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Political Texts

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Political Texts 3.3+4

AYDI 2022/ T2

LECTURE NO. 3

11.12.2021

HELLO EVERYONE!

You have to know how to do manipulation in translation.
You have to forget about the old way of school and how you used to learn by heart. You have to analyze and research.

أول مهمة للمترجم أن يترجم من العربية إلى العربية أولاً، أي أن يفهم النص فهناك كلمات لا تستخدم كثيراً في العربية أو هناك كلمات تخصصية

You have to learn how to make the translated text in a good structure in the target language. If I give you now a text, what is the biggest hurdle in it? I would give you all the new terms, but the biggest and hardest task is to put the translation in a good structure.

في الامتحان سارفع نسبة ماسياتيكم مما اعطيتمكم هنا حتى اربعين في المئة.

Some people do not even know how to write Arabic. How can I let them pass my exam? Imagine I let some people who are bad either in Arabic or in English pass it, I would be making future teachers who would be teaching my children and yours; so no, it is a big trust for me to make you be better in both languages.

يظن الطالب أنه رسب في فصل من الفصول يعني أن الدنيا خربت بالنسبة له. لم نكن لنعرف النهار لولا الليل، لذا على كل شخص منا أن يكسب خبرة أكبر وأن يقوي نفسه ويتدرب أكثر، فعلياً أن نتعلم كيف نكتشف نقاط ضعفنا

- Hurdle عقبة

Do not rely on luck; depend on practicing translating. Maybe some of you do not want translation as a hobby, but as a profession; it is for some people a huge source to earn money. For me as a professor, I would not care about this job of a professor if I were not one who believe in my country; that is why I want the job of a professor.

Translation is a real profession, and it is a big source for making money; even some students make great amounts of money because of translation. Now Syria is now in a crisis. But before you used to talk to a translator as if you were talking to a businessman. So it is not easy to think you would become a respectable translator just like that.

Now we are going to have a political text; I care more about the structure, and how you formulate a sentence. Particularly when you are

translating a text, this is the biggest obstacle for you. Just try to do your best. You have to understand the Arabic text first and then to initiate your translation process. You have to make a first draft first. What does this mean? It means you have to put your first draft of translation on a paper. Do not trust your memory. Because when you put the translation on a paper, you would find it in front of you ready, instead of trying to get it out when you really need it, and it would be so difficult to do that when you most need it. so it is better to write everything down on a paper.

Then you need a second draft. The second draft means you have to read the Arabic text, and then to go and read the first draft again; you would find how inappropriate some elements of the translation would be. Here you would initiate your thinking, and you would make a comparison between the source text and the target text.

Finally you need to make a final reading. Here the quality of the translation would appear.

You will have two hours in your exam.

التنازل عن الحقوق المشروعة تحت غطاء المرونة

١. حاولت إسرائيل بمساندة الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية - في أعقاب فشل كامب ديفيد - إيهام العالم كذباً وتضليلاً بأن الفلسطينيين بقيادة عرفات أضعوا فرصة توقيع اتفاق سلام في قمة كامب ديفيد. وفي الأيام الأخيرة عاد باراك لترديد أكذوبة ذاتها مشيراً إلى أن عدم مرونة عرفات هي التي تعرقل التوصل إلى تسوية للصراع الفلسطيني الإسرائيلي.
٢. لقد كان التحيز الأمريكي لإسرائيل ظاهراً ومفضوحاً في سياق التصريحات التي أدلى بها كلينتون بعد رفض عرفات للضغوط الأمريكية للقبول بوجهة النظر الإسرائيلية.
٣. وبسبب المساندة المصرية السعودية للموقف الفلسطيني في رفض التنازل عن الحقوق العربية والإسلامية في القدس الشرقية فقد جرى التنسيق مع بعض الأجهزة الأمريكية وبعض الأقلام العميلة في الصحف الأمريكية ذات التوجهات الصهيونية كي يشمل تهجمهم على الفلسطينيين كلاً من القاهرة والرياض.
٤. اتهمت هذه الأقلام القيادات المصرية والسعودية بتحريض الفلسطينيين على عدم المرونة والذي يعني بالنسبة لهم عدم التنازل الإسرائيلي عن السيادة الكاملة على القدس الشرقية بما يلغي قرارات الشرعية الدولية باعتبارها أرضاً محتلة تم الاستيلاء

We were working on this text.

