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

Bara'ah Abdullah Alsamawi[1,*], Abdulhameed Ashuja'a[2]

[1] Department of Translation- Faculty of Languages - Sana'a University, Sana'a, Yemen.
[2] Faculty of Languages - Sana'a University, Sana'a, Yemen.

***Corresponding author:** araahalsamawi@gmail.com & ashujaa2@gmail.com abd.alshujaa.l@su.edu.ye

Keywords

1. TQA
2. financial terms
3. World Bank
4. (MQM) model

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

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

براءة عبدالله السماوي[1]*، عبد الحميد الشجاع[2]
[1]قسم الترجمة ، كلية اللغات - جامعة صنعاء ، صنعاء ، اليمن.
[2] كلية اللغات - جامعة صنعاء ، صنعاء ، اليمن.

*المؤلف: araahalsamawi@gmail.com & ashujaa2@gmail.com abd.alshujaa.l@su.edu.ye

الكلمات المفتاحية

1. جودة وتقييم الترجمة
2. المصطلحات المالية
3. البنك الدولي
4. نموذج (MQM)

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 مكوّنة من 26 مصطلحًا ماليًا من وثائق البنك الدولي وإعدادها في صورة اختبار ترجمة وُزّع على 50طالبًا 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 الترجمية إلى ثلاث درجات: طفيفة، جسيمة وحرجة. وبوجه عام أظهرت النتائج أن بُعد الدقة في نقل المعنى يمثّل 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 اهتمامًا 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 الترجمية والارتقاء بالجودة العامة للترجمة المالية.

1-Introduction:

One of the initial steps for a company to expand internationally is to translate its financial documents into foreign languages. The quality of these translations is crucial, as it can significantly impact the company's professional reputation and market position. 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).

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 help of dictionaries. However, translating documents with specific terminology and context requires translators to understand these terms deeply and to have sufficient knowledge of the text's context.

As Nuri and Ismailli (2024) emphasized that 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 is 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 that are in the source language which are relatively context-free, and appear only once. In cases where terms are context-bound, their meaning can often 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 translations involve complex elements not typically found in other translation categories (Ulatus, 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 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 senior translation students' quality in translating World Bank-related financial terms from English into Arabic by employing 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:

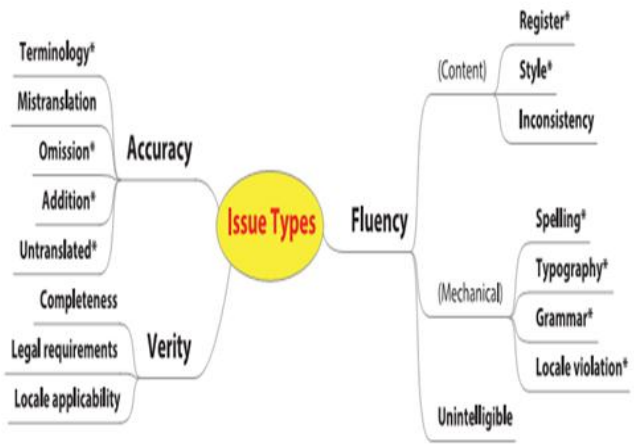
Accuracy in MQM refers to the appropriate correspondence between the source and target language, rather than to factual correctness in general. The accuracy error dimension includes subtypes such as addition, mistranslation, omission, terminology errors, and untranslated text.

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 a concept called verity. Verity refers to extra-linguistic truth correspondence in texts. It refers to issues with the text that relate 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 translating business documents in general and in translating financial terms in particular from various perspectives. Several 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 as, 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, effectively preserving meaning.

A number of studies have addressed Arabic–English financial translation, particularly in Islamic banking. Al-Saleem (2013) and Ibrahim (2018) identified major challenges such as non-equivalence, culture-bound terms, and lexical gaps, with strategies including transliteration, literal translation, and explanatory translation being commonly employed. 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 has explored translation techniques and training. Noviaty (2020) analyzed English financial terms translated into Indonesian and identified multiple translation techniques while Huang (2021) analyzed 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 gaps 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 World Bank–related financial terms. Therefore, the present study aims to address this gap by examining senior translation students' quality in translating World Bank-related financial terms from English into Arabic.

