



An Analysis of Accuracy in Translating News Item Text from Bahasa Indonesia to English Done by the Third Year English Department Students

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Abstract

The accuracy in translation is one of important aspects in translation quality. Accuracy is a term used to assign whether the message in the source text or target text is equivalent or not. This study aimed to find out the accuracy the third year English Department students at Universitas Negeri Padang translate news item texts from Bahasa Indonesia to English as well as to describe inversion and deviation of meaning. The sample of this study was 32 students from Translation class at English Department selected by using cluster random sampling method. This study was focussed on the student's accuracy in translating news item text from Bahasa Indonesia to English and kinds of errors in students' translation work. The data of this research were received from students' translation result about translating news item from Bahasa Indonesia into English. The data were analysed and rated by using a rubric of rating instrument which consist of 5 levels of accuracy. The result of the research showed that most of the student in translating news item text from Bahasa Indonesia to English was achieved almost completely successful (75%). Furthermore, the occurrence of errors in students' translation work was categorized into two types, namely, inversion and deviation of meaning in which deviation of meaning became the highest percentage of error (97.3%).

A. INTRODUCTION

Translation becomes as communication tool that is essential in conveying the message from the Source Text (ST) to the target Text (TT). Translation has always been one of the important components in interlingual communication (Rosa, 2021) that allows people to share the information, science, and culture in any different languages (Doherty, 2016). Catford (1965: 20) proposes that translation is the process of substitution of a text in one language (ST) with equivalent text in another (TT).

In this globalization era, the advances of technology facilitate the dissemination of information. The information is generally often found in a news, whether the form is written or spoken. News item text is also needed in dissemination of information. Sometimes in online media we often find inaccurate news translation which confuses the reader and even misleads them. It finds out that the translator has poor ability in translating news. For instance, when publishing news about United States politics, the “Kompas” newspaper once translated the secretary of state as “Menteri sekretaris Negara” which should be translated in Bahasa “Menteri luar Negeri”. Based on the result of translation above, it can be seen that equivalent word in target text cannot be found by the translator. An error in translation sometimes can change the whole meaning of its translation itself.

To prepare qualified future translators, the English Education Program of Faculty of Languages and Arts from Universitas Negeri Padang has provided some elective courses of translation. The main aims of the translation practice course are to prepare students to translate common and semi scientific texts from a variety of sources, including magazines and newspapers (Junining & Kusuma 2020). Translation course provides theories and translation skills, thus student can learn and solve their problem by using the appropriate techniques.

News items text is one of genre text which is studied in EFL classroom. The students of English language education have learned this material in reading or writing class. Of course they already understand this type of text very well and also understand the function and purpose of this text. Haris (2011) defines news item text as a sort of written material that aims to inform the readers about topical or warm events of the day. In addition, White (1998) explained that the news item's concept should be objective and factual. Eltis (1990) as cited in Risani (2020) classifies news item text into three parts, namely newsworthy event, background events, and sources. The information in news items should be factual so that translators have to work honestly and thoroughly for the sake of the availability of information to the people who used that information.

The accuracy in translation is one of important aspects in translation quality. Rahimy (2004) defines accuracy as a suitable and precise interpretation of the source text and the delivery as properly as possible. However, even maintaining the same structure between the ST and TT, it does not mean they cannot be caused distortion of meaning. Hence the translator must consider which structure should be maintained to avoid the distortion and hesitation. Besides, the translator must accurately convey the idea from the source text to the target text, thus the idea is credible.

Accuracy also validates that the message of the source text (ST) is completely transferring to target text (TT) without addition or omission of form translator ideas. The authenticity and clarity of the text should be kept the same both the source text and target text.

Sager (1983) as cited in Amalya, et al. (2018) states that there are four types of errors that can appear in a translation namely, addition, inversion, omission and deviation. Accurate translation depends on the vocabulary, grammatical structure, communication context, and cultural background of the original language text. The

message will be accurate if the translators transfer the message naturally without any addition or omission from the translators.

