

## Translation Errors of Health Program Students' Abstract from Indoneisa into English

Eka Fanti Sulistiyarningsih<sup>1)</sup>, Regita Ika Wulandari<sup>2)</sup>

### ABSTRACT

*Translation is a process of substituting equivalent content from one language into another language without change the meaning of the sentence. The research aims to find out the types of translation errors of health program students' abstract from Indonesia into English in one of University in Central Java. The research design of this research is descriptive qualitative. The result of this research shows that types of translation errors of health program students' abstract from Indonesia into English in one of University in Central Java spelling (23%), punctuation (7,6%), capitalization (30,7%), word form/part of speech (15,3%), terminology (7,6%), too literal or word for word (7,6%), omission (7,6%). The frequently most dominant types of translation error is capitalization. It showed that the translation of students' abstract of health program is still poor.*

**Keywords:** *Translation, Translation error, Students' abstract*

#### Correspondent Authors;

1) Eka Fanti Sulistiyarningsih, [ekafanti@unan.ac.id](mailto:ekafanti@unan.ac.id)

2) Regita Ika Wulandari, Email address [regitaika0225@gmail.com](mailto:regitaika0225@gmail.com)

### INTRODUCTION

Translation has a big role in this era. People used translation to convey meaning from the source language to the target language. Translation is a process of substituting equivalent content from one language into another language (Dara Anindya & Yonatri, 2022). An activity of translating is not only translate the target text into the source text literally but the information of source text should have the same meaning with the target text. When people from another nation which have different cultures and languages want to

share information, they will use translation to communicate each other. Beside of that, people used translation to translate a form of a book, when the writers would like to have their book translated to different languages (Magfiroh et al., 2021). In conclusion the process of translation is the same as the process of communication in the way that we ransfer something from the source language to the target languageor from the sender to the receiver (Rahmatillah, 2013). We can do translation through two ways, they are written and oral. The role of the translator is as the mediator to transfer information from the source language to the target language.

Translation products may contain errors that obstruct the actual messages communicated correctly because of some reasons. There may be a misunderstanding due to a mistake in translation because there is no a perfect translation (Magfiroh et al., 2021). The error translation may come from the wrong words choice, the mistake in conveying messages and the difference cultures between source language and target language. Error is normal for human. It means that people occasionally make mistakes in everyday life. But if there is an errors, we should repair that mistakes. There are 26 categories of error translation based on American Translator Association (ATA's) Standar of Translation Error (Williyan et al., 2023). They are incomplete passage, illegible, misunderstanding of original text, mistranslation into target language, addition or omission, terminology or word choice, register, too freely translated, too literal or word-for-word, false cognate, indecision, inconsistency, ambiguity, grammar, syntax, punctuation, spelling, accents and other diacritical marks, case (upper/lower), usage, style. The explanation of American Translator Association (ATA'S) Standard of Translation Error are as follows:

- Incomplete passage means a significantly unfinished esction isn't evaluated, it happens when the

translator lost the titles, headings, or sentences inside a section may be checked as one or more mistakes or exclusion, depending on how much is excluded.

- Illegible means when the translator responsible to ensure the readers can clearly understand what is written. They can delete, insert or revise the sentence without make the aim of the sentences unclear.
- Misunderstanding of Original Text means that this category applies when the translator can see-usually by back-translating the target language text that the mistake emerges from misreading a word, for case, or confusing the sentence structure or a sentence. In other word the result of this translation is wrong because the translation was based on a misunderstood or misconstructured of source text.
- Mistrnslation into Target Language means that the meaning of original text is not passed on appropriately within the target language. For illustration, a term within the deciphered content can be much more common (researchers rather than analyst and the use of protein rather than egg whites) or more specific (stallion rather than horse)

than the original term.

Mistranslations can also involve the choice of word.

- Addition or Omission means that the translator inserted that's not clearly communicated in the original text, or something essential to the meaning is left out. The tendency to insert "clarifying" material should generally be resisted. It is reasonable to abbreviate the cumbersome modes of expression that are common in a few source writings, so long as the meaning does not endure.
- Terminology, word choice means that the translator makes mistake frequently includes terms utilized in different specialized, and lawful, where the words regularly have exceptionally yparticular implications. In common text, the translator might not have chosen the appropriate word among several word that have similar meanings.
- Register means the errors of language level for example the errors of using everyday words instead of medical terms (spit instead of saliva), beside of that the culture of the source text also has a big part in translation the language.
- Too freely translated means that

the translator translates the meaning and intent of the source text it does not mean that the translator can rewrite or improve upon it, The readers will compare the translation to the source text. In the event that a "inventive" the interpretation changes the meanings, an error will be marked. If the translator rearrange the sentences and changing the emphasis an error may be marked.

