

The English Students' Perception in Using Google Translate and U – Dictionary at Translation Class

Agus Setiawan¹, Mersi Axelina²

¹Universitas Pendidikan Muhammadiyah Sorong¹; setiawan.agus513@gmail.com

²Universitas Pendidikan Muhammadiyah Sorong²; mersiixelina91@gmail.com

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*Correspondence: Agus Setiawan

Email: setiawan.agus513@gmail.com

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Abstract: This research was conducted to find out the sixth semester students of English Education Program at UNIMUDA Sorong perception in using Google Translate and U – Dictionary at translation class. The design of this research is descriptive qualitative. Sixth semester of English Education Department in UNIMUDA Sorong was chosen by the researcher as sample which consists of 10 students. In collecting data, the researcher used interview, it is consisting of 6 questions which cover the point to answer the students' perception. From the result, it showed that the applications very helpful and can help students to translate word or sentence. The students can also use the applications anywhere and anytime without bringing book dictionary, it also easy to find the source language and very fast but it will make the students addicted to use the applications continuously and make them lazy to think. Most of the students choose U-Dictionary to translate because the word choices are correct and the meaning and the grammatical is better. Then the applications can improve students' translation ability such as the students know how to say the sentence although they don't know about the structure and it also help the students to understand the meaning of the sentence.

Keywords: Students' Perception; Google Translate; U-Dictionary.

INTRODUCTION

Translation is one of the subjects included in the learning system that needs continuing growth and development besides any other subjects. According to Saleh [1] translation is translating the meaning of the text into other languages by the author's intent. The concept expresses from the source that the author wants to translate the target language not only diverting messages but must also understand the target language to avoid mistake. As the demand for translation has increased tremendously, MT (Machine Translation) is now widely used worldwide [2], [3]. Today, translation has a very important role, especially in the academic world. English is often an obstacle for students who have a poor understanding of English. Technology information is developing very rapidly, then many applications and websites can be used as media of learning. According to Sadiman [4] media of learning can be understood as anything that can convey or channel messages from a planned source, so that a conducive learning environment occurs where the recipient can carry out the learning process efficiently and effectively. Therefore, some of the applications of translation by utilizing technology are the use of Google Translate and U – Dictionary or the translation engine with the google application which can be used to divert messages from English into Indonesian.

Nowadays, in the technology of net and new media technology growth, digital dictionaries are well under way of development and recognition. As a Machine Translation, Google Translate is easy and fast to be used. Based on the Sharma statement above, the writer had seen that nowadays many students can take advantage of Google Translate to translate way easier and faster. Indonesia is one of the 10 countries that use the Google Translate application, as agreed by Macduff Hughes as the Director of the Google Translation Engineering compilation conference in Jakarta, Google Translate is also a very well-known application among students. U – Dictionary is an application that is used both when the phone is online and offline, and this application was released on March 24th, 2016, offered by Youdao, Hong Kong. In 2019 U – Dictionary has been downloaded

by more than 50 million users in the worldwide which makes sense for the students nowadays for at least have this application to help them in translation.

There are some previous studies that related to this research. The first study is “*Students' Perceptions of Google Translate as A Media for Translating English Material*” by [5] in her research stated that students consider using Google Translate to translate, and use it to learn pronunciation and to add vocabulary or synonyms. The next studies by Mustika [6] this research stated that most students use online dictionary than book dictionary when studying the English language. Some previous studies focused on the perception and experience of using an online dictionary (google translate), while the focus of this study was not limited to experience, but this study more emphasized or aims to determine The English Students’ Perception in Using Google Translate and U – Dictionary at Translation Class.

Perception in the narrow sense is vision, how a person sees things, while in the broad sense of perception is a view or understanding that is as someone views or interprets something (Leavitt cited in [7]). Perception is recognized as a process of receiving, selecting, organizing, interpreting, testing, and giving a reaction to an object, event, or problem (Davidoff cited in [8])

METHOD

Research design

The method of this research was descriptive qualitative research. It was based on the research focuses that analyzed the students’ perception in using Google Translate and U – Dictionary in sixth semester of English Education Program Study. According to Sugiyono [9] stated that the process of taken data or phenomena called as taking of the data naturally. From the definition above that the natural source is the direct source of data, and the researchers is a key instrument in qualitative research.

Research Subject

This research has conducted in English Education Program Study, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, UNIMUDA Sorong. It was located in Jl. KH Ahmad Dahlan No.1, Mariat Pantai, Aimas, Kab. Sorong. The participant of this research was 6th semester student of English Education Program Study that taking translation subject with the total of subject is 10, 1 male and 9 female. The researchers took students who were considered have used Google Translate and U – Dictionary at translation class.

