

The Accuracy of Nursing Term Translation from Indonesian to English by Nursing Students

Maryani¹, Ika Puspita Rini²

¹marry.tenang@gmail.com

¹ Institute of Health Science Surya Global Yogyakarta

²pita.marya@gmail.com

² Faculty of Engineering, Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta University

ABSTRACT

Translating the accuracy of source language into target language in specialized language requires high appropriation that retains of the original meaning. This study aims to discover the accuracy of nursing term translation from Indonesian to English by nursing students. The research is quite important since there is no research ever conducted to analyze the accuracy of Nursing term translation in STIKES Surya Global before. This research is a mixed-method research with content analysis method to analyze the accuracy of translation. The accuracy of the translation results will be analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. The research subject was the translation of Indonesian – English abstracts of nursing articles by nursing students of STIKES Surya Global Yogyakarta. The object of research was nursing special terms in the form of words and phrases. The data collection technique used was the documentation method used to find related data that has been determined. The results of this study showed that the accurate translation of nursing terms was 65.29% while the inaccurate translation was 34.71%. In addition, there were about 25% of accurate translations was plagiarism. It is considered plagiarism because the student's translation of the abstract was exactly as same as the original writer's English version of the abstract, not only the specific language but also the whole sentence. It can be concluded from this study that overall, the translation of nursing students into the special language of nursing is accurate. There are only a few translations is still in low inaccuracy level.

Keywords: *Accuracy, Nursing term, Translation*

1. INTRODUCTION

Along with the development of global communication, recently translation has become one of the new academic disciplines, separated from linguistics. The more research is done, the more ways are done by researchers. The focus on translating is on process and quality, so many researchers want to cover this focus. Besides that, there are many previous studies have discussed the process of translation (Langendoen, 2013; Rahmatillah, 2016), quality of translation (Nababan & Nuraeni, 2012; Pratiwi et al., 2018)

and translation activities related to translating specific languages from various fields (Aryana, 2013; As'ad, 2022; Nagy, 2015). Based on the opinion above, it explained that when translation focuses on process, it concerns how the text is translated from the source language to the target language. Meanwhile, when a translation focuses on quality, it concerns how the translation is assessed in an accurate, acceptable and readable way. In this case this research focus to discuss the accuracy of nursing terms translation.

English in nursing is included in a special English language. So that English for special language is known as ESP (English for specific purposes). ESP was created to meet the needs of learners who want to use English in technical and educational contexts. Language for special purposes or ESP can address at least two perspectives: the first is called didactic, because ESP is the field of language teaching. The second is that a special linguistic code is needed to describe the concepts that govern the physical world (Farahsani et al., 2021a). Meanwhile, according to (Amna & Idriani, 2019) English for special purposes is given as special required English language ability. So learning English for a specific purpose has become a good recommendation to be taught to students, especially nursing students. While (Harmer, 2007) argued that ESP is a situation where the student learn a language specifically. In more specific idea, (Robinett et al., 1988) states ESP as “An approach to language teaching in which all decisions as to content and methods are based on learner’s reason for learning.” The special term in ESP means “the exact objective” for learning English language. Learners study the English that is related to their major or field in which they are involved in work or education. This way they can immediately utilize what they have learned in the ESP classrooms in their work and studies (Mohamed & Alani, 2022). Furthermore, Dudley-Evan and St. John argue that ESP is a way of delivering materials and exercises which is appropriate to the students in a specific context (Dudley-Evans & St John, 1998). While ESP English has a vocabulary that is more technically related to a student's major, learning English for a specific purpose also helps students to see their study role in a global perspective. Nursing students can read articles, watch videos, of course according to English for a specific purpose.

The English course is a general course which must be taken by all students of STIKes Surya Global Yogyakarta. This course is focused on developing skills in understanding material that is adapted to a particular professional context. English in the field of nursing has more difficult and high-risk terms than general English because it is related to medical language where not many ordinary people know it. In addition, the

variations and meanings of English terms in the field of nursing are very complex and general and require special understanding because they are related to vocabulary mastery, pronunciation, writing, and some vocabulary according to English itself. This statement is appropriate with Bassnett's opinion who explained that in the field of translation a translator is needed to transfer the Source Language (SL) to the Target Language (TL) until gets a special meaning (Pratiwi & Nababan, 2018), so that the terms in nursing must be appropriated by using good and correct translations.

