

GOOGLE TRANSLATE ERRORS ANALYSIS IN TRANSLATING NEWS FROM ENGLISH TO INDONESIAN

Yanto
Vioni Adelina
Duty Volia

Universitas Jambi
E-mail: yanto.fkip@unja.ac.id

Abstract

The purpose of this research is to describe the errors found on Google Translate output in translating English news into Indonesian. This research focuses on omission error, misordering, untranslated word, and confusion of sense resulted by Google Translate in translating the five English news into Indonesian. Those English news consists of different category such as bussiness, sport, technology, and national news. This research belongs to a qualitative research employing descriptive method. It aims to describe the errors made by Google translate, while the data of this research are the errors found on Google Translate in translating English news into Indonesian. In analyzing the errors, reseacher uses the taxonomy which was modified by Costa at all (2015). There are some errors found: The omission errors (5), misordering (18), untranslated word (19), and confusion sense (64) from the output. The analysis shows that confusion of sense is the dominant error produced by Google Translate in translating English news into Indonesian.

Keywords : *Google Translate, Error, Error Analysis*

INTRODUCTION

Information is served in English nowadays, whereas not all people in Indonesia understand English. It becomes an obstacle for Indonesian because they do not understand the information which is served in English. There are some ways that people can do in order to make them know and understand the meaning of the text in foreign language, one of the ways is by translating the language. According to Cartford (1978) stated “ translation is the replacement of textual material one language (SL) into another language (TL)” (P.20).

People can translate by themselves, but need time, effort, and money in orderto ask the translator to translate the text from language source into target language. It requires people prefer to use online translation to translate a text. Besides, the use of online translation will save one’s energy, money and time. Google Translate is a famous siteto help people in translating a text from one language to another language. Even so, the result

of translated text from a source language into target languagesometimes is not accurate. The result is also difficult to understand because there are errors produced.

Error resulted by Google Translate is unavoidable and it becomes a crucial problem to be analyzed because Google Translate is one of free online translation system. In other words, people could translate the text by using Google Translate without any cost. Generally, error is known as something incorrect or a deviation from what is right, correct, and sectioned. Errors resulted by Google translate cannot be ignored because it will make the wrong message conveyed from source language into target language. As a result, the text cannot be understood well. Error Analysis is one of the ways that can be used to analyze the error. Error Analysis is the process of determining the incidence, nature causes and consequences of unsuccessful language (James, 1998). Through analyzing the error, people will know kinds of error appear and how well Google Translate translating the language, especially translating language from English into Indonesian. Thus, the aim of this research is to describe ommision error, misordering, untranslated word, and confusion of sense found on Google Translate output, especially in translating English news into Indonesian.

Review of Related Literature

Generally, error is known as something incorrect or a deviation from what is right, correct, and sectioned. Error occurs systematically and repeatedly. Meanwhile, Costa et. all.(2015) stated “analysing the translation error is a task that can help people to find and describe translation problem in greater detail, but can also suggest where the automatic engines should be improved” (P.1). In other words, error analysis is the methodology that can be observed, analyzed, and classified to reveal the incidence, nature, causes, and consequences of language failed resulted by automatic translation engine. Error taxonomy is used to analyze the errors produced by online translation system, the error taxonomy modified by Costa et all (2015) are: *Orthography* level errors include all the errors concerning misuse of punctuationand misspelling of words.*Lexis* level taken into account are omission, addition and untranslated. *Grammar* level errors are deviations in the morphological and syntactical aspects of language. In this level, there are two types of errors that are analyzed: misselection errors are morphological misformations that the words may present, occurring on the grammatical level.*Semantic* level,the type of errors are confusion of senses, wrong choice, collocational error and idioms.

Translation is the replacement of textual material from source language into target language. Translation is as the activity where the meaning of source language is transferring to the target language (Larson, 1984). Simatupang (2000) stated that “translation is transferring the meaning of source language into the target language and expressing it in the target language with the form which is proper based on the rules obtained in the target language” (P.2) .

Newmark (1988) divided the methods of translation into two, those are translation method that emphasizes to source language and translation method that emphasizes to target language. Translation method that emphasizes to source language are word for word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, and semantic translation. Meanwhile, translation method that emphasizes to source language are adaptation, free translation, idiomatic translation and communicative translation.