Intervention Procedure

The researchers collected the data through interview. Interview is a technique of data collection most often used in social research, whether qualitative or quantitative. The researchers interviewed the students to find out the students’ perception of Google Translate and U – Dictionary as a media for translating English material. This instrument used smartphone recorder. The interviewer recorded all of interviewees answer from the interviewers’ question which has been given orally based on the question provided. After getting the data from the interview, the researchers transcribed the data in the form of a description.

Data were analyzed using several steps according to Miles, Huberman and Saldana [10] analyzing data in three steps: data condensation (data condensation), presents data (data display), and is interesting conclusion or verification (conclusion drawing and verification). Data condensation referred to the process of selecting (selecting), conical (focusing), simplification (abstracting), and data transformation (transforming).

Instrument

The instrument of this research was interview. The interviews focused on the guidelines that prepared to determine students' perceptions of Google Translate and U – Dictionary as a media for translating English material. It was consisting of 6 questions which covered the point to answer the students’ perception.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This part described about results and discussion the students’ perception towards Google Translate and U-dictionary in translation class. The perceptions here related with the students’ opinion towards Google Translate and U-Dictionary, the positive and negative impact of Google

Translate and U-Dictionary for students, the students' choice translation machine, and the translation machines' function in improving the students' ability in translation. The findings will be explained more detail in the following discussion.

The Students' Opinion toward Google Translate and U – Dictionary

Since the translations' students used both Google Translate and U-dictionary, the researcher intends to know their opinion about both applications. Most of the students think that both are very helpful in translation class. The application helps them to find out the meaning of words and sentences when they were doing translation because majority of the translation class students are lack of vocabulary. Moreover, the Google Translate and U-Dictionary can be accessed everywhere so it makes them easy and fast to complete their translation task. They just put the word or sentences on the machine and the translation result is appeared. The result of the students' interview can be seen in the following:

"...very helpful in translation class."

Students 3, Question No.1

"...make it easier to translate vocabulary..."

Students 5, Question No.1

"...veru helpful because it can translate word or even sentence..."

Students 6, Question No.1

"...feel very helpful in translation."

Students 7, Question No.1

Positive Impacts of Google Translate and U – Dictionary

Dealing with positive impact, the use of Google Translate and U-dictionary has several positive impacts for the translations' class students. First, the applications are easy to access and use. The students can be accessed those applications everywhere as long as they have installed them in their mobile phone. Both google translate and U-dictionary can be accessed offline, so it can make the user easier and comfortable to use. Furthermore, regarding with the tools operations, both Google Translate and U-Dictionary is not as complicated as dictionary to operate.

Second, the applications help the students know the vocabulary or target language easily and fast. They don't need to open the dictionary anymore to find out the vocabulary that they don't know. The speed of the application in finding word or sentence helps the students in understanding the word or sentence that they are going to translate. Third, the applications can improve the students' English vocabulary indirectly. Even though, they just read and write the word or sentence that they have translated but they learn the new word indirectly. The result of the students' interview can be seen in the following:

"...can use it anywhere and anytime and not complicated like when we use dictionary..."

Students 1, Question No.2

"...easy to know the source language and very fast..."

Students 2, Question No.2

"...it can add new knowledge about words or sentences that we don't know..."

Students 8, Question No.2

Negative Impact

Based on the interview with the students, there are negative impacts of using Google Translate and U-dictionary in translation. First, the translation application makes the students lazy to think and learn. It is because the ease of application in translating the word or sentences makes the students lazy to think and reread again the result of the translation. Besides that, the use of applications made the students didn't effort to recall their vocabulary and grammar in translating word or sentences. Second, the use of translation applications makes the students addictive. The students always want to use and use again the application when they have a problem in translating word or sentence. They feel that

the application makes their task easy and fast to finish, so they are addicted to use those application. As the result, when they asked to do translation without helping from those applications, they are very struggle. The result of the students' interview can be seen in the following:

"...will make us lazy to use our brain to think."

Students 2, Question No.2

"...make us lazy to try and think."

Students 3, Question No.2

"...it will make us addicted to use it continuously."

