

The Analysis of Students' Difficulties in Translating Text for the English Major Students at Ummu Kebumen

Nurul Hanivah ^a, Alek Andika ^b

^{a,b} Universitas Ma'arif Nahdlatul Ulama Kebumen, Indonesia

Nurulhanivah99@Gmail.Com ^a, Mr12011089@gmail.com ^b

Abstract

English Plays Important Role To Communicate In This Globalization Era. Unfortunately, Our Young Generation Still Need Many Improvements In English Mastering. One Of The Biggest Problems Is Because They Cannot Understand The Language. Therefore, This Research Aimed To Identified The Students' Difficulties In Translating Text Both From English To Indonesian Or The Contrary. This Research Applied Qualitative Approach With Descriptive Method. The Sample Was Taken By Using Purposive Sampling Technique And It Was Decided That There Were Eleven (11) Students Who Fulfilled The Criteria. The Researcher Used Three (3) Kind Of Instruments; Objective Test, Questionnaire, And Interview. From The Identification Result, The Researcher Found That There Were Three (3) Dominant Difficulties Encountered By The Students; (1) Idioms, (2) Unsystematic Mind Plot, And (3) Equivalent Word. Furthermore, The Researcher Concluded That To Overcome Those Difficulties, The Students Should; Do More Reading Activity, Increase Knowledge And Literacy, Learn Grammar, Learn Theory Of Translation, And Do More Practice.

Keyword: Analysis, Difficulty, Translating

INTRODUCTION

Every Living Being In The World Needs To Connect With Each Other. Especially For Human Being Which Is A Social Creature, Where They Must Need Another Human In Their Life. This Dependence Relation Requires Existence Of An Interaction. Media Used To Interact Is A Language, Including Spoken, Written, Or Even Sign Language. As A Consequence, The Language Holds A Significant Role In Human's Life. Moreover, In This Globalization Era That Requires Exchange Of Information And Ideas Dynamically, Beyond Of Geographic Borders. In Order To Make A Certain Information Is Accepted And Understood Well By Whole People Around The World, So The Information Need To Be Changed Into A Language That Also Easy To Be Understood By People In Whole Part Of The World. This Demand Requires A Language That Can Be Used Globally Called An "International Language" Which Is English.

In Indonesia Itself, English Is Still Considered As A Foreign Language. Where At School, It Is Taught Only In Its Subject. If They Want To Increase Their Comprehension In English, They Must Take A Course Outside Of The School. And Of Course, Just A Part Of Them Gets The Access Which Another Part Doesn't Have It, Because Of Certain Limitation Or Inability. This Imbalance Influences On Inequality Of English Competence Between The Indonesian Students. Even When They Enter College, Almost Many Of Them Still Have Problem With Their English Comprehension. Actually, This Is A Fact

Based On A Pre-Observation That Has Been Conducted By The Researcher Toward English Education Study Program Students At University Of Ma'arif Nahdlatul Ulama (Umnu) Kebumen. The Researcher Interviewed Some Of Them To Know Whether They Have Difficulties In English Lesson. The Answers Of Most Of Them Are Agree That They Still Have Problems In Learning English And One Of The Reasons Is Because They Cannot Understand The Meaning Of Words In English.

Whereas, This Condition Contributes A Significant Influence Toward Indonesian Education Development. This Lack Make Them Difficult To Access Information In English, Which Is Used In Almost All Fields. The Issue Cause Indonesian Students Competences Is Left Behind Than Students Who Live In Countries Where English Is Considered As Second Or Even Native Language. For Making Up This Condition, Like It Or Not, Indonesian Must Mastering English. Therefore, One Of The Comprehension Should Be Mastered Is How To Catch Meaning Of Words, Sentences, Or Even A Text In English. In Order To Understand The Meaning, People Must Be Able To Translate The Text Into Their Language. This Is Why Translation Become More And More Important.

