

THE TRANSLATION ERROR FOUND IN GOOGLE TRANSLATE PRODUCT

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Abstract

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The objective of this study was to describe the errors made in the Indonesian text into English text by Google Translate. This study employed one translation of Indonesian Narrative texts taken from internet made by using Google Translate. Those samples were taken by using purposive sampling technique. The categorizations of translation errors were adapted from Keshavarz (1999) and Vilar et al. (2006). The errors can occur in the grammatical errors, lexical errors and semantic errors. The data gathered were analyzed descriptively by using qualitative approach. The data source was found in Internet. The findings of the analysis showed that there were 3 categories of translation errors obtained from 17 data. Ranking from the most common to the least common errors found in the data, they were grammatical errors (76%) and lexical errors (24%). The data findings also showed that statistical method of Google Translate, the inability of Google Translate to understand the contexts of the texts beyond sentence, and errors in the source texts that carried into translation errors in the target texts were the causes of translation errors found in the data.

1. INTRODUCTION

In this era, technology is developed fast like computer technology, people can do their job easily and quickly since people are forced to. The inventions of machine translators are also make people do their translating activities easier and quicker. Machine translators can help people to be able to finalize translating faster although people cannot depend fully on the result of translation by a machine translator. A machine translator can help to quicken translator performance in translating so that a translator can fulfill the work demand in time facet without putting aside quality of translation. One of

the machine translators on the internet that can help them in the translation process is Google Translate service. Google Translate is a convenient tool that offers free instant translation service on the web. It can be utilized to translate words, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and even a web page between any pairs of supported languages. This feature is the first that is introduced to public. The advantageous of "Google Translate" is the ability to translate more than 50 languages worldwide. Today, "Google Translate" is growing to be a complex MT. There are many new features of "Google Translate" one of them is pronunciation tool as we are translating texts with using "Google

Translate”. But the results of translation from “Google Translate” need to be studied further more especially in the matter of linguistics error, the accuracy, acceptability and readability of translation since many people find themselves in doubt with the result of the “Google Translate” although they actually do not know the real quality of translation result by using “Google Translate”. It supported by Ismail (2016), found that statistical method of Google Translate, the inability of Google Translate to understand the contexts of the text beyond sentence, and errors in the source texts that carried into translation errors in the target texts were the causes of translation errors found in data. From those issues, there comes an idea of analyzing the errors in translation results of certain type of text by using Google Translate. Thus, this research was employed to find and explain errors in Google translation results of Narrative texts from Indonesia to English.

2. METHODOLOGY

This study was a descriptive qualitative research, and it presented the data with a content analysis method. Purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample of News Item texts. Purposive sampling techniques involve selecting certain unit or cases based on a specific purpose rather than randomly (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2003: 713). 180-240 words were decided as the total words range for Narrative texts used in this study. It was decided so that the sample texts would not be very short or very long to analyze. The decision of taking Narrative text as the sample size was taken because of the limited time and resources of the study. The Narrative text was then translated into English by using Google Translate. The researcher inputted the content of each text as a whole, instead of partially inputted the sentences one by one into Google Translate. It was done in order to make sure that Google Translate translated the content of the text cohesively and coherently. After Google Translate translation process was done, Indonesian

Narrative text and their English translations counterpart were obtained. The category of errors that occurred were inputted on the categories of errors column. Brief explanations of the errors were inputted on the comments column. The whole tables were used as the means to help in the data analysis and interpretation.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

A. Findings

The findings were analyzed and presented in tables according to the proposed research questions. 25 data containing translation error were obtained from Narrative Text entitled The Legend of Rawa Pening. The general findings are shown in the following table below.

