



The Influences of Machine Translation Dependency on Translation Skill

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Abstract

To translate one language to another language, sometimes some students still have difficulty translating foreign language due to their inexperience in the foreign language. This research uses a case study research design with a qualitative approach suitable for the terms and conditions with case study research design. The research conducted a pre-test and post-test translation test, which involved five subjects with two abstracts for each subject. This study showed that subjects were influenced by machine translation dependency on behavioral and result aspects. This study also showed the results differences, which showed that subjects had lower results when translated manually than translated used machine translation. Machine translation could help the students in translation tasks. However, dependency behavior could influence the progress and results of translation because it still has weaknesses in machine translation. The study advice to user to use machine translation wisely to keep the advantages of machine translation and to decrease the disadvantages of machine translation.

Keywords: Translation; Translation Skill; Machine Translation; Machine Translation Skill

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1. INTRODUCTION

For EFL students, understanding English can be so hard to learn. To master the English language, students had to learn many elements that created the English language itself, such as structure, grammar, pronunciation, and meaning. However, as we know, learning language aims to understand the target language to our native language. In order to understand this, students have to transfer their native language into the target language or vice versa, this step we called as *translation as* [1] Translation is an outcome from a textual-linguistic activity from one language that are re-contextualized to another language. From the definition stated by [1], we know that translation or translating (verb) is an activity to understand one language to another language. Also, from the definition itself, we know that translation becomes the vital point in learning a foreign language.

As [2], in their study about proficiency level on Turkish students that study English as a foreign language and the use of translation in learning strategy. This study found that using translation as a learning strategy, the students feel more comfortable when using their native language in the first place and then translating them into their target language, especially writing and reading passage. From this study, we can conclude that translation can help the learning process.

In order to translate one language to another language, sometimes some students still having difficulty translating foreign language due to their inexperience in the foreign language itself, as [3] stated in their study about the problem that faced when translating Arabic into English and vice versa. In their study, it is found a major problem that faced by the student were insufficient lexical knowledge of inadequate knowledge and practice of grammar, inadequate cultural backgrounds, and inappropriate teaching atmosphere. Some students cover these flaws in many ways, some using dictionary, and others might be using the technology to translate one language into another language by using the machine that we called as *Machine Translation*. There are many Machine Translation (MT) that exist in our society, which have the same purpose and usage it is to translate one language into another language. This machine works by coding some word that is typed by the user, and then it was decoded into the target language.

As [4] Machine Translation is a process of translating human language into another required language and then convert them into computer algorithm system. From the definition, we can conclude that machine translation is a kind of machine that helps a learner to translate the foreign language that they are want to learn. In industrial Revolution 4.0, a machine like a

machine translation can be very helpful for someone who wants to understand a foreign language that they are never met before. As we know, this day technology can help someone not just by industrial or economic sectors, but also from education sectors.

In the education sector, we know that can help student and teacher to the learning process that we call it as TPACK. According to [5] TPACK is a theoretical scheme that featured an effective training plan program with information and communication technologies to integrate teaching program. From the definition by [5] it is indicated that technology also involved in education sectors. However, in this world, there are no perfect machines. They must behave with their own flaws or weakness. As MT that is also created by human which mean it also has its own weakness such as it doesn't have features to translate expression which can make different meaning and also it doesn't have a feature to translate the structure of the language such as grammar and syntaxes.

From the description above, we got the point that makes the researcher want to know the effect of using machine translation among EFL students in language learning. Moreover, researcher already founded that until this day, many students still have a dependency on machine translation in translating language in their study, from the study of [6] that questioned 17 Malaysian students about their attitude toward machine translation especially Google Translate. From the responses, it is showing a positive response from the student that they are feeling help by Google Translate. They think that machine translation such as Google Translate is a very useful tool, and most of them are used this as their strategy in learning the language. From the study researcher pulling one red line that there still many students still have a dependency on using machine translation. For that, the researcher needs to know whether it is influencing translating skills or not in learning language, especially in learning English.

In this research, the researcher took research to find out the dependency effect on using machine translation towards translation skills. The researcher took five students of Universitas Widya Gama Mahakam Samarinda 8th semester class-A year 2016. The researcher took the student of Widya Gama Mahakam Samarinda 8th semester class-a year 2016 as the subject due to the reason that these students already learned translation courses in their lecture. Although they already learned translation courses in their lecture, the researcher found out that there still few students that still using even dependent on machine translation to do their assignments. Due to this reason, the researcher want to find out the effect of this dependency on using machine translation toward the student's translation skill, especially in Universitas Widya Gama Mahakam Samarinda 8th semester class-A.

