

Translation Quality Assessment of the Analysis of Deixis Made by Indonesian EFL Undergraduate Students Abstract

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the translation quality in terms of accuracy, acceptability, and readability of the translated text of the abstract titled "Analysis of Deixis made by Indonesian EFL Undergraduate Students" which serves as the research's source material. It is descriptive-qualitative. Two approaches were taken to collect the data: content analysis was used to extract information from the source and target texts, and a questionnaire was utilized to collect information regarding readability, acceptability, and accuracy. Three raters evaluated the translated text's acceptability, readability, and accuracy. The data analysis results indicate that: (1) The average score of accuracy is 2.6. (2) The acceptability score average is 2.7. (3) The readability score is 2.4 on average. Given that the three factors had an average score of 2.6, it can be said that the Indonesian EFL undergraduate students' translation of the Analysis of Deixis was of good quality.

INTRODUCTION

The Background of the Study

One may think of translation as both a process and a product. We focus on the "journey" of the translator from the original text to the translated version as a process. In this instance, we track the imprint by employing the choices we make regarding approaches, strategies, and so forth. We concentrate on the outcomes we encounter or a few translations from the same text as a product. In this instance, quality concerns take precedence above the necessity to investigate the accuracy or suitability of the translator's process. Translation research typically leans toward both process-oriented and product-oriented approaches, as a result of this product-process separation. Proof of whether a translation is a quality work is the goal of product-oriented translation research. (Nababan 2003: 121).

This study looks at a translation's readability and message transfer accuracy. The 'products' or 'results' that translators produce are examined by the researcher. The 'process' of translation that the translator engages in is not examined. He is unaware of the decision-making process the translator goes through and the issues it faces. The translation process itself is not examined by the researcher; only the "results" of the translation activity are.

The translation of scientific writing's abstract texts is one instance of translation that is focused on the product. Because abstracts help readers get interested in the full text of scientific writing, they are an essential part of scientific writing. Put otherwise, the abstract largely determines whether or not a scientific paper is read. One could argue that abstracts are required for all written works in English, including essays, theses, dissertations, and scientific publications. It is necessary to translate abstracts into English.

Many researchers opt to utilize translation services or translators since their inadequate English ability makes it difficult for them to get accurate translation results. This is especially true of researchers who reside in Indonesia. This paper will discuss how well an abstract paragraph was translated in terms of accuracy, acceptability, and readability.

The Research Question

This research explores the degree of translation quality. Therefore, the researcher raises the question, what is translation quality in terms of readability, acceptability, and accuracy of an abstract text of *Analysis of Deixis made by Indonesian EFL Undergraduate Students*?

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Definition of Translation

As previously said, the field of study for this study is translation. As a result, it's important to outline some definitions of translation that the experts have provided in advance, like these:

1. "Translation is the process of substituting text in one language (the source language) with equivalent text in a different language (the target language)" (Catford, 1974: 20).

2. Translation can be defined as the process of replicating a message in the target language that is closest to its original meaning and style in the target language (Nida and Taber 1974: 12).

According to the definitions given above, it can be said that translating is the process of rendering communications.

Translation Process

Bell's (1991) illustration of the translation process paints a clear picture of the steps a translator typically takes to produce a translation. The text in the original language is shown to the translator first. He studied the text to decipher its meaning. He then switches the message to the target language once it has been comprehended.

Interpreting within a specific context is said to be a cognitive activity that takes place in the interpreter's brain. The human eye cannot see the procedure. When a translator works with text written in the target language, we have no idea what the translator is truly thinking. Furthermore, we are unaware of the judgments the translator makes or the rationale behind them.

Qualified Translation Criteria

Translating text messages accurately from the source language into the target language is the main issue in translation, according to the definitions of translation that have been explored earlier. As a result, the translator must give careful thought to conveying the meaning accurately. Furthermore, the issue of accepting translated texts must be taken into account. Should the translation and language translation contents not comply with the traditions and legal framework of the target language, the reader will reject the translation. Translations that misrepresent the target culture or contain misleading teachings, for instance, will be rejected. The translation would be refused because it is deemed disrespectful if the word "you" were to be translated from English into Indonesian and pronounced by a child to his father.

Richards et al. (1985: 238) define readability as the ease with which a reader can comprehend and read written material. Dale and Chall (cited in Flood, 1984: 236) say the same notion, stating that readability is every component of a written text that affects the reader's comprehension. Both definitions of legibility make it abundantly evident that two main elements affect a text's readability: 1) the linguistic elements used to convey the message, and 2) the reader's reading proficiency.

