

AN ANALYSIS OF GRAMMATICAL ERRORS OF USING GOOGLE TRANSLATE FROM INDONESIA TO ENGLISH IN WRITING NARRATIVE TEXT

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Abstract

This study focuses on the grammatical errors made by Google Translate in translating narrative text from Indonesian to English. The narrative text is a text written by class X culinary arts students at SMK Tunas Karya Batang Kuis. The research method used in conducting this research is qualitative with content analysis as the research design. It is also known as the document analysis method. It is intended that readers will be able to learn about the types of grammar errors that occur when using Google Translate and also the most common errors. This research discovered that there are two addition errors in five narrative texts. The words are "after and who." There are two deletion errors. Those are deletion articles and translated people's names. Replacement errors are the most common, followed by a total of 17 errors. Among them are replacement errors because they cannot find the right equivalent, translating word for word, pronoun substitution errors, and translating people's names. The last is a misordering error. There are two misordering errors: that a word or a group of words is placed incorrectly in a sentence. It is intended that once readers understand this, they will avoid making the same errors and enhance their grammar translation knowledge and skills.

Keywords: *Google translate, Grammatical errors, Narrative text*

Introduction

Many people have recently turned to machine translation to help them translate

their documents. But, it is not widely used in the academic field, owing to worries about its trustworthiness in terms of appropriately rendering the source text in the target language. However, the MT system is always being updated, with the goal of enhancing translation quality and making the translator's job easier.

A considerable number of materials are translated in several South African higher education institutions to aid successful learning. Nevertheless, in an aim to minimize the fee of translation, teachers and students frequently look for other ways to translate their study materials other than through professional translation. Kurniasih (2017:13) stated that Google Translate is an appropriate and functional online translation machine that was utilized to translate student texts in this study.

However, this machine translation tends to produce imprecise sentences because this tool only translates on a word-by-word basis without considering the actual meaning of the text and grammar rules in English. It often applies Indonesian structure, which is different from English structure, and it can cause some grammatical errors. So, when using Google Translate to translate a text, a new issue arises because it just transfers language without knowing the correct grammar.

There are several types of text offered to students in senior high school based on their competence standard, but the researcher is particularly interested in narrative text. Narrative text was chosen to be the object of research because it relates to human imagination and creativity. This can help English students get a good grasp of how to arrange statements and sentences in a logical order.

According to Kembaren (2019:3) stated that when using Google Translate as a machine translator, all you have to do is type the text into the website, choose the target language, and hit translate button. This convenience has a good impact on students because it can help their writing skill, it becomes a useful learning tool.

However, the quality of Google Translate translations needs to be significantly improved. As a result, teachers must be aware of that limits and give the students proper instructions. The translation quality was still poor, and to be useful, the texts still required extensive post-editing. Google Translate is less suitable as the vocabulary grows and the style and grammar get more complicated unless it goes with human correction (Kembaren, 2018:106).

The purpose of this study is to describe the kinds of grammatical errors and the errors that are most often found in translating narrative texts using Google Translate. This research aims to inform students about grammatical problems that can occur when using Google Translate, allowing them to avoid making the same errors and improve their knowledge and skills.

Literature Review

Grammatical Errors

Larsen-Freeman stated that grammar is the set of rules that order a language. While, an error is the use of a word, speech act, or grammatical item in such a way that it appears to be damaged and suggestive of incomplete learning (Richard et al., 2002:452). Definition of Grammatical error is separation from learners in applying specific language rules, which includes improper forms, semantics meaning, and foreign language usage due to learners' insufficient knowledge of foreign language norms (Hsu, 2013:513)

One of Gramatical error theories is from Larson which is the theory that used in this research. According to Larson's theory (1991), there are four kinds of grammatical error analysis

that classify errors: addition, deletion, replacement, and misordering. An addition error occurs when a student employs an unneeded part of a sentence, resulting in an ungrammatical statement. Deletion errors occur when learners leave out necessary components of a sentence so that it does not become grammatically correct. A replacement or substitution error is the employment of the first grammatical form in a different grammatical form. The last one is misordering, which is when words are placed in the wrong sequence.

Google Translate

One of the most popular machine translations today is Google Translate. Bahri, (2016:1) defines Google Translate as one of free machine translation established by Google that is used to translate various documents from one language to another. Google Translate can be accessed at any time and from anywhere, whether using a PC or a smartphone and has potential to provide access fast and conveniently. Although Google Translate has many advantages, it also has disadvantages that are often an issue, especially in the academic field. Google Translate has trouble interpreting a single word and acting as a multilingual dictionary because it only provides one meaning at a time.

Translating Narrative Text

Larson (1984:3) defines translation as the process of transferring meaning from one language to another language. In general, the difficulty levels of Indonesian to English and English to Indonesian translation are similar, but some students remarked that Indonesian to English translation is more challenging. The translation capacity of Indonesian students in particular and Asian students in general, is harmed by a lack of cross-cultural awareness and sociolinguistic competency (Daulay, 2019:56). When it comes to translation, some students still use word-for-word translation.

