# TRANSLATION GRADING GUIDELINES FOR WIP TA

(rev. Feb 9, 2006)

*Literal translations:*

1. email me your own literal translation, with variants, and await my reply before beginning to grade
2. circle words, portions of words (e.g., the "s" in "books," if it should be singular), phrases that are incorrect
3. circle and comment on items with errors of capitalization, punctuation, spelling, etc. (e.g., circle "Ceasar" and write "sp.")
4. add comments like "sentence fragment," "subject-verb agreement," etc., and any other helpful comments–but never write in the actual correct translation
5. comment if students fail to TYPE or DOUBLE-SPACE
6. comment if they fail to use LATIN FIRST NAME plus ENGLISH LAST NAME
7. write S(atisfactory) on papers with 20 or fewer errors (including errors of spelling and such mechanics as capitalization and punctuation); write U(nsatisfactory) on papers with more than 20 errors. Add smiley faces, positive remarks, etc.
8. write all comments, scores, etc., legibly and using red or green ink
9. return to me as quickly as possible without sacrificing accuracy, along with roll page marked with S, U, or O (if not turned in)

*Literary translations:*

1. MISTRANSLATIONS: circle words, portions of words (e.g., the "s" in "books," if it should be singular), phrases that are incorrect and add clarifying comments and corrections, e.g., "watch the verb tenses," "the emphatic repetition in the original should be reproduced in your translation," etc., ; each such error is -1
   > REMEMBER: these versions should employ more idiomatic, polished English that is faithful to the literal sense and content of the Latin original but which also conveys, where possible, the tone and spirit and sometimes even the style of the original; they must employ grammatically correct English, proper punctuation and capitalization, etc. As you evaluate and comment on these versions, compare them with the original literal version, and if student did not attend to your earlier corrections, ad a note "pay closer attention to feedback given on your literal version." Allow flexibility and some interpretive creativity but not the inclusion of ideas/elements not even IMPLIED in the original; watch also for OMITTED words. IGNORE THE DISCUSSIONS: I'll do them
2. OMISSIONS: write in any Latin word(s) not translated with a question mark, e.g., **autem?**; each such omission is -1.
3. MECHANICS: circle and comment on items with errors of capitalization, punctuation, spelling, etc. (e.g., circle "Ceasar" and write "sp."); each error is -1
4. MAJOR STYLISTIC ERRORS: add comments like "sentence fragment," "subject-verb agreement," etc.; each error is -1
5. TOTAL CONTENT ERRORS: count each error marked under categories 1-4 above as -1 and write total number of minus points in margin to left of the translation
6. TYPING/DOUBLE-SPACING: if not typed and/or double-spaced, write "not typed: -2" and/or "not double-spaced: -2" at bottom of page
7. LITERAL TRANSLATION: if this is not attached, write "no literal translation: -4" at bottom of page
8. TOTAL TRANSLATION SCORE: write TOTAL number of minus points (categories 1-7) in top margin of paper
9. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: these count 10% of the grade and are read/scored by Dr. LaFleur
10. OVERALL GRADE: Dr. LaFleur assigns the final grades, based on the usual 10-point grading scale, i.e., 90-100 (0-10 errors) = A, 80-89 (11-20 errors) = B, etc.
11. NAME: comment if they fail to use LATIN FIRST NAME plus ENGLISH LAST NAME.
12. Always add a general comment or two PLUS some encouraging words, smiley faces + OPTIME for especially good papers (especially those with 5 or fewer errors), etc.
13. write all comments, scores, etc., legibly and using red or green ink
14. return to me as quickly as possible without sacrificing accuracy in grading
15. put what you regard as the best 3 papers on TOP of the returned stack