

# **AN ANALYSIS OF THE ABILITY OF THE FOURTH YEAR STUDENTS IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF BUNG HATTA UNIVERSITY IN TRANSLATING AN EDUCATIONAL NEWS OF *JAWA POST* NEWSPAPER FROM INDONESIAN INTO ENGLISH**

Febriya Thurina<sup>1</sup> , Lely Refnita<sup>2</sup> , Lisa Tavriyanti<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Students of English Department, The Faculty of Teacher Training And Education of Bung Hatta University

E-mail : febriyathurina@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup> The Lecturers of English Department, The Faculty of Teacher Training And Education, Bung Hatta University

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## **Abstract**

**This research was aimed at describing the ability of the fourth year students of English Department of Bung Hatta University in translating an educational news of Jawa Post Newspaper from Indonesian into English. The design of this research was descriptive in nature. The total population members was 117 students. The researcher used cluster random sampling technique to take sample. The sample in this researcher was 25 students. Based on the result of this research, it was found that the ability of the fourth year students of Bung Hatta University in translating an educational news of Jawa Post Newspaper from Indonesian into English was moderate. It was proved by the fact that 15 students (60%) had moderate ability. Specifically, the ability of the students in grammatical adjustment was moderate. It was proved by the fact that 18 students (72%) had moderate ability. The ability of students in lexical equivalence was also moderate. It was due to the fact that 16 students (64%) had moderate ability.**

**Key words: Translation, Educational News, Jawa Post Newspaper, Translation Ability.**

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## **Introduction**

In Indonesia, Indonesian is used daily. This language is taught from kindergarten to university. Indonesian is easily found in communication, newspaper, television programs, magazines, books, etc. Due to its major use, Indonesian is considered the main/first language in Indonesia. Apart from Indonesian, English language is also

taught in schools. As an international language, the government has made it compulsory for Indonesians to at least know basic English.

Translation is a process of changing the source language (SL) into the target language (TL). According to Wilss in El-Shafey (2012:3), translation is a transfer process which aims at the transformation of a written source language text (SLT)

into an optimally equivalent target language text (TLT), and which requires the syntactic, the semantic, and the pragmatic understanding and analytical processing of the source text.

Mc Guire in Rachmadie, *et. al* (1988:2) states that translation is the rendering of the source language (SL) text into the target language (TL) so as to ensure that (1) the surface meaning of the two will be approximately similar and (2) the structures of the SL will be preserved as closely as possible but not so closely that the TL structures will be seriously distorted.

That statement is also supported by Bell (1991:5) who says that translation is the expression in another language (or target language) of what have been expressed in another, source language, preserving semantic and stylistic equivalences.

Based on the researcher's experience in learning English and Indonesian, translating English into Indonesian is much easier than translating Indonesian into English. This is because when English is the SL, the structure of English is clear. English uses tenses to know when a situation occurs and it makes translation into Indonesian becomes an easy process.

Yet, when the researcher and the students tried translating Indonesian into English, there are some difficulties found.

This was because the students don't do grammatical adjustment in translating from Indonesian into English. It is the main problem in translating. It was also because the vocabulary that the students used in educational news text is not equivalence. So, if the students do not understand the sentence, text or paragraph, a fatal mistake could be made in the process of translation.

Due to the researcher's experience, the researcher is interested in analyzing the ability of the fourth year students of English Department in Bung Hatta University in translating educational news of *Jawa Post* newspaper from Indonesian into English.

The purposes of this research were as follows:

1. To describe the ability of the fourth year students of English Department of Bung Hatta University in using lexical equivalence of translating an educational news from Indonesian into English.
2. To describe the ability of the fourth year students of English Department of Bung Hatta University in using grammatical

adjustment of translating an educational news from Indonesian into English.

### **Research Method**

This research was aimed at describing the students' ability in translating educational news of Jawa Post newspaper. Relating to this, the researcher used descriptive method. According to Gay (1987:189), a descriptive research involves collecting data in order to test hypothesis or to answer questions concerning the current status of the subject of study. Descriptive research gives facts about subjects of study without any manipulation or treatment and does not control subject being studied.

The population of this research was all of the fourth year students of Bung Hatta University in academic year 2013/2014. The population was distributed into three classes (A, B, and C). The total numbers of population were 117 students. They were selected because they have studied translating educational news text.

In choosing the sample of this research, the researcher used cluster random sampling. The researcher applied cluster random sampling because the population was grouped into three classes. They were selected randomly because they are similar in terms of teaching materials,

teacher and syllabus. It means homogeneous.

To choose the sample, the researcher wrote 3 pieces of paper, where a piece of paper was given class number A, B, and C. The researcher rolled and mixed them up into a box. The researcher chose one piece of paper with close eyes from the box. Then, the students in the selected class would be the sample of this research. The researcher took class C as the sample of this research. The number of sample was 25 students.

