Textual Analysis of Complex Nominals Translation Errors in Economic Texts

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Abstract

The present study has three objectives: 1) to investigate the prevalence of complex nominals in economic discourse represented via the selected business news texts, 2) to shed some light on the most common translation errors made by second year students in the Department of Translation in rendering complex nominals into Arabic, and 3) to detect the possible causes behind such translation errors and suggest some translation tips which might sound helpful to the students of translation to find the most suitable translation equivalent. The present study is based on an empirical survey in which a selective analysis of some economic texts represented in business news texts is made. A corpus of 159 complex nominals was selected from seven business news texts collected from the students' examination papers. It is hypothesized that many different errors will arise as a result of translating complex nominals as precisely as possible from English business news texts into Arabic. The results of the analysis revealed that the selected business news texts represented a serious challenge for second year translation students, and resulted in a number of various translation errors. It has been found that the students' low level of bilingual competence represented the major reason for translation errors. Study findings also revealed that lexico-semantic errors were the most common type of translation errors, followed by omission, grammatical errors, misreading and finally confusion.

keywords: business news texts, complex nominals, economic discourse, translation errors, department of translation

تحليل نصي لأخطاء ترجمة العبارات الاسمية المعقدة في النصوص الاقتصادية

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ترمي هذه الدراسة الى تحقيق ثلاثة أهداف: 1) الاستقصاء عن مدى انتشار العبارات الاسمية المعقدة في الخطاب الاقتصادي المتمثل في نصوص أخبار الأعمال المختارة، ٢) القاء بعض الضوء على أخطاء الترجمة الأكثر شيوعًا التي يرتكبها طلاب السنة الثانية في قسم الترجمة اثناء ترجمتهم العبارات الاسمية المعقدة إلى اللغة العربية، ٣) اكتشاف الأسباب المحتملة وراء مثل هذه الأخطاء في الترجمة واقتراح بعض ارشادات الترجمة التي قد تبدو مفيدة لطلاب الترجمة للعثور على المكافئ الترجمي الأنسب تعتمد هذه الدراسة على مسح تجريبي أجري فيه تحليل انتقائي لعدد من النصوص الاقتصادية الممثلة في نصوص أخبار الأعمال. أختيرت مجموعة مؤلفة من ١٥٩ عبارة اسمية معقدة من سبعة نصوص إخبارية اقتصادية جُمعت من الاوراق الامتحانية للطلاب. تفترض الدراسة ظهور العديد من الأخطاء المختلفة نتيجة لترجمة العبارات الاسمية المعقدة ترجمة دقيقة قدر الإمكان من نصوص أخبار الأعمال باللغة الإنجليزية إلى اللغة العربية. كشفت نتائج التحليل

أن نصوص أخبار الأعمال المختارة مثلت تحديًا جدياً لطلاب الترجمة في المرحلة الثانية وتسببت في عدد من أخطاء الترجمة المختلفة. لقد استنتجت الدراسة أن المستوى المنخفض للكفاءة اللغوية الثنائية للطلبة يمثل السبب الرئيس لأخطاء الترجمة. كما كشفت نتائج الدراسة أن الأخطاء المعجمية- الدلالية هي أكثر أنواع أخطاء الترجمة شيوعًا، يتبعها الحذف ثم الأخطاء النحوية ثم خطأ القراءة وآخرها الارتباك.

الكلمات المفتاحية: نصوص أخبار الأعمال، العبارات الاسمية المعقدة، الخطاب الاقتصادي، أخطاء الترجمة، قسم الترجمة

1. Introduction

Different terms have been used by different scholars to identify those structures which are characterized by being composed of nominal combinations that consist of a head noun preceded or followed by a modifier in their simplest form. Many different terms have been chosen depending on the specific type (or types) of these structures and how they are tackled. They have been named "long noun sequences" by Arens, et al (1987), and "nominal compounds" by Limave and Pompian (1991)¹. Jordan (1993), and later on both Pastor (2008) and Pastor and Mora (2013) preferred to name them "complex noun phrases". Lauer (1995), on the other hand, referred to them as "noun compounds". Johnston, et al, (1995), Montero (1996), and Busa and Johnston (1996) called them "complex nominals", and the same term has been recently used by both Cabezas-García and Gil-Berrozpe (2018), and Cabezas-García, and Faber (2018). As for de Izquierdo and Bailey (1998), a rather long term was chosen, "complex noun phrases and complex nominals". The term "Compound nominals" was used by Norris (1998). Among the other names that have been alluded to such structures are: "lexicalized noun phrases" by Godby (2002), "noun clusters and nounspeak" by Linder (2002), and "noun clusters" by Domínguez and Rokowski (2002)². The name "complex nominal phrases" has been chosen by Cortés and Verdejo (2006). As for Ruiz (2006), she opted for using the term "noun strings". Nicholson and Baldwin (2008) preferred to name them "compound nominalisations". With regard to Alnaser (2010), he referred to these structures as one part of "multi-word items". Others refer to them as "compound nominal phrases" (Trisca, 2015), or "nominal groups" (Durán and Rubio, 2015). "Multi-noun compounding" is the term used by Wasak (2016), while Cabezas-García, and Faber (2017) called them "Multi-word terms". Although many different terms have been given, these structures are similar: all of them contain a head noun that is modified by another noun or by other grammatical elements.

It is worthy to mention that much of the research carried out on nominals or noun phrases had directly focused on one particular type, namely, compound nouns, because their abundance in English necessitates the understanding of their semantics in many natural language processing (NLP) applications (Kim and Nakov, 2011). For the purpose of the present study, the terms "complex nominals" and "complex noun phrases" are used interchangeably to incorporate all kinds of nominal sequences. Hence, it is believed that these two selected terms include noun clusters (where a number of nouns and adjectives are combined), long nominal groups (where other items are found such as prepositions, articles, demonstratives, conjunctions and participles), and compound nouns.

The basic element in such structures is almost always a noun modified in many versatile manners: by another noun (e.g., Germany's economy, unemployment rate)³, an adjective (e.g., annual inflation, early estimate), an adverb (e.g., slightly above expectations), or by a prepositional phrase (e.g., five years of steady growth, in the third quarter). Other grammatical elements, like determiners, can be utilized to modify the head noun including articles (e.g., a sign, the data), demonstratives (e.g., this recession), quantifiers (e.g., no risk of recession, some analysts), cardinal numbers (e.g., two consecutive quarters, seven years of economic growth), ordinal numbers (e.g., the fourth quarter, the second time), coordinators (e.g., higher household and government spending), -ing participles (e.g., oil-producing countries, fastest-growing

economies), -ed participles (e.g., an economic reform package linked to the \$12 bn IMF loan deal). It is to be noted, however, that nominal combinations can be represented in many other sophisticated forms. One such form is the presence of two or more prepositions in one single noun phrase (e.g., a fall of the same level for April to June). In some cases, proper nouns are found to constitute an important part of a complex noun phrase (e.g., The National Bureau of Statistics, The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development). Other cases display the modification of the head noun by two adjectives (e.g., the global financial crisis, the tough economic conditions). Longer and relatively more complex nominals have been detected in the corpus in which several grammatical elements are utilized to function as modifiers as in (China is the world's second-largest economy and the second – biggest importer of both goods and commercial services).

2. Methodology

The first part of the study is concerned with investigating the extent to which complex nominals are utilized in the economic texts under scrutiny and the various possible categories of nominalization involved. As for the second part, it points out the distribution of translation errors made by the students in their endeavour to render complex nominals into Arabic within the specific categories. From the analysis of the translation errors, some translation tips that might be helpful in the process of translating complex nominals into Arabic have been suggested.

