds, acronyms and initialisms, borrowing and transliterating scientific and technical terms and omission.

Finally, the study concludes with a number of recommendations which may hopefully enhance the process of translating scientific and technical texts and improve the practice of their translators.

**Key words:** Science and Technology, Translation, Translational Skills and Tools, error analysis.