Students 4, Question No.2

The Students' Translation Applications Choices

Talking about the students' choices, most of the students prefer U-dictionary rather than Google Translate in translating word or sentence. There are some reasons of the students' choices. First, U-dictionary is better from the word choices and diction in translation. The accuracy of translating word and sentence in English is better than Google Translate. The students only need to re-check again to make sure the translation result is suitable with the author intention. Second, U-dictionary is better than Google Translate from grammatical side. Grammatically, the result of students' translation in U-dictionary applications is well and don't need much revision. While if the students use Google Translate, the student need to check again the grammar because the result of translation makes a lot of grammatical mistakes. Third, U-dictionary contains a lot of new vocabulary and word synonym. The students sometimes use this application to learn new word, find new word definition, and word synonym. Therefore, it can be a learning tools for the students in improving their capability in English. The result of the students' interview can be seen in the following:

"...the word choices is correct..."

Students 7, Question No.3

"...clear and there is pronounce tool."

Students 4, Question No.3

"...U-Dictionary because the meaning and grammatical is better..."

Students 1, Question No.3

"...I find lots of new definitions... many synonyms..."

Students 2, Question No.3

The Functions of Translation Application for Students Translation Ability

Although the application has positive and negative impact, but the applications also help students in improving the students' translation ability. First, the application can translate Bahasa to English automatically so the students know how to say the sentence although they don't know about the structure. Second, the students find lots of new vocabulary when they translate the word or sentence. Third, the application can help the students to understand the meaning of the sentence. The result of the students' interview can be seen in the following:

"...we can know how to speak even though we don't know the structure..."

Students 3, Question No.4

"...I find new vocabulary from both of the applications..."

Students 7, Question No.4

"...it's fast when I search the word and sentence that I don't understand ..."

Students 4, Question No.4

Most of the students would recommend the applications for their friends to use. First it will help them in translation. Second, it also can help their friends to add new vocabulary. The result of the students' interview can be seen in the following:

"...because these applications is very helpful in translate."

Students 7, Question No. 6

“...can help to add vocabulary...”

Students 5, Question No. 6

Based on the result of research finding, the students at sixth semester of English Education Department in UNIMUDA Sorong have many perceptions about the use of Google Translate and U-Dictionary at Translation. The perceptions here related with the students' opinion towards Google Translate and U-Dictionary, the positive and negative impact of Google Translate and U-Dictionary for students, the students' choice translation machine, and the translation machines' function in improving the students' ability in translation.

The first is the students' opinion towards Google Translate and U-Dictionary. The students' perceptions toward Google Translate and U-Dictionary are it was very helpful in translation. It also can help the students translate word or even sentence. It is appropriate with Rahayu [5] students also use google translate when they find difficulties in translating words, sentences, and even paragraphs both in terms of ease such as using pronunciation check to make it easier for students to learn English.

The second is the positive and negative impact of Google Translate and U-Dictionary for students. The positive impact of Google Translate and U-Dictionary for students are the use of the applications can be anywhere and anytime and not complicated just like when the students use book dictionary. It also easy to find the source language and very fast. It also can add new knowledge about words or sentences that the students don't know. It is appropriate with Mustika's statement [6] the reason that make them interest to use online dictionary because online dictionary is faster and easier to use than book dictionary. The negative impact of Google Translate and U-Dictionary for students are the applications make the students lazy to use their brain, to try and to think. It also makes the students addicted to use the applications continuously. It is appropriate with Mustika's statement [6] online dictionary is practical and easy to access, it makes students always depend on online dictionary so the students lazy to memorize the unknown words, they were less able to think and try to remember new words.

The third is students' choice translation machine. Most of the student's translation applications choices are U – Dictionary because the word choices are correct. It also clear and there is pronounce tool inside the application, also the meaning and grammatical is better. The student also can find lots of new definitions and many synonyms. It is appropriate with [11] there are modern electronic dictionary such as the U-Dictionary application which has features to support learning for English learners.

The fourth is the translation machines' function in improving the students' ability in translation. The application can translate Indonesian to English automatically so the students know how to say the sentence although they don't know about the structure. It also helps the students find lots of new vocabulary when they translate the word or sentence. The application can help the students to understand the meaning of the sentence. It is in line with [12] students used Google Translate as a fast dictionary to help them look up the vocabulary meaning faster.

CONCLUSION

Based on the finding described in discussion of students' experiences on the use of Google Translate and U-Dictionary at translation class, the researcher then draws conclusions that the applications very helpful and can help students to translate word or sentence. The students can also use the applications anywhere and anytime without bringing book dictionary, it also easy to find the source language and very fast but it will make the students addicted to use the applications continuously and make them lazy to think. Most of the students choose U-Dictionary to translate because the word choices are correct and the meaning and the grammatical is better. Then the

applications can improve students translation ability such as the students know how to say the sentence although they don't know about the structure and it also help the students to understand the meaning of the sentence.

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