To achieve the objectives of the study, seven economic texts (or business news texts) collected from the second-year students' examination papers in the Department of Translation, University of AL -Mustansirriyah for the academic year 2016-2017 have been selected⁴. The range of the length of the texts is between 142 to 163 words, with the total number of words reaching 1,062. Each text has been translated by ten students, making the total number of students 70. The corpus consisted of 159 complex nominals divided into seven categories depending on the number of elements in each category. An example of each category is shown in table one:

Table (1): Categories of Complex Nominals

Two -Term Nominals	Germany's exports
Three – Term Nominals	The labour ministry
Four – Term Nominals	The eurozone debt crisis
Five -Term Nominals	The number of unemployed people
Six – Term Nominals	Slowest quarterly growth in five years
Seven – Term Nominals	The number of people looking for work
Very Long Nominals	One of the top five natural gas and crude oil-producing countries in the
(Ranging from 8 up to 16 terms)	world

3. Complex Nominals in Specialized Discourse

Economic discourse can be seen as a special type of discourse through which the versatile characteristics of the economic phenomena are presented. According to Malankhanova and Sysoyev (2016), economic discourse is not another term for business discourse. Rather, business discourse is included in the field of economic discourse (p.62). What distinguishes economic discourse is its use of a specialized language represented through the usage of peculiar vocabulary as well as specific forms. For Brugnano (2015), economic texts are treated as a subdivision of technical texts which, in turn, encompass special language texts, i.e., texts written using Languages for Special Purposes (LSP). The English language is seen as a means that is used on a large scale to convey specialized communication, and one of the reasons which make it so is as Linder (2002) stated, is the easiness with which noun clusters are formed.

It has been stated by many scholars that complex nominals, noun clusters, long sequences of nouns, noun-noun combinations, or nominalizations, in general, constitute a vastly dominant phenomenon in specialized texts: (Limaye and Pompian, 1991), (Newmark, 1988, p. 151), (De Izquierdo and Bailey,1998, pp. 19- 26), (Linder, 2002, p. 261), (Domínguez and Rokowski, 2002), (Pastor, 2008, p. 29), (Linh, 2010, p. 5), (Olteanu, 2012, pp. 30-42), (Nakov, 2013, p.1), (Corcodel, et al, 2014, p.46), (Brugnano, 2015, p. 14), (Cabezas-García, and Faber, 2017, p. 2). Lauer (1995) believed that the use of complex noun phrases and compound nouns, in particular, is very common in all kinds of texts, but more frequently utilized in certain genres (p.25). Koskela, (1998) stated that although noun phrases can be found in all texts, they are used in a higher proportion in special language texts than in general language texts (p. 163). According to Linh (2010), premodification via noun compounding is widely used in scientific and technical texts as well, where there is an urgent need for labelling and packing aims (p. 33). Ruiz (2006) stated that any attempt to achieve creativity may be regarded as another reason for the usage of complex noun compounds by some particular writers (p. 171). This is echoed by Jordan (1993), who believes that complex noun phrases are regarded as significant symbols which ornament mature writing (p.67). Conversely, Koskela (1998), held the opinion that they serve as indicators of the practical and direct, or "impersonal" style where it is possible to express complicated ideas via condensed patterns (p.161).

The usage of complex nominals, therefore, plays a fundamental role in specialized discourse, and it usually forms an important part of economic texts. The reason is that in such a type of texts, it is often necessary to supply a large amount of information via a small number of words when space plays a vital role, and this is the exact function of the majority of nominals. It is thus the function of such nominals to present information in such a way as to keep it as short, straighter and more abridged as possible (Pastor, 2008, p. 29). The same idea is previously confirmed by Norris (1998) when stating that using compound nominals is a very useful tool to present much information in a "concise" and "compact" way (p.183). Limaye and Pompian (1991) believed that brevity is indispensable in scientific, technical and business writing, and to achieve brevity in such text types, some writers resort to the use of nominal compounds in which some parts of speech like articles, and/or prepositions are removed (p. 8).

Krein-Kuhle (2003) confirmed that scientific and technical discourse in English is characterized by the frequent use of compounding-in which two or three words are used to convey the information - and can consequently serve as a means by which closely packed units are created to achieve linguistic space-saving goals (p.267). In his article on multi – noun compounds, Wasak (2016) concluded that these forms are the product of creativity and that they are highly preferable when conciseness is required (p. 129). De Izquierdo and Bailey (1998) emphasized the fact that English makes frequent use of these forms by stating that more examples of such forms are created daily to keep up with the rapid developments in the field of modern technology, which require condensing much information into a few words (p.26). Ruiz (2006) gave another reason for the widespread of nominal compounds; that is to aid in formulating new words that can be used to bridge the terminology gaps that signify modern ideas, advances or inventions, or to arrive at the uniformity of the vocabulary used for the newly created terms (pp.163-164)⁵. Furthermore, Jordan (1995) held the opinion that many complex nominals can serve as convenient devices to achieve cohesion as they exhibit the presence of anaphoric connection with other lexical items, or other complex nominals in the text (p. 40).

4. Results of the Analysis

One hundred and fifty-nine occurrences of complex nominals have been detected in the analysis of the selected economic texts. Table two shows that the number of complex nominals

occurrences recorded variation in the seven different categories. The most recurrent category was recorded in two-term nominals, with 46 occurrences (28.93%), while the least recurrent category was recorded in seven-term nominals, with 11 occurrences (6.91%). The second recurrent category was the five – term nominals, with 26 occurrences (16.35%), followed by four – term nominals, and very long nominals, with 22 occurrences each (13.83%). The remaining two categories (three–term nominals and six– term nominals) also recorded identical occurrences, with 16 occurrences each (10.06%).

Table (2): Distribution of the seven categories within the texts

	Two-Term Nominals	Three-Term Nominals	Four-Term Nominals	Five-Term Nominals	Six-Term Nominals	Seven-Term Nominals	Very Long Nominals
Text No.1	4	4	2	7	4	2	1
Text No.2	7	3	4	6	0	3	1
Text No. 3	7	2	5	3	2	0	6
Text No.4	5	0	3	3	4	1	4
Text No.5	9	4	3	1	4	1	3
Text No. 6	6	1	0	3	1	3	4
Text No.7	8	2	5	3	1	1	3
Total	46(28.93%)	16 (10.06%)	22(13.83%)	26(16.35%)	16(10.06%)	11(6.91%)	22(13.83%)

The small number of occurrences recorded within the seven-term nominals category indicates the fact that such a type of complex nominals is not used as frequently as the other types within the selected texts. The highest number of occurrences of this category is three occurrences found in two of the seven texts, as can be shown in table two above. Instances of these occurrences are *The Total Number of Unemployed in France* (Text no. 2), and *The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development* (Text no. 6). Conversely, two-term nominals recorded the highest number of occurrences, which, in turn, indicates their frequent use within the texts. It can be stated that this category has recorded the highest score in the number of occurrences because such a type of nominals is characterized by being highly productive and can have versatile forms, namely, different grammatical combinations as can be shown in Table three below:

Table (3): Distribution of the versatile forms representing two-term nominals category

	Noun +Noun	Adjective + Noun	Article + Noun	Demonstrative	Quantifier
				+ Noun	+ Noun
Text No.1	2 instances as in:	1 instance: German	1 instance:		
	Germany's Exports	Economy	The Country		
Text No.2	2 instances: France's	1 instance:	3 instances as	1 instance: This	
	Economy	French President	in: The	quarter	
	·		economy	•	
Text No. 3	3 instances as in:	1 instance:	3 instances as		
	China's economy	Real estate	in: A statement		
Text No.4	2 instances as in:		2 instances as		1 instance:
	Australia's economy		in: The		Some
	-		economy		analysts
Text No.5	3 instances as in:	1 instance: Official	5 instances as		
	Fuel prices	figures	in: The		
			currency		
Text No. 6	3 instances as in:	1 instance:	2 instances as		
	Canada's economy	Canadian economy	in: The		
		-	recession		
Text No.7	2 instances as in:		3 instances as	1 instance: This	2
	Investor confidence		in: The country	recession	instances:
					Some signs
Total	17	5	19	2	3

The second recurrent category, namely, five – term nominals, is characterized by the usage of coordination, as in *Higher household and government spending* (Text no. 1), and *Labour market and housing prices* (Text no. 6). Another notable feature of this category is the abundant usage of prepositions in addition to ordinal and cardinal numbers as in: *Seven years of economic growth* (Text no. 1), *Two – thirds of the unemployed* (Text no. 2), and *Five years of steady growth* (Text no. 4).

