

STUDENTS' DIFFICULTIES IN TRANSLATING ENGLISH TEXT

Aisyah Fitri¹, Eka Sustrī Harida², Sri Rahmadhani Siregar³

e-mail: aisyahfitrinasution123@gmail.com¹, esha_stainpasid@yahoo.com²
sriahmadani@iain-padangsidimpuan.ac.id³

ABSTRACT

The problem of this research came from students' difficulties in translating English text that exist in recount text. Students did not understand how to analyze the words or sentences to find the suitable meaning being asked each words or sentences.

The objectives of this research is to know the difficulties in translating English text at the sixth semester in English program IAIN Padangsidimpuan in exercise of translation in recount text to Indonesia. Difficulties in translation English text such as translating literary text, translating Islamic text, linguistic factors, non linguistic factors, lexical meaning, idiom, strategies in translating ellipsis, lack of vocabulary, grammatical issues, and miss in using transitional words. In this case the objectives of students difficulties in translating English text at the sixth semester are lack of vocabulary, grammatical issues, and miss in using transitional words.

This is a qualitative research. The participants of this research were 20 students of TBI-3 at the sixth semester English Departments. The data were collected from students' documents of answer sheets in exercise translation English recount text. Analysis of the data consisted of 5 steps; they are reading the data, making codes or notes, describing the data, checking the difficulties based on indicators, and classifying the difficulties. This research used member checking to check data trustworthiness.

Based on the result of the research, there were students difficulties in translation such as lack of vocabulary, grammatical issues and miss in using transitional words. 62 errors in lack of vocabulary found in students at the sixth semester, 12 error in grammatical issues found in students at the sixth semester and 13 miss in using transitional words found in students at the sixth semester.

Key Words: *Students' Difficulties, Lack of vocabulary, Grammatical Issues, and Miss in using transitional words.*

INTRODUCTION

Communication in different languages and nations is feasible through translation in current's world. English language had become the official language for international communication. Translation is important because it gets us talking and communicate to each other or we can comprehend about it. In translation the translator should know what language the source, writer, or speaker used so we can catch the point of the language. Translation is important process of replacing and reproducing the message from a text in a source language into a target language. By the existence of the translation, people are able to share the information, knowledge, ideas a lot of thing to each other. Therefore, who does not understand English can receive from the source text, and than they can also convey ideas, message, intentions, feelings and opinions to other.

Being a good translator is not easy. A translator is a bilingual mediating agent between monolingual communication participants in two different language communities (Albir et al. 2019). According to Newmark, translation is a craft consisting of the attempt to replace a written message and statement on one language by the same message and statement in other languages (Long 2012). In addition, Bell said that translation is the process or result of converting information from one language or language variety into another (Long 2012). The aim is to reproduce as accurately as possible all grammatical and lexical features of the source language (SL) original by finding equivalents in the target language (TL). At the same time, all factual information contained in the original text must be retained in the translation.

According to explanation above, in the process of translating, the students have many difficulties to translate some texts in their books. Especially, as they learned in English lesson in subject writing and reading comprehension there are some kinds of texts, such as procedure, recount, narrative, description, news item, report, analytical exposition, spoff, hortatory exposition, explanation, discussion, and review. To understand the text, the students should be able to translate each sentence or each paragraph of the

text. In this case, the researcher would analyze the difficulties in translation English text especially in recount text. The researcher would like to conduct research entitled Students' Difficulties in Translation English Text at the Seventh Semester English Program IAIN Padang Sidimpuan.

METHOD

A. Place and Time of the Research

This research conducted toward the Sixth semester students' of English department of IAIN Padang Sidimpuan. It is on Jl. T. Rizal Nurdin 4,5 Km Sihitang, district South Tapanuli Padang Sidimpua. Time of this research was started on June 2021.

B. Types of Research

In order to achieve the purpose of this research, a document research is applied. It aims to investigate and identify English students' difficulties in translation English text at the sixth semester. Using qualitative way, the documents can be understood and interpreted so that the result presented through words. This research is not going to generalize the result because different phenomenon means different experience of each participants or information which affects interpretation and result collecting data.

