A RESEARCH ON THE STUDENTS' SKILLS IN TRANSLATING THE DISCOURSE TO THE ELEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMA NEGERI 6 PADANGSIDIMPUAN

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ABSTRACT

This research is conducted in order to find out about how far the students' skills in translating the discourse to the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan is. In this research the writer applies the sample research. In this research the writer applies the cluster random sampling. The number of sample in this research is 73 students. And as the instrument for collecting the data, the writer uses the written test. For getting the needed data, the writer applies the library and field research. The library research is applied based on the needs of the books as the sources of theories and information, and the field research is applied based on the need of data from the field, in this case from SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan. After getting the needed data, the next step which is done by the writer is analyzing it by using the statistical analysis. After finishing analyzing the data, it has been got that the value of M_X is 79.9. In which it is categorized into the capable category. It means that the students' skills in translating the discourse to the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan can be categorized into the capable category. The percentage of the students' skills in translating the discourse to the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan who have succeeded in achieving the teaching objectives or the Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) is 94.5%. And the hypothesis of this research is accepted.

Keywords : translating, discourse

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk mencari tahu tentang seberapa jauh kemampuan siswa dalam menerjemahkan wacana untuk siswa kelas XI SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan. Dalam penelitian ini penulis menerapkan cluster random sampling. Jumlah sampel dalam penelitian ini adalah 73 siswa. Dan sebagai instrumen untuk mengumpulkan data, penulis menggunakan tes tertulis. Untuk mendapatkan data yang dibutuhkan, penulis menerapkan penelitian pustaka dan lapangan. Penelitian pustaka diterapkan berdasarkan kebutuhan buku-buku sebagai sumber teori dan informasi, dan penelitian lapangan yang diterapkan berdasarkan kebutuhan data dari lapangan, dalam hal ini dari SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan. Setelah mendapatkan data yang dibutuhkan, langkah selanjutnya yang dilakukan oleh penulis adalah menganalisa dengan menggunakan analisis statistik. Setelah menganalisis data, telah didapat bahwa nilai M_X adalah 79,9. Di mana nilai ini dikategorikan ke dalam kategori mampu. Ini berarti bahwa kemampuan siswa dalam menerjemahkan wacana untuk siswa kelas XI SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan dapat dikategorikan ke dalam kategori mampu. Persentase keterampilan siswa dalam menerjemahkan wacana untuk siswa kelas XI SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan yang telah berhasil dalam mencapai tujuan pengajaran atau Kriteria Kelengkapan Minimal (KKM) adalah 94,5%. Dan hipotesis penelitian ini diterima.

Kata Kunci : menerjemahkan, wacana

I.   I N T R O D U C T I O N

A scientific writer in choosing the topic of a script should have certain reasons and considerations. At least he or she is interested to the topic of the research, and it must have adjustment to his or her educational background. Therefore, the writer as the student of English study Program has chosen English as the topic of her script. As we know that English has succeeded to attract most of people in the world to learn it. It is caused by the position of English as an International language, so that it is used in the International meetings and in the scientific books. Realizing how important the English is, in our country Indonesia it is inserted as an obligatory subject. It has been supplied since the first year students of Junior High School up to the University level. In fact it has been supplied to the students of the primary schools as the local content (muatan local). It can be seen from the curriculum made by the government through the Department of National Education (DepDikNas). Unfortunately, eventhough the students have been learning English for a long time, it is still found that most of the students still have difficulties to master it. It can be seen from the students' skills, both in speaking and writing which tend to be low. One of the students' difficulties lies on translation, in which in this case the students are not able to replace the meanings of the words into their own language, in this case Indonesian.

As we know that translation is the process of transferring text from one language into another. It is a complex skill requiring several abilities. Consequently, extreme care must be exercised in hiring translators or assigning translation tasks to them. To do otherwise entails the risk that imprecise or even wrong information will be conveyed. The term "translation" is normally reserved for written renditions of written materials. Translation is thereby distinct from interpretation, which produces a spoken equivalent between two languages. While there are correspondences between translation and interpretation skills, the following applies only to document-to-document renderings. A successful translation is one that conveys the explicit and implicit meaning of the source language into the target language as fully and accurately as possible. From the standpoint of the user, the translation must also meet the prescribed specifications and deadlines.

Competence in two languages is necessary but not sufficient for any translation task. Though the translator must be able to (1) read and comprehend the source language and (2) write comprehensibly in the target language, the translator must also be able to (3) choose the equivalent expression in the target language that both fully conveys and best matches the meaning intended in the source language.