Larson (1984) stated that the principles of translation are divided into three: Accuracy, clearness, and naturalness. In order to reduce the awkwardness of the text in target language, there are four stages that should be done. In this case the three stages (Analysis, Transfer, and Restructuring) are proposed by Nida and Taber (1982) and one stage (Evaluation and Revision) proposed by Suryawinata (2003). According to Newmark (1988) there are some procedures of translation, those are: Transference, Naturalisation, Cultural equivalent, Functional Equivalent, Descriptive equivalent, Synonymy, Through-translation, Shift or transposition, Compensation, Componential analysis, and Paraphrase.

Google Translate is technological resource, accessed through internet that offers users the chance to translate text, speech, or information from one language to another language automatically (Katynbeth, 2013). It is a service provided by Google Inc. to translate the text or a webpage into another language. Google Translate gives both the advantages and disadvantages for the users. According to Andiyaan (2012) there are some advantages and disadvantages of Google Translate. The benefits given by Google Translate such as the rapidity of Google Translate in translating the text is very fast. Many source and target languages are provided. Google Translate also provides the synonym system in translating the text that makes the user easy to adjust the appropriate language. Whereas, the disadvantage of Google Translate is could not translate imperative words.

According to mass communication (2014) “News as a development that has happened in the past 24 hours which was not known outside and which is wide interest to the people and that which generates curiosity among listeners”. News are usually reported through newspaper, radio, television and also internet. Basically, this research is almost similar with the previous researchers say e.g. Dwita Normasanti (2010), Kemala Melinda (2010), and Imam Santoso (2010). They analyze the errors resulted by Google Translate that focuses on analyzing omission error, misordering, untranslated word and confusion of sense resulted in translating English news into Indonesian.

METHOD

This research used descriptive qualitative method. According to Arikunto (1996) “The descriptive method is employed since it is used to describe phenomena as objectively as possible based on the data obtained“ (P. 243). Meanwhile, qualitative is used to investigate a problem in order to get clear understanding of certain phenomenon (Cresswell, 2012). The data of this research were the errors found in the result of Google Translate in translating English news into Indonesian. Documentation was the technique used to collect the data. According to Arikunto (1998) “documentation is a number of data that presents the verbal data such as correspondence, journal, memory, report and others which can be mutual responsible” (P. 231). In this research, documentation consisted of English news taken from online newspaper namely “The Jakarta Post” and “BBC”, the news was taken from different category such as bussiness, sport, technology, and national news. Some procedures used in analyzing the data were : first, browsed the data source from internet. Then, translated those English news into Indonesian by using Google Translate. Third, The data were analyzed to find out omission error, misordering, untranslated word and confusion sense resulted by Google Translate in translating English news into Indonesian. Finally, drawn some conclusions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The table below shows some errors resulted by Google Translate in translating English news into Indonesian.

Table 1. Errors in Data Analysis

No	Source Language	Google Translate	Kind of Error	Reconstruction

1	“Yes he is ill. How do you know about that?” Rudy <i>told</i> journalists.	Ya dia sakit. Bagaimana Anda tahu tentang itu?” Rudy kepada wartawan.	Ommission meaning of <i>told</i>	Rudi mengatakan kepada wartawan “Ya dia sakit. Bagaimana Anda tahu tentang itu?”
2	Bayern Munich scored two <i>more</i> goals...	Bayern Munich mencetak dua goal...	Ommission meaning of <i>more</i>	Bayern Munich mencetak dua gol lagi...
3	<i>Central Lore subdistrict,</i>	Kecamatan Tengah Lore,	Misordering	Kecamatan Lore Tengah,
4	Apple shares surge	Apple saham lonjakan	Misordering	Lonjakan saham Apple
5	... <i>Brig.</i> Gen. Rudy Sufahriadi	... Brig. Jenderal Rudy Sufahriadi	Untranslated	... BrigadirJenderal Rudy Sufahriadi
6	... a <i>webcam</i>webcam...	Untranslated	... sebuah kamera yang bisa dihubungkan ke internet.
7	<i>the females</i> are Jumiatus Muslim aka Bunga...	betina yang Jumiatus Muslim alias Bunga...	Confusion of sense	Perempuan-perempuan itu adalah Jumiatus Muslim alias Bunga...
8	Bayern <i>comes from behind</i> to advance in Champions League	Bayern datang dari belakang untuk maju dalam Liga	Confusion of sense	Bayern mengejar ketertinggalan untuk maju