Translation is the process of converting text from one particular language to another. Munday (2008) stated translation focuses on the role of the translator in taking the original text or source text (TS) and converting it into text in another language, it is called the target text (TT). Meanwhile, according to Newmark translation is translating the meaning of a text into another language according to the author's intent (As'ad, 2022). Besides that, Newmark also explained that there are several things related to translation, they are: the meaning of the text which contains the contents of the text in the source language, the intention of the translator includes the purpose of the translation, the target reader and the background of the text focusing on politeness and diction strategies, and the quality of the translation regarding the intent of the text in the source language (Farahsani et al., 2021a). Therefore, translation activities are not only translating words and phrases, but it is also more like the essence of the text being translated. In addition, there are 2 methods in text translation; the first is communicative translation where a translator tries to influence the reader both as a source language (SL) and target language (TL). The second, semantic translation is a translator tries to produce a contextual translation into the target language (TL) by looking at the syntactic and semantic structures (Newmark, 1988). From the explanation above, it can be concluded that the translation process can be conveyed correctly if the message of the source language appropriates the message of the target language.

A translation is considered good if it is able to transfer the meaning and information contained in the Source Language (SL) to the Target Language (TL) accurately, clearly, and naturally. In the translation process, a translator must be able to implement these principles to get the best translation results. According to (Aryana, 2013) said that there are 3 principles that must be carried out to get the best translation. The first principle is to use the standard language form of TL. Second, communicating as much as possible with the users of the translation results so that the meaning of the words can be understood by users

of TL. Third, maintaining the dynamics of the meaning of SL. This means that the translation is made in such a way that the result resembles in TL. Based on the three explained above, it can be concluded that the translation results can be assessed from three aspects they are: accuracy, clarity and naturalness of the meaning of the translation. From this explanation, this study only focuses on aspects of accuracy.

There have been several researchers studying accuracy of translation, Aryana (2013) examines the research employed a descriptive qualitative method. The data were taken from translation works from tourism students. The result showed that the accuracy of the students translation work was still need to be improved, because there are many mistakes in choosing basic grammar and diction to transfer meaning from SL to TL. Pratiwi et al., (2018) conducted level of accuracy of the translation in the figure of speech appeared in D.H Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover* novel and its translation. The data were taken from original novel and its translation. He used qualitative approach and using Focus Group Discussion. The research revealed that there are five types of language style found, there are 9 techniques used in the novel such as equivalent technique, discursive creation, reduction, borrowing, literal, addition, modulation, explication, and adaptation. Farther more, the average accuracy of the translation is good. (Farahsani et al., 2021b) wrote an article entitled "Google Translate Accuracy in Translating specialized Language from English to *Bahasa Indonesia*: A Case Study on Mechanical Engineering Terminology". She used descriptive qualitative research. The data were taken from book of the mechanical engineering field. She said that a text was accurate if the accurate meanings were more than 50%. Conversely, it was inaccurate if the accurate meanings were less than 50%. The result showed that in English-*Bahasa Indonesia* translation, Google translate, especially in translating in mechanical engineering terms, was accurate 70.73% for word translation, but in accurate was 50% for phrases. Based on the explanation from many researchers above, this research focus on translating nursing terms was seen from accuracy level from Indonesian to English which was done by nursing students.

The targets of this study were students majoring in nursing of STIKES Surya Global Yogyakarta who are prospective health practitioners. These students are not professional translators, but students who carry out translation processes and techniques as a way of understanding English texts. Therefore, with a little English knowledge and skills acquired from junior high school, senior high school and the first semester of college, it is important for them to be able to understand all the material in the English text correctly. If they have

an error in understanding the text, there will also be an error in the acceptance of knowledge. This should not be happened and should be avoided. From this explanation above, this study aims to discover how the accuracy of nursing term translation from Indonesian to English by nursing students. They will be given a text on abstracts taken from various nursing articles in Indonesian and translated into English. Based on the background of the study explained previously, this study is mainly focused on the following problems: (1) Is the translation of nursing terms by nursing students accurate or inaccurate? (2) What are the reasons for occurrence of inaccuracy?

