COMMON ERRORS IN THE TRANSLATION
DONE BY THE STUDENTS
OF THE PHARMACY DEPARTMENT
AT AIRLANGGA UNIVERSITY – SURABAYA

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

In doing translation there must inevitable two languages involved, the source (SL) and the receptor/target language (RL/TL), two essential elements of communication. The other element is the message.

Many students even at University still doing mistakes when they translate an English sentences into Indonesian. They think there is a direct one-to-one correspondence of meaning between the sentences in the SL and in the TL. Whereas there are some points in translating must pay attention by them.

The objectives of this research are to identify and classify the errors of translation which are found in the students’ translation work, to find the most common errors made by them and the reason why those errors occur. The writer uses three theories i.e.: semantics or study of linguistic meaning of words phrases and sentences, the second is theory of translation and the third is error and contrastive analysis.

In doing the evaluation the writer compares the sentences in translation and the ones in the original sentences and check the preservation of message and see whether the translation preserving, skewing or misleading and then see whether the language (word choice, form and style) are acceptable to the rules of of Indonesian. After
identify and analyze the data, the writer found some errors in grammar, semantic and organization of the sentence done by the students. The errors in grammar include miscomprehension in participle, inappropriate adjustment for tense marker, wrong choice for equivalence of modal, preposition and pronoun, wrong order in translating noun phrase and mistranslation of relative clause. Those errors are caused by insufficient mastery of grammatical categories of English and how to translate it in acceptable Indonesian, false concept toward the grammatical aspects, generalization on English and Indonesian grammatical rule, interference of English teaching, regardless the context of the sentence, unable to make closest natural equivalence. Errors in semantic are non-contextual equivalence, misassociation/wrong analogy of word/phrase to the other which seem almost the same in sound, substituting and adding meaning, and interference of foreign terms. Generally those errors are caused by insufficient mastery of meaning of English words, not considering the context of the sentence and negligence. Error in organization involve ambiguous sentence, pleonasm, and fragment/incomplete translation. Those errors occur because the students are unable to make closest natural equivalence and how to translate the sentence in acceptable language.