The instrument that the researcher used to collect the data was translation test. The translation test would be used for this research because the researcher wanted to know the students' ability in translating an educational news from an Indonesian newspaper, *Jawa Post*, into English. After the researcher discussed the time allocation with the IET lecturer, the researcher gave the time allocation to do the test was 60 minutes. Then, the researcher divided the text into fifteen sentences.

The criteria of good instrument is valid and reliable. To see the validity of the test, the researcher used content validity. Therefore, the researcher constructed this test based on the curriculum, syllabus, and teaching materials. To find out the reliability of the real test, the researcher

used inter rater technique and Pearson Product Moment Formula (Arikunto, 2012:87) as follow:

$$r_{xy} = \frac{n \sum xy - (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{\{n \sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2\} \{n \sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2\}}}$$

The coefficient correlation of the translation was .94.

In analyzing the data, the researcher used the procedure as follows:

- a. Presenting the raw scores of each student from two assessors and then she counts the average score of two assessor by using formula:

$$\text{Students' scores} = \frac{\text{first assessor' score} + \text{second assessor' score}}{2}$$

- b. The researcher calculated mean (M) by using the following formula suggested by Arikunto (2012:229)

$$M = \frac{\sum x}{N}$$

- c. The researcher calculated Standard Deviation (SD) by using formula suggested by Arikunto (2012:229) :

$$SD = \sqrt{\frac{\sum x^2}{N} - \left(\frac{\sum x}{N}\right)^2}$$

- d. The researcher classified the students' grade into high, moderate, and low ability by using the following categories (Arikunto,2012:229):

$$>M + 1 SD = \text{High}$$

$$(M - 1SD) \rightarrow (M + 1SD) = \text{Moderate}$$

$$<M - 1SD = \text{Low}$$

- e. The researcher calculated the percentage of the students who get high, moderate, and low ability. The researcher used the following formula (Arikunto; 2012:298)

$$P = \frac{R}{N} \times 100\%$$

## Finding and Discussions

The researcher presented the result of the study on students' ability to translate educational news text of Jawa Post newspaper from Indonesian into English. After checking the students' answers, the researcher analyzed them to find out the number of students who have high, moderate or low ability.

### A. Students' Ability in Translating an Educational News of Jawa Post Newspaper from Indonesian into English

The students' ability to translate educational news text of Jawa Post newspaper from Indonesian into English was moderate. It was supported by the fact that five students (20%) got high ability, fifteen students (60%) got moderate ability, and five students (20%) got low ability.

#### 1. The Students' Ability in Grammatical Adjustment in Translating an Educational News of

## **Jawa Post Newspaper from Indonesian into English**

The students' ability to translate educational news text of Jawa Post newspaper from Indonesian into English in grammatical adjustment was moderate. It can be supported by the fact that four students (16%) had high ability, eighteen students (72%) had moderate ability, and three students (12%) had low ability.

### **2. The Students' Ability in Lexical Equivalence in Translating an Educational News of Jawa Post Newspaper from Indonesian into English**

The students' ability to translate educational news text of Jawa Post newspaper from Indonesian into English in lexical equivalence was moderate. It was supported by the fact that four students (16%) had high ability, sixteen students (64%) had moderate ability, and five students (20%) had low ability.

### **Discussion**

As already discussed previously, the researcher found that the students' ability to translate educational news text of Jawa Post newspaper from Indonesian into English was moderate was moderate. These findings indicated that there are many students making mistake in

translating it. Some students did not do the grammatical adjustment and lexical equivalence.

### **A. The Students' Ability in Grammatical Adjustment**

The result of data analysis showed that the ability of most of the fourth year students of Bung Hatta University to translate educational news text of Jawa Post newspaper from Indonesian into English in grammatical adjustment was moderate. This finding indicated that they could not make the grammatical adjustment from source language into the target language. For example: "The purpose, they stoped the habit", while the correct answer is "The aim is to stop the habit".

### **B. The Students' Ability in Lexical Equivalence**

As already discussed previously, another finding of this research was that the ability of most of the fourth year students of Bung Hatta University to translate educational news text of Jawa Post newspaper from Indonesian into English in lexical equivalence was moderate. In this case, some students did not consider the lexical meaning. They could not find the appropriate meaning of words or phrases based on the text or

sentence. For example: “The smoker students”, while the correct answer is “The smoking students”.

### **Conclusions**

First conclusion that the ability of the fourth year students of English Department of Bung Hatta University in translating an educational news of Jawa Post Newspaper from Indonesian into English was moderate. It was proved by the fact that 15 students (60%) had moderate ability.

Second conclusion that the ability of the fourth year students of English Department of Bung Hatta University in grammatical adjustment in translating an educational news of Jawa Post Newspaper from Indonesian into English was moderate. It was proved by the fact that 18 students (72%) had moderate ability.

The last conclusion that the ability of the fourth year students of English Department of Bung Hatta University in using lexical equivalence in translating an educational news of Jawa Post Newspaper from Indonesian into English was moderate. It was proved by the fact that 16 students (64%) had moderate ability.

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