

## A STUDY OF GRAMMATICAL ERRORS WHEN USING TRANSLATION SOFTWARE FOR STUDENTS IN ECONOMIC CONTRACTS

### *UM ESTUDO DOS ERROS GRAMATICAIS NA UTILIZAÇÃO DE SOFTWARE DE TRADUÇÃO PARA ESTUDANTES DE CONTRATOS ECONÔMICOS*

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Along with the strong development of the ongoing fourth industrial revolution, automatic translation software also plays a very important role in helping people get closer together without being hindered by language. Google Translate software is one of the early software and is gradually improving itself. The birth of this software has helped people who do not know each other's languages to communicate and read documents to get closer. However, the correct translation is still a problem due to many reasons. In order to clarify grammatical errors when using google translate software to translate from English to Vietnamese, the author will conduct a study on the situation in economic contracts through 100 English contracts collected from foreign companies. cooperation between vnguowif Vietnam and foreigners. The purpose of this study is to point out common mistakes and suggest ways to prevent students from using the software. Besides, it also helps software developers have a scientific basis to perfect it in the future.

**Keywords:** Grammar Error, Google Translate Software, Students, Economic Contracts.

#### **RESUMO**

Juntamente com o forte desenvolvimento da quarta revolução industrial em curso, o software de tradução automática também desempenha um papel muito importante para ajudar as pessoas a aproximarem-se sem serem prejudicadas pela língua. O software Google Translate é um dos primeiros softwares e está a melhorar gradualmente. O nascimento deste software ajudou as pessoas que não conhecem as línguas umas das outras a comunicar e a ler documentos para se aproximarem. No entanto, a tradução correta continua a ser um problema devido a muitas razões. A fim de clarificar os erros gramaticais quando se utiliza o software Google Translate para traduzir do inglês para o vietnamita, o autor realizará um estudo sobre a situação dos contratos econômicos através de 100 contratos ingleses recolhidos junto de empresas estrangeiras. Cooperação entre o Vietnã e os estrangeiros. O objetivo deste estudo é apontar os erros comuns e sugerir formas de evitar que os estudantes utilizem o software. Além disso, também ajuda os criadores de software a ter uma base científica para o aperfeiçoar no futuro.

**Palavras-chave:** Erro de gramática, software Google Translate, estudantes, contratos econômicos.

## Introduction

With the strong development of information technology today, the use of translation software to convert languages has become more and more popular. Google Translate is considered one of the leading translation software today, with the ability to translate popular languages in the world. However, using Google Translate to translate from English to Vietnamese does not always guarantee grammatical accuracy. Especially in the field of economic contracts, using Google Translate to translate the terms and conditions of a contract can lead to serious grammatical errors, affecting the interests of the contracting parties. Therefore, it is necessary to study grammar errors when using Google Translate to translate from English to Vietnamese in economic contracts because it not only helps in teaching better, but also helps programmers to improve its software.

The study of grammatical errors when using the automatic translation software Google Translate to translate from English to Vietnamese in the field of economic contracts plays an important role in many aspects. First, this study helps to recognize common grammatical errors and suggests ways to avoid these errors, helping to improve translation quality and avoid unnecessary risks in economic contracts. In addition, research also plays an important role in education, helping to improve learners' English writing and pronunciation skills, especially in the economic field. Finally, this study also helps users better understand the limitations of automatic translation software and give a reasonable approach in using this tool.

## Methods and research questions

To achieve the stated purpose, in this article the author will focus on using research methods such as: the method of searching and collecting documents related to grammatical errors when using Google Translate and the situation of use Google Translate in economic contracts. Method of analyzing and evaluating economic contract documents translated from English to Vietnamese by Google Translate, focusing on grammatical errors. From the research results, the author

makes recommendations to contribute to the optimization of the use of Google Translate in economic contracts by suggesting techniques and methods to use effectively and avoid grammatical errors. In this article, the author will focus on content analysis and quantitative analysis to evaluate and determine the frequency of grammatical errors, and use the survey method with 100 economic contracts written in English language. The selection of 100 economic contracts for survey is to ensure representativeness of the research sample and at the same time be sufficient to analyze and draw conclusions about the situation of grammatical errors when using Google Translate software to translate English into Vietnamese. This number is considered large enough to ensure the scientificity and reliability of the research results.

The use of the above research methods is to answer the following research questions: How often do grammatical errors occur when using Google Translate to translate from English to Vietnamese economic contracts? and do they affect translation quality?; What categories do those errors focus on?

