The Ability of English Department Students of UNP in Translating Phrasal Verbs in Sentences from English into Indonesian

THESIS

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ABSTRAK

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Penelitian ini mengkaji kemampuan mahasiswa dalam menerjemahkan phrasal verbs dari bahasa Inggris ke bahasa Indonesia. Adapun populasi dalam penelitian ini adalah mahasiswa pendidikan Bahasa Inggris tahun akademik 2013 di Universitas Negeri Padang dan subjek penelitian dipilih dengan menggunakan metode simple random sampling. Masalah yang diangkat dalam penelitian ini adalah begaimana tingkat kemampuan mahasiswa dalam memahami phrasal verbs melalui cara menerjemahkan dan apa saja kesulitan yang dihadapi mereka dalam menerjemahkan phrasal verbs. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui tingkat kemampuan mahasiswa dalam menerjemahkan dan apa saja kesulitan yang dihadapi mahasiswa dalam menerjemahkan phrasal verbs. Adapun instrumen yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah translation test. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa mahasiswa memiliki tingkat kemampuan menerjemahkan phrasal verbs dengan skor rata-rata 68.1, dan menurut kategori penilaian UNP, itu berada pada level "cukup bagus". Berdasarkan hasil test mahasiswa dapat dilihat beberapa kesulitan yang dialami mahasiswa dalam menerjemahkan phrasal verbs tersebut. Di antaranya adalah mahasiswa cenderung melakukan proses penerjemahan kata-per-kata dan cenderung mengabaikan partikel atau preposisi yang merupakan bagian penting dari phrasal verbs. Berdasarkan hal di atas, dapat disimpulkan bahwa mahasiswa pendidikan Bahasa Inggris UNP memiliki tingkat pemahaman yang kurang terhadap phrasal verbs sehingga menyebabkan hasil yang kurang akurat dalam menerjemahkan phrasal verbs tersebut.

Kata Kunci: translation, phrasal verbs

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The writer

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

When talking about English language skills, people normally refer to listening, speaking, reading, and writing in that language. These four basic skills are taught in language learning since junior high school. Students in Indonesia, for example, learn these skills which are included within the curriculum from junior high school until senior high school. Moreover, they learn about the skills in college if they take a major in English.

Usually, teachers teach these skills in the classroom in order to make clear to the students the differences between the skills and to make them comprehend about the way and the use of the skills. However, there is another important language skill which is called translation. Before the learners know about the four basic skills, they have already known or used translation. By translation here, it means that when they read a new word in English and they don't understand what the word mean, they will try to find the meaning by opening the dictionary. Unconsciously, they have done a skill which is called translating because they transfer the meaning from one language to another. They do this translation process in order to get the meaning of the words that they do not know and to get a more understanding towards the language.

Translating itself is the process of transferring the meaning of a text in one language into a text in another language (Rachmadie, et al 1988). Bassnet (2002:12) says that, "translation involves the rendering of a source language (SL) text into the target language." Based on the definition of translation above, it can simply be said that translation is the process of transferring the meaning of one language and find an equivalent meaning in the other language in order to get the message that is being conveyed.

Translation is needed as one of ways to get information. In language learning, learners tend to understand the language simply by translating it. They translate what they have heard or read in the source language to their own language or native language in order to get the meaning. In this way, they can get a better understanding of what they have translated. Even though they enter a higher education level like college, most learners still use translation in their way of understanding the language.

In order to acquire the target language, many difficulties may be faced by the English learners. The different grammatical systems between the target and source language, the contextual problems in case the students do not understand the text, and vocabulary mastery can be a problem in translating. A sentence may consists of phrases and clauses which are composed by some words. Some problems may appear when a word has more than one meaning or its meaning is ambiguous. It can be confusing to translate such words

because the meaning or the message can be changed or not conveyed as it should be. It also happens when translating phrasal verbs.

Leech (2006: 84-85) states that phrasal verb is a verb idiom which consists of a main verb and a prepositional adverb (often called a particle). It is a phrase consisting of a verb and another element, typically either an adverb, or a preposition, or a combination of both. For example, *take off, carry on* and *find out*. From the example of phrasal verbs above, it can be seen that the phrases contain of more than one word. The first word such as *take, carry*, and *find* are called verbs. The second words such as *off, on*, and *out* are prepositional adverb or usually called as particle.