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research is a mixed-method research design with content analysis method to analyze the accuracy of translation. According to (Creswell & Creswell, 2018) argues that if the research advances a convergent study with an equal evaluation on both qualitative and quantitative data, so the literature will be taken both of them. Therefore, in this research the mixed method research design used sequential exploratory strategy. The accuracy of the translation results will be analyzed qualitatively by content analysis and quantitatively by calculating the accuracy level. The research subject was the translation of Indonesian – English abstracts of nursing articles by nursing students of STIKES Surya Global Yogyakarta. The object of research was nursing special terms in the form of words and phrases. The data collection technique used was the documentation method used to find related data that has been determined.

Data collection technique, the first step is data collected from the results of Indonesian-English abstract translations using documentation techniques. The second step is the data taken randomly of 10 abstracts translated from Indonesian to English. The next step, the data obtained was analyzed qualitatively to determine the accuracy of the meaning of a word or phrase, and the data were analyzed quantitatively by determining an accuracy score. The accuracy score is determined by whether or not the nursing terms translated by students are the same as the nursing terms used by the abstract authors.

3. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

3.1. Result

Total data found was 121, with the accurate translation were 79 (65.29%) data and the inaccurate translation was 42 (34.71%) data. Here are the tables showing the sample of the data found:

Table 1. The Accurate Translation

Source Text	Students' Translation	Original Writers' Translation
Fungsi kognitif	cognitive function	cognitive function
Lanjut usia	the elderly	the elderly
Hipertensi	Hypertension	Hypertension

Table 2. The Inaccurate Translation

Source Text	Students' Translation	Original Writers' Translation
Makanan pendamping ASI	side dish	complementary feeding
Hospitalisasi bayi	hospitalization of infants	infant's hospitalization
Cemas	Anxious	Anxiety

Among the accurate translation, it was found that there were abstract translations that were plagiarism. It was around 25% of total data accurate. The inaccurate translation can be grouped into several categories as shown in the following table:

Table 3. The Categories of Inaccurate Translation

Category	Total data
o.	
Different Word Choice	18
Different Noun Order	7
Different Part Of Speech	5
Added Words	3
Different Meaning	2
Not Translated	2
Reduction	2
Without Reduction	2
Problems with The Original Writers' Translation	4

3.2. Discussion

Based on the result finding, it can be said that the nursing students' translation of nursing specialized language is accurate since the accuracy percentage of the data was 65.29%. However, among the data that was accurately translated by the students, plagiarism was occurred. Around 25% of accurate translation was plagiarism. It is considered as plagiarism because the students' translation of the abstract was just exactly as same as the original writers' English version of the abstract, not only the specialized language but also the whole sentences. Even though there was a student tried to change the title of the abstract a little, the rest of the abstract was exactly the same as the original writer's work. For example, in the title of the source text there was a specialized language *perkembangan bayi*. It was translated by the student "development of **babies**", while the original writer translated it as "development of **infants**", and that was the only difference between the student's translation and the original writer's translation of the abstract. Plagiarism might happen because the students easily found the source of the abstracts which are from the online journal of their college. Even without plagiarism data, the level of accuracy of nursing specialized language translation from Indonesia into English done by nursing students is still quite high which means most of the students are able to translate the specialized language related their study program.