### **Theoretical basis**

The study of law in general and language in law in particular has attracted much attention. Some authors emphasize accuracy of legal language (Hu, W. 2019); (Zhang, F. 2021); (Zhang, F., & Zhang, F. 2021); (Wang, C. 2020); (Notari, F. 2019); (Wang, S., & Yin, J. 2020) to set forth the requirements for the text in the language of the law (Hassan, F. U. etc. 2021); (Beebeejaun, A. 2023); (Wijesinghe, W. H. M. S. M. 2021); (Gasparyan, S. 2020); (Ahmad, A., Saleem, M. M., & Hussan, S. 2019). Others emphasize the role of legal language (Chalkidis, I. etc. 2021); (Rice, D., 2019); (Wijayanti, A. 2020); (Zódi, Z. 2019); (Polo, F. M. 2019); (Polo, F. M. 2021); (Friedrich, R. 2020) in text editing techniques. One of the major difficulties when translating legal documents is that the length of English and Vietnamese sentences is not equivalent. Research on this issue has also been focused by translators to overcome in recent years in order to stop the arbitrary use of language. In addition, studies show that the unification of language will help the partners using the contract to be

able to smoothly and avoid misunderstanding, causing serious consequences just because of "words". When it comes to translation as well as translation quality, the issue of errors in contracts (Rasmussen, R. K. etc. 2020); (Cheong, B. C., & Lee, L. L. 2022); (Anderson IV, R. 2020); (Ceresa, M., & Sánchez, C. 2022); (Asadi, R., Wilkinson, S., & Rotimi, J. 2019) are of primary interest. Mistakes in language are an important issue in the use of language, as it can affect the way messages are communicated and understood. Taking care of mistakes in language is a way to ensure that the message is conveyed properly and understood in the right way. For the use of written language, mistakes can lead to misunderstandings, loss of important information, or difficulty for the reader. If a document has grammatical or spelling errors, this can reduce the professionalism and credibility of the writer. Therefore, taking care of errors in the language is extremely important to ensure accuracy and efficiency in the use of the language. Finding errors in economic contracts will help us overcome limitations. To do that, it is imperative to start from the criteria to distinguish the types of errors. Based on the results of previous works, in this article the author divides into specific criteria to classify the linguistic errors of Google translate software when automatically translating English-Vietnamese contracts.

Grammatical category (Burroughs, A, etc. 2021); (Kim, N., & Smolensky, P. 2021); (Guillaume, A., & Koch, H. 2021); (Ganieva, D. A. 2022); (Rujas, I, etc. 2019) is a language category that specifies type word characteristics. In which, grammatical categories include: number (number), gender (gender), manner (case), tense (tense), mode (mood), form (voice), person (person), and form. aspect), conformity, domination (government), etc. In addition, the word position and order play the role of clarifying the grammatical relationship as well as the grammatical meaning of the word and of the word. sentence. Works have presented the grammatical category according to different standards, leading to heterogeneity in data analysis and results. Error assessment can be very difficult without a common criterion used in studies. Many studies evaluate errors using standard grammar rules, but this can lead to ignoring common mistakes in actual language. To analyze grammatical errors, researchers need a large amount of data. However, data collection and

analysis can be very expensive and time consuming, and many studies do not have enough data to achieve reliable results. Many grammatical errors arise due to cultural factors, upbringing and personal experiences of individuals, so there cannot be a single solution to all errors.

The lexical-grammar category refers to the grammatical structures and vocabulary used. It covers the basic rules and principles of part of speech (Chiche, A., & Yitagesu, B. 2022); (Thavareesan, S., & Mahesan, S. 2020); (Cristina, B, ect. 2020). Parts of speech include, noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, quantifier, adverb, preposition, conjunction, interjection, article, particle, copula. Rules about time, form, expression of meaning and relationships between elements in a sentence. Common vocabulary words, synonyms, antonyms, acronyms, slang words, idioms and fixed expressions in English. Vocabulary-grammar studies show its importance in texts. Thus, the lexical-grammar category is a term in the field of linguistics, often used to refer to grammatical and lexical structures used in a particular context, for example in a passage. text, an essay, a presentation, or a particular topic. The study of vocabulary-grammar categories helps learners understand and use grammatical structures and vocabulary correctly and effectively in communication and writing. It is also an important part of language learning in general, because grammar and vocabulary are the basic elements of a language, and they need to be mastered in order to be able to use that language fluently. fluent and natural.