Furthermore, According To Nababan (2008:1) In Indonesia Nowadays, Translation Of Science And Technological Books Is Required For 3 (Three) Reasons:

- a. As A Developing Country, Indonesia Must Increase Progress In Science And Technology. One Of The Solutions By Translating Books Written In Foreign Language Into Indonesian.
- b. Most Of Science And Technological Books Are Written In Foreign Language Especially English While There Still A Little Number Of People Have Access To It.
- c. Most Indonesian People Have Difficulties In Mastering English Because They Difficult To Understand The Meaning.

Many People, Especially Indonesian Students Face Difficulties When They Translate A Spoken Or Written Text From English To Indonesian Or The Contrary. Based On The Background Above, The Researcher Conducts This Research Entitled "*The Analysis Of Students' Difficulties In Translating Text For The English Major Students At Umnu Kebumen*". Through This Research, The Researcher Tried To Analyze The Difficulties Faced By English Major Students Of Umnu Kebumen When They Translated A Text From English Or Indonesian. After Find Out The Problems, The Researcher Will Know The Causing Factors And At The End Of The Research, The Researcher Formulates Strategies Or Solutions To Overcome Those Difficulties.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This Research Used Qualitative Approach With Descriptive Method. Fraenkel And Wallen (1993: 23) Explains A Method Used To Explain, Analyze, And Classify Something Through Various Techniques; Survey, Interview, Questionnaire, Observation, And Text. The Descriptive Quantitative Method Was Appropriate For This Research Since Its Purpose To Give Description About Students' Difficulties In Translating Text

Both From English To Indonesia And The Contrary At English Major Students Of Ummu Kebumen.

The Research Subject Was The Students Of English Major Students At Maarif Nahdlatul Ulama University Kebumen, Who Consisted Of 39 Students. Moreover, The Researcher Analyzed Difficulties Faced By The English Major Students Of Maarif Nahdlatul Ulama Kebumen When They Were Translating Text From English To Indonesia And The Contrary. The Researcher Takes The Subject By Using Purposive Sampling. According To Mcmillan (1996), Purposive Sampling Is Selection Of Particularly Informative Or Useful Subjects. It Meant That In Selecting The Research Sample, The Researcher Used An Adjustment To Make Sure The Subject Can Provide Best Information To Addressed The Purposes Of The Research. The Researcher Used Purposive Sampling According To The Following Criteria: (1) The Students Have Studied Theory And Practice Of Translation Lesson, And (2) The Students Were At Least The Fifth Semester In Academic Year 2020/2021. After Conduct The Selection, The Researcher Can Decide That The Sample Of This Research Is Students Of Sixth And Eight Semesters In Academic Year 2020/2021, Which Fulfill All Those Criteria. With The Number Of The Sample Consists Of Eleven Students.

In This Research, The Researcher Used Three (3) Instruments; Translation Test, Questionnaire And Interview.

1) Test

The Researcher Gave The Students Texts, The First One Was In English And The Second One Was In Indonesian. The Students Were Given 60 Minutes To Translate The Both Texts. 30 Minutes Were Given To Translate The English Text, And The 30 Minutes Remained To Translate The Indonesian Text To English. After The Students Finish The Test, The Researcher Collected The Answer Sheets To Analyze Every Single Word, Sentences, And Paragraphs Of The Students' Translation.

2) Questionnaire

The Questionnaire Was Used To Find Percentage Of Students' Difficulties In Translating The Texts. The Questionnaire Consisted Of 20 Questions And Every Question Consists Of 4 (Four) Categories Of Alternative Answers, As Follow:

- 1 = Never (Tidak Pernah)
- 2 = Seldom (Jarang)
- 3 = Sometimes (Kadang – Kadang)
- 4 = Often (Sering)

From The Questionnaire, The Researcher Analyzed The Answer To Find Percentage Of Students' Difficulties.

3) Interview

The Researcher Conducted Interview To Obtain Deeper Explanation Of Each Students' Difficulties. Whether They Did Not Explain Those In Their Questionnaire, Because Its Limitation Of Alternative Answers.