Even though that most of students are able to translate their specialized language, there are some students that need improvement in their vocabulary related to nursing specialized language. It is based on the result of the inaccurate translation which is 34.71% of total data. Surprisingly, the data is quite low than that was expected. The inaccuracy in the students' translation can be grouped into several category, which are: (1) different word choice, (2) different noun order, (3) different part of speech, (4) added words, (5) different meaning, (6) not translated, (7) reduction, (8) without reduction, and (9) problems with the original writers' translation. There were 3 words of specialized language that fell into two categories: *marah*, *cemas* and *tidak percaya diri*. They were categorized into different part of speech and problem with the original writers' translation. The student's translation was "angry, anxious and not confident", while the original writer's translation was "anger, anxiety and insecurity", respectively. The student's translation used the same part of speech with the source text which is adjectives, while the original writer's translation used noun. However, when it was analyzed from the source sentence in which the specialized

language was part of a list of feeling examples, the student's translation kept the source's part of speech, which is adjective, while the original writer's translation had inconsistency in the choice of part of speech, combining adjectives and nouns.

From those ten categories, different word choice category dominates the reason for the inaccuracy to occur by 18 data. An example for this category is the source is *penerapan atraumatic care*, the student translated it as the application of atraumatic care, while the original writer translated as "implementation of Atraumatic Care". Both translations have the same order and use the same part of speech, but they have different word choice. Even though both application and implementation are the correct equivalent for Indonesian word *penerapan*, they have a slight difference in meaning. Based on Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary 4th Edition, application (use) is a way in which something can be used for a particular purpose, meanwhile, implementation is derived from verb implement which means to start using a plan or system. In this case, implementation is the right equivalent for the Indonesian word *penerapan*.

Second category is different noun order that has 7 data. For example, the English translation for Indonesian phrase *hospitalisasi bayi* is "hospitalization of infants" and "infant's hospitalization" which are translated by the student and the original writer respectively. The difference between the two is only the order of the noun, and it does not affect the meaning. Hence, it can be said that it is just the translator's choice to recreate the meaning in the target language. This category is less affecting compare to the third category which is different part of speech. In this category, there were 5 data found. The example of this category is *cemas* that was translated into "anxious" and "anxiety" by the student and the original writer respectively. The word *cemas* in Indonesian is an adjective; while the student kept the type of part of speech, the original writer preferred to noun. Even though, the student's translation is inaccurate when comparing to the original writer's, the student had a better way in recreating the meaning of the word in the target language as close as possible to the source text.

Another reason for the inaccuracy occurred in the students' translation is due to the addition in their translation. There are 3 data showing addition in the student's translation. For example, *suction posisi semi fowler* was translated into "suction in the semi-Fowler's position" by the student, while the original writer preferred to "suction in the semi-Fowler position". There is addition of 's in the student's translation. Even though both specialized languages are used in many medical academic writing, the student's translation is

considered inaccurate compare to the original writer's translation. The next category is different meaning which has 2 data. One of the specialized languages fell into this category is *makanan pendamping ASI* which is translated into "side dish" and "complementary feeding" by the student and the original writer respectively. This category is fatal compare to the other categories, because the meaning of the phrase in the target language is totally different from that in the source language. In this case, the student made a huge error by translating *makanan pendamping ASI* into "side dish" which those have totally different meaning.

Besides those categories, there is a way how student recreated specialized language which is by not translating it. There are 2 data showing that students did not translate certain specialized language. For example, *ASI*, a shortened form of *Air Susu Ibu*, was not translated by the student who preferred to keep the original abbreviation in the abstract translation. While it actually has its equivalent in English which is breast milk, and which is used by the original writer in his/her translation.

The next categories are reduction and without reduction. In these categories, the student shortened the expression, or the student did not shorten the expression compare to the original writer. The example of reduction done by the students in their translation is *penghisapan lender (suction)* which is translated into "suction", while the original writer translated it into "suction mucus (suction)". By performing reduction, the student's translation is more concise since in the source text there was expression suction in the brackets after *penghisapan lender* which can be inferred that the expression suction itself can be used to express *penghisapan lender* in English. Without reduction category example is *ibu balita* which was still translated word for word into "toddler mother" instead of "mother" as the original writer did. In this case, the word "mother" is enough to represent *ibu balita*.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the result finding and the discussion, it can be concluded that overall the nursing students' translation of nursing specialized language is accurate. Even though there were a few students committed plagiarism and there was a possibility that students used translating tools such as Google Translate to help them translate the abstract. The inaccuracy level is surprisingly low which happened in several categories: (1) different word choice, (2) different noun order, (3) different part of speech, (4) added words, (5)

different meaning, (6) not translated, (7) reduction, (8) without reduction, and (9) problems with the original writers' translation. There are also a few data showing that students' translation is better than the original translation, even though by doing so, the students' translation is considered as inaccurate since the definition of accurate and inaccurate is based on whether the students' translation is the same as the original writers' translation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The researchers wish to acknowledge from STIKes Surya Global Yogyakarta for the grant or funding that has supported our work here.