Lexical meaning (Say, S. 2021); (Takhirjonovna, M. O. 2023); (Kömlósi, L. I. 2019) is the inherent meaning of a linguistic unit. The individual meaning of each sentence also belongs to the category of lexical meaning because it is created by the lexical meaning of the words in the sentence. The word category is considered an important part of the grammatical category because it is the way to classify and define words in the linguistic corpus. Word categories help us understand and analyze the structure of sentences, as well as decide how to use words in a sentence to form a complete and correct meaning.

Vocabulary is an important part of the grammatical category and is of particular importance in learning and using language. It helps us to understand and analyze the structure of sentences and make correct linguistic decisions. Word

categories help us define words in a language, which in turn helps us understand their meaning and usage. Understanding and mastering type words will help learners recognize the laws and rules of word usage in a sentence. This helps learners to use the language correctly and avoid errors in word usage. Besides, it also helps learners to use more diverse vocabulary and sentence structures, increasing the flexibility of the style and conveying the message more accurately and effectively. Therefore, the importance of type words in the field of grammar is undeniable, it helps language users understand the structure of sentences, as well as make correct and flexible word usage. more active.

Grammatical meaning (Marsden, H., & Slabakova, R. 2019); (Ahamad, N. A. 2020); (Siyavoshi, S., & Wilcox, S. 2021) is a type of general meaning that covers a wide range of linguistic units. It can be the general meaning of a whole series of word forms, of a series of words, of a series of sentences. Meaning relations include homonymous, synonymy, antonymous, inclusive, and total-segmentation relations. In addition, when investigating errors, we need to investigate other meaning relationships that have wrong meaning of the source language such as missing words, redundant translations, or keeping the words of the source language. close. The study of grammar is an important part of the study of language, playing an important role in helping us understand the structure of language and how words and syntax are used to convey information. By studying grammar, we can analyze, evaluate, and explain complex linguistic phenomena such as rules of spelling, syntax, semantics, and vocabulary usage. When we study and understand grammatical structures, we will be able to use vocabulary and syntax more accurately and confidently. In addition, studying grammar also helps us to increase our ability to communicate, write and read in that language.

The study of grammar helps us better understand how to use language correctly and effectively. Studying grammar also helps us to master basic grammatical structures and improve translation skills. In addition, studying grammar also helps learners better understand the language structure of native speakers, which can then be applied to learning new languages more effectively.



Grammar study also plays an important role in language teaching, helping teachers to communicate language knowledge more easily and effectively to students.

## Results and discussion

Through a survey of about 100 Vietnamese-English bilingual economic contracts of many different companies in Nha Trang city, Khanh Hoa province, the period was conducted from January to April 2023, through analysis software. In the analysis of corpus linguistics, after removing the duplicate sentences, we collected 1546 equivalent English-Vietnamese sentence pairs (or bilingual 'sections' consisting of many sentences combined). Then, put all the English sentences into the automatic translation system "*google translate*" (GT) to translate them into Vietnamese, then a comparison table of English and Vietnamese sentences will be obtained by the translator and Vietnamese sentences translated by GT automatic translation program.

Randomly observing about 50% of the data (724 pairs of sentences), we have investigated a lot of language errors when automatically translating English-Vietnamese sentences in the field of economic contracts. This includes errors in terms of type, types of errors in the grammatical category and other types of errors such as mistranslations of homonyms, missing words, redundant translations, incorrect word order translations, and incorrect contextual translations. and keep the word/language of the source language intact. To conduct the research, the author has built a table of conventions as follows:

Table 1 – Built a table of conventions

Ký hiệu	Nghĩa
<b>n</b>	<b>Noun errors</b>
<b>pron</b>	<b>Pronoun errors</b>
<b>v</b>	<b>Verb errors</b>
<b>adj</b>	<b>Adjective errors</b>
<b>quant</b>	<b>Quantifier errors</b>
<b>adv</b>	<b>Adverb errors</b>
<b>prep</b>	<b>Prepsition errors</b>
<b>conj</b>	<b>conjunction errors</b>
<b>inter</b>	<b>Interjection errors</b>
<b>arti</b>	<b>Article errors</b>
<b>parti</b>	<b>Particle errors</b>
<b>copu</b>	<b>Copula errors</b>
<b>nb</b>	<b>Number errors</b>
<b>cs</b>	<b>Case errors</b>
<b>ts</b>	<b>Tense errors</b>
<b>voi</b>	<b>Voice errors</b>
<b>per</b>	<b>Person errors</b>
<b>ord</b>	<b>Order errors</b>
<b>homo</b>	<b>Homonym errors</b>
<b>mis</b>	<b>Missing errors</b>
<b>red</b>	<b>Redundant errors</b>
<b>conj</b>	<b>Context meaning</b>
<b>ori</b>	<b>Preserve the words of the source language</b>
<b>stt</b>	<b>Numerical order.</b>

