THE ACCURACY OF THE TRANSLATION OF THESIS ABSTRACTS
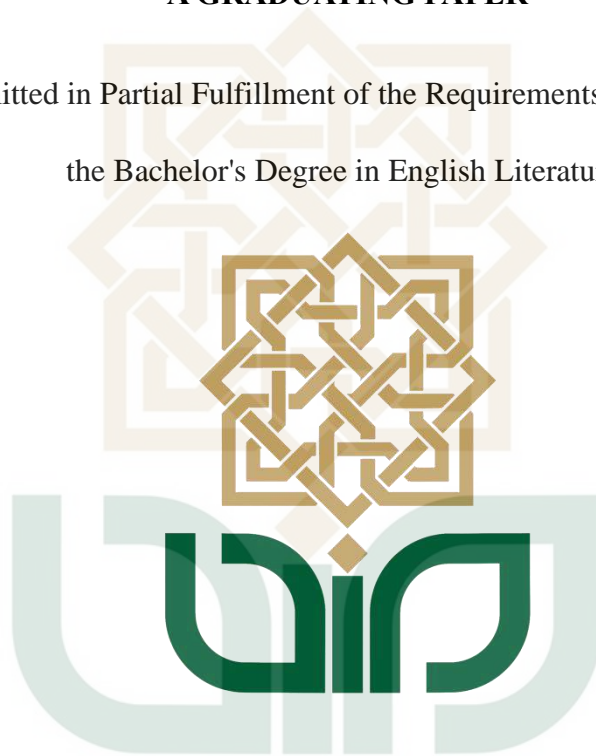# BY GRADUATE STUDENTS AT UIN SUNAN KALIJAGA YOGYAKARTA

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Gaining

the Bachelor's Degree in English Literature

By:

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2023

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Atas perhatiannya, kami mengucapkan terima kasih.

Wassalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb

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A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this graduate paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this graduating paper. Other researcher's opinion or finding included in this research is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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MOTTO
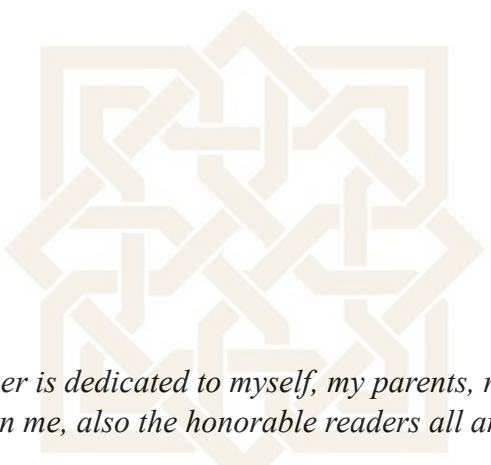
Bagaimanapun juga merawat cita-cita tak akan Semudah Berkata-kata

-FSTVLST-

DEDICATION

This graduating paper is dedicated to myself, my parents, my siblings, and those who believed in me, also the honorable readers all around the world

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to thank to Allah SWT for His abundance of mercy and grace, and for bringing me from darkness to the lightness so that I can complete my graduating paper entitled " The Accuracy of The Translation of Thesis Abstracts by Graduate Students at Uin Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta". So on this occasion I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to those who have supported me.

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Lastly, the researcher realize that this graduating paper is still far from perfection. The researcher would love to receive any suggestions and/or feedbacks for the improvement of this research. Thank you.