Narrative text is used to entertain either imagined or true stories, such as fairy tales, science fiction, and romance. (Suharyadi, 2008:56). We can even consider our stories to be films in which the viewer sees and hears individuals in action. As a result, it should be detailed and easy to understand, with events ordered in a logical order (Meyers, 2005: 52).

Methods

In order to establish a foundation for providing an understanding or comprehensive description, qualitative research requires a specific social location as the natural setting of the problem. This study conducted at one of the vocational high schools in Batang Kuis Deli Serdang North Sumatera. This school was chosen as the research site because the researchers had previously completed a teaching internship there and discovered that students' English skills were still lacking when it came to translating the questions. They also rely on Google Translate to assist them in translating and answering the questions. The researcher employed qualitative content analysis method to conduct this study. This method of analyzing written, vocal, or visual communication messages. It is also known as the "document analysis method". The researcher can use content analysis to investigate theoretical difficulties and gain a better grasp of the data. It is possible to distill words into fewer content-related groups using content analysis.

Documentation is one technique of collecting data in qualitative research, which can

provide certain information in the form of written sources or documentation, such as books, periodicals, and diaries. This strategy is used by the writer to obtain data, i.e., ask students to write a narrative text in Indonesian, then the researcher translate it using Google Translate. After translating it, the research analyzed the result of translation. It would facilitate the researcher in identifying grammatical errors in translating it from Indonesian into English text using Google Translate.

To gather data, it is necessary to locate relevant and accurate data from reliable sources. Sutanto Leo describes two types of sources in thesis: primary and secondary. The primary source in this study is the translation result of Google Translate. The secondary source of this research is the narrative text that written by first year Culinary art students in the academic year 2022/2023. The technique for analyzing data, the researcher applied Miles & Huberman, (1994:10) there are four steps to follow such as data collection, data reduction, data visualization and conclude it. For this study, the researcher use test for Credibility as the trustworthiness. The Credibility test of the study data is supplied so that the conclusions of the research are not questioned as a scientific work in progress. By making use of reference materials.

Researchers considered numerous crucial ethical concepts when doing research. Obtained consent from potential research subjects and the school by displaying a cover letter from the campus authorizing research. Second, researchers reduced the potential for injury to research participants and avoiding deceptive techniques and, most crucially, the researcher maintained the confidentiality and anonymity of research participants.

Results & Discussion

In this research, an analysis of grammatical errors of using Googletranslate from Indonesia to English in writing narrative text among culinary art students in SMK Tunas Karya Batang Kuis. The data is analyzed according to the four categories given by Larson's theory of analysis, namely errors in addition, deletion, replacement, and misordering. An addition error is defined as the existence of an item in a sentence or utterance that should not be there. A deletion error is a type of error that occurs when an item that must be present in a well-formed utterance is missing. Replacement is the act of replacing a word or phrase. The last is a misordering error that occurs when a morpheme or a group of morphemes was placed incorrectly in an utterance.

Based on the result of the research, the researcher chose five narrative texts from some of the students' culinary art majors and translated them by using Google translate. After that, the researcher analyzes it to find the grammatical errors. It is often known that Google translate translations are not always correct. Google translate statements frequently violate grammatical forms, such as the usage of articles, tenses, and substitution. This is consistent with what Farida Kembaren wrote in her book: "In general, current machine translation can only achieve 90% accuracy at best unless used in a carefully controlled language application like safety data sheet materials," (Kembaren, 2018:106).

Specifically, this research uses Larson's theory about the types of grammatical errors. Namely, errors in addition, deletion, replacement, and misordering in analyze students' narrative texts that have been translated by using Google Translate, which each type of error will be discussed one by one below. The first type of grammatical error in the translation of narrative text using google translate is addition. Addition error is defined as the existence of an item in a sentence

or utterance that should not be there. There are two addition errors of five narrative text. The words are after and who. An example of sentences in story Malin Kundang:

After a few days later Malin was appointed a prince.

You don't need to put the word „after“ because there is a word „later“ that has been explained that was the next day.

→ *A few days later Malin was appointed a prince.*

The second type of grammatical error in the translation of narrative text using Google Translate is deletion. A deletion error is a type of error that occurs when an item that must be present in a well-formed utterance is missing. There are two deletion errors of five narrative texts. Those are deletion article and translate person name. An example of sentence in story Timun Mas:
who would give him a child on condition that when the child grew up to be 17 years old he would take it back

There should be an article the in that sentence

→ *who would give him a child on the condition that when the child grew up to be 17 years old he would take it back.*

The third type of grammatical error in the translation of narrative text using Google Translate is replacement. Replacement or substitution is the act of replacing a word or phrase. There are so many replacement errors, with a total of 17. Among them are replacement errors because they cannot find the right equivalent, translating word for word, pronoun substitution errors, and translating people's names. After looking in more detail, it turns out that the most common error that occurs is that Google Translate cannot find the right equivalent of the source language, namely Indonesian to English. As the result, there are certain ambiguities of meaning that might confuse the reader. Example:

Ind: *Timun Emas pun bertumbuh dewasa menjadi gadis cantik dan jelita.*

Eng: *Timun Emas grew up to become a beautiful and beautiful girl.*

There is a repetition of the word “beautiful” to translate different words that is *cantik* and *jelita*.