The two categories with equal occurrences of 22 are four—term and very long nominals. The category of four – term nominals recorded its highest frequency (5 occurrences) in two of the selected texts as in *Investment in real estate* (Text no. 3), and *Brazil's monthly inflation rates* (Text no. 7). Similarly, the category of very long nominals is highly productive in text no. 3, with 6 occurrences (see table two above). This category, as its name implies, comprises a chain of diverse modifiers represented by adjectives, nouns, prepositions, coordinators, articles, demonstratives, quantifiers, and participles as in: *The world's second* – *largest economy and the second* – *biggest importer of both goods and commercial services* (Text no. 3), and *A recession after recording two consecutive quarters of negative growth in the first half of 2015* (Text no. 6).

The other two categories which recorded identical occurrences of 16 are three term nominals and six – term nominals (see table two). What distinguishes three – term nominals category is the plentiful usage of modifiers represented by nouns, adjectives and articles as in: *The annual figure, An early estimate* (Text no. 1), *The general performance* (Text no. 3), *The unemployment rate* (Text no. 5), and *Low oil prices* (Text no. 6). The same applies – with certainly greater extent, and with the usage of prepositions, and participles – to six – term nominals, as in: *With separate data released on Wednesday* (Text no. 3), *An economist with National Australia Bank* (Text no. 4).

5. Challenges Presented by Complex Nominals

Even though complex nominals occur very frequently in economic texts and that precision and compactness are achieved, yet, they can be challenging in many ways for both native and non-native speakers. According to Armasar (2014), the economic language may sound highly technical in certain specialized texts, and as such, posing reading difficulties for native non-professionals (p.254). Non – native speakers of English, on the other hand, may face difficulties in comprehending complex nominals. Due to their nature of being immensely productive, and the possibility of having an unlimited number of elements, their semantic interpretations are not always clear-cut (Lapata, 2002, p.357), (Pastor 2008, p. 27- 28). Montero (1996), argued that as well as hindering comprehension in oral communication, adding many modifiers to the head noun can have the same effect in written discourse (p. 69).

Introducing a big amount of information via compacted expressions can result in creating ambiguity. According to Arens, et al (1987), language analyzers may face noticeable difficulties as far as nominal compounds are concerned (p.59). Some English complex nominals are made up of a string of nouns with no clear identification of their semantic relations. Such semantic relations, therefore, can display multiple interpretations determined by pragmatic and contextual considerations (Kim and Baldwin, 2008, p.39). An emphasis of this particular aspect of difficulty has also been presented by Norris (1998, p.73), Girju, et al (2005, p.480), and by Ruiz (2006, p. 171), who stated that many readings might be available for some complex nominal strings before arriving at their correct interpretations because they can have various combinations, all of which are correct from a grammatical point of view. For this reason, Montero (1996), suggested that the number of modifiers should not surpass three in general, (and it is more preferable to have a noun modified by no more than one other noun), to intensify reading easiness (p.68-69). Johnston, etal, (1995, p.69) and Cabezas-García and Gil-

Berrozpe (2018, p.278), held the opinion that complex nominals represent not a single difficulty, rather they can create many problems which can be related to their semantic and syntactic characterization, their manner of description within texts, and their manifestations in specific fields. Domínguez and Rokowski (2002) believe that the complexity and the number of nominals will increase whenever the topic becomes more specialized.

As far as the translation of these complex nominals into other languages is concerned, many extra problems are expected to arise. According to Malankhanova, and Sysovey (2015). the aim behind translating economic texts is certainly to transmit the most proper translation taking into account the dissimilarities present in the actual economic situations of distinct countries (p.68). Trisca (2015), confirmed that complex compounds are regarded as the most challenging issue in the translation of EST (English for Science and Technology) (pp. 517-518). Busa and Johnston (1996), considered the dissimilarities in the structure of complex noun phrases across different languages a challenging issue for many NLP (Natural Language Processing) applications. Pastor and Mora (2013), believe that it is not always possible to translate some complex nominals by using the corresponding lexical elements in different languages (p.30). Both Busa and Johnston (1996) and Krein-Kuhle (2003, p. 267), affirmed that the semantic analysis and the translation of complex nominals is a real obstacle for translators, and this can be attributed to the different formation processes of the source language and target language terms, and the complex relations holding between the constituents. English complex nominals in general, and compound constructions in particular, usually give rise to difficulties and errors in interpretation and translation as a result of their being semantically compact (Amer and Menacere, 2013, p.214). Linh (2010), stated that incorrect interpretations may result if the correct syntactic structures were not identified, since the source and the target languages may display different patterns in which the modifiers and the head nouns are ordered (p.34). Wang and Fan (2014), emphasized that translators of economic texts should pay special attention to long sentences - which are characteristic of economic texts – in which many modifiers are used (p. 787). Domínguez and Rokowski (2002) stated that since economic texts display the presence of many specialized words, extensive use of noun clusters and a good proportion of polysemous terms; this will make it harder for both the common reader and the translator.

6. Analysis of Translation Errors

A careful analysis has been carried out on the seven categories of complex nominals in the seven selected texts to arrive at the most common translation errors made by the students. It has been found that these translation errors can be divided into five major types: lexicosemantic errors, omission, grammatical errors, misreading and confusion. The frequency and percentage of each of these five major types are illustrated in table four below:

Table (4): Distribution of the five major types of translation errors within the seven categories

	Lexico-Semantic	Omission	Grammatical Errors	Misreading	Confusion	Total
	Errors					
Two-Term Nominals	46	27	19	5	1	98
Three–Term Nominals	34	15	14	4	3	70
Four-Term Nominals	75	51	6	7	0	139
Five-Term Nominals	53	16	6	2	0	77
Six-Term Nominals	49	22	6	0	0	77
Seven-Term Nominals	33	11	4	0	2	50
Very Long Nominals	92	36	7	6	1	142
Total	382 (58. 49%)	178	62 (9.49 %)	24 (3.67%)	7 (1.07%)	653
		(27.25%)				(99.97%)

confusion recorded seven occurrences only, representing 1.07 %.