Yogyakarta, 12 July 2023

Rizki Wahyu Arifah

NIM:19101050014

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

SL   : Source Language

TL   : Target Language

ST   : Source Text

TT   : Target Text
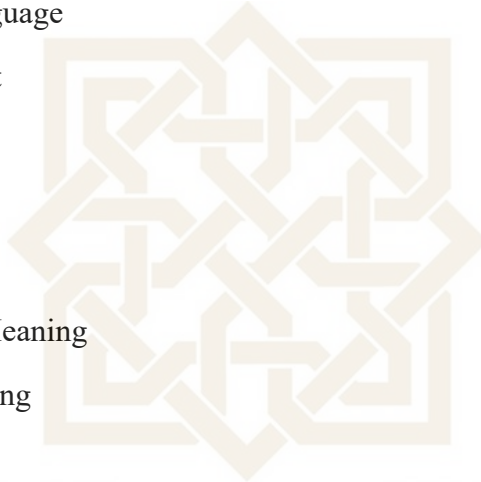
OM   : Omission

AD   : Addition

DM   : Different Meaning

ZM   : Zero Meaning

LIST OF APPENDICES

THE ACCURACY OF THE TRANSLATION OF THESIS ABSTRACTS BY GRADUATE STUDENTS AT UIN SUNAN KALIJAGA YOGYAKARTA

By: Rizki Wahyu Arifah

ABSTRACT

In the writing abstract of thesis, the writer will write the abstract in two languages. The language commonly used to write abstract of thesis at universities in Indonesia is *Bahasa Indonesia* and translated into English. However, sometimes the writer founds problem in translating abstract texts from the source language to the target language, so that causing an inaccuracies in the text. This research aimed to analyze the inaccuracy of the translation of abstract texts made by Postgraduate Students of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. The researcher used mixed methods, qualitative and quantitative. The researcher collected data using the purposive sampling method, 26 abstracts data were taken from each department. The theory used in this research is Larson's theory which discussed the accuracy of a text and the category of inaccuracy in the text. The researcher found 87 cases of translation inaccuracies which divided into four categories of inaccuracies. There were 20 (23%) cases in the Omission category, 8 (9.2%) cases in the Addition category, 58 (66.7%) cases in the Different Meaning category and only 1 (1.1%) case in the Zero Meaning category. The Different Meaning category was the biggest cause of inaccuracy in the entire abstracts data. The researcher also noted that the overall accuracy of the text reached 75.6% and the inaccuracy of the text was only 24.4%. From these findings it can be concluded that the two have quite a comparison and included in the less accurate category. The used of machine translation is one of the main causes of translation inaccuracies in it. The researcher proved it by the use technique of back-to-back translation with some machine translation. In addition, the occurrence of several types of inaccuracies indicated that students are not careful so they don't translate the target text properly.

Keywords: Abstract, Accuracy, Translation.

THE ACCURACY OF THE TRANSLATION OF THESIS ABSTRACTS BY GRADUATE STUDENTS AT UIN SUNAN KALIJAGA YOGYAKARTA

Oleh: Rizki Wahyu Arifah

ABSTRAK

Dalam kepenulisan abstrak pada tesis, penulis akan menuliskan abstrak tersebut ke dalam dua bahasa. Bahasa yang biasa digunakan untuk menulis abstrak pada tesis di universitas-universitas yang ada di Indonesia adalah Bahasa Indonesia dan diterjemahkan kedalam Bahasa Inggris. Namun terkadang penulis menemukan kendala dalam menerjemahkan teks abstrak dari bahasa sumber ke bahasa sasaran, sehingga menyebabkan terjadinya ketidakakuratan pada teks. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis ketidakakuratan penerjemahan teks abstrak yang dibuat oleh Mahasiswa Pascasarjana UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. Peneliti menggunakan metode campuran, kualitatif dan kuantitatif. Penulis mengumpulkan data dengan metode *Purposive Sampling*, 26 data abstrak diambil dari tiap-tiap jurusan. Teori yang digunakan pada penelitian ini adalah teori Larson yang membahas mengenai keakuratan suatu teks dan kategori ketidakakuratan pada teks. Peneliti menemukan 87 kasus ketidakakuratan penerjemahan yang terbagi dalam empat kategori ketidakakuratan. Terdapat 20 (23%) kasus pada kategori *Omission*, 8 (9,2%) kasus pada kategori *Addition*, 58 (66,7%) kasus pada kategori *Different Meaning* dan hanya 1 (1,1%) kasus pada kategori *Zero Meaning*. Kategori *Different Meaning* menjadi penyebab ketidakakuratan terbesar pada keseluruhan data abstrak tersebut. Peneliti juga mencatat bahwa keakuratan keseluruhan teks mencapai 75,6% dan ketidakakuratan teks hanya 24,4%. Dari temuan tersebut dapat disimpulkan bahwa keduanya memiliki perbandingan yang cukup jauh dan termasuk dalam kategori kurang akurat. Penggunaan mesin penerjemah menjadi salah satu penyebab utama terjadinya kesalahan penerjemahan pada abstrak tersebut. Peneliti membuktikannya dengan menggunakan teknik penerjemahan balik dengan beberapa mesin terjemahan. Selain itu, terjadinya beberapa jenis kesalahan menunjukkan bahwa mahasiswa kurang teliti sehingga tidak menerjemahkan teks sasaran dengan baik.