In This Research, The Researcher Needed Accurate Data To Support The Analysis Process. Therefore, The Researcher Used Some Kinds Of Research Data As Saifuddin In Lilis (2010) State That Data Is Classified Into Two, They Are:

1. Primary Data

Primary Data Are Original Materials That Are Collected Directly From The Research Subject By Using Tools Or Instruments Or Taken Directly From The Research Subject. In This Research, The Primary Data Were Information That Were Collected From Objective Test, Questionnaire, And Interview Results About The Students' Difficulties In Translating Text.

2. Secondary Data

Secondary Data Are The Data Collected From Another Sources. The Secondary Data For This Research Were Information Collected From Books, Journals, Another Thesis, And Internet Sources That Supported The Researcher's Needs For Data Analysis.

In Data Collecting Process, The Researcher Conducted Procedures As Following:

1. First, Conducting Pre-Research Toward The Object Of The Research.
2. Second, Arranging The Schedule Of Translation Test.
3. Third, Meeting The Students In The Scheduled Time. To Anticipate The Pandemic Situation, The Researcher And The Students Must Obey The Health Protocol Which Are Wear A Mask And Apply Social Distancing.
4. Then, Giving The Test To The 8 (Eight) Students.
5. The Students Finishing The Test In The Classroom Which Every Of Them Is Giving 60 Minutes To Translate The Texts.
6. After The Time Is Up, Collecting The Answer Sheets.
7. Next, Distributing The Questionnaire And The Students Are Given 30 Minutes To Work On It.
8. Then, Collecting The Questionnaire Sheets.
9. After That, Conducting Interview Toward The Students About The Difficulties When They Translating The Text And The Factors That Cause It.
10. Finally, Conducting Data Analysis Based On The Test, Questionnaire And Interview Result.

The Researcher Tried To Find Out The Students Score And Mean Of Students Score Based On Translation Test Data Result. Later, The Researcher Also Tried To Find Out The Percentage Of Students' Difficulties Based On Questionnaire Data Result.

The Analysis Is Conducted In The Procedure As Follow:

- 1) Scoring Each Student

After The Researcher Gathers The Data, The Researcher Calculates The Students' Score By Using This Bellow Formula:

$$\text{Score} = \frac{\text{Number of Students score}}{\text{Number of Maximal Score}} \times 10$$

(Sudjana: 2008)

Assessment Rubric Of Translation Test According To Nababan (2008):

a. Accuracy

Table 1: Accuracy Assessment Rubric Of Translation

| Translation Category | Score | Assessment Category |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--|
| Accurate | 3 | Word Meanings, Technical Terms, Phrases, Clauses, Sentences Or Texts Of The Source Language Is Translated To The Target Language Accurately; None Of Meaning Distortions. |
| Less Accurate | 2 | Words Meanings, Technical Terms, Phrases, Clauses, Sentences Or Texts Of The Source Language Are Mostly Translated To The Target Language Accurately. But There Are Still Some Distortion Meanings Or Ambiguous Translations (Equivocal) Or There Are Deleted Meanings, Which It Disturbs The Messages' Wholeness. |
| Inaccurate | 1 | Word Meanings, Technical Terms, Phrases, Clauses, Sentences Or Texts Of The Source Language Is Translated To The Target Language Inaccurately Or Deleted. |

b. Acceptable

Table 2: Acceptable Assessment Rubric Of Translation

| Translation Category | Score | Assessment Category |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---|
| Acceptable | 3 | The Translation Is Natural; The Technical Term Is Commonly Used And Familiar For Readers; Phrases, Clauses And Sentences Are Correct As |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| | | Rules In English And Indonesian Grammar. |
| Less Acceptable | 2 | Generally, The Translation Is Natural; But There Are Some Problems In The Technical Term Used And There Are Also Some Grammatical Errors. |
| Not Acceptable | 1 | The Translation Is Not Natural Or Seems As A Translation Work; The Technical Terms Is Very Unusual And Unfamiliar For The Readers; Phrases, Clauses And Sentences Are Not Appropriate With English And Indonesian Grammar. |