2. Statement of the problem

Translating business documents in a global context presents numerous challenges, particularly when it comes to specialized terminology. Alexander and Nobes (2020) highlight this difficulty. 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 face hurdles such as a large number of figures, complex operations, tables, and diagrams, along with an abundance of specific terms.

Many translation students and 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. Instead, they often translate the surface meanings without understanding the intended implications. For instance, the term "haircut" should not be rendered literally as "قص الشعر" in a financial context. The accurate translation 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). The equivalent for the term 'haircut' is not available so to convey the intended meaning accurately the translator should explain the source term and provide the information to a new audience.

This indicates that translators encounter many problems when translating financial terms. Although translating financial terms (FT) is a difficult and complex task, few studies have focused on the problems encountered by translators when translating financial terms. Therefore, this study may fill a gap in the field of financial translation between English and Arabic and it may be of great value to business translators, especially for the translator who works in the financial field through investigating senior translation students' quality in translating 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 economic, financial, marketing texts and so on. This study aims to investigate the challenges faced by senior translation students through evaluating their quality in translating World Bank-related financial terms from English into Arabic. For example, challenges with acronyms or symbols may arise due to the lack of accurate equivalents between Arabic and English. The research intends to assist translation students and professional translators by providing solutions to the challenges associated with financial translation

Additionally, it offers recommendations for universities to reassess their translation programs, enabling students to enter the translation market with increased confidence and competence. Overall, this study will be beneficial for both translation students and company translators, as it will help them recognize the issues they encounter in translating financial terms and equip them with effective strategies to overcome these challenges.

4. Methodology

To answer the study question, this study followed a descriptive analytical method, which made use of both quantitative and qualitative data to investigate senior translation students' quality in translating World Bank-related financial terms from English into Arabic.

5. Population and sample

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 to select senior translation students who had completed advanced translation training, ensuring an appropriate level of linguistic and professional competence. A test consisting of 25 sentences containing 26 World Bank–related financial terms was administered to 54 students. The test was completed individually, and 50 completed responses were returned for analysis.

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 then it was conducted in the form of 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. Result related to the assessment of translation accuracy

Table below (1) 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 presents 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	47%	16%	7%	30%

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 terms" which reduced the total to 48. Four participants skipped "TBA securities and Vanilla bonds," bringing the countdown to 46. Additionally, twelve participants did not translate "CVA," 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, the study present a comprehensive discussion on the scale that categorizes errors as 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 العاصفة الحالية, الدمج، الحالي الانسجام الحالي، الوضع الحالي, and الاتحاد 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 misunderstanding of "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 تجارية*، *خلفية التجارة* ، and *الكمبيالات الأوراق التجارية* 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 الفانيلا are unrelated to standard bonds. Similarly, سندات الفانيليا is a literal translation that misses the intended 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 terms like "triple-A credit rating" (44.4%) can lead to errors in translations that reflect high credit quality but distort financial meaning. For instance, translations such as التصنيف الائتماني للرصيد or تصنيف بطاقة الائتمان 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 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%) can lead to minor errors 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%) can result in minor errors in student translations that 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 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 actual allocation" (76.0%), "yield curves" (67.5%), 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 (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. Result related to the assessment of translation fluency

The table below (2) presents the descriptive statistics for the translation error assessment, organized into 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 scores obtained in the assessment.