Kata kunci: Abstrak, Keakuratan, Penerjemahan

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Translation is inevitable, because in this vast world people have different languages from one region to another. For example, the Indonesian language which Indonesians use every day, is clearly different from the English language which they don't use and makes difficult for Indonesians to communicate in English. David and Stephen (2004, p. 7) state that people can not avoid speech and language because of their social characteristics that need interaction with one to another. Sometimes they also have to communicate with someone who speaks a foreign language, so they have to use a good translation to make it easy to understand.

Besides being useful in social communication, translation also makes it easier for everyone to broaden their knowledge. When people want to learn knowledge from many countries with different languages, so it can be easier if the sources of information, such as books, newspapers and journals are translated into their language with a good translation.

Catford (1967, p. 20) states that "Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language with equivalent textual material in another language". A translator needs to look for comparable translation textual material from the source

1

language (SL) to the target language(TL). That's why to translate messages in the target language (TL) from the source language (SL), a translator needs to understand the message's meaning before rewriting it in the target language (TL).

Mounin in newmark (1988, p. 32) argues that " A translation cannot be simply duplicated." Translation is not just a case of translation, repetition, and retaining the original form of the original text. That's why translating a text is not an easy task.

Larson (1984, pp. 485) suggests that a good translation is a translation that fulfills three important requirements: accuracy, clarity and naturalness. Accurate means that the source has the same or equivalent meaning with the translation text, since the sense of the translation text must remain constant in the translation. Larson (1984, p. 482) states that there are four things that make the translation innacurate, its indicator are omission (decline in meaning), addition (increased meaning), different meaning, and zero meaning. The truth can be checked by comparing the original text with the translation text. The second aspect of translation is clarity. This means the target text has a clear meaning or no ambiguity. The next aspect of translation is naturalness. This relates to what native speakers typically speak and write in their native language. In other words, it can be said that it is a native speaker.

Accuracy is one of the most important aspects of translation. Nababan *et al* (2011, p. 44) state that Accuracy is a term used in translation assessment to

refer to the equivalence of source and target language texts. The notion of equivalence leads to the content equivalence between two texts.

In this research, the researcher will analyze the accuracy of translation from the thesis abstracts. In Indonesian literature, thesis abstracts is written in two languages, Indonesian and English. It aims to bring thesis writing to the international realm and can be read by thousands of people around the world (Oliver, 2004, p. 108). So it is necessary to pay serious attention to whether the abstract translation can be understood in English.

Oliver (2004, p. 106) states that the abstract is an important part of research because it includes the main points and conclusions of the research, usually placed on the page after the title page. That's why abstracts should be written using words in a good structure. A good translation of an abstract is paying attention to the equivalent between the source language (SL) and the target language (TL), and also paying attention to the accuracy of the abstract translation results without reducing, adding, or skewing the meaning of the source language (SL). Some students didn't pay much attention to abstracts, and they concentrate more on thesis content and course content, because the abstract is mandatory but rarely checked by a supervisor (Khikmah & Kurniawan, 2020, p. 269). Whereas an abstract thesis is a summary of the content of the thesis that is the original work of the author without quoting anyone else.

After explaining the general problem, the researcher wants to analyze further the inaccuracies found in the translation of thesis abstracts by graduate students of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. Besides that, the researcher will also describe and explain how the inaccuracies affect overall accuracy in the translation of thesis abstracts with the percentage of accuracy and inaccuracy in their translations. It can provide input for the university to pay more attention to the abstract translation of student thesis if it turns out that in research there are many inaccuracies translated in the abstracts. Because to be widely read by the public, it need to be written in the correct international language, so that it is easy to understand. Another purpose of this research is for the need of da'wah, considering that Sunan Kalijaga University is an Islamic Institution and the researchs of thesis discussed a lot about Islamic elements, so the research also aims for da'wah. When the translation of the abstract is inaccurate, the preaching and delivery of knowledge are also hampered.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of the take look, the researcher discusses the problem statement as follows:

1. What inaccuracies were found in the translation of thesis abstracts by UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta graduate students?

2. How did the inaccuracies affect overall accuracy in the translation of thesis abstracts?

1.3 Objectives of Study

Based on the problem formulation, the purpose of this discussion are:

1. To describe the inaccuracies found in the translation of thesis abstracts by UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta graduate students.

2. To describe and explain how the inaccuracies affect overall accuracy in the translation of thesis abstracts.

1.4 Scope of Study

This study only focuses on the translation of thesis abstracts written by the graduate students of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. The researcher will use the theory of Larson that explain Indicator of inaccuracy to identify the type of translation inaccuracies found in the thesis abstract written by the graduate students of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta and to describe the percentage rate of accuracy and inaccuracy of it.