The analysis revealed that lexico-semantic errors recorded the most recurrent translation error type with 382 occurrences out of the total occurrences of 653, representing 58. 49 %. Omission exhibited the next recurrent translation error type with 178 (27.25 %) out of 653 occurrences. The third recurrent translation error type (62 occurrences, nearly 9.49 %) was found within the type of grammatical errors and was followed by errors related to misreading;

with 24 occurrences (3.67%). The least recurrent translation error which is attributed to

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6.1 Lexico – Semantic Errors

Lexico-semantic errors had the highest frequency with 382 occurrences out of the total occurrences of 653, representing 58.49% (see Table four above). Within this type of translation errors, students failed to choose the correct lexical items in the process of translating English complex nominals into their mother tongue, i.e., Arabic. Although the participant students were supposed to be familiar with almost all the specialized economic terminology used in the texts under analysis during their daily translation activities in the class, they were not able to give the correct lexical equivalents. The inappropriate lexical selections made by the students may lead to distortion or misunderstanding of the original texts. It was found that such errors involved either a single word inside the complex noun phrase, or else the whole complex nominal was erroneously transferred into the target language. The lexico–semantic errors found in the analysis were classified into two groups depending on the types of errors. The first group was concerned with common and specialized vocabulary, the second with proper names. The frequency, as well as the percentage of these two groups, is shown in table five below, followed by the discussion of each group.

Table (5): Distribution of the two groups of lexico-semantic translation errors within the seven categories

seven categories						
	Common & Specialized Vocabulary	Proper Names	Total			
Two-Term Nominals	41	5	46			
Three-Term Nominals	34	0	34			
Four-Term Nominals	66	9	75			
Five-Term Nominals	45	8	53			
Six-Term Nominals	46	3	49			
Seven-Term Nominals	22	11	33			
Very Long Nominals	70	22	92			
Total	324 (84.81%)	58 (15.18%)	382 (99.99%)			

6.1.1 Common and Specialized Vocabulary

Within this sub-type of lexico-semantic errors, common vocabulary, and specialized terminology as well, were incorrectly translated into the target language. It is worthy to mention that choosing the most suitable equivalent of the common vocabulary – let alone the specialized vocabulary – is vital to produce an accurate version of the original text. Economic texts are characterized by utilizing common nouns in two ways. Firstly, these words are used to denote common vocabulary such as (work, jobs, prices, crisis, goods, data, services). It is expected that such words will not cause serious problems in translation. However, many translation errors were found in which the participant students were unable to give the correct equivalents of such common vocabulary. Table six illustrates some of the prominent examples of translation errors of common vocabulary in which either the translation errors were noticed in the head nouns, in the adjectives premodifying them, or else in the whole complex nominals:

Table (6): Examples of translation errors of common vocabulary

Examples	Students' Translations	Correct Translations
An early estimate (Text no. 1)	تصریح مبکر	تقدیر مبکر
An early estimate (Text no. 1)	لــــريع لبــر احصائيات مبكرة	ــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــ
	<i>التصدير</i> المبكر	
	<i>استنتاجات</i> مسبقة	
	في وقت سابق	
	تقرير اخير	
	العناصر المؤخرة	
Estimated figures (Text no. 1)	ار قام <i>دولية</i>	ارقام تقديرية
	توقعات	· ·
	ار قام <i>صادرة</i>	
	ار قام <i>مؤكدة</i>	
	بيانات التعداد	
	استنتاجات	
	ارقام <i>بیانیة</i>	
	ارقام <i>اولية</i>	
The general performance (Text no. 3)	الموافقة العامة	الاداء العام
	<i>المدفو عات</i> العامة	
	الادا <i>ء الاساسي</i> هيئات مسؤولة	
Official figures (Text no. 5)		ارقام رسمية
	بيانات سياسية	
	المكتب الرسمي لعرض البيانات	
	الاحصائية الاولية	
	مسؤولو البيانات	
III and a second	بيانات الخبراء ارتفاع اعداد الاسر والانفاق الحكومي	NI SIONI GISTI
Higher household and government	ارتفاع اعداد الاسر والالفاق الحدومي استهلاك الصرف العالى للاسر والحكومة	ار تفاع الانفاق الاسر <i>ي</i> والحكومي
spending (Text no. 1)	السهرك الصرف العالي للإسر والحكومة الاسرع مضيا عبر العائلات والحكومة	و الحدومي
	المشرع سطي عير العنادك والمحدومة العائلات الغنية والانفاق الحكومي	
	العنادت العيه والالفاق العدومي تزايد عدد السكان بالاضافة الى الانفاق الحكومي	
	مربي صد المسلق بـ و المسلق المكومي المسلق المكومي المسلق	
Two – thirds of the unemployed (Text	ثلاثة انصاف العاطلين عن العمل	ثلثي العاطلين عن العمل
no. 2)	۳۲ من الصادر ات	
	٢٣ من العاطلين عن العمل	
	اکثر من ۳۲ شخص	
Steady growth (Text no. 4)	استمرارية النمو	نمو ثابت
	نمو <i>مستمر</i>	
	نمو <u>م<i>تكامل</i></u>	
Investor confidence (Text no. 7)	<i>ارتياح</i> المستثمرين	ثقة المستثمر
	<i>افلاس</i> المستثمرين	

Notably, many participant students were not only unable to provide the correct equivalents of certain vocabularies within the complex nominals, but also, they used words with opposite meanings. Such being the case, the intended meaning of the original word will be distorted, as can be shown in table seven below:

Table (7): Examples of opposite meanings

tubic (7): Examples of opposite meanings				
Examples	Students' Translations	Correct Translations		
Surging prices (Text no. 5)	<i>هبوط</i> الاسعار	ارتفاع الاسعار		
	انخفضت الاسعار	_		
Negative growth (Text no. 7)	نمو <i>ايجابي</i>	نمو سلبي		
Such a big decline next quarter (Text no. 4)	ارباح	انخفاض / تراجع		
	نهوض			
	تحسن			
A buyer of oil (Text no. 3)	بائع	مشتري		
The second biggest importer (Text no. 3)	مصدر	مستورد		

Secondly, many common nouns are employed to denote specialized vocabulary which is peculiar to economic discourse such as (recession, quarter, contraction, stagnation, slump, inflation, interest rates, pound, package, real estate, shrinkage, boom). Here, many difficulties are expected to be encountered by the participant students if they were unfamiliar with such specialized vocabulary, hence, they may fail to choose the adequate terminology or use the equivalents that go in line with the stylistic register of the original text. According to Olteanu (2012), it is quite essential for the translator of an economic text to choose the most appropriate terminology (p.21). It is worthy to mention that the field of economic discourse witnesses an ongoing development that new specialized terms are added to the vocabulary. Some of the translation errors concerning specialized economic vocabulary are listed in table eight below, along with brief definitions of these specialized terms (whenever necessary):

Table (8): Examples of translation errors of specialized vocabulary

	Definitions	Students'	
Examples	Definitions		Correct
D 1 (T - 2)		Translations	Translations
<u>Real estate</u> (Text no. 3)	property including land	بيان حقيقي	عقارات
	and buildings	المعدلات الحقيقية	
		البيانات الحقيقية	
		عوامل حقيقية	
Egypt's <i>inflation</i> (Text no. 5)	A process whereby the	التذبذب في مصر	التضخم في مصر
	average price level in an	الاسهم المصرية	
	economy increases over	·	
	time (Stanford, 2008, p.12)		
Brazil's monthly <i>inflation</i> rate		<i>الانعكاس</i> الشهري للبرازيل	معدل التضخم الشهري
(Text no. 7)		معدلات اقتصاد البر ازيل	معدل التضخم الشهري في البرازيل
(1 one not 1)		معدلات <i>اقتصاد</i> ً البر ازیل شهریا	ي .ر ر پ
		معدلات <i>الانكماش</i> الشهر <i>ي</i> للبرازيل	
		معدلات <i>الركود</i> الشهري الدرانيان	
The	41	للبرازيل باوند	4.5
The <i>pound</i> (Text no. 5)	the currency unit used in	·	جنيه مصري
	the UK, and in many other	باوند استرليني	
	countries including	قرضا ماليا	
	Cyprus, Egypt, Lebanon,	جنيه استرليني	
	Malta and Syria (Collin,	بوند	
	2003, p. 154)		
The <u>recession</u> (Texts no. 4, 6 &	a fall in trade or in the	التقلبات	ركود
7)	economy of a country	الوضع	
	(Collin, 2003, p.167)	الحصار	
		الكوارث	
		الانهيار	
		الانخفاض	
		الاوضاع	
		الأزمة	
		الانحراف	
		الركون	
		سرسرن وضع حرج	
Interest rates (Text no. 7)	the percentage charge for	معدلات الاقتصاد	معدلات الفائدة
incress rates (Text no. 7)	borrowing money. Also	معدلات التضخم	
	called rate of interest		
	(Collin, 2003, p.103)		
The first <i>shrinkage</i> (Text no. 4)	A reduction or decline in	\ ar : =	انكماش
The first <u>surinkage</u> (Text no. 4)		صعود	الكماس
	economy	تقلص	
		هبوط	
		عجز	