Based on the explanation above, the errors in translations are contributed to the translation accuracy. The meaning has a close relation to the translation accuracy so that the classification of errors will be related to addition, inversion, omission and deviation. The finding of this research is expected can give contribution to the students in the academic world. The result of this research shows the description about the third year English Department students' accuracy in translating news item text from Bahasa Indonesia to English and describes the error in students' translation work.

There are some studies regarding to translation accuracy. Kurniati, Hamzah, & Saun (2016) conducted a research to find out the student's accuracy in translating news item at Senior High School. This research also analyzed the errors found in translated text such as omission, addition, inappropriate word choice and word-for-word translation. Furthermore, Mahardini (2020) conducted a research to find out psychology students in translating undergraduate final project abstracts in Universitas Negeri Semarang. From the research result showed that the psychology students mostly achieved the highest level (accurate level).

Another research was done by Safei, & Salija (2018) who conducted a research about the Naturalness and accuracy of English short Story Translation into Indonesian. This study used 2 books which entitled "Keajaiban Sabar and Aku Berani Tidur Sendiri". In addition, Simaremare et al. (2021) found in their research about google translate accuracy in translating English verb phrase to Bahasa Indonesia. The result of using Google translate showed that the translation of English verb translation into Indonesian achieved accurate level.

Even though there have been many developments in translation accuracy study, there was a less study talking about student accuracy in translating. However, the concern of this research is the accuracy of the third year English department students who have taken translation class in translating news item text from Bahasa Indonesia to English. This research also describes the error made by the student which affects the accuracy of their translation. This research employs Sager's classification that will be used two types of errors, namely inversion of meaning, and deviation of meaning.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

This research design was a descriptive-qualitative method. Gay et al. (2012) state that qualitative research as acquisition, investigation, and interpretation of extensive narrative and visual information to gain understanding of a particular issue. The population of this research was the third year English Department students at Universitas Negeri Padang. This research employed a cluster random sampling which means the researcher randomly chose a group from the population. The research sample was one class from Indonesia-English translation course which consist of 32 students.

In this research, a translation test was employed as an instrument. The test was one news item text from credible online news site in Indonesia. The students were involved to translate the news item text from Bahasa Indonesia to English in

specified time. To analyse the data, the researcher employed the accuracy rating instrument devised by Sofyan and Tarigan (2019).

Accuracy Rating Instrument

Score range	Description	Rating
	Accuracy (30%)	Score: Note:
25-30	There are no identifiable problems with ST understanding, and the TL readers have received the full original content without any deletions or additions.	
19-24	Virtually there are no problems of ST understanding except with the most highly technical vocabulary without any effect on TT readers' comprehension; there are few partial omissions and additions	
13-18	The information is delivered to TT readers with several difficulties causing by the translator's misunderstanding of some portions of the original message; there are noticeable omissions and additions	
7-12	The notion which are badly expressed due to many advanced problems in comprehending the ST influence the reader's understanding of the original message; the TT is difficult to understand	
1-6	Severe problems greatly affect the reader's understanding of the original message; TT readers cannot comprehend the original message delivered in the TT	

The second analysis was to find out the error made by the student in their translation work. The errors were categorized into types by using Sager's classification namely, inversion and deviation of meaning.

C. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Research Finding

In this research, the primer data were obtained from the students' translation result in translating news item text from Bahasa Indonesia into English. The test was started from August 23rd, 2022 until September 14rd, 2022 through Google Form which shared to 32 English Department students at Universitas Negeri Padang.