2. METHODOLOGY

The study of machine translation conducted by a qualitative approach. [7] states that the qualitative approach can be described as a model that allows the researcher to advance a level of detail in high actual experiences. The researcher chose EFL Learners from Universitas Widya Gama Mahakam Samarinda eighth semester as a subject because the researcher needed the learners that understand translation or at least understand in using machine translation. This research needed at least five subjects that were researched with two different abstracts to find out the difference between when they not used machine translation and when they used it. Researcher took a translation test to five subjects with two kinds of abstract for each subject. Researchers needed to know the differences result when using machine translation and when they not, also to know the dependency effect that influenced the subjects. Researcher took [7] data analysis techniques which contain seven steps of technique. Those seven steps were consisted by prepared the data, take the data in note, code the data, utilized the process of coded data, convey the findings in descriptive information and interpreted the finding of the data.

3. FINDINGS

The Researcher found the result and the answer according to research problems. Data was collected from two ways data collections, observation and interviews. Observation was done by asking the subjects to translate two abstracts from Indonesian to English. The interview was done by asking one by one subject with in-depth interview questions. The researcher finding included the description of data which found in research question and the answer of research question. The answer of research question consisted of translation quality and the influences of machine translation dependency. Moreover, the answer was also supported by the interview which showed their dependency toward machine translation and its influences. The subjects that were already selected their data from observation and interviews were analyzed to gain their own answers.

3.1 Exposure to Observation Data

Students in Semester 8a English Program had different qualities when translating without machine translation and with machine translation. There are indicators which are to measure the quality of translation; there are accuracy, acceptability, readability. It is measured based on accuracy checker software named 1checker which is can calculated spelling and grammar error from translation. Based on the result of observation from five subjects there are: VA, EH, AJ, SD, RS

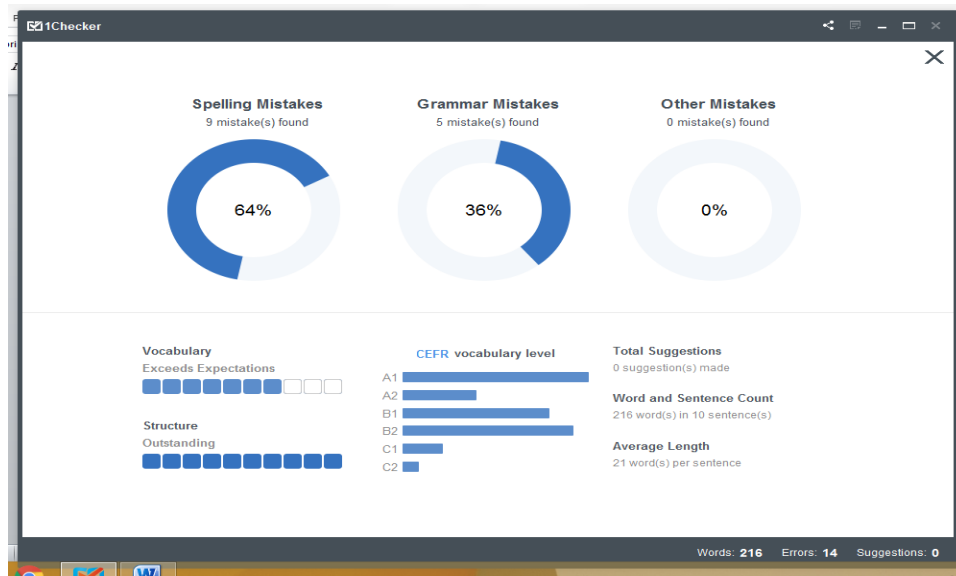


Figure 1. The Result without MT of Observation Subject VA

This is the result of subject VA before using machine translation. It is showed that, in the graph it is got 9 spelling mistakes and 5 grammar mistakes.

