

**English Copula Translation Techniques into Arabic at  
the United Nations  
A Contrastive Analysis Study**

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**Abstract:**

This paper aims at exploring the techniques and strategies employed in translating copula from English into Arabic at the United Nations adopting a contrastive analysis technique. The study focuses on the copulative sentence with “is” or “are” as a main verb. It aspires to shed light on the techniques employed by the Language Services Department (LSD) at the United Nations (UN), to examine if they are really following the drafting rules of Arabic in order to observe the idiomaticity of the Target Text (TT) (i.e. Arabic). The study employs a qualitative approach. Thus, the current paper aspires to highlight the techniques used at one of the best employer for translators as a step towards building syllabuses based on best practices in institutional translations for potential translators. The paper concludes with recommendations for copula translation strategies and implications for translator training programs.

**Key words:** copula, Modern Standard Arabic, teaching translation, Translation Studies, UN translation.

**طرائق ترجمة الجمل الإنكليزية التي يستند فيها الاسم لاسم إلى  
العربية داخل منظومة الأمم المتحدة  
دراسة تقابلية**

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**ملخص**

يهدف هذا البحث من خلال التحليل التقابلي إلى استقصاء الطرائق والاستراتيجيات المعتمدة في ترجمة الجمل الإنكليزية التي يستند فيها الاسم لاسم إلى العربية وذلك في إطار ما هو معمول به داخل منظومة الأمم المتحدة. وتركز الدراسة على الجمل التي يرد فيها فعل الكينونة في صيغة "is" أو "are" كفعل أساسي لا فعل مساعد. وتسعى الدراسة إلى تسليط الضوء على الطرائق التي يستخدمها مترجمو الأمم المتحدة، وذلك للوقوف على ما إذا كانوا يقتفون قواعد الصياغة العربية الأصيلة حقا حتى تخرج الترجمة على سنن العرب في كلامها ومعهود خطابها. وتعتمد الدراسة نهجا نوعيا. وعليه يهدف هذا البحث من خلال تحليل طرائق الترجمة في واحدة من أفضل جهات توظيف المترجمين إلى الوصول إلى خطوة أولى لبناء مقرر دراسي يقوم على الممارسات الفضلى المعتمدة في إنتاج الترجمة كعمل مؤسسي حتى يتسنى إعداد المترجمين وفق معايير العمل بالمؤسسات الدولية. وتخلص الدراسة إلى توصيات بشأن استراتيجيات ترجمة الجمل الاسمية وما يعود من ذلك من نفع في برامج تدريب المترجمين. **كلمات مفتاحية:** فعل الكينونة، العربية المعاصرة، تدريس الترجمة، دراسات الترجمة، ترجمات الأمم المتحدة.

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1. **Introduction:**

The central point of this paper is to shed light on the best practices on translating copula form English into Arabic at the United Nations. It seeks to collect empirical data to introduce a well-researched view on professional translation techniques. It adopts a contrastive analysis approach to give a full account of how professional translators deal with a problematic area (i.e. copula) on translation from English into Arabic. Copula is one of the language universals as it does nearly exist in all languages<sup>1</sup> (Pustet, 2003). Yet, copula behavior differs from one language to another (Curnow, 2000) and here lies the translation challenge.

Copula does have a one definition but it has different functions (Pustet 2003, Niimura 2007, Attia 2008). The problem for the translator is the different functions and purposes of the copula in different cultures. Thus, in order to figure out the challenging areas that may face an Arabic translator there should be mapping out for the functions and different usages in English and Arabic as well. Copula functions according to its usage, which in some cases represents a syntactic gap between English and Arabic.

There is abundance of literature on the function and contexts of the copula in Arabic (Bahloul 1993, Al-Horais 2006, Taher 2009, Alharbi 2017, Alotaiby 2018, Steiner 2019) but none of these studies worked on the translation of English copula into Arabic in a contrastive analysis basis.

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<sup>1</sup> Claudia Maienborn states that in her research, Pustet (2003) introduced a comprehensive cross-linguistic research of how copula is employed according to a sample of 154 languages derived from the families of the world languages.