The length of the average sentence, the complexity of the sentence structure, and the number of new words used in the text are the three empirical metrics that can be used to determine a text's readability, according to Richards et al. (1985: 238). Sakri (1993: 135) made a similar claim, stating that an author's use of word and sentence structure affects readability. Additional elements that may affect how readable the translation is include the usage of regional and foreign terms, confusing phrase structure, unfinished sentences, and disjointed thought patterns (Nababan, 2000: 317-317).

METHODOLOGY

Type and Design of Research

An abstract text and its Indonesian translation served as the researcher's primary sources of qualitative data. Next, a qualitative description of the data obtained from these two sources is given. As a result, descriptive-qualitative research is the appropriate classification for this study. As stated by Miles and Huberman (1994):

...the relevant data are presented as words rather than numbers. Though they are usually "processed" in some way before being used, they are still words, usually arranged into longer texts. Observation, interviews, document excerpts, tape recordings, and other methods are some of the ways they may have been gathered, and they are usually arranged into lengthy texts. (Miles and Huberman, 1994: 21).

It looks into how well the abstract text was translated regarding accuracy, acceptability, and readability. Because of these issues, as well as the research's emphasis on examining issues in the field and achieving its goals, this study may be referred to as an embedded case study (Sutopo, 2002: 136).

Comparative analysis is the method of analysis used. The researchers examined the degree of message similarity between texts written in the source and target languages.

Data Sources

Data sources include informants and documents. This study also looks at information gathered from informants. Three informants were used in this research. Three individuals made up the three informants, and they evaluated the translation text's readability, acceptability, and accuracy. The requirements for the informants were as follows: 1) having a strong command of both English and Indonesian; 2) being well-versed in the nuances of translation; and 3) having real-world translation experience.

Data Collection Techniques

The two methods of data collecting that will be employed in this study are as follows:

1. Listen and Record Techniques

The method of recording and listening is used to gather information. The following procedures are used to obtain data using document analysis:

- Carefully reading the text in the target language
- Examining texts in the original language and their Indonesian translations
- Identifying the translation technique used to translate content from the source language into the target language
- Evaluating how the translation technique used affected the message's correctness and the translation text's level of acceptability
- Determining the reader's response to the translation text's readability level
- Encoding and classifying data with similar properties
- Examining research data
- Coming to conclusions and making recommendations for further study.

2. Questionnaire

Two different kinds of questions were included in the questionnaire that were used to gather information. A closed question is the first kind of question. Out of the three options given, the informant selected one. The scale or assessment score is indicated by the three options. The following rating scale was modified from the Nababan et al. (2012) message accuracy rating scale:

Table 1. Accuracy

Translation category	Score	Qualitative Parameters
Accurate	3	There shall be no distortion of meaning when translators translate words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences, or texts originating in a language other than the target language.
Less Accurate	2	Most word definitions, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences, and source language texts have been faithfully translated into the target language. Significant distortions, the translation of many meanings (taxa), or the removal of some compromise the message's accuracy.
Not accurate	1	Words, technical terminology, phrases, clauses, sentences, and texts written in the source language are either incorrectly translated into the target language or left out (removed).

Table 2. Acceptability

Translation category	Score	Qualitative Parameters
Acceptable	3	The reader will be familiar with the technical term used, which is widely used, and the translation will feel natural. Additionally, the sentences, clauses, and phrases used adhere to Indonesian language rules.
Less Acceptable	2	Though there are a few minor grammatical errors or issues with the use of technical words, overall the

Table 3. Readability

Translation category	Score	Qualitative Parameters
High Readability Level	3	The reader can understand words, technical terminology, phrases, clauses, sentences, and translated texts with ease.
Moderate Readability Level	2	The reader can grasp the translation in general, but in some cases, it will require multiple readings to fully understand.
Low Readability Level	1	The translation is difficult for readers to understand.

An open question is the second kind of question. The opportunity to explain why they selected the first kind of inquiry was provided to informants. The message's degree of accuracy, its degree of acceptability, and the translation text's readability are the intended justifications.

Weighting

As previously mentioned, a good translation ought to be accurate, acceptable, and simple enough for the target reader to understand. There are variances in the value weights of the three aspects.

Table 4. Weighting of Assessed Quality Aspects

No	Assessed Quality Aspects	Weight
1	Accuracy	3
2	Acceptability	2
3	Readability	1

With a weight of 3, accuracy is the aspect with the highest weight. It is adapted to the fundamental idea of translation as the process of accurately conveying messages from text written in the source language into that written in the target language. The second factor, or 2., is the acceptance of the translation. The basis for the decision is the notion that the acceptability factor is closely tied to how well the translation complies with the rules, norms, and culture that apply to the target language. There are situations where the acceptability factor influences accuracy factors. Stated differently, there are situations where an inadequate or undesirable translation will likewise be inadequate or inaccurate. The component with the lowest weight, readability, is 1.