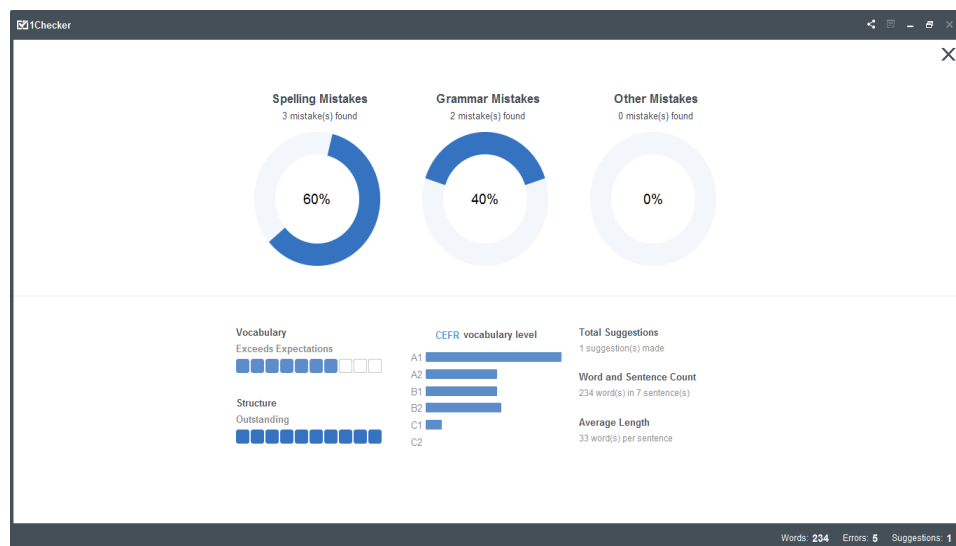


Figure 2. The Result with MT of Observation Subject VA

This is the result of subject VA after using machine translation. It is showed that, in graph it is got 3 spelling mistakes and 2 grammar mistakes.

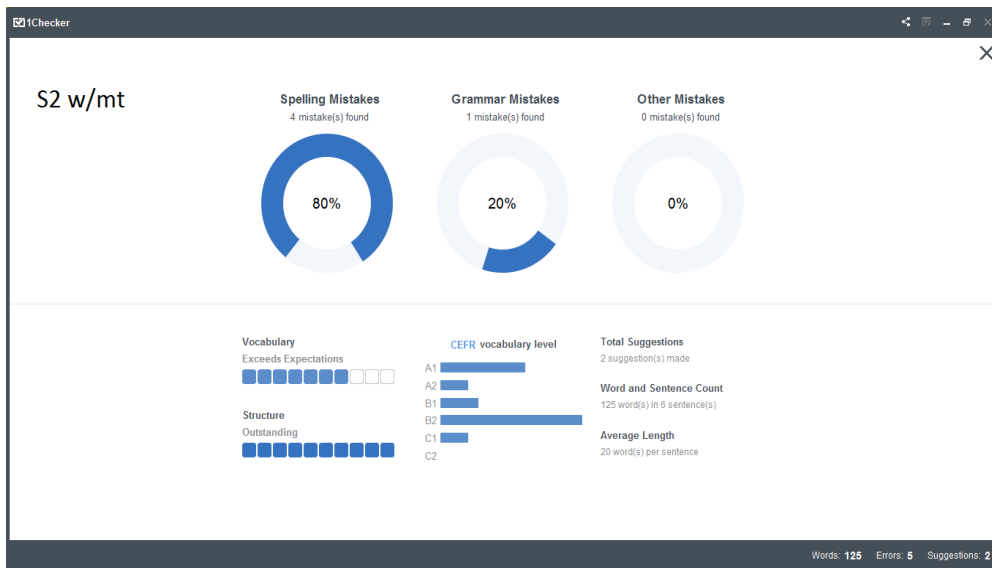


Figure 3. The Result without MT of Observation Subject RS

This is the observation result from subject RS. In this graph it is showed subject RS done the translation without machine translation have 4 spelling mistakes and 1 grammar mistakes.