- Too literal, word for word translation means that the translator translates the sentences word by word and it can make the translation awkward, it's often incorrect in translating. It may work but not at the expense of clarity and natural syntax.
- False cognate means that the translator make mistakes to translate a word. This is the common type of error. For example when the translator translate the word from English to Spanish, the word officials (funcionarios)translated as oficiales.
- Indecision, giving more than one option means that in traslating the text the translator not choose the right words. So, it makes the Even

if both options are correct, an error will be marked. More focuses are dedicated in case one or both choices are inaccurate.

- Inconsistency, same term translated differently, means that a term that is used consistently in the source text should be translated consistently into the target language. On the other hand, in case the source text uses different words for the same idea interchangeably.
- Ambiguity means if the translator makes the words meaning of the source text clear but in the translation become ambiguous.
- Grammar, it usually happens when the translator lacks agreement between subject and verb, incorrect verb forms, incorrect case of nouns, pronouns, adjective, or etc.
- Syntax (Phrase/Clause/ Sentence Structure) is when the translator arranges the words or sentences conform to the rules of the target language. Errors here means sentence fragments, improper modification, lack of parallelism, and unnatural word order.
- Punctuation is when the translator uses inappropriate quotation marks, commas, semicolons, and colons. Incorrect or unclear paragraphing is counted as an error.
- Spelling means that if the translator makes spelling errors in his / her target text. Spelling errors make the readers confuse about the intended meaning of the text. For example : principle/ principal, systemic/systematic, peddle/pedal, dear/deer, bear/bare, sight/site, tasa/taza, vasto/basto). Besides that, the translator also should be aware related about the content of the text.
- Accents and Other Diacritical Marks is when the translator makes conventions of the target language followed consistently. If incorrect or missing diacritical marks obscure the meaning, the error is more serious.
- Capitalization means when the translator uses incorrect upper and lower case in their target text.
- Word form means that the translator used the correct root of words but wrong in the form of the sentences. For example in English : The product has been tampered with and is no longer safe.
- Usage is when the translator uses the correct idiom of the target

language but the errors in using preposition and grammatical form. For example take vs make a walk, married to vs married with, etc.

- Style is when the translator translates the source text with the characteristics characterized by a distinctive by a distinctive manner of expression for example flowery, staccato, conventional, instructional, should be reflected in the translation.

There are some previous research that focused in analyzing the error translation. The first previous research was conducted by Dessy and Nurul in 2023. Their research aimed to describe the phenomenon of errors in the English translation of students in one of University in East Java. Their research design was descriptive qualitative approach. Their data was the results of the participants' translations of the report text and their interview answers. The result of their research showed that there were four types of student errors in translation meaning errors, and sentence errors. The most common mistakes made by students was errors in giving meaning with inappropriate words. Then, the factors that cause the students to make errors in translation was sloppy, lack of vocabulary, and different structures between Indonesian and English (Lestari & Chojimah, 2023).

The other previous research was

conducted by Mustathira and Fatimah in 2023. The aimed of that research was to find out the kinds of translation errors made by the students, the dominant translation errors made by the students and the students' difficulties in translating English to Indonesian texts in one of University in South Sulawesi. That research design used a descriptive qualitative method. The subject of this research was the third semester of English Education Department in one of University in South Sulawesi. The research object was errors in translating English to Indonesian text. The result of the research showed that the difficulties that student found in translate were lexical meaning, grammatical meaning, contextual meaning, textual meaning, and socio-cultural meaning (- & Hidayahni Amin, 2023).

