

**THE INDONESIAN GRAMMATICAL INTERFERENCES TOWARD  
ENGLISH MADE BY THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS OF  
UNP PADANG IN TRANSLATING THE INDONESIAN TEXT INTO  
ENGLISH**

**THESIS**

*Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of Requirements to Obtain Strata One (S1)  
Degree*



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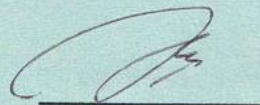
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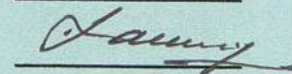
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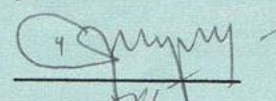
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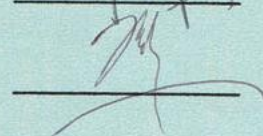
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## ABSTRAK

Febrianti, Rizky. 2012. *The Indonesian Grammatical Interference toward English Made by the English Department Students of UNP Padang in Translating the Indonesian Text into English*. Skripsi. Padang: Universitas Negeri Padang.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk melihat bentuk-bentuk interferensi gramatika bahasa Indonesia terhadap bahasa Inggris yang terdapat dalam hasil terjemahan mahasiswa bahasa Inggris UNP Padang. Jenis penelitian ini adalah deskriptif. Data dikumpulkan dari Translation Test yang terdiri atas beberapa teks dalam bahasa Indonesia yang kemudian di ubah kedalam bahasa Inggris oleh mahasiswa bahasa Inggris. Data yang dikumpulkan dari hasil terjemahan mahasiswa bahasa Inggris tahun Tiga yang telah selesai mengambil mata kuliah Structure 1 sampai Structure 3, akan dianalisis kalimat demi kalimat untuk mengetahui bentuk interferensi gramatika bahasa Indonesia. Data terdiri atas interferensi gramatika bahasa Indonesia terhadap bahasa Inggris yang terdapat dalam hasil terjemahan teks yang diberikan kepada mahasiswa/i jurusan bahasa inggris Universitas Negeri Padang. Setelah bentuk-bentuk interferensi gramatika bahasa Indonesia terhadap bahasa Inggris diketahui, kemudian dikelompokkan kedalam bentuk interferensi morfologi, dan sintaksis. Di dalam interferensi morfologis, dianalisis dalam pembentukan kata, seperti akhiran, pada kata benda, kata kerja, dan keterangan. Di dalam interferensi syntaksis, bentuk interferensi dianalisis dalam 3 aspek. Pertama, ditinjau dari kesesuaian; yakni antara kata benda dan kata sifat yang mengikutinya pada tingkat frase, dan kesesuaian antara kata kerja dan subjeknya pada tingkat klausa/kalimat. Dan ketiga, ditinjau dari aspek tense.

Dari hasil terjemahan mahasiswa bahasa Inggris ditemukan 11,2% interferensi bahasa Indonesia ke dalam bahasa Inggris pada tingkat morfologis dalam pembentukan kata benda, 11,5% dalam pembentukan kata kerja, dan 4% dalam pembentukan kata keterangan. Pada tingkat syntaksis juga ditemukan interferensi bahasa Indonesia terhadap bahasa Inggris dalam aspek kesesuaian antara kata ganti dengan kata bendanya 16, 25%, kesesuaian antara kata kerja dan subjeknya 4,8%, dalam aspek susunan kata pada tingkat phrase sebanyak 12,25%, 57% pada tingkat klausa, pada pada aspek tenses ditemukan sebanyak 19% intereferensi bahasa Indonesian dalam membuat kalimat aktif dalam simple present tense, 10,4% dalam simple past tense, 41,5% dalam present perfect tense, dan ditemukan sebanyak 52% interferensi bahasa Indonesia dalam membuat kalimat pasif dalam simple past tense, dalam present perfect tense 56%, dalam simple future tense 12%, dan passive with must 14%. The dominant form of Indonesian grammatical interference was found in syntactical interference in the word order of tag question with 57%.