1.5 Significance of Study

The research result is expected to give the contribution for:

1. Theoretically

This study's findings (results) are expected to give helpful information for UIN Sunan Kalijaga students who want to do related research or more in-depth about the accuracy of the translation.

2. Practically

UIN Sunan Kalijaga students are more concerned about translation procedures and rules in their thesis abstracts to reduce the accuracy of the translation.

1.6 Literature Review

Some researchers have conducted research related to the accuracy of translation. They are explained as follows:

Melita Nadhianti (2016) conducted a descriptive qualitative research study by theory Larson that investigated the accuracy level of Google Translate in English-Indonesian and also Indonesian-English. The main source of data is the translated text output from Google Translate. Examples of this research text are discussion text, exposition text, and narrative text. The researcher divides the numbers into two. A text is said to be accurate if the meaning is more than 50% accurate, but it is said to be inaccurate if the meaning is less than 50% accurate. The results show that Google Translate is considered an inaccurate translation. This statement is based on finding the accurate percentage in Google Translate's translation, which is only 49.1% and 37.1%. The figure is below 50%. Four indicators of inaccuracy (omission, addition, different meaning and zero meaning) were found in sentences translated by Google Translate. From the findings of this study, it appears that Google Translate still needs some improvements.

Hamriana (2017) Analyzed the Naturalness and Accuracy of Translations from the English Department student in semester V. The research aimed to determine the naturalness and accuracy of students in translating short stories and the problems in translating. This research is quantitative descriptive research. The total research subjects consisted of 30 students. Data were collected by analyzing the text and a questionnaire consisting of 5 items. The results showed that the naturalness and accuracy of students' short story translations were "Good," with a mastery level of around 60-70%. This means that corrections are still needed, but not too much. In addition, it was found that students often faced problems, namely a lack of vocabulary and difficulties in translating texts containing idioms, and also because they often used Google Translate to translate English texts.

Ivan Nugroho (2017) analyzed the accuracy of translation from the cultural word in the bilingual book "*Panduan Berziarah ke Borobudur*". The research used qualitative methods and Newmark's theory of cultural word translation, also Nababan's theory of translation accuracy. The cultural word will be grouped according to cultural categories, and the accuracy of the translation will be analyzed based on how closely the meaning or message can be transferred from the source language to the target language. The study found cultural categories*: tasbih, keris (pisau traditional jawa), tongkat pendek (camara), lesung, alu, cawat (kopina)* and several other words.

Kurnia Fikri (2016) examined the translation results of students in translating a news item text from English to Indonesian. It's used a descriptive research method. The population is class X students, and the research sample is 35 people who are selected using a simple random sampling technique. The problem raised is what is the level of accuracy of students' translation results in translating a news item text and the mistakes made by students so that the results of the student's translation are less accurate or not accurate. As a result, it was found that the average score was 1.92, where 32 students (91.43%) from the population had a less accurate level. The findings of the research also showed that some of the mistakes made by students were adding words or information that didn't fit the context, omitting important words or information, translating word-for-word, and choosing inappropriate words.

After finding several studies that dealt with the accuracy of translation above, the researcher can conclude there are similarities and differences. The similarity is that all were discussing the accuracy of the text. Some studies assign students to translate before, some choose to examine the accuracy of machine translation, and others research is a book. However, this research will certainly be different from previous research because this research will examine texts and translations that already exist and have been made long ago; there are abstract thesis translations.

1.7 Theoretical Approach

The research focuses on analyzing the accuracy in the abstract thesis translation of students at Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University Yogyakarta. In analyzing the data, the researcher used Larson's theory to classify the accuracy and inaccuracy. Larson (1984, p. 482) states that there are four indicators of inaccuracy in translation, there are omission, addition, different meaning or wrong meaning and zero meaning.

So in this research, the researcher wants to use Larson's theory to classify the accuracy and inaccuracy of translation in the abstract thesis. It will be classified into omission, addition, different meaning, and zero meaning. The result of the analysis will be used to answer what percentage rate of accuracy and inaccuracy in abstract thesis translation made by students at Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University Yogyakarta.

1.8 Method of Study

1.8.1 Types of research

The researcher used the mixed methods by combining quantitative and qualitative approaches. Johnson *et al.* (2015, p. 123) define mixed methods as a type of research that combines elements of quantitative and qualitative research approaches for broader purposes. Creswell (2013, p. 297) state that mixed methods are strong in using both of qualitative and quantitative research. It also minimizes the limitations of both approaches.

