

# Translation

**Translation** is the act of transferring the linguistic entities (source text) from one language (SL) into another (TL). Translation is the conversion of a text or a passage from source Language (SL) into the target language (TL). It is not an easy task; translators must know all the aspects related to both the SL and TL in addition to matters related to translation itself as a process. The present chapter deals with the Arabic past tense and how it can be translated into the English past tenses. It presents the different definitions and types of translation, as suggested by many theorists. It also examines the differences between Arabic and English tenses and observes the translation difficulties of tenses from Arabic into English.

Ghazala (1995) proposes another definition, he states:

Translation is a common thing which is useful in people's everyday life. It is used in many activities such as transferring information and thoughts. It is used in printed media such as reports, papers, articles, books and novels. Because these media are served by using many languages, the role of translation takes place (Ghazala, 1995:52).

## **Types of translation:**

### **Free translation:**

A free translation preserves the meaning of the original but uses natural forms of the TL, including normal word order and syntax, so that the translation can be naturally understood. In this method, the translator recreates a new text in the TL to transmit the meaning from the ST in the SL into the TT in a TL.

### **Literal translation:**

As the name suggests, *literal translation* is word for word translation. It is the act of rendering as closely as possible the wording, structure, and grammar of a source document into the translation. This way of translation is generally preferred over the other style (free translation). Translation aims to have as close as possible word-for-word correspondence between original SL of translation to the TL.

## Idioms & proverbs

**Idioms and Proverbs:** If you say, “The cat's out of the bag” instead of “The secret is given away,” you're using an **idiom**. The meaning of an **idiom** is different from the actual meaning of the words used. “An apple a day keeps the doctor away” is a **proverb**. **Proverbs** are old but familiar sayings that usually give advice.

### Some common idioms

- *Break a leg* : A way to wish someone good luck.
- *To live it up* :To enjoy life, to live widely
- *To kick the bucket* : To die.
- *Shape up or ship out* :  
Used to tell someone that they should leave if they don't improve their behavior or performance
- *To shed crocodile tears* : To cry about something but without actually caring.
- *Wild goose chase* : A useless journey or pursuit.
- *There's no room to swing a cat* : There is not a lot of space.
- *To pay through the nose* : To pay a lot of money, more than is normal.
- *To bark up the wrong tree* : To choose the wrong course of action.
- *To spill the beans* : To tell a secret.
- *It's raining cats and dogs* : It's raining heavily.
- *To get into hot water* : To get into trouble.
- *To be chicken-hearted* : To be scared.
- *To smell a rat* : To think that something is wrong.
- *To chicken out* : Not doing an activity because of fear.
- *To give up* : To quit.
- *To give up on* : To stop believing in something or someone.
- *I could eat a horse* : To be very hungry.
- *To be on top of the world* : To be really happy.

A **proverb** is a wise saying. Many cultures have collections of these, such as the Book of Proverbs in the Old Testament, was said to be written by king Solomon of Israel. A proverb is basically a wise saying.

*Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.* “

”*It’s no use locking the stable door after the horse has bolted.* “

*Laugh and the world laughs with you, weep and you weep* “  
„*alone.*

*See a pin and pick it up, all the day you’ll have good luck; see a pin and let it lie, bad luck you’ll have all* “  
„*day.*

„*‘Tis better to have loved and lost, than never to have loved at all.* “

## Pronunciation: final “ed” and “s”

### Overview

The final -ed ending has three different pronunciations: /t/, /d/, and /ed/. Final -ed is pronounced /t/ after all voiceless sounds. Voiceless sounds are made by pushing air through your mouth; no sound comes from your throat. Examples of voiceless sounds: “K”, “P”, “S”, “Ch”, “Sh”, “F”

- Look → looked → look/t/
- Clap → clapped → clap/t/
- Miss → missed → miss/t/
- Watch → watched → watch/t/
- Finish → finished → finish/t/

Final -ed is pronounced /d/ after voiced sounds. Voiced sounds come from your throat. Touch your neck when you make a voiced sound, you can feel your voice box vibrate.

### Examples of voiced sounds: “L”, “V”, “N”, “B” and all vowel sounds.

- Smell → smelled → smell/d/
- Save → saved → save/d/
- Clean → cleaned → clean/d/
- Rob → robbed → rob/d/
- Play → played → play/d/

Final -ed is pronounced /ed/ after “T”, and “D” sounds. The sound /ed/ adds a whole syllable to a word.

Example: Looked ∅ look/t/ = one syllable; Needed ∅ need/ed/ = two syllables • Decide → decided → decide/ed/

- Need → needed → need/ed/
- Want → wanted → want/ed/
- Invite → invited → invite/ed/

### Pronunciation of -s, -es

To make a noun plural, a final -s or -es is added to the noun

- Noun + s: Friend + s = Friends
- Noun + es: I like my classes

A **final -s or -es** is added to a present tense verb when the subject is a singular noun, e.g. my father works at a bank. (My father is a singular noun)

- Verb + s: Mary enjoys cooking
- Verb + es: John watches the baseball game

Final -s is pronounced /s/ after voiceless sounds, as in “T”, “P”, and “K”

•Seat →seats→seat/s/

•Rope→ropes→rope/s/

•Back →backs→back/s/Final -s is pronounced /z/ after voiced sounds, as in “D”, “B”, “G” and “EE”

•Seed →seeds→ seed/z/

•Robe→robes→robe/z/

•Bag →bags→bag/z/

•See→sees→see/z/

Final -s and -es are pronounced /ez/ after “SH,” “CH,” “S,” “Z,”and “GE,” , “DGE”. The /ez/ ending adds a syllable.

