



USING GOOGLE TRANSLATE TO INCREASE VOCABULARY MASTERY

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ABSTRACT

Google Translate is one of the newest technologies. Many students have opened Google Translate to translate and know the meaning of the words. The aim of this study is to describe theoretically the effectiveness of using students' vocabulary Google Translate. Google Translate provides and facilitates translation of more than 100 languages with various levels. Therefore, this paper shares information about Google Translate as a tool or media in relation to its role in the process of teaching and learning English for students in Senior High School.

KEYWORDS: *google translate, vocabulary, English teaching and learning*

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, Google Translate can be used to learn new vocabularies. It is one of the examples of online dictionary. Pratama and Utami (2022) stated that online dictionary makes students more comfortable to learn vocabularies. Although inaccuracy of meaning sometimes occur when using Google Translate, it is still considered very useful. Indeed, online dictionary sometimes does not synchronize with the structure or meaning. It also happens to the Google Translate. Google Translate only translates or provides the meaning without seeing the context. Moreover, Alqahtani (2015) stated that the main problem is that students do not have sufficient knowledge about the translation technique and accuracy. Thus, students who use Google Translate should also have to check whether the translation is appropriate or not.

Vocabulary is a language component which has a prominent role in learning language. Vocabulary is an inseparable part of learning and use of language skills. It is important to pay attention in the development of vocabulary in student learning of language because with being rich in vocabulary, one of the requirements of language competence is completed. Because of its important role in language learning there are some ways for students to improve their vocabulary.

In this digital era, students can enjoy technologies available for learning. This technology development has undoubtedly become a solution for huge need of education. Thus, for students who do not have many vocabularies, they can enrich their vocabularies from many sources. One of the sources is Google Translate.

Alqahtani (2015) stated that students need to save many words and be selective to express the meaning or concept of their knowledge about vocabularies. Google Translate is the media which can help students to translate and look for the suitable meaning. Google Translate is helpful for students because they can translate and use good vocabulary in their learning and communication to the others.

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2.0 WHAT IS GOOGLE TRANSLATE?

Ghasemi and Hashemian (2016) stated that Google Translate is one of the service from Google in order to facilitate the translation especially written text from one language to other language. Google Translate is for translation. Besides, we can know the synonym of words in Google Translate. It is from Google.

Yanti and Meka (2019) argued that there are 3 advantages of Google Translate such as: fast, easy, and enriching vocabularies. From these advantages, Google Translate can be the consideration for the students. They can enrich the vocabularies easily with using this application. However, Yanti and Meka (2019) inferred that there are 3 disadvantages of Google Translate such as: Google Translate makes lazy to students, it has some grammatical errors, and the translation is not accurate also not readable. From these disadvantages, students need to check the translation after using Google Translate. Asiyaban and Bagheri (2012) indicated that when a teacher gives definition of particular word, students try to find out the meaning in their First Language (L1). In this case they are using translation strategy subconsciously.

3.0 VOCABULARY TEACHING AND LEARNING

Ur (2009) stated that one of the aspects in teaching vocabulary needs meaning relationship with using translation. Translation is needed in teaching vocabularies. It will help students to know the meaning about many words.

Aisyah (2017) stated that there are two major strategies in learning vocabularies such as: discovery strategy and consolidating strategy. These strategies have different characteristics. Discovery strategy is to find out the meaning of unfamiliar words. This strategy happens during learning vocabularies from many skills. On the other hand, consolidating strategy is to store the vocabulary learnt to their memory. This strategy uses long term memory to learn vocabularies.

Concerning with vocabulary learning, Dikilitas and Erten (2018) stated that vocabularies have relationships to the words such as: synonym, antonym, word formation, collocation, homonymy, homophony, homography, and superordination. Synonym, antonym, and so on are very helpful in the vocabulary skill for students. If students have that knowledge, it means that they are familiar with many forms of vocabularies. Then, they can apply them in the daily communication.

Vocabulary mastery can be assessed. To measure the knowledge of vocabulary, it can use Vocabulary Level Test (VLT). Kremmel and Schmitt (2018) stated that Vocabulary Levels Test (VLT) is tool for measuring vocabulary knowledge. To know the effectiveness of the use of google translate by students, the data collection can be conducted using some steps such as: making instrument that is vocabulary test, then, the teacher teaches vocabularies to the students without using Google Translate and students do try-out. Next, students do the pre-test, teacher gets the score of pre-test and teaches with Google Translate. After that, students do the post-test, teacher gets the scores, and teacher processes the data (scores) by making comparison to see their significant difference. When the post-test score is significantly higher than the pre-test score, it can be assumed that Google Translate is effective to be used for vocabulary learning.

4.0 PREVIOUS STUDIES



Some studies have proven that Google Translate can help the students especially with their vocabulary skill and translation skill. It can be seen from the study by Asiyaban and Bagheri (2012) which indicated that when teacher gives definition of particular word, students try to find out the meaning in their First Language (L1). It uses translation strategy subconsciously. Besides that, Zafitri and Harida (2017) stated that Google Translate can predict the corresponding words and phrases in the source text also target text. Meanwhile, Schmitt and Rodgers (2020) stated that developing vocabularies can use dictionary, word parts, word cards, and guessing from the context. Students can use and learn new vocabularies from many techniques. Using Google Translate, students can enrich their vocabularies more easily.

5.0 CONCLUSION

From the text above, it can be concluded that Google Translate is one of online tool which functions as dictionary which is more sophisticated because it not only translates words but also phrases and sentences. This dictionary can help students to improve their ability in vocabulary and translation skill. Google Translate has advantages and disadvantages to the students. From the advantages, students can use this dictionary in order to help their tasks especially in learning grammar and to know the meaning of words to their first language (L1). However, students have to check the result to make sure the translation is accurate in term of the context of language used.

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