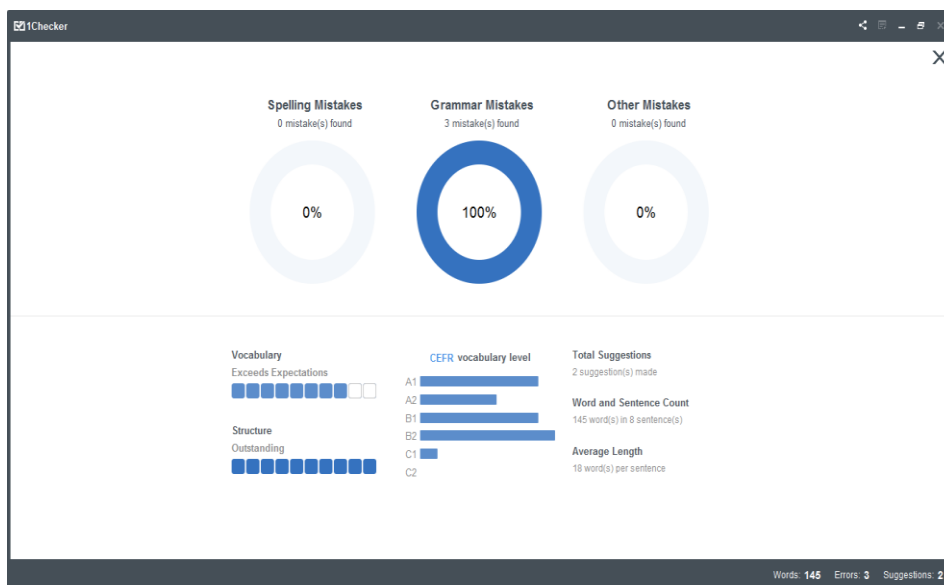


Figure 4. The Result with MT of Observation Subject RS

This is the second observation result from subject RS. In this graph it is showed subject RS done the translation with machine translation have 0 spelling mistakes and 3 grammar mistakes.

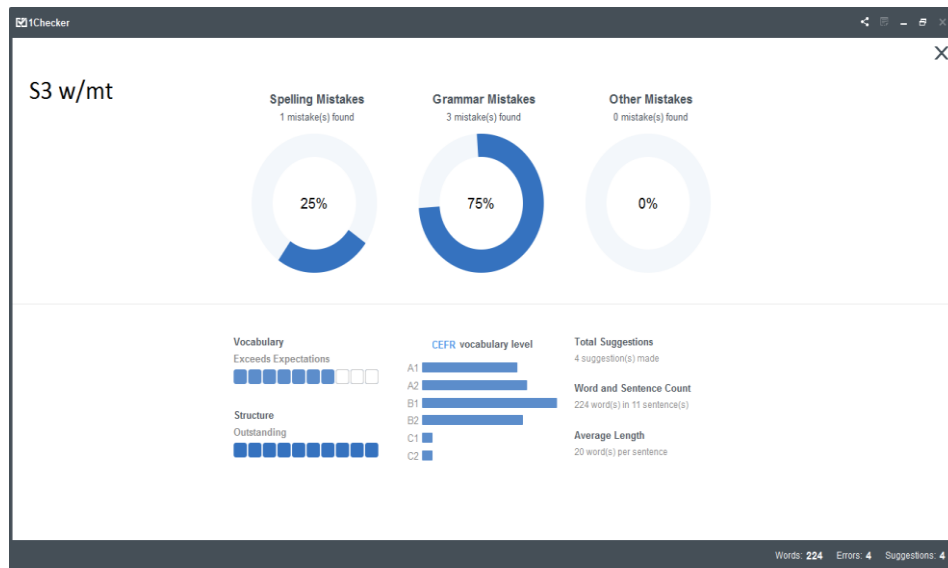


Figure 5. The Result without MT of Observation Subject EH

This is the first result from subject EH. In this observation, subject EH done the translation without machine translation and the result have 1 spelling mistakes and 3 grammar mistakes.

