Intermediate Students' Perceptions of the Transformation of Online Translation Engine

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ABSTRACT

Online language translation machine is a tool that is currently popular to be used as a benchmark when translating words and sentences from foreign languages that are widely used by people today, especially students and students who can change the way of learning foreign languages by facilitating the translation process. Currently, online translation machines are really increasing and varying from those available on the website to having their own platforms such as special applications for language translation machines, so this research appears to analyse online translation machines according to students who have used them, this research method is a qualitative method conducted through a platform using interviews that see from the perception or point of view of users, namely high school students. The results of the interviews found that out of 13 students have almost the same point of view but with a variety of different reasons, most of them say that the translation machine is growing rapidly and is increasingly sophisticated as evidenced by the existence of new and interesting features that make it easier for them to translate various languages. It can be concluded that their perception of the online translation machine is interesting and quite realistic that the current online translation machine is indeed growing quite rapidly starting from the features and translation accuracy that continues to increase, it will be sure for the future online translation machines will be more sophisticated and become the main tool in translating various languages.

Keywords: Language Translation Machine; Technology; Transformation; Platform

INTRODUCTION

Online translation machine is quite important for students to help them in the process of learning English at this time with the sophistication of machine translation technology can help them when they want to translate various English words or sentences so that with the help of online translation machines it makes it easier for them in the process of learning English. Seljan & Kučiš (2014) and Alsubhi (2024) explain the importance of online translation tools as contemporary tools as didactic aids in the language and translation education process. Online translation machine is a tool that is currently rife to be used as a benchmark when translating words and sentences from foreign languages that are widely used by people today, especially students and students, because online translation machine users are increasing so that many companies are competing in making these translation machines ranging from free to paid, because of the increasing sophistication of technology today so that

it makes translation machine companies then compete to create smarter and varied online translation machines. Currently, online translation machines are really increasing and varying from those available on the website to having their own platforms such as special applications for language translation machines.

Khairani et al. (2020) and Pratiwi et al. (2017) explained that because we want to provide everyone with access to the entire world's information, including information in every language, one of the exciting projects at Google Research is machine translation. The machine translator attached to Google can be classified in the term machine translation which is abbreviated as MT (Powell et al., 2022). MT is a computerized system responsible for the production of translations with or without human assistance. The transformation of online machine translation is really quite significant, starting to develop and continue to increase over time, even though it has extraordinary sophistication, everything created by human hands has weaknesses and shortcomings, therefore for now the use of machine translation cannot be done thoroughly without analysis and application of theory. This can at any time become a boomerang for its users. Although translation machines such as Google Translate have features that can support students to complete their translation tasks, it cannot be denied that sometimes when using online translation machines, errors often occur such as errors in writing words or even not in accordance with grammar, sometimes words or sentences that are difficult and cannot even be detected (Yanti & Meka, 2019).

This research is conducted to find out how the opinions or perceptions of people who often use online translation machines, especially for students and university students in the use of online translation machines, how much influence online translation machines have on the development of foreign languages that they can master through these online translation machines how much relevance can online translation machines provide in translating foreign languages such as English. This study is also conducted to find out how the transformation of online translation machines affects students' ability to master foreign languages and to explore how often students use online translation machines, what types of online translation machines they use, and how they perceive the effectiveness of these tools in translating words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, and texts, As well as how the transformation of online translation machines can be more helpful and easier for users, as well as seeing how significant changes or transformations in online translation machines can have a good impact or even a bad impact on online translation machine users so that by conducting this research, we can find out the shortcomings and weaknesses of the transformation of online translation machines.