## 2. **Definition:**

According to *Routledge Dictionary of Language and Linguistics*, copula is a “Subset of verbs that, in contrast to main verbs, have a mainly grammatical function in that they serve to create the relation between subject and predicate (257)”. The definition highlights that the function of a copula is to link between the argument and the predicate. Under this master function, there are a number of functions listed by Higgins (Higgins 1979, qtd in Mikkelsen, 2011). Crystal (2008) focusing on the functions, reveals that “[The] main function is to relate other elements of clause structure, especially subject and complement.”

## 3. **Functions:**

From the definitions above, copula is employed to represent a relation between two nouns or nominal phrases. In Arabic, this relationship is constructed without any need to any verb. In Arabic composition, the relation between the subject and the predicate can be found between two nouns without a verb (al-Qazwīnī) .

Copula in English is just there for a grammatical function. This is a critical point for the transfer strategy into Arabic and explains why it represents a problem for the Arabic translator. According to Higgins classification (1979), copula has four types of functions: i) equative, ii) identificational, iii) predicational, and iv) specificational.

As per equative sentence, Crystal (2008) defines it as “a type of sentence where a verb places two noun phrases into a relationship of identity. The verb which links these elements may be called an equative or equational verb (or a verb with ‘equative function’) – usually in English a form of the copula verb *be*” (172). For example, ‘Cairo is the capital city of Egypt’. Attia (2008) highlights that in the Arabic equivalent of an equative sentence, a pronoun must be introduced between the argument and the predicate. For example, the aforementioned sentence shall be translated as follows:

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القاهرة هي العاصمة المصرية. (al-*Qāhirah hiya al-‘Āṣimah al-*)

(*Miṣrīyah*)

Its equative Arabic is as follows:

العاصمة المصرية هي القاهرة. (al-*‘Āṣimah al-Miṣrīyah hiya al-*)

(*Qāhirah*)

If the pronoun ‘هو’ (*huwa*) is deleted, the above example maybe understood as a nominal phrase ‘noun + adjective’, not as a complete sentence.

Arabic scholars reveal that this case is known as ‘separation pronoun’ “*dameer alfasl*” (Ibn ‘Aqīl, 2008) . Thus, the pronoun functions here to separate between the argument and the predicate in <sup>2</sup>order to let the recipient recognizes that the word after the argument is a predicate not an adjective. Consequently, if the context guarantees that there is no ambiguity, the Arabic equivalent can go as follows:

1b. الطبيب أخي. (*al-Ṭabīb Akhī*)

1c. أخي الطبيب. (*Akhī al-Ṭabīb*)

In the above Arabic sentences there is no need for using a pronoun, if there is a reference in the context. However, there are typical examples for separation pronouns in the holy Qura’an such as:

(وَجَعَلَ كَلِمَةَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا السُّفْلَىٰ وَكَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ هِيَ الْعُلْيَا)

(wa-Ja‘ala Kalimah alladhīna kfrwā al-suflā wklmh Allāh hiya al-‘Ulyā)

(and He made the word of the unbelievers the lowest; and God’s word is the uppermost)

<sup>2</sup> Hussein Barakat reveals that most scholars say that *dameer alfasl* has three main functions: التأكيد، الاختصاص، القصر، (al-Qaṣr, al-ikhtiṣāṣ, al-ta’kīd).

Accordingly, the pronoun “هي” (hiya) is used to denote that the “God’s word” is the only uppermost and has no rival. The pronoun is also used in the following verse for the function:

(وَإِنَّ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ لَهِيَ الْحَيَوَانُ)

(Wa’inaa aldaaāra al’ākhirata lahiya alḥayawānu)

(surely the Last Abode is Life)

Camilleri and Sadler (2019) partly agree with Attia’s views (2008) claiming that “It is standardly assumed that Arabic copula constructions with present tense interpretation involve either a null copula or a pronominal copula”. According to Camilleri and Sadler, the Arabic equational sentence could be null copula. Camilleri, & Sadler (2019) citing Devitt (1990) and Pustet (2003) highlight that “Crosslinguistically we find a great diversity in the syntax of copula constructions. [...] Copulas may be full words or affixes, and common sources include pronouns, deictic particles and verbs”. In the example above provided by Attia, the copula employed here is a pronoun. However, Catford et al. (1974) reveals that:

English sentence using the verb to be in the present tense are translated into Arabic as equational sentence, which consists of a subject and a predicate, with no linking verb. The verb to be is not used in the present tense in Arabic; consequently, its occurrences and inflections in English (am, is, are) constitute a problem for Arabic speakers.

