



Applying the Multidimensional Quality Metrics for Examining the Quality of Senior Students' Translation of English Finance Terms Used by the World Bank into Arabic

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Keywords

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. TQA | 2. financial terms |
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Abstract:

This study aims to evaluate the quality of senior translation students' Arabic translation of English finance terms commonly used by the World Bank, using the Multidimensional Quality Metrics (MQM). To achieve this aim, a list was compiled of 26 financial terms gleaned from documents of the World Bank and then was developed as a translation test administered to 50 senior translation students. The study adopted a mixed-methods approach to qualitatively and quantitatively analyze the data translations using the MQM model and the SPSS program. Translation errors were classified as minor, major, or critical in accordance with the MQM framework. Overall, accuracy was identified as the most significant challenge in financial translation, followed by verity and fluency. Based on these findings, the study recommends that specialized financial terminology be integrated into translation curricula, with a special focus on accuracy-oriented training. It also suggests that academic institutions pay more attention to the practical application of financial translation through using authentic financial texts and that they should develop and implement a specialized English-Arabic glossary of financial terms. This glossary must be regularly updated to incorporate newly emerging financial terminology, ensuring that it remains relevant and comprehensive. These steps will help translation students enhance their financial literacy and familiarize themselves with standardized terminology and translation strategies that can ensure highly qualified financial translation

تطبيق مقياس الجودة متعدد الأبعاد لدراسة جودة ترجمة طلبة المستوى الرابع للمصطلحات المالية الإنجليزية المتداولة لدى البنك الدولي إلى العربية

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الكلمات المفتاحية

2. المصطلحات المالية

4. نموذج (MQM)

1. جودة وتقييم الترجمة

3. البنك الدولي

الملخص:

هدفت هذه الدراسة إلى تقييم جودة ترجمة طلبة المستوى الرابع للمصطلحات المالية الإنجليزية المتداولة لدى البنك الدولي إلى العربية باستخدام مقياس الجودة متعدد الأبعاد. ولتحقيق هذا الهدف تم اختيار قائمة مكونة من 26 مصطلحاً مالياً من وثائق البنك الدولي وإعدادها في صورة اختبار ترجمة وزّع على 50 طالباً من طلاب الترجمة في المستوى الرابع. وقد جرى تحليل الترجمات باستخدام نموذج مقياس الجودة متعدد الأبعاد. وتم اتباع المنهج الوصفي الكمي والنوعي في تحليل البيانات وذلك باستخدام برنامج "SPSS". وصُنفت أوجه القصور الترجمة إلى ثلاث درجات: طفيفة، جسيمة وحرجة. وبوجه عام أظهرت النتائج أن بُعد الدقة في نقل المعنى يمثل التحدي الأبرز في الترجمة المالية، يليه بُعد صحة المعنى ثم بُعد سلاسة الصياغة اللغوية. وبناءً على ذلك توصي الدراسة بإعادة تصميم مناهج الترجمة بما يضمن إدراج المصطلحات المالية المتخصصة بصورة منهجية مع التركيز بشكل خاص على التدريب القائم على إطار الدقة في الترجمة. كما تقترح أن تولي المؤسسات الأكاديمية اهتماماً أكبر بالتطبيق العملي للترجمة من خلال استخدام نصوص مالية حقيقية، وأن تعمل على إعداد وتطبيق قاموس متخصص بالمصطلحات المالية يترجم من اللغة الإنجليزية إلى العربية. ومن شأن هذه الإجراءات أن تسهم في تعزيز الذخيرة اللغوية المالية لدى الطلبة، وتعريفهم بالمصطلحات المعيارية، وتحسين استراتيجياتهم الترجمة والارتقاء بالجودة العامة للترجمة المالية.

1-Introduction:

It is common for multinational companies to provide their financial documents in both English and the language of their branch country's location (Noviaty, 2020). That is, having the financial documents translated into foreign languages is one of the initial steps that a company needs to take should it wish to expand internationally. It is very important for that company, therefore, to ensure a high quality translation of such documents as it can significantly impact the company's professional reputation and market position.

Financial documents are also published on the respective company websites. Many public companies and banks, such as the World Bank Group, present financial documents in two languages, highlighting the importance of translation in facilitating communication among global businesses. Unfortunately, many people believe that translation is something anyone can do with the aid of dictionaries. However, translation is an uphill task which cannot be accomplished without the translator being fully aware of the specific register appropriate for the text to be translated as well as of other contextual factors that may contribute to comprehending the intended meanings of lexical items making up the text.

As Nuri and Ismailli (2024) pointed out, terminology involves transferring specific concepts between languages, requiring a deep familiarity with both languages and subject matter. Ideally, a translator should specialize in the relevant field. If that's not possible, a technical reviewer, preferably an expert in the subject, can help maintain accuracy without undermining the translator's role. Translators must conduct thorough research and use reliable reference materials to grasp domain-specific terminology. They should also be aware of their limitations and avoid accepting assignments in unfamiliar fields, as technical accuracy is crucial. Technical translations should be objective, clear, and follow standardized formats, ensuring that terminology describes concepts understandably in the target language. This requires a solid understanding of technical

concepts to accurately convey the intended message and ensure the usability of the translated document. Therefore, prior experience is essential for field-specific translations.