		Champions		dalam Liga Champions
--	--	-----------	--	-------------------------

a. Omission Error

Omission errors happen when the translation of a word present in the source text is missing in the resulting translation (Costa et al, 2015). Googletranslate translated the sentence "*Yes he is ill. How do you know about that?*" Rudy ***told*** *journalists*" as "*Ya dia sakit. Bagaimana Anda tahu tentang itu?*" Rudy *kepada wartawan*". From the output, it could be seen that the meaning of word ***told*** was omitted by Google Translate, so the reconstruction should be "*Rudi mengatakan kepada wartawan "Ya dia sakit. Bagaimana Anda tahu tentang itu?"*", the meaning of *told* is important to put in order to give clear information that it is Rudy who asked the journalist. The omitted meaning of ***more*** was found in "*Bayern Munich scored two more goals...*", translated by Google Translate "*Bayern Munich mencetak dua goal...*", the translation result was wrong because it indicated that Bayern Munich only scored two goals. But, the fact was Bayern Munich had been scored two goals before. The reconstruction should be "*Bayern Munich mencetak dua goal lagi...*". The omission errors that happened made the meaning of the sentence become different from the real meaning.

b. Misordering

Misordering is the mistake in placing the sequence of words or group of word in a sentence (Costa et al, 2015). "*Central Lore subdistrict,*" was translated by Google Translate as "*Kecamatan Tengah Lore*", the result of Google Translate was wrong because there was no Kecamatan Tengah Lore in Palu, so the reconstruction should be "*Kecamatan Lore Tengah*". "*Apple shares surge*", translated by Google Translate "*Apple saham lonjakan*", the output was confusing, the reconstruction should be "*lonjakan saham Apple*". Misordering made by Google Translate occurred because it translated the sentences or phrases without changing the structure of the sentences or the phrases into target language. In other word, Google Translate followed English structure without changing it into Indonesian structure when translated the sentences. The fact is English and Indonesian have different structure, so the translation result produced by Google Translate was not appropriate with Indonesian structure.

c. Untranslated

Untranslated means that the source language word can not be replaced into target language. An untranslated error situation is very common in machine translation, because when the engine cannot find any translation candidate to a given source word, an option is to copy it to the translation output (Costa et al, 2015). Untranslated word were found in “... **Brig.** Gen. Rudy Sufahriadi” translated by Google Translate “... **Brig.** Jenderal Rudy Sufahriadi”, the reconstruction should be “**Brigadir** Jenderal Rudy Sufahriadi”. In this case, Google translate was only able to translate the abbreviation of “*Gen*” into Jendral meanwhile, the abbreviation of the word “*Brig.*” was not translated and still the same word when it translated into Indonesian. In Indonesian, the word “*Brig.*” has meaning “Brigadir”. “... a **webcam**..”, Google translate was not able to find the right meaning of webcam in Indonesian, that is why the word webcam was untranslated, in Indonesian webcam has meaning “*kamera yang terhubung ke internet*”.

d. Confusion of Sense

Confusion of sense is the case of a word that was translated into something representing one of its possible meanings, but in the given context, the chosen translation is not correct (Costa et al, 2015). The confusion of sense found were “*the females are Jumiatus Muslim aka Bunga...*”, translated by Google Translate “*betina yang Jumiatus Muslim alias Bunga...*”. The word *females* translated by Google translate become *betina-betina* it was not appropriate because in Indonesian the word *betina* is always used to animal and not belong to human. The reconstruction should be “*Perempuan-perempuan itu adalah Jumiatus Muslim alias Bunga...*”. The word perempuan was appropriate to be used because it indicated to human being. “*Bayern comes from behind to advance in Champions League*” translated by Google Translate “*Bayern datang dari belakang untuk maju dalam Liga Champions*”, in this case Google Translate gave the wrong meaning of “*comes from behind*” become “*datang dari belakang*”, it could be seen that Google Translate translated it word per word, so the reconstruction should be “*Bayern mengejar ketertinggalan untuk maju dalam Liga Champions*”.

There are some reasons of error translation produced by Google Translate. Google Translate translated the text word per word and ignored the context of the sentence and it made the translation result become difficult to understand. Meanwhile, the other causes of error that researcher found were Google Translate was not always able to translate all

English word into Indonesian (untranslated) because Google Translate was not able to find the right meaning of English word into Indonesian. Google Translate translated the sentence without changing the structure of the sentence into target language (Indonesian) and Google Translate also was not able to translate all the word in the sentence because it omitted some word that should be put in the translation result. From the result, the errors found are: The omission errors (5), misordering (18), untranslated word (19), and confusion sense (64) from the output. It could be seen that confusion of sense is the dominant error produced by Google Translate in translating English news into Indonesian.