The above quotation asserts that English copula in present tense does not have an equivalent in Arabic, challenging what Attia (2008) introduced above. According to the classical Arabic rules, copula equivalent in Arabic is null copula. There are many typical examples as the following ones:

(Alblāghu al’yjāzu.) البلاغة الإجاز.

(Al’lmu alkhshytu.) العلم الخشبة.

(Alḥju ‘rftu.) الحج عرفة.

(Alṣwmu jntun.) الصوم جنة.

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In linguistic and rhetorical Arabic tradition, the approach was totally different. The Arabic scholars tackled this issue in the context of *musnad ilyah* (argument) and *musnad* (predicate) as in Arabic there could be a sentence without a verb (i.e. non-verbal nominal sentence). *AlQazwini* (2003), who died in 1338 AD, reveals the different cases of *musnad* in the Arabic sentence. Fywd (2015) refers to the occurrence of the predicate in nominal case (*irad al musnad isman*), this case is known as nonverbal nominal sentence<sup>3</sup>. Abdul-Raof (2006) reveals that -“In a nominal sentence without a verb, *al-musnad* occurs as a noun predicate of an inchoative, as in: “زيد معلم” (Zayd m‘lmun.) (Zaid is a teacher.)

According to Higgins (1979), the identificational construction always involves a demonstrative subject and serves pedagogical purposes by teaching concrete nouns. As a result, this construction is frequently employed in scientific definitions, which are commonly introduced in a definitive manner within academic writing. The most scientific and definitive approach to presenting a definition involves the use of the copula verb, as demonstrated by the definition of "lion" as "a large animal of the cat family." In Arabic texts, the definition of "lion" is provided as " Al’sdu hywānun bryun min al-Thadyīyāt." (al-Asad Hayawān Birrī min al-Thadyīyāt).

According to Nimura's citation of Rothstein (1995), identificational and specification constructions are categorized as identity sentences. Alotaibi (2018) further contends that the identificational copula construction can be classified into two types: equational and predicational. Alotaibi observes that when the subject complement in an identificational sentence is a definite noun phrase, it belongs to the equational category, whereas if the subject complement is an indefinite noun phrase, it falls into the predicational category.

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<sup>3</sup> The verbless sentence can be defined as a sentence with the absence of an overt verbal copula in the present tense (1) (Benmamoun 2000, qtd in Al-Horais, 2006).

Predicational copula can be divided into three subtypes: adjectival, nominal, and prepositional/locational (Camilleri, & Sadler, 2019). Adjectival copula is used to link the subject of a sentence with an adjective that describes or modifies it. For example, in the sentence "He is clever," the word "clever" is the complement that describes the subject "he." Adjectival copula is commonly used to describe a person's physical or emotional state, such as "She is glad" or "He is bored."

Nominal copula, on the other hand, is used to link the subject to a noun or a noun phrase that identifies or classifies it. In the example given, "He is an editor," the complement "an editor" identifies the subject "he" as a member of a particular profession. Nominal copula is often used to provide information about a person's occupation, identity, or social status, such as "She is a doctor" or "He is a millionaire."

Prepositional/locational copula is used to link the subject to a prepositional phrase that describes its location or position. For instance, in the sentence "He is in Cairo," the prepositional phrase "in Cairo" is the complement that specifies the subject's location. Prepositional/locational copula is commonly used to provide information about a person's whereabouts or position, such as "She is at the park" or "He is on the roof."

Specificational copula is a type of sentence construction in which the subject and the predicate are both noun phrases, and the copula "be" is used to link them together. In a specificational construction, the subject is typically indefinite or unknown, and the predicate provides specific information about the subject. For example, "The culprit is a tall, blonde man" is a specificational sentence in which the subject "culprit" is indefinite, and the predicate "a tall, blonde man" provides specific information about the subject.

According to Higgins (1979), specificational constructions are used to identify or introduce new entities, and they often occur in contexts where there is a contrast between the new entity and another entity. For example, "The culprit is a tall, blonde man, not a short, bald



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one" highlights the contrast between the culprit and another possible suspect.