c. Readable

Table 3: Readable Assessment Rubric Of Translation

| Translation Category | Score | Assessment Category |
|----------------------|-------|--|
| Readable | 3 | The Words, Technical Terms, Phrases, Clauses, Sentences Or Translation Text Are Able To Be Understood Easily By The Readers. |
| Less Readable | 2 | Generally, The Translation Is Able To Be Understood By The Readers; But There Are Some Particular Parts Need To Be Read More Than Once To Understand Them. |
| Not Readable | 1 | The Translation Is Difficult To Be Understood By The Readers. |

2) Find Out The Mean Score Of Each Student

After Gather The Data, The Researcher Calculates The Students' Mean Score By Using This Formula Bellow:

$$Mean = \frac{\sum X}{N}$$

Where:

$\sum X$ = Total Score

N = Total Number Of Students

(Sudijono : 2010)

3) Calculating The Percentage Of Students' Difficulties

The Researcher Also Calculates Percentage Of Students' Difficulties, By Using This Formula Bellow:

$$P = \frac{Fq}{N} \times 100$$

Where:

P = Percentage

Fq = The Frequency Of Term

N = Total Sample

(Sudjana : 2010)

To Make Sure The Validity Of This Research, The Researcher Used Triangulation Method. The Term 'Triangulation' In Research Is The Use Of More Than One Approach To Researching A Question. The Objective Is To Increase Confidence In The Findings Through The Confirmation Of A Proposition By Using Two Or More Independent Measures. The Combination Of Findings From Two Or More Rigorous Approaches Provides A More Comprehensive Picture Of The Results Than Either Approach Could Do Alone. Methodological Triangulation Is The Most Common Type Of Triangulation. Studies That Use Triangulation May Include Two Or More Sets Of Data Collection Using The Same Methodology, Such As From Qualitative Data Sources. Alternatively, The Study May Use Two Different Data Collection Methods As With Qualitative And Quantitative. In This Research, The Researcher Applied Triangulation In The Research Collection Data Method. The Researcher Used Three (3) Instruments To Collect Data, Namely Objective Test, Questionnaire, And Interview. The Result Of The Objective Test Was Supported By The Result Of Questionnaire And Interview. That Were Carried Out To Make Sure The Validity Of The Research Result.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. The Analysis Of The Data Collected From Objective Test

The Data From Objective Test Were Used To Know The Students' Ability In Translating The Text. The Students Are Given A Text Consisted From Sentences In English And Indonesian Which They Had To Translate It Into Indonesian And English. The Test Consisted From 10 (Ten) Item Numbers And Was Given In Online Form Through Google Form. After The Researcher Accumulated The Result, The Researcher Then Scoring Them To Get The Result Of Students' Scores In Translating. The Result Of Students' Test Score Is Presented In This Table Below:

