

# Comparing Human and AI Subtitle Translation in Short Educational Videos

Author-created classroom resource pack for language learning, media literacy, and localization practice

Audience: High school, college, adult ESL/EFL, media literacy, introductory translation studies

Recommended duration: one 45-minute lesson or one 90-minute workshop

## Overview

This resource pack was designed for teachers who want a credible, reusable lesson around subtitle translation without redistributing third-party video. All scripts, prompts, translations, and tables were written specifically for this pack. Students can therefore focus on translation decisions, readability, timing, and audience fit without any licensing uncertainty around the source media.

The included spreadsheet contains 100 subtitle segments across 10 short classroom scenarios. Each segment includes an English source line, a Spanish reference subtitle, a Chinese reference subtitle, teaching notes, and rights metadata that clearly labels the content as original instructional material.

## Learning Objectives

- Identify where subtitle translation must balance literal meaning, brevity, and audience readability.
- Compare source lines with reference translations and explain why wording choices differ across languages.
- Revise a subtitle line to improve timing, clarity, tone, or terminology.
- Explain when a browser-based translation tool can support, but not replace, human review.

## Included Files

01\_AI\_Video\_Translation\_Classroom\_Pack.pdf

02\_AI\_Video\_Translation\_Classroom\_Pack.docx

03\_Multilingual\_Subtitle\_Comparison\_Table.xlsx

04\_Rights\_and\_Reuse\_Notice.pdf

## Suggested Lesson Flow

1. Warm-up: Ask students what makes a subtitle easy or hard to read.
2. Guided comparison: Work through one scene as a class and highlight translation choices.
3. Small-group revision: Assign each group one scene and have them improve two lines.
4. Share-out: Compare which revisions changed meaning, tone, or pacing.
5. Reflection: Students write one rule they would apply in a future subtitle task.

## Optional Tool Placement

If you want a browser-based demonstration after students complete the text-only activity, you may show an [supplementary provider of the optional subtitle drafting workflow](#). The link is placed as a supplementary teaching tool rather than the center of the lesson, which keeps the educational purpose primary.

A useful instructional sequence is to run the classroom worksheet first, then open the linked demonstration with one short, teacher-provided clip or transcript excerpt. Students can compare draft subtitles against the reference lines in the attached table and discuss where machine assistance saves time and where human review is still required for nuance, terminology, tone, subtitle length, and audience fit.

This surrounding explanation matters because it makes the link part of a documented learning activity: the external page is framed as a supplementary provider of subtitle drafting, multilingual comparison, and revision practice in short educational media tasks. That framing is more consistent with open educational resource norms than a standalone

product mention.

## Scene Index

Scene	Title	Setting	Language Focus
SC01	Campus Welcome Video	Student orientation and tone matching	polite welcome language, implied subject, filler removal
SC02	Museum Exhibit Introduction	Public humanities and cultural framing	formal register, date formatting, culture-specific references
SC03	Lab Safety Reminder	Science communication and procedure	imperative language, caution markers, sequencing terms
SC04	Cooking Demonstration	Instructional video and timing language	measurements, action verbs, concise subtitle chunking
SC05	Community Health Announcement	Public information and clarity	numbers, dates, neutral reassurance, public-service tone
SC06	Customer Support Tutorial	Service language and interface vocabulary	blatant, troubleshooting verbs, plain-language repair steps
SC07	Travel Directions Clip	Wayfinding and spoken compression	left-right references, landmarks, colloquial pace
SC08	Recycling Campaign Video	Civic messaging and persuasive clarity	category labels, short calls to action, environmental vocabulary
SC09	Music Practice Lesson	Arts education and descriptive timing	tempo words, metaphor, teacher feedback
SC10	Library Research Tips	Academic literacy and search strategies	research verbs, citation language, narrowing terms