A weakness in any of these three abilities will influence performance adversely and have a negative impact on the utility of the product. Therefore, all three abilities must be considered when assessing translation skills. However, to assess translation skills, a translation test that measures the individual's ability to exercise congruity judgment and apply a translation methodology successfully must be used.

Based on the above statements the writer is interested to know about how far the students' skills in translation, in this case the writer focuses on translating the discourse, and makes the topic of her script as follows: "A research on the students' skills in translating the discourse to the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan".

Every scientific research should have the problem in it. Problem is one of the most important elements of a research. without problem it is impossible for us to carry out a research, because problem is the spirit of a research. As Prof. Dr. S. Nasution, MA (1987) states : " Dalam penelitian masalah memegang peranan utama. Tanpa masalah tak ada penelitian. Masalah adalah jiwa penelitian "(Problem plays the main role in a research. There is no research without problem. The problem is the spirit of research)".

The writer can formulate the problem of his research as follows : "How far is the students' skills in translating the discourse to the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan".

A scientific researcher conducts a research in order to achieve certain purposes. The same case also comes to the writer's mind. From the formulated problem of this research it can be stated that the main purpose of conducting this research is in order to know how far the students' skills in translating the discourse to the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan is.

II.   THE REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Translation

Translation is assumed as one of the important skills in the language learning. By knowing the meaning of the language we can understand the messages given by others, and we can convey our messages easily. Translation is basically a change of form. When we speak of the form of a language, we are referring to the actual words, phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and contexts. In translation the form of the source language is replaced by the form of the target language. Translation consists of transferring the meaning of the source language into the target (receptor) language. The form from which the translation is made is called the source language, and the form into which it is to be changed is called the target or receptor language. Translation has relationship to other aspects, such as : the lexicon, grammatical structure, situation, etc. (Rachmadi Sabroni et.al, 1988)

The word translation derives from the Latin translatio (which itself comes from trans- and fero, together meaning "to carry across" or "to bring across"). Translation is the communication of the meaning of a source-language text by means of an equivalent target-language. (http://en.wiki-pedia.org/wiki/Translation)

Translation as a process is the replacement of textual materials in another language. The word translation as a noun word derives from the word translate as a verb word. It means to give the meaning of something in another language. As AS Hornby (1989) states : ' Translate means : 1. express something spoken or written in another language. 2. be capable of being translated in another language 3. express in a different form 4. judge or guess that something has specified meaning or intention"

As Mildred L. Larson in his book Meaning Based Translation ' (1984) states : " Translation, then, consists of studying the lexicon, grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural context of the source language text, analyzing it in order to determine its meaning "

From the above explanations it is known that in order to acquire the skills in translation from the source language into the target language, the students need to study some linguistic theories and culture related to the translation before actually do the translation.

It seems easier to get the Indonesian equivalent of English words or the English equivalent of Indonesian words in isolation, but when it comes to phrases and sentences the knowledge of grammar plays an important role. Without mastering the knowledge of grammar, it is difficult for the students to translate. Both English and Indonesian have structural system, in which the systems are different one each other. Thus, in translating from English into Indonesian or vice versa, you need to consider the grammatical adjustments. Since words sometimes have more than one meaning, their translation could be a problem unless they are used in the context. Therefore, the words with multiple meanings should be translated in their context, not the words in isolation. (Rachmadi Sabroni et.al, 1988)

The Discourse

Rhetoricians and philosophers often speak of competing discourses. We can see

such an example in the Christian right movement and the liberal left. Each group has a discourse that competes with other thoughts and beliefs and each has a history. Some study the times when certain competing discourses begin to emerge and become more popular. For example, a philosopher or political scientist might look at the predominant religious right and question how this discourse influenced presidential elections. The same analysis of competing discourses might be applied to approaches to literature or art. For example, for a while, post-modernist discourse tended to be most influential in the study and interpretation of art. This has led to a backlash from formalist critics and their community. Philosophers like Foucault see competing discourses as something akin to war. In fact, real war can be often attributed to this competition. Others liken discourse and its communities to an essential need for humans to express belonging and share beliefs. The variety is essential because of a person's individual needs. Evaluation of discourse helps us to discover trends in all such communities. Studies may also exist to determine how words within discourse can express viewpoints. The words couch potato has negative connotations and is primarily employed by those who view watching television as an inferior activity. Contrasting this to the words avid television fan shows how feelings about a subject are often expressed in words. A liberal person might employ the term bible thumper, where a person belonging to the religious right might employ the term religious right. Language choice frequently defines where our thoughts and allegiances lie. Some effort has been made to nullify insulting language and discourse communities through what is frequently termed political correctness. However, the language of political correctness is now its own community. Those employing this language believe that words should exist without sexism or racism. By using politically correct speech, such members actually are making statements that sexism and racism are not acceptable. Anti-

politically correct discourse communities now battle it out with those who consider themselves politically correct. Thus, the two communities are very much as Foucault described, fighting wars of words to express ideology.