Rothstein (1995) argues that specificational constructions are distinct from identificational constructions, which also use the copula "be" to link the subject and the predicate. In an identificational construction, the subject is typically known and the predicate provides identifying information about the subject. For example, "The tall, blonde man is the culprit" is an identificational sentence in which the subject is known and the predicate identifies the subject as the culprit.

Specificational copula has also been studied in relation to information structure and focus. According to Buring (2007), specificational constructions can be used to introduce new information into a discourse and to highlight the contrast between the new information and previously established information.

In conclusion, copula functions can be categorized into equative, identificational, predicational, and specificational, each serving different purposes. Arabic copula constructions require the use of pronouns to separate the argument and predicate, and identificational constructions are commonly used in scientific definitions. Predicational copula involves linking the subject to adjectives, nouns, or prepositional phrases, while specificational copula is used to introduce new entities and highlight contrasts. Understanding these variations is crucial for effective translation and communication.

#### **4. Research Problem:**

Translating the English copula into Arabic is a significant challenge for students of translation, as Arabic does not use any tool that serves to connect an argument with a predicate. Unlike English, Arabic does not require a linking verb, and native speakers often do not resort to it. Two main alternatives are observed in Arabic. The first is to use a nominal sentence structure that does not require a verb, as shown in

samples 9 and 15 of Appendix A. The second is to use a structural shift, employing a verb that collocates with the English sentence's predicate, as demonstrated in sample 21, of Appendix A. The third is to use a pronominal copula as demonstrated in sample 11, 12, and 13 of Appendix A.

One common mistake among students is the belief that they have to add a verb “يعد، يعتبر، يمثل، يشكل” (*Ya 'ud, yu 'tabaru, yumaththilu, yushakkilu*) or linking instrument like the pronoun “هي or هو” (*huwa or hiya*) to their translation, thinking that they have to start the Arabic sentence by a verb. This often leads to translation errors, as using these dummy verbs/linking instrument does not convey the intended meaning of the English sentence. Additionally, such verbs give the impression that the objects described or defined are not as stated, or that they possess attributes that do not exist in their essence. It is important to note that this is not the way facts are expressed and described in Arabic. “The principle followed by these translators, which dictates that every Arabic sentence must begin with a verb, is flawed. This principle is often propagated by translation trainers who lack a thorough understanding of the Arabic tradition” (ElSherif, 2023).

#### **4. Research Question:**

What techniques are employed by the language services department at the United Nations for translating copula from English into Arabic, and to what extent do they adhere to the drafting rules of Arabic and achieve idiomaticity in the target text?

#### **Research Objective:**

This paper aims to explore the challenges of translating the copula into Arabic, and proposes a cognitive-based rule for translating it. Additionally, it provides insights and findings on teaching methods that can aid in the training of translators. The study also seeks to offer guidelines for market-oriented training, highlighting the techniques and strategies employed by United Nations translators.

## **7. Theoretical Framework and Methodology:**

The study focuses on analyzing The UN 2030 Agenda, which is an immensely important document on a global scale. It serves as the foundation for the 2030 vision of nations worldwide and carries significant weight within the UN system as a guiding framework for international development efforts in the upcoming decade. Nevertheless, translating the document into different languages, including Arabic, presents notable challenges due to the requirement for the Arabic version to maintain neutrality, authenticity, and conformity to an official standard.

There are two types of models used for evaluating translations: sentence-oriented models and text-oriented models (Elsherif, 2016). The current study focuses on a specific type of sentence known as copulative sentences. The study compares the strategies employed in Arabic to establish a relationship between two noun phrases in a subject-predicate structure with those used in English. It examines how the translation presented here adheres to the drafting rules of Arabic. The study measures the extent to which the UN translator successfully follows these rules.

### **7.1 Data Sources:**

One of the primary challenges that Arabic translators face when translating UN documents is the extensive use of copulative sentences. As these texts introduce new ideas and outcomes that need to be defined and identified. In this case the best structure that could be used is the copulative sentences. This structure presents a particular difficulty for novice Arabic translators as they seek to start the sentence with a verb where there is no a real content verb in the source text.

The research collects the copulative sentences in the 2030 Agenda document with their Arabic equivalence the Arabic version. The research could have significant implications for future translation

practices, particularly for translating technical definitions that contain definitions and introduction of new ideas. By improving the accuracy and clarity of translations, the study could help to promote clear phrasing and drafting in Arabic.

