

EXPLORING EFL STUDENTS' PERCEPTION IN USING GOOGLE TRANSLATE

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to know EFL students' perceptions of using Google Translate as a tool for translation. A descriptive study is used as its basic design. Finding the advantages and disadvantages of Google Translate was the focus of this research. The questionnaire was given to 12 students. The usage of Google Translate in the learning process, according to most students of the English Language Education study program, is a practical way to help translate languages. With the development of AI technology found in Google Translate, it is now easier to work on translators to be more accurate and better. The existence of this research is also for the sake of obtaining data that Google Translate is no longer taboo and replaces the role of translation dictionaries. The number of users in a day also increases because of various needs. Another reason is that Google Translate is more precise and faster than a dictionary book which everyone did long before Google Translate existed.

Keywords: Google Translate, translation, media

Introduction

Translating cannot be separated from learning English, but the process itself is not easy. These days, many students prefer to use a third-party application to do the translation. Google Translate is one of the popular machines translate that are commonly used. Students can easily access Google Translate through laptops and smartphones. As a machine Translation, Google Translate is more efficient and practical. It's better than using a dictionary. The usage of Google Translate is familiar to EFL students. Because of that, it is necessary to know whether or not the use of Google Translate has a good effect as a learning media for students in the Translation class of the English Education Study Program of the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of Esa Unggul University.

Method

The descriptive-Qualitative method was used in this research. The data was gained on the English campus by the researcher. Students of the English Language Education study programs were the subject of this research. The data needed in this was 12 students. To collect the data, a Questionnaire was used in this research. The participant completed the

questionnaire asking about the use of Google Translate, focusing on purposes, perceptions, and problems. Then, in the last step, after obtaining data from the results of the questionnaire filled out by students, the researcher needs to analyze the answers.

Result And Discussion

The data in this research were gained from a questionnaire the researcher filled out by students of the English Education Study Program.

a. The popularity of Google Translate among the students

| Question | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree |
|--|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Google Translate has become the primary option for the English translation task | 41,7% | 41,7% | 16,7% |

| | | | |
|---|-------|-------|------|
| 2. Almost all students use Google Translate | 33,3% | 58,3% | 8,3% |
| 3. Google Translate is popular among the students | 33,3% | 58,3% | 8,3% |

As presented in the table above, the result of question 1 was that 41,7% of students strongly agreed. It means five students out of 12 stated they use Google Translate as their main option for English translation tasks. Five students agreed, and two others disagreed. Next, the result of question 2 was that 33,3% of students strongly agreed with using Google Translate. It means four out of 12 are using Google Translate; 7 students agreed, and one disagreed. The result of question 3 was that 33,3% of students strongly agreed that Google Translate is popular among students.

b. Advantage of Google Translate

| Question | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree |
|---|----------------|-------|----------|
| 1. Google Translate makes students easier in the learning process | 50% | 50% | - |
| 2. Google Translate is very helpful in translating | 41,7% | 58,3% | - |

Based on the table above, statement question 1 100% agreed that using Google Translate makes the learning process easier. Statement from question 2 was 100% agreed that Google Translate is very helpful in translating means all students who filled out this

questionnaire feel helped by the existence of google translate.

c. Students Edit the Translation from Google Translate

| Question | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree |
|--|----------------|-------|----------|
| 1. Students re-edit the translation result | 50% | 41,7% | 8,3% |
| 2. Students without re-edit the translation result | 8,3% | 50% | 41,7% |

Questions 1 and 2 show the results of the student learning process when translating. Question number 1 as many as 91.7% of students often translate English-Indonesian texts (and vice versa) in class. However, students need to re-edit the translation results. Then the following statement in question 2 is found that 58.3% of students accepted the translation results without correcting or re-editing, as in the previous question.

d. Weakness of Google Translate for Understanding in Translation Text

| Question | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree |
|--|----------------|-------|----------|
| 1. Weakness the Google Translation in understanding translation text | 8,3% | 41,7% | 50% |

As presented in the table above, the result of question 1 is that 50% of students strongly agree. 6 out of 12 students stated that they used Google Translate as their top choice for English translation assignments. However, in this case, the weakness is that students need help understanding the meaning of the translated text.

Based on 50% of the data, six students agreed, and six others did not agree.

e. Perception Of Use Google Translation

| Question | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree |
|---|----------------|-------|----------|
| 1. Now Google Translate has become more sophisticated | 33,3% | 58,3% | 8,3% |
| 2. Translation tools other than Google Translate | 16,7% | 41,6% | 41,7% |
| 3. Use Google Translate for the translation of the assignment | 41,7% | 58,3% | - |

Question numbers 1, 2, and 3 show the results of statements regarding the sophistication of technology in Google Translate that are getting more advanced so that Google Translate is used as the primary tool for translating. Statement number 1 as many as 91.6% of students admit that Google Translate is getting more sophisticated. From statement 2, 41.7% or as many as 5 out of 12 students said they did not use a translator other than Google Translate. That is, Google Translate is the primary translation tool. However, as many as seven students stated that they translated other than using Google Translate. Translation tools besides Google Translate are U-Dictionary, Oxford, and Cambridge. Then, statement number 3 shows that 41.7% or 5 of 12 students use Google Translate to help them with their assignments. Based on these results, it appears that almost all students in the class use Google Translate. But 58.3% of seven students stated otherwise. Students rarely or do not use Google Translate all the time.

Conclusion

From this research, the researcher concluded that Google Translate has more advantages than disadvantages, and Google Translate has been the main option for EFL

students to help them with translation. The results of statements regarding the sophistication of technology in Google Translate are getting more advanced so Google Translate is used as the primary tool for translating. Google Translate is a fast and easy-to-access dictionary, the students used Google Translate to help them look up the vocabulary meaning efficiently. On the other side, Google Translate also has its weakness it was inaccuracy. Google Translate could not translate contextually and accurately all the words in the paragraph. Made most of the students used a dictionary or other resources to confirm the meaning and edited the translation from Google Translate. To sum up, Google Translate has been a part of ELF students in learning and translation process.

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Dosen PA: Alfian , S.Pd, M.Pd