Sujarwo (2020) explain MT is incredibly useful and helpful, it can provide a general description to the users, it gives an inspiration or consideration to the users to understand the meaning. Then, Margiana & Syafryadin (2023) in their research on students' perceptions of the use of the Google Translate application in learning English aimed to find out how students perceive Google Translate as a tool in learning English. It can be understood that this research is to find out how students perceive Google Translate as a tool in learning English. This research shows that most of the students of STKIP Muhammadiyah Pagar Alam in the English Department use Google Translate to learn English. Online translation machine technology really helps them in translating various languages not only that online translation machines also help them in various things such as diction, checking synonyms and antonyms, and checking pronunciation (Nurhazanna, 2023; Sagita, 2021; Sofia, 2022; Syafitri, 2022). Based on previous research, there are quite a lot of research on online translation machines that focus on examining the influence of online translation machines in improving learning, attitudes, habits and so on, making this research appear, namely to analyse the transformation of changes in online translation machines based on student perceptions, which previous research has never been researched or has never been discussed specifically, given the increasingly rapid technology which makes this research very useful and valuable in the

future as a provision for dealing with various kinds of changes, one of which is the transformation of changes in online translation machines in order to adapt well to future technology.

To support this research is done by going through several stages or processes that have been structured in such a way that this research can run smoothly without obstacles to reduce the emergence of problems during the research process for this research must be done conducive, and stable so that when the results of the analysis carried out in the research are really appropriate. This study is also conducted to find out how the transformation of online translation machines affects students' ability to master foreign languages and to explore how often students use online translation machines, what types of online translation machines they use, and how they perceive the effectiveness of these tools in translating words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, and texts, As well as how the transformation of online translation machines can be more helpful and easier for users, as well as seeing how significant changes or transformations in online translation machines can have a good impact or even a bad impact on online translation machine users so that by conducting this research, we can find out the shortcomings and weaknesses of the transformation of online translation machines.

This research is useful for users of online translation machines so that they can be wiser and more careful in using online translation machines, as a creator of online translation machines, this research is useful to be used as input for the online translation machines they create to be improved or can be developed and improved in terms of quality in translating various languages.

METHOD

The method used in this research is a qualitative method, which is to identify through the experiences of each student through in-depth reading and understanding of their unique perspectives and journeys with OTM (online translation machine). This method is used to collect data and analyse through narrative analysis, focusing on student perceptions of the transformation of online translation machines. Qualitative research methods are referred to as new methods, because of their new popularity, based on post-positivistic philosophy because they are based on post-positivism philosophy (Sugiyono, 2018). This method is also referred to as an artistic method, because research is more sebi (less patterned), and is referred to as an interpretive method because the results of the research are more concerned with the interpretation of data found in the field. In addition, qualitative strategies have confidence in text and image knowledge, have typical steps in knowledge analysis, and utilize various styles (Creswell, 2009).

In this study, data collection techniques will be used through interviews with various aspects such as how translation machines work, transformations, and types of translation machines,on online platforms such as interview tests through Google forms which are then distributed to students who have gadgets / mobile phones in the form of links to participants who will conduct interviews, namely students and anyone who has the platform can access it then fill in the questions in the interview regarding students' perceptions of the transformation of online translators collected as many as 13 senior secondary students in madrasah or religious schools who have mobile phones and with which is given 6 questions. Data collection was carried out by finding several participants to interview so that thirteen participants were found, namely high school students at madrasah schools or religious schools. The results of this study will be used to find out how their perceptions or opinions about the changes and also to determine the level of student satisfaction with the transformation of online translators, as well as to identify the weaknesses and advantages of using online translators in the learning process, daily life, and their ability to master foreign languages.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
Results

Based on the interviews that have been conducted, the majority of students said the positive impact of the current translation machine, 11 out of 13 students said that the current online translation machine is very sophisticated, useful and very helpful for them in translating various languages, especially English, the current online translation machine really helps students to translate words they don't know, but 2 out of 13 students said the opposite, namely the translation of vocabulary is still a lot that is not in accordance with good and correct Indonesian and less accurate in translation. In the next question, how often do they use online translation machines and 11 out of 13 students said that they quite often use online translation machines on the grounds that it is a necessity in doing assignments or even just to look for words and sentences that they do not understand, especially in English lessons because machine translators really help them in translating various languages easily and quickly. The translation machine that they often use is Google translate with the majority of 11 out of 13 students saying that the reason they choose Google translate as an online translation tool that they often use is because it is easier to find, easier to use and faster when translating words and sentences and easy to understand.

