

THE STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON THE USE OF "DEEPL TRANSLATION TOOL" FOR READING COMPREHENSION AT FKIP UNIVERSITAS RIAU

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Abstract: *This study aimed to find out how students use of DeepL Translation Tool as reading comprehension at FKIP Universitas Riau. Random sampling technique was applied to decide the sample. There were 40 students as the participants. The instrument used was a questionnaire categorized into 3 components of perception on the use of DeepL Translation such as absorption, understanding, and evaluation. The findings indicated the score of percentage was more than 60%. It means students' perception towards DeepL Translate was in high category. This result showed that the use of DeepL is easier, faster, and sound natural than other translation tools. The first indicator, absorption got the highest percentage was a high category. There were three statements getting very high category and seven statements get high category. The second indicator students' level in understanding was in a high category. There were two statements get very high category, five statements get high category, and three statements get medium category. And the last, for this indicator, students' level in evaluation was in a high category. There were two statements getting very high category and eight statements get high category.*

Key Words: *Perception, DEEPL Translation, Reading Comprehension*

PERSEPSI PENGGUNAAN ALAT TERJEMAHAN DEEPL UNTUK PEMAHAMAN MEMBACA PADA MAHASISWA FKIP UNIVERSITAS RIAU

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Abstrak: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui persepsi mahasiswa terhadap penggunaan alat terjemahan DeepL sebagai pemahaman bacaan pada mahasiswa FKIP Universitas Riau. Teknik pengambilan sampel secara acak. Sampel pada penelitian ini berjumlah 40 siswa. Instrumen yang digunakan adalah kuesioner dengan 3 indikator persepsi pada penggunaan DeepL yaitu penyerapan, pemahaman, dan evaluasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan nilai persentase lebih dari 60%. Hal ini berarti persepsi mahasiswa terhadap DeepL Translate dalam kategori tinggi. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahwa penggunaan DeepL mudah, cepat, dan lebih natural dibandingkan dengan alat penerjemah lainnya. Pada indikator pertama, penyerapan mendapat nilai yang paling tinggi, terdapat tiga pernyataan dengan kategori sangat tinggi dan tujuh pernyataan dengan kategori tinggi. Indikator kedua yaitu pemahaman mendapat kategori tinggi, terdapat dua pernyataan dengan kategori sangat tinggi, lima pernyataan dengan kategori tinggi, dan tiga pernyataan dengan kategori menengah. Terakhir, persepsi mahasiswa terhadap evaluasi berada di kategori tinggi, terdapat dua pernyataan dengan kategori sangat tinggi dan delapan pernyataan dengan kategori tinggi.

Kata Kunci: Persepsi, Penerjemah DEEPL, Pemahaman Membaca

INTRODUCTION

In the modern era, technology has a big influence on everything, especially education, which offers benefits and drawbacks for learning English. Learning English is one of several concepts that seek to achieve learning objectivity, and technology helps to develop these concepts more creatively (Sagita, 2021). Learning English is crucial if one wants to adjust to a more advanced way of life because it is the language used in all aspects of international communication.

Because it is a universal language, this one is vital. It makes considerable use of being in many other domains, such as technology, politics, economics, education, and culture. These days, it is hard to dispute how technology development affects education as well. Technology has become increasingly complicated with the popularity of gadgets like computers and telephones that require English to operate. Given that we cannot escape the influence of contemporary technology in our day-to-day existence, it follows that English also has an effect on human life.

It may be determined that nearly all students have experience using smartphones to aid in their academic work or study. There is no doubt that English education students will be exposed to English-language lesson materials. The majority of subjects employ English-language literature or resources. Students often attempt to translate the content into Indonesian in an attempt to comprehend it. Reading comprehension, according to Brassell (2008:15), is the capacity to understand or derive meaning from written material. In order to understand and derive meaning from a text, readers must be able to connect it to what they already know. The reading comprehension scores that students receive are the primary indicator of their reading comprehension proficiency.

Our modern necessity is the capacity for multilingual comprehension. By using many translations, students can comprehend them. One of the most recent technological developments is machine translation. Yanti (2019) defines machine translation as the process of translating text using computer software from one language to another. One of the most popular and extensively used translation programs is DeepL Translate. An online translation tool that is reasonably accurate and available for free is called DeepL Translator to translate English words into Indonesian.

DeepL Translate is one such program or piece of software that is thought to be machine translation. This multilingual machine translation service from Google can translate text and documents. Turovsky (2016) argues there are numerous ways in which students might use DeepL Translate to help them in learning reading. In order to enhance their comprehension of a particular reading assignment, students may choose to include English content, much faster to enter text to translate it by hand, looking up every word in a dictionary.

The DeepL Translate app was developed by Google as a multilingual translation tool back in the 2000s. It is a well-known translation tool that can translate text, video, photos, and speech into many different languages today (Khasanah, 2022). Furthermore DeepL Translate, a free multilingual translation tool that allows you to translate text between languages, including English and Indonesian (Rahayu, 2021).