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# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of the Problem**

In Indonesia, English has become a foreign language that must be studied and mastered by all of the students since they are in the elementary school up to university. They learn English as the new language beside their national language, Indonesian.

Through the language learning, they may become the bilingual speakers or the people who have the ability to use and practice two languages. As Adler (in Hoffmann, 1991) argues that the person who becomes bilingual through the systematic structured instruction, that is undergoing some kind of training or learning, known as secondary bilingual (achieved bilingualism). In bilingualism itself, there are such common phenomena that can be seen, such as: code mixing, code switching, and the language interference.

According to Appel and Muysken (in Hoffman, 1991), code mixing is the switches occurring at the lexical level within a sentence (intra-sentential switches). It is code mixing when somebody or bilingual speaker speaks one language and then he or she mixes it with another language in the middle of his or her utterances. Usually a bilingual speaks with two languages and mixes them spontaneously but it still contains certain purpose. The kind of the mixes may involve the insertion of a single element, or of a partial or entire phrase, from one

language into another. For example, “*Mau cari siapa you?*”, and “*Kenapa you?*” (Indonesian-English).

According to Wardaugh (1988:104), a speaker does code mixing to show solidarity, familiarity, and the intimacy toward someone or our friend's talking. The case of the code mixing usually occurs in informal and the same situation. It means, the use of code mixing has function to create more close relationship and reduce distance between speaker and hearer.

On the other hand, Appel and Muysken (in Hoffmann, 1991) state the code switching as the changes over phrases or sentences (inter-sentential). It is the combining of elements of two languages across phrases or sentences, or the language changes occur over sentence. For example: “*Saya tidak suka perpustakaan itu, because the library is untidy and the books are not in good order.*”

Code switching occurs when people change language intentionally and they do it because of specific purpose, for example: the presence of the third person that does not share the same language, or the change of topic or situation. Crystal in Skiba (1997) says that there are some reasons why a speaker does code switching. They are: first, a speaker is not able to express himself in one language, so he or she switches to compensate for deficiency, for example: when the speaker is upset, tired, or distracted in some manners. Second, switching commonly occurs when an individual wishes to express solidarity with a particular social group. The switching is used to exclude others from a conversation who do not speak the second language. And the last is switching occurs when the speaker wishes to convey his or her attitude to the listener.

Scovel (2001:54) states that the interference is the negative transfer of the linguistic behavior in the mother tongue to the new linguistic patterns of the second language or target language. The interference arises only when the structures of the two languages, the source language and the target language are different. The transfer may be conscious. It is consciously when the learners or unskilled translators may sometimes guess when producing speech or text in a second language because they have not learned or have forgotten its proper usage. For example: Indonesian grammatical interference toward English, “*She nice*” (dia manis).

The phenomenon also appears in the English Department of State University of Padang. It is seen that there is a tendency of the English students that they are interfered by the way they think in the Indonesian language. In other words, the Indonesian rules and structures, and the culture characterized and intrude the results of their utterances or translation in the target language, English. They speak English inaccurately and frequently produce errors, such as errors in the use of verbs, verb be, gerunds and infinitives, and word orders, because Indonesian and English have different forms and structures.

This phenomenon can be seen in the students’ writing activities such as translation. Translation is one of writing activities, which consist of two languages in bilingualism process. The duty of translator is not only to change the language form but he also needs to keep the content of the message to be constant. In other words, a good translator should produce the translation result that has equal meaning with the original.

One way to become an effective and good translator is that the learner should know the problems of translation. One of the problems is that the source language system is different from the target language system. This difference often causes the difficulties for translator in making good translation. And there is phenomenon that the translator uses the source language system in translating the target language as it is called interference of the first language.

The interference can be found in the grammatical aspect, such as in the verb tense. In the Indonesian language, which is a tenseless language, the verb form is the same for all the time use and situation (past, present, future). However, in English which is the tenseness language, the use of the verb is determined by the time of the event/action. In the example, “*We study that chapter last week*” (Kita belajar bab itu minggu lalu). The speaker makes an error in the verb use. She ignores the use of the past form of the verb (V<sub>2</sub>), *studied*, to show the past event. In the example “*The man sick yesterday*”, the speaker ignores the use of to be: *was*, for the past form. Beside that, in the present tense, English has the special rule for the verb in the third singular person and plural subjects. For example, “*She speak strange to the point, not go around the bush.*” The case shows that the speaker ignores the rule: ‘she’ as the third singular person, she/he should add s/es at the end of the verb: *speaks*.