Many translation errors listed above (as well as all the other errors detected) prove that the participant students were unaware of the fact that the words which are used to denote common meanings in everyday language will earn particular specialized meanings when used in technical discourse such as the economic texts.

Another cause for the translation errors can be attributed to the students' ignorance of the cultural differences manifested via some economic terms. It is very important to determine the appropriate cultural context of the specific economic term to arrive at the most suitable equivalent. It has been observed that the students' lack of cultural knowledge resulted in erroneous translations of the word (pound). It is used to refer to the monetary unit used in many countries (see table eight above). This specific word was found in text number five which deals specifically with inflation in Egypt (see appendix), hence, it is used to refer to the Egyptian pound in particular, and not to any of the other denotations of this currency in other nations. It is worthy to mention that words should not be translated in isolation, but according to the context in which they are used. Newmark (1988), stated that the context plays a decisive role as far as technical terms are concerned, and that the translators should pay great attention to the diversities exhibited within the contexts (p.80). Words should be translated as they are constrained by their cultural context. This opinion is echoed by Borysova (2015), who confirmed that it is quite indispensable for the translator to determine the context in which a certain economic term is used and be armed with good economic knowledge to provide his /her readers with the most suitable equivalent (p.163).

Though not very recurrent in the analysis, polysemy constituted another type of lexicosemantic errors. When the same word has multiple senses, and these senses are related, it is considered as a case of polysemy (Saeed, 2009, p. 64). Some students failed to recognize the peculiar differences in the usage of certain words that can have two or more related meanings. Translation errors, therefore, are expected if the differences in the usage of the polysemous words are not taken into account by the participant students. The word (performance) (Text no. 3), is an example of polysemy since it has got two or more related meanings. The exact meaning of the word in economics⁶ can best be translated into(علام المعرفة). A single case had been detected in which the participant student made an error which had a negative effect on the meaning when transferring the common meaning of the word (performance) ⁷. Ignoring the exact meaning intended in the economic text, and not paying attention to all the other possible meanings of the word resulted in rendering it into: (العرض).

The word (conditions) in the nominal phrase (The tough economic <u>conditions</u>) (Text no. 5) is another example of polysemy. Here, the participant students neglected the common meaning of the word; referring to the circumstances or situations which affect how people live and work: (الأوضاع), and opted for translating it into:

Another example of the translation errors related to polysemy is the word (decline), within the complex nominal (Its <u>decline</u> in growth) (Text no.3). The intended meaning in economics is to denote (a state in which numbers and values are deteriorating gradually and continuously)⁸. Some students were quite unsuccessful in rendering it into (رفض); by choosing the other meaning which would not fit within the context, namely, (refusing an invitation or an offer).

The word (fall) in the complex nominal (A <u>fall</u> of the same level) is an instance of a polysemous word whose different meanings are related in one way or another. When used in an economic text, its expected intended meaning is usually (a decrease in levels, prices and amounts)⁹. Its suitable equivalents are تراجع/انخفاض/هبوط. Some translation errors were detected in which the most common meaning of the word (fall), i.e., a drop down to the ground (سقوط), was used. Re-reading the original text and proofreading the translation are essential requirements to solve any problems concerning polysemy.

6.1.2 Proper Names

The analysis revealed that proper names constitute a very essential element in many complex nominals, as they are used to refer to names of countries, nationalities, banks, agencies, offices or authorities, and organizations. Translation errors involving proper names occurred 58 times, representing 15.18% (see table five above). Surprisingly, some students made errors in rendering the names of well–known countries and/ or nationalities. Other students failed to transfer the accurate equivalents for the names of banks, organizations, agencies, offices or authorities. Table nine below exemplifies some of these translation errors:

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Table (9): Examples of translation errors of proper names

Table (7). Examples of translation effors of proper names						
Type of Proper Name	Example	Students' Translations	Correct Translation			
Countries	China (Text no. 3)	اليابان	الصين			
	Australia (Text no. 4)	بريطانيا	استراليا			
	New Zealand (Text no. 4)	شبه الجزيرة	نيوزلندا			
Nationalities	German (Text no. 1)	ياباني	الماني			
Organizations	The Organization for	منظمة الاقتصاد للعمليات	منظمة التعاون الاقتصادي			
	Economic Cooperation	والتنمية	والتنمية			
	and Development (Text					
	no. 6)	المنظمة الاقتصادية والاشتراكية				
		والتنمية				
		المنظمة الاقتصادية				
		منظمة التعاون والتنمية				
		الاقتصادية				
		منظمة التنمية وتنظيم الاقتصادية				
		المنظمات الاقتصادية للعمليات				
		والتنفيذ				
Offices	Federal Statistical Office	و التنفيذ المكتب الاتحادي الفدر الي	المكتب الإحصائي			
	(Text no. 1)		الاتحادي/الفدر الي			
		مكتب الدولة الفدرالي				
		البنك الفدر الى الامريكي				
		المكتب الّفدر الي "				
Banks	The Bank of France (Text	البنك الفرنسي	بنك فرنسا			
	no. 2)	-				
	,	بنك الاقتصاد الفرنسي				
	National Australia Bank	البنك المركزي				
	(Text no. 4)	البنك الاسترالي				
		البنك الدولي				
		الاسترالي	البنك الاسترالي الوطني			
			- - - -			
Agencies	The National Bureau of	البنك العالمي الأستر الي بيرو الدولية	مكتب الاحصاءات الوطني			
	Statistics (Text no. 3)					
	Ì	احصائيات بيرو الدولية				
		الامم المتحدة				
		فريق الاحصاءات الدولي				
		المتحدث الرسمي باسم بوريو				
		الملكدت الرسمي باسم بوريو				

For the students to give accurate translations, it is necessary for them not only to acquire a good amount of background knowledge related to economics but also to keep updating their knowledge in the economic field to catch up with the ongoing developments that will be reflected in the newly coined nominals. As Armasar (2014) puts it, translators should always keep in touch with the ever-changing economic realities (p.258). Besides the essential linguistic competence, Al-Ma'ni (2000), argues that it is a prerequisite for the translator to possess a good amount of knowledge with respect to the subject matter of the original text and to pay special attention to the specialized terminology which characterizes the technical text (p.88).