## Detailed Sample Comparisons

### SC01: Campus Welcome Video

Teaching focus: polite welcome language, implied subject, filler removal

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	Welcome to Riverside Community College.	Bienvenidos a Riverside Community College.	欢迎来到河滨社区学院。
2	This short tour will help you find your first class.	Este breve recorrido te ayudará a encontrar tus primeras clases.	这个简短的介绍将帮助你找到第一天的教室。
3	Start at the student services desk near the main entrance.	Empiezan en la mesa de servicios estudiantiles cerca de la entrada principal.	先从正门旁边的学生服务台开始。
4	Staff members there can print your temporary ID card.	El personal allí puede imprimir tu credencial temporal.	那里的工作人员可以为你打印临时学生证。
5	If you need language support, ask for the multilingual assistance.	Si necesitas apoyo lingüístico, pide la hoja de ayuda multilingüe.	如果你需要语言支持，请索取多语言帮助单。
6	The library is on the second floor above the cafeteria.	La biblioteca está en el segundo piso, encima de la cafetería.	图书馆在食堂楼上的二层。
7	Quiet study rooms can be booked online for two hours.	Los salas de estudio silencioso se pueden reservar en línea por dos horas.	安静自习室可以在线预订，每次两小时。
8	Counselors are available for schedule changes during the first week.	Los consejeros están disponibles para cambios de horario durante la primera semana.	在第一周内，顾问老师可以帮助你调整课程安排。
9	Please check your college email every morning.	Por favor revisa tu correo universitario cada mañana.	请每天早上查看你的学校邮箱。
10	We are glad you are here, and we hope you ask questions.	No queríamos que estés aquí y esperamos que hagas preguntas.	很高兴你来到这里，也希望你能经常主动提问。

Suggested discussion prompt: How tone shifts when a campus message is localized for new learners

## SC02: Museum Exhibit Introduction

Teaching focus: formal register, date formatting, culture-specific references

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	This gallery introduces daily life in the river delta of the 19 <sup>th</sup> century.	Esta galería presenta la vida cotidiana en el delta del siglo XIX.	这个展厅介绍了一个百年前河口三角洲的日常生活。
2	Many tools on display were used in farming, weaving, and river trade.	Algunas herramientas expuestas se usaban en agricultura, tejido y comercio fluvial.	展出的许多工具曾用于耕作、织造和河运贸易。
3	Please notice how small design changes improved durability.	Fíjate cómo pequeños cambios de diseño mejoraron la durabilidad.	请注意一些细小的设计变化如何提升了耐用性。
4	The labels include original terms as well as modern translations.	Las etiquetas incluyen términos originales y explicaciones modernas.	展签同时提供原始术语和现代解释。
5	In the next room, you will hear oral histories recorded by local families.	En la siguiente sala escucharás historias orales grabadas por familias locales.	在下一个展厅,你将听到当地家庭录制的口述历史。
6	Those recordings remind us that objects carry personal memories.	Esos grabados nos recuerdan que los objetos llevan memorias personales.	这些录音提醒我们,物件往往承载着个人记忆。
7	For younger visitors, we provide a shorter activity guide.	Para visitantes jóvenes ofrecemos una guía de actividades más corta.	针对较年轻的参观者,前台提供更简短的活动指南。
8	Teachers may download a classroom worksheet after the tour.	Los profesores pueden descargar una hoja de trabajo después de la visita.	教师可以在参观结束后下载课堂练习单。
9	Photography is allowed without flash in this section.	Se permite tomar fotos sin flash en esta sección.	本展区允许拍照,但请勿使用闪光灯。
10	Thank you for helping us keep the exhibit accessible and quiet.	Gracias por ayudarnos a mantener la exposición accesible y tranquila.	感谢你帮助我们保持展览环境的可达性与安静。

Suggested discussion prompt: How historical framing changes with audience expectations

