

Students' Critical Analysis of Translation Software English

For most of our students, writing for writing's sake is a dead skill which they will never, ever need.

Critically editing the product of translation software and A.I. is the real-world skill that we should be teaching instead.

In the real world,
翻訳ソフト /Gen A.I.
≠
lazy / cheating

uncritical
acceptance
=
lazy / risky

being ***critical***
requires
being ***aware***

GAME!
Spot the
uncritical
acceptance of
translation
software output!
←student me→

Is it okay if I come after
second period?

How about at the start of
3rd? 1:30~?

2 May, 11:45 am

Yes!
You can go from 12
o'clock onwards.

Where should I go?

Hold on - "You can go" ...?
Who is "you"?

You wrote "You can go
from 12..."

The translator is not
working properly. Are you
free now?

The translator is working
fine!
YOU NEED TO CHECK IT.

If you're talking about "I",
say "I".

You wanted a challenging
class. I think this class is
going to have more
challenge than only "I can
go".

Come on. It's time to start
really doing this thing
called ENGLISH.

I am honored.
Thank you!!

Translation software - good and bad

Student's email - middle of 2022

English Japanese

My name is _____ and I'm こんにちは
going to have a lesson on 木曜日5限の授業を受講していま
Thursday.す。XXXXXです。

I was infected with the コロナウイルスに感染し、5月12
coronavirus and was absent from 日-5月23日まで学校をお休みし
school from May 12th to May いました。

There are two continuations. 2つ質問があります。

The amount that died when コロナウイルス感染している際
infected with the coronavirus is に休んだ分は公表と見えなしま
completed with a public vacanc
y. すでしょうか。

Above, it is a flyer that can be a また、休んでいた際の際の提出でき
module for resting. ない課題はもう手遅れで
I will do my best! しまうか。

We apologize for the 英語頑張ります！

お手数お掛けしますが、ご返信
して頂けるとありがとうございます。

HYS #2

My name is _____, and I am
taking a class on Thursday, 5th
period.

I was infected with the
coronavirus and was absent from
school from May 12th to May
23rd.

I have two questions.

Would you consider my absence
from school when I was infected
with coronavirus to be an official
absence?

Also, is it too late to submit the
assignments that I didn't complete
during my absence?

I will do my best in English!

Thank you for your time and I
would appreciate it if you could
reply to me.

HYS #3

I'm _____, who is taking the
fifth class on Thursday.

I was infected with the
coronavirus and was absent from
school from May 12th to May
23rd.

There are two questions.

Do you consider the rest you
have to take when you are
infected with the coronavirus as
a public vacancy?

Also, is it too late for the
assignments that I couldn't
submit when I was absent?

I will do my best in English!

We apologize for the
inconvenience, but we would
appreciate it if you could reply.

Steve Paton 202204001

HYS #1 - Google

HYS #2 - Papago

HYS #3 - DeepL

My original Japanese

金星の太陽面通過とは、金星が太
陽面を黒い円形のシルエットとし
て通過していくように見える天文
現象である。金星が地球と太陽の
ちょうど間にいることで起こる。

金星の太陽面通過は非常に稀な現
象で、近年では、8年、105.5年、8
年、121.5年の間隔で発生する。直
近では協定世界時2012年6月5日か
ら6日にかけて起こった。次回は
2117年12月10日から11日にかけて
起こる。記録に残る初の観測は、
1639年にエレミア・ホーリックス
によってなされた。

地球からの距離が約4,100キロ
メートルある金星は、太陽面通過
の間、太陽の表面を東から西へと
いていく小さな黒い円盤のように
見える。金星の太陽面通過を観察
することで、地球と太陽の間の距
離（1天文単位）が算出可能とな
る。

(329 characters)

A transit of Venus is an
astronomical event in which Venus
appears as a black circular
silhouette passing across the Sun.

It occurs when Venus passes
exactly between the Earth and the
Sun. Transits of Venus are very
rare, occurring at recent intervals
of 8, 105.5, 8, and 121.5 years.

The most recent occurred on June
5-6, 2012 UTC. The next one will
occur on December 10-11, 2117.

The first recorded observation was
made in 1639 by Jeremiah

Horrocks. Venus, located about 41
million kilometers from Earth, appears
as a small black disk moving from east
to west across the surface of the sun
during a transit. The first recorded
observation was made by

Jeremiah Horrocks in 1639.

Venus, which is about 41 million
kilometers from Earth, looks like a

small black disk moving from east
to west across the surface of the sun
during a transit. By

observing the transit of Venus over
the solar distance, the distance

between the Earth and the Sun (in
1 AU) can be calculated.

Venus transit is an astronomical
phenomenon in which Venus
appears to pass through the solar
plane as a black circular silhouette.

It is caused by Venus entering just

between the Earth and the Sun.

Transits of Venus across the solar

plane are extremely rare, occurring

in recent years at intervals of 8,

105.5, 8 and 121.5 years. The

most recent occurred between 5

and 6 June 2012 UTC. The next

one will occur between 10 and 11

December 2117. The first recorded

observation was made by

Jeremiah Horrocks in 1639.