The notion that translation issues are unrelated to the issue of whether the intended reader will find the translation easy to understand explains why the readability component is accorded such a low priority. However, because they usually do not have access to the source language, target readers think that the translations they read will make sense to them. (Nababan et al. 2012).

RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The results of the evaluation conducted by three raters – PA (rater A), PB (rater B), and PC (rater C) – about the acceptability, readability, and degree of accuracy of the message are displayed in the accompanying diagram 1.

Diagram 1. Accuracy, Acceptability, and Readability

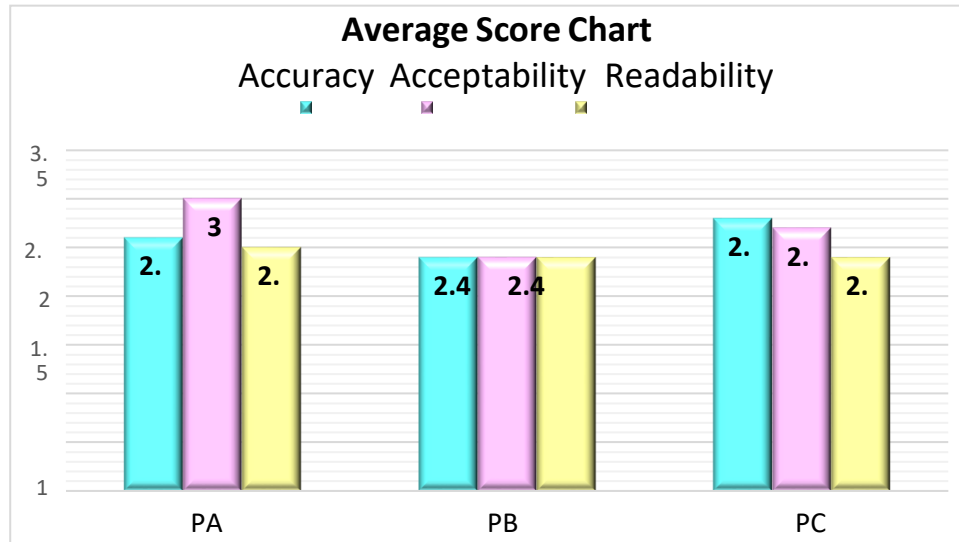


Diagram 1 above demonstrates the wide range of opinions among raters on the quality of translations of abstract texts. Analysis of Deixis Made by EFL Undergraduate Students in Indonesia. The acceptance factor was found to be the greatest among the three translation quality criteria that were evaluated. According to the high acceptability aspects assessment, this abstract text has been accurately translated into the Indonesian language and is understood by the reader as follows: technical terminology, meaning, or content in a given sentence have all been interpreted from Indonesia's standard dictionary. Furthermore, it seems that this assessment is approaching accuracy in all relevant elements. This demonstrates that the translation follows Indonesian, the target language's rules. The readability aspect is at the bottom of all other aspects. It appears that the reader can understand the translation; however, in certain instances, more than one reading will be necessary to completely comprehend. Additionally, the following may be seen in the table based on the average value of the three translation quality aspects:

Table 5. Average Accuracy score

Data No.	PA	PB	PC
1.	2	3	3
2.	3	2	3
3.	3	2	3
4.	2	3	3
5.	3	3	3
6.	2	3	3

7.	3	2	3
8.	3	2	3
9.	3	2	2
Total Score	24	22	26
Average Score	2,6	2,4	2,8

Total of Accuracy (PA+PB+PC)/3 = 2,6

Table 6. Average Acceptability Score

Data No.	PA	PB	PC
1.	3	3	3
2.	3	2	3
3.	3	2	3
4.	3	3	3
5.	3	3	2
6.	3	3	3
7.	3	2	3
8.	3	2	3
9.	3	2	2
Total Score	27	22	25
Average Score	3	2,4	2,7

Total of Acceptability (PA+PB+PC)/3 = 2,7

The following examples demonstrate how common it is for the translation sentences that receive scores of 2 and 3 for acceptability and message accuracy, respectively, to exist in every translation of the abstract text.

Example 1

SL: This study aimed to find out the types of deixis and contexts used by Beca Mitchell's character in Pitch Perfect 2 movie.