1. Students' translation accuracy

The following table shows the each score of students' translation accuracy that have been identified and categorized into several levels:

Student's Accuracy level

Level	Task completion level	Score	Number of students	Percentage
Level 5	Successful	25-30	4	12.5%

Level 4	Almost completely successful	19-24	24	75%
Level 3	Adequate	13-18	2	6.5%
Level 2	Inadequate	7-12	2	6.5%
Level 1	Totally inadequate	1-6	0	0%
Total			32	100%

From the table above, it can be seen that there were 5 students achieved successful level, 24 students achieved almost completely successful, 2 students achieved adequate level, and 2 students achieved inadequate level. There was none of the students achieved totally inadequate level. In sum, the average of the students was translated news item text in almost completely level.

Students who achieved almost completely level still have problem with addition and omission in their translation work. On the other hand, the students who got inadequate level have serious problems in transferring the ideas. Consequently, the TT readers were difficult to comprehend the original message of the ST. The result of students' translation can be seen in the examples below:

a. Successful level

Successful level indicates that the original message of ST has been almost completely conveyed to the TT reader without omissions and additions. At this level there are no identifiable problems that can influence the message from ST to TT. For example:

Sample from S1

ST: *suatu catatan yang harus diingat*

TT: *but we need to take a note*

From this sentence fragment, it can be seen that the problem is just transformed the structure of the sentence from a passive sentence into active sentence. Thus the problem is not categorized into identifiable problem.

Sample from S20

ST: *Ali berkata, ketua umum NasDem Surya Paloh*

TT: *Ali said, the President Director of NasDem, Surya Paloh*

From this sentence fragment above shows that the problem is the choice of word. It will be better if the translation of "ketua umum" changes into "general chairman". Another example can be seen in the sentence below:

b. Almost completely successful level

Almost completely successful level indicates that there are some partial additions or omissions done by the students. Those problems are not

categorized into a serious problem due to the little portion of additions and omissions found in the translation work. For example:

Sample from S4

ST: *tapi suatu catatan yang harus diingat bahwa daerah hanya sampai mengusulkan*

TT: *but (missing word) keep in mind that the region that the region is merely a proposal*

The example above shows that there is a partial omission found in students 4. From the sentence above, it can be seen that not all the message are conveyed to reader. Thus the message can have a different meaning with the writer intention in the text. Another example can be seen as follow:

Sample from S12

ST: *NasDem bakal menggelar rapat kerja nasional yang akan dibuka malam ini*

ST: *Nasdem will held a (missing word) meeting or Rakernas tonight*

From the sentence above, it can be seen that there is partial omission found in this sentence. The word "Rapat kerja nasional" should be translated completely because it can be a vague translation

c. Adequate level

At this level there are apparent omissions or additions that can be found due to the misunderstanding of the translator of some part from the original message. For example:

Sample from S7

ST: *Ahmad Ali menyebut Gubernur DKI Jakarta Anies Baswedan, dan Gubernur Jawa Tengah Ganjar Pranowo menjadi nama yang bakal dibahas dalam rakernas untuk diusung jadi capres.*

TT: *ahmad ali called governor dki Jakarta anies baswedan, and central Java governor ganjar pranowo became the name to be covered in rakernas to be (missing word) candidate of president.*

From the sentence above, it can be seen that there are several problem such as, inappropriate word choice, capital letter, and omission found by the researcher.

d. inadequate level

At this level there are numerous serious problems that make the TT reader hard to comprehend the original message of ST.

Sample from S10

ST: *Kalau kita lihat aspirasi beberapa wilayah yang muncul tidak jauh-jauh menyebut Anies, kemudian nama Ganjar. Dua nama itu yang hari ini tidak jauh yang muncul di wilayah” Ali kepada wartawan di Jakarta Convention Centre (JCC), Jakarta Pusat, Rabu (15/6/2022).*

TT: *Ali (Wednesday, 15 June 2022) said that the society's aspiration for president candidates is mostly wanting Anies and Ganjar.*

From the example above, it can be seen that the massive reduction of the sentence that can influence the reader in understanding the original message of the ST. The connection between paragraphs will be incoherent due to some information are not well conveyed to the reader

2. Frequency of Inversion of meaning in students translation work

Errors found in student’s translation work are also influence the accuracy of translation. Therefore, the result of students’ translation was classified into two categories of errors namely Inversion of meaning and deviation of meaning. Inversion means the SL meaning is expressed in a different method where the TT intention is contradicted with ST.