Error in part of speech. The error criteria for type words in this article are mainly about errors in mistranslating words from the source language (English): out of 724 pairs of sentences surveyed, we obtained 1,156 errors. In which, the error of mistranslating nouns accounted for the highest rate (43.77%) appearing 506 times; verb mistranslation occurs 194 times; error of mistranslating prepositions (16.26%) appeared 188 times; errors in mistranslation of conjunctions appear 100 times; mistranslation of adjectives (7.78%) occurs 90 times; pronoun mistranslation error (2.59%) appeared 30 times; article error (2.76%) appeared 24 times; error of mistranslating adverbs (2.59%) appeared 18 times; Mistranslation error (0.51%) appeared 6 times.

From the above data, we can see that the error of mistranslation of the noun accounts for the highest error rate among the errors of the type. This shows that the



correct use and translation of the word type is very important and necessary to get an accurate translation. Other types of errors such as mistranslation of verbs, prepositions and adjectives are also common and need attention when learning and using English.

Through the criteria of errors in the grammatical category and also in the 724 pairs of sentences above, we obtained: 114 errors in mistranslation of words belonging to the grammatical category (accounting for 5.14% of all errors surveyed in this paper); Errors in the form (temporal) of the source language include 62 errors (accounting for 2.8%), mistranslation of the source language including 38 errors (accounting for 1.71%); wrong translation of the source language has 12 errors (accounting for 0.54%); mistranslation has only one error (accounting for 0.09%) and absolutely no errors of mistranslating the numbers.

Illustrated diagram: Based on the above data, we can see that the error of mistranslation of the type in economic contracts when using Google Translate to translate from English to Vietnamese accounts for the largest percentage of the types of errors surveyed. , especially the error of mistranslating nouns. However, the rate of errors in grammatical categories and other types of errors is quite low, accounting for only a small part of the total number of errors. This may show that the Google Translate software has perfected English grammar and vocabulary, it has minimized errors related to grammatical and lexical categories when translating into Vietnamese.

Criteria for other types of errors in the lexical-semantic category include 946 errors: also from the above data, errors in contextual mistranslation (this criterion includes words in the lexical category but when included in The context is mistranslated, although their original meaning completely matches the dictionary meaning) accounted for the highest rate, including 524 errors (accounting for 55.39%), errors in word redundancy including 144 errors (accounting for 15.22 errors). %), the error of translating the wrong word order includes 114 errors (accounting for 12.05%), the error of translating missing words including 106 errors (accounting for 11.20%), the error of maintaining the word/language of the

source language including 58 errors (accounting for 6.13%), and according to this corpus, there are no errors in mistranslation of homonyms.

Based on the criteria for identifying errors and the results obtained, the author divides them into groups of errors such as: first, errors in the lexical-grammar category; The result is a group of errors in the grammatical category; Finally, there is a group of errors in the lexical-semantic category. On the basis of research and data filtering, the author has obtained a total of 1,216 errors belonging to the above groups. In which the error belongs to the first group, there are 18 cases of mistranslation from the type of the source language such as mistranslation of nouns, pronouns, verbs (predicate), adjectives, quantifiers, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, and adverbs. For the error of the second group, there are 8 cases of incorrect translation of the manner, tense, modality and person of the source language. Finally, there are errors in the third group in the lexical-semantic category with 8 mistranslation situations, including: translation of missing words, over-translation of words, incorrect translation of contextual meanings and keeping the words/languages of the source language intact.

