

Google Translate As an Alternative Tool to Assist EFL Undergraduate's Students' Assignment

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to present the data analysis regarding to assistance tool for EFL undergraduate's students in completing their assignment. In digital era the use of google translation is one of the most popular tool among EFL students, either for their assignment or improve foreign language' skills. EFL undergraduate students of University Muhammadiyah Tangerang in 5th semester are as the research subject, because most of them should complete their assignment and almost of their subject lesson should use English weather orally or written form. This research used purposive sampling with the total is 35 students, and qualitative descriptive method is used to analysis and present the data comprehensively. The data collection start from problem identification, field observation, interview and study document be based on their assignment submitted.

Key words: Translation, Google translate, EFL students, alternative tool, digital tool

INTRODUCTION

The biggest challenging for EFL students nowadays is competitive information to increase their knowledge and understanding things around them. Undergraduate student majoring in English department are required to do any kinds of task and assignment in English, students doing task in English need to improve knowledge also to find the source in helping their assignments. For almost one semester researcher observes in this 5th semester student relate to their assignment, mostly they use online or offline tool to assist them in making their assignment effective, this act as one of the students' effort to find their own strategy in learning, ismail.et.al (2013). Digital era identified by easily accessed any kind of information, internet accessible, variety tools to support teaching and learning process, and many others. One of the popular tools to assist EFL undergraduate students in translating is Google translate tool. The accessible translation tool is one of the reason to use the google translation. Google translate not only easy to be assessed but also has a good feature for language improvement. In this case Google also develops their source language for more than 100 languages.

Moreover, Google translate as the alternative tool for students in completing their assignment is very popular in this era, because EFL undergraduate students also need to find such an easy way to help their language problems in understanding English assignment or their English task. Time management and academic requirement will be difficult to be understood without any good English mastery, Shi (2015). Students College is part of campus culture that is able to bring any changing, Shen (2012) related to the millennial digital era. Traditional learners dictionary have been changed in line with this era expected, the online dictionary can be assisted learners, because it reasonable tools, accesable, and there is no limited places and time to open, in any time learners bring their laptop, smart phone or mobile phone the google translation can be possible to use, Groves & Mundt (2015).

This research will focus on some issues regarding to the Google translate as an alternative tool used by the EFL students. 1) How important does Google translate for EFL undergraduate students? 2) Does Google translate really helped EFL undergraduate

students for completing their assignments? 3) Does Google translate effective to help students 5th semester majoring in English department?

THEORITICAL REVIEW

The importance of good translation is being required for EFL undergraduate student, that is why they are required to fulfill their assignment in good English, and as the alternative tool to help and to gain it, they need Google translate to assist them digitally. In hence, google translate as one of the most familiar tool in EFL learners of University of Muhammadiyah Tangerang, because beside of applicable, easy to use it also affordable for EFL learners. Meanwhile, google translate is

Digital era always related with internet or online things, either multimedia form or online tool. Multimedia as a good combination between online and offline learning model, and the Google translate as an alternative to accomplish it, because multimedia is very effective to be used in EFL students in assist their academic requirements, Aslani & Tabrizi (2015). Google translate is a service provided by Google company, which is consist of technical term in translating source language to the target language. The use of Google translate can be effective for students because Google translate as one of online multimedia software which is easy to accessed in technology era, Chenoweth & Murday (2003).

Google translate beside of easy to be assessed also simpler than others translate tool, such as dictionary printed because it could be downloaded and save in mobile phone, which is can be attractive function in any situation and condition. Since Google translate can be downloaded in smart phone, user many not difficult any more to interact with people in different language, because they can open the cellphone and use Google translate to find the language meaning. In detail function, Google translate can be used in some purposes; 1) Translate the language from source language to the target language only by typing the sentence, or copy paste. 2) write a document in camera or writing. 3) translate the language from source language to the target language by press the microphone icon, then the machine translate will recognize the sound to translate it. 4) Can be useful for taking note to be translated.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the research is qualitative descriptive design, the total subject of the research is 25 of 5th semester EFL undergraduate students in University of Muhammadiyah Tangerang 2017/2018 academic year. This research start from identification of the problem based on the information and observation, study documents based on their assignment submitted, and interview. The interview consists of 8 questions, required students to answer the interview in close open form and elaborating ideas.

This study use interview redclated to the effectiveness of using google translation for EFL learners. The datas were collected through study documents, interview and classroom observation. The documents were taken from EFL Learners task and their presentation slides, most of their task is still depend on google tools to make their works faster eventhough the structure is not appropriate. In classroom observation and interview, the writer designed about 10 question with different way of answer style, such as free question-answer and close ended questions.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

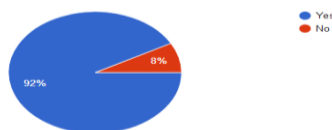
Google translate as one of the alternative machine translate to assist EFL undergraduate students in completing their assignment, this become popular since the tool has many language resources and develop the information academically or generally.