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6.2 Omission

Another obvious translation error is the omission of certain items from the target text. As has previously been shown in table four, this is the second recurrent translation error; with 178 occurrences (27.25%) out of the total number of translation errors. It has been confirmed in many studies that omission may take place when no equivalents exist in the target language (Sharma, 2015, p. 6), or when the item is omitted does not constitute an essential part within the text (Baker, 1992, p. 40). Omitting important items, on the other hand, will have a serious effect on the quality of the translation version. It is believed by Koman, et al (2019) that leaving any source text item out of the target text will make the delivered message incomplete (p. 212). Farghal and Al- Mu'min (2016), believe that even if the source language compound is very challenging, the translator should look for a suitable translation procedure to render its meaning into the target language other than deleting it altogether (p.170). It is worthy to mention that the high frequency of omission cases of complex nominals detected in the analysis indicates that this is a big issue that should be tackled with much carefulness to arrive at the possible causes for these omissions. To begin with, two types of omission were found: total omission and partial omission. As the name suggests, the total omission is evident when the whole complex nominal is omitted. Partial omission, on the other hand, means omitting one or more words within the complex nominals. Table ten below shows the frequency and percentage of both types of omission:

Table (10): Distribution of the two types of omission

Type of Omission	Frequency	Percentage
Total Omission	67	37. 46 %
Partial Omission	111	62. 35 %
Total	178	99.81 %

The analysis has revealed that many students made unacceptable and unjustifiable translation errors when resorting to omission, whether wholly or partially. Their ignorance of either the meanings of specific items or the existence of translation equivalents gave rise to the high frequency of omission cases. In some cases of partial omission, the omitted words did not lead to much loss in translation; as the case with the omission of determiners. A great amount of loss in translation, however, was prominent when important words were omitted, as can be seen in table eleven below:

Table (11): Examples of partial omission

Examples	Students' Translations	Correct Translations
<u>Fuel</u> prices (Text no. 5)	الاسعار	اسعار الوقود
<u>Low</u> oil prices (text no. 6)	اسعار النفط	اسعار النفط المنخفضة
The <u>tough</u> economic conditions (Text no. 5)	حالة الاقتصاد	
	الاوضاع الاقتصادية	الاوضاع الاقتصادية القاسية / الصعبة
The <u>tough</u> economic <u>conditions</u> (Text no. 5)	الحالة الاقتصادية	
	الاقتصاد	
Brazil's <i>monthly</i> inflation rate (Text no. 7)	معدلات التضخم في البرازيل	معدل التضخم الشهري في البرازيل
<u>Seven</u> years of economic growth (Text no. 1)	سنوات من النمو الاقتصادي	سبع سنوات من النمو الاقتصادي
Five years of <u>steady</u> growth (Text no. 4)	خمس سنوات من النمو	خمس سنوات من النمو الثابت
The <i>mining</i> boom (Text no. 4)	الازدهار	ازدهار التعدين
The mining <u>boom</u> ¹³ (Text no. 4)	التعدين	

6.3 Grammatical Errors

The analysis of the translations of complex nominals made by the participating students showed that different grammatical errors were detected. The total number of grammatical errors is 62, representing 9.49% (see table four). After carrying out a more detailed analysis of such different errors, it has been found that these errors could be divided into four sub-types as

illustrated in table twelve below. The most notable grammatical sub -type error is number – related errors, followed by errors resulting from non – compliance with target language rules. The other two subtypes of errors in ascending order are case – related errors and transposition.

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Table 12 Distribution of the five grammatical sub-types translation errors within the seven categories

	Number-	Non-Compliance with		Transposition	Total
		Target Language Rules	Case-Related Ellors	Transposition	Total
Two-Term	2	4	7	6	19
Nominals	2	7	,	O	1)
Three-Term	12	0	0	2	14
Nominals					
Four-Term	5	0	0	1	6
Nominals					
Five-Term	0	6	0	0	6
Nominals					
Six-Term	4	1	1	0	6
Nominals					
Seven-Term	1	1	2	0	4
Nominals					
Very Long	1	6	0	0	7
Nominals					
Total	25 (40.32%)	18 (29.03%)	10 (16.12%)	9 (14.51%)	62

6.3.1 Number – Related Errors

The grammatical number refers to the distinction between singular and plural in English, and between singular, dual and plural in Arabic. The analysis of complex nominals translation errors showed that 25 cases, nearly (40.32%), made number – related errors. It is stated by Al Ghussain (2003) that neglecting the precise rendition of singular or plural nouns is rejected with the absence of any reasonable justifications (p.215). All the errors detected represented rendering singular nouns in the source texts into plural nouns in the target texts:

- An early estimate (Text no. 1) was translated into تقديرات مبكرة
- The government's priority (Text no. 2) was wrongly rendered as اولويات الحكومة
- The unemployment rate (Text no. 5) was translated as معدلات البطالة
- An economist (Text no. 4) was rendered as either علماء الاقتصاد or علماء الاقتصاد
- A political crisis (Text no. 7) was erroneously translated into ازمات سیاسیة
- The country (Text no. 1) was translated into البلدان

6.3.2 Non-Compliance with Target Language Rules

Within this sub-type of grammatical translation errors, violations of four grammatical rules in the target language, i.e., Arabic, were witnessed. It has been observed that the first violation involved the rule of polarity in gender between the numeral and the noun it modifies. This rule states that the numbers from 3 to 10 should be used in the feminine form when the noun they modify is masculine, and they should be used in the masculine form when the noun they modify is feminine. Seven out of 18 errors, nearly 38.88%, indicate that the participant students ignored this grammatical rule. The following two examples are illustrations of this translation error:

• <u>Seven years</u> of economic growth (Text no. 1) was rendered as <u>سبعة سنوات</u> من النمو الاقتصادي while it should be rendered as <u>سبع سنوات</u> since the singular form of the noun being modified is feminine.

• <u>Twenty-four</u> consecutive <u>months</u> of negative growth (Text no. 7) was translated into الربعة وعشرين شهرا because the noun being modified is masculine.

The second violation concerns an important Arabic syntactic rule which states that there is an agreement in number, gender, case and definiteness between the adjectives and the nouns they modify. The analysis shows that six out of 18 grammatical errors, or 33.33% were made when this rule was neglected. The following examples illustrate this kind of translation errors:

- <u>Five years</u> of steady growth. (Text no. 4). Here, indefiniteness in the original text was erroneously rendered into <u>الخمس سنوات من النمو الثابت</u>, where the adjective is definite but the noun is indefinite.
- Germany's exports (Text no. 1) was translated into الصادرات المانية or مصادرات الألمانية, where there is no agreement in definiteness between the adjective and the noun it modifies.

The third violation detected involved word order. It has been found that three out of 18 errors, or 16.66 %, are made when the normal Arabic word order is violated. Arabic adjectives normally follow the nouns they modify. Some students, however, ignored this syntactic dissimilarity between Arabic and English, and made translation errors by adopting the English word order in their translations:

• Crude oil (Text no. 6) was translated into النفط الخام instead of النفط الخام

This also applies to nouns which are used to modify other nouns:

- Labour market and <u>housing prices</u> (Text no. 6) was rendered as اسواق العمل ومنازل الاسعار, rather than اسوق العمل واسعار المنازل
- Egypt inflation (Text no. 5) was rendered into مصر التضخم rather than التضخم or التضخم التضخم التضخم التضخم التضخم على التصدي

The students opted for translating each English word literally into its Arabic equivalent by keeping the same English word order, which resulted in unacceptable word order in Arabic. It is advisable to adapt to the normal patterns used in the target language and this case, the structure should be reversed. To ensure producing the best translation equivalent of a complex nominal, it is recommended that the final term, namely the head noun is to be translated first, then moving in a backward direction. In this way, the normal Arabic word order will be preserved, and the reader will have access to an easily and accurately translated version.