Venus, which is about 41 million
kilometers from Earth, appears as

a small black disk moving from east

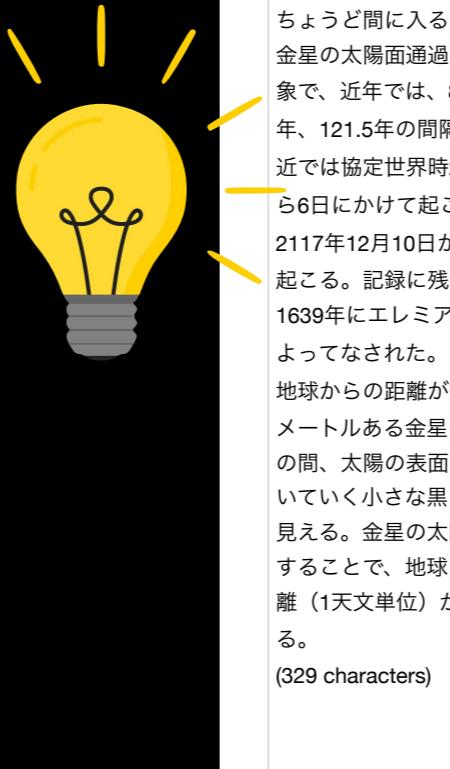
to west across the surface of the sun

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observing the transit of Venus over

the solar distance, the distance

between the Earth and the Sun (in
1 AU) can be calculated.



My original Japanese	HYS#1-Google	HYS#2-Papago	HYS#3-DeepL
テレビは、テレビジョン（英: television）の略称です。テレビジョンは、映像と音声を離れた場所に送り、再現するしくみ。光学像と電気的な信号を交換し、無線または有線により伝送し、テレビ受像機で映像として再生する通信方式。光学および音響を電気信号に変換し、電気的な波形や音波をもしくは無線で離れた場所に伝送し、それを光学および音響に再変換する電子的なシステム。TVと表記することもある。2番目の意味として、その写真を指す。3番目の意味としてはコミュニケーション媒体（メディア）としてのテレビジョン、またテレビジョン産業を指す。当記事では、前半では光学像および音響を伝送し再現するしくみ（電子のシステム）とその歴史について解説し、後半でテレビジョン産業、媒體としてのテレビジョンの意味や人々に与える影響、視聴傾向などについても明確にする。	Television is an abbreviation of television, which is a system for transmitting and reproducing images and sounds to a distant location. It is a communication method that converts optical images into electrical signals, transmits them wirelessly or by wire, and reproduces them as images on a television receiver. It is an electronic system that converts optical images and sounds into electrical signals, transmits them in the form of electrical waves to a distant location by wire or wireless, and then converts them back into optical images and sounds. It is sometimes written as TV. In its second sense, it also refers to the receiver. A third meaning is television as a communication medium (media) and the television industry. In this article, we will mainly explain the system (electronic system) for transmitting and reproducing optical images and sounds in history, and in the second half, we will also explain the television industry, the nature of television as a medium, its impact on people, and viewing trends.	Television is an abbreviation for television (English: television), and television is a system that transmits and reproduces images and sounds from a remote location. A communication method that converts optical images into electrical signals, transmits them wirelessly or by wire, and reproduces them as images on a television receiver. An electronic system that converts optical images and sound into electrical signals, transmits them by wire or wireless in the form of electrical waves to a distant location, and converts them back into optical images and sounds. Sometimes it is written as TV. The second meaning also refers to the receiver. The third meaning refers to television as a communication medium, and also to the television industry. The first half of this article will mainly explain the system (electronic system) for transmitting and reproducing optical images and sounds in history, and its second half will explain the television industry, the nature of television as a medium, its impact on people, and viewing trends.	Television is an abbreviation for television (English: television), and television is a system that transmits and reproduces images and sounds from a remote location. A communication method that converts optical images into electrical signals, transmits them wirelessly or by wire, and plays them as images on a television receiver. An electronic system that converts optical images and sound into electrical signals, transmits them by wire or radio in the form of an electrical wave, and then converts them back into optical images and sounds. It is sometimes written as TV. In its second sense, it also refers to the receiver. The third meaning refers to television as a communication medium, and also to the television industry. The first half of this article will mainly explain the system (electronic system) for transmitting and reproducing optical images and sounds in history, and its second half will explain the television industry, the nature of television as a medium, its impact on people, and viewing trends.

One student's reflection on the assignment

I think that translation software tools are useful, but I shouldn't trust them.

..., translation software tools sometimes make mistakes, for example, subject, form of verb, and stuff. When I compared three translation tools, which is Google translation, DeepL, and Weblio, ... I confused, "Which is correct?"

Therefore, I should be careful of mistakes by taking three measures.

First, I can use easy and simple Japanese. Sometimes, Japanese is a little bit difficult, so I should use easy and simple Japanese instead of difficult Japanese.

Second, I can clarify subject of Japanese sentences. I think that Japanese often drop the subject in a sentence, so the subject in a sentence is not known "I" or "You". Such a sentence won't be translated correctly, so I need to make the subject clear in a sentence.

Finally, I can double-check translated sentences. Double-checking is one of ways to prevent from making mistakes.

That's why I think I should pay attention to what translation software tools are saying.

conclusion : distrust

awareness of limitations

strategy

responsibility

working strategically,
within limitations

BINGO

I couldn't have said it better.

TL/DR
Students were to
• write or paste 400~
characters of
Japanese
• run it through three
different translators
• indicate in red which
translation they
would choose as the
best one for each
sentence.

Later, they discussed
their decisions in class.

Later still, I had them
write reflections on
the assignment.

... and then ChatGPT started getting popular amongst students. Start over?