

TRANSLATING AN ARTICLE: First approach.

Read over the article. Analyze it from a grammatical point of view.

Highlight in different colors:

1. Verbs

2. Prepositions

3. Adjectives/adverbs and what they refer to (noun/verb)

4. Pronouns

1. Verbs

When you have identified a verb. Make a note of the tense, if it's active or passive; identify what subject/object the verb refers to; identify what is implied in the tense (what time it refers to, if it implies a permanent, general or habitual action or a temporary one, etc.)

2. prepositions

Once you have identified the prepositions, note down what category it refers to:

- a. place/motion
- b. Noun-adjective-verb specific
- c. Part of a phrasal verb

3. Adjectives/adverbs

Identify nouns and verbs and the words preceding them that act as adjectives and adverbs describing them.

- 4. And finally, note down what each pronoun refers to and if it is a subject pronoun, object pronoun or possessive pronoun:

Subject pronouns:

I

You

He

She

It

Object pronouns:

me

you

him

her

it

Possessive pronouns:

mine

yours

his

hers

its

We	us	ours
You	you	yours
They	them	theirs

ADJECTIVE POSITION:

1. Opinion adjectives are placed before fact adjectives
2. Fact adjectives are put in this order:

How big? How old? What colour? Where from? What is it made of? (nouns describing other nouns are always placed directly before the noun it is describing)
NOUN

(NOTE the difference: A plastic bottle – a bottle made out of plastic, but a water bottle- a bottle used for containing water in (A bottle of water – a bottle filled with water).

When translating, the question to ask yourself constantly is “what does this refer to?” (verb, adjective/adjective, pronoun, preposition, etc.)

Remember: Everything that comes before a noun describes that noun.

NOTE: Use this same method with any article or text you are translating.