MARKING CRITERIA TRANSLATIONS INTO ENGLISH (MML) Paper C1

Examiners are reminded to make use of the full range of marks

Mark	Class	Keyword	Comprehension and Conveyance of Sense	Style	
80-85	I* Dist.	OUTSTANDING	Comprehension of original is totally convincing and its sense fully conveyed, including any ambiguities.	Leaves little room for improvement (although one or two natural failings should be allowed!)	Should read like a good publishable version by a skilled translator.

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75-79		EXCELLENT VERY GOOD	Virtually no problems of comprehension except with the most highly specialized vocabulary. Where there are nominal problems, judicious paraphrase or other devices prevent any impediment to comprehension.	Displays excellent stylistic manipulation of English. Should read fluently like an authentic piece of English except where the language is placed under severe pressure of comprehension.	75-79: Should also show considerable evidence of intelligent and imaginative translation solutions. 70-74: Shows ability to maintain consistent stylistic register, and to vary when necessary.
60-69	II.1	GOOD	Full comprehension of a wide range of vocabulary and structures. Specialized vocabulary presents some problems, but should show clear plausible attempt to overcome these problems. 65-69: Highly plausible. 60-64: Plausible.	English style (apart from problems caused by comprehension) clear and precise: should sound natural except in difficult syntactical constructions. The odd awkwardness is to be expected.	65-69: Should demonstrate clear attempt to convey stylistic effects 60-64: A slight tendency to literality which nevertheless does not impede clear comprehension.

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50-59	II.2	FAIR	General comprehension of a fair range of vocabulary and structures, although there will be quite noticeable deficiencies. Problems with specialized vocabulary but some attempt should be made to overcome this. 55-59: Some plausible attempt to work around lack of knowledge. 50-54: Deficiencies problematical and compromise sense.	Tends to awkwardness in English and literality of rendering, although this should not significantly impede the sense at this level. Alternatively, English may sound plausible, even elegant, in parts, but fails to convey accurately the sense of the original.	55-59: Tends to avoid nonsensical constructions, but displays an overliteral style that sometimes makes the sense difficult to follow. Contrived and awkward in a number of places. 50-54: Some nonsensical turns of phrase in English and very often sounding contrived and awkward.

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40-49	III	POOR	Comprehension of original significantly impeded, sometimes even with fairly every-day vocabulary and structures. Completely unable to cope with specialized vocabulary. There should nevertheless be an overall understanding of the context or the situation.	Highly literal rendering which often makes poor sense in English. Virtually no sense of style.	45-49: Slight attempt to work round perceived problems. 40-44: Directionless; virtually no attempt to work round perceived problems.
15-39	F	FAIL	Comprehension of even basic linguistic items is impeded. The translation as a whole makes little sense.	No sense of style whatsoever. Often sounds like nonsense.	

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