

AL-FARABI KAZAKH NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
International Relations Faculty
Diplomatic Translation Department

PROGRAM
OF THE FINAL EXAM ON THE DISCIPLINE
“Translation of Scientific and Technical Texts”
Educational Program
“6B03211 Translation in the sphere of international and legal relations”
2nd year of study

ALMATY 2025

The compiler of the exam program is senior lecturer Zhumaliyeva Zh.K.

The program of the final exam on the discipline has been considered and approved at the meeting of the “Diplomatic Translation Department” department.

Minute № 1 September 2, 2025

The head of the department

M.K. Murzagaliyeva

Examination and Assessment Policy
for the course “Translation of Scientific and Technical Texts”
Educational program “6B02311 Translation Studies in the field of International
and Legal Relations”
Instructor: Zhumaliyeva Zh.K.
Examination is conducted WRITTEN offline through the
standard set of the Univer system

Examination and Assessment Policy is to evaluate the learner’s knowledge of the theoretical basis of the discipline, the ability to make sight translation; to do translation of professional materials from SL in TL.

Examination procedure:

Examination is conducted by the Instructor.

Examination tickets are provided by system Univer via the tab of relevant discipline. Student should open the ticket and demonstrate the screen to the Instructor. Examination ticket is consisted of 3 questions.

1 – theoretical question

2 – translation of scientific or technical article terms and phrases from SL to TL

3 – translation of scientific or technical

article excerpt, from SL to TL

Answer time – 120 minutes

Task 1: Theoretical Question

Objective: Assess understanding of translation theory, especially within scientific and technical contexts.

Knowledge (Remembering): Students should recall essential theories, translation principles, and terminology specific to scientific and technical texts.

Comprehension (Understanding): Students should explain translation theory concepts in their own words, showing they understand the specific challenges of translating scientific/technical texts.

Evaluation: Students should provide reasoned arguments or examples supporting different translation strategies for scientific and technical texts.

Criteria:

- Accuracy in defining key terms, concise summarization of translation theories relevant to technical/scientific texts.
- Clarity and precision in responses; ability to explain theory and relate it to technical translation issues.
- Ability to critically evaluate approaches and choose the most appropriate for

specific text types.

Recommendations for Study:

- Review major translation theories, focusing on scientific/technical challenges (e.g., terminology consistency, style).
- Practice explaining these concepts verbally or in writing.

Task 2: Translation of Scientific/Technical Terms and Phrases (SL to TL)

Objective: Assess accuracy and context-appropriate translation of terminology between Source Language (SL) and Target Language (TL).

Students should correctly translate specialized terms and phrases, adapting them accurately to the TL's scientific/technical conventions.

Students must analyze terms within the source text to determine appropriate TL equivalents, considering linguistic and contextual factors.

Criteria:

- Correct and context-appropriate translation of terms; precise adherence to SL meaning and TL norms.
- Effective recognition of terms with no direct equivalent; successful use of TL terminology that reflects the same scientific concept.

Recommendations for Study:

- Compile glossaries for common technical terms in both SL and TL.
- Practice identifying context-dependent meanings of terms.

Task 3: Translation of Scientific/Technical Excerpt (SL to TL)

Objective: Evaluate the translation of an excerpt with complex structures and specialized vocabulary.

Students should translate an excerpt, synthesizing grammatical, terminological, and stylistic knowledge to create a coherent TL text.

Criteria:

- Overall accuracy, fluency, and scientific/technical appropriateness of the translated text; minimal errors in terminology and syntax
- Students should justify their translation choices for challenging terms or structures, demonstrating understanding of the text's purpose and audience.

- Evidence of thoughtful, purposeful choices reflecting the target audience’s knowledge level.

Recommendations for Study:

- Practice translating short excerpts with varied technical content.
- Reflect on translation choices and write brief justifications for key terms or difficult passages.

Regulations:

1. Examination is scheduled according to Examination Schedule and is proctored.
2. Information about Examination day and time is provided to teachers and students in advance. Students should be informed of rules and conditions of Examination in advance.
3. Start of the Examination should be reminded 30 min before Examination starts.
4. In accordance with the rules of proctoring, students are prohibited from:
 - use of cheat sheets
 - the use of cell phones, smart watches and other technical means that can be used for unauthorized access to auxiliary information
 - use of websites
 - use of books
 - using drafts
 - use of messengers
 - using the help of other people
 - exit from the room
 - talking with others
 - looking away

Assessment

Question - 1 – 30 points

Question - 2 – 30 points

Question - 3 – 40 points

Grading scale:

The grading system can be found in the table below:

Assessment by letter system	Equivalent grades in points	Percentage %	Traditional way of assessment
A	4,0	95-100	Excellent
A-	3,67	90-94	
B+	3,33	85-89	Good
B	3,0	80-84	