However, according to Newmark (1988), the primary challenge in technical translation lies in handling new or unfamiliar terminology. This issue is particularly significant when dealing with technical neologisms in the source language which are relatively context-free and appear only once. In cases where terms are context-bound, their meaning can be inferred by systematically ruling out less probable interpretations.

Economic globalization is rapidly expanding, bringing with it significant challenges, particularly in the translation of business and legal documents into multiple languages. These types of translation involve complex elements not typically found in other translation categories (Ulatius, 2015). In short, business and legal translation requires not only linguistic expertise, but also cultural sensitivity, legal knowledge, and meticulous precision to ensure effective communication across global markets.

Translating financial terms poses unique challenges, especially in countries undergoing economic transition. McGee and Preobragenskaya (2006) highlighted that reformers in these economies often face common obstacles, particularly in translation. As the authors noted, "translation is a common problem" (p.1), primarily because equivalent terms for certain accounting and financial concepts may not exist in the target language. This lexical gap forces translators to seek alternative ways to convey complex terminology accurately. Additionally, McGee and Preobragenskaya (2006) noted that it is often difficult to find professionals who are proficient in both the source and target languages and knowledgeable in accounting. In such cases, the authors recommend hiring skilled translators and providing them with training in specific accounting language.

Another challenge identified by McGee and Preobragenskaya (2006) is the quality of previously translated materials, which can hinder effective communication and lead to misunderstandings. Addressing these translation issues is crucial for improving the accuracy and efficiency of financial reporting in transitional economies. Consequently, this study aims to investigate the quality of senior students' Arabic translation of some of the World Bank-related English financial terms using the Multidimensional Quality Metrics (MQM) model for Translation Quality Assessment.

The MQM model, developed by the EU-funded QT Launchpad project, addresses the limitations of previous translation quality evaluations (Lommel et al., 2014). It includes various categories, such as accuracy, fluency, design, internationalization, locale conventions, style, terminology, variety, and compatibility. However, this study will focus specifically on three dimensions: Accuracy, Fluency, and Verity.

1-Accuracy problems:

The term *Accuracy* in MQM refers to the appropriate correspondence between the source and target language rather than to factual correctness in general. The accuracy error dimension includes subtypes of errors such as addition, mistranslation, omission, terminology errors, and untranslated text.

2-Fluency problems:

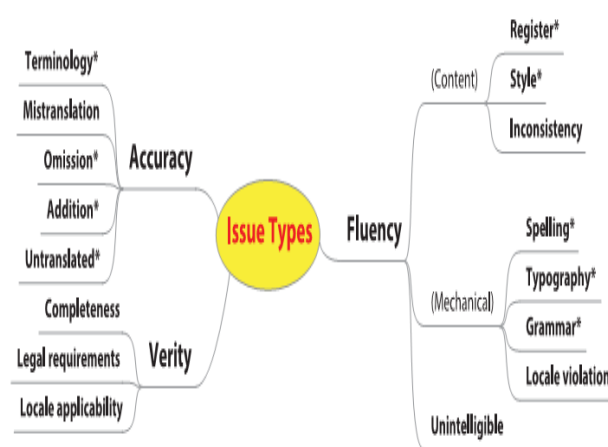
Fluency refers to issues related to the linguistic "well-formedness" of a text that can be evaluated regardless of whether the text is a translation or not. Many fluency problems are common to both source and target texts, including grammar, grammatical register, consistency, punctuation, and spelling.

3-Verity problems:

One of the contributions of MQM is the concept of verity. This notion refers to

extra-linguistic truth correspondence in texts.

It refers to issues with the text in relation to the broader world. Because it is extra-linguistic, verity deals with issues that are outside of the traditional notions of accuracy and fluency; in other words, verity in many cases cannot be evaluated simply by reading the translation or comparing it to the source, but instead requires the evaluator to consider the text in its intended environment. (German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence [DFKI]).



Note. From A Flexible System for Assessing Translation Quality, by Lommel et al., 2014, p.4.

Regarding empirical studies, a number of previous studies have been conducted in business translation in general and translation of financial terms in particular from various perspectives. Some studies have focused on the translation of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Hellmann et al. (2010) demonstrated that translation discrepancies between English and German IFRS versions significantly affect consistency and interpretation, while Nobes (2018) identified impaired IFRS translations in annual reports. As well, Al Obaidani (2018) focused on the standardization of financial terminology in Omani annual reports, noting how social agents help align translations with IFRS amid ongoing lexical variation.

Giordano (2022) also investigated challenges in translating financial statements, emphasizing the need for accuracy in conveying accounting concepts across languages.

Legal and banking-related financial translation has also received attention. Šapina and Rad (2011) examined English–Croatian legal-financial translation during legislative alignment, highlighting the importance of precision and awareness of legal system differences. Similarly, Buansari et al. (2020) analyzed banking terminology in legal documents and found that literal translation and transference were the most frequently used procedures that effectively preserve meaning.

As for Arabic-English financial translation, a number of studies have been conducted, particularly in Islamic banking. Al-Saleem (2013) and Ibrahim (2018) identified some major challenges such as non-equivalence, culture-bound terms, and lexical gaps; they also identified some translation strategies commonly employed to overcome such challenges, the most important of which include transliteration, literal translation, and explanatory translation. Alje'eam (2023) further emphasized the role of lexical knowledge and equivalence at the word level in translating economic texts between English and Arabic.

Other research endeavors have explored translation techniques and training. Noviaty (2020) analyzed English financial terms translated into Indonesian, and identified multiple translation techniques. Huang (2021) investigated common errors in financial English-Chinese translation, including terminological misuse and structural misinterpretation, and proposed strategies to improve accuracy, fluency, and professionalism. Mínguez (2012), Hernández et al. (2016), and Guénette (2022) highlighted the existence of a gap between academic training and

professional financial translation practice, stressing the interdisciplinary nature of the field. More recently, Alghamdi et al. (2024) examined Arabic–English machine translation of financial texts, introducing a specialized parallel corpus and evaluating MT models.

Despite this extensive body of research, no prior study has specifically focused on the translation of financial terms commonly used in the World Bank documents. This study therefore aims to address this gap by assessing the quality of senior students' Arabic translation of these terms.

2. Statement of the problem

Translating business documents in a global context presents numerous challenges, particularly when it comes to specialized terminology. This difficulty has been highlighted by Alexander and Nobes (2020). The translation of financial documents can be especially daunting for translators, as it is a meticulous and time-consuming process that demands extreme attention and concentration. Translators often come across hurdles when dealing with business documents, such as a large number of figures, complex operations, tables, and diagrams, along with an abundance of specific terms.

Many translation students and even some professional translators tend to make mistakes when translating financial terms from English into Arabic because they may not fully grasp the deeper meanings of these terms. They often translate the surface meanings without understanding the intended implications derived from the context. For instance, the term "haircut" should not be rendered literally into Arabic as "قص الشعر" when occurring in the context of financial statements; an Arabic equivalent would be "خصم من قيمة الورقة المالية". "لأغراض احتساب رأس المال الصافي".

As Catford (1965) pointed out, "the central problem of translation practice is that of finding a target language equivalent. A central task of translation theory is that of defining the nature and conditions of translation equivalence" (p. 21). For example, the term 'haircut' has no clear-cut, one-word equivalent in Arabic, so to convey the intended meaning accurately the translator should provide some explanation of the source term to render it intelligible to the intended audience.

This indicates that translators may encounter many problems when dealing with financial terms (FT). Although translating these terms is a difficult and complex task and thus a fertile ground for research, only few studies have focused specifically on investigating the problems translators often encounter when translating English financial terms into Arabic. The present study therefore attempts to fill a gap in the field of financial translation between English and Arabic and to be of great value to business translators, especially for the translator who works in the field of business translation. To this end, the study investigates senior translation students' translations of World Bank-related financial terms from English into Arabic.

3. Significance of the study

Many translators encounter significant challenges when tasked with translating business documents from English into Arabic. This difficulty arises from the differences in the two languages' business systems. Business documents encompass a variety of text types related to specific fields such as economics, finance, and marketing. This study aims to investigate the challenges which senior translation students may face when translating financial terms from English into Arabic. Challenges may arise from acronyms or symbols, for example, as Arabic may not have accurate equivalents for these items. It is hoped that the research will be of value both to translation students and professional translators by suggesting

solutions to some of the challenges associated with financial translation. Additionally, it offers recommendations for universities with respect to reassessing and improving their translation programs so as to enable students to join the translation market with increased confidence and competence.

4. Methodology

To answer the research question, this study adopts a mixed-methods approach to investigate the data translations both quantitatively and qualitatively.

5. Population and sampling

As mentioned earlier, the study focuses on translations produced by senior translation students from the 2025 cohort at the Faculty of Languages, Sana'a University. The study employed purposive sampling, selecting senior translation students who have successfully completed advanced translation training and thus have, presumably, acquired a high level of linguistic competence and engaged in professional practice. A test was designed of 25 sentences containing 26 financial terms drawn from documents used by the World Bank, and then was administered to 54 students. 50 answer sheets were received and used as data for the study.

6. Study tools

To answer the study question, the research initially collected 100 terms. This list was subsequently reduced to 50 and finally narrowed down to 26 through a validation process. The final list was then developed into a translation test and distributed to the study participants.

7. Results and discussion

To answer the study question, the translations provided by the students for the test items were coded, tabulated, evaluated, and analyzed using SPSS for statistical analysis. The participants' translations were assessed with an evaluation scale that categorized errors as minor, major, or critical, based on the MQM model. This approach was employed to investigate the quality of senior translation students in translating financial terms related to the World Bank.

7.1. Results of assessment of translation accuracy

Table (1) below presents the descriptive statistics for the translation error assessment, categorized according to four levels of severity: critical errors, major errors, minor errors, and correct translations. These categories provide a holistic picture of translation performance, showing not only whether errors occurred but also their impact on meaning, accuracy, and communicative effectiveness. The table below exhibits the results regarding the scores obtained in the assessment of translation accuracy for each example.

Table (1): Assessment of Translation Accuracy

N	Statement	Critical	Major	Minor	Correct
1	Derivative liabilities	27 (54.5%)	6 (10.6%)	0 (0.0%)	17 (35.4)
2	A supplemental disclosure	22 (44.0%)	12 (24.0%)	0 (0.0%)	16 (32.0)
3	A loan portfolio vintage disclosure	28 (58.3%)	18 (37.5%)	1 (2.1%)	1 (2.1%)

4	The aggregate fair value	10 (20.0%)	18 (36.0%)	1 (2.0%)	21 (42.0)
5	TBA securities	36 (78.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.2%)	9 (19.6)
6	CVA.	23 (60.5%)	10 (26.3%)	0 (0.0%)	5 (13.2%)
7	DVA.	16 (57.1%)	8 (28.6%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (14.3%)
8	Current blend	48 (100.0)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
9	Currency forward contracts	15 (31.9%)	8 (17.0%)	3 (6.4%)	21 (44.7%)
10	An adjusted accumulated provision	22 (46.8%)	4 (8.5%)	16 (34.0%)	5 (10.6%)
11	The maximum potential amount	21 (42.0%)	20 (40.0%)	9 (18.0%)	0 (0.0%)
12	The face value	21 (42.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	29 (58.0%)
13	Triple-A credit rating	18 (40.0%)	20 (44.4%)	2 (4.4%)	5 (11.1%)
14	The trading portfolio	39 (78.0%)	3 (6.0%)	0 (0.0%)	8 (16.0%)

15	Global Cap Authority	39 (81.3%)	9 (18.8%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
16	Proportionate share	10 (20.4%)	3 (6.1%)	14 (28.6%)	22 (44.9%)
17	Amortized cost	18 (37.5%)	7 (14.6%)	0 (0.0%)	23 (47.9%)
18	The actual allocation	8 (16.0%)	2 (4.0%)	2 (4.0%)	38 (76.0%)
19	Debt securities	23 (46.0%)	4 (8.0%)	0 (0.0%)	23 (46.0%)
20	Unobservable inputs	20 (40.0%)	12 (24.0%)	4 (8.0%)	14 (28.0%)
21	Vanilla bonds	28 (60.9%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.2%)	17 (37.0%)
22	Yield curves.	7 (17.5%)	6 (15.0%)	2 (4.0%)	27 (67.5%)
23	Nonaccrual status	13 (27.7%)	2 (4.3%)	18 (38.3%)	14 (29.8%)
24	Ledger account	9 (18.8%)	15 (31.3%)	15 (31.3%)	9 (18.8%)
25	Operating costs	9 (18.8%)	7 (14.6%)	0 (0.0%)	32 (66.7%)
26	The notional amounts	35 (72.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	13 (27.1%)

Average	46.3%	16.0%	7.3%	30.5%
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The data above reveal substantial variation in error severity across the 26 terms examined. Overall, critical errors were the most frequent, indicating serious distortions of meaning or failure to convey essential financial concepts accurately. Major errors were also common, while minor errors occurred less frequently. A limited proportion of terms were translated correctly, highlighting persistent challenges in achieving precision and fidelity in financial translation. It can be noticed that some participants left certain terms untranslated. For example, two participants did not translate *a loan portfolio vintage disclosure*, *global cap authority*, *current blend*, *amortized cost*, *ledger account*, *operating costs*, and *the notional amounts*, which reduced the total of translated terms to 48. Four participants skipped the terms *TBA securities* and *vanilla bonds*, bringing the count down to 46. And twelve participants left the acronym *CVA* untranslated, lowering the total to 38.

Across the dataset, the average percentage of critical errors ranged between 16.0% and 100.0%, whereas major errors ranged from 0.0% to 44.4%. Minor errors were relatively rare, appearing mostly between 0.0% and 38.3%, while the proportion of correct translations varied widely—from 0.0% (in several highly technical terms) to 76.0% for simpler, more standardized expressions. Below is presented a comprehensive discussion of the scale categorizing errors into minor, major, or critical.

1. Critical errors

Critical errors, representing serious semantic or terminological inaccuracies, were predominant in a large portion of the data. Terms like *current blend* (100%) can lead to critical errors when students produce translations that completely distort the meaning. For example, translations such as *الوضع*, *العاصمة الحالية*, *الاتحاد*, *الدمج*, *الحالي الانسجام الحالي*, and *الحالي*

الحالي which are unrelated to the concept of a mixture.

Terms such as *global cap authority* (81.3%) may lead to mistakes in student translations that misinterpret financial meanings. Options like رأس المال العالمي and سلطة الغطاء العالمي reflect a misinterpretation of the lexical item *cap* as a physical object or capital rather than a regulatory limit, missing the institutional function of the term.

Terms like *the trading portfolio* (78.0%) can lead to critical errors when students produce translations that distort the intended financial meaning. For example, الحقيبة التجارية، سيرة ذاتية، الكميالات الأوراق التجارية and تجارية، خلفية التجارة، are unrelated to the concept of a portfolio of assets held for trading purposes.

Terms like *vanilla bonds* (60.9%) can cause critical errors. Translations like روابط نبات أمريكي and علاقات الفانيليا are unrelated to standard bonds. Similarly, سندات الفانيليا is a literal translation that misses the intended meaning dictated by the financial context.

These findings suggest that translators struggled most with specialized or less familiar financial concepts—particularly those involving derivatives, trading instruments, or institutional labels. Critical errors of this nature indicate a misunderstanding of the financial context, leading to distortions that could alter the intended meaning of financial disclosures or reports.

2. Major errors

Major errors, which include significant inaccuracies that partially obscure meaning, were notably frequent in the translations of terms like *triple-A credit rating* (44.4%) and led to translation errors that reflect high credit quality but distort the financially established meaning. For instance, translations such as تصنيف بطاقة الائتمان or التصنيف الائتماني للرصيد

الثلاثي misrepresent the concept by linking it to unrelated financial terms. These translations indicate a partial understanding of creditworthiness without preserving the precise rating scale.

Terms like *ledger account* (31.3%) can lead to errors in student translations that convey some meaning but distort the precise concept. Renderings such as دفتر سجل الحسابات and دفتر الحسابات generalize the term instead of specifying a particular account within the general ledger. Other translations like حساب التسجيل المصرفي show confusion and shift the meaning to unrelated functions. Such errors often reflect confusion between similar accounting terms or inappropriate contextual interpretation—issues that undermine conceptual precision even when surface-level translation seems acceptable.

3. Minor errors

Minor errors were comparatively infrequent and generally non-disruptive to comprehension. The highest rate appeared in terms like *nonaccrual status* (38.3%) when students produce translations that generally convey the intended meaning but contain lexical, morphological, or form-related inaccuracies. For example, renderings such as حالة /وضع غير متراكم and غير استحقاق، reflect acceptable semantic interpretation but show structural or terminological imprecision.

Terms like *an adjusted accumulated provision* (34.0%) resulted in minor errors as student translations maintain the core accounting meaning but exhibit terminological or structural imprecision. Translations such as تعديل القيمة المتراكمة المقدرة show acceptable interpretation but involve slight lexical changes, reflecting comprehension with minor inaccuracies.

Minor errors tended to involve stylistic inconsistencies, prepositional misplacement, or minor omissions that did not critically affect the intended meaning.

These patterns show that translators were generally able to grasp the overall sense of the text but occasionally struggled with micro-level grammatical or lexical precision.

4. Correct translations

The overall proportion of correct translations was relatively low, indicating that only a limited number of terms were rendered accurately and appropriately. The highest accuracy rates were observed in the translations of the terms *the actual allocation* (76.0%), *yield curves* (67.5%), *operating costs*, and *proportionate share* (44.9%). These results show that well-established and frequently encountered financial expressions are easier to translate correctly due to familiarity and standardization in bilingual financial usage. In contrast, terms related to derivatives (e.g. CVA, DVA, TBA securities) and advanced portfolio instruments posed greater difficulty.

In summary, the findings show that translation accuracy was generally low, with critical errors appearing most frequently and indicating major misunderstandings of financial concepts. Major and minor errors were also common, reflecting difficulties in conveying precise meanings. Correct translations were relatively limited, suggesting that translators often struggled with technical and specialized financial terms. Overall, the results highlight a need for stronger domain knowledge and improved accuracy in financial translation.

7.2. Results of the assessment of translation fluency

The table (2) below presents the descriptive statistics for assessment of student translations in terms of fluency at four severity levels: critical errors, major errors, minor errors, and correct translations. These categories help illustrate overall translation fluency by showing not only the frequency of errors but also the extent to which they affect meaning, fluency, and communicative clarity. The table below

provides the results for the assessment scores obtained.

Table (2): Assessment of Translation Fluency

N	Statement	Critical	Major	Minor	Correct
1	Derivative liabilities	3 (6.0%)	9 (18.0%)	5 (10.0%)	33 (66.0%)
2	A supplemental Disclosure	0 (0.0%)	3 (6.0%)	8 (16.0%)	39 (78.0%)
3	A loan portfolio vintage disclosure	3 (4.2%)	3 (9.4%)	9 (18.0%)	33 (68.0%)
4	The aggregate fair value	2 (4.0%)	2 (4.0%)	26 (52.0%)	20 (40.0%)
5	TBA securities	6 (12.0%)	1 (2.0%)	4 (8.0%)	35 (76.0%)
6	CVA.	4 (10.5%)	1 (2.6%)	1 (2.6%)	32 (84.2%)
7	DVA.	6 (21.4%)	1 (3.6%)	2 (7.1%)	19 (67.9%)
8	Current blend	48 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
9	Currency forward contracts	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	6 (12.8%)	41 (87.2%)
10	An adjusted accumulated provision	3 (6.4%)	3 (6.4%)	9 (19.1%)	32 (68.1%)

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11	The maximum potential amount	1 (2.00%)	1 (2.00%)	9 (18.00%)	39 (78.00%)
12	The face value	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	19 (38.00%)	31 (62.00%)
13	Triple-A credit rating.	2 (2.50%)	5 (9.50%)	8 (16.00%)	30 (60.80%)
14	The trading portfolio	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.0%)	6 (12.0%)	43 (86.0%)
15	Global Cap Authority	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.10%)	0 (0.00%)	47 (97.90%)
16	Proportion ate share	1 (2.00%)	0 (0.00%)	7 (14.20%)	41 (83.70%)
17	Amortized cost	2 (4.00%)	2 (4.00%)	3 (6.00%)	41 (85.40%)
18	The actual allocation	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.00%)	49 (98.00%)
19	Debt securities	1 (2.00%)	0 (0.00%)	7 (14.00%)	42 (84.00%)
20	Unobservable inputs	1 (2.00%)	0 (0.00%)	9 (18.00%)	40 (80.00%)
21	Vanilla bonds	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	7 (15.20%)	39 (84.80%)

22	Yield curves.	0 (0.00%)	4 (8.00%)	7 (14.00%)	31 (61.60%)
23	Nonaccrual status	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.10%)	4 (8.50%)	42 (89.40%)
24	Ledger account	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	8 (16.70%)	40 (83.30%)
25	Operating costs	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	3 (6.20%)	45 (93.80%)
26	The notional amounts	0 (0.00%)	1 (2.10%)	7 (14.60%)	40 (83.30%)
Average		6.8%	3.2%	14.3%	75.7%

Across the dataset, the percentage of critical errors ranged from 0.0% to 100.0%, while major errors appeared within a range of 0.0% to 18.0%. Minor errors varied more widely, occurring between 0.0% and 52.0%, whereas correct translations accounted for the highest proportion, ranging from 0.0% to 98.0% across the terms. It can be noticed that some participants left certain terms untranslated. For example, twenty two participants did not translate the acronym *DVA*, which reduced the total to 28. Three participants skipped the terms *currency forward contracts*, *an adjusted accumulated provision* and *nonaccrual status*, bringing the count down to 47. And five participants did not translate the term *Triple-A credit rating*, lowering the total to 45.

Below, we present a comprehensive discussion of the error-severity scale, which classifies errors as minor, major, or critical.

1. Critical errors

The most problematic category was critical errors, although these were limited to only a subset of phrases. Particularly notable examples of this category include terms like *DVA* (21.4%), where spelling or formatting issues affect clarity. The translations تعديل فمة and تعديل تقييم الدين and الدين show typographical errors, while the translations تعديل تقييم الدين and دي في أي reflect inconsistencies in the use of abbreviation in Arabic. These translations demonstrate some understanding of the concept but have linguistic imperfections.

Terms like *TBA securities* (12.0%) can cause significant fluency errors in student translations, leading to unclear or incoherent meanings. For example, translations such as امن تي بي A and اعلان الاوراق المالي contain spelling and form issues that affect readability. Other versions, like الأوراق الحالية and الامان, result in vague expressions that lack clarity as technical terms. These examples demonstrate fluency breakdowns that hinder comprehension of the intended concept.

Terms like *CVA* (10.5%) can lead to critical fluency errors in translations, resulting in linguistically incoherent or unclear structures. Such translations as تعديل قمة التأمين and 527 مليون سكتة دماغية demonstrate severe readability issues. Other translations like فحص العملات and أي سي سي show breakdowns in clarity and inappropriate wording, preventing coherent financial expression. These errors significantly hinder comprehension of the intended concept, reflecting substantial breakdowns in meaning or terminology in specialized financial expressions.

2. Major errors

Major errors were comparatively infrequent across the dataset, generally falling between 0% and 18% for most items, with only a few

phrases, such as “a loan portfolio vintage disclosure” (9.4%), that can lead to fluency errors in student translations. For examples, محفظة القروض الإفصاح، إيضاح زمني لحقبة الاقتراض، and إفصاح قديم لمحفظة فردية show awkward structures that reduce clarity. Other translations like محفظة القروض التوضيحية convey some meaning but lack coherence. These examples indicate partial fluency with noticeable expression issues that impact clarity.

3. Minor errors

In contrast, minor errors appeared more frequently than major or critical errors. For example, phrases like “the face value” (38.0%) can lead to fluent yet imprecise translations in financial Arabic. Translations such as قيمة الواجهة are awkward, while others like القيمة and الصفة الاسمية somewhat obscure technical meaning. Inconsistency in spelling also impacts fluency, showing that errors stem more from expression quality than misunderstanding.

Terms like *yield curves* (18.4%) can cause fluency errors in Arabic translations. For example, the translation منحنى الإنتاجية show spelling issues, while others such as العائدات reflect incomplete rendering. These suggest a basic understanding of the concept but with notable fluency problems.

4. Correct translations

The descriptive analysis of translation fluency shows noticeable variation in the distribution of error severity across the translations of the target terms. Overall, the largest proportion of observations fell into the “Correct” category, indicating generally acceptable levels of fluency. Phrases such as *the actual allocation* (98.0%), *global cap authority* (97.9%), and *operating costs* (93.8%) demonstrated exceptionally high accuracy, with almost no reported errors. This suggests that straightforward financial terms or structurally simple phrases were translated with a high degree of precision.

In summary, the descriptive results indicate that while translation fluency was generally strong, certain high-specialization financial terms were more vulnerable to severe error types. This pattern underscores the importance of domain knowledge in financial translation and highlights areas where translator training or glossary standardization may be needed. **7.3. Results of the assessment of translation verity**

The table (3) below presents the descriptive statistics for the translation error assessment in terms of verity at four severity levels: critical errors, major errors, minor errors, and correct translations. These categories help illustrate overall translation verity by showing not only the frequency of errors but also the extent to which they affect meaning, verity, and extra-linguistic truth correspondence in texts.

Table (3): Assessment of Translation Verity

N	Statement	Critical	Major	Minor	Correct
1	Derivative liabilities	35 (70.0%)	8 (16.0%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (14.0%)
2	A supplemental disclosure	19 (38.0%)	13 (26.0%)	1 (2.0%)	17 (34.0%)
3	A loan portfolio vintage disclosure	43 (86.0%)	1 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (8.0%)
4	The aggregate fair value	31 (62.0%)	2 (4.0%)	0 (0.0%)	17 (34.0%)
5	TBA securities	44 (88.0%)	1 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.0%)
6	CVA.	35 (70.0%)	1 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.0%)
7	DVA.	25 (50.0%)	1 (2.0%)	1 (2.0%)	1 (2.0%)
	Current blend	44 (88.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (8.0%)

8					
9	Currency forward contracts	13 (26.0%)	1 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	33 (66.0%)
10	An adjusted accumulated provision	23 (46.0%)	6 (12.0%)	1 (2.0%)	17 (34.0%)
11	The maximum potential amount	23 (46.0%)	8 (16.0%)	18 (36.0%)	1 (4.0%)
12	The face value	14 (28.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	36 (72.0%)
13	Triple-A credit rating.	28 (56.0%)	11 (22.0%)	0 (0.0%)	6 (12.0%)
14	The trading portfolio	7 (14.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	43 (86.0%)
15	Global Cap Authority	6 (12.0%)	4 (8.0%)	36 (72.0%)	2 (4.0%)
16	Proportionate share	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	24 (48.0%)	25 (50.0%)
17	Amortized cost	0 (0.0%)	31 (62.0%)	10 (20.0%)	7 (14.0%)
18	The actual allocation	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.0%)	48 (96.0%)
19	Debt securities	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	15 (30.0%)	35 (70.0%)
20	Unobservable inputs	0 (0.0%)	21 (42.0%)	21 (42.0%)	8 (16.0%)
21	Vanilla bonds	0 (0.0%)	32 (64.0%)	14 (28.0%)	0 (0.0%)
22	Yield curves.	0 (0.0%)	3 (6.4%)	25 (50.0%)	14 (28.0%)
23	Nonaccrual status	0 (0.0%)	30 (60.0%)	10 (20.0%)	7 (14.0%)
	Ledger account	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.0%)	46 (92.0%)

24					
25	Operating costs	0 (0.0%)	14 (30.0%)	0 (0.0%)	34 (70.0%)
26	The notional amounts	0 (0.0%)	21 (45.0%)	20 (42.0%)	7 (16.0%)
Average	30.4%	16.0	17.0%	30.6%	Average

Across the dataset, the distribution of error severity reveals substantial variation among the analyzed financial phrases. Critical errors ranged from 0.0% to as high as 88.0%, while major errors ranged between 0.0% and 64.0%. Minor errors showed notable variability, appearing between 0.0% and 72.0%, whereas correct translations ranged from 0.0% to 96.0%. This wide dispersion highlights notable differences in translators' ability to accurately render financial terminology, particularly when

dealing with specialized, abstract, or acronym-based expressions. It can be noticed that some participants left certain terms untranslated. For example, one participant did not translate the term *proportionate share*, whereas eight participants left the term *yield curves* untranslated, lowering the total to 42. The following section provides a detailed discussion of the error-severity scale, classifying translation outcomes into minor, major, and critical errors, followed by a summary.

1. Critical errors

Analysis of Arabic translations in terms of verity showed that critical errors were highly prominent in several complex financial terms, indicating serious mistranslations that distorted or altered the original meaning. Extremely high critical error rates observed for terms like *a loan portfolio vintage disclosure* (86.0%) can lead to critical errors when students misinterpret financial concepts. Translations such as *فرض حافظة القروض للكشف عن الخمر* and *محفظه الكشف خمر* misrepresent the concept of vintage,

introducing unrelated conceptual meanings. Other versions, like *مرفق بعمل القروض* and *محفظه القروض العديمية*, fail to convey the idea of classifying loans by origination period, demonstrating a misunderstanding of vintage-based disclosure.

Translations of the term *derivative liabilities* (70.0%) often lead to significant errors. For instance, renderings like *مشتقات مالية* omit the liability aspect, reducing the term to merely financial derivatives. Other translations, such as *الخصومات ثانوية المالية* and *الطلبات المشتقة*, introduce unrelated concepts, misrepresenting the meaning. Additionally, *الالتزام الصافي* and *الالتزامات المالية* generalize the term and overlook its derivative-specific nature, failing to accurately convey the concept of liabilities from derivative instruments.

Terms like *the aggregate fair value* (62.0%) can produce critical translation errors when key semantic elements are omitted or altered. Translations such as *القيمة الكلية* and *القيمة الإجمالية* omit the concept *fair*, while *القيمة العادلة الاجتماعية* and *القيمة المقبولة الإجمالية* replace it with unrelated qualifiers. The Arabic version *القيمة العادلة* ignores the aggregate aspect, whereas *الإجمالي العادل* distorts the structure. These renderings fail to convey the combined meaning of aggregation and fair valuation.

These cases reflect concept-level mistranslations that significantly alter meaning, indicating that acronyms, institutional terminology, and specialized financial instruments pose the highest semantic risk in financial translation.

2. Major errors

Major errors constituted a substantial portion of inaccuracies, particularly in specialized terms. High rates of major errors were found in the translations of terms like *operating costs* (30.0%), and these errors can turn into critical errors when the financial meaning is replaced by procedural or non-specialized expressions. Translations such as *العملية الشرائية، حساب العمليات، وعمليات التشغيل* shift the sense of costs to that of activities, while *ثمن*

provide inaccurate equivalents that do not represent operating expenses. These renderings fail to preserve the intended financial meaning of the source term.

Terms like *amortized cost* (62.0%) may produce major verity errors when the accounting concept is replaced or only partially conveyed. Translations such as *ضمان الدفع*, substitute the original measurement basis, while *القيمة المخفضة* confuses amortization with consumption or reduction. The version *مطفأة* is incomplete and fails to convey the full technical meaning.

This pattern suggests persistent difficulty in conveying the full semantic accuracy of core accounting and valuation terms, often leading to incomplete or misleading translations rather than fully incorrect ones. The dominance of major errors in these terms suggests that while translators possessed some familiarity with the concepts, they tended to struggle with finding fully accurate and technically sound equivalents.