The fourth and final violation is related to the conjunctive particle (waw) الواو (and), which is an additive conjunctive particle that can be used to link more than two nouns or phrases. When used for listing, it is repeated before every noun or phrase in. But in English, a comma is used instead. Fortunately, only two instances, nearly 11.11%, did not pay much attention to this difference. The translations, therefore, sounded more source language – oriented than target language-oriented, since commas were used before every noun except the last one:

• better than Canada, Brazil, the US and New Zealand (Text no. 4) was translated into افضل من كندا، البر از يل، الو لايات المتحدة و نيوز لندا

6.3.3 Case-Related Errors

The nominal category of case refers to a significant grammatical concept in Arabic in which a noun and an adjective can display one of three case contrasts: nominative, accusative or genitive. Different specific case endings are utilized to indicate the three cases. It is expected that since the students are translating into their mother tongue, i.e., Arabic, they will abide by case rules. Yet, surprisingly, ten instances, about 16.12%, were found in which the students failed to use the correct cases of nouns or adjectives (see table twelve); a matter that can be

attributed to their low proficiency in Arabic grammar. No errors were found within the nominative and the accusative cases. All the errors were exclusively made in the genitive case.

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- <u>Some analysts are hoping</u> ¹⁰ (Text no. 4). The underlined two-term nominal functions as the subject. The first element, namely, the quantifier (some), when translated into Arabic, must have the nominative case marker, while the genitive case is used for the second member of a construct state. This case rule was ignored by some students who translated this noun phrase into بعض المحالون
- *Brazil witnessed twenty four consecutive months of negative growth* (Text no. 7).

The following are some examples representing this sub-type of grammatical errors:

• Here, a coupled number is found, and it can best be translated into شهدت البرازيل اربعة وعشرين The first number, namely, the one preceding (waw) (and) functions as the direct object and should be in the accusative case. Once again, some students did not pay attention to this grammatical rule, and consequently, their translations were not correct as in اربعة وعشرون شهرا

6.3.4 Transposition

This sub-type of grammatical errors refers to any change or shift that is made on the class of the word when translated. A source language unit acquires a different class in the target language. The analysis shows that nine instances, accounting for 14.51%, were detected in which transposition takes place (see table twelve), but it is observed that these shifts were unjustifiable. Interestingly, all the nine errors are limited to the grammatical category of determiners, and concern articles and demonstratives; as can be illustrated in the following examples:

- <u>The recession</u> (Text no. 6). Here, a definite article is used and it has undergone a process of transposition by being changed into a demonstrative when translated: <u>هذا الر</u>كود
- <u>Five years of steady growth</u> (Text no. 4). In this example, indefiniteness was shifted into definiteness in translation: السنوات الخمس من النمو الثابت

To achieve accuracy, it is necessary to keep the same class of the word in the source text when transferred into the target text. This has also been confirmed by Al Ghussain (2003), who argued that it is vital to encourage students to be accurate in tackling the grammatical issue of definiteness and indefiniteness (p.215).

6.4 Misreading

Table four shows that the number of translation errors attributed to misreading reached 24 occurrences, namely, 3.67% of the total number of translation errors. Misreading takes place when there are similarities in the spelling of words. According to Wongranu (2017), misreading is treated as a sign of carelessness on the part of the students who did not pay much attention to the written words or did not bother to re-read the original text to revise their translations (p.121). It is predicted that some sort of failure in communication between the source text and the target text will result due to misreading (Al-Ali, 2007, p.1). When misreading occurs, new different words will appear whose meanings will not go in line with the meanings of the original words. It has been found that the reading errors made by the participant students had such a negative effect on the quality of their translations that the intended meanings had undergone much distortion. As a result of those reading errors, nouns were turned into adjectives or vice versa, possessive (s) was misread into plural (s). All these instances can be shown in table thirteen below:

Table (13): Examples of translation errors due to misreading

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Examples	Misreading	Students'	Correct Translations
		Translations	
Import growth (Text no. 1)	Important growth	نمو <u> مهم</u>	نمو ا <i>لوار دات</i>
Its <u>exports</u> (Text no. 2)	Its <u>reports</u>	تقاریر ها	صادراتها
Germany's <i>exports</i> (Text no. 1)	Germany's experts	<u>خب<i>راء</i></u> المان	<u>صادرات</u> ألمانيا
Real estate (Text no. 3)	Real <u>state</u>	ولاية حقيقية	العقارات
Media <u>reports</u> (Text no. 6)	Airport	مطار	تقارير
The government's <i>priority</i> (Text no.	Poverty	خط الفقر	اولوية
2)	Property	ملكية / املاك	
The eurozone <u>debt</u> crisis (Text no. 2)	The eurozone <u>deep</u> crisis	ازمة منطقة اليورو <i>العميقة</i>	ازمة <i>يين</i> منطقة اليورو العام المنصرم
Last <u>year's</u> (Text no. 3)	Years	<i>سنوات</i> سابقة	العام المنصرم
<u>Weaker</u> than last year's (Text no. 3)	Worker	عامل	اضعف
<i>Full</i> year growth (Text no. 3)	Fuel	وقود	كامل
The National Bureau of Statistics	Nigerian	نايجيري	وطني
(Text no. 3)			
A <u>factor</u> (Text no. 3)	factory	مصنع	عامل(مسبب لحدوث شئ ما)/ عنصر
			ما)/ عنصر

6.5 Confusion

Even though errors related to confusion represent the lowest frequent occurring error type (seven occurrences only, representing 1.07 %.) (See table four), it is quite important to discuss these errors to give a clearer and more comprehensive image of this particular type of translation errors. Instead of giving a single suitable translation equivalent, some students, who lacked self-confidence, provided target text readers with alternative translation equivalents. Koman, et al (2019) used the term "indecision" to refer to this translation error (p.211). Sometimes, the second alternative is put in brackets, in some cases both alternatives are wrong, and some cases of confusion resulted from misreading (see table fourteen below). In their endeavour to feel safe, some students opt for giving more than one equivalent for a specific nominal phrase and let the target text readers select the best equivalent. It has been argued by Al Ghussain (2003), that this procedure followed by some students should be avoided as it indicates their uncertainty and they are not tackling translation professionally (pp. 199 - 221). Table fourteen below illustrates the translation errors due to confusion:

Table (14): Examples of translation errors due to confusion

Examples	Students'	Correct
	Translations	Translations
<u>Importer</u> of both goods and commercial services (Text no. 3)	مصدر ومستورد	مستورد
Official figures (Text no. 5)	بيانات حكومية او دولية	رسمية
The labour ministry (Text no. 2)	وزارة <u>التجارة (الاقتصاد)</u>	وزارة العمل
The latest <u>figures</u> (Text no. 7)	التقارير او الانباء الاخيرة	أحدث الأرقام
The total number (Text no. 2)	الرقم القياسي / النهائي	العدد الإجمالي

7. Conclusions and Recommendations

The analysis carried out in the first part of the study revealed that complex nominalization constituted a very significant phenomenon in the selected economic texts. Complex nominals are utilized to enrich the economic texts, and to ornament them with the different manifestations that these complex nominals take. The study came up with seven categories of complex nominals depending on the number of items in each category. It has been found out that the most recurrent category is the category of two-term nominals, with 46

occurrences (28.93%), and the least recurrent category is the seven-term nominals, with 11 occurrences (6.91%).