## 7.2 Data Analysis:

The 2030 Agenda is a blueprint for global peace and prosperity, unanimously adopted by the United Nations Assembly in September 2015. The resolution is a comprehensive document comprising 15,196 words in 249 sentences. It presents an ambitious vision for the future, aiming to address a wide array of societal issues encompassing poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice.

The linguistic analysis indicates that the document utilizes 36 copula sentences in the present simple tense. These include 24 sentences in the third simple singular form and 12 sentences in the first and third person plural. The pronoun (هي) 'heya' appears five times in the document, serving as an equivalent for the present, third person singular 'is'.

The copula 'is' gets translated eight times into verbal sentences using two artificial verbal forms: (تُمَثِّلُ) 'tumaththilu' and (تُشَكِّلُ) 'tushakkilu'. This comes in defiance from what is stated in the guidelines for translating copulative sentence in Language service department at the UN system (ElSherif, 2023). These two verbs are used five times in the whole Arabic version of the 2030 Agenda as an equivalent for the present, third person singular 'is' and represent different nuanced variations of the dummy verbs (يُعَدُّ) 'yu'addu' and (يُعْتَبِرُ) 'yu'tabru'.

The idiomatic use of language is further evident in three cases where the verbs naturally collocate with their respective predicates. These include the pairing of (يَقَعُ) 'yaqa'u' with (مسؤولية) 'mas'ulīyat', (تُتَاح) 'tutaāh' with (أغذية) 'aghdiyyah', and (تَتَّسِمُ) 'tattasimu' with

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(طبيعة) ‘tabī‘a’. This nuanced translation not only preserves the meaning of the original text but also makes it more relatable to the target audience by aligning with their colloquial and cultural expressions.

Translation shift, a technique widely utilized in the field of translation, has garnered significant attention since its introduction by Catford (1965). This approach encompasses a myriad of modifications carried out during the intricate process of translating texts, with a particular emphasis on the manipulation of word classes. By skillfully navigating the delicate balance between linguistic accuracy and semantic fidelity, translation shift allows for the seamless transposition of linguistic elements from the source language to the target language.

One notable manifestation of translation shift lies in the metamorphosis of adjectives within the source text, as they undergo a captivating transformation into either verbs or nouns within the target language. This strategic adaptation empowers translators to capture the nuanced essence of the original message while adhering to the linguistic idiosyncrasies of the target language. For instance, when confronted with copula sentences, where an adjective assumes the role of a predicate in the source text, it is a common practice to deftly convert it into a verb in the target language, particularly in the context of Arabic translation. As Arabic translators favors starting with a verb.

The artistry of translation shift lies in its ability to transcend mere linguistic conversion and delve into the intricate interplay between form and meaning. Expert translators deftly navigate the linguistic landscape, employing their profound understanding of both the source and target languages to make informed decisions regarding word class transformations. The delicate balance between preserving the original intent of the text and ensuring coherence and fluency in the target language demands meticulous attention to detail and an unwavering commitment to linguistic excellence.

In conclusion, translation shift stands as a testament to the multifaceted nature of the translation process. It serves as a powerful tool in the hands of skilled translators, enabling them to bridge the gap between languages and cultures, while upholding the integrity of the source text. Through its intricate dance with word classes and its harmonious orchestration of syntactic structures, translation shift breathes life into the translated work, ensuring that its essence resonates with the target audience in a linguistically and culturally authentic manner.

The language and structure of the 2030 Agenda reflect its global scope and the diversity of its intended audience. The use of various grammatical constructs and idiomatic expressions help bridge linguistic and cultural differences, ensuring that the UN's ambitious goals are communicated effectively to all member nations, regardless of their primary language. This linguistic intricacy underscores the universal nature of the agenda and the concerted global effort required to achieve its goals.

## **8. Results and Discussion:**

In this section, the study presents and analyzes the results, focusing on the key findings and their implications for the field of translation.

### **8.1. Translation Accuracy**

The research analyzed a sample of 24 copulative sentence translated into Arabic and evaluated them against the source texts using established guidelines developed by the UN language service. The results showed an overall translation accuracy. The exact meaning is successfully communicated, although there is stylistic deviations the established guidelines of the UN. But these deviations could not be considered as translation error.