This method can be useful for those who want to explain quantitative results with a qualitative follow-up data collection and analysis.

The type of mixed method used by the researcher is explanatory sequential design. Ivankova *et al.* (2006, p. 5) explained, this type of mixed method consists of two phases. The first phase is collecting and analyzing the quantitative data. Then, the second phase is using the results to plan, explain, elaborate, or build the qualitative data.

1.8.2 Data sources

Data is an important aspect of research, because without data, research cannot be done. "Data is information sought to solve problems in research" (Djamal, 2015, p. 63). According to Emzir in Djamal (2015, p. 3), "Data includes everything written and found by researchers in a study; the data includes interview transcripts, observation notes, diaries, and documentation."

The data source was from students' thesis abstracts translation at the online library, Institutional Repository Digilib UIN Sunan Kalijaga (https://digilib.uin-suka.ac.id/). The researcher took some samples with purposive sampling and chose 26 thesis abstracts written in the last two years (2021-2022), which is taken one abstract in each study program in each year to represent the sample. Than the data can be relevant to the current circumstances. Here are the populations of abstracts:

NO	STUDY PROGRAM	YEAR	ABSTRACT	
			POPULATION	SAMPLE
1	Bahasa dan Sastra Arab	2021	30	1
2	Hukum Islam	2021	7	1
3	Ekonomi Syariah	2021	81	1
4	Pendidikan Islam Anak Usia Dini	2021	78	1
5	Management Pendidikan Islam	2021	35	1
6	Pendidikan Guru Madrasah Ibtidaiyah	2021	43	1
7	Pendidikan Agama Islam	2021	73	1
8	Komunikasi dan Penyiaran Islam	2021	32	1
9	Sejarah Peradaban Islam	2021	16	1
10	Ilmu Syariah	2021	148	1
11	Informatika	2021	10	1
12	Aqidah Filsafat Islam	2021	33	1
13	Ilmu Al-Qur'an dan Tafsir	2021	2	1
14	Bahasa dan Sastra Arab	2022	46	1
15	Hukum Islam	2022	22	1
16	Ekonomi Syariah	2022	102	1
17	Pendidikan Islam Anak Usia Dini	2022	67	1
18	Management Pendidikan Islam	2022	42	1
19	Pendidikan Guru Madrasah Ibtidaiyah	2022	70	1
20	Pendidikan Agama Islam	2022	104	1
21	Komunikasi dan Penyiaran Islam	2022	56	1
22	Sejarah Peradaban Islam	2022	15	1
23	Ilmu Syariah	2022	111	1
24	Informatika	2022	22	1
25	Aqidah Filsafat Islam	2022	26	1
26	Studi Agama-Agama	2022	11	1

Table 1.1 The population of thesis abstracts in every study program

1.8.3 Data collection technique

The data collection technique for this research was purposive sampling method. Patton in Palinkas *et al*., (2012, p. 2) explained, the purposive sampling method is a technique widely used for the identification and selection of information-rich cases for the most effective use of limited resources. From taking it sample, the researcher formulates the criteria to find an appropriate sample. The criterion is that the thesis abstract must be written in two languages, Indonesian and English. From the predetermined criteria, the researcher took 1 appropriate sample of thesis abstract from each study program.

The data needed for this research are the accuracy and inaccuracy of the results of the thesis abstracts translations made by postgraduate students at UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta at the year 2021 and 2022. The researcher collected sample thesis abstracts as transcript documents and read them carefully then entered them into the table that had been made for the classification stage. It will be used to calculate accuracy and inaccuracy quantitatively and then answer the results of the accuracy overall text qualitatively which supported by the results of the first quantitative research. The data table can be seen as follows.

ABSTRACT CODE = XXX

NO	DATA		ACCURATE	INACCURATE			
	ST	TT		OM	AD	DM	ZM
1							
2							
3							
TOTAL SENTENCES							

Table 1.2 The sample of analysis table in every abstract text

ST: Source Text

TT: Target Text

OM: Omission

AD: Addition

DM: Different Meaning

ZM: Zero Meaning

After each abstract has been analyzed in the table, each sentence's accuracy and inaccuracy results will be summed up in the following table to get the percentage results. The table can be seen as follows.

NO	CODE OF ABSTRACT	SENTENCES CATEGORY				
		ACCURACY	INACCURACY			
			Omission	Addition	Diff Meaning	Zero Meaning
1						
2						
3						
TOTAL						

Table 1.3 The sample table of overall data of accuracy and inaccuracy

1.8.4 Data Analysis Technique

After collecting the data of the research, the researcher analyzed the data with several techniques.