EFL undergraduate students of University Muhammadiyah Tangerang 100% knew the Google translate, because most of them take this machine to assist their assignment not only because of popular among them but also easy to use. Moreover Google translate also very helpful for 5th semester students, 92% agreed that this machine is very effective to assist them. These pictures below can prove the data;

1. Apakah anda tahu google translate?
25 responses



2. Apakah google translate sangat membantu anda selaku mahasiswa saat ini?, bila jawaban anda "ya" silahkan lanjutkan ke nomor 3
25 responses



For many reasons EFL students have a positive view about Google translate machine, such as; through Google translate can help students to do their assignment fast to find the translation regarding to their task, Google translate also has a good accuracy, digitally presented so, make the use easier to assess without depend on the condition and situation, simple and there has an offline machine, can be as the comparison source between students' work and the machine's work. Over all 60% students said that Google translate machine is very effective, simple, and has a good accuracy in translating from source language to the target language. From the data analysis also, 52% respondents usually use the Google translate, this means that Google translate is the most common alternative machine to assist among EFL undergraduate students. Moreover, even though Google translate is used to translate their assignment but, most of them said, that they need to revise and doing checking in group discussion regarding to the Google translator's result, this act similar with the previous research and suggestion from Eszenyi (2016), below is Eszenyi suggestion regarding to translation cycle:

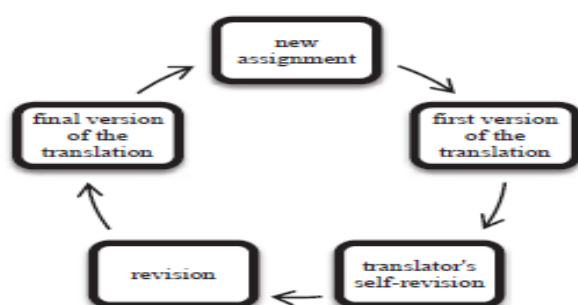
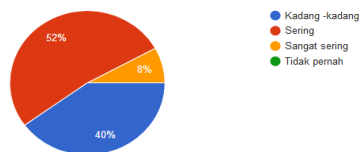


Fig. 2. The translation assignment cycle.

Data showed the intensity of EFL Undergraduate students using google translate and their perspective regarding to Google translate as mentioned above.

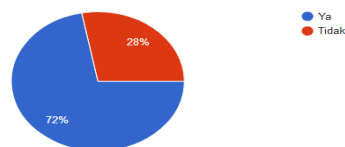
4. seberapa sering anda menggunakan google translate?

25 responses



5. Menurut anda apakah google translate itu efektif dalam membantu anda menyelesaikan tugas kuliah?

25 responses

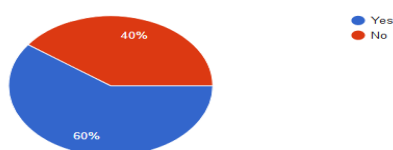


Furthermore, EFL undergraduate students also drawn some functions from Google translate in assisting them, such as; the process of translating become faster, can be used to know the spelling and pronouncing the words, knowing the synonym and antonym of vocabularies, getting the translation language instantly, and the user only check the grammar and vocabulary used little, the assignments and task can be finished in short time and accurate, digitally form so, can be brought in anywhere and anytime, and many others.

Although Google translate is not the only tools to assist EFL undergraduate students, but 60% of them prefer to use Google translate in their daily assignment or task. The others tools they used to assist them in translating such as; kamusku, Cambridge tools and others. this data can be concluded that Google translate as an alternative tool to assist students' assignment also can be said as one of the authentic material in digital era to support teaching and learning process, because beside of giving many information and knowledge this tool also can be used notable favored in learning process, Kuscu & Unlu (2015).

8. selain penggunaan google translate adakah alat lain yang anda gunakan dalam membantu penyelesaian tugas anda terkait penerjemahan bahasa? , bila " ya" silahkan lanjutkan ke no.9

25 responses



CONCLUSION

Through Google translate learning tool has many changeable with universalization of knowledge. Google translate as an automatic translation tools can be used in anytime, everywhere, without any gap condition. As alternative tools, Google translate really assisted EFL undergraduate students because they do not need longer time to finish their

translation assignment, and also finding some task's question to comprehend the instruction.

In line with students' need Google translate also very important to be understood and accessed for millennial era, because in this digital tool students do not need to find printed book any more in assisting them.

Doing assignment in short time deadline is very common for EFL undergraduate students of university Muhammadiyah Tangerang that is why the use of Google translates also become popular among them. With very wonderful service provided by Google translate tools, millennial generations have significant improvement in their foreign language. Many students used Google translate not only in typing form, but also use it in finding spelling words, pronouncing the words, and also doing translation in sound recognition.

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