CONCLUSION

To conclude, Google Translate has some limitations in translating the data especially in translating English news into Indonesian. From the result of the research, there are four kind of errors appear in translating the news from English (source language) into Indonesian (target language) including: the Omission error, misordering, untranslated word, and confusion sense. From the data analyze, Google Translate is still poor in translating the word from the category of sport and technology, because there are many words (specific terms) in those categories could not be translated into Indonesian. Confusion of sense is the dominant error produced by Google Translate in translating English news into Indonesian. There are some causes that make Google Translate produce errors. Firstly, *Google Translate* is translating the text word per word and ignore the context of the sentence. Thus, the translation result became difficult to understand. Secondly, *Google Translate* is not always able to translate all English word into Indonesian (untranslated) because Google Translate are not able to find the appropriate meaning of English word into Indonesian. Besides, *Google Translate* also translates the sentences without changing the structure of the source language (English) into target language (Indonesian). Last, *Google Translate* is not able to translate all the word in the sentence because Google Translate omit some words that should exist in translation result.

REFERENCES

- Andiyaan, N. 2012. Kelebihan , kekurangan, dan manfaat google translate. Retrieved January22, 2016, from <http://gnafashiona.blogspot.co.id/>
- Affifudin & Sabaeni. 2012. *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Bandung: CV Pustaka Setia.
- Arikunto,S. 1996. *Prosedur Penelitian*. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.

- Arikunto, S. 1998. *Prosedur Penelitian Suatu Pendekatan Praktik*. Jakarta: PT Rineka Cipta.
- BBC. 2016. Apple sees iPhone sales drop again but beats forecasts. Retrieved July 26, 2016, from <http://www.bbc.com/>
- BBC. 2016. UK economic growth sped up ahead of Brexit vote. Retrieved July 26, 2016, from <http://www.bbc.com/>
- Catford, J. 1978. *A linguistic theory of translation*. London: Oxford University Press.
- Costa et al. 2015. A linguistically motivated taxonomy for machine translation error analysis. Retrieved April 13, 2016, from <http://www.inesc-id.pt/pt/indicadores/Ficheiros/11119.pdf>.
- Creswell, J. 2012. *Educational research* (4th ed). Boston : Pearson Education.
- James, C. 1998. *Errors in language learning and use: exploring error analysis*. New York: Addison Wesley Longman Inc.
- Katynbeth. 2013. Good and bad of google translate in education. Retrieved October 23, 2015, from <http://languages.com/>
- Larson, M. 1984. *Meaning-Based Translation: A Guide to Cross Language Equivalent*. Boston: University Press of America.
- Mass Communication. 2014. What is news ?. Retrieved January 22, 2016, from <http://www.thenewsmanual.net/Manuals/.htm>
- Newmark, P. 1988. *A Textbook of Translation*. Shanghai: Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press
- Nida & Taber. (1982). *The theory and practice of translation*. E.J.Brill, Leiden.
- Normasanti, D. 2010. *An analysis on translation of english noun phrase into indonesian in google translate*. Gunadarma University. Unpublished Thesis.
- Putri, M. 2010. *The translation analysis of english imperatives into indonesian by google translate*. Gunadarma University. Unpublished Thesis.
- Santoso, I. 2010. Analisa kesalahan kebahasaan hasil terjemahan googlet translate teks bahasa indonesia ke dalam bahasa Jerman. Retrived October 15, 2015, from <http://staff.uny.ac.id/>.
- Simatupang, M. 2000. *Pengantar teori terjemahan*. Jakarta: Direktorat Jenderal Pendidikan Tinggi Departemen Pendidikan Nasional.
- Suryawinata, Z. 2003. *Translation: Bahasan teori dan penuntun praktis menerjemahkan*. Yogyakarta: Kanisius

The Jakarta Post. 2016. Three alleged female terrorists to surrender. Retrieved March 22, 2016, from <http://www.thejakartapost.com>.

The Jakarta Post. 2016. Bayern comes from behind to advance in Champions League". Retrieved March 22, 2016, from <http://www.thejakartapost.com>

The Jakarta Post. 2016. Xiaomi introduces first 'Notebook Air' . Retrieved August 01, 2016, from <http://www.thejakartapost.com>

White, D. 2016. What is bias? Definition & types. Retrieved August, 24, 2016, from <http://www.definitionofbias.com>

Widyamartaya, A. 1989. *Seni menerjemahkan*. Yogyakarta: Kanisius.

Wilkinson, D. 2000. *The Researcher's Toolkit*. London: Cambridge University.