1. The first step in analyzing the accuracy of abstract translation is to identify it; the researcher has to compare the abstract source text (ST) with the target language (TT). It will show inaccuracy if the sentence is lost meaning, added another meaning, or skewed meaning.

2. The next step is to describe the inaccuracy; to describe and classified into a description table to determine the frequency of these types of inaccuracy.

3. The third step is discussing the result of the table data description.

4. The fourth step is making percentages from the analysis. The researcher used the descriptive analysis technique to analyze the percentage of accuracy and inaccuracy. The formula as follows:

$$\text{Percentage of accuracy} = \frac{\textit{accurate sentences counted}}{\textit{Total of sentences}} \, x100\%$$

$$\text{Percentage of inaccuracy} = \frac{\textit{inaccurate sentences counted}}{\textit{Total of sentences}} \, x100\%$$

5. In the last step, from the results of the data percentage, the researcher will conclude, are the abstract translation made by the student is an accurate translation or a less accurate translation.

1.9 Paper Organization

The researcher divides this graduating paper into four chapters. Chapter 1 consists of an introduction part that contains the background of the study, the research questions, the objectives of the study, the significance of the study, the literature review, the theoretical framework, the data collection technique, and the paper organization. Chapter 2 details the theoretical framework consisting of accuracy, inaccuracy and definitions of translation. Chapter 2 also describes the categories and types of inaccuracy based on Larson's theory. Chapter 3 will explain the analysis that the researcher conducted. The final chapter contains conclusions and suggestions summarizing the research findings.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This is the last chapter of this research. This chapter consists of two parts. The first part is conclusion, and the second part is suggestion. The purpose of the conclusion section is to answer the main questions from this study. While the suggestions section contains several suggestions for related parties and suggestions for further research related to this research.

4.1 Conclusion

There are several findings from the results of the analysis carried out by researchers using Larson's theory of accuracy. It explains the accuracy of translation in a text. In theory, it is explained that a text is said to be accurate when it is free from four categories of inaccuracies, namely omission, addition, different meaning and zero meaning.

The researcher found 87 sentences inaccuracies from 26 Thesis abstracts translated by graduate students of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. These errors include the categories of omission, addition, different meaning and zero meaning. The most inaccuracy was in category Different Meaning which found 58 sentences with a percentage 66,7% of all errors. The second highest inaccuracy was in category Omission which found 20 sentences with a percentage 23% of all errors. Meanwhile, in category Addition were found 8 sentences with a

percentage 9,2% of all errors. The least errors were found in category Zero Meaning, which found only 1 sentence with a percentage 1,1% of all errors.

After the researcher presented the inaccuracy in these findings, the researcher also presented the level of accuracy and inaccuracy to answer the overall accuracy of the text. The results of the data analysis by the researcher indicated that the level of accuracy in the text reached 75.6%, while the level of inaccuracy reached 24.4%. From these findings it can be concluded that the two have a quite distant comparison. It can be seen that the effect of inaccuracies in the abstract translation text is not too severe, but is still included in the less accurate category because some errors in the abstract text greatly affect the meaning of the text.

The researcher also stated that the inaccuracy of translation are caused by several things, including the used of automatic machine translation and unintentional. Automatic machine translation is the biggest possible cause of inaccuracy in translation texts, because mostly cases are found in it. The researcher proved it by the use technique of back-to-back translation with some machine translation. The most widely used is Google Translate, this was also revealed by the researcher because it is very well known among students and is the most frequently used.

4.2 Suggestion

Based on the conclusions above, the researcher wants to provide some suggestions that may be useful especially for readers and also other researchers. First, the researcher suggests other researchers who are willing to conduct research in the same field to use a different theory because there are many other theories to examine cases of translation errors. Hopefully further researchers can develop ideas and find better objects. Second, the researcher provides input to postgraduates students UIN Sunan Kalijaga who translated that asbtracts to be more careful in translating texts, to more attention about the accuracy and clarity of the texts, so that the equivalent in ST is maintained down to TT. Third, the researcher wants to provide input to UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta, especially for the supervisor of postgraduate student thesis to pay more attention to student thesis in the abstract translation section, because researcher has also found some flaws in the translation outside of its scholarly research, as in the number of sentences that should follow the rules and the ordinance of writing abstract. Lastly, for the reader, the researcher suggests to be careful in translating something so many kind of translation errors can be avoided so that the equivalent in ST is maintained down to TT.

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