C. Research Participants

For the subject of this research, the researcher taked 20 of TBI-3 (Tadris Bahasa Inggris room 3) class the sixth semester students as participants. All of them was English students in sixth semester in IAIN Padangsidimpuan in academic 2020/2021. They choosed because

they had fulfilled the researcher consideration of taking research participants.

D. Instrument of the Research

Instrument for collecting data in this research is document. The documents is taken from students' answer sheets in subject Translation. The answer sheets is about translation of recount text given by the lecture.

The documents are 20 students answer sheets of TBI-3 (Tadris Bahasa Inggris room 3) from translation class. The indicators of translation difficulties is seen in the following table:

Table 3
Indicators Students' Difficulties in Translation (Basuki 2017)

No.	Types of Difficulties
1.	Lack of vocabulary
2.	Grammatical error
3.	Miss in using transitional word

Beside document, the researcher used the forms as seen in the following table to help the researcher to identify the data.

Table 4
Identification of Datum Dificulties

Indicator	Identification of Difficulties
Lack of vocabulary	
Grammatical Error	
Miss in Using Transitional Word	

E. Technique of Data Collecting

The following procedure to collect the data:

- a. The researcher ask permission to translation lecturer subject at the sixth semester in TBI-3 class to do the research with using answer sheets the students.
- b. The researcher permission the students' answer sheets of translation recount text.
- c. The researcher take the students answer sheets from Google Classroom.
- d. The researcher collect the answer sheets in one file.
- e. The researche Print the answer sheets to be analyze.

F. Technique of Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the researcher analyzed the data by the procedures as follow:

- a. Reading the data. The researcher read the exercise and answer sheets of TBI-3 students at the sixth semester.
- b. Making underlining on notes or codes like underline, square, and circle code to the data. The code from lack of vocabulary using circle code, grammatical issues using square code and miss in using transitional words using underline.
- c. Describing the data in the form as seen in the table 4.
- d. Checking the difficulties based on indicators.

e. Classifying the difficulties.

G. Technique of Checking Data Trustworthiness

In doing the research, the researcher make validity of the findings, in this case the researcher use the term of trustworthiness for validating the accuracy findings. This criterion asks the researcher to seek for the truth and to ensure that the data obtain in the research is convenient to what the researcher intend.

Trustworthiness of qualitative research is very important because checking to the trustworthiness of data is used to contradict the assumption of qualitative research is not scientific. There are many techniques to determine the data trustworthiness but the researcher only use checking expert is the most important in checking credibility.

The researcher used member checking. Member checking asks the researcher to take back part of polished data. It is a technique of credibility to check data accuracy through verifying the findings to the research participants. Here the researcher will use the techniques checking to the member it is to check the result or findings to the research participants. It was done in order to verify what the researcher had found to what the participants did and felt.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Lack of Vocabulary

After analyzing the data, the researcher found that there are some students' difficulties in lack of vocabulary in items translated into Indonesia. The result of the students can be seen in table of Appendix 4. For instances, there are the students' difficulties in lack of vocabulary mistakes such as; UKH difficult in SL tower and translated to TL tower, and SL Fantastic and translated to TL *fantastis*. UKH lack of vocabulary from that. The acceptable to translated are SL tower have to translate TL *menara* and SL fantastic have to translated to TL *luar biasa/hebat*. From UKH answer sheets found SL tower still using tower in TL, because some Indonesian still say tower in Indonesia, so that's way UKH still used tower in TL even in translating to Indonesia is wrong.

RA lack of vocabulary in using SL district translated to TL district and SL street food translated to TL *makan-makanan Korea*. The acceptable translated SL in district have to translate to TL *pusat makana* and SL street food have to translated to TL *jajanan kaki lima*. From answer sheet RA found lack of vocabulary in SL street food and RA translated to TL *makanan Korea*, in this part RA translated by word to word, street food is one of vocabulary and has a meaning specifically and not translated word by word.

2. Grammatical Issues

After analyzing the data, the researcher found that there are some students' difficulties in grammatical error in items to translate into

Indonesia. The result of the students can be seen in table of Appendix 4. For instances, there are the students' difficulties in grammatical error such as; UKH in SL I was a great trip and translated to TL *jalan-jalan yang luar biasa*. The acceptable translated from SL I was a great trip have to translated to TL *saya memiliki perjalanan yang luar biasa*. From answer sheet UKH has error in grammatical because I was a great trip in past tense and should translated with the past. Word "was" is a tobe from past tense and translated in part of past.