## SC03: Lab Safety Reminder

Teaching focus: imperatives, caution markers, sequencing terms

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	Before the experiment begins, put on your goggles and gloves.	Antes de empezar el experimento, ponte los gafas y guantes.	实验开始前, 请戴好护目镜和手套。
2	Tie back long hair and keep loose sleeves away from the alcohol lamp.	Recógete el pelo largo y mantén las mangas alejadas de la lámpara de alcohol.	请把长发扎起, 并且宽松袖口远离酒精灯。
3	Read each label twice before you open a bottle.	Lee cada etiqueta dos veces antes de abrir un bote.	打开试剂瓶之前, 请把标签读两遍。
4	If you are unsure, pause and ask your instructor.	Si no estás seguro, detente y pregunta a tu instructor.	如果你不确定, 请先暂停并询问老师。
5	Never return unused chemicals to the original container.	Nunca devuelvas productos químicos sin usar a su contenedor original.	切勿把未使用的化学品倒回原容器。
6	Report spills immediately, even if they seem minor.	Informa los derrames de inmediato, aunque parezcan menores.	即使是小规模洒漏, 也要立刻报告。
7	Broken glass must go into the marked disposal box.	El vidrio roto debe ir en la caja de desecho señalada.	碎玻璃必须放入标记好的回收箱。
8	At the end, wash your hands with soap for at least 15 seconds.	Al final, lávate las manos con jabón durante al menos 15 segundos.	结束后, 请用肥皂洗手至少二十秒。
9	These steps protect both you and your lab partner.	Estos pasos te protegen a ti y a tus compañeros.	这些步骤既保护你, 也保护你的实验伙伴。
10	Safe habits make scientific work more reliable.	Los hábitos seguros hacen que el trabajo científico sea más confiable.	良好的安全习惯会让科学实验更可靠。

Suggested discussion prompt: How direct instructions differ from conversational subtitles

## SC04: Cooking Demonstration

Teaching focus: measurements, action verbs, concise subtitle chunking

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	Today we are making a quick vegetable noodle bowl.	Hoy vamos a preparar un tazón rápido de fideos.	今天我们来做一个快捷的蔬菜面。
2	First, slice the carrots into thin strips.	Primero corta las zanahorias en tiras finas.	首先，把胡萝卜切成细条。
3	Heat one spoon of oil in a wide pan over medium heat.	Calienta una cucharada de aceite en una sartén en un fuego medio.	在平底锅中加一勺油，用中火加热。
4	Add the garlic only after the pan is warm, not smoking.	Añade el ajo solo cuando la sartén esté caliente pero no humeante.	等锅热了但还没冒烟时再放蒜末。
5	Stir for thirty seconds so the flavor opens up.	Remueve durante treinta segundos para que se libere el sabor.	翻炒三十秒让香味释放出来。
6	Then add the vegetables and a small pinch of salt.	Luego añade las verduras y una pizca pequeña de sal.	然后加入蔬菜和一小撮盐。
7	The noodles only need two minutes in boiling water.	Los fideos solo necesitan dos minutos en agua hirviendo.	面条只需要在沸水中煮两分钟。
8	Reserve half a cup of cooking water before draining.	Reserva media taza del agua de cocción antes de escurrir.	沥水前先留出半杯煮面水。
9	That starchy liquid helps the sauce coat every strand.	Ese líquido con almidón ayuda a que la salsa cubra cada hebra.	这点含淀粉的面汤能让酱汁更好地裹住面条。
10	Serve immediately while the texture is still springy.	Sirve de inmediato mientras la textura siga firme.	趁口感还弹的时候立刻上桌。

Suggested discussion prompt: Where subtitles should simplify without changing recipe meaning