B-	2,67	75-79	Satisfactory
C+	2,33	70-74	
C	2,0	65-69	

1. The maximum level of academic performance in midterm control 1 (5th week) - 100% (share in the total grade 0.2)

2. The maximum level of performance in MIDTERM (10th week) - 100%

C-	1,67	60-64	Unsatisfactory
D+	1,33	55-59	
D	1,0	50-54	
FX	0,5	25-49	"Discipline is not completed" (Not taken into account in GPA)
F	0	0-24	
I (Incomplete)	-	-	"Discipline was attended" (Not taken into account in GPA)
AU (Audit)	-	-	"Certified" (Not taken into account in GPA)
Att. (cert.)	-	30-60 50-100	"Not certified" (Not taken into account in GPA)
He att. (not cert.)	-	0-29 0-49	"Re-studying the discipline" (Not taken into account in GPA)
R (Retake)	-	-	"Discipline difference according to the curriculum" (Not taken into account in GPA)
R-difference	-	-	

(share in the overall rating 0.2)

3. The maximum level of academic performance in midterm control 2 (15th week) - 100% (share in the total grade 0.2)

4. The maximum level of progress in intermediate attestation (PA), final exam - 100% (share in the overall assessment 0.4)

5. The maximum level of academic achievement in the discipline is 100%

6. The final grade in the discipline is determined as the sum of academic performance in RC1, MT, RC2 and PA, taking into account the share
7. "n" - not showing up for the exam

At the end of the Examination:

Teacher or examiner assesses the Examiner;

Put mark to the final transcript of the Univer system;

Draws up a protocol for each student (within a month after the exam).

Examination date is set according to Examination Schedule.

Topics:

Lecture 1 History of development of scientific and technical translation
<p>Seminar 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theme: Theoretical Basis of Translation (in general) Memorizing some specific terms 2. Revision of Grammar. All Tense Forms in Active and Passive Voice 3. News Round-up. Commenting on the current events in the world. Analyzing of a Newspaper Article.
Lecture 2 Material, language and structure of scientific and technical texts
<p>Seminar 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theme: What is scientific translation Memorizing specific terms applied. 2. Revision of Grammar. Complex Grammatical structures 3. News Round-up. Commenting on the global affairs. Analyzing of a Newspaper Article 4. Text translation of passages from a Scientific Text
Lecture 3 Features of functional style of scientific and technical texts
<p>Seminar 3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theme: How to carry out Scientific Translation? Memorizing Specific terms applied. 2. Revision of Grammar. Conditionals. 3. News Round-up. Analyzing of a newspaper article
Lecture 4 Grammatical features of scientific and technical texts
<p>Seminar 4</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theme: The main reasons why scientists and researchers need their works to be translated into the language of science. 2. Revision of Grammar. Conditionals (0,1,2,3). 3. News Round-up. Commenting on the global affairs. 4. Translation of one passage from a Scientific Text.
Lecture 5 Lexical features of scientific and technical texts
<p>Seminar 5</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theme: Why is it important to find a skilled and experienced expert or a proofreader to review the work of a translator? 2. Grammar. Mixed forms of Conditionals. Making up their own examples/sentences 3. News Round-up. Commenting on the current events in the world. 4. Test translation of one passage (~500 words) from an academic article.

Lecture 6 Creating a corpus from the ST and identifying terms**Seminar 6**

1. Theme: Additional challenges that non-native speaking translators face in TST.
2. Grammar. Imperative sentences in negation.
3. Dwell upon the latest Presidential Address.

Lecture 7 Researching TL terms**Seminar 7**

1. Theme: No Vagueness in a translation. Memorizing some specific terms and terminology.
2. Revision of Grammar. **if I were you; I wish...**
3. Dwell upon the Presidential Elections 2024 in the USA.

Lecture 8 Translation peculiarities of media materials about science**Seminar 8**

1. Theme: The Scientific Translation Techniques. Work on the specific terms.
2. Revision of Grammar. Consolidation of all Forms (0,1,2,3).
3. Dwell upon the global affairs.
4. Test translation of one academic article

Lecture 9 Translation features of technical instructions and brochures**Seminar 9**

1. Theme: What is Technical Translation? Memorizing of specific terminology.
2. Revision of Grammar – Modal functions of the verbs – to have, to be
3. Newspaper. The Russian-Ukrainian current Relations.

Lecture 10 Community translation in healthcare institutions**Lecture 11** Introducing professional scientific discourse**Seminar 11**

1. Theme: Scientific Translation is a subbranch of Technical Translation.
2. Revision of Grammar. Sequence of Tenses and Word Order in Indirect Speech.
3. Dwell upon the current situation in Kazakhstan.
4. Test translation of an academic article.