## 8.2. Translation Strategies

The use of a literal translation strategy is evident throughout the entire text, as it adheres closely to the documented translation while maintaining a purported sense of neutrality. The text consistently seeks to convey the exact meaning without introducing subjective interpretations or biases. This approach prioritizes maintaining the integrity and authenticity of the original content, ensuring that the intended message is conveyed to the target audience without undue influence or alteration.

Regarding the copulative sentences provided as an example, the Arabic version appears to be largely equivalent, taking into account the drafting rules of Arabic. However, there are a few instances where artificial verbal forms, namely "تَمَثَّلُ" ('tumaththilu') and "تُشَكِّلُ" ('tushakkilu'), are used.

The overall equivalence between the Arabic and the original text is notable, as the Arabic version effectively captures the intended meaning while adhering to the grammatical and stylistic conventions of the Arabic language. However, it is important to highlight the presence of the artificial verbal forms mentioned above, which deviate from the standard usage in Arabic.

The use of "تَمَثَّلُ" ('tumaththilu') and "تُشَكِّلُ" ('tushakkilu') can be considered as departures from the typical conjugation patterns in Arabic. These artificial verbal forms may have been employed to convey specific nuances or emphasize certain aspects of the content. It is crucial to note that such deviations from standard usage should be approached with caution, as they might affect the readability and comprehension for Arabic readers who are accustomed to more common conjugation patterns.

While these artificial verbal forms may introduce some variation in the Arabic text, it is essential to evaluate their impact on the overall

clarity and coherence of the translation. Ensuring that the usage of these forms aligns with the intended meaning and properly conveys the original message is vital in maintaining the accuracy and effectiveness of the translation.

In conclusion, the Arabic version of the copulative sentences generally demonstrates equivalence while adhering to drafting rules. Nevertheless, the presence of artificial verbal forms, such as "تُمَثِّلُ" ('tumaththilu') and "تُشَكِّلُ" ('tushakkilu'), should be carefully considered to ensure that they contribute positively to the overall clarity and understanding of the translated text.

### 8.3. Implications for Translation Education

Our research results indicate that copulative sentences may be rendered either as nominal nonverbal sentences or as verbal sentences, contingent upon the translation technique that transposes the predicate into a verb form. It is crucial to accentuate the method of translation shifting as an instructional strategy in educating students on the handling and translation of copulative sentences, while simultaneously adhering to the drafting norms of the Arabic language. It is of paramount importance to focus on the preparation of prospective translators, providing them with the essential skills to adeptly navigate structural shifts, manage inherent ambiguities, and ensure a level of consistency across their translation work.

Translators need to have a clear understanding of the usage of copulative sentences in both the source and target languages. They should be aware of cases where the zero copula form is recommended in Arabic and understand how to handle such instances in the source language. Translation education should introduce and emphasize various translation techniques like null and class shift (transposition) to handle copula sentences effectively. Training of the translators should be guided by these strategies appropriately to ensure that the correct style and stylistic integrity are achieved.



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By incorporating these implications into translation education, aspiring translators can develop the necessary skills and knowledge to accurately and effectively translate copulative sentences and handle various linguistic challenges in their work.

**9. Conclusion:**

In conclusion, the study sheds light on one of the structures that represents a syntactic gap between Arabic and English. The strategies employed by UN translators could be used as best practices for training novice translators. Yet, there are some pitfalls that breach the drafting rules of Arabic. Thus, the translations introduced by UN translators need to be researched by Translation Studies scholars. The findings have implications for translation practice, education, and future research, highlighting the need for ongoing academic research to inform professional development and specialized training to enhance translation quality and address the evolving demands of the field. The UN Translators, in line with the guidelines of the New York school, strive to address the syntactic differences between Arabic and English by proposing solutions. This paper focuses on the most effective methods for dealing with copulative sentences, which present a syntactic gap between Arabic and English. Additionally, another issue that arises is the frequent use of passive voice, where both the recipient and the doer of the action are included in the same sentence.

