AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' MISTAKES IN TRANSLATING IDIOMS FROM ENGLISH TO INDONESIA MADE BY THE FOURTH SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM AT SRIWIJAYA UNIVERSITY

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LANGUAGE AND ARTS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION

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PALEMBANG

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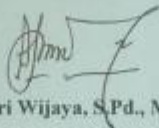Student Number: 06011381722059

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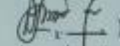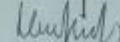
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Certify that Thesis entitled "An Analysis of Students' Mistakes in Translating Idioms from English to Indonesia made by the Fourth Semester Students of English Education Study Program at Sriwijaya University" is my own work and I did not do any plagiarism or inappropriate quotation against the ethic and rules commended by the Ministry of Education of Republic Indonesian Number 17, 2010 regarding plagiarism in higher education. Therefore, I deserve to face the court if I am found to have plagiarized this work.

Palembang, 1 August 2022

The Undersigned,

Muhammad Agam Muharram
06011381722059

DEDICATION AND MOTTOS

This thesis is dedicated to:

My beloved Family and Indonesia

MOTTOS

وَاَحْسِنْ كَمَآ اَحْسَنَ اللّٰهُ اِلَيْكَ

"And do good (to others) as Allah SWT has been good to you"

(QS. *Al-Qashash: 77*)

"Whoever goes out in search of knowledge, he will be in the way of Allah until he returns."

HR Tirmidzi

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The Writer

Muhammad Agam Muharram

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An Analysis of Students' Mistakes in Translating Idioms from English to Indonesia made by the Fourth Semester Students of English Education Study Program at Sriwijaya University

ABSTRACT

This study analyzed students' mistakes in translating idioms made by the 4th Semester Students of English Education Study Program at Sriwijaya University. The goal of this research is to analyze the mistakes that students make when translating idioms and to determine the cause of the mistakes. The participants of this study were 77 of 4th semester students of English Education Study Program at Sriwijaya University. The writer used descriptive quantitative method to describe and analyzed the data that had been collected. The data were collected by using translation test and Interview about translating idioms, what difficulties they faced, and also what caused them to make mistakes when translating idioms.

Based on the findings, the writer discovered 207 incorrect answers (38.40%) out of a total of 539 Idioms on the translation test. From the translation test, the problems faced by the student in translating Idioms were word choice and literal translation. And from the Interview, the causes of the student's mistakes in translating Idioms were knowledge of Idioms, lack of vocabulary, cultural differences, and rarely encountered or used English idioms in their daily lives.

Keywords: *Idioms, Translation, Mistakes*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTON

This chapter presents: (1) background, (2) problems, (3) objectives, and (4) significance of the study.

1.1. Background of the Study

Language is the most critical thing in communicating with other people. With communication, everyone can convey their ideas to others. Communication can be identified as the act of transmitting information from one location, person, or community to another. According to Finocchiaro (1984), A language is a system of arbitrary, vocal symbols that permit all people in a given culture or other people who have learned the system of that culture, to communicate or to interact in this situation, language is an important aspect of human life since it is the tool by which people interact with one another. Every human language has its distinct characteristics. In other words, language plays a crucial part in communication.

Besides being used for communication, language also has other kinds of purposes. With language, people can explain their social relationships, such as those in organizations, families, businesses, and others. Another purpose of language is as a tool for social control or adaptation. It means that language is used to regulate contact so that people can understand each other. Each speaker and listener is always on the lookout for expressions, motions, and signs of communication.

As a huge country with thousands of islands and different kind of ethnicities, Indonesia has a lot of language used by communities such as Javanese used by most of people in Java Island, Batak used by Bataknese people that live in North Sumatera, and Minangkabau used by Minang people that live in West Sumatera. However, as a nation with a wide range of languages and cultures in every region, we have our own national language: Bahasa Indonesia. Bahasa Indonesia serves as the country's official language, instruction in schools, national means of transportation, and a tool for community development, science, and technology.

But, in this modern era, we must study an international language such as English to communicate with those who do not speak and understand our language.

In Indonesia, English is often to be characterized and learned as a foreign language. This describes why the majority of English learning and teaching occurs in classrooms rather than in regular interactions. English is taught in almost every school in Indonesia. Students start learning English in fourth grade and continue until they graduate from university. English has become a medium of communication for international interaction which is known as English as the lingua franca. Despite the fact that English is not widely used in public, it is not employed as a method of communication in formal area, it is recognized as the most important language to be learned (Simatupang, 1999: 64). English also has a good impact on the country itself; for example, by using English, we can easily share information and connect with people from other nations who do not communicate in the same language as us.

English has already been studied both written and spoken as a tool for communication. However, most Indonesian are not able to translate English properly because they didn't fully understand the term that they want to translate. If people do not understand how to translate well, they will make an error thus the meaning of the Source Language (SL) cannot be delivered to the Target Language (TL) correctly. To translate the Source Language material into the Target Language, a translator should employ an approach. According to Larson (1984: 3), While translating a language, translator goals is to achieve translation that conveys the meaning of the SL text into native form of the TL. Therefore, translator must maintain meanings of the SL when translating text. If translator is not aware of this, it can result in a faulty translation and a poor delivery of the message.