We stopped at this sentence in this text.

وبسبب المساندة المصرية السعودية للموقف الفلسطيني في رفض التنازل عن الحقوق العربية والاسلامية في القدس الشرقية فقد جرى التنسيق مع بعض الاجهزة الامريكية وبعض الأعلام العميلة في الصحف الأمريكية ذات التوجهات الصهيونية كي يشمل تهمهم على الفلسطينيين كلاً من القاهرة والرياض.

Now the first part:

وبسبب المساندة المصرية السعودية للموقف الفلسطيني في رفض التنازل عن الحقوق العربية والاسلامية في القدس الشرقية

How do I translate عميلة here?

Student: Agent.

Professor: Possible.

Student: I heard the word *puppet* from the Guardian.

Professor: yes it could be used.

You should not follow a literal approach to the text. You should have a kind of logic. You have to manipulate to find the best choice. You can use here (dishonest). When you are sitting in the booth as an interpreter, then you can resort to any choice that comes up in your mind.

Student: unfair.

Professor: No.

Let us look into your friend's translation.

Student:

Because of Saudi-Egyptian support of the Palestinian position to refuse concession of the Arabic-Islamic rights in Eastern Jerusalem.

Professor: This is a deadly mistake here. This is not a sentence. Where is the sentence? This structure here is mistaken.

We return to basic rules of how to make a sentence. A sentence begins with a capital letter and end with a full stop. It carries the meaning. Here the meaning is not complete. I told you that the punctuation marks in English play a role in conveying the meaning. Here we need to add a comma.

Now the word التنازل:

Student: Concession.

Professor: Concession. You need to add a verb here.

Student: Giving up.

Professor: there are other choices.

Now your friend used (because of) in the beginning. What else can we use here?

Student: As a result of.

Professor: Yes.

Student: Due to.

Professor: Due to. These are three possible choices to start the sentence.

Student: Can't we start with the second part of the sentence and then say (because of...)?

Professor: No you can't! This is an argumentative text here. If you play with the word order, the reader will be lost. The stress is on the beginning of the sentence.

Notice also that you need the here:

Because of the Saudi-Egyptian support of the Palestinian position

Student: Can we say here (Palestinian issue)?

Professor: it is here الموقف الفلسطيني not القضية الفلسطينية. How do we translate رفض?

Student: Refuse.

Professor: Ok. Possible!

Student: Reject.

Professor: Also possible.

But what is the difference between *reject* and *refuse*? Are they synonyms or is there a difference?

- I was rejected

- I was refused.

عندما تقدم على وظيفة ويتم رفضك، تقول حينها:

- I was refused.

ولكن عندما تتقدم لخطبة صبية مثلا ويتم رفضك تقول حينها:

- Her family rejected me.

So research the difference between these two verbs.

Now التنازل عن الحقوق. You might try to come up with another alternative if you do not know about the exact term. There is a political term for this in fact; it is (Relinquish his right.)

What about الحقوق الاسلامية العربية?

Student: Arab-Islamic rights.

Professor: Ok.

Student: Arabic-Islamic rights.

Professor: No.

What is the difference between *Arabic* and *Arab*? Both of them are adjectives.

Student: Arabic refer to people?

Professor: No.

If you want to say:

أنا مواطن عربي.

Relinquish his right التنازل عن الحقوق.

Student: Arabian.

Professor: No.

- I am an Arab citizen. أنا مواطن عربي

Arabic is when u only refer to the language.

- I speak Arabic

- I am an Arab citizen

- I am living in an Arab country.

This is one of the common mistakes. Even some English people do not realize the difference between these two.

Student: What about *Arabian*?

Professor: This is a special term. For example:

- The Arabian Nights.

- Arabian coffee (لتمييزها عن القهوة التركية).

When you go to Europe, you might want to drink coffee, you would not find دولة there. They do not have this there. Even لبننة you would not find it there. Yes you have yoghurt. So you need to know the difference and that there is no such things there.