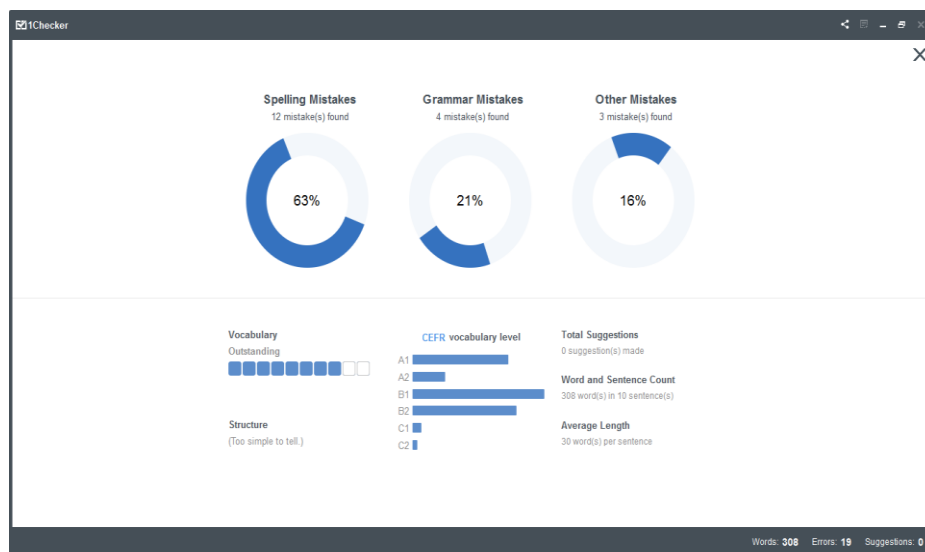


Figure 6. The Result with MT of Observation Subject EH

This is the second result from subject EH. In this observation, subject EH done the translation with machine translation and the result have 12 spelling mistakes and 4 grammar mistakes.



Figure 7. The Result without MT of Observation Subject SD

This is the first observation result from subject SD. In this observation, subject SD done the translation without machine translation and it have 7 spelling mistakes and 6 grammar mistakes.

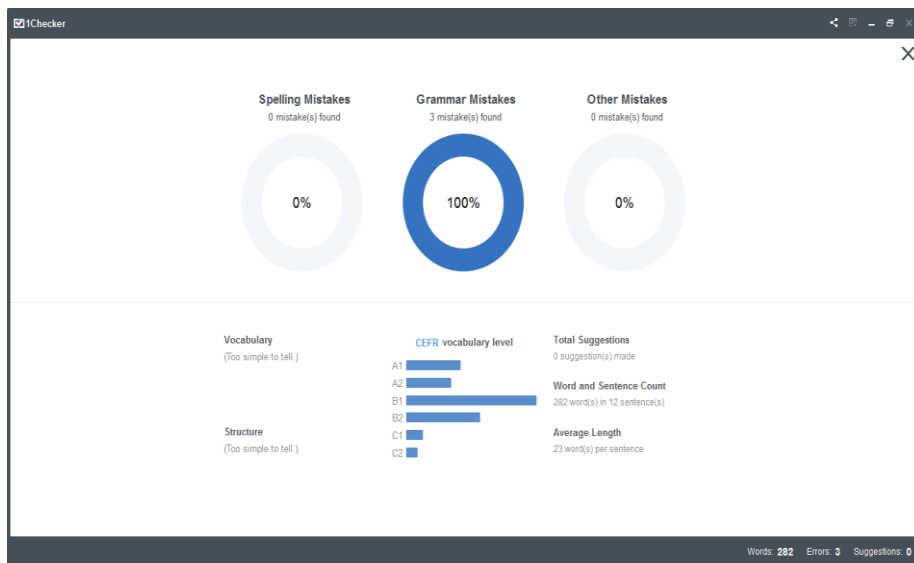


Figure 8. The Result with MT of Observation Subject SD

This is the second observation result from subject SD. In this observation, subject SD done the translation with machine translation and it have 0 spelling mistakes and 3 grammar mistakes.