•Dish→dishes→dish/ez/

•Catch→catches→catch/ez/

•Kiss→kisses →kiss/ez/

•Mix→mixes→mix/ez/

•Prize→prizes→prize/ez/

•Edge→edges→edge/ez/

### **Spelling: Final -s/-es**

Most words (verbs & nouns), add a final -s

•sing → sings; song → songs

Final -es is added to words ending with -SH, -CH, -S, -Z, and -X.

•wash→washes•watch→watches

•class →classes•buzz →buzzes

•box→boxes

For words ending in -y:

If -y is preceded by a vowel only -s is added,

•toy → toys; buy → buys

If -y is preceded by a consonant, the -y is changed to -i and -es is added.

•baby → babies; cry → cries

## The present continuous and the past continuous tenses

### **The present continuous tense:**

The present simple tense is a verb tense that indicates an action happening while speaking.

### **The form of the present continuous tense:**

To form a present continuous tense it is required to have a conjugated in the present simple auxiliary (to be) + stem+ ing.

Example: I am speaking. They are speaking. She is speaking.

### **Exercise: Present continuous tense**

- You (use) my mobile phone!
- My dad (wash) his car.
- It (not rain) today.
- Who (she / chat) to now?
- What (you / do) at the moment?
- We (sit) on the train.
- The students (have) lunch in the canteen.
- 'Are you making dinner?' ' Yes, I .'

### **The past continuous tense:**

The past continuous tense is a tense that indicates a action that happened and finished in the past but took quite a while happening.

### **The form of the past continuous tense:**

To form a past continuous tense it requires to have a conjugated in the past simple auxiliary (to be)+ stem+ ing.

Example: I was speaking. we were speaking. He was speaking.

### **Exercise: the past continuous tense**

- ☺ When I phoned my friends, they (play) .... Monopoly
- ☺ Yesterday at six I (prepare)..... dinner.
- ☺ The kids (play) ..... in the garden when it suddenly began to rain.
- ☺ I (practice) ..... the guitar when he came home.

☞ We (not / cycle) .....all day.

☞ While Alan (work) ..... in his room, his friends (swim) ..... in the pool.

## What is Argumentative Essay?

An argumentative essay is quite similar to a persuasive essay, as it's designed to convince the reader of your point of view. The difference is while a persuasive essay may have a certain viewpoint, the argumentative essay will expand on it. For example, a persuasive essay will say that cities should take up more recycling programs. An argumentative essay will say why a certain city should do so, and give examples of how they could do so.

## Argumentative Essay Structure

If you've been asked to argue for a certain point of view, you'll need to explore your reasons for supporting it, as well as refuting the claims against it. Here's how you could outline your essay:

- **Introduction:** Introduce your point of view, and explain how you're going to prove that you're in the right.
- **Thesis:** Here's where you bring in your main point of view. Going with the recycling example, this could be along the lines of *'This city should take up more recycling initiatives, at it can clean up streets and reduce waste by 30%.'* This should be backed up by good quality research.
- **Opposing claims:** Pick the most important claims against your argument, and take them down. Make it clear why they don't work, and show your research.
- **Your viewpoint:** Then, you'll need to argue for your own viewpoint. Show why your side is the winning one, and why.
- **Conclusion:** Wrap up your main points, without introducing anything new.

## How to Write Argumentative Essay

- **Do your research:** Go look for research that supports your argument. Take notes, so you can easily reference the best pieces of research easily when you're writing.
- **Create an outline:** Plan out your essay. Write in your main points, and the points that you're planning to debunk.
- **Start writing:** Start wherever is easiest, as the order you write in won't matter. Try writing in your introduction last.
- **Edit and proofread:** Check your essay over before you hand it in, to edit out any easily overlooked mistakes.



# The text

**The text** is an ensemble of paragraphs gathered to transfer a message to the readers

- We call a text's writings that have the form of:
  1. **Introduction** (introductory paragraph)
  2. **Development** (details citation paragraph)
  3. **Conclusion** (to sum-up your details and center your ideas )
- Texts differ by the topic so it could be: scientific, social, literature...
- The social texts differ by topic as well so it could be: argumentative, Artistic, historical...
- Be smart writing social texts and avoid :
  1. Long sentences
  2. Numeration & statistics and changing facts
  3. Offending swearing or harassing people to defend or decrease a point of view .
- Be smart and use :
  1. Strong Major details
  2. Supporting details (minor details ,examples, staging or giving a context to your Major details)
  3. Use clean and short ideas that would not thunder over the main topic.