



Khmer AI Translation Verification

Controlled Pilot QA Report

A human-led bilingual review of a raw AI-generated English-to-Khmer draft

Prepared by	Native Linguist Co., Ltd.
Source sample	Ready.gov, Build A Kit
Content type	Public emergency-preparedness information
Language direction	English to Khmer
Review date	July 26, 2026
Purpose	Demonstration of professional AI translation verification and linguistic QA

AI produced the initial draft. A qualified language professional remained responsible for source comparison, error identification, correction, terminology, and final quality decisions.

This controlled pilot uses public, nonconfidential content. It demonstrates a review method and is not an endorsement by Ready.gov or evidence that AI is appropriate for every translation project.

1. Executive Summary

Native Linguist reviewed a raw, one-pass AI-generated Khmer translation against the complete English source. The review assessed meaning, terminology, omissions, additions, names, numbers, register, fluency, consistency, and suitability for the intended public-information context.



Overall disposition

Human review was required before publication. The raw draft preserved the source structure and most meaning, but several terminology and accuracy problems affected emergency instructions, medication guidance, disinfection, eye-care supplies, and other public-facing details.

No critical error was assigned under this pilot’s public-information review framework. Severity would need to be reassessed for certified, legal, medical, confidential, or otherwise high-risk use.

What the pilot demonstrates

- Fluent Khmer output can still contain errors that are difficult to identify without complete source-to-target comparison.
- Automated checks can support review, but they do not independently determine whether meaning and terminology are appropriate.
- Qualified native-linguist judgment remains necessary for correction, contextual decisions, and accountable final approval.

Pilot limitations

- The sample used public content and contained no client or personal data.
- No client glossary, translation memory, or approved terminology list was supplied.
- The exact AI model label was not recorded, so this report evaluates the submitted output rather than comparing AI systems.
- This is a controlled demonstration, not a universal quality score for AI translation.

2. Human-Controlled Review Method

1	Project and risk assessment	Confirm content type, intended use, confidentiality, source completeness, and review requirements.
2	Segment alignment	Align all 44 English source segments with the corresponding Khmer draft without altering the raw output.
3	Automated and structural checks	Check segment count, numbering, list order, and other detectable structural conditions.
4	Native-linguist bilingual verification	Compare each Khmer segment against the complete English source for meaning, omissions, additions, and context.
5	Terminology and correction	Correct inaccurate, vague, colloquial, or context-inappropriate wording and record the reason for each change.
6	Final quality control	Review corrections, severity assignments, consistency, presentation, and release readiness.
7	Deliverables	Provide a clean corrected file and, when requested, a QA matrix, findings summary, or verification report.

Severity framework

Severity	Definition	Required response
Critical	Could create serious safety, legal, financial, or operational harm, or invalidate the intended use.	Stop delivery and correct before release.
Major	Material meaning, terminology, omission, addition, or context problem that affects usability or reliability.	Correct and conduct focused re-review.
Minor	Fluency, clarity, register, consistency, or precision issue that does not materially change the main message.	Correct during professional editing.
Pass	Accurate, complete, natural enough for the context, and consistent with the source.	No change required.

Categories used in this pilot included accuracy, terminology, fluency, register, and clarity. The complete internal matrix preserves the raw AI output, reviewer finding, corrected Khmer, client impact, and required action for each segment.

3. Selected Major Findings

The examples below show why apparently fluent output still requires bilingual professional verification. Raw AI text is reproduced only to document the issue. Corrected Khmer reflects the approved pilot review.

Major finding 1	“Duffel bag”
Raw AI output	ដើម្បីរៀបចំសម្ភារៈរបស់អ្នក សូមដាក់របស់របរក្នុងថង់ប្លាស្ទិកបិទជិតមិនឱ្យខ្យល់ចូល ហើយដាក់សម្ភារៈចាំបាច់សម្រាប់គ្រោះមហន្តរាយទាំងអស់ក្នុងធុងមួយ ឬពីរដែលងាយស្រួលយកតាមខ្លួនដូចជា ធុងប្លាស្ទិក ឬកាបូបស្ពាយធំ។
Reviewer finding	The raw draft changed the specified soft carry bag into a large backpack.
Corrected Khmer	ដើម្បីរៀបចំកញ្ចប់សម្ភារៈ សូមដាក់របស់របរនៅក្នុងថង់ប្លាស្ទិកបិទជិតមិនឱ្យខ្យល់ចូល ហើយដាក់សម្ភារៈទាំងអស់ក្នុងធុងមួយ ឬពីរដែលងាយស្រួលយក ដូចជា ធុងប្លាស្ទិក ឬកាបូបធំមានដៃយូរ។
Risk controlled	The specified container type and the precision of the instruction were restored.