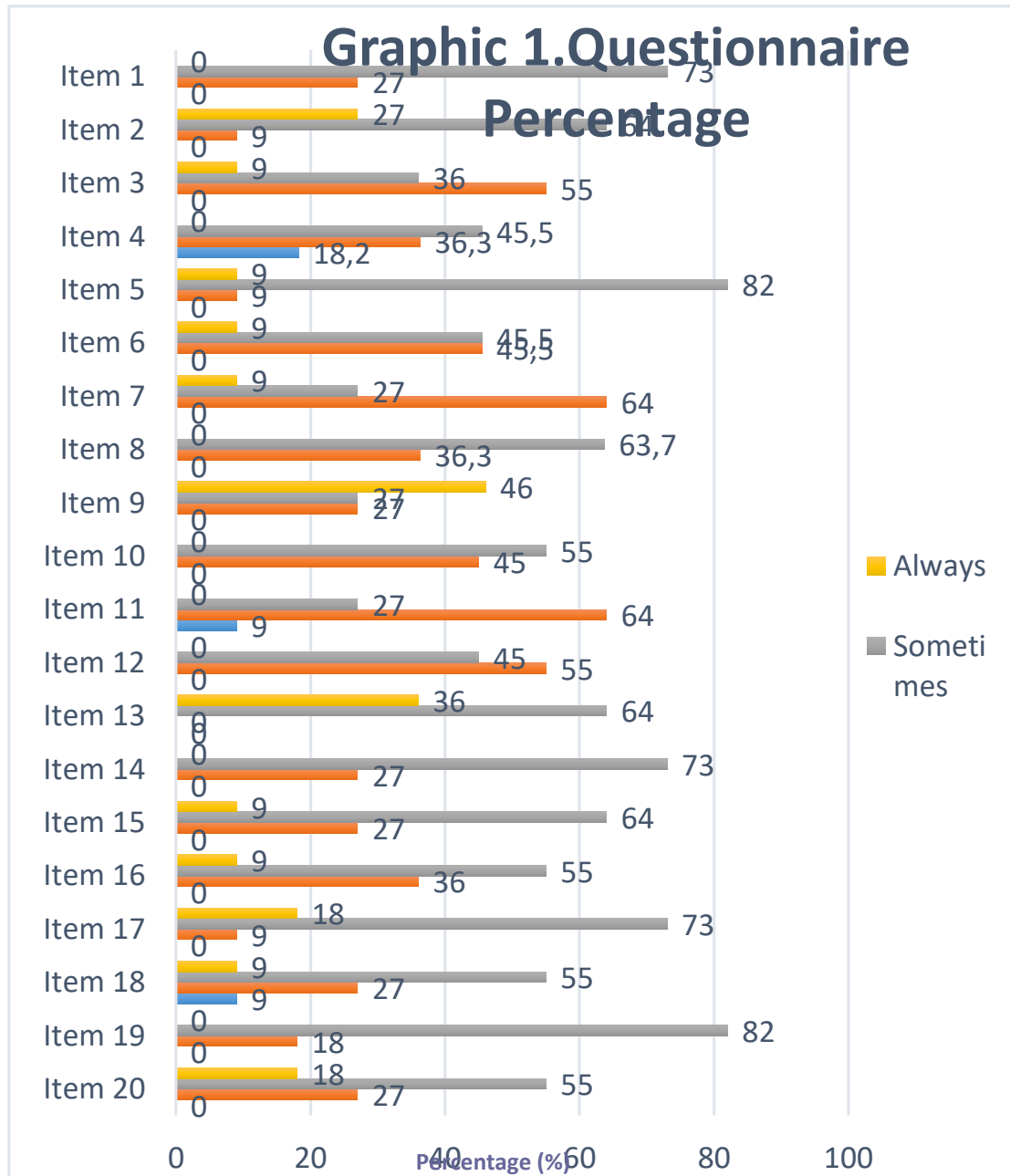
| Score | Frequency | Mean | % |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| 58 | 1 | 5,3 | 9,09% |
| 62 | 1 | 5,6 | 9,09% |
| 63 | 2 | 11,5 | 18,18% |
| 65 | 1 | 5,9 | 9,1% |
| 66 | 2 | 12 | 18,18% |
| 72 | 2 | 13 | 18,18% |
| 74 | 2 | 13,5 | 18,18% |
| Total | 11 | 66,8 | 100% |

Table 4 Students' Objective Test Score

From The Table Above, It Showed That Eleven (11) Student Samples Of English Education Department In Umnu Kebumen Who Had Done The Translation Test, The Students Was Not Able To Reach The Maximum Score. It Could Be Seen From The Number Of Mean Score Of The Students Was 66,8 And It Meant That Students' Ability In Translating Still Low. From Eleven Students, Only Two Students Got The Highest Score 74, One Student Got Score 62, Two Students Got Score 72, Two Students Got 66, One Student Got 58, 2 Students Got Score 63, And One Students Got Score 65. This Result Indicated That The Students Still Had Difficulties In Translating Text.