Prior to delving into this research, the author conducted a survey among English education students with various types of questions to find out how many students use DeepL Translate. Most students are familiar with this machine translation application. Even though Google Translate is the most commonly used application, DeepL is no less familiar. According to students, the main difference between these two applications is

that DeepL is more accurate than Google Translate and also provides different synonyms when translating. Among other differences it is also mentioned that DeepL offers more verb tenses and translates complex texts more easily to understand. Students claim that DeepL does not translate word for word and find the app useful as it allows them to learn new vocabulary, provide feedback, understand the meaning of words and helps improve their language skills. The biggest benefits of using DeepL are learning new vocabulary, fast and accurate translation, and easy access.

Depending on how experienced they are with DeepL Translate and its capabilities, students may have different opinions about it. Nearly all students today utilize the DeepL Translate application to learn foreign languages, mainly English, according to Khotimah (2021). As in Wei (2021) entitled "The Use of DeepL Translate in English Language Learning: How Students View It". The results showed that students are generally positive towards the use of DeepL Translate in their language learning. Most of them frequently use DeepL Translate and acknowledge the convenience and usefulness of DeepL Translate in their language learning process.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in researching "The First Year Students' Perception on the Use of DeepL Translate for Reading Comprehension at FKIP Universitas Riau".

METHODOLOGY

This research used a descriptive-quantitative method as design research. The descriptive-quantitative method is the most efficient method in order to gather the sample's perception regarding the matter. According to Aliaga and Gunderson (2002) in Apuke (2017: 41), the explanation of a problem or event by the collection of numerical data and analysis using mathematical techniques, particularly statistics, is known as quantitative research methods. The focus of this research is students' perception on the use of DeepL translation tool for reading comprehension at FKIP Universitas Riau.

The population of this research was all of English Department Students of Teachers Training and Education Faculty-University of Riau in the first year. There are 3 classes for the 2023 academic year, starting from 23.A, 23.B, and 23.C. As for the entire numbers of the population were 111 students. This research was taken 44 students as samples. The researcher used random sampling technique to collect data sample.

In collecting the data, the researcher used a questionnaire as an instrument to find out students' perception on DeepL translation tools. The questionnaire consisted of 30 items in total. Closed-ended questionnaires are the kind that utilized to get the quantitative data. A closed-ended questionnaire requests that respondents select their response from a predetermined list of only a few options. The questionnaire used in this research was adapted from Şanlı (2003) in their research.

Table 1. Indicators of Questionnaire

No	Statements	Total Questions
1	Absorption	10
2	Understanding	10
3	Evaluation	10
Total Item		30

Adapted from Şanlı (2003)

The questionnaire was distributed directly to the respondents. The students' responses were logged into Ms. Excel to accumulate whole responses. Then, it was analyzed using SPSS (Statistical Packages for Social Sciences) Version 25. After calculate the percentage the results of the data, the percentage described by using classification of students' scores. As stated by Arikunto (2013), there are five categories in classification the scores into range 81%-100% (Very High), 61%-80% (High), 41%-60% (Medium), 21%-40% (Low), and 0%-2% (Very Low).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

This research was conducted to find out how the first year students' perception on the use of DeepL Translate Tool for reading comprehension at FKIP Universitas Riau. A questionnaire with four likert scale was used to collect the data that consisted of 30 questions of three indicators of reading comprehension. The Microsoft Excel was used to analyze the data from the questionnaire. This part analyzes descriptive strategies that include percentages and means and analyzes how the students' perception on the use of DeepL Translate Tool in reading comprehension.

The result will be presented and analyzed based on the research.

Table 2. The Students' Percentage and Their Category

No	Percentage (%)	Frequency	Category
1	81 – 100 %	9	Very High
2	61 – 80 %	30	High
3	41 – 60 %	1	Medium
4	21 – 40 %	0	Low
5	0 – 20 %	0	Very Low
Total		40	

Based on the table 2, it shows 9 students were at very high category that has a range percentage in between 81 – 100% on student's perception. Then, 30 students were at high category that has a range percentage in between 61 – 80%. And, there is 1 student was at medium category that has a range percentage in between 41 – 60%.

There are three indicators that are applied in this research, which are absorption, understanding, and evaluation. The result of each indicator is shown below:

Table 3. The Percentage of Each Indicator

No	Indicator Vocabulary	Percentage (%)	Category
1	Absorption	74.88%	High
2	Understanding	69.38%	High
3	Evaluation	78.69%	High

Based on the table 3, there are three indicator of students' perception of using DeepL Translate in this research. The highest percentage is evaluation with 78.69%,

then absorption with percentage in 74.88%. Meanwhile, the lowest percentage is understanding with 69.38%.

