How do you say GNOME in French?

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“The coders are our sine qua non—without them, we have nothing. Translators are probably a close second to that—without them, we have no international coders. Past that, no group of people in the project are indispensable to the current state of the project, or even close to it.”

Which is better?

Choose a background color

Choisissez une couleur d'arrière-fond

Choisissez une couleur d'arrière-plan
Which is better?

Choose a background color

Choisissez une couleur d'arrière-plan
Which is better?

Edit friends

Éditer les amis

Éditer amis
Which is better?

Edit friends

Éditer les amis
Which is better?

Text entry

Réponse écrite

Saisie de texte
Which is better?

Text entry

Saisie de texte
Quality of translation

“Quality of translation is better if translator is located in target-language country”
Approach

1. Identify translators
2. Identify where translators are located
   in-country vs. out-of-country
3. Ask native speakers to evaluate translation
# French translation of nautilus.

# Copyright (C) 2000-2012 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
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#
# Christophe Merlet <redfox@...>, 2001-2006.
# Christophe Fergeau <teuf@...>, 2001-2002.
# Sébastien Bacher <seb12@...>, 2004.
# Yannick Tailliez <yannickta@...>, 2005.
# Vincent Carriere <carriere_vincent@...>, 2005.
# Laurent Richard <laurent.richard@...>, 2005.
# Jonathan Ernst <jonathan@...>, 2006.
# Christophe Bliard <christophe.bliard@...>, 2006.
# Damien Durand <splinux@...>, 2006.
# Stéphane Raimbault <stephane.raimbault@...>, 2007-2008.
# Robert-André Mauchin <zebob.m@...>, 2006-2008.
#
#: ../data/nautilus-autorun-software.desktop.in.in.h:1
msgid "Run Software"
msgstr "Lancer le logiciel"

#. set dialog properties
#: ../data/nautilus-connect-server.desktop.in.in.h:1
#: ../src/nautilus-connect-server-dialog.c:585
msgid "Connect to Server"
msgstr "Connexion à un serveur"

#. Set initial window title
#: ../data/nautilus.desktop.in.in.h:1
#: ../src/nautilus-file-management-properties.ui.h:27
#: ../src/nautilus-properties-window.c:4364 ../src/nautilus-window.c:1976
#: ../src/nautilus-window.c:2187
msgid "Files"
msgstr "Fichiers"
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# Baptiste Mille-Mathias <bmm8@...>, 2004.
# Yannick Tailliez <yannickta@...>, 2005.
# Vincent Carrier <carrier@...>, 2005.
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# Jonathan Ernst <jonathan@...>, 2006.
# Christophe Bliard <christophe.bliard@...>, 2006.
# Damien Durand <splinux@...>, 2006.
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Mailing list archives

From halfline@...  Thu Dec 1 22:34:09 2011
Return-Path: <halfline@...>
X-Original-To: gdm-list@gnome.org
Delivered-To: gdm-list@gnome.org
Received: from localhost (localhost.localdomain [127.0.0.1])
  by menubar.gnome.org (Postfix) with ESMTP id 31C547501A6
  for <gdm-list@gnome.org>; Thu, 1 Dec 2011 22:34:09 +0000 (UTC)
Received: from localhost (menu-bar.gnome.org [127.0.0.1])
  by localhost (menu-bar.gnome.org [127.0.0.1]) (amavisd-new, port 10024)
  with ESMTP id gSGkyoiTyy4w for <gdm-list@gnome.org>;
  Thu, 1 Dec 2011 22:34:07 +0000 (UTC)
Received: from mail-ey0-f182.google.com [209.85.215.182]
  by menubar.gnome.org (Postfix) with ESMTP id D02517501FA
  for <gdm-list@gnome.org>; Thu, 1 Dec 2011 22:33:58 +0000
Received: by eaai12 with SMTP id i12so4814348eaa.27
  for <gdm-list@gnome.org>; Thu, 01 Dec 2011 14:33:56 -0800
Received: by 212.83.79.136 with HTTP; Thu, 1 Dec 2011 14:33:34 -0800
In-Reply-To: <4ED5B33B.30008@...>

From: Ray Strode <halfline@...>
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 2011 17:33:34 -0500
Message-ID: <...>
To: "Jason A. Smith" <jasons@...>
Subject: Re: [gdm-list] GDM 3.x and custom login banner.

...
From halfline@... Thu Dec 1 22:34:09 2011
Return-Path: <halfline@...>
X-Original-To: gdm-list@gnome.org
Delivered-To: gdm-list@gnome.org
Received: from localhost (localhost.localdomain [127.0.0.1])
    by menubar.gnome.org (Postfix) with ESMTP id 31C547501A6
    for <gdm-list@gnome.org>; Thu, 1 Dec 2011 22:34:09 +0000 (UTC)
Received: from menubar.gnome.org ([127.0.0.1]) (amavisd-new, port 10024)
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In-Reply-To: <4ED5B33B.30008@...>
From: Ray Strode <halfline@...>
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 2011 17:33:34 -0500
Message-ID: <...>
To: "Jason A. Smith" <jasons@...>
Subject: Re: [gdm-list] GDM 3.x and custom login banner.

"Received" headers often contain IP addresses

From: Ray Strode <halfline@...>
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 2011 17:33:34 -0500
Message-ID: <...>
To: "Jason A. Smith" <jasons@...>
Subject: Re: [gdm-list] GDM 3.x and custom login banner.

Sender 212.83.79.106 = Eindhoven
## Phrases a noter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(?)</th>
<th>Phrase originale</th>
<th>Phrase traduite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Choose which information appears beneath each icon's name</td>
<td>Choisir les informations apparaissant sous le nom des icônes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duration of animation (default: 10 seconds)</td>
<td>Durée de l'animation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not found.</td>
<td>Non trouvé.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>record your current desktop session</td>
<td>enregistrer votre session de bureau courante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Text field size <em>(optional)</em>:</td>
<td>Taille du champs de texte <em>(facultatif)</em>:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Highlight HTML in journal entry</td>
<td>Surlignier l'HTML dans le billet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Open an existing document</td>
<td>Ouvre un document existant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Couldn't find &quot;%s&quot;. Please check the spelling and try again.</td>
<td>Impossible de trouver &quot;%s&quot;. Vérifiez l'orthographe et essayez à nouveau.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Copy text from the document</td>
<td>Copie le texte depuis le document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PIXEL</td>
<td>PIXEL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Fluidité

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Influence</th>
<th>Vocabulaire</th>
<th>Qualité globale</th>
<th>Traduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results

“Quality of translation is better if translator is located in target-language country”
“Quality of translation is better if translator is located in target-language country”

- fluency
- word choice
- impact of the mistakes on the comprehension of the text
- general quality
Discussion

• In-country translators tend to produce better translations
  • try to attract local volunteers
  • review out-of-country translations with priority
  • enforce spelling, style, and vocabulary guidelines

• Review leads to improved quality
  • “review” is part of the translation workflow
  • not all language teams have assigned reviewers