Furthermore, the majority of them, namely 9 out of 13 students, said that the advantages of online translation machines are that they make it easier for students to translate instantly and the availability of a variety of language choices that can be translated so that it makes it easier for users to translate various languages. The disadvantages of machine translators according to them are the frequent errors in translating sentences, and quite often there are problems with slow internet networks that hamper students in translating. Since the existence of this online translation machine makes books such as dictionaries or other books rarely used anymore, from this factor that makes students lazy to read and get used to staring at the gadget / mobile screen for too long. From the changes and development of online translation machine technology from the past to the present, they argue that online translation machines are growing, advancing, and getting better, have smarter and varied features compared to previous online translation machines which only have a few features and are less varied and not as smart as current online translation machines. Unlike in the past, if we wanted to translate a word or sentence, we had to look up the translation of the word through a thick dictionary so that it wasted quite a lot of time when translating word by word, but now with the presence of online translation machines it is easier for us to translate many words with just one click without having to look up one by one like in the dictionary that we used before.

Approximately almost 80% of students think that the transformation of online translation machines is progressing and continues to grow, this is evidenced by the fact that the use of online translation machines is increasing and even becoming mandatory to use, some of them even become dependent, English becomes a language that they use quite often to translate English into Indonesian or Indonesian is translated into English, seen how English is a compulsory subject in almost all schools in Indonesia. Seeing how students in ancient times where online translation machines were still minimal or not even created, when they wanted to translate words in foreign language subjects, one of which was English where they had to open a thick dictionary of Indonesian and English translations which was quite troublesome for students and hindered the learning process, with the presence of online translation machines really changed human life especially for people who were studying. Online translation machines really make it easier for them to translate various foreign languages with the transformation of online translation machines increasingly developing and advancing which then creates smart and sophisticated features that make online translation machines increasingly popular in all circles.

Discussion

According to students' responses, there are three possible outcomes of using MT: positive, negative, and no effect. They realized that MT has a positive impact because it facilitates word discovery, and a negative impact because it reduces our curiosity about open dictionaries and sometimes meaningless translation results. On the plus side, the training was practice-oriented. They were given a basic explanation of reception; all they needed to do was understand the context. However, MT led them into confusing scenarios because, at times, the information provided did not correlate with their prior knowledge, the syntax was inaccurate, and the application was difficult due to the absence of a network (Marito & Ashari, 2017; Molino, 2023).

Through the interviews that have been conducted regarding students' perceptions of the transformation of online translation machines, it can be seen that online translation machines have a very significant change through a long process that we can know how the journey of translation machines is created. Translation technology can be explained through the time distance of its development and through comparing the evolutionary process of human translation, computer translation. The development of human translation when compared to computer translation, human translation has taken a long time to develop with a fairly slow process (Kembaren et al., 2023). The development of computer translation when compared to human translation, computer translation has evolved at a rapid pace since its production in the 1940s. This is evident from the analysis of the countries involved in the research and development of computer translation in the past seven years. Information from available sources shows that more and more countries are involved in the research and development of computer translation. This is evident from the time computer translation was introduced in 1947. Before World War II and the invention of computers, Georges Artsrouni, a French-Armenian engineer had invented a translation machine known as the "Mechanical Brain". Later that year, Petr Petrovic Smirnov-Troyanskij (1894-1950), from Russia was granted a patent in Moscow on 5 September for the construction of a machine that could select and print a word while simultaneously translating one language into another or into several other languages (Wai-Chan, 2012).