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Appendix A

	Source	Trnasliteration	Target
1	This Agenda is a plan of action for people	Tumaththilu Hādhihi al-khiṭṭah Barnāmaj ‘amal	تمثل هذه الخطة برنامج عمل
2	We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge	wa-Naḥnu ndrīk an al-qaḍā’ ‘alā al-faqr bi-jamī’ ṣuwaruhu wa-ab‘āduhu, bi-mā fī dhālika al-faqr al-mudqa’, huwa Akbar ṭḥd	ونحن ندرك أن القضاء على الفقر بجميع صورته وأبعاده، بما في ذلك الفقر المدقع، هو أكبر تحد
3	Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental	Wānṭlāqā min tslymnā bi-anna Karāmah al-insān amr asāsī	وانطلاقاً من تسليمنا بأن كرامة الإنسان أمر أساسي
4	This is an Agenda of unprecedented scope and significance.	wa-Hādhihi al-khiṭṭah lam yusbaq la-hā mthyl min ḥaythu al-Niṭāq wa-al-ahammīyah	وهذه الخطة لم يسبق لها مثيل من حيث النطاق والأهمية
5	Unemployment, particularly youth unemployment, is a major concern.	Tumaththilu al-Baḍālah, wa-lā Sīmā fī ṣufūf al-Shabāb, maṣdar Qalaq Kabīr	تمثل البطالة، ولا سيما في صفوف الشباب، مصدر قلق كبير
6	and where food is sufficient	Tutāḥ fīhi al-Aghdhiyah al-Kāfiyah	تتاح فيه الأغذية الكافية
7	Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time	Yushakkilu Taghayyur al-munākh Wāḥidan min Akbar	يشكل تغير المناخ واحداً من أكبر
8	The achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible	fa-Lā sabīl ilā taḥqīq Kāmil al-imkānāt al-basharīyah wa-taḥqīq al-tanmiyah al-mustadāmah.	فلا سبيل إلى تحقيق كامل الإمكانيات البشرية وتحقيق التنمية المستدامة.
9	The systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of	Fālt‘mym al-muntaẓim lmrā’ah al-manẓūr aljnsāny fī Tanfidh al-khiṭṭah amr bāligh al-ahammīyah.	فالتعميم المنتظم لمراعاة المنظور الجنساني في تنفيذ الخطة أمر بالغ الأهمية.

	the Agenda is crucial.		
11	We also recognize that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination	Wn'trf ayḍan bi-anna al-Hijrah al-Dawlīyah hiya wāqi' muta'addid al-ab'ād ytsm b'hmyh kubrá fī Tanmiyat buldān al-mansha' wa-buldān al-'ubūr wa-buldān al-Maqṣad	ونعترف أيضا بأن الهجرة الدولية هي واقع متعدد الأبعاد يتسم بأهمية كبرى في تنمية بلدان المنشأ وبلدان العبور وبلدان المقصد
12	We acknowledge that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum	Naqr bi-anna Ittifaqīyat al-Umam al-Muttaḥidah al-iṭārīyah bi-sha'n Taghayyur al-munākh hiya al-Maḥfal al-ḥukūmī al-dawlī al-ra'īsī	نقر بأن اتفاقية الأمم المتحدة الإطارية بشأن تغير المناخ هي المحفل الحكومي الدولي الرئيسي
13	Sport is also an important enabler of sustainable development.	wa-al-Riyāḍah hiya ayḍan min al-'Anāshir altmknyh al-muhimmah lil-Tanmiyah al-mustadāmah.	والرياضة هي أيضا من العناصر التمكينية المهمة للتنمية المستدامة.
14	An important use of international public finance, including official development assistance (ODA), is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private.	wa-Man al-ghāyāt al-muhimmah lil-tamwīl al-'āmm al-dawlī, bi-mā fīhi al-Musā'adah al-Inmā'iyyah al-Rasmīyah, ṭḥfyz Ḥashd Mawārid iḍāfiyah min al-maṣādir al-ukhrá, 'āmmah wa-khāṣṣah.	ومن الغايات المهمة للتمويل العام الدولي، بما فيه المساعدة الإنمائية الرسمية، تحفيز حشد موارد إضافية من المصادر الأخرى، عامة وخاصة.
15	Such data is key to decision-making.	wa-Hādhihi al-bayānāt asāsīyah li-'amalīyat ittikhādh al-qarārāt.	وهذه البيانات أساسية لعملية اتخاذ القرارات.
16	The supreme	Wymthl Mithāq al-	ويمثل ميثاق الأمم المتحدة