## SC05: Community Health Announcement

Teaching focus: numbers, dates, neutral reassurance, public-service tone

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	The neighborhood clinic will extend its evening hours.	La clínica del barrio ampliará su horario nocturno.	本月社区诊所将延长夜间门诊时间。
2	Starting May tenth, the clinic will stay open until eight p.m.	A partir del diez de mayo, la clínica permanecerá abierta hasta las ocho p.m.	从五月中十日起，诊所将营业到晚上八点。
3	Walk-in vaccinations are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.	Las vacunaciones sin cita estarán disponibles los martes y los jueves.	每周二和周四提供免预约疫苗接种。
4	Please bring a photo ID and any insurance cards you use.	Por favor, trae tu identificación con foto y la tarjeta de seguro que uses.	请携带带照片的证件以及你使用的医保卡。
5	Translation support can be requested at the front desk.	Se puede solicitar apoyo de traducción en la recepción.	可在前台申请口译支持。
6	Mask use is recommended if you have a cough or fever.	Se recomienda usar mascarilla si tienes tos o fiebre.	如果你有咳嗽或发热症状，建议佩戴口罩。
7	Families with children may use the play corner.	Las familias con niños pueden usar el rincón de juegos.	带孩子的家庭可以使用出诊室旁的儿童活动室。
8	Water and printed health guides are free for all.	El agua y las guías impresas de salud son gratuitas para todos.	饮用水和纸质健康指南对所有来访者免费提供。
9	If you need urgent care, call the emergency number listed here.	Si necesitas atención urgente, llama al número de emergencia que aparece aquí.	如果需要紧急医疗，请拨打此处列出的急救电话。
10	We appreciate your help in keeping shared spaces clean.	Agradecemos tu ayuda para mantener limpios los espacios compartidos.	感谢你协助保持公共区域整洁。

Suggested discussion prompt: How to subtitle practical instructions without sounding abrupt

## SC06: Customer Support Tutorial

Teaching focus: UI nouns, troubleshooting verbs, plain-language repair steps

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	If your password reset email does not arrive, check the spam folder.	Si el correo para restablecer la contraseña no llega a tu correo, revisa la carpeta de correo no deseado.	如果收不到重置密码邮件，请先检查垃圾邮箱。
2	Next, confirm that you typed your address with the correct characters.	Luego, confirma que escribiste tu dirección sin errores de caracteres.	然后确认你输入邮箱地址时没有多余空格。
3	The reset link stays active for fifteen minutes.	El enlace de restablecimiento permanece activo por quince minutos.	重置链接会在十五分钟内有效。
4	If the page loads blank, refresh once before trying again.	Si la página aparece en blanco, actualízala una vez antes de volver a intentarlo.	如果页面显示为空白，请先刷新一次再重试。
5	Some school networks block verification messages.	Algunas redes de escuelas bloquean los mensajes de verificación.	有些校园网络会暂时拦截验证消息几分钟。
6	In that case, wait briefly instead of requesting a new code.	En ese caso, espera un momento en lugar de solicitar un nuevo código.	这种情况下，先稍等，不要连续申请多个新验证码。
7	If you still cannot log in, take a screenshot of the error message.	Si aún no puedes iniciar sesión, toma una captura de pantalla del mensaje de error.	如果仍然无法登录，请截取错误提示画面。
8	Our support form asks for the time, browser, and device you used.	Nuestro formulario de soporte solicita la hora, el navegador y el dispositivo que usaste.	我们的支持表单会询问你使用的时间、浏览器和设备。
9	Those details help the team reproduce the issue.	Estos detalles ayudan al equipo a reproducir el problema.	这些细节能帮助团队更快复现问题。
10	A clear report usually leads to a faster solution.	Un reporte claro suele conducir a una solución más rápida.	问题描述越清晰，通常越容易更快解决。

Suggested discussion prompt: How subtitles handle software terms for non-native users