Now the next part:

فقد جرى التنسيق مع بعض الاجهزة الامريكية وبعض الاقلام العميلة في الصحف الامريكية ذات التوجهات الصهيونية كي يشمل تهجمهم على الفلسطينيين كل من القاهرة والرياض.

What is التنسيق?

Student: Coordination.

Professor: Yes.

Student: Coordination has been done...

In terms of translation, this structure here gives, not only a passive

meaning, but also a sense of continuity, is the coordination still going on or what? if I know that this coordination is still happening, then I use "has been" here; you have to have a background; you can know through the text itself.

Student: Coordination has happened

Professor: Ok.

Student: has been done?

Professor: Yes possible.

Student: *Coordination has been done with some of the American agencies and some dishonest writers in some pro-Zionist American newspapers to cover the assault on Palestine...*

Student: Can we say (agenda)?

Professor: No. agenda is جدول الأعمال.

Student: Services.

Professor: No. You should say *the American agencies*

Student: apparatus.

Professor: Apparatus is الجهاز الاستخباراتي. However, agencies is a more general word; even the American apparatus comes under the American agencies.

Student: Do we capitalize the word (American)?

Professor: Of course! You capitalize all the names of cities and proper names also.

Now الناهضة للصهيونية is American newspapers. And الصحيفة الأمريكية is what? We can say: Pro-Zionism or pro-Zionist.

We have:

- المؤيد is pro-
- مناهض is anti-

We can say,

Coordination was done with some of the American agencies and some dishonest writers in some pro-Zionist American newspapers so that their assault on Palestinians will include both Cairo and Riyadh

Student: Their assault against?

Professor: No. Their assault *on*.

We write the word (الرياض) with an *h* at the end.

- الرياض Riyadh

By the way, pay attention to some very common spelling mistakes

many students make:

- Two اثتان
- Tow (الشاحنة تقطر سيارة) يقطر

Also:

- There هناك
- Their الملكية

- Dishonest/puppet عميلة
- Writers أقلام
- Concession تنازل
- Due to/because of/as a result of بسبب
- Palestinian cause القضية الفلسطينية
- Arab-Islamic rights. الحقوق الاسلامية العربية
- Agenda جدول أعمال
- the American apparatus الجهاز الاستخباراتي الامريكي
- the American agencies
- pro-Zionist/ pro-Zionism ذو توجهات صهيونية
- Riyadh الرياض

Now the next paragraph:

اتهمت هذه الأقلام القيادات المصرية والسعودية بتحريض الفلسطينيين على عدم المرونة والذي يعني بالنسبة لهم عدم التنازل الإسرائيلي عن السيادة الكاملة على القدس الشرقية بما يلغي قرارات الشرعية الدولية باعتبارها أرضاً محتلة تم الاستيلاء عليها في حرب ١٩٦٧.

Student:

These puppet writers accused Saudi and Egyptian authorities in agitating Palestinians on inflexibility which means to them no concession of complete sovereignty over East Jerusalem to Israel which will nullify international legitimacy resolutions that considered it an occupied land that was seized in the war of 1967

Student: There are too many ("which's") here.

Professor: ما بيهم، المهم تركيب الجمل يكون صحيح.

First, اتهم ب means (accuse of).

Now التحريض here, you translated it as *agitating*. What other choices can we think of?

Student: instigating

Professor: Possible.

Student: Provoking.

Professor: Yes but there is a higher register word. It is inciting.
How can we translate:

Student: too inflexibility.

Professor: No.

You as translators, you have the choice to make additions, to make additions, or substitutions.

Student: Lack of flexibility.

Professor: Ok. We can simply say:

These puppet writers accused Saudi and Egyptian authorities of inciting Palestinians to be inflexible ...

Student:

The use of (which) after the word (Israel) is wrong.

Professor: Yes. So it is better to start a new sentence after "Israel".

Now قرارات الشرعية الدولية is *International legitimacy resolutions*

Student: Can we say *decisions*?

Professor: Here no.

- Decision على صعيد دولة واحدة
- Resolution على صعيد منظمة دولية مثل مجل الأمن الدولي

Also (that considered it an occupied) here, what does this sentence refer to? You need to read carefully.

...International legitimacy resolutions which consider it an occupied land captured in war of 1967.

Student: Can we say *1967 war*?