Frequency Errors of inversion of meaning

Number	Kind of Errors	Frequency	Percentage
1	Inversion of Meaning	3	2.7%

From the table above, it can be seen that there were 3 (2.7%) occurrences inversion of meaning found by the researcher. Thus, Inversion of meaning become the least frequently errors in students’ translation work. The error of inversion of meaning can be seen from the examples below:

Datum 1

ST: *Kalau kita lihat aspirasi beberapa wilayah yang muncul tidak jauh-jauh menyebut Anies, kemudian nama Ganjar*

TT: *The term Ganjar comes to mind when we consider the goals of numerous locations that are mentioned with Anies.*

From the example above, it can be seen that the idea from the ST is completely different with TT. The idea from ST reveals that the name Anies and Ganjar are frequently mentioned in some areas. On the other hand, the idea from TT is focused on the existence name of Ganjar that comes after consideration goals of some locations which mentioned Anies.

Datum 2

ST: *Ali mengatakan rakernas NasDem bakal menampung setiap aspirasi dari tiap Dewan Pimpinan Wilayah.*

TT: *Ali asserted that the goals of each Regional Leadership Council would be taken into consideration in the NasDem National Working Meeting.*

The example above shows that the students are tried to create a sentence with a different pattern that can contradict with the TT intention. The idea of TT is completely contradicted with the ST. The focus of the ST is on accommodation of each aspiration from each Regional Leadership Council provided by NasDem in National working meeting (Rakernas). On the other hand, the TT is focus on the goals of each Regional Leadership Council that will be considered in National working meeting. Therefore, the idea of the ST is not transferred well into TT and it made a notion contradiction among the TT.

3. Deviation of meaning in student’s translation work

Deviation means a vague translation or a diversion of the source language's intent to other notions.

Frequency Errors of inversion of meaning

Number	Kind of Errors	Frequency	Percentage
2	Deviation of Meaning	110	97.3

The table above shows that deviation of meaning in students’ translation work English became the most frequently errors with 110 occurrences (97.3%). The error of deviation of meaning can be seen from the examples below:

Datum 1

ST: *Ali berkata, Ketua Umum*

TT: *Ali said, NasDem General Chair*

The example above shows that the deviation of meaning causing by student’s choice of word. This translation leads the TT reader into a perplexity due to inappropriate choice of word made by the students. Another example as follow:

Datum 11

ST: *Resminya, DPW akan menyampaikan pandangan umumnya besok*

TT: *The official, DPW will deliver a general view tomorrow*

The example above shows that the student did not choose the appropriate word that can confuse the reader. The word the official “adjective” should be translated into officially “adverb” as an adverb of manner.

Datum 50

ST: Resminya, DPW akan menyampaikan pandangan umumnya besok,

TT: Fornally, DPW said their general opinion tomorrow,

From the translation above shows that there are two deviation of meaning made by the student in this sentence. The first error is a vague translation causing by misspelled word that can confuse the reader. The second error is causing by inappropriate choice word that have different meaning from the ST. Therefore, the sentence is not conveyed well to the reader of TT.

Discussion

According to the result of this study, the accuracy of student to translate news item text from Bahasa Indonesia to English dominantly was categorized into almost completely successful. There were 4 (12.5%) achieved successful level, 24 students (75%) achieved almost completely successful level, 2 students (6.5) achieved adequate level, 2 students (6.5%) achieved inadequate level and none of the student achieved totally inadequate level. The students’ accuracy in translating news item text was dominantly achieved almost completely successful level. Then it was followed by successful level, adequate level, inadequate level and none of the students in totally inadequate level.