REFERENCES (Times New Roman 12pt, Bold, Capitalized)

- Amna, S., & Idriani, S. (2019). A Need Analysis Approach In Developing Esp Module Based On Interactive Multimedia For Academy Industrial Technology Padang. *Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Language, Literature and Education, ICLLE*. <https://doi.org/10.4108/eai.19-7-2019.2289528>
- Aryana, I. (2013). Keakuratan Hasil Terjemahan Mahasiswa Politeknik Negeri Bali. *Linguistika*, 20(39), 1–13.
- As'ad, M. (2022). Analysis of Nursing Student Ability in English Abstract Translation Research. *English Education and Literature Journal (E-Jou)*, 2(02), 86–94.
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches. *Sage Publication India Pvt.Ltd, Fifth edition*.
- Dudley-Evans, T., & St John, M. J. (1998). Developments in English for Specific Purposes. A Multi-Disciplinary Approach. *Ibérica*, 0, 521–59329.
- Farahsani, Y., Rini, I. P., & Jaya, P. H. (2021a). *Google Translate Accuracy in Translating Specialized Language From English to Bahasa Indonesia: 518(ICoSIHESS 2020)*, 427–435. <https://doi.org/10.2991/assehr.k.210120.156>
- Harmer, J. (2007). *The Practice of English Language Teaching*. Longman.
- Langendoen, D. T. (2013). Eugene Albert Nida. *Language*, 89(1), 163–169. <https://doi.org/10.1353/lan.2013.0008>
- Mohamed, O. I., & Alani, N. N. (2022). English for Specific Purposes: An Overview: Definitions, Characteristics and Development. *English Language Teaching*, 15(12), 28. <https://doi.org/10.5539/elt.v15n12p28>

- Munday, J. (2008). *Introducing Translation (Theories and applications)* (Second). Routledge Taylor & Francis Group.
- Nababan, M., & Nuraeni, A. (2012). PENGEMBANGAN MODEL PENILAIAN KUALITAS TERJEMAHAN. *Kajian Linguistik dan Sastra*, 24(1).
- Nagy, I. K. (2015). English for Special Purposes: Specialized Languages and Problems of Terminology. *Acta Universitatis Sapientiae, Philologica*, 6(2), 261–273. <https://doi.org/10.1515/ausp-2015-0018>
- Newmark, P. (1988). *A Text Book of Translation*. Prentice-Hall.
- Pratiwi, N., Nababan, M. R., & Djatmika, N. (2018). Keakuratan Terjemahan Gaya Bahasa pada Novel Lady Chatterley's Lover. *Ranah: Jurnal Kajian Bahasa*, 7(2), 194. <https://doi.org/10.26499/rnh.v7i2.634>
- Rahmatillah, K. (2016). Translation Errors In The Process Of Translation. *Journal of English and Education*, 7(1), 14–24. <https://doi.org/10.20885/jee.vol7.iss1.art2>
- Robinet, B. W., Hutchinson, T., & Waters, A. (1988). English for Specific Purposes: A Learning-Centred Approach. *The Modern Language Journal*, 72(1), 73. <https://doi.org/10.2307/327576>

BIOGRAPHIES OF AUTHORS

Maryani is the first author in this research. She is a lecturer in Institute of Health Science Surya Global Yogyakarta. Her research interests include linguistics, English specific purpose (ESP), translation, education, English literature.

Ika Puspita Rini is the second author in this research. She is a lecturer in Civil Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta University. Her research interests include linguistics, English specific purpose (ESP), translation, education, English literature, American Study.