

SMLLC STEPPED MARKING CRITERIA: TRANSLATION

Class	Mark	Comprehension and Transfer of Meaning	Vocabulary	Grammar, Structures, Style	Strategy / Commentary / Annotation
I	82, 85, 88, 92, 95	<p>Outstanding</p> <p>Translation reads like an original in its own right.</p>	<p>Outstanding</p> <p>Vocabulary impressively wide-ranging, precise, and always wholly appropriate</p>	<p>Outstanding</p> <p>Linguistically elegant, nuanced, and faithful to the register of the original.</p>	<p>Outstanding</p> <p>Identifies the most important translation problems in the source text and offers concise and accurate exposition of them using the appropriate vocabulary</p>
	72, 75, 78	<p>Excellent.</p> <p>Source text fully understood. The sense of the original is faithfully transferred, avoiding literal translation and demonstrating evidence of impressive linguistic subtlety.</p>	<p>Excellent.</p> <p>Vocabulary impressively wide-ranging, precise, and almost always wholly appropriate.</p>	<p>Excellent.</p> <p>Virtually no errors of grammar. Linguistically elegant, nuanced, and faithful to the register of the original. Translation is never stilted, strained or awkward.</p>	<p>Excellent.</p> <p>Identifies the most important translation problems in the source text and offers concise and accurate exposition of them using the appropriate vocabulary</p>
II.1	62, 65, 68	<p>Good. Source text clearly understood, though a few relatively unimportant comprehension gaps may be allowable. Most of the sense and detail of the</p>	<p>Good.</p> <p>Vocabulary fairly wide-ranging, precise, and collocation generally appropriate.</p>	<p>Good. Very few grammatical errors. Linguistically elegant for the most part and remains faithful to the register of the original. Only</p>	<p>Good.</p> <p>Identifies and defines the nature of specific difficulties in the source text, though</p>

		original are faithfully transferred. Literal translation is avoided for the most part and the translation shows evidence of linguistic subtlety through appropriately nuanced expression.		occasionally does the translation seem stilted or awkward.	not without some irrelevancy. Does not always show knowledge of the appropriate vocabulary
II.2	52, 55, 58	Fair. Most of the source text understood, though some comprehension gaps remain. Translation tends to the over-literal, but generally conveys the sense of the greater part of the original. Lacks subtlety, however, with little in the way of appropriately nuanced expression. Almost no inaccuracy in respect of transfer of dates, figures, proper names, etc.	Fair. 'Everyday' vocabulary range generally adequate to the task, though with occasional lacunae and examples of inappropriate usage, especially outside this range.	Fair. Contains a number of grammatical errors but remains for the most part sound in respect of the basics. Stylistically awkward and often rather stilted or forced. Has clearly attempted to respect the register of the original, albeit with limited success.	Fair. Identifies specific difficulties in the source text but fails adequately to define the nature of the difficulty. Candidate may tend to confuse own difficulties with genuine problems for <i>any</i> translator
III	42, 45, 48	Poor. Significant gaps in comprehension of the source text. Translation is much too literal and may fail to make sense in places. Nevertheless, the translation will convey at least most of the essential 'gist' of the source text. There may be some inaccuracy with regard to transfer of dates, figures, proper names, etc.	Poor. Limited vocabulary impedes transfer of sense of source text. There may be significant lacunae, invented words and/or much inappropriate usage.	Poor. Frequent basic errors of grammar. Some evidence of awareness of register, though the translation generally fails to reflect the register of the original. Sounds very stilted and/or forced.	Poor. May identify general problems for the translator, but fails to identify specific difficulties in the source text.
Fail	0-39	Weak. Clear failure to understand much or most of the source text. Translation	Weak. Vocabulary very limited and/or	Weak. No sense of an attempt to write in a register appropriate to the	Weak. Little more than generalised 'waffle',

		makes little or no sense. May also fail accurately to transfer dates, figures, proper names, etc.	inappropriate. Wholly inadequate for translation at this level.	source text. Extremely limited awareness of grammatical structures with many errors.	completely failing to identify specific points of difficulty.
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