Discourse denotes written and spoken communications. Discourse is the way in which language is used socially to convey broad historical meanings. It is language identified by the social conditions of its use, by who is using it and under what conditions. Language can never be 'neutral' because it bridges our personal and social worlds." (Frances Henry and Carol Tator, 2002)

The term discourse is also used to refer to meanings at the more macro level. This approach does not study the individual words spoken by people but the language used to describe aspects of the world, and has tended to be taken by those using a sociological perspective."(Jane Ogden, 2002)

Discourse is generally used to designate the forms of representation, codes, conventions and habits of language that produce specific fields of culturally and historically located meanings. (http://faculty. washington.edu/mlg/courses/definitions/disco urse.html)

The Frame of Mind

The students' skills in translating play an important thing in order to improve their skills in all language skills , especially in understanding the discourse. It is said so, because by understanding the discourse it can improve their knowledge.

III.　THE METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH

From the topic of this script, that is "A research on the students' skills in translating the discourse to the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan " it is known that this research is conducted in the SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan.

In order to get the data of the research, of course the researcher needs instrument. Since there are several kinds of the instruments, so that the researcher should choose the most appropriate one to the main purpose of conducting the research. Because this research concerns with the study of the students' skills, so that the test is regarded as the most appropriate to be used as the instrument for collecting the needed data. The result of the test is used as the data in order to find out how far the students' skills in translating the discourse is. The kind of the test which is used is the achievement test. The writer uses the achievement test as the instrument for collecting the data based on the consideration that the achievement test is supposed to be the best and accurate instrument to measure the students' skills or skills. It is relevant to the statements of Drs. Mohammad Ali (1985) that states : " Bahwa salah satu alat untuk mengumpulkan data dalam penelitin kependidikan adalah dengan menggunakan test hasil belajar. Test hasil belajar berfungsi untuk mengukur tingkat kemampuan individu, baik dalam bidang pengetahuan maupun keterampilan sebagai hasil atau pengalaman belajar " (One of the instruments for collecting the data in the educational research is by using the achievement test. The achievement test has function for measuring the students' skills, both in the field of knowledge and the skills as the result or the learning experiences)

The whole number of the test items is 25 items. And the form of the test used is the translation test. In this case the students are asked to translate the words or phrases in the discourse.

After finishing treating the test to the students, the students' answer sheets are collected and then scored by the writer. In scoring the students' answer sheets, the writer uses the following criteria : If a student can answer one item of the test correctly, he or she will get score 4. It means that if a student can answer all the items of the test correctly, he or she will get score 100. It is got from the number of the test multiplied by 4 or 25 x 4 = 100. This is the highest score can be got by a student.

In this research the writer applies the descriptive method. The descriptive method is applied based on the main purpose of carrying out this research, that is in order to get the descriptions about how far the students' skills in translating the discourse are. As Drs. Sumadi Suryabrata (1992) states : " Tujuan penelitian descriptif adalah untuk membuat pencanderaan secara sistematis, factual, dan akurat mengenai fakta – fakta dan sifat – sifat populasi "(the purpose of descriptive research is for making descriptians systematically, factual and accurate about the facts and the characters of the population)".

Typically, the population is very large, making a census or a complete enumeration of all the values in the population impractical or impossible. The sample represents a subset of manageable size. Samples are collected and statistics are calculated from the samples so that one can make inferences or extrapolations from the sample to the population. This process of collecting information from a sample is referred to as sampling.(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki)

Based on the above statements and realizing that the number of population is relatively large, so that the writer doesn't take all population as the object of this research. It is also relevant to the statements of Sumadi Suryabrata (1992) that states :"Penelitian ilmiah boleh dikatakan hampir selalu hanya dilakukan terhadap sebagian saja dari hal – hal yang sebenrnya mau diteliti. Jadi penelitian hanya dilakukan terhadap sample, tidak terhadap populasi"(The scientific writing is always carried out to a part of something which is going to be researched. So that, the research is only done to the sample not to be the population).

