



BROWSER NO 225

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The Busselton Constitution is available on the Busnet website at busnet.org.au. This is a very useful and interesting site with lots of up to date information about our Club.

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I am still looking for someone to take over doing the browser as this his will be the last year I will be able to do it. The fingers of my right hand don't like typing anymore!

There is no need for a new editor to follow this format or even this software. I've been using Publisher because that's what it was in when I took it over. Whoever takes it on can decide on whatever new format and style they and the president and committee choose.

Pam

Why Streaming Subtitles Are Always Slightly Wrong

<https://www.howtogeek.com/why-streaming-subtitles-are-always-slightly-wrong/>

Thanks to the total trash-fire that is modern audio mixing, it's become almost impossible to understand what anyone is saying in movies and TV shows. Which is why so many people who are not deaf or hard of hearing have started turning on the subtitles so they don't miss important plot points.

If you've been doing this, you might have noticed that the subtitles don't always match the actual dialogue exactly. Most of the time it's not an important difference, but that did lead me to wonder *why* exactly I see this so often. It turns out there are plenty of reasons for the subtitles to differ from the dialogue—and not all of them are mistakes!

The Origins of Subtitle Scripts

One of the most important questions is where streaming services get their subtitles in the first place. Barring original content, Netflix or Amazon aren't manually creating new subtitles for every show and movie. The subtitles are provided by the content creator or owner, and these can come from a variety of places.

One reason for differences between the subtitles and spoken dialogue could be due to the workflow of creating a show or movie. There may have been some additional editing or shot changes after the caption script had been sent off, for example, and no one bothered to fix it. Remember, subtitle errors aren't new, they happened on physical media too. So, in some cases, those original subtitles were simply inherited by the streaming services.

Time Constraints and Costs

Like so many things, creating subtitles is a job that gets outsourced, done by the lowest bidder, and under tight deadlines. Doing quality control on thousands of lines of dialogue is also a challenge, and even if small discrepancies are picked up, it's probably good enough for the purpose subtitles exist.

It's also worth remembering that it's not just English subtitles that are being created, but ones in a range of major languages. When translation is involved, there's even more leeway for the original dialogue and subtitles to differ. If you speak two or more languages, try watching a movie or show using translated subtitles, and you'll notice how the translations tend to take fairly large liberties sometimes.

There's also the interesting case where the English dub of a show has its own subtitle, and then the English translation subtitles are completely different. This makes sense, because the dub's soundtrack needs to match that dialogue, and the translation needs to match what's said in the original language. I've seen a few anime, however, where there's just one subtitle, and it's for the dub. So even if you watch the show in Japanese, the subtitles are not actually the translation of the dialogue!

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"No, that's not data falling from the cloud. Those are leaves. However, just like on your computer, they need cleaned up."