→ *Timun Emas grew up to become a beautiful and lovely girl.*

Another example is error in the using singular and plural in 4th story *Teman sejati: my close friend and I went hiking in the mountains.*

It is not plural, so you do not need to put (s) at the end of the noun.

→ *my close friend and I went hiking in the mountain.*

For person's name, it can not be translated.

Ind: Raja martada mempunyai 3 orang putri yang cantik danjelita. Dewi Chika, PutriKesuma, Bella Safira.

Eng: King Martada has 3 beautiful and beautiful daughters. DewiChika, PrincessKesuma, Bella Safira.

→ King Martada has 3 beautiful and beautiful daughters. Dewi Chika,
Putri Kesuma,Bella Safira.

Error in pronoun and gender replacement. E.g:Malin met a girl,the **son** of a king. She is a girl, so she is called "daughter," not "son." because "son" refers to a boy.

→ Malin met a girl, the **daughter** of a king.

The last type of grammatical error in the translation of narrative text using google translate is misordering. A misordering error occurs when a word or a group of words is placedincorrectly in an utterance. It must be noted that the placement of punctuation is important because this will greatly affect the output of the translation. There are two misordering errors of five narrative texts. E.g:

Ind: Ibu malin mengejarnya dan berkata “**nak ini ibu nak, ibu kamuMalin**”

Eng: Malin's mother chased after him and said "**this is my son, yourmother is Malin**"

It has a different meaning.

→ Malin's mother chased after him and said "**this is me son, your mother,Malin**"

We can see from the above findings and explanations that Google Translate is useful for translating materials, particularly for students completing assignments. However, because Google Translate is not always accurate, we must still proofread to determine what errors remain and what needs correcting. The translation output will be better and more natural, and the reader will be able to understand it more clearly.

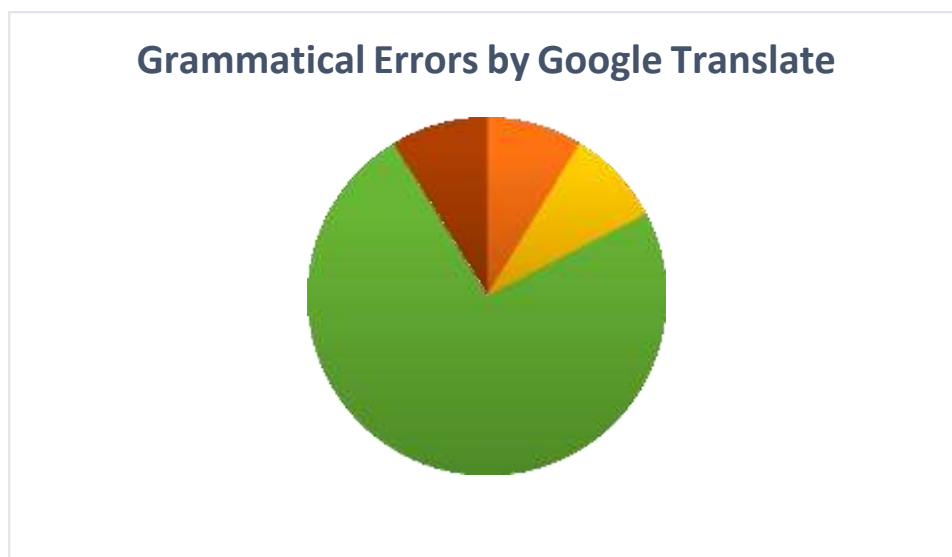


Figure 1 The Results of Grammatical errors of Google Translate in Translating Narrative Text

Conclusion

Google translate statements frequently violate grammatical forms, such as the usage of articles, tenses, and substitution. Specifically, this research used Larson's theory about the types of grammatical errors. Namely, errors in addition, deletion, replacement, and misordering in analyzing X Culinary Art students' narrative texts that have been translated by using Google Translate. There are two addition errors in five narrative texts. The words are "after and who." There are two deletion errors. Those are deletion articles and translated people's names. Replacement errors are the most common, followed by a total of 17 errors. Among them are replacement errors because they cannot find the right equivalent, translating word for word, pronoun substitution errors, and translating people's names. The last is a misordering error. There are two misordering errors: that a word or a group of words is placed incorrectly in a sentence. However, Google Translate is useful for translating documents, particularly for students completing assignments. But, because Google Translate is not always accurate, we must still proofread to determine what errors remain and what needs correcting. The translation output will be better and more natural, and the reader will be able to understand it more clearly before it becomes the final result.

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