TL: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan tipe-tipe deiksis dan konteks yang digunakan oleh karakter Beca Mitchell dalam film Pitch Perfect 2.

The sentence from the source language (example 1) above translates less precisely into Indonesian. The translation is good enough but there is an error, where the plural word "contexts" should be translated as plural meaning in the target text too.

Example 2

SL.: The results of this study showed there were five types of deixis used by Beca Mitchell's character: person deixis (40% of first person, 23% of second person, and 6% of third person), time deixis usage as 12%, place deixis usage as 6% shown in both types: proximal and distal, discourse deixis usage as 6%, and social deixis usage as 7% shown only in the relational type that considered the closeness of relationship between Beca and her hearers.

TL: Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan terdapat lima tipe deiksis yang digunakan oleh karakter Beca Mitchell: deiksis orang (40% orang pertama, 23% orang kedua, dan 6% orang ketiga), deiksis waktu sebanyak 12%, deiksis tempat sebanyak 6% dalam dua tipe: proksima dan distal, deiksis wacana sebanyak 6%, dan deiksis sosial sebanyak 7% yang hanya muncul dalam satu tipe yaitu relasional yang mana melibatkan kedekatan hubungan antara Beca dan para lawan bicaranya.

The sentence in the source language (example 2) above is translated into Indonesian with accuracy. The words, technical terms, meaning, and content in this sentence have been translated correctly into the target language.

Example 3

TL: This study aimed to find out the types of deixis and contexts used by Beca Mitchell's character in Pitch Perfect 2 movie.

SL: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan tipe-tipe deiksis dan konteks yang digunakan oleh karakter Beca Mitchell dalam film Pitch Perfect 2.

The sentence in the original language (example 3) above is translated into Indonesian correctly. The reader is likely familiar with the vocabulary, technical phrases, meaning, and content of this statement because they have been translated following Indonesian language guidelines.

Table 7. Average Readability Score

Data No.	PA	PB	PC
1.	3	3	3
2.	2	2	2
3.	3	2	3
4.	3	3	3
5.	3	3	3
6.	3	3	3
7.	2	2	3
8.	2	2	1
9.	2	2	1
Total Score	23	22	22
Average Score	2,5	2,4	2,4

Total of Readability (PA+PB+PC)/3 = 2,4

Overall, Indonesian EFL undergraduate students' abstract text translations of Analysis of Deixis, as shown in Table 3, receive an average score of 2.4. This score demonstrates that the reader can understand the translated sentences very easily overall. However, it can also be determined that the reader understands certain words with ease (scoring 3) and some with difficulty (scoring 1).

Additional examination of the translated text's readability level reveals that several variables account for the translation's somewhat challenging and/or challenging-to-understand sentences. These elements consist of a) using

unfamiliar terms, b) using unfamiliar words, and c) using unclear sentence structures.

Table 8. Quality of Abstract Text Translation from the Perspectives of Readability, Acceptability, and Accuracy

Average Score of Abstract Text				
<i>Accuracy</i>		<i>Acceptability</i>		<i>Readability</i>
2.6		2.7		2.4
Average Score/Aspect				
<i>Accuracy</i>	<i>Acceptability</i>	<i>Readability</i>	Total	Average Score
$2.6 \times 3 = 7.8$	$2.7 \times 2 = 5.4$	$2.4 \times 1 = 2.4$	15.6	$15.6 : 6 = 2.6$
Average Score of Abstract Text				
<i>Accuracy</i>		<i>Acceptability</i>		<i>Readability</i>
2.6		2.7		2.4
Average Score/Aspect				
<i>Accuracy</i>	<i>Acceptability</i>	<i>Readability</i>	Total	Average Score
$2.6 \times 3 = 7.8$	$2.7 \times 2 = 5.4$	$2.4 \times 1 = 2.4$	15.6	$15.6 : 6 = 2.6$



Figure 1. Translation Quality Compartment

The translation receives an average score of 2.6 for each of the three categories of accuracy, acceptability, and readability based on the data shown

above. The 2.6 score and the 3 score are quite similar. Based on the average score, it can be inferred that the translation of the text is of high quality.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

According to the analysis of the study data, a mean score of 2.6 or closer to 3 was obtained for the level of text accuracy, acceptability, and readability in the translated abstract texts which indicates that this translation has excellent quality.

ADVANCED RESEARCH

In writing this article the researcher realizes that there are still many shortcomings in terms of language, writing, and form of presentation considering the limited knowledge and abilities of the researchers themselves. Therefore, for the perfection of the article, the researcher expects constructive criticism and suggestions from various parties.

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