2. The Analysis Of The Data Collected From Questionnaire

The Questionnaire Was Used To Know The Students' Difficulties In Translating. The Researcher Calculated The Highest Percentage To Define The Dominant Difficulties Encountered By The Students. This Questionnaire Consisted From 20 (Twenty) Questions. The Questionnaire Was Distributed Also Through Google Form. The More Detailed Explanation About The Items Of The Questionnaire Is Presented In This Graphic:



English Education Department In Umnu Kebumen Still Faced All Of These Four (4) Factors; System Differences Of Source And Target Languages, Semantic And Stylistic Complexity, Difference Of Translator’s Competences, And Quality Of Source Language Text. It Could Be Seen From The High Percentage On These Factors. Furthermore, Next Procedure To Be Conducted That The Researcher Must Identify These Data To Find Out The Highest Percentage Of The Questionnaire Items. From The Identification Process, The Researcher Found That The Items With Highest Percentage Are: Item Number 5, 9, And 19.

The Researcher Would Like To Analyzed And Described The Problems Of Those Factor One By One. The Questionnaire Item Number 5 Stated That “I Get Difficulties In

Translating Sentences With Unsystematic Mind Plot.” From The Table, It Showed That 82% Or 9 Of 11 Students Chose Option 3 (Sometimes) And It Was Dominant Number Of The Difficulties. It Means That Almost All Of The Students Are Encountered The Difficulties When They Translate A Text.

In Brief, The Researcher Concluded That The Students Faced Many Difficulties In Translating, Both From English To Indonesian Or The Contrary. The Result Showed That The Students Dealt With Factor Of System Differences Between The Source And The Target Languages, Semantic And Stylistic Complexity, Difference Of Translator’s Competences, And Quality Of Source Language Text. From The Factors Above, The Researcher Concluded The More Detailed Problems Faced By The Students Were: Idioms, Unsystematic Mind Plot, And Equivalent Words In Target Languages.

3. The Analysis Of The Data Collected From Interview

From The Interview Result, The Researcher Can Conclude That All Of The Students Conveyed That Translating Was One Of The Difficult Activities For Them And They Faced A Lot Of Problems To Conduct It. From The Answers Above, The Difficulty In Translating Idioms, Translating Sentences With Unsystematic Mind Plot, And How To Find Equivalent Words In Target Language Was The Main Problems Encountered By The Students. From The Interview Result, The Researcher Also Can Inferred That The Theory Of Translation Also Needed To Be Taught By The Teacher And Lecturer In A Way To Made The Students Understood The Translation Knowledge Well. After All, The Students Had To Practice It To Improve Their Translation Competence.

CONCLUSIONS

After Conducting The Research To Analyze The Difficulties Faced By The Students Of English Education Department At Umnu Kebumen In Translating, The Researcher Derived Three (3) Conclusions As Follow:

- a. The Students’ Translation Comprehension Still Low Proved By The Students’ Score In Objective Test Was Still Less. From The Eleven (11) Students, The Mean Score Was Only 66,8 And It Was Still Less To Reach The Maximum Score. From The Result, The Researcher Concluded That The Students Still Encountered Many Difficulties In Translating A Text Both From English To Indonesian Or The Contrary.
- b. From The Questionnaire And Interview Result Showed That The Students’ Difficulties In Translating Deals With Idioms, Unsystematic Mind Plot, And Equivalent Word.
- c. To Overcome Those Difficulties, The Students Should: Do More Reading Activity, Increase Knowledge And Literacy, Learn Grammar, Learn Theory Of Translation, And Do More Practice.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bassnett-Mcguire, S. 1991. *Tanslation Studies*. Revised Edition. London: Routledge.

