

The Role of Machine Translators in Academic Translation Teaching

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Abstract— The study aimed to seek the role of machine translators in English teaching learning process. And also to see the impact of Machine Translation toward Academic industry. As known that the existence of this technology has been affecting the Translating students. The study focused on the role of Machine Translators on Translating students and the impact for students. The research method used in this research is a qualitative method. The data was obtained from the questionnaire given to the students at University. Machine Translators gives a lot impact to students either positive or negative impact. There are more than 50% students use Machine Translator to help them translating the documents such as Article or other tasks. But, there are also many students who have not known the work system of this application. The work system of this application is translating words by words. However, many students translate the sentence by entering long sentence, hence there are found a lot grammatical error. So that, it needs double check and take more time.

Keywords— Machine Translator, Translation teaching, Application Work System.

I. INTRODUCTION

Currently, most of instructions or directions are written in English. To understand the meaning of context, it needs an appropriate understanding. Therefore, translation is much needed in communication to render the information from one language to others. Translation is the process of transferring information from Source Language into Target Language. According to Newmark (1988: 5), translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text". Meanwhile, Hatim and Munday (2004: 6) define translation as "the process of transferring a written text from source language (SL) to target language (TL)".

Translation becomes one of prominent things for academic area. As known that we have been facing the revolution industry 4.0 which meant that everything should be connected to technology. As stated the Minister of Education of Indonesia Nadiem Makarim that "Use the technology to give social changing for country". Therefore, it is an undeniable fact that technology has affected the progress of translation studies from different angles. It is an undeniable fact that in every corner of our life is related to translation.

Translation is kind of skill in English learning process which transferring messages from one language to another. It needs a special skill while transferring one word to others. According to Rahmatillah (2013), translation is not an easy work since there found many cases of wrong translation. In Education itself, translation is still being a horrible thing for the students. They tend to lose hope while facing articles or documents to translate. Whereas, at this moment most of knowledge or instruction is written in English so it is demanded to understand the meaning of it.

In academic area especially for English teaching learning process, translation is one of the core components. Students are demanded to be able to translate the sentences of the text-book. However, practically it has not successful yet, since there are so many students gripe that translating is difficult.

Based on the observation, Indonesian students have a great motivation to understand the meaning of the text, however they feel hopeless when they meet difficult vocabularies.

Based on the research conducted by Soang (2016), students tend to neglect the importance of the knowledge of their mother tongue during the process of translation. When selecting the appropriate vocabulary, students tend to use colloquial language for a written text. In Indonesia, translation is being one of current issues supposed to be discussed, since there are still a lot of obstacles to teach the students about this case. As known that in Indonesia basically English is the foreign language; it is such difficult thing to translate the documents manually. Therefore, it needs technology to help translators while translating the words. However, it is still being pro and cons for allowing students using technology in English teaching learning.

In Indonesia, there are a lot of researches on translation have focused on comparative studies among texts or an individual author's commentary on his/her own translations. However, there is still few research focused on the machine translator problems in teaching, especially in the area of translation. Therefore, the objective of this paper is to seek the role of machine translators in English teaching learning process.

As emphasized before that translation is a process of transferring meaning, idea, or message of the text from one language to others. It also can be said in another word that translation is a process of changing the language from source language into target language. As stated by Newmark (1988: 5), translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text". Meanwhile, Hatim and Munday (2004: 6) define translation as "the process of transferring a written text from source language (SL) to target language (TL)".

On the other hand, Nida and Taber (1982: 12) explained that "translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message". Based on the definition above, it can be said that

translation is a process which is intended to find meaning equivalence in the target text.

Meanwhile, Machali, R. (2001) and Baker, M. (1992) added some points, they stated that the term meaning equivalence because it is the meaning which is transferred in the target language. In this case, translators are faced with text as unit of meaning in the form of sets of words or sentences.

Based on the definitions above it can be said that translation is the process of rendering meaning equivalence of text from source language in target language.

The specialists have been hypothesized the number of categories of translation. These classifications of translation types are in the forms of dichotomies in binary oppositions.

Catford's Translation Types Catford (1965) classifies translation, into a variety of categories, namely; a) Full vs. Partial translation in terms of the extent of submission of SL text to the process of translation. b) Total vs. Restricted translation in the sense of the levels of language involved in translation. c) Rank of Translation which concerns the rank in a grammatical hierarchy to which translation equivalence is established.

Meanwhile, Jakobson (2000) makes distinction among the different ways of, translating, or interpreting, a sign. 1. Intralingual translation (rewording): the interpretation of signs using other signs of the same language. 2. Interlingual translation (translation proper): the interpretation of signs using some other language. 3. Intersemiotic translation (transmutation): the interpretation of signs using signs of nonverbal sign system.

During the development of the times, the process of translation has also changed which initially only uses a dictionary turned into an electronic device or commonly called technology. Currently, technology has a core role in translating activity. There has been found many applications for translating the article or documents. Thus, it is not surprising that the use of technology in the translation process is increasing every year.

As stated by Odacıoglu and Kokturk (2015) that integration of technology has changed rapidly since 1980's until now where the software of translation is established. He added that to encourage the role of desktop computer users, it is needed soft-wares to deal with their work more effectively. The translations of soft-wares were hence started to be done in a way corresponding to the local standards and languages of a target audience. Due to these changes, software and hardware developers started taking initiatives on an international level, which contributed to the popularization of new term localization instead of translation (Esselink, 2006: 22).