Professor: Yes.

Pay attention to the days and months.

يعني لو جاء في النص الانكليزي كانون الاول انتبهوا الا تترجموه الى شهر آخر او مثلا يوم الاثنين قد تترجموه احيانا ليوم آخر.

You have to know the months and the days, even if it is a very simple thing; you are not going to pass my exam if you do not pay attention to these things.

Student: Can we say ديسمبر for 'December'?

Professor: No. I would not accept that in the exam. Look everyone, it is not just that I would not accept the month translations from you like

that, no; in a company, you have to use the standard way of saying the month.

في العالم العربي هناك تسميات عديدة للأشهر، سواء في ليبيا أو في مصر أو في سوريا

So stick to the standard way and the most common way of naming moths. For example: تشرين الأول for December, etc.

- Authorities السلطات
- Accuse of اتهم ب
- Incite يحرض
- Inflexibility عدم المرونة
- International legitimacy resolutions قرارات الشرعية الدولية

Now let us translate the title of the text.

التنازل عن الحقوق المشروعة تحت غطاء المرونة

The title simply can be:

Relinquish legitimate rights under flexibility

Notice that *under* here would be تحت غطاء. So here you might make an addition to make it more understood.

The titles and capitalization:

1. The first word is all capitalized only
2. The initial letters of each word is capitalized.
3. Or all the title and all the letters are capitalized.

About capitalization in general. When you see it in normal writing, not titles. For example, if you are doing something annoying, the first time I would tell you:

- Don't do that again.

But you did that annoying thing again. So I tell you the second time

- Don't do that again.

But you still did it for the third time. So here I tell you:

- DON'T DO THAT AGAIN!

So this kind of capitalization in the title is to catch the attention of the reader. It is to tell the reader that this is a flashy title, an urgent title.

تروون مثل هذا في الأخبار العاجلة، مثلا انفجار بركان في أيسلندا

You would see all the title capitalized and it would be flashy.

Write down the following text please:

تتزامن الذكرى الثالثة والسبعون لنكبة فلسطين وتشريد أهلها مع صلوات العرب
والمسلمين في أيام عيد الفطر لتذكر العالم من أقصاه إلى أقصاه أن عروبة فلسطين
وحقوق شعبها متجذرة في عقول وقلوب الفلسطينيين والعرب، وأن الصراع العربي
الإسرائيلي هو صراع مستمر إلى أن تتم عودة أهل فلسطين إلى ديارهم.

Who would like to start?

Student:

*The seventy-third anniversary of Nakba and the displacement of the
Palestinian people coincided with the Arabs and Muslims prayer on Eid
Al-Fitr days to remind the whole world that the Arabness of Palestine and
the rights of its people is rooted in the conscience of the Palestinian people
and the Arabs*

Professor: Why did you use the past simple? You should use the
present simple here.

Student: coincide.

Professor: We are here talking about one ذكرى not two. Pay attention!
This text has booby traps. Booby traps means مفخخات.

Student: Can we say comes for تتزامن?

Professor: No, it is here تتزامن. Something comes at the same time as
something else.

Student: Synchronize.

Professor: No.

Student: Is parallel with.

Professor: No. "Is parallel with" means تتوازي مع.

- Annual anniversary ذكري سنوية
- Parallel موازي
- Booby trap مفخخة

Thank You

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LECTURE NO. 4

18.12.2021

HELLO EVERYONE!

Again, your biggest problem is in structuring the translation.

You will have a similar text in the exam like what we are having in the lectures; you need to know how to translate it well.

As I told you before, this is an accumulation of experience. The translator needs to store more and more experience and more information; I advise you to do that.

If you read translated texts, you will not get much benefit; you need to translate by your own self.

We are going to continue with another text.