Taking a part of population means that the writer applies the sample research. The writer applies the samples research due to considerations that the condition of population is homogenous. It is said homogenous, because they come from the same level and they are treated equally in the

processes of teaching and learning English in the class. Therefore, in this research the writer applies random sampling. As LR Gay (1988) states : "Random sampling is best way to obtain a representative sample".

Based on the above explanations the writer decides to take two classes as the sample of this research. So that it can be stated that in this research the writer applies the cluster random sampling.

After getting the data from the field, in this case the scores got by the students, the next step which is done by the writer is analyzing the data in order to find out about how far the students' skills in translating the discourse to the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan is.

The techniques used for analyzing the data are as follows :

1. The data are tabulated into the table of analysis. It is symbolized by X

2. The writer calculates the sum of the data. It is symbolized by ΣX

3. The writer calculates the value of Mean Score (M) by using the following formulation :

$$Mx = \frac{\Sigma X}{N}$$

4. The writer consults the value of M_X to the score qualification
5. The writer calculates the percentage of the students who have achieved the minimal completeness criteria (KKM).
5. The writer tests the formulated hypothesis

IV. THE RESULT OF RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION

In order to get a satisfied result, the writer applies the treatment or the analysis of the data by using the statistical analysis. The statistical analysis is used based on the consideration that the collected data is as the uantitative data. As Drs. Sumadi Suryabrata (1992) states:"Analysis statistik sesuai dengan data kwantitatif, yaitu data dalam bentuk bilangan" (The statistical analysis is used for the quantitative data, that is the data in the form of numerals)

The analysis of data is assumed as a critical step in carrying out a research. It is regarded as one of the most important steps of a research. As Drs. Mohammad Ali (1985) states : "Pengolahan data merupakan salah satu langkah yang sangat penting dalam kegiatan penelitian, terutama bila diinginkan generalisasi atau kesimpulan tentang masalah yang diteliti " (The analysis of data is one of the most important steps in carrying out a research, especially if a researcher wants to get the generalization or the conclusions about the researcher problem.)

The steps of the data analysis can be seen below :

TABLE I
THE ANALYSIS OF DATA

NO	SCORES (X)
1	92
2	84
3	80
4	84
5	76
6	84
7	76
8	84
9	80
10	76
11	84
12	76
13	92
14	76
15	76
16	80
17	92
18	76
19	76

NO	SCORES (X)
20	72
21	80
22	80
23	76
24	80
25	80
26	84
27	76
28	84
29	88
30	76
31	84
32	80
33	80
34	92
35	76
36	80
37	80
38	92
39	76
40	92
41	92
42	80
43	76
44	76
45	80
46	88
47	80
48	76
49	76
50	68
51	76
52	80
53	76

NO	SCORES (X)
54	72
55	76
56	76
57	80
58	76
59	80
60	84
61	84
62	76
63	80
64	76
65	76
66	88
67	80
68	76
69	76
70	72
71	76
72	80
73	76
TOTAL (ΣX)	**5836**

From the above table it can be seen that the value of ΣX is 5836. And the number of the students who follows the test (N) is 73.

By using the above values the writer can calculate the value of Mean Score (M) as follows :

$$Mx = \frac{\Sigma X}{N}$$

$$Mx = \frac{5836}{73}$$

$$Mx = \mathbf{79.9}$$

By consulting the above value of M to the categories given before it can be stated that the students' skills can be categorized into the capable category. It means that the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan are able to translate the discourse.

From the collected data it can be seen that the scores of the student in translating the discourse indicate that the lowest score got by the students is 68 and highest score is 92.