Machine computers are part of translation tools used for translating activities. It has been largely accepted by practitioners and researchers for their associated productivity and consistency gains, many translators are still adapting to the changes that these technologies are making to the translation industry and indeed to the process of translation itself. According to Irfan, M. (2017), Machine Translation means automatic translation, It the field of Artificial Intelligence. Machine translation is computer program which is design to translate text from one language (source language)

to another language (target language) without the help of human. The aim of Machine Translation is to provide a system that translates text of source language into target language and translation express the same meaning as it in source language.

In academic area, machine translators have become familiar tool to be used in translating the articles or other documents. Thus, the integration of technology will be very helpful for students or translators in the digital age use databases to translate the text in the field of information technology unlike traditional translation practices departing from the source text.

II. RESEARCH METHOD

The research method used in this research is a qualitative method. The writer is trying to explore students' understanding about the role of Machine Translators for Translating students. The writer digs information by distributing questionnaire to the Students at University. And the result is presented and analyzed in the data finding. By this approach it is expected that the student perception of the role of Machine Translators in the Translating activity can be described more thoroughly and in depth.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The integration of Machine translators in Translation teaching has been acknowledged pervasively. In Indonesia, even it has not instructed formally to use this kind of tool in translation activity, but in practically there has been found proof that many students take the machine translators for helping them translate the passage of the text book.

The integration of machine translation in China has been highly valued by Chinese government since the initial stage. Based on the previous research conducted by Peng, H. (2018), during the Cultural Revolution, machine translation experienced a 10-year standstill, but came to life again in the mid1970s. The integration process of Machie Translators toward Translation teaching has significant progress in China. From early 1990s to now, China has witnessed unprecedented achievement in machine and computer-aided translation, and then launched various translation systems such as Transtar, Yaxin, Tongyi etc.

The same case also happens in Indonesia in which Machine Translators became familiar to people. Moreover, in academic area it influences to the teaching learning activity. Based on the observation conducted by writer, it shows that students prefer using some features of Machine Translators to hire the translator freelancer for translating the homework or assignment.

The writer also identified that commonly students use the features of *Grammarly* and *Google Translateto* help them translating the text. Students at University stated that Grammarly is very helpful for them because it could identify the incorrect grammar or inappropriate vocabularies of the sentences, so that it will correct the grammar automatically.

Therefore, for the students Machine Translators is very effective because it helps them during the process of writing journal or assignment. In addition, they admit that by using it, it can safe their tuition because it is very affordable price. It is

much different if they ask for translator freelancer to translate their task. Moreover, it aids them to translate their idea that is difficult to be translated into English. And some of them stated that by using Machine Translators, it will save time because they just need few minutes to do the work. Besides that, they could find the synonym and antonym of the vocabularies, so that they will have rich vocabularies.

Based on the data resulted by Maulida, H. (2017), it shows that more than 50% students at the University assume and use machine translator only for translating, few of them using it for practicing pronunciation or enrich vocabularies or synonym. It can be said that students have not fully understood yet the core function or role of machine translation.

However, They also state that even though using Machine Translators are much helpful, but it should be considered when using it because it sometimes having much grammar errors in the sentences. So that, translators should be accurate and review the sentences after translating process finish need much time to solve it.

Machine Translators are kinds of technologies features that support translating language around the world. It is available for free on computer program. So, all people could access it for translating the sentences. Almost people know about Machine Translators such as Grammarly and Google Translate, moreover Translating students who common to use it as one of tools to help translating the text or task from the school or university. In fact, this feature is also used to help translator's freelancer to find the difficult vocabularies in translating document or article.

The same idea also said by Irfan, M. (2017), Machine Translation means automatic translation, It the field of Artificial Intelligence. Machine translation is computer program which is design to translate text from one language (source language) to another language (target language) without the help of human. Therefore, the main of Machine Translation is to provide a system that translates text of source language into target language and translation express the same meaning as it in source language.

Based on the observation conducted by the writer, the students are greatly helped by the existence of this application to understand lecture material in English which in order to understand it, they must translate first. Google translate is simpler than use dictionary. They could practice how to pronounce the vocabulary correctly and also find the synonym and antonym of vocabularies. In addition, students also state that by using the Machine Translators it is very affordable price than going to the translator freelancer. Moreover, they can save much time because the process of translating is very fast. The same idea stated by Maulida (2017) on her study that 90% of students in the English Department STKIP PGRI Banjarmasin uses Google translate application for help translate material in English language.

After understanding the role of Machine Translators for academic field, it deserving of being recognized that the existence of Machine Translators very helpful for people especially Translating students. However, it should be noticed

that by having this technology, it also give some negative impact. Some students still do not understand the Machine Translators application work system. They do not understand that work system of these applications is translating words. Therefore, there are still found many students who translate sentences using Machine Translators by directly entering the full sentences, so that there found many error grammar of the sentence. So that, it cause them review and recheck the grammar of sentences.

IV. CONCLUSION

Machine translation is computer program which is design to translate text from one language (source language) to another language (target language) without the help of human. It has become familiar for Translating Students. Students at University admit that Machine Translation has a lot role for their study. There are many advantages of Translator Machine for the students. The advantages of Machine Translators' applications are 'fast' and 'light' that make students switch from using the print dictionary. However there are also disadvantage of the existence of Machine Translator in Academic area, such as the limited sentences to translate. Then, the students should enter word by word and should recheck the grammar.

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