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	embodiment of those values is the Charter of the United Nations.	Umam al-Muttaḥidah Asmā tajsīd li-tilka al-Qayyim.	أسمى تجسيد لتلك القيم.
17	What we are announcing today is a charter for people and planet in the twenty-first century.	Inna al-khiṭṭah allatī n'ln 'anhā al-yawm min ajl al-'amal 'alā al-Ṣa'īd al-'Ālamī fī al-sanawāt al-khams 'ashrah al-muqbilah, hiya Mīthāq lil-nās wa-al-arḍ fī al-qarn al-ḥādī wa-al-'ishrīn.	إن الخطة التي نعلن عنها اليوم من أجل العمل على الصعيد العالمي في السنوات الخمس عشرة المقبلة، هي ميثاق للناس والأرض في القرن الحادي والعشرين.
18	it will be for all of us to ensure that The journey is successful and its gains irreversible.	Wsykwn 'alaynā jamī'an an nḥrṣ 'alā Najāḥ s'ynā fīhi wa-'alā 'adam alāntkās fīmā nḥqq min Makāsib.	وسيكون علينا جميعاً أن نحرص على نجاح سعينا فيه وعلى عدم الانتكاس فيما نحقق من مكاسب.
19	"Mother Earth" is a common expression in a number of countries and regions.	"amnā al-arḍ " ta'bīr shā' fī 'adad min al-buldān wa-al-manāṭiq.	"أمنا الأرض" تعبير شائع في عدد من البلدان والمناطق.
20	International trade is an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction	wa-Tashakkul al-Tijārah al-Dawliyah mḥrkā lil-numūw al-iqtiṣādī al-shāmil wa-al-Ḥad min al-faqr, kamā tshm fī ta'zīz al-tanmiyah al-mustadāmah.	وتشكل التجارة الدولية محركاً للنمو الاقتصادي الشامل والحد من الفقر، كما تسهم في تعزيز التنمية المستدامة.
21	Maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries	Wtq' Mas'ūliyat al-ḥuffāz 'alā mustawayāt min al-Dīn yumkinu tḥmlhā 'alā 'Ātiq al-buldān almqtrḥh	وتقع مسؤولية الحفاظ على مستويات من الدين يمكن تحملها على عاتق البلدان المقترضة
22	As this is a universal Agenda, mutual trust and understanding	Wnẓrā ilā mā ttsm bi-hi al-khiṭṭah min ṭābi' 'ālamī, fa-man al-	ونظراً إلى ما تتسم به الخطة من طابع عالمي، فمن المهم كفالة الثقة

	among all nations will be important.	muhimm Kafālat al-thiqah al-mutabādalah wa-al-tafāhum bayna jamī' al-Umam.	المتبادلة والتفاهم بين جميع الأمم.
23	As national ownership is key to achieving sustainable development,	wa-li-Mā kānat al-sayṭarah al-Waṭanīyah 'alā zimām al-umūr 'āmlā asāsyā fī taḥqīq al-tanmiyah al-mustadāmah,	ولما كانت السيطرة الوطنية على زمام الأمور عاملاً أساسياً في تحقيق التنمية المستدامة،
24	country-led evaluations and data which is high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.	Tqyymāt wa-bayānāt Qaṭariyah Rafī'ah al-jawdah wshlh al-manāl wḥsnh al-tawqīt wmwthwqh wmṣnfh Ḥṣab al-dakhl, wa-al-jins, wālsn, wa-al-intimā' al-'irqī wāl'thny, wa-al-waḍ' min ḥaythu al-Hijrah, wāl'āqh, wa-al-mawqi' al-jughrafī, wa-ghayrihā min al-Khaṣā'iṣ Dhāt al-ahammīyah fī al-siyāqāt al-Waṭanīyah.	تقييمات وبيانات قطرية رفيعة الجودة وسهلة المنال وحسنة التوقيت وموثوقة ومصنفة حسب الدخل، والجنس، والسن، والانتماء العرقي والإثني، والوضع من حيث الهجرة، والإعاقة، والموقع الجغرافي، وغيرها من الخصائص ذات الأهمية في السياقات الوطنية.