

are fed individually into *Google Translate*. The tool performs the translation to produce outputs. The outputs are scrutinized against a proposed translation furnished by the researcher in order to locate salient lexical and syntactic errors. The errors that recur in the study are categorized and discussed in chapter four.

The thesis comprises four chapters. Chapter One is an introduction which consists of the problem, the hypotheses, the significance of the study, the scope of the study, among other introductory items. Chapter Two furnishes historical overview of MT tracing its revolution, success and failure. It discusses the different approaches adopted in MT ranging from direct approaches to statistical ones. It also touches upon the difficulties that MT faces. Finally, an overview of *Google Translate* is furnished. Chapter Three is devoted to legal register, i.e. the salient characteristics of this language variety which distinguishes it from other varieties. Difficulties in translating legal documents are discussed as well as the role of MT in the process of translating legal documents. Chapter Four examines the translations produced by *Google Translate*. The chapter is of an evaluative nature, i.e. legal texts will be assessed as objectively as possible based on solid criteria. The thesis ends with conclusions and recommendations based on the assessment and error analysis.

## **1.7. Scope**

The research is unidirectional, i.e. from English into Arabic. Authentic English legal texts are fed into *Google Translate*. An assessment is conducted on the Arabic output compared with the English input. Further research could be conducted on Arabic-English translation. Moreover, the research is limited to legal texts. Further studies could be conducted on other types of texts.