Another interference is that the speaker follows the Indonesian word order when uttering English. For example: *dengan hati-hati* becomes *with careful*. Meanwhile there is special rule in order to form adverb from adjective, in this case, in order to form adverb from adjective ‘careful’ is by adding ‘-ly’ at the end

of the adjective to change it into the adverb of manner. As the result, the utterances said were meaningless and unacceptable.

Based on the examples above, it can be concluded that the interference of the source language (Indonesian) into the target language (English) is a serious problem. As a matter of fact, there is an assumption that the students from education concentration, graduated from the English Department of UNP are able to be a professional English teacher who will be the English teacher for the elementary school, junior, and senior high school students or even the university students, and also for the linguistics graduation competent in linguistic study who may become a linguist later.

Based on the phenomenon, the researcher did the research about the language interferences made by the English Department students of UNP in translating the Indonesian text into English.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

Based on the linguistic aspect, language interference can be divided into four types; they are phonic interference, grammatical interference, lexical interference, and semantic interference.

Phonic interference occurs when a bilingual identifies a phoneme of the first language system and then uses it in the second language. In uttering the phoneme in the target language, he/she adapts with the phonetic rule in the source language or his/her first language.

Grammatical interference occurs when a bilingual identifies the grammar of the first language and then uses it in the second language. This kind of interference frequently involves such aspects of syntax as word order, the use of pronouns and determiners, preposition, tense, aspect, and mood.

Lexical interference occurs when a bilingual uses the lexicon of one language into another language. The kind of word interference is like the overextension of the meaning of a word into the realm of the other language. This may happen, in particular, in the case of idiomatic expressions and items with cognate forms.

The last aspect is in semantic interference. It occurs when a bilingual uses the second language, there exists the meaning of the first language.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the identification of the problem, this study is limited to the Indonesian grammatical interferences.

### **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

The problem of the study is formulated as follows: “What are the Indonesian grammatical interferences made by the English Department students of UNP in translating the Indonesian text into English?”

### **1.5 Research Questions**

Referring to the formulation of the problem above, some research questions are formulated as follows:

1. What morphological interferences are made by the English Department students in translating Indonesian text into English in the level of noun, verb, and adverb?
2. What syntactical interferences are made by the English Department students in translating Indonesian text into English in the aspect agreement, word order, and tenses?
3. What form of Indonesian grammatical interference is dominantly found in the students' translation results?

### **1.6 Purpose of the Study**

The purposes of this study are to find out:

1. the morphological interferences made by the English department students of UNP in translating Indonesian text into English in the level noun, verb, and adverb
2. the syntactical interferences made by the English department students of UNP in translating Indonesian text into English in the aspect agreement, word order, and tenses
3. the dominant form of Indonesian grammatical interference made by the English department students of UNP in translating the Indonesian text into English

### **1.7 Significance of the Study**

The finding of the research will be expected to provide significant contribution to the linguistic studies of the language interference. And this study is also expected to give the input for the English Department students, especially for the English Department students of UNP, so that they can minimize and avoid producing errors in English which are caused by the interference of the Indonesian language and pay more attention to the correct use of the English grammar since the Indonesian and English have different rules/structures.

### **1.8 Definition of Key Terms**

1. Language interference: the using of Indonesian language system into target language, English.
2. Translation: the process of changing the written message in source language into the target language by the equal meaning in the source language.
3. Grammatical interference: a tendency of using Indonesian grammatical system in translating Indonesian text into English.
4. Morphological interference: the using of the word formation in Indonesian (such as: suffix and prefix) into English.
5. Syntactical interference: the using of Indonesian syntax in translating Indonesian text into English.