بيان الاتحاد البرلماني العربي في الذكرى الثالثة والسبعين لنكبة فلسطين
تتزامن الذكرى الثالثة والسبعون لنكبة فلسطين وتشريد أهلها مع صلوات العرب
والمسلمين في أيام عيد الفطر لتذكر العالم من أقصاه إلى أقصاه أن عروبة فلسطين
وحقوق شعبها متجذرة في عقول وقلوب الفلسطينيين والعرب، وأن الصراع العربي
الإسرائيلي هو صراع مستمر إلى أن تتم عودة أهل فلسطين إلى ديارهم.
وبحلول هذه الذكرى المؤلمة، فإن الاتحاد البرلماني العربي، وإذ يستذكر التاريخ
النضالي المشرف لشعب فلسطين المقاوم والصامد في وجه ممارسات الاحتلال، فإنه
يدرك أنه لا أمن ولا سلام ولا استقرار من دون إلزام إسرائيل بتطبيق الشرعية الدولية
ذات الصلة بقضية فلسطين وبشعبها الجريح، مؤكداً أن عيش إسرائيل نفسها في سلام
مرهون بتحقيق حل الدولتين - إسرائيل وفلسطين - تعيشان جنباً إلى جنب بسلام وأمن
ضمن حدود معترف بها على أساس حدود ما قبل الرابع من يونيو ١٩٦٧.
كما أن الاتحاد، وإذ يطالب ويناشد الأشقاء الفلسطينيين لحل الخلافات بينهم
وتوحيد الصفوف بين مختلف الفصائل الفلسطينية، وبين أطراف الشعب الفلسطيني في
ظل حكومة وطنية فلسطينية واحدة قادرة على مواجهة جميع المخططات التهودية
والمشاريع الاستيطانية التوسعية، فإن الاتحاد يدعو الأسرة الدولية ومجلس الأمن الدولي
لاتخاذ جميع الإجراءات الكفيلة بضمان امتثال إسرائيل للمواثيق والقرارات الدولية، التي
تطالب برفع الظلم عن الشعب الفلسطيني، ويجدد الاتحاد موقفه الثابت والمستمر

الداعم للقضية الفلسطينية، ولحقوق شعبها في الحياة على أرضه بالعزة والكرامة، وفي ظل دولتهم المستقلة ذات السيادة.

Now the first paragraph:

تتزامن الذكرى الثالثة والسبعون لنكبة فلسطين وتشريد أهلها مع صلوات العرب والمسلمين في أيام عيد الفطر لتذكر العالم من أقصاه إلى أقصاه أن عروبة فلسطين وحقوق شعبها متجذرة في عقول وقلوب الفلسطينيين والعرب، وأن الصراع العربي الإسرائيلي هو صراع مستمر إلى أن تتم عودة أهل فلسطين إلى ديارهم.

Let us begin.

Student:

The seventy-third anniversary of the Nakba of Palestine and the displacement of its people coincides with the Arab and Muslim prayers on Eid Al-Fitr days to remind the world from the East to the West that the Arabism of Palestine and its people's rights are deeply rooted in the minds and hearts of the Arabs and Palestinians and that the Arab-Israeli conflict is continuing until the return of the people of Palestine to their home.

Professor: let us listen to another one. Such a translation is passable for me. The structure is good. As long as your structure is good and the subject-verb agreement is correct, your translation is ok.

Student:

This Nakba is a reminder to the whole world from the East to the West that Palestine's Arabism and its nation's rights are rooted in the hearts and minds of Arabs and Palestinians because, moreover, the Arab-Israeli conflict is ongoing until the Palestinians return to their home.

Professor: Ok.

(Coincides) is better than (is a reminder).

You should say *Palestinians* without *the*. Use the word here as a concept.

I again stress the strategy of writing a first draft. You have to give your first translation; this is what a professional translator does. Now here we are making a second draft for your friends' translations. We should re-read our first draft and check if it is ok or not; does it have any problems? Does it ring a bell in my mind? Then I make my second draft. Here the translation would be perfect.

The translation would be:

The seventy-third anniversary of the Nakba of Palestine and the displacement of its people, coincides with the prayers of Arabs and

Muslims on the days of Eid Al-Fitr, to remind the entire world that the Arabism of Palestine and the rights of its people are deeply rooted in the minds and hearts of Palestinians and Arabs, and that the Arab-Israeli conflict is an ongoing one until the people of Palestine return to their homes.