KH in SL my friends translated to TL *temanku*. The acceptable to translate from SL my friends have to translate to TL *teman-temanku*. From answer KH found grammatical error in words my friends, word of friends ending by alphabet s should be translated it to plural. Word of district in answer sheet also still translated district.

3. Transitional Words

After analyzing the data, the researcher found that there are some students' difficulties transitional words in items to translate into Indonesia. The result of the students can be seen in table of Appendix 4. For instances, there are the students' difficulties in miss in using transitional words such as; UKH miss in using transitional words in SL I also went translated to TL *saya pergi juga*, the acceptable to translated from SL also went have to translated to TL *saya juga pergi*. From answer sheet UKH found miss in using transitional words not using suitable word to translate to Indonesia, sentence I also went have

to translated *saya juga pergi* not *saya pergi juga*, in using transitional words the students should know what words suitable to translate in TL and the word is correlation meaning from the context.

RPS miss in using transitional word in SL from to TL *untuk*, but the acceptable to translate from SL from to TL is *dari*. From answer sheet RPS found miss in using transitional word by not using the suitable meaning to translated to TL and RPS did not find the correlation the meaning from the context. And NH miss in using transitional words in SL and to TL *dan atau*, the acceptable to translate from SL and to TL is *dan*. From answer sheet NH found miss in using transitional word and, the meaning of and to TL is *dan*, in the answer sheet NH used two meaning from and they are *dan atau*, atau in English is or and dan in English is and, so in this part NH miss and confused by using transitional words in English.

DISCUSSION

This research took 20 participants with their documents of answer sheets in exercise in translation English recount text. The researcher analyzed students' difficulties on aspects of lack of vocabulary, grammatical issues and miss in using transitional text.

Based on the research findings, the researcher found that in structure part, from lack of vocabulary, the students' translated incomplete sentences. Some of them are wrong in using conjunction to complete their sentence and still using the source word to target language because of lack

of vocabulary, use inappropriate words that can change the meaning from source language to target language. The students difficulties can be seen in appendix 4.

Students' have grammatical issues because the factor of students mistakes in grammatical structure, most of the use incorrect verb tense that is an error in the choice of verb tense and aspects in sentence. Most of them use verb in their sentences, where as in recount text students' must use past tense including verb two in their sentence. Some of them also made incorrect in conjunction, students' made incorrect sentence structure that is an error in which parts of grammatical structure mistakes made by students exercise in translation English recount text.

Students' miss in using transitional word because the factors in making word choosed to matche the logic of the relationship fro emphasizing or the connection of the text. All f these words have different meanings, nuances, and connotations. Students' particular transitional word in the text, be sure with the text understandable with the meaning and used completely and sure that the right match for the text. Students' feel like over explaining connection that are already clear.

Generally, the total of incorrect answers that students gained in doing exercise in translation English recount text. Here the researcher needed to discuss the findings with other findings from other studies. The researcher had Yayah Komariah especially in finding clear diction and in using grammatical competence.(Thesis and Komariah 2018) The aim of

that research is to analyze the difficulties faced by students of English Department in translating Indonesian into English. The discussion shows that in translating Indonesian into English the students still have difficulties, especially in discuss clear diction and in using grammatical competence. This research becomes the starting ideas for the researcher to make the similar research with junior high school students as the object.

Nurul Istiqomah the result of this study showed that problem of translation with source message and target legibility.(Istiqomah et al. 2017) This research conducted with difficulties with untransmitted, incomplete with hindering message, grammer and vocabulary. Mei Sakriani result of the research shows that the percentages translation inaccuracies in the students' translation were quite high.(Mei Sakriani Hadrus 2017) The category of the students' translation specialized texts was the difficulty of arranging the order and the structure of words or the sentence. From this research the researcher interest to make research with a similar tittle, with translating Indonesia into English. And Maiya Lucinto, she conclude the methods in translation, and the difficulties in translation.(Lucito 2018) The difficulties of the translation in this research can look by ecological problem, material culture, social culture, and religious culture.