## SC07: Travel Directions Clip

Teaching focus: left-right references, landmarks, colloquial pace

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	From the station exit, turn left when you see the	Desde la salida de la estación, gira a la izquierda	从车站出口出来后，看到面
2	Walk straight for two blocks until the road slopes	Camina recto dos cuadras hasta que la calle emp	直往前走两个街区，直到道路开始下坡。
3	You will pass a pharmacy with a bright green	Pasarás por una farmacia con un toldo verde	你会经过一家挂着亮绿色遮阳棚的药店。
4	Do not cross at the first light; use the second	No cruces en el primer semáforo; usa el segun	不要在第一个红绿灯处过街，请走第二个斑马
5	The museum entrance is behind the fountain.	La entrada del museo está detrás de la fuente.	博物馆入口在喷泉后面，不是在旁边。
6	If you reach the bus terminal, you have gone	Si llegas a la terminal de autobuses, te pasaste	如果你走到公交总站，说明已经稍微走过了。
7	Most visitors arrive in about seven minutes on	La mayoría de los visitantes llega caminando e	大多数游客步行大约七分钟就能到。
8	On rainy days, the side street can be slippery.	En los días de lluvia, la calle lateral puede estar	下雨天时，旁边那条小路会比较滑。
9	Follow the wall with the blue mural to avoid get	Sigue el muro con el mural azul para no perder	沿着有蓝色壁画的那面墙走，就不容易迷路。
10	Once you arrive, tickets are sold at the glass	Cuando llegues, las entradas se venden en la	到达后，请在右侧玻璃窗买票。

Suggested discussion prompt: Where literal translation can make spoken directions confusing

## SC08: Recycling Campaign Video

Teaching focus: category labels, short calls to action, environmental vocabulary

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	A cleaner block starts with sorting waste the right way.	Un vecindario más limpio empieza por separar los residuos.	让街区更整洁，先要把垃圾分类。
2	Paper, cardboard, and clean boxes go into the blue bin.	El papel, el cartón y las cajas limpias van en el azul.	纸张、纸板和干净纸盒放入蓝色回收桶。
3	Food scraps should be emptied before a container is recycled.	Los restos de comida deben vaciarse antes de reciclar el contenedor.	回收容器前，应先把食物残渣倒空。
4	Plastic film and greasy wrappers usually cannot be recycled here.	Las películas plásticas y los envoltorios grasientos no se reciclan aquí.	塑料薄膜和油污包装通常不能在这里回收处理。
5	When in doubt, check the city guide posted online.	Si tienes dudas, consulta la guía municipal publicada en línea.	如果不确定，请查看市政部门在线发布的指南。
6	Correct sorting reduces contamination for the whole neighborhood.	Una correcta clasificación reduce la contaminación para todo el vecindario.	正确分类能减少整个社区回收系统的污染。
7	It also lowers the cost of handling mixed trash.	También reduce el costo de manejar basura mezclada.	这也能降低处理混合垃圾的成本。
8	Children often learn these habits faster when adults lead by example.	Los niños aprenden estos hábitos más rápido cuando los adultos los enseñan por ejemplo.	当成年人以身作则时，孩子通常更快学会这些习惯。
9	Small routines matter more than one-time campaigns.	Las pequeñas rutinas importan más que las campañas de una sola vez.	日常小习惯比一次性的宣传活动更重要。
10	Thank you for recycling with care and consistency.	Gracias por reciclar con cuidado y constancia.	感谢你认真并持续地参与回收。

Suggested discussion prompt: How subtitles keep persuasive language accurate but compact