Lecture 12 Translation of scientific papers**Seminar 12**

1. Theme: The Role of Quality Assurance process in Translation.
2. Revision of Grammar. The equivalents of Modal Verbs (should; ought to; have to; be to; need).
3. Analyzing of a Newspaper Article.

Lecture 13 Cultural specificity in scientific articles

- Seminar 13**
1. Theme: Scientific Translation and Globalization. Memorizing of specific terms of Scientific Texts.
 2. Grammar. Grammatical changes of Tenses in the process of transformation of Direct Speech into Indirect.
 3. Analyzing of a Newspaper Article.

Lecture 14 Developments affecting translation activities**Seminar 14**

1. Theme: The most common strategies in translating ST from the source language into the target language.
2. Revision of main grammatical categories which cause certain difficulties in translation.

3. Express your own point of view on the issue: Why the RF launched its operations against Ukraine?
4. Test translation of one passage from an academic article.

Lecture 15 AI and translation

Seminar 15

1. Theme: Why is data sharing through translation gives great opportunities for future promotion of science.
2. Get ready to have Vocabulary and Grammar test.
3. Test Translation

References

1. Olohan M. Scientific and technical translation – Routledge Translation Guides, Sabon, Sunrise Setting, UK 2016. - 263 p.
2. Glushko E.V. Translation studies. Textbook for university students/ E.V. Glushko. – M.: Publishing house "Aspect Press", 2022. – 150 p.
3. Barkhudarov L.S. Language and translation. Questions of general and particular theory of translation: monograph / L. S. Barkhudarov. - 2nd ed. - Moscow: LKI, 2008. - 235 p.
4. Komissarov V.N. Modern Translation Studies: textbook. manual / V. N. Komissarov. - 2nd ed. - M.: R. Valent, 2011. - 408 p.
5. Stefanovskaya Y.I. Nauchno-technicheski perevod: electronic course book – Perm: Minsk, 2024. – 40 p.
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7. Galperin I.R. Stylistics of English language. M.: Либроком, 2010, 2014. - 336 с.
8. Newman P. A Textbook of Translation, Pearson Education: Longman, 1987 - 113 p.
9. Baker M. In other words: a coursebook on translation, Routledge:Taylor and Francis, 2018 -391 p.

CRITERIA EVALUATION OF THE EXAMINATION

Discipline: Translation of Scientific and Technical Texts

Bachelor degree; Format of the Examination: Oral; Platform: «Univer» system

	Bloom's	points	Criteria	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
				90-100%	70-89%	50-69%	25-49%	0-24
1	Knowledge	1 B question (20 points)	Ability to define key terms and concepts specific to scientific and technical texts	Demonstrates an exceptional understanding of terminology and concepts specific to scientific and technical texts, showing both depth and precision in explanations.	Understands most technical terms and concepts, with only minor inaccuracies or omissions that do not significantly impact meaning.	Shows a basic understanding of terminology, but with noticeable gaps that may lead to partial misinterpretations.	Lacks adequate understanding of essential technical terms and concepts, frequently resulting in mistranslations.	Minimum understanding of essential technical terms and concepts, frequently resulting in mistranslations.

2	Understanding	2 question (30 points)	Determine if students understand and can explain key linguistic concepts and principles.	Demonstrates deep comprehension of translation principles and is able to clearly interpret technical meanings within complex contexts. Explanations are insightful and well-justified.	Interprets most content correctly, demonstrating solid comprehension, though some interpretations may lack depth. Explanations are generally accurate but may lack detailed justification.	Demonstrates the partial understanding, able to interpret simpler text segments but struggling with more complex concepts. Explanations are minimal or incomplete.	Fails to adequately interpret technical texts, often misrepresenting the meaning. Explanations lack clarity and may demonstrate misunderstanding of core concepts.	Lack of comprehension, with confusion in explanations and lack of relevant examples.
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3	Application	3 question (40 points)	Application of translation theories to analyze and translate complex text passages, choosing appropriate translation techniques with precision.	The student applies knowledge effectively, producing translations that are both accurate and contextually appropriate. They adapt to the technical and scientific context with minimal errors.	The student demonstrates practical skills in translation, with some minor inaccuracies. Translations are generally appropriate, though they may occasionally lack precision.	The student demonstrates a basic ability to translate text but frequently encounters errors or struggles with technical language. Translations are functional but may lack refinement.	The student shows an inability to apply knowledge to produce coherent translations, with frequent mistakes that disrupt the meaning and fail to meet technical requirements.	Lack of interpretation or application of techniques, leading to poor translation or analysis.
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