Major finding 2	“Plastic sheeting ... to shelter in place”
Raw AI output	ក្រណាត់ប្លាស្ទិក កន្ត្រៃ និងស្តុតបិទភ្ជាប់រឹងមាំ (សម្រាប់ស្នាក់នៅដោយសុវត្ថិភាពនៅនឹងកន្លែង)
Reviewer finding	The raw draft used “plastic cloth” and did not clearly communicate the emergency action.
Corrected Khmer	សន្លឹកប្លាស្ទិក កន្ត្រៃ និងស្តុតបិទភ្ជាប់រឹងមាំ (សម្រាប់រៀបចំជម្រកសុវត្ថិភាពនៅនឹងកន្លែង)
Risk controlled	Emergency-preparedness terminology and the intended protective action were clarified.

Major finding 3	“Disinfecting wipes to disinfect surfaces”
Raw AI output	សាប៊ូ ទឹកលាងដៃសម្លាប់មេរោគ និងក្រដាសសើមសម្លាប់មេរោគសម្រាប់សម្អាតផ្ទៃនានា
Reviewer finding	The raw draft reduced disinfecting wipes to wet paper and weakened disinfection to general cleaning.
Corrected Khmer	សាប៊ូ ទឹកលាងដៃសម្លាប់មេរោគ និងកន្សែងសើមសម្លាប់មេរោគ សម្រាប់សម្អាតលើផ្ទៃនានា
Risk controlled	The infection-control purpose and required function were restored.

3. Selected Major Findings (continued)

Major finding 4	"Refill their prescription"
Raw AI output	ថ្នាំតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជា។ ប្រជាជនអាមេរិកប្រហែលពាក់កណ្តាលប្រើថ្នាំតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជាជារៀងរាល់ថ្ងៃ។ គ្រាអាសន្នអាចធ្វើឱ្យពួកគេពិបាកបើកថ្នាំតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជាបន្ថែម ឬស្វែងរកឱសថស្ថានដែលបើកដំណើរការ។ រៀបចំ និងរក្សាទុកថ្នាំតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជា ថ្នាំដែលអាចទិញបានដោយមិនចាំបាច់មានវេជ្ជបញ្ជា និងវិធានរបស់អ្នកឱ្យមានសុវត្ថិភាព ដើម្បីត្រៀមសម្រាប់គ្រាអាសន្ន។
Reviewer finding	The raw draft expressed the refill concept ambiguously and could confuse medication-preparedness guidance.
Corrected Khmer	ថ្នាំតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជា។ ប្រជាជនអាមេរិកប្រហែលពាក់កណ្តាលប្រើថ្នាំតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជាជារៀងរាល់ថ្ងៃ។ គ្រាអាសន្នអាចធ្វើឱ្យពួកគេពិបាកទិញថ្នាំតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជាឡើងវិញ ឬស្វែងរកឱសថស្ថានដែលបើកដំណើរការ។ សូមរៀបចំ និងរក្សាទុកថ្នាំតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជា ថ្នាំដែលអាចទិញបានដោយមិនចាំបាច់មានវេជ្ជបញ្ជា និងវិធានរបស់អ្នកឱ្យមានសុវត្ថិភាព ដើម្បីត្រៀមសម្រាប់គ្រាអាសន្ន។
Risk controlled	The distinction between prescription refill access and general medication was restored.

Major finding 5	"Contact lens solution"
Raw AI output	វ៉ែនតាតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជា និងទឹកលាងកញ្ចក់ភ្នែក
Reviewer finding	The raw draft could be understood as cleaning water for eyeglasses rather than the specified contact-lens product.
Corrected Khmer	វ៉ែនតាតាមវេជ្ជបញ្ជា និងទឹកស្វយស្សងសម្រាប់កញ្ចក់ដាក់ភ្នែក
Risk controlled	The correct eye-care product was identified, reducing the risk of inappropriate selection.

These examples demonstrate different failure modes: object substitution, unclear emergency terminology, weakened disinfection meaning, ambiguous medication guidance, and incorrect eye-care terminology.

4. Deliverables and Responsible Use

Typical client deliverables

Corrected clean file	Reviewed Khmer content with approved corrections incorporated.
Bilingual QA matrix	Segment-level record of source, submitted output, findings, corrections, severity, and action.
Findings summary	Concise overview of material risks, recurring patterns, and release disposition.
Optional terminology list	Project terminology consolidated for consistency and reuse when appropriate.
Optional error report	Error counts or classification aligned with the client’s agreed framework.

Confidentiality and workflow controls

Native Linguist follows client instructions regarding machine translation, generative AI, secure tools, nondisclosure agreements, restricted content, and data handling. Client content is not placed into an AI system unless that use is authorized and compatible with the project’s confidentiality requirements.

Certified, legal, official, medical, confidential, and other high-risk content may require stricter or fully human-controlled procedures. The appropriate workflow depends on content type, intended use, risk, file format, security requirements, client instructions, and expected deliverables.

What this service is and is not

AI translation verification	Source-to-target assessment and correction of client-provided AI or machine-translated content.
MTPE	Full post-editing of machine-translated output to the agreed quality and use requirements.
Proofreading	Target-language review that may not include complete source comparison unless specifically requested.
Professional translation	Translation produced and reviewed under a human-controlled workflow from the outset.

Request a confidential Khmer translation quality assessment

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