This research finding had a different result with the previous research conducted by Mahardini (2020). The researcher used documentation method in order to reveal the accuracy of psychology students in translating undergraduate final project abstract. The data was assessed by using the rubric from Nababan which categorized into three degrees. The researcher found that most of the students achieved level 3 of accuracy (accurate) with 71.42%. Furthermore, the same percentage can be seen and from level 2 (less accurate), and achieved level 1 (not accurate) with 14.28%. The students mostly achieved level 3 (accurate level) that is the highest level of accuracy according to Nababan’s Translation Accuracy Assessment.

Furthermore, the different result can be seen from the study carried out by Kurniati et al. (2016). They used the accuracy rating instrument from Nagao, Tsuji, and Nakamura (1998) in analyzing and giving the score which categorized into four levels accuracy. They found that there were 32 students achieved less accurate, 3 students gained not accurate and none of the students achieved highly accurate and accurate level of accuracy. However, this current research used 5 levels of accuracy in analyzing and categorizing each level of students’ translation work.

Besides, this research also analyzed the errors in students’ translation work by employing Sager’s theory. The errors were categorized into two levels namely inversion and deviation of meaning. From the result of the study, deviation of meaning was frequently dominated by the error with 110 occurrences (97.3%) and then followed by inversion of meaning with 3 occurrences (2.7%).

The finding of this study had different result with the research conducted by Kurniati et al. (2016). The researchers also analyzed and described the error made by the students by categorizing the error into four types of errors. The errors were addition of unnecessary word, omission of essential word, inappropriate word choices and word for word translation. However, in this current research, the researcher realized that the theory of deviation is almost similar with the inappropriate choice of word. In this case, deviation and inappropriate choice of word showed that language's intent to other concepts.

Furthermore, the same result can be seen from the research carried out by Amalya (2018). The researcher used two types of text (recount and exposition texts) to investigate the error in the students' translation work at SMAN 13 Pangkep. The researcher used Sager's theory to analyze the data. The result revealed that there were 4 types of errors that can be found in the students' translation work. There were 65 inversions of meaning, 47 omissions of meaning, 78 additions of meaning and 43 deviations of meaning in text 1. Moreover, in the text 2, there were 68 inversions of meaning, 93 omissions of meaning, 62 additions of meaning, 112 deviations of meaning. However, this study was analyzed 2 kinds of errors from the 4 types of errors proposed by sager (1983).

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

1. Conclusion

Based on finding and discussion, it can be concluded the average of students' translation accuracy in translating news item text from Bahasa Indonesia to English mostly achieved almost completely successful level. In addition, the students achieved four level of translation accuracy namely, successful, almost completely successful, adequate, and inadequate level. There were three levels achieved by the students namely, successful, almost completely successful, adequate level. From all of the accuracy level, there was none of the students achieved totally inadequate level in this research. Furthermore, there were two kinds of error analysed by the researcher in students' translation work, namely addition of meaning and deviation of meaning. In addition, there were 113 errors occurred in students' translation work. The most frequent errors in this research were deviation of meaning which occurred 110 times (97.3%) and the least frequent errors were inversion of meaning which occurred 3 times (2.7%).

2. Suggestions

Regarding to data analysis and finding in the previous chapter, there are several suggestions can be conveyed to the students and other researchers. First, this research are given some information about translation accuracy so that the students of English Department who takes Indonesian-English translation elective course to enrich their knowledge about accuracy in translating a text.

Second, the research was done to find out the accuracy and also the students' error in translating news item text from Bahasa Indonesia to

English. The researcher recommended the students to be more aware in every aspect of translation accuracy.

Third, this research still has many limitations and weakness so that the researcher is hoped that the next researcher will continue and develop this research. The subject studied and the genre text choice is still limited. Hence the researcher hoped that the next researcher will conduct a deeper and more specific research in the future.

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