

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents background of the study, the formulation of the problem, the objective of the study, and the significance of the study.

A. Background of the Study

English as an international language is very important in human life in order to be updated to the developments in this creative and innovative era.¹ Nowadays, English has become the world's most widely spoken language by the world's citizens in every aspect, particularly in education.² There are many curriculums, books, and other sources of knowledge in science, economics, chemistry, sport, mathematics, and so on that are written in English.³ Therefore, English needs to be learned by the whole community, especially academics throughout the country in order to give students the ability to understand sources of knowledge that are written in English in related fields.⁴

In Indonesia, English is mandated as a foreign language (EFL) that needs to be taught from secondary up to university level.⁵ At the university level, English

¹Didik Santoso and Pirman Ginting. (2015). *Bilingual Education Programs at Junior High Schools*. Jakarta: Prenada Media Group, p.1.

²Rahmah Fithriani. (2018). Discrimination behind Nest and Nnest Dichotomy in ELT Professionalism. *KnE Social Sciences*, 3(4), p. 741.

³ Rajathurai Nishanthi. (2018). The Important of Learning English in Today World. *International Open Access Journal*, 3(1), p. 872.

⁴Chusnu Syarifa Diah Kusuma. (2018). Integrasi Bahasa Inggris Dalam Proses Pembelajaran. *Jurnal Efisiensi – Kajian Ilmu Administrasi*, XV(2), p. 46.

⁵Rahmah Fithriani. (2018). Integrating Online Blogging into EFL Writing Instruction: Exploring Students' Perceptions. *Advances in social Science, Education and Humanities Research (ASSEHR)*, volume 18, p.87.

becomes a subject that must be taught in all majors which aims to develop students' language skills competence both in oral and written form, so that students can use English as a communication tool in the international scene.⁶ Specifically, in an English education major, students learn English with more complex structure and more details, such as English structure, pronunciation, English literature, advanced writing, English phonology, English syntax, English morphology, translation, etc.⁷

Translation is one of the compulsory subjects that is taught in the English education major. According to *Kerangka Kualifikasi Nasional Indonesia (KKNI)* as a curriculum in English education major, students are expected to be able to translate English texts into Indonesian and from Indonesian into English by linguistic rules.⁸

Nowadays, technology has become a tool that made the English learning process a lot easier in almost every aspect, including translation.⁹ This phenomenon is referred to as technology integration, particularly in translation is called machine translation. Machine translation is an act of fully automatic text translation that is useful for making it easier for translators to translate texts, such as Bing, SDL,

⁶Yuyun Yulia. (2017). Kebutuhan Mahasiswa PGSD Terhadap Mata Kuliah Bahasa Inggris. *Trihayu: Jurnal Pendidikan Ke-Sd-An*, 3(3), p. 173.

⁷FITK UIN Sumatra Utara. (2019). *Buku Panduan Akademik Fakultas Ilmu Tarbiyah dan Keguruan Universitas Negeri Sumatera Utara Medan Tahun Akademik 2017/2018*. Medan: Fakultas Ilmu Tarbiyah dan Keguruan Universitas Negeri Sumatera Utara, p. 83 – 90.

⁸FITK UIN Sumatra Utara. (2017). *Buku Panduan Akademik Fakultas Ilmu Tarbiyah dan Keguruan Universitas Negeri Sumatera Utara Medan Tahun Akademik 2017/2018*. Medan: Fakultas Ilmu Tarbiyah dan Keguruan Universitas Negeri Sumatera Utara, p. 97.

⁹Bayu Budiharjo. (2018). Google, Translate this Website Page Flipping through Google Translate's Ability. *Advances in Social Science, Education and Humanities Research*, volume 166, p. 455.

Google Translate, Yandex, etc.¹⁰ Google Translate is one of the famous machine translations used by Indonesian students in recent years.¹¹ They used Google Translate to translate texts from Bahasa Indonesia into English and from English into Bahasa Indonesia.¹²

Furthermore, only a few studies have been investigated students' perception of Google Translation utilization in a translation course, such as a study by Yanti and Meca that found most students said that Google Translate is a fast dictionary to be used in translation class.¹³ Besides, Amanda found the students said that because of Google Translate, they did not need a dictionary.¹⁴ Likewise, Rahayu found the students argued that Google Translate is useful to their translation to translate Bahasa Indonesia into English and vice versa easier and also to learn how to pronounce words and to increase their vocabulary or synonyms.¹⁵

However, those studies were merely focused on the benefit of Google Translate utilization in the classroom while less had researched the students' perception of Google Translate compared with their translation products. Further,

¹⁰Roswita Silalahi and Farid Repelita Waty Kembaren. (2017). *My Adventure in Translation: Experience the Excitement of Translation World*. Medan: State University of North Sumatra, p. 26.

¹¹Hadis Ghasemi and Mahmood Hashemian. (2016). A Comparative Study of Google Translate Translations: An Error Analysis of English-to-Persian and Persian-to-English Translations. *English Language Teaching*, 9 (3), p. 14.

¹²Ibid, p. 14.

¹³Maria Yanti and Lesly Martha C. Meka. (2019). The Students' Perception in Using Google Translate as a Media in Translation Class. *International Conference on English Language Teaching*, 3(1), p. 128.

¹⁴Ajeng Pratiwi Tri Amanda. (2019). Students' Perception of Using Google Translate as a Medium of Translating English. Medan: Univeristy of Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara, p. i.

¹⁵Aisyah Riski Rahayu. (2021). *Students' Perceptions of Google Translate as a Media For Translating English Material*. Makassar: Muhammadiyah University Of Makassar, p. x.

the researcher investigated whether Google Translate is a popular machine translation in a translation course, would be an effective translation tool in a translation course by exploring students' perception and comparing it with students' translation products. Thus, the researcher investigated research entitled "EFL Pre-Service Teachers' Perception of Google Translate Utilization in Translation Course: A Case Study of State Islamic University of North Sumatra Medan."

B. The Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher would like to research the formulations of the problem as follows: "How the EFL pre-service teachers' engagement and perception of Google Translate utilization in translation course?"

C. The Objective of the Study

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the objective of the study was to find out the EFL pre-service teachers' engagement and perception of Google Translate utilization in translation course.

D. The Significance of the Study

The researcher expected the result of this study would be valuable for everyone to give the significances both theoretical and practical, which as follow:

1. Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, the results of this study can give useful information to enrich the current literature and resources about the students' perception of Google Translate utilization in translation course.

2. Practical Significance

Practically, this research can be useful for many people, such as students, teachers, and further researchers.

a. For the Students

The result of this study can give useful knowledge and information, especially for English Education Department students in Google Translate utilization in translation course. Thus, the students can use Google Translate as an option in their translation course as facilities and supporting tools to translate texts easier and faster.

b. For the English Lecturer

The result of this study can make lecturers suggest and advise the students to use Google Translate as a translation tool in order to make it easier to translate texts and to do assignments.

c. For the Further Researchers

The result of this study can provide useful information and can be considered as a reference for further researchers who want to research Google Translate utilization in translation course.