Then, the percentage and mean score of five indicators in this research is showed below:

Table 4. The Percentage of Absorption			
Item	Statement	Percentage (%)	Category
1	DeepL Translate tool is faster than other machine translation.	84.38%	Very High
2	Google DeepL can translate word by word well.	83.75%	Very High
3	Google DeepL can translate sentences accurately.	82.50%	Very High
4	Google DeepL can translate paragraphs accurately.	78.75%	High
5	The language used by Google DeepL is very easy to understand.	75.63%	High
6	I often translate English text use DeepLTranslate every day.	67.50%	High
7	In translating English text, I always use DeepL Translate.	65.63%	High
8	I have DeepL Translate application in my gadget that is always available for use.	65.00%	High
9	DeepL Translate is very helpful to improve my translation skills.	73.13%	High
10	DeepLTranslate makes me lazy open the dictionary.	72.50%	High

Table 4 indicates that the percentage of absorption. The range score is in between 65.00% - 84.38%. The highest percentage is in number 1 and the lowest is in number 8. For this indicator, students' level in absorption is in a high category. There are three statements get very high category and seven statements get high category. It means DeepL Translate is one of translation tool that help students to translate word or sentence without any error. DeepL Translate helps students to improve their translation skill. Furthermore, DeepL Translate is faster than other translate tool and the function is easy to understand.

Table 5. The Percentage of Understanding			
Item	Statement	Percentage (%)	Category
11	DeepL Translate makes me lazy to learn structure (grammar/tenses).	65.63%	High
12	DeepL Translate can translate faster than any other tools.	78.13%	High
13	DeepL Translate really helps me in every translation process.	72.50%	High
14	I can easily get to DeepL Translate the application without cost.	75.00%	High

15	DeepL Translate makes the sentence structure messy.	56.25%	Medium
16	DeepL Translate does not translate correctly in English text.	57.50%	Medium
17	I feel addicted when studying online especially “Reading Comprehension” easily open translation tool applications such as DeepL Translate.	62.50%	High
18	DeepL Translate cannot be a good medium of translation tool in the reading class.	56.25%	Medium
19	DeepL Translate makes me lazy to think.	83.75%	Very High
20	DeepLTranslate can translate texts quickly.	86.25%	Very High

Table 5 indicates that the percentage of understanding. The range score is in between 56.25% - 86.25%. The highest percentage is in number 20 and the lowest is in number 15 and 18. For this indicator, students’ level in understanding is in a high category. There are two statements get very high category, five statements get high category, and three statements get medium category. Same as the first indicator, understanding as second indicator also get a good category. It means DeepLis really a good translate tool in learning. It can be seen from the lowest score in percentage in number 15 and 18, “DeepL Translate makes the sentence structure messy” and “DeepL Translate cannot be a good medium of translation tool in the reading class,” it shows that the DeepL Translate is a good tool, because it is not make sentence structure messy and can be used in the reading class.

Table 6. The Percentage of Evaluation

Item	Statement	Percentage (%)	Category
21	DeepL Translate can translate various languages.	78.13%	High
22	It saves me time compared to using a traditional dictionary.	80.00%	High
23	DeepL offers translations for various languages including less common ones.	78.13%	High
24	DeepL often sounds more natural and fluid than Google Translate.	75.00%	High
25	Fast, easy, simple, and accurate to use, efficient and saves time.	80.00%	High
26	DeepL is known for its high level of accuracy.	78.75%	High
27	DeepL pays if it exceeds the translation limit.	70.00%	High
28	In reading comprehension lessons, DeepL really helped me to translate	83.75%	Very High

Item	Statement	Percentage (%)	Category
	a text.		
29	Google DeepL can translate text accurately.	79.38%	High
30	Google Translate is more accurate than DeepL.	83.75%	Very High

Table 6 indicates that the percentage of evaluation. The range score is in between 78.13% - 83.75%. The highest percentage is in number 28 and 30 and the lowest is in number 21 and 23. For this indicator, students' level in evaluation is in a high category. There are two statements getting very high category and eight statements get high category. DeepL Translate is really useful in reading comprehension, because it make students easier in translation the word that they do not know. Moreover, DeepL has various languages and more natural than Google Translate.

Discussion

Based on the result of the questionnaire was taken from 40 students from the first year students in English education at Universitas Riau academic year 2023/2024. This research was conducted through a questionnaire consisting of 30 questions on three indicators of the perception on DeepL Translate tool in reading comprehension. There are absorption, understanding, and evaluation.

The result of the data shows it shows 9 students were at very high category that has a range percentage in between 81 – 100 on student's perception. Then, 30 students were at high category that has a range percentage in between 61 – 80. And, there is 1 student was at medium category that has a range percentage in between 41 – 60. All of the statements, we can conclude that the perception on DeepL Translate Tool for reading comprehension is good. The use of DeepL Translate is better than other translation tool. It is caused the DeepL is more accurate, faster, easier, and sound more natural. It can be used in reading class to help students to improve their translation skills. In addition, there are three indicators in the questionnaire, such as absorption, understanding, and evaluation and they got 74.88%, 69.38%, and 78.69% for each indicator. Among the three indicators, the third indicator showed the highest percentage; it seems