The second part of the study was concerned with investigating the most prominent translation errors made by the participant students in rendering those complex nominals into Arabic. The study concluded that lexico- semantic errors recorded the highest frequency of translation errors, with 382 occurrences (58. 49%). This high frequency indicates that the participant students have some serious problems regarding lexical meanings. These problems include the failure to select the correct equivalent for a given nominal, opting for literal translation as the only possible translation procedure, unawareness of the differences between the common and specialized meanings, incorrect translations of proper names and polysemy – related problems. Omission constituted the second recurrent type of translation errors (178 occurrences, 27. 25%). It has been found that omitting important words will lead to some sort of translation loss. Grammatical errors recorded the third recurrent translation errors (62 occurrences, 9.49%). Though translating into their mother tongue, the participant students made different grammatical errors. Their low level of bilingual competence made them unaware of other possible renditions of the original complex nominals than the direct transfer which resulted in poor literal renditions. Misreading was the fourth recurrent type of translation errors, with 24 occurrences (3.67%). Not paying much attention to the written words - and consequently misreading them - will lead to some kind of communication failure; simply because wholly different words are expected to appear. The least recurrent type of translation errors with seven cases only (1.07%) is confusion, which results when being not confident or uncertain of the meanings of some lexical items within the complex nominals. The study concluded that it is possible to overcome all such errors by following some simple helpful translation instructions Furthermore, the students should be equipped with extensive training that can enable them to improve their linguistic awareness so as to detect what went on wrong in the translated version and revise it to get the best results. Finally, it is highly recommended for students to proofread their translations for the purpose of revising as well as editing to check for any grammatical, lexical or semantic errors, and to improve their style of translation. After all, two factors play a vital role in the process of translating complex nominals: their degree of complexity and how experienced the translator is.

8. Notes

- 1. The same term is used by both McShane, et al (2012), and Nagy & Vincze (2013).
- **2.** It is worthy to mention that this particular term is frequently used by many scholars like Olteanu (2012), and Movileanu (2013).
- **3.** The examples cited here are all taken from the corpus used for analysis in the present paper.
- **4.** The seven texts selected for analysis are characterized by being similar in many aspects: having approximate number of words, including similar economic terms and abbreviations, and are concerned with similar topics.
- **5.** Many other scholars have emphasized the importance of using nominal compounds in technical texts including: Trisca (2015, p. 516), Linder (2002, p. 262), Linh (2010, p. 5) and Lauer (1995, p.33).
- **6.** http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/economic-performance.html
- 7. "The action of entertaining other people by dancing, singing, acting, or playing music". https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/performance hhttps://www.lexico.com/definition/decline
- **8.** https://www.ldoceonline.com/dictionary/fall

9. It has been found important sometimes to mention the verbal element in the example cited so as to show the grammatical function of the specific noun phrase when translated into Arabic.

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Appendices

I.1 Appendix A: Text (1)

German economy grows at quickest rate in 5 years

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Germany's economy grew in a rapid pace in 2016, due to higher household and government spending. Estimated figures from its Federal Statistical Office said GDP was 1.9% higher last year than in 2015. The annual figure is based on an early estimate that growth was around 0.5% in the fourth quarter. However, the actual fourth quarter figure will not be released until early next month. The 1.9% figure for 2016 was slightly above expectations, and is higher than the growth rate of 1.6% in 2014 and 1.7% for 2015. Germany's exports were up by 2.4%, and its import growth was 3.4%. The country has enjoyed seven years of economic growth. Interest rates in Germany remained stable, unlike those in other European economies. While unemployment across Europe and the US soared during the global economic crisis, the jobless rate in Germany remained unchanged.

I.2 Appendix B: Text (2)

France may fall back into recession

France's economy may fall back into recession this quarter, the country's central bank has predicted. The Bank of France estimates that the economy will contract by 0.1% in July to September. It has already predicted a fall of the same level for April to June. France's economy has been hit by the eurozone debt crisis, which has weakened demand for its exports. If France does fall back into recession, it will be for the second time in three years. The total number of unemployed in France rose by 36,900 in March to 3,224,000. Two-thirds of the unemployed have been searching for work for more than a year, the labour ministry said. The number of people looking for work is the highest since January 1996. France will only start creating jobs if the economy begins to grow and in the last two quarters the economy has stagnated. French President said the government's priority was tackling France's rising unemployment.

I.3 Appendix C: Text (3)

China's economy grows steadily

China's economy grew at an annual rate of 6.7% in the three months to September, government data showed, a sign that growth is stabilising. The figure was the same rate as the previous two quarters, and was in line with forecasts. Full year growth for 2016 is still likely to be weaker than last year's, which was already the slowest in 25 years. "The general performance was better than expected," the National Bureau of Statistics said in a statement when releasing the data on Wednesday. Real estate has been an important force behind China's economy this year, with separate data released on Wednesday showing that investment in real estate rose by 5.8% between January and September. China is the world's second-largest economy and the second-biggest importer of both goods and commercial services. It also plays an important role as a buyer of oil and other commodities. Its decline in growth has been a factor in the falling prices of those goods.

I.4 Appendix D: Text (4)

Australia experiences slowest quarterly growth in five years

Australia's economy contracted by 0.5% in the last quarter, ending five years of steady growth. This is the first shrinkage in the economy since early 2011. The mining boom and high demand for Australia's commodities have kept the economy away from recession for the past 25 years. Some analysts are hoping the economy will recover in the near future. "We don't expect such a big decline next quarter," an economist with National Australia Bank said. "We would expect GDP to grow a bit next quarter, so there is no risk of recession", he added. However, Australia is still doing better than Canada, Brazil, the US and New Zealand. Australia has performed relatively well compared to other economic countries over recent

decades, though did actually experience a recession during the global financial crisis. Consumer prices rose 1.3 percent in the third quarter of 2016 from 1.0 percent in the previous quarter.

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I.5 Appendix E: Text (5)

Egypt inflation hit 29.6% in January

Egypt's annual inflation rate hit 29.6% in January; official figures showed on Saturday, three months after the government floated the pound. Prices were rising even more quickly than in December, when inflation reached 24.3%, the highest level since January 2011. Consumers have been hit by surging prices since November when the government floated the currency and raised fuel prices as part of an economic reform package linked to the \$12bn IMF loan deal. Food prices have gone up even more than those of other goods, rising by 38.6%. The government also raised tariffs on hundreds of imports to up to 60% in December. President Abdel Fattah Al Sisi at the end of December said the tough economic conditions would improve in six months. The economy grew by 4.3 percent in the first quarter, while the unemployment rate rose to 12.6 percent in the third quarter.

I.6 Appendix F: Text (6)

Canadian economy enters recession

Canada has officially entered a recession after recording two consecutive quarters of negative growth in the first half of 2015. GDP fell by an annual rate of 0.5% between April and June. This is essentially due to low oil prices. However, according to media reports, Canada is expected to achieve an annual growth of 2.5% this year. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development is expecting that Canada's economy will grow by 1.2 per cent this year, followed by a 2.1 per cent rise next year. Canada is one of the top five natural gas and crude oil-producing countries in the world. The last time the country was in recession was during the financial crisis of 2008-2009. While the economy is weak, labour market and housing prices have grown. Economists predict the recession will be short, with Canada's economy anticipated to grow at an annual pace of 1.5 per cent in the third quarter.

I.7 Appendix G: Text (7)

Brazil's recession worse than expected

Brazil has been in recession for two years, the latest figures show. The economy contracted by 3.6% in 2016, meaning it is now 8% less than it was in December 2014. The country has been hard hit by the fall in commodity prices and a political crisis that has undermined investor confidence. However, analysts believe the economy should start to recover. The two-year slump has seen the number of unemployed rise by 76% to 12.9 million. Brazil was once one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. Brazil witnessed twenty-four consecutive months of negative growth. The number of unemployed people increased to 12 million people over a short period of time. But there are some signs that this recession may be soon over. Brazil's monthly inflation rates suggest prices in the economy are stabilising and interest rates are falling at a faster pace than expected.