

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents about the background of study, research questions, objectives of study, significance of study, and definition of key terms.

#### **A. Background of Study**

English text becomes popular. In Indonesia especially many Indonesian have difficulties in understanding English text. This problem become due to the role of English as a foreign language in Indonesia. Especially Indonesian is able to learn many things easily using smart phone. The existence of smart phone helps people to get information easier. Nowadays, one of the improvements of technology is Machine Translation (Yanti & Meka, 2019). So, the best ways to understand it is by using translation. Translation is becoming more and more important in international and intercultural activity (Tian, 2005). It can be seen that many people wherever at public, at school, at society, and even in the business environment use machine translation as the translator (Marito & Ashari, 2017).

For this reason, training translation people from different place and background can understand each other. Without existence of translation, people that have differences language and culture will difficult to communicate. With the translation people can build good communication. Related to the effort of translation that makes people understand each other, Allah the Almighty, mentioned in the Holy Quran, Yusuf verse 2 as follows:

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ قُرْآنًا عَرَبِيًّا لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ

This verse of Quran told that people should to understand the language if we want to study the knowledge that we do not know the language of the knowledge. To understand it, we should translate the language into our language and translation is the best way to interpret a language for establishes good relation to each others.

Especially in English Education Department as one of the undergraduate majors, mastery of English as an international language is a vital asset in collage among students. Therefore, the level of mastery of students in English is often becomes indicator of how good quality is in the English Education Department. English consists of several skills; that is, reading, writing, listening and speaking. However, the most difficult skill is translating, because it requires mastery of four English skills and vocabulary mastery is also very influential on the process to translate well. Thus, translation is a useful skill, not just for professional translators and interpreters, but also for academic community (Siregar, 2018).

Translation is the transmission of thought in language to another language. This is the process that guides the written source text to the target language (Arono & Nadrah, 2019). It is also a bridge to understanding knowledge, science, textual material, and others. Many students do translations to understand texts. However, they have difficulty in translating from English to Indonesian or vice versa even though a software application to help with translation is available.

Now, as explained in the previous paragraph, the role of translators is very important because translation is now needed in many aspects of life, especially education. Looking at the importance of translation and the role of translators, it can be said that translators need some competence and skills that must be trained at all times. In Indonesia, the field of translation is still rarely a favorite subject because it requires skilled human resources who are able to make it happen. For example, in South Kalimantan, especially at the Antasari State Islamic University Banjarmasin, which has many majors, especially the English Education Department, only has 1-2 semesters for the subject of translation on average with 2 credit points.

Most of English Education Department students also usually do the translation by using Machine Translation to understand its meaning. The students often use Machine Translation to help them doing the homework and task in the classroom and outside the classroom. Absolutely, it is known that machine translation is the easiest and the simple one to translate the other language to the language that human want (Marito & Ashari, 2017). However the students often find sentences which are difficult to understand, so they use Machine Translation to translate the words or the sentences. Although, students face problems while using Machine Translation for translate text.

Thus, according to the researcher's experience as a student in one of the state universities in Banjarmasin, Indonesia, the students have different perceptions in using machine translation in their learning activities. Although Machine Translation is very often used by the students in the learning

process, their perceptions have rarely been discussed. In addition, the use of Machine Translation in the classroom context is still controversial. Some teachers allow the students to use Machine Translation for helping the students on their learning process and some do not allow the students.

Based on previous study from (Nino, 2009), that focused about tutors' perception towards the Machine Translation's advantages and disadvantages. She conducts the reason why teachers allow the students to use Machine Translation because it entails error detection and correction practice; it involves written production practice; it is user friendly, and it is fast. Also based on Nino's study known the reason why teacher do not allow the students to use Machine Translation because Machine Translation is low quality; text type constraint (not suitable for creative texts); it requires training; and it may be a bad model (especially with beginners and intermediate level students).

In case, the researcher wants to identify the students' perception in using Machine Translation. The researcher is interesting in investigate the students' general perception in using Machine Translation and their perceptions on Machine Translation's advantages and disadvantages in English teaching and learning process at Translation class.

## **B. Research Questions**

1. What are the English Education Department students' perception on the advantages and disadvantages of using Machine Translation in the process of English language learning?

### **C. Objectives of Study**

1. To know English Education Department students' perception on the advantages and disadvantages of using Machine Translation in the process of English language learning.

### **D. Significance of Study**

#### **1. Theoretical**

- a) The finding of this research will give information the advantages and disadvantages of using Machine Translation in the process of English language teaching and learning at Translation class of English Education Department at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin.
- b) The finding of this research is expected to be a source for the next research who wants to conduct a research in the same field hopefully this research could give good information and references for the future research.

#### **2. Practical**

- a) For the students

This research provides the information that English Education Department students' might need to be aware of using machine translation in the process of English language teaching and learning. The researcher hopes the information from this research can be a consideration for them in using Machine Translation. If the students know about the advantages and disadvantages in using Machine Translation, they will be able to use it wisely.

b) For the lecturer

The result of this research expected to be useful information for the Translation lecturers to know the students' perception about the use of Machine Translation in the process of English language teaching and learning. This research can be the basis for the lecturers in one of state universities in Banjarmasin to evaluate and to be aware of the students' needs in using Machine Translation in the learning process. Then, the teachers can make preferences of using Machine Translation in English language learning process by the students based on the information in this research.

### **E. Definition of Key Terms**

To avoid misunderstanding in this study, the researcher gives some definitions of key terms that are important to understand as follow:

1. Students' Perception

The perception refers to the combination of beliefs, attitudes and opinions that reflect how students see, feel or understand something. Specifically, in this study, students' perceptions refer to the beliefs, and opinions of 5<sup>th</sup> semester Education Department Students' regarding the use of Machine Translation in Translation class.

2. Machine Translation

Machine translation refers to the computer program or software which helps people to convert a text from one language to another language

instantly and automatically. Specifically, in this study, machine translation refers the computer program or software which helps undergraduate students' of English Education Department at Antasari State Islamic University to convert a text from one language to another language instantly and automatically that they use in Translation class.

### 3. Translation Class

Translation Class refers to a subject in English Education Department of Antasari State Islamic University which is obligated by all English Education Department students in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> semester. Translation Class divided into two class those are Translation I and Translation II. Translation I class is usually taken in 4<sup>th</sup> semester while Translation II class is usually taken in 5<sup>th</sup> semester.