- Bell, T. Roger. 1991. *Translation And Translating : Theory And Practice*. London And New York : Longman.
- Brislin, R. 1976. *Translation : Application And Research*. New York : Gardner Press Inc.
- Brown, H. Douglas. 2004. *Language Assessment : Principle And Classroom Practice*. New York : Pearson Education Inc.
- Catford. 1965. *A Linguistic Theory Of Translation*. Oxford : Oxford University Press.
- Colina, Sonia. 2015. *Fundamentals Of Translation*. United Kingdom : Cambridge University Press.
- Frankel, Jack R & Norman E. Wallen. 1993. *How To Design And Evaluate Research In Education*. New York : Macgraw Hill Inc.
- Halliday, M.A.K. & Ruqaiya Hasan. 1976. *Cohesion In English*. London : Longman.
- Huang, M. Dan Wang, H. 2006. *Translating Idioms From The Point Of View Of Relevance Theory*. Volume 4. No. 3 (Serial Number No. 30) March 2006. Us-China Foreign Language, Usa: China University Of Mining And Technology.
- Larson, M L. 1984. *Meaning Based Translation*. Lanham : University Press Of America.
- Machali, Rochayah. 2000. *Pedoman Bagi Penerjemah*. Jakarta : Grasindo.
- Mcmillan, James H. 1996. *Educational Research : Fundamentals For Consumer*. New York : Harper Collins College Publisher.
- Nababan, Rudolf. 2004. *Translation Process, Practices, And Products Of Professional Indonesian Translators*. Unpublished Disertation. New Zealand: Victoria University Of Welington
- Nababan, Rudolf. 2008. *Teori Penerjemahan Bahasa Inggris*. Yogyakarta : Pustaka Pelajar.
- Newmark, Peter. 1988. *A Textbook Of Translation*. New York : Prentice Hall.
- Nida, Eugene A. & Charles R. Taber. 1974. *The Theory And Practice Of Translation*. Leiden : E.J. Brill.
- Opan. 2008. Bagaimana Menerjemahkan Teks Bahasa Inggris. [Http://Www.Smp1wonosobo.Sch.Id/Content/View/24/1](http://Www.Smp1wonosobo.Sch.Id/Content/View/24/1).
- Richards, J.C. And Plat, J. And Plat, H. 1992. *Longman Dictionary Of Language Teaching And Applied Linguistics*. England: Longman Group Uk Limited.
- Soemarno, T. 1988. *Hubungan Antara Lama Belajar Dalam Bidang Penerjemahan 'Jenis Kelamin, Kemampuan Berbahasa Inggris' Dan Tipe – Tipe Kesilapan Terjemahan Dari Bahasa Inggris Ke Dalam Bahasa Indonesia*. Unpublished Disertation. Malang : Institit Keguruan Dan Ilmu Pendidikan Malang.

- Sudjana, Nana. 2008. *Penelitian Proses Hasil Belajar Mengajar*. Bandung : Pt Remaja Rosdakarya.
- Sugiyono. 2015. *Metode Penelitian Pendidikan Pendekatan Kuantitatif, Kualitatif, R&D*. Yogyakarta : Alfabeta Bandung.
- Suryana. 2010. *Metode Penelitian Model Praktis Penelitian Kuantitatif Dan Kualitatif*. Bandung : Upi.
- Suryawinata, Zuchridin, & Sugeng Hariyanto. 2003. *Translation : Bahasan Teori & Penuntun Praktis Menerjemahkan*. Yogyakarta : Kanisius.
- Tian, Chuanmao. 2005. Notes In Teaching Translation Between Chinese In English. Url : [Http//Accurapid.Com/Journal/31chinese.html](http://Accurapid.Com/Journal/31chinese.html). Access On 04 March 2021.
- Wilss, Wolfram. 1982. *The Science Of Translation : Problems And Methods*. Tubingen : Gunter Narr Verlag.