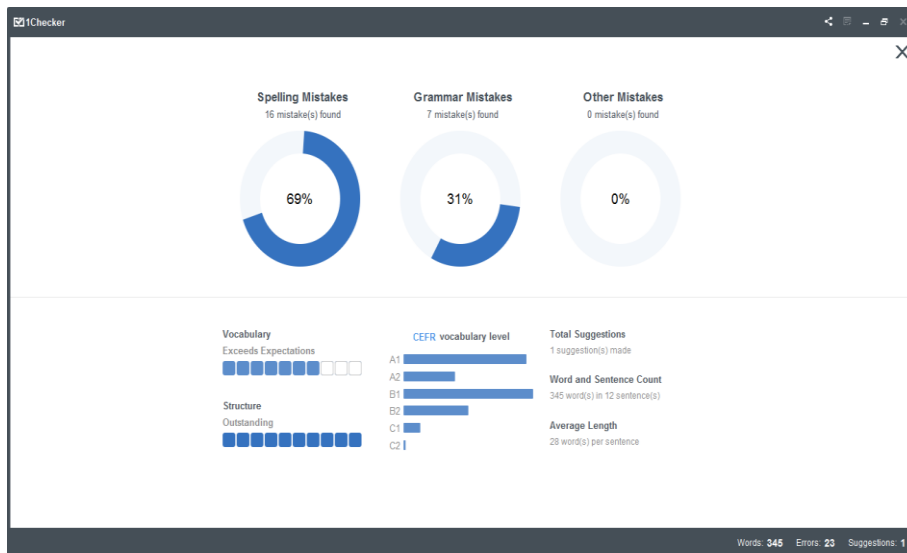


Figure 9. The Result without MT of Observation Subject AJ

This is the first observation result from subject AJ. In this result of observation, subject AJ done the translation without machine translation and the result have 16 spelling mistakes and 7 grammar mistakes

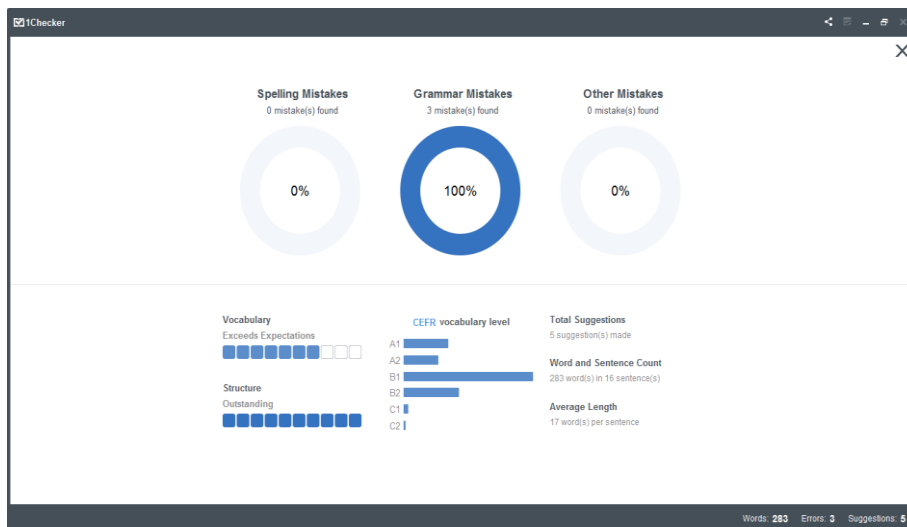


Figure 10. The Result with MT of Observation Subject AJ

This is the second observation result from subject AJ. In this result of observation, subject AJ done the translation with machine translation and the result have 0 spelling mistakes and 3 grammar mistake.

Based on observation, the researcher found, the subjects had differences results when they translated without machine translation and when they translated with machine translation. The results had differences when the subjects translated without machine translation, most of them had some mistakes both spelling and grammar and when they translated with machine translation, the number of mistakes from both spelling and grammar were decreased. It was found that, when they were not used machine translation to done the translation, they have

difficulties especially at accuracy indicator which is contained spelling and grammar. As stated by [8] there are three indicators which measure the quality of translation, there is Accuracy, Acceptability, and readability. As accuracy stated by [9] stated that accuracy is the precise result of the translation from the information and evidence of complete comprehension. In accuracy there are contained by grammar, spelling and good structure (stating capital letter).

The result were difference when they translated with machine translation, it is shows that the subjects have decreased their mistakes in spelling and grammar. However, in this observation there were difference results done by one of the five subjects. The results came from subject EH which had different result when translated without machine translation and with machine translation. 4 out of 5 subjects had results that they had similarity error which happens when translated without machine translation they had bigger number than done translation with machine translation and for subject EH, it was found that the results were reversed. Subject EH had result a smaller number when done translation without machine translation than when translated with machine translation.

3.2 Exposure of Interview Data

Subject from students' 8a English Department had dependency toward machine translation. The interview result showed their habitual and behavior in using machine translation and getting difficult when they were not use machine translation indicates that their dependency toward the machine. Based on the result interview done by the researcher RS, the result of the interview from subjects S1 were following:

1. Dependency

The researcher found from the interview that the subjects already used machine translation in learning language since very long time. They used machine translation when they did not know some words or vocabularies when translating. The results from five subjects found that they were being dependence toward machine translation from their behavioural toward machine translation. It can be proved by the statement of the five subjects which following:

RS: How often do you use machine translation such as google translate and others?