The third previous research was conducted by Widya and Aqiana in 2022. The aimed of that research was to find the types of errors translation based on ATA Error Categories version 2021 on the three submitted journal articles translated by lecturers in one of University in West Java. The research design of that research was descriptive qualitative. The objects of that research were three journal articles in the Indonesian language (ST) and English (TT). The results of that research showed that there were 14 types of errors found (Dara Anindya & Yonatri, 2022), namely:

literalness (31.05%), usage (22.22%), punctuation (7.84%), terminology (7.52%), verb form (6.86%), grammar (6.54%), capitalization (3.59%), parts of speech (3.59%), syntax (3.27%), style (2.94%), register (2.29%), omission (1.31%), cohesion (0.65%), and ambiguity (0.33%). For addition, the research recommended that translators have sufficient knowledge about the target language mechanics, produce clear renditions of the source text, and maintain the writing quality of the target text.

Based on the explanation above, there are many errors in translating of language. Therefore, this research aimed to identify the types of translation errors of health program students' abstract from Indonesia into English in one of University in Central Java. The researcher hopes that the result of this research can help the translator to avoid errors in translating text.

## RESEARCH METHOD

The research design of this research is descriptive qualitative. Descriptive qualitative research design is a research design that collect and analyze data (- & Hidayahni Amin, 2023). Then, the purpose of the qualitative approach is a research that used to interpret the phenomenon to the readers, thus they can

know the pattern of the phenomenon easily and effectively (Lestari & Chojimah, 2023). The research aims to find out the translation errors of health program students' abstract from Indonesia into English.

There are some steps in collecting data, they are:

1. The researcher went to the library of the University.
2. The researcher looked for the students' abstract.
3. The researcher analyzed the translation errors in the students' abstract.
4. The researcher make a conclusion from the data

The data of this research were words, phrases, and sentences. The researcher used the standard of ATA's Framework to classified and tabulated the data.

**Table 1.** Data coding system used in translation error Tabulation Analysis (ATA, 2016)

Name of Erros	Codes
Incomplete Passage	IP
Illegible	I
Misunderstanding of Original Text	MOOT
Mistranslation into Target Language	MITL
Addition or Omission	AD/OM

Terminology or Word Choice	T
Register	R
Too Freely Translated	TFT
Too Literal or Word-for-Word	TL
False Cognate	FC
Indecision	I
Inconsistency	IC
Ambiguity	A
Grammar	G
Syntax	S
Punctuation	P
Spelling	SP
Accents and Other Diacritical Marks	ACT
Capitalization	C
Usage	U
Style	ST

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

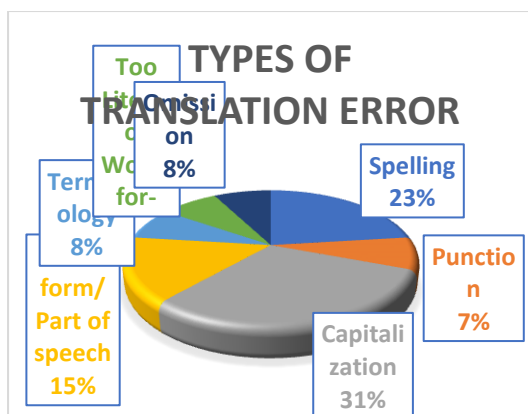
### 1. Findings

In this point, the researcher describes the types of translation errors found in the abstracts of health program students' from Indonesia into English in one of University in Central Java. This research used ATA's standard error making (ATA, 2016) about the error of translation, they are incomplete passage, illegible, misunderstanding of original

text, mistranslation into target language, addition or omission, terminology or word choice, register, too freely translated, too literal or word-for-word, false cognate, indecision, inconsistency, ambiguity, grammar, syntax, punctuation, spelling, accents and other diacritical marks, case (upper/lower), usage, style.

There are five abstracts of health program students' from Indonesia into English in one of University in Central Java (2022 & 2023). The result is described by counting the categories/types in each abstract and its percentage of numbers. The researcher shows the frequency of translation errors and the percentage of the translation errors. The first step, the researcher identifies the translation error. Then they are classified into the category of translation error. Next, the researcher counts the type translation error to get the frequency of translation error. Finally, the researcher counts the frequency of translation error by using the chosen formula to get the percentage of them. The researcher makes the percentage of translation error type that occurs in the abstracts. To get the percentage of translation error, the researcher uses the following formula as stated above.