Table 1. General Findings

Errors Category	Types of Error	Frequency	Percentage
Lexical Errors	Wrong Word Choice	6	24%
	Wrong Word Form	4	16%
Grammatical Errors	Wrong tenses	2	8%
	Missing Article	3	12%
	Missing Relative Pronoun	2	8%
	Wrong word order	8	32%
	Errors in meaning	0	0%

As shown in Table 1 above, wrong word order was highly recorded for that text in which Google Translate had a problem when translating some of the sentences. It was noticeable that Google Translate encountered the problem in regards to the use of article, subject-verb-agreement (SVA), prepositions which similarity was found in the text. Besides that, wrong word choices were also

one of the most common types of error made by Google Translate.

3.1. Grammatical Errors (Syntactic)

3.1.1 Wrong Word Form

The wrong word form was found mostly in the text. Google Translate was unable differentiate some parts such as nouns, verbs, or adjectives. In utterance 15 found that, "Air itu tidak berhenti mengalir dan membanjiri desa", was translated by Google Translate as "The water **did** not stop flowing and **flooded** the village". From the excerpt given, it showed that Goggle Translate was unable differentiate between verb and noun.

3.1.2 Tenses

Tense is grammatical category which correlates with time or expresses certain actions in a time frame given. Certain actions are limited to a certain period of time, present or continual. The changes of tenses depend on the context given and changing the verb or action to a correct form is called conjugation (Linder, 2005). Based on the text, it can be seen that, Goggle Translate was unable to translate some of the units of translation according to the time usage such as in utterance 2 "Anak itu sangat malang" was translated by Google Translate as "That child is very poor". In this unit of translation, the "be verb" used indicated that the time or condition of verb was changed into past tense because the text included narrative text, it must be used past tense. Hence, the correct translation should be in the past form of "was".

3.1.3 Article

In the unit of translation 1, "Pada suatu hari, seorang anak kecil yang kelaparan datang ke sebuah desa kecil", was translated as "One day, a starving child came to small village". There is missing article before village word. It should give article "a".

3.1.4 Wrong Word Order

Word order is a linear sequence of words in which it occurs in a

constituent or in a sentence. It was notable that the common errors made by Goggle Translate. "Akhirnya seluruh desa menjadi danau besar yang dikenal sebagai Danau Rawa Pening" was translated as "Eventually the entire village became a large lake known as **Lake Rawa Pening**", the placement of name Lake Rawa Pening is incorrect because it was not appropriate with grammatical orer. It should change into Rawa Pening Lake.

3.2. Lexical Errors

This is when Google Translate produced the raw output of the source text by using wrong word choices or different word choices. The use of wrong word choices somehow affected the meaning of the text. On the other hand, different word choices are when Goggle Translate did not find the equivalent words as in the source text.

3.2.1 Wrong word choices

The example of wrong word choices can be seen in utterance 14," dan meminta anak kecil itu untuk mencabut lidi yang tertancap di tanah", was translated as "and asked the child to **remove** the stick embedded in the ground". The word, "remove" means "menghilangkan, menyingkirkan" "which provided a different meaning. Thus, the alternative translation was "pull out".

B. Discussion

Based on the findings above showed that grammatical errors were identified as the most frequent errors made by Google Translate with fourteen (19) errors, while there were six (6) errors for lexical category and zero (0) for semantic errors.

The grammatical errors were then divided into its sub-divisions, where it showed that there were nineteen (8) errors in wrong word order can be written to 32 %, (2) errors related for tenses, (3) for missing article, (2) related for

relatives pronoun, as well as four (4) errors for wrong word form.

As for the lexical errors, there wrong (6) word choice can be written to 24%. The most incorrect used of word choices where some of the words translated use wrong words and were not relevant in the context of the source text. Some of the incorrect lexical items were also used repeatedly in the sentences and thus, led to the increased number of errors.

4. CONCLUSION

The findings of the analysis showed that there were 3 categories of translation errors obtained from 25. Ranking from the most common to the least common errors found in the data, they were grammatical errors (76%), lexical errors (24%). The data findings also showed that statistical method of Google Translate, the inability of Google Translate to understand the contexts of the texts beyond sentence, and errors in the source texts that carried into translation errors in the target texts were the causes of translation errors found in the data.

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