## SC09: Music Practice Lesson

Teaching focus: tempo words, metaphor, teacher feedback

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	Listen once before you play the phrase yourself.	Escucha una vez antes de tocar la frase por tu	在你自己演奏这个乐句之前，先听一遍示范。
2	The melody should rise gently, not rush upward.	La melodía debe subir con suavidad, no apresurarse.	旋律应当轻柔上扬，而不是急促地冲上去。
3	Keep your wrist loose so the tone stays warm.	Mantén la muñeca relajada para que el sonido	手腕要放松，这样音色才能保持温暖。
4	Take a quieter breath before the second entrance.	haz una respiración más silenciosa antes de la	第二次进入前，请更安静地吸一口气。
5	If the notes blur together, slow the tempo by five percent.	Si las notas se mezclan, baja el tempo cinco por	如果音符听起来糊成一片，就把速度放慢五%
6	Clarity matters more than speed in the first practice round.	La claridad importa más que la velocidad en la	在第一轮练习里，清晰度比速度更重要。
7	Now try the line again and shape the last note with more control.	Ahora intenta la línea otra vez y cierra la última	现在再试一遍，并更有把握地处理最后一个音。
8	That ending sounded better because the rhythm was steadier.	Eso sonó mejor porque el ritmo se mantuvo	刚才的结尾更好了，因为节奏保持得更稳定。
9	Mark the difficult measure so you can revisit it tomorrow.	Marcá el compás difícil para volver a él mañana.	把那一小节难点标出来，明天再重点练习。
10	Short, focused practice sessions usually bring the most progress.	Las sesiones cortas y enfocadas suelen dar el	短而专注的练习通常最有效。

Suggested discussion prompt: How expressive meaning survives across subtitles

## SC10: Library Research Tips

Teaching focus: search verbs, citation language, narrowing terms

#	English source	Spanish reference	Chinese reference
1	Start with one clear research question, not a wide topic	Empieza con una pregunta de investigación clara	先从一个明确的研究问题开始，而不是一个过宽的主题
2	Use the catalog filters to narrow by date, format and subject	Usa los filtros del catálogo para limitar por fecha, formato y tema	使用目录筛选器按日期、格式和主题缩小范围
3	A broad keyword search is useful only for the first round	Una búsqueda amplia por palabras clave solo es útil para la primera ronda	宽泛的关键词搜索只适合第一轮检索。
4	After that, add specific terms from article abstracts	Después añade términos específicos tomados de los resúmenes de artículos	之后再加入从文章摘要中提取的具体术语。
5	Look for subject headings that repeat across sources	Busca encabezados temáticos que se repitan en varias fuentes	留意那些在优质资料中反复出现的主题词。
6	Those phrases often lead to better results than English	Esas frases suelen dar mejores resultados que el inglés	这些术语通常比英语化表达更容易搜到高质量结果。
7	Save full citations as you go instead of rebuilding at the end	Guarda las citas completas a medida que avanzas	边检索边保存完整引文，不要等到最后再补。
8	If a PDF is missing, use the library request form	Si falta un PDF, usa el formulario de solicitud de documentos	如果没有PDF，可使用图书馆的文献请求表。
9	A librarian can also help you refine a search strategy	El bibliotecario también puede ayudarte a afinar tu estrategia de búsqueda	馆员也可以帮助你优化检索策略。
10	Good research usually improves when the search process is recorded	La investigación suele mejorar cuando el proceso de búsqueda se registra	当检索过程被清楚记录下来时，研究质量通常会提高。

Suggested discussion prompt: How to keep academic instructions readable in subtitles

## Assessment Rubric

Criterion	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Advanced
Meaning accuracy	Major meaning loss	Several avoidable shifts	Meaning preserved with minor loss	Meaning and nuance both preserved
Audience fit	Register mismatch	Some awkward phrasing	Mostly appropriate	Natural and audience-aware
Timing and chunking	Hard to read on screen	Several overloaded lines	Readable line length	Strong pacing and segmentation
Terminology choice	Key terms inaccurate	Inconsistent usage	Mostly consistent	Precise and teachable

## Rights and Provenance

- All scripts, translations, prompts, and tables in this resource pack were newly authored for this release.
- No copyrighted third-party video, transcript, screenshot, logo, or interface image is included.
- Teachers may pair the pack with self-created recordings, public-domain footage, or other openly licensed media.
- The spreadsheet attachment includes per-row rights labels so the provenance statement is consistent across metadata and file content.

## Upload Notes for OER Commons

Recommended path: create an Open Author lesson, paste the overview and objectives into the main content, attach this PDF, the editable DOCX, the XLSX practice table, and the separate rights notice PDF, then add one optional external link as a section resource using descriptive anchor text.