- Coincide يتزامن
- Prayers صلوات
- Anniversary ذكرى
- Rooted متجذر
- Homeland وطن

Now the next paragraph:

ويطول هذه الذكرى المؤلمة، فإن الاتحاد البرلماني العربي، وإذ يستذكر التاريخ النضالي المشرف لشعب فلسطين المقاوم والصامد في وجه ممارسات الاحتلال، فإنه يدرك أنه لا أمن ولا سلام ولا استقرار من دون إلزام إسرائيل بتطبيق الشرعية الدولية ذات الصلة بقضية فلسطين وبشعبها الجريح، مؤكداً أن عيش إسرائيل نفسها في سلام مرهون بتحقيق حل الدولتين - إسرائيل وفلسطين - تعيشان جنباً إلى جنب بسلام وأمن ضمن حدود معترف بها على أساس حدود ما قبل الرابع من يونيو ١٩٦٧.

Student:

...and this painful anniversary came as the union parliamentary Arabian recalls the honorable struggle history of the steadfast and steady Palestinian people against the occupation and it realizes that there will be no security, peace of stability without forcing Israel to apply the resolutions which is connected to the Palestinian issue....

"...the international legitimacy resolutions which is connected..."

Professor: It is a literal translation to say "This painful anniversary came".

Student: Can we start by "By the time of this painful anniversary"?

Professor: It is much better to start with "by the time."

You do not need the 'and' at the beginning of the paragraph. Arabic and English are totally different languages; each one has its own rules. Punctuation in English is very vital and it conveys much of the meaning.

In Arabic also, we have a lot of و between sentences. In English, 'and' is very rarely used to start a paragraph. It looks odd.

Student: If I have a lot of إن, can we replace some of them with commas?

Professor: You need to give me the sentence you are talking about, so I can give you a definite answer; however, I remind you again that the

standard comma structure in English is "A, B and C." this structure can have more items.

Also you started the paragraph with a small letter. You should start each new sentence after the full stop with a capital letter.

What is 'the union parliamentary Arabian'? This is a wrong term here. It is: *Arab Inter-parliamentary Union* اتحاد البرلمان العربي

I want you to notice the structure of the original text.

We have the beginning of the paragraph:

بحلول هذه الذكرى المؤلمة فإن الاتحاد البرلماني العربي...

Then:

فإنه يدرك...

So everything after that beginning and before فإنه يدرك is all like a parenthetical sentence جملة اعتراضية. All what is between is inserted.

You have a very deadly grammar mistake also. You said:

"...the international legitimacy resolutions which is connected..."

The subject here is plural. Focus on the tense of the verb and to definite and indefinite cases, in addition to singular and plural. I always repeat these notes.

Now في مواجهة, we can say 'in the face of.'

Student: Can we say 'confront'?

Professor: Yes, sure. Look, your problem is not in vocabulary; it is in how you structure your translation. You have to notice the parenthetical sentences and to pay attention to them, and to the grammatical and punctuation mistakes.

Notice also your friend said:

"that there will be no stability..."

Here the meaning is future. But I might also make it seem as a fact and use the present simple. So instead, I can say "there is no..."

And I can repeat "no" here. This is called a functional repetition. تكرار وطني. This is to add more emphasis.

The translation might be:

By the time of this painful anniversary, the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union, while recalling the honourable history of struggle of the Palestine people, who are resistant and steadfast in the face of occupation practices, it recognizes that there is no security, no peace and no stability without forcing Israel to implement international legitimacy resolutions related to the issue of Palestine and its wounded people, stressing that the existence of Israel itself in peace is contingent on the achievement of

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the two-state solution - Israel and Palestine - living side by side in peace and security within borders recognized on the basis of the pre-June 4,1967 borders.

- resistant مقاوم
- steadfast صامد
- practices ممارسات
- security أمن
- peace سلام
- stability استقرار
- implement تطبيق
- international legitimacy resolutions قرارات الشرعية الدولية
- is contingent on مرهون ب
- wounded جريح

Just try to pay attention to the parenthetical sentences.

Thank You

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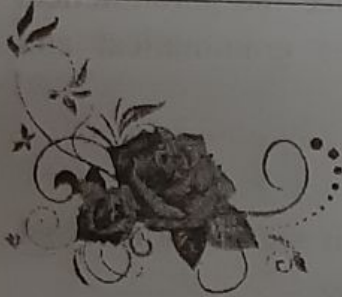


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