**Figure 1.** Chart Types of Translation Error

**Table 2.** An Analysis of Translation Error

Types of Translation Error	Total	%
Spelling	3	23
Punctuation	1	7,6
Capitalization	4	30,7
Word form/ Part of speech	2	15,3
Terminology	1	7,6
Too Literal or Word-for-Word	1	7,6
Omission	1	7,6

From the table above, it can be seen that the translation error are categorized into six categories, they are Spelling (23 %), Punctuation (7,6%), Capitalization (30,7 %), Word form/ Part of speech (15,3%), Terminology (7,6%), Too Literal or Word-for-Word (7,6%), Omission (7,6%). The first most dominant type of translation error is Capitalization. It is for about (30,7%).

## 2. Discussion

The types of translation errors of health program students' abstract from Indonesia into English in one of University in Central Java shows that spelling (23%), punctuation (87,6%), capitalization (30,7%), word form/part of speech (15,3%), terminology (7,6%), too literal or word for word (7,6%), omission (7,6%). Some of examples the error translation in the health progra, students' abstract are as follows :

- Data 1 (SP/1)  
ST : *Benigna Prostatic Hyperplasi(BPH) adalah pembesaran jinak kelenjar prostat*  
TT : *Benigna Prostatic Hyperplation (BPH) is a benign enlargement of the prostate gland*
- Data 3 (SP/3)  
ST : *Prevalensi miopia semakin meningkat..*  
TT : *The prevelence of myopia is increasing...*
- Data 4 (C/4)  
ST : *Hasil studi pendahuluan yang dilakukan penulis pada bulan Agustus 2022*  
TT : *The results of a preliminary study conducted by the author in august 2022*
- Data 5 (C/5)  
ST : *di Indonesia berdasarkan Riset Kesehatan Dasar tahun (2018)*  
TT : *In indonesia based on basic health Research in (2018)*



The result of this research showed that the translator error found in the students' program of health program. It is appropriate with the reseach of Widya and Aqiana in 2021, in their research they found 14 types of errors found, namely: literalness (31.05%), usage (22.22%), punctuation (7.84%), terminology (7.52%), verb form (6.86%), grammar (6.54%), capitalization (3.59%), parts of speech (3.59%), syntax (3.27%), style (2.94%), register (2.29%), omission (1.31%), cohesion (0.65%), and ambiguity (0.33%) (Dara Anindya & Yonatri, 2022). While in this research the researcher just found 7 types of translation error they are spelling (23%), punctuation (7,6%), capitalization (30,7%), word form/part of speech (15,3%), terminology (7,6%), too literal or word for word (7,6%), omission (7,6%)

### CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATION

From the result of this research that found 7 types of translation errors in the students' abstract of health program. They are spelling, punctuation, capitalization, word form/part of speech, terminology, too literal or wor word for word and omission. The frequently most dominant types of translation error is capitalization. It showed that the translation of students' abstract of health program is still poor. This research hopes can make the readers

know more related about the translation errors. The translation error is serious problem in tranlating text because it relates to the meaning and understanding of the readers.

### REFERENCES

- , M., & Hidayahni Amin, F. (2023). Translation Errors of English-Indonesian Text in Basic Translation Class. *International Journal of Business, English, and Communication (IJoBEC)*, 1(1), 11–18.
- Dara Anindya, W., & Yonatri, A. E. (2022). Types of Translation Errors from Indonesia Language into English in Pharmacy Journal Articles. *RETORIKA: Jurnal Ilmu Bahasa*, 8(2), 206–213.
- Lestari, D. R., & Chojimah, N. (2023). Translation Errors on Report Texts by the Fourth Semester Students at UIN Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung. *Jo-ELT (Journal of English Language Teaching) Fakultas Pendidikan Bahasa & Seni Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris IKIP*, 10(1), 71–87. <https://doi.org/10.33394/jo-elt.v10i1.7272>
- Magfiroh, S., Sultan, U., Hasanudin, M., Serang, B., & Kheryadi, I. (2021). An Analysis of Translation Error that

Occurs among English Foreign Language Students. *STAIRS English Language Education Journal*, 2(2), 1–9.

Rahmatillah, K. (2013). Translation Errors in The Process of Translation. *Journal of English and Education*, 7(1), 14–24.

Williyan, A., -, U., Vanesa, V. V., & Aini, A. N. (2023). Analyzing Translation Errors in Indonesian-English Business Letter. *Journal of English Language and Literature*, 8(2), 197–208.

<https://doi.org/10.37110/jell.v8i2.180>