

POST-EDITING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Objective

The main objective of post-editing is to make the machine-translated output understandable and grammatically correct, and to fully convey the meaning from the source text.

You should make the MT output have the correct meaning, using understandable language, in as few edits as possible.

2. Level of post-editing required

Specifically for this exercise, full post-editing is required. Full post-editing consists of making all necessary corrections in the machine-translated text.

Please note, however, that purely stylistic changes should be avoided.

Please also note that post-editing is not the same as revising. As such, you should try to minimise the number of edits whenever possible, without compromising the meaning.

3. Instructions and examples

In most cases, there will be different ways to edit the machine-translated output. When choosing between two correct options, try and select the one that involves the lowest number of edits.

Do not spend too much time over a problem. If you cannot think straightaway of a way to improve the output, leave it unchanged (there is no point in trying a few alternatives and reverting eventually to the initial suggestion).

Normally, the types of issues that require corrections are:

- Grammatical errors;
- Misspellings;
- Mistranslations.

Other issues that require attention are summarised in the following pages.

- **Missing information:**

In case the machine-translated output is missing information contained in the source text, you should add the missing information.

Example:

Source text	MT output	Post-edited text	Comments
Booting from a USB Hard Drive or Floppy Disk	Le démarrage depuis un disque dur ou une disquette	Démarrage depuis un disque dur USB ou une disquette	"USB" was missing from the machine-translated output.

- **Extra information:**

If the machine-translated output includes information not contained in the source text, you should remove it.

Example:

Source text	MT output	Post-edited text	Comments
Booting from a USB Hard Drive or Floppy Disk	El arranque desde un dispositivo de almacenamiento USB disco duro o disquete	Arranque desde un disco duro USB o disquete	"dispositivo de almacenamiento" was not part of the source text.

- **Synonyms:**

Correct terms should not be replaced with synonyms.

Example:

Source text	MT output	Post-edited text	Comments
The exact protocol depends on your hardware.	Le moment exact protocole dépend de votre matériel.	Le protocole précis dépend de votre matériel.	It was not necessary to replace "exact" with "précis". The post-edited text could have been left as: Le protocole exact dépend de votre matériel.

A similar approach should be applied to phrasal ordering: the order of phrases should only be changed if this is necessary to correct the meaning of the text. Otherwise, it should be left unchanged.

- **Verb tenses:**

The post-edited text must have the same verb tense as the source text when this makes a difference in the meaning.

Source text	MT output	Post-edited text	Comments
The files are available to the installation system.	Les fichiers seront accessibles au système d'installation	Les fichiers sont accessibles au système d'installation.	The verb "to be" is in the present tense in the source text, but it was in the future in the MT output, so it was corrected in the post-edited text.

- **Determiners:**

In some cases, determiners may be required to convey the correct meaning.

Example:

Source text	MT output	Post-edited text	Comments
Booting a computer depends on the capabilities of the hardware used.	Arranque el equipo depende de las capacidades del hardware utilizado.	El arranque del equipo depende de las capacidades del hardware utilizado.	If the article is left out before "arranque", this will make the text less understandable and grammatically inadequate.