Invert in lack of vocabulary and grammatical issues in Yayah Komariah's were included parts of lack of vocabulary and grammatical competence parts in researcher's reduced grammatical competence and

lack of vocabulary part of aspect students' difficulties in translating English text, miss in using transitional words included in this study. In conclusion, the items researched in Yayah Komoraiah's study were parts of students' difficulties in translating English text.

CONCLUSION

After getting the result of the research the researcher was done to the conclusion as follows; The difficulties of students' translating English text at the sixth semester of IAIN Padangsidimpuan were:

- a. Lack of vocabulary, The students find difficult to translate since the students lack of many vocabularies.
- b. Grammatical Issues, The students do not know how to translate the sentence or the text well since the students lack of mastering grammatical pattern of language.

Transitional Word, Using of transitional word by making sure that the word choosed to matche the logic of the relationship for emphasizing or the connection of the text.

REFERENCES

- Albir, Amparo Hurtado, Anabel Galán-Mañas, Anna Kuznik, Wilhelm Neunzig, Christian Olalla-Soler, Patricia Rodríguez-Inés, and Lupe Romero. “Evolution of the Efficacy of the Translation Process in Translation Competence Acquisition.” *Meta (Canada)* 64, no. 1 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.7202/1065336AR>
- Arono, Nadrah. “Students’ Difficulties in Translating English Text.” *JOALL (Journal of Applied Linguistics & Literature)* 4, no. 1 (2019): 88–99. <https://doi.org/10.33369/joall.v4i1.7384>
- (Albir et al. 2019)
- Cragie, Stella, and Ann Pattison. *Thinking English Translation*. Edited by Cragie. *Thinking English Translation*. 4th ed. Russian: International Journal of English Linguistics 7, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315229478>
- Fraser, Janet. “Mapping the Process of Translation.” *Meta* 41, no. 1 (2017): 84–96. <https://doi.org/10.7202/002772ar>
- Johnson, Richard K. “Terms and Processes in Translation between Indonesian and English.” *A Thesis Submitted in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy* 7, no. February (2018): 12–26. <https://doi.org/45.6543/0007654bg>.
- Lewis, D, and D Mosse. “Theoretical Approach to Brokerge and Translation in Development” 4 (2017): 33–58. <http://hfdjfhdfdfbdcukerujn.vnffjkvf,fd>
- Long, Jixing. “Changes of Translation Definition and Turns of Translation Studies.” *Cross-Culture Communication* 8, no. 5 (2012): 35–43. <https://doi.org/10.3968/j.ccc.1923670020120805.2156>.
- . “Translation Definitions in Different Paradigms.” *Canadian Social Science* 9, no. 4 (2018): 107. <https://doi.org/10.3968/j.css.1923669720130904.2703>.
- Lucito, Maiya. “The Analysis of the Students’ Difficulties and Strategies Used in English Translation Process.” *Faculty of Education and Teacher Training Ar-Raniry State Islamic University Darussalam- BANDA Aceh* 7, no. Education and Teacher Training Universitas Darussalam-Banda Aceh (2018): 34–65. <http://:8bdde5677.//jugd>.
- Nitzke, Jean. *An Approach for Identifying Problem-Solving Activities in Post-Editing and Translation From Scratch. New Empirical Perspectives on Translation and Interpreting*. 3rd ed. New York: JOAL Jurnal International,

2020. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429030376-5>.

Sharifudin, Nanang. *Students' Difficulties in Translating an Explanation Text from English to Indonesia*, 2019. <http://or.09hdhe7737u376533627hdjd>.

Siregar, Sri Rahmadhani. "An Analysis of Morphemic Shifts to Word in Sidney Bloodline into Garis Darah" 06, no. 2 (2018): 141–52. <http://jurnal.ian-padangsidimpuan.ac.id/index.php/EEJ/article/view/1253>

Torop, Peeter, and Elin Su. "Processual Boundaries of Translation : Semiotics and Translation Studies" 4 (20018): 187–208. <https://doi.org/10.1515/SEM.2007.0>