SI: I already used machine translation since junior high so I always use it when I do the translation in category Indonesian to English.

RS: How machine translation can improve your English skill?

SI: With machine translation when I do translation from Indonesia to English I know few vocabularies that is why machine translation can improve when I don't know the meaning that I don't know from vocabularies that I don't know.

2. Dependency effects

The researcher found the effects from subjects those already dependences with machine translation. The result from the interview indicates the dependency affected toward translation quality. As stated by [10] using machine translation means like using Global Positioning System, where it is able to assist someone to get the point A to point B, but its unable to train the user how to get without it. As the effect itself, it can be proven in these interview results below:

RS: How is the result from machine translation?

SI: For me it is very good however there is little minus that is google translate couldn't translate according to grammar that suitable

RS: How difficult when not use machine translation?

SI: It was very difficult when translating because I do not know the vocabulary that translated into good result

RS: How machine translation could help in translation task?

SI: Google Translate quite help me in learning especially in word or paragraph that difficult to understand

4. DISCUSSION

The researcher took observation toward the subjects from semester 8a English program to answer the research question. Subjects were selected according to the reason of the subject's experienced about translation and their major from English program. In observation, researcher asked the subjects translate some abstracts from Indonesian to English twice. At first, they were not allowed to use machine translation to measure their ability to translate without machine translation. After that in second phase, they translated another abstract and for this phase they were allowed to use machine translation. The result found that when they not translated with machine translation, most subjects done translation with several spelling and grammar mistakes. It was differences when they translated with machine translation; it was found that their mistakes in spelling and grammar were decreased. These results were found by checking their translation results on 1checker, software that check spelling and grammar. With 1checker, researcher was able to know subjects writing quality like spelling and grammar as stated by [11] 1checker is computational based testers that measure students grammatical quality and lexical features. These prove also proved that machine translation could help the user to do translation task. As stated by [12] machine translation is a machine that offers more than 90 languages in the world, which can help the user to find the language that they want to translate. However even though

machine translation were able to help the subjects to translate, from their result it was never found from their result using machine translation that were fixing their grammar mistakes. Machine translation was able to fix their spelling mistakes but it not helped them with grammar mistakes. It is proved the statement by [13] that stated about machine translation is not appropriate for both subjects due to its quality of translation is not comparable with a human translator who is more accurate in translating. Furthermore, researcher also found from 1 subject that were different than the others. From 4 out of 5 subjects, subject EH had different result than the others, when others have amount of mistakes at the first phase translation and become decreased at the second phase, subject EH have reversed result from the observation. This result proved that machine translation not only can harmed someone actual language acquisition as stated by [14] but it also can be aid to someone who wants to acquire language acquisition. As from the study of [15] the study about Indian language with information technology and machine translation, the result was also had a good result. This indicated that machine translation also aided someone to acquire new language for them who want to learn another language.

From five subjects, it is not only found the result in using machine translation but researcher also found the dependency and the influences of it from the in-depth interview. The result of it showed the most of them were founded already using machine translation since long ago and still using it until now. Not only that, most of them from their statement, they were getting difficult when doing translation task or assignment. Even though they admitted that machine translation that they used were not perfect especially in grammar, they still used it to aid them in translation task. From these results, researcher found them that they were being addicted or dependent toward machine translation. As stated by [16] addiction or dependency begin taking over when someone do something too much, their brain is forced to withdraw neuro-receptors in an effort to restore balance especially when someone no longer in unconscious condition. This statement was indicated the subjects were being addicted or dependent, proved by their statement that they were already use the machine translation long ago and still using it until know. They also stated that they getting difficult when they were translating something without machine translation. This result also supported by statement from [17] that stated about the problem caused by the technology are regarded as technological addiction, a part of behavioral which refers to bodily and psychological dependency on an objects.

5. CONCLUSION

Based on finding and discussion, researcher takes the conclusion that the subject had dependencies toward machine translation. It is proved by the interview that stated their dependency toward machine translation and also from the observation it is also found the influences from dependency toward machine translation. The influences that affected by machine translation was from translation quality. Eventhough machine translation could able to help subjects to do translation, it is still have error from grammatical. It is proving that machine translation is still not perfect especially at grammar and for the user also if someone getting dependency to it, it possibly makes them less from the grammar.

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