However, this did not continue until after World War II when people began to lose interest in developing translation machines. In 1947, the idea of using machines to translate was proposed in March by Warren Weaver (1894-1978) who was then vice president of the Rockerfeller Foundation and Andrew D. Booth of Birkbeck College, University of London. They wanted to use the newly invented computer to translate native languages. According to historical records, their efforts were very fruitful. This is because their discovery was the first application of a newly designed computer to do the job but not numbers, namely translating. In addition, his discovery was the first application of computers to language so that it became known as computerized linguistics. The following year saw the refinement of information theory and its application in translation studies. The function of the theory is to help translators identify the function of concepts such as information content, implicit and explicit information and redundancy (Ye, 2021; Wang & Ke, 2022).

The first machine translation system, namely the Georgetown-IBM system for Russian-English translation, was produced in the United States in June 1952 by Leon Dostert and Paul Garvin of Georgetown University and Cuthbert Hurd and Peter Sheridan of the IBM Company (Hutchins, 1986 in Pastor, 2021 and Paterson, 2023). From the history of the journey of translators from the past to the present, it does have a very significant change with various factors that influence the development of translators, namely the growth of new knowledge that continues to develop rapidly which makes scientists continue to study and develop it so that scientists of language translators also participate in developing language

translators to become more sophisticated and advanced. In the current era of globalization, translators are developing through advanced technology, one of which is Google Translate.Launching from CNN Indonesia, the history of Google Translate began with one of the founders of Google, Sergey Brin, who received a letter from a fan. Unfortunately, the letter was written in Korean. Brin was very curious about the contents of the entire letter, then he translated the letter through the translator machine he had. Launching the Techcrunch page, that's where the inspiration to make a translator machine came from, until finally Google Translate was born. Google Translate is one of the features of the Google search engine that makes it possible to answer users' needs for foreign language translation (Bavendiek, 2022; Mahdi, 2022; Muftah, (2022).

Future Translation Technology is quite difficult for us to predict the future of translation technology. Several major themes have emerged over the years and influenced the development of translation technology. Not only google translate, there are currently many various online translation machines that are the same as google translate and even more accurate and sophisticated that we can use through various platforms. This indicates that online translation machines in the future may be more and even more sophisticated than the translation machines we currently use. Technology in the future is like a beautiful dream that can be real or just a mere shadow but this could be a reality seeing how current technological advances that we can make an illustration of how technology will develop in the future how the transformation of online translators in the future might be accessed through things or something unusual for example like talking to the walls of the house and in an instant the walls of the house can translate what we say it sounds very silly but it could happen considering the sophistication of technology that sometimes makes no sense.

CONCLUSION

Online machine translation tools are becoming increasingly popular among students for translating different languages. While translation tools such as Google Translate are favoured for their ease of use and speed of translation, they still have limitations such as inaccuracies in translating sentences and slow internet connection issues. The technological advancement of online translation machines continues to grow with smarter and more diverse features, which impact language learning and daily use both positively and negatively. Based on the results of the research conducted, it can be concluded that students have different perceptions of online machine translation tools such as Google Translate. Although many students consider this tool to be very advanced and helpful, especially for translating English, some students still have concerns about the accuracy of vocabulary translation. The popularity of online machine translation tools is increasing among students due to their ease of use and speed in translating various languages. These tools have the advantage of translating instantly, but also have drawbacks such as errors in translating sentences and problems with slow internet connections. Despite the positive and negative impacts of using online translation machines, the technology is constantly evolving with smarter and more varied features.

It is expected that translation technology in the future will be more sophisticated and accessible on various platforms. Various studies have been conducted on students' perceptions of using machine translation tools, such as Google Translate, in language learning and translation courses. This research explores students' effectiveness, accuracy and attitudes towards using machine translation compared to human translation. Student perceptions varied, with some students seeing it as a useful tool for language learning and others expressing concerns about its impact on translation quality. Further research is needed to fully understand the implications of integrating machine translation into language education and everyday use.

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