In phrasal verb itself, there are classifications such as separable phrasal verbs and inseparable phrasal verbs. With a separable phrasal verb, a noun may come either between the verb and the particle or after the particle. While inseparable phrasal verbs, a noun or pronouns must follow after the particle. This can confuse the students if they do not understand the rules in phrasal verbs.

Understanding a phrasal verb, moreover from English to Indonesian may face problems since a phrasal verb consists of not only one word but several words which form a single meaning. Students usually have problems in understanding phrasal verbs since phrasal verbs have more than one word, in this case a verb, and a preposition which sometimes cannot be translated. For example, the words *count on* and *look after*. These two words are

examples of phrasal verbs. If translated directly word by word, they do not have the same desired meaning. The words *count on* itself means "mengandalkan", but if translated literally, the meaning can be "menghitung kepada" since *count* means menghitung and the preposition on can have more than one meaning. It is the same as look after which means "menjaga/merawat" but becomes "melihat setelah" if translated literally. Both examples show that phrasal verbs cannot be translated one by one per its elements because the meaning can be totally different than it should be. As stated above, students tend to translate words that they do not know to their native language, in this case, into Indonesian. Unconsciously, they have done a translation process in order to get the meaning of the phrasal verbs.

Based on the problems above, the writer is interested in conducting a research about the ability of third year educational students of English Department of UNP in translating English phrasal verbs presented in sentences into Indonesian and finds the difficulties that they faced in translating them. In English Department of UNP, the phrasal verbs is taught in the Grammar subject. The researcher took the third year educational students because they have learned about phrasal verbs. So, this research is going to see how the ability of the third year educational students in translating phrasal verbs is.

B. Identification of the Problem

There are so many problems that can cause difficulties for the students in understanding the phrasal verbs. As stated above, they tend to translate what they see into their mother tongue to get a more understanding about the language, in this case, the phrasal verbs. The contextual problems in case the students do not understand the context, the different grammatical systems between the target and source language, and vocabulary mastery can be a problem in the process.

One of the problems faced by students that may appear in is a contextual problem. To understand the phrasal verbs is not as easy as it seems because in understanding it the students should pay special attention to these words because it cannot be translated word by word. Students often learn or understand the text by translating it into their mother tongue, in this case, Indonesian. They often translate it word by word by using dictionary or sometimes an online translator like Google translate. This way is not effective since the words are translated one by one and the meaning of the sentence will differ from what it should be. They should comprehend the meaning based on the context and transfer the meaning from the source language into the target language so that they will have the same meaning.

It is impossible to do word by word translation because most words have more than one meaning and also every language has differences such as

in grammatical structure. These differences can cause problem in translating, or in this case, rendering the meaning of the phrasal verbs.

As stated above, phrasal verbs consist of more than one word and have a verb and some prepositions. Moreover, the word order in phrasal verbs, the separable and inseparable phrasal verbs, can make some confusion too to the students. To understand it can face some problems since phrasal verbs cannot be translated literally or word by word because the meaning will be different.

C. Limitation of the Problem

In this research, the problem was limited to the ability of the third year educational students of English Department of UNP in translating English phrasal verbs based in context into Indonesian and the difficulties that they face in translating them.

D. Formulation of the Study

The problem of the research was formulated in the following question: "How is the ability of the third year educational students of the English Department of UNP in translating phrasal verbs based on context from English to Indonesian?"

E. Research Questions

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the research questions were developed as follows:

- 1. How is the students' ability in translating phrasal verbs based on context from English to Indonesian?
- 2. What are the difficulties that the students face in translating phrasal verbs based on context from English to Indonesian?

F. The Purpose of the Study

The research is aimed at finding out students' ability in translating phrasal verbs presented in sentences from English to Indonesian and finding out the difficulties faced by the third year educational students of English Department of UNP in translating them.

G. The Significance of the Study

The significance of this study can be both theoretical and practical. It means, the result of the study could be beneficial to increase knowledge about phrasal verb. It is hoped to give contribution not only for students but also for the lecturer, especially for the lecturer who teaches grammar subject. For the students, it can make them more concerned to the subject because and it will develop their skill in grammar. For the lecturer, they can find out the students' ability in phrasal verbs, so proper teaching materials can be prepared in order

to find better strategies in teaching to enrich students' ability in understanding phrasal verbs.

H. Definition of Key Terms

- Translation : the process of transferring meaning of one language and find an equivalent meaning in the other language to get the message conveyed.
- 2. Phrasal Verbs : a combination of verb and a particle (including preposition) which together have a meaning different from the customary meaning of the two words.