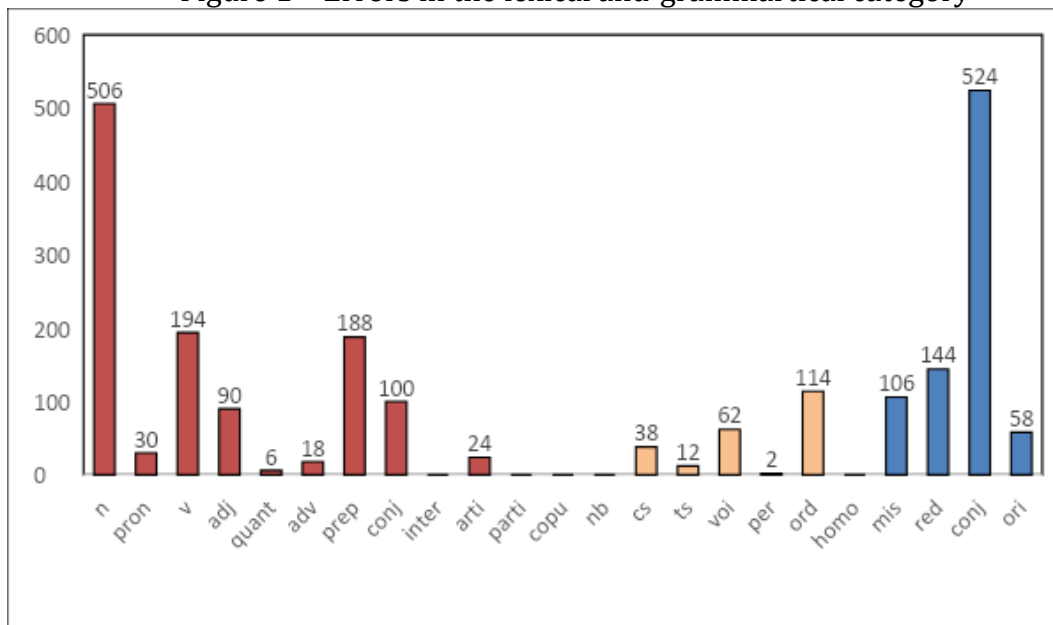
The case of contextual mistranslation accounts for the highest percentage: about 23.65%, here most of the words of the source language have the same meaning as the normal dictionary meaning, but when put into the context of the contract economics is mistranslated. Next is the case of mistranslating nouns of the source language in the lexical-grammar category, accounting for 22.8%. In addition, in this category, the frequency of significant errors accounts for approximately 10%, such as mistranslation of verbs accounting for 8.75% and mistranslation of prepositions accounting for 8.48%. Followed by errors in the lexical-semantic category such as: over-translation of words accounted for 6.5%, mistranslation of word order accounted for 5.14%, errors caused by lack of words accounted for 4.78%.

In descending order of frequency, errors in the lexical-grammar category: mistranslation of conjunctions is 4.51%, mistranslation of adjectives accounts for 4.06%; mistranslation in the grammatical category accounted for 2.80%; and the

case of mistranslation in the lexical-semantic category such as keeping the word/language of the source language unchanged accounts for 2.62%.

The rest is at approximately 1% such as: mistranslation (1.71%), pronoun mistranslation (1.35%), mistranslation of words (1.08%), mistranslation of adverbs (0.81%), wrong time (0.54%), wrong word amount (0.27%) and finally wrong person (0.09%). To have a comprehensive view of the survey results for grammatical errors when using Google Translate to translate from English to Vietnamese in economic contracts, the author gives the following chart:

Figure 1 – Errors in the lexical and-grammartical category



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## Conclusion

With the strong development of information technology today, the introduction of automatic translation software for languages is becoming more and more popular, including automatic translation software like Google Translate. However, using this software can lead to many grammatical errors and adversely affect the quality of the translated text. This is especially important in economic contracts, where mistranslations can have unintended consequences. From the study of grammatical errors when using Google Translate software to translate from English to Vietnamese in economic contracts, we can clearly see the situation of common grammatical errors and how to avoid these errors. In schools, especially schools that train students in languages, having teachers provide students with tips and study methods will help them avoid common grammar mistakes when using Google Translate. Besides, learning how to use Google Translate properly and understanding common mistakes can help students improve their skills in using software to support their work and survival in today's flat world. The study of grammatical errors when using Google Translate software to translate from English to Vietnamese in economic contracts is extremely necessary and has great benefits in teaching and learning English.

## Recommendation

The current Google Translate software has improved a lot compared to when it was born, but it still does not give the desired translation results, especially the English-Vietnamese translation of specialized words for economic contracts. The reason is that automatic translation software all use statistical machine translation (Statistical Machine Translation). This method requires a complete bilingual corpus to have high accuracy. However, in some special cases, the automatic translation in the form of statistics is not as expected. To make the Google Translate software more and more complete, it requires specialized research and subject-specific training. It is necessary to have a close coordination between the programmer and the language, which focuses on finding errors to explain and find a way to overcome them thoroughly.

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