As students of English Education Study Program at Sriwijaya University, every student is required to take a Translation course. Therefore, students are required to understand and learn how to translate the SL, "English", into the TL; "Indonesian". According to Hatim & Munday (2004: 6), The method of converting a sentence from the source (SL) to the target (TL) is characterized as translation.

Students should understand the basic method of translation before doing the translation work in order to produce a good translation result. Therefore, they need to know some strategies or methods used in translating a language. Hoed (2006: 55) mention There are several translation methodologies, and idiomatic translation is one of them.

Translation is more than just transferring words and sentences from source language (SL) into target language (TL). Translation also requires knowledge of meanings from SL that will be transferred to TL with the proper meaning and approach. However, during the translation process, translators often experience difficulties, especially when translating figurative language. Figurative language is commonly used in all sorts of writing. One of the most typical figurative that can be found is Idioms. An idiom, according to Cain et al. (2005), is a figurative term that might be understood literally but acquires nonliteral meaning when employed in such a situation.

There will always be challenges for translators in translating a language due to the different views and cultures of a language. Nonetheless, a translator is always required to correctly deliver the meaning and messages from the (SL) to the (TL). Choliludin (2006:17-18) stated that relating to translation, the connection between language and culture often becomes problems. It is impossible to deny the translator's lack of knowledge about the cultural distinctions between their own country and the one into which he is translating. As a result, there are a lot of translators often have difficulty understanding the meaning of an idiom that they have never translated or that they have not encountered before.

Idioms are frequently used, either in English or in Bahasa Indonesia and used in both informal writing and literary works. Most Indonesian students are struggling to understand the context meaning of English idioms and they also sometimes pretend to understand the meaning of an idiom by translating it word by word. Wright (2002, p. 10) mentioned translating idiom is tough because idiom cannot be translated word by word. Translating an Idiomatic word without understanding their meaning is the source of their difficulties. Although they are

important elements of language, they are also difficult to explain if you are unfamiliar with the cultural differences between source language (SL) into target language (TL). Therefore, a translator must recognize idioms and consider their proper context. Translating Idioms are also difficult for students who start to learn about translating SL into TL. Most of the difficulties arise due to the limitation of meanings found in dictionaries.

According to Baker (2018), the challenges in translating idioms are generated by two factors: the capacity to accurately detect and translate an idiom, and how to convey the many components of the SL's meaning into the TL. Translators must first comprehend any foreign idioms before they can interpret them. The same thing happens to most of students. They struggle to determine the correct word before translating. Idioms cannot be translated word by word since the meaning is not conveyed; understanding the source language requires knowledge of the source language, and determining the equivalent requires knowledge of the target language. As a result, students must understand and be educated about Idioms in the SL that they want to translate.

There are a lot of situations that makes students confused when they try to translate a figurative language "Idioms" from English to Indonesia. Indonesia language also has a lot of Idioms. But there are a lot of differences that make English Idioms difficult to translate due to the different views and cultures of a language. Students often have difficulty translating sentences that they have never faced before. They also often attempt to understand the context of the sentence by translating it word by word. Therefore, the results of the translation are not actually translated to the TL correctly and the results of translation might be confusing at times. The key to helping learners enhance their knowledge in their target language is to identify flaws and inaccuracies in translation. Learners will struggle to develop their skills, ability, and understanding of the new language they are learning in avoiding mistakes.

This study conducted to find out about the mistakes that the fourth semester of English education makes when they translating Idioms from English to

Indonesian. According to James (1998) mistake refers to the unsystematic error in which is related to the learner's performance. There are some researchers that used idiom as their subject of the research: Pratiwi, M. (2017) and Simanjuntak, F. (2019). The majority of studies focus describing the quality of the translation and analysed the error in translating idioms. In contrast to the previous study, the writer collects data through an interview, whereas the majority of the previous study collects data from students through questionnaires.

The reason for choosing this topic is that the writer wants students to be better understanding the importance of learning about translation, particularly when learning about translating idioms from English to Indonesia. Students must comprehend basic translation and other important things needed in doing translation work. Besides interpreting the message of source language. Students need to think of the mistakes that may occur during the translation process since they will encounter unfamiliar words and expressions. Due to that, students can improve their skill, ability, and knowledge in translating the SL to TL.

1.2. The Problems of the study

The problems of this study are formulated into the following questions:

1. What are the problems faced by student in translating idioms from English to Indonesia?
2. What are the causes of the students' mistakes in translating idioms from English to Indonesia?

1.3. The objectives of the study

The objectives of this study in relation to the problems are as follows:

1 To find out the problem faced by students in translating idioms from English to Indonesia.
2 To find out the causes of the students' mistakes in translating idioms from English to Indonesia.

1.4.The significance of the study

   The results of this study are to know the causes of students' mistakes and the problems faced in translating idioms from English to Indonesian made by the 4th Students of English Education Study Program at Sriwijaya University. This research is expected to provide benefit for English education students in decreasing their mistakes when translating, especially in translating Idiom. Furthermore, it is hoped that students will recognize the significance of translation knowledge in order to avoid misunderstandings when translating from SL to TL and it is hoped that this research will increase student motivation in learning the importance of understanding Translation, especially translating idioms. As a result, the lecturers were able to successfully deliver the course, particularly in terms of translation.

   Writer also believes that this research will aid the majority of people, particularly novice translators, in better comprehending idioms and the necessity of recognizing the meanings contained inside them.

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