The frequency and percentage of the students' skills in translating the discourse can be seen in the following table:

TABLE II
THE FREQUENCY AND PERCENTAGE
DISTRIBUTION OF THE STUDENTS'
SKILLS IN TRANSLATING THE DISCOURSE

NO	SCORES	FREQ	(%)	MEAN SCORE (M)
1	68	1	1.4	
2	72	3	4.1	
3	76	29	39.7	
4	80	20	27.4	79.9
5	84	10	13.7	
6	88	3	4.1	
7	92	7	9.6	
TOTAL		73	100	

By using the above table the writer can make the histogram graphic of percentages of the students' skills in translating the discourse as follows :

Graphic 2 : The histogram of percentages of the students' skills in writing the recount texts
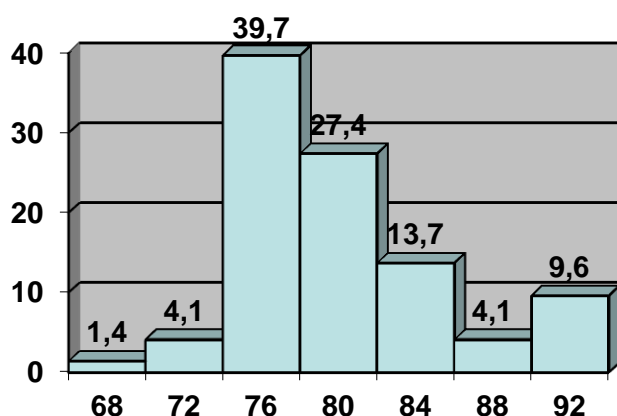
From the above table and histogram it can be stated that the percentage of the students' skills in translating the discourse to the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan who have succeeded in achieving the teaching objectives or the Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) is 94.5 %, because the value of the Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) of the basic competence of this material is 75.

As it has been explained in the previous chapter that the hypothesis is still as a prediction or a tentative answer, in which its truth can be got through the collected data and the analysis of data. It means that it needs testing. It is also relevant to the statements of Dr. Ny. Suharsimi Arikunto (1989) that states : " Apabila peneliti telah mengumpulkan data dan mengolah data sebagai bahan pengujian hipotesis, tentu akan sampai kepada suatu kesaimpulan menerima atau menolak hipotesis tersebut " (If a researcher had collected and analyzed the collected data as the materials in testing the hypothesis, of course he or she will come to the conclusions whether he or she will accept or reject the hypothesis)

Whether the hypothesis is accepted or rejected, it is not as the measurement of the research itself. The research remains valid, eventhough the hypothesis is rejected.

Based on the collected data and the analysis of data it has been known that the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan are able to translate the discourse. So that, it can be concluded that the hypothesis of this research that states : "The skills of the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan in translating the discourse are good", is accepted.

From the result of the research it has been known that the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan are able to translate the discourse. It can be seen from the value of mean score (M), that is 79.9, in which it is categorized into the capable category.

The students' scores vary between 68 upto 92, in which the percentage of the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan who have succeeded in achieving the teaching objectives or the Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) is 94.5%, and the students who haven't achieved the Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) is only 5.5 % or only 4 students from 73 students.

According to the writer in appropriate to the observation made by the writer in the field that the students' skills are influenced very much by the students' internal factors, such as : their motivation, interest and aptitude. Besides, it is also influenced by the external factors, as the method used by the teacher in teaching, the school facilities, and the school environment which is relatively good.

V. THE CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Conclusions

In this sub chapter the writer would like to formulate the conclusions of the research, in which it is expected that it can be used as the input, both for the writer and for the readers of this script, especially the ones who are interested in the English teaching and learning. The formulated conclusions are based on the result of his research in the field. It is relevant to the statements of Prof. Dr. S. Nasution , MA (1987) that states : "Kesimpulan – kesimpulan yang diambil harus benar – benar didasarkan atas hasil penelitian " (The formulated conclusions should be based on the result of research)

Based on the above explanations the writer can formulate the conclusions of this research as follows :

1. The skills of the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri Padangsidimpuan in translating the discourse can be categorized into the capable category or they are able to translate the discourse. It can be seen from the value of Mean Score got by the students (M), that is 79.9

2. The percentage of the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 6 Padangsidimpuan who have succeeded in achieving the teaching objectives or the Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) is 94.5 %, and the students who haven't achieved the Minimal Completeness Criteria (KKM) is only 5.5 %

3. The hypothesis of this research is accepted.

The Suggestions

Based on the result of this research, in this sub chapter the writer would like to offer the suggestions as follows :

1. Realizing how important the role of the translation skills is, so that it is suggested to the English teachers to teach it well.

2. It is suggested to the students to learn how to translate the discourse well, because it plays an important role for understanding the messages, both in speaking and writing

3. It is suggested to the students to have more practice, especially in translation the discourse, because by having more practice can make them more perfect due to the English proverb that states " Practice makes perfect ".

4. Because this research is still far from being perfect based on the limitation of the writer, so that it is suggested to other researchers to carry out the deeper research concerning with the topic of this research.

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