3. Minor errors

Minor errors appeared primarily in phrases that were conceptually accessible but stylistically or terminologically sensitive. Terms like *global cap authority* (72.0%) can produce critical verity errors when the institutional meaning is altered or omitted. Translations such as *رأس المال العالمي* and *الهيئة المالية العالمية* shift the meaning to capital or finance, while *سلطة الحد الأقصى العالمي* omit the authority component. Renderings like *قلنسوة* and *سلطة الغطاء العالمي* reflect literal or misinterpreted equivalents for cap, resulting in semantic distortion.

Terms like *notional amounts* (42.0%) can cause minor verity errors, conveying the general financial meaning but with slight semantic inaccuracy. Translations such as *المبلغ القومي* and *المبالغ الوطنية*

confuse 'notional' with 'national', while *المبلغ الوهمي* and *المبالغ الافتراضية* approximate the concept but are less precise, showing partial preservation of meaning.

Terms like *the maximum potential amount* (32.0%) can lead to minor verity errors when the general financial meaning is conveyed but with slight imprecise equivalence. Translations such as *القيمة العليا* and *القيمة الإجمالية* reflect confusion between 'amount' and 'value'. Others, including *أكبر كمية مقدرة* and *أقصى الإمكانيات*, approximate the concept but introduce non-specialized or less precise equivalents. These renderings show partial preservation of meaning with limited terminological accuracy.

These errors reflect surface-level inaccuracies, such as lexical choices or subtle register mismatches, which can impact readability but not comprehension.

4. Correct translations

Despite the prevalence of errors in several specialized terms, a number of phrases achieved a high level of 'correctness', reflecting strong performance where terminology is standardized and widely used.

The highest accuracy rates were recorded for the terms *the actual allocation* (96.0%), *the face value* (71.0%), and *debt securities* (70.0%). These results suggest that standardized financial terminology with clear equivalents in the target language is more reliably and consistently rendered.

In summary, the findings indicate that critical errors were most prevalent in the translations of acronym-heavy, disclosure-rich, and specialized financial phrases, while major and minor errors were more

common in traditional financial terms. Correct translations occurred more frequently in phrases with clear equivalents, emphasizing the importance of familiarity and clarity for accuracy. Overall, senior translation students tended to struggle more with complex financial concepts requiring deep knowledge than with simpler financial expression.

Discussion

This study aimed to examine the quality of Arabic translations of World Bank-related English financial terms. For this purpose, the data was analyzed using the Multidimensional Quality Metrics (MQM) to assess the quality of the data financial translations, with focus on accuracy, fluency, and verity. According to the evaluation scale, translation errors were classified as minor, major, or critical. The findings clearly demonstrate that financial translation poses significant challenges for students, particularly at the conceptual and terminological levels.

Regarding translation accuracy, it was found that critical errors were the most frequent translation errors across most of the examined terms. This indicates substantial misunderstandings of specialized financial concepts, especially those related to the World Bank terminology. Such errors reflect insufficient domain knowledge in finance, which hinders students' ability to select precise equivalents and accurately convey specialized meanings. Even when translations appeared linguistically acceptable, conceptual inaccuracies frequently compromised the overall accuracy of the translated terms.

This finding aligns with the observations made by Šapina & Rad (2023) who pointed out that specialization in a certain field contributes to speed and quality of translation, nevertheless, well-trained translators, despite not being experts in a specific field, can also translate technical

documents properly owing to the available translation tools and practice.

In contrast, translation fluency showed generally strong performance. Most student translations were grammatically sound, readable, and stylistically appropriate, with a high proportion of correct or minor errors. This suggests adequate linguistic competence and target-language proficiency. However, fluency alone did not ensure high-quality financial translation, as fluent renderings often masked serious conceptual or terminological inaccuracies. This finding aligns with Lommel, Burchardt, and Uszkoreit (2014), who define fluency as relating primarily to the linguistic form of the translation regardless of its accuracy.

The results of the study on translation verity indicated that critical errors occurred most frequently in the phrases that contained numerous acronyms, included various disclosures, and utilized specialized financial terminology. In contrast, major and minor errors were found to be more common in traditional financial terms. This suggests that senior translation students faced greater challenges when dealing with complex financial concepts, which require detailed explanations, as these topics are not typically addressed within translation assessment. These challenges relate to the alignment of the text with the external reality it represents. This supports Snow's (2015) viewpoint that verity errors involve aspects of translation relevant to the target audience and necessitate a deep understanding of the target context. Furthermore, these issues pertain to how the text corresponds to real-world requirements.

9. Conclusion

This study investigated the quality of senior students' Arabic translations of World Bank-related financial terms using the MQM framework. The findings reveal that while students demonstrated strong fluency, significant challenges emerged in accuracy and verity, particularly in translating specialized and conceptually complex financial terminology.

The results underscore the importance of strengthening financial literacy within

translation programs alongside systematic training in specialized terminology. This includes engaging with authentic financial texts, using specialized English–Arabic financial glossaries, developing Arabic resources for the World Bank terminology, and adapting newly coined financial terms. This finding is in line with Buansari, Supriatno and Pangestus' (2020) perspective that having a complete dictionary will make it easier for those who are interested in conducting research on specialized translation. Implementing these strategies will greatly enhance students' ability to produce accurate and reliable translations. Strengthening this multidimensional skill set is essential to prepare translation students for the demands of professional financial translation contexts.

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