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%)
11	The maximum potential Amount	1 (2.0%)	1 (2.0%)	9 (18.0%)	39 (78.0%)
12	The face value	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	19 (38.0%)	31 (62.0%)
13	Triple-A credit rating.	2 (2.5%)	5 (9.5%)	8 (18.6%)	30 (69.8%)
14	The trading portfolio	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.0%)	6 (12.0%)	43 (86.0%)
15	Global Cap Authority	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.1%)	0 (0.0%)	47 (97.9%)
16	Proportiona te share	1 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (14.3%)	41 (83.7%)
s 17	Amortized cost	2 (4.2%)	2 (4.2%)	3 (6.3%)	41 (85.4%)
18	The actual allocation	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.0%)	49 (98.0%)
19	Debt securities	1 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (14.0%)	42 (84.0%)
20	Unobservab le inputs	1 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	9 (18.0%)	40 (80.0%)
21	Vanilla bonds	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (15.2%)	39 (84.8%)
22	Yield curves.	0 (0.0%)	4 (8.0%)	7 (18.4%)	31 (81.6%)
23	Nonaccrual status	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.1%)	4 (8.5%)	42 (89.4%)
24	Ledger account	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	8 (16.7%)	40 (83.3%)
25	Operating costs	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (6.3%)	45 (93.8%)
26	The notional amounts	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.1%)	7 (14.6%)	40 (83.3%)
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 showed the highest proportions, 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 "DVA" which reduced the total to 28.

Three participants skipped "Currency forward contracts, An adjusted accumulated provision and Nonaccrual status" bringing the count down to 47 Additionally, five participants did not translate "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. Notable examples include terms like "DVA" (21.4%) can lead to critical errors in translations, resulting in spelling or formatting issues that affect clarity. Examples like تعديل فمة الديون and تعديل تقيم الدين show typographical errors, while تعديل تقييم الدين DVA and دي في آي reflect inconsistencies in abbreviation use 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 إعلان 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 as, تعديل قمة التأمين and 527 يتضمن مليون سكته دماغية demonstrate severe readability issues. Other translations like سي آي ي and فحص العملات 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 terms.

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%) can lead to fluency errors in student translations. For examples, محفظة القروض الإفصاح، إيضاح زمني لحقيبة 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. Phrases such as قيمة الواجهة are awkward, while others like القيمة الحقيقة and الصفة الاسمية may obscure technical meaning. Inconsistent 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 translations. Such as, 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 translated phrases. 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. Result related to the assessment of translation verity

The table below (3) presents the descriptive statistics for the translation error assessment, organized into 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 (89.5%)	1 (2.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (8.3%)
4	The aggregate fair value	31 (62.0%)	2(4.0%)	0 (0.0%)	17(34.0%)
5	TBA securities	44 (95.6%)	1 (2.1%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (2.1%)
6	CVA.	35 (92.1%)	1 (2.6%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (5.2%)
7	DVA.	25 (89.2%)	1 (3.5%)	1 (3.5%)	1 (3.5%)
8	Current blend	44 (91.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4(8.3%)
9	Currency forward contracts	13 (27.6%)	1(2.1%)	0 (0.0%)	33 (70.2%)
10	An adjusted accumulated provision	23 (48.9%)	6 (12.0%)	1 (2.1%)	17 (36.1%)
11	The maximum potential amount	23 (46.0%)	8 (16.0%)	18 (36.0%)	1(2.0%)
12	The face value	14 (28.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	36 (72.0%)
13	Triple-A credit rating.	28 (62.2%)	11(24.4%)	0 (0.0%)	6 (13.3%)
14	The trading portfolio	7(14.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	43 (86.0%)
15	Global Cap Authority	36 (75.0%)	4 (8.3%)	6 (12.5%)	2 (4.1%)

16	Proportionate share	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	24 (48.9%)	25 (51.0%)
17	Amortized cost	0 (0.0%)	31 (64.5%)	10 (20.8%)	7 (14.5%)
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 (69.5%)	14 (30.4%)	0 (0.0%)
22	Yield curves.	0 (0.0%)	3 (7.1%)	25(59.5%)	14 (33.3%)
23	Nonaccrual status	0 (0.0%)	30 (63.8%)	10 (21.2%)	7 (14.8%)
24	Ledger account	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (4.1%)	46 (95.8%)
25	Operating costs	0 (0.0%)	14 (29.1%)	0 (0.0%)	34 (70.8%)
26	The notional amounts	0 (0.0%)	21 (43.7%)	20 (410%)	7 (14.5%)
Average		35.7%	17%	13.8%	33.5%

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 95.6%, while major errors ranged between 0.0% and 69.5%. Minor errors showed notable variability, appearing between 0.0% and 59.5%, 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 "Proportionate share," Additionally, eight participants did not translate "Yield curves" 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

The analysis shows 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 were observed for terms like "Global Cap Authority"(75.0%,) that had critical errors in verity dimension because the institutional meaning is changed or left out. such as رأس المال العالمي and الهيئة المالية العالمية shift the meaning to capital or finance, while سلطة الحد العالمي and الحد الأقصى العالمي omit the authority component. Actually, some translation looks vague and obscure the meaning for the target reader such as قلنسوة الهيئة العالمية and . سلطة الغطاء العالمي which reflect literal or misinterpreted equivalents for cap, resulting in semantic distortion.

As well as, "a loan portfolio vintage disclosure" (89.5%) can lead to critical errors when students misinterpret financial concepts. Translations such as قرض محفظة الكشف خمر and حافظة القروض للكشف عن الخمر misrepresent the concept of vintage, introducing unrelated meanings. Other attempts, like مرفق بعمل القروض and محفظة القروض العديمة, fail to convey the idea of classifying loans by origination period, demonstrating a misunderstanding of vintage-based disclosure.

Translations of "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 الطلبات المشتقة and الخصومات ثانوية المالية, 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 الإجمالية and القيمة الكلية omit *fair value*, while القيمة العادلة replace it with القيمة المقبولة الإجمالية and الاجتماعية unrelated qualifiers. Other, like القيمة العادلة, ignore the aggregate aspect, and 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 during translation.

2. Major errors

Major errors constituted a substantial portion of inaccuracies, particularly in specialized terms. High rates of major errors were found in terms like "amortized cost" (64.5%) may produce major verity errors when the accounting concept is replaced or only partially conveyed. Translations such as ضمان الدفع، تسجيل الأدوات، substitute the original measurement basis, while القيمة المخفضة confuse amortization with consumption or reduction. Forms like مطفأة or are incomplete and fail to convey the full technical meaning.

Also, "Operating Costs" (29.1%) can produce major 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 from costs to activities, while ثمن الشغل، أسعار العمليات، ومصاريف العمل provide inaccurate equivalents that do not represent operating expenses. These renderings fail to preserve the intended financial meaning of the source term.

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 struggled to produce 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 "notional amounts" (41.0%) can cause minor verity errors, conveying the general financial meaning but with slight semantic inaccuracy. Translations such as المبالغ الوطنية and المبلغ القومي confuse "notional" with "national," while المبالغ الافتراضية and المبلغ الوهمي approximate the concept but are less of meaning.

Terms like "the maximum potential amount" (36.0%) 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 أقصى الإمكانات and أكبر كمية مقدرة, 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 high levels of correct translation, reflecting strong performance where terminology is standardized and widely use

The highest accuracy rates were recorded for "The actual allocation" (96.0%), "the face value" (72.0%), "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 acronym-heavy, disclosure-rich, and specialized financial phrases, while major and minor errors were more common in traditional financial term. Correct translations occurred more frequently in phrases with clear equivalents, emphasizing the importance of familiarity and clarity for accuracy. Overall, senior translation students struggled more with complex financial concepts requiring deep knowledge than with simpler financial expression.

8. Discussion

This study aimed to examine the quality of translating world bank-related financial terms from English into Arabic. For this purpose, the data was analyzed using the Multidimensional Quality Metrics (MQM) for assess the quality of financial translation focusing on accuracy, fluency, and verity. According to the evaluation scale classified errors 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 is found that critical errors were the most prevalent error score across many of the examined terms. This indicates substantial misunderstandings of specialized financial concepts, especially those related to 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 scholars Šapina & Rad (2023) who point 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-error scores.

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 were most prevalent in phrases that contained numerous acronyms, included various disclosures, and utilized specialized financial terminology. In contrast, major and minor errors were more commonly found 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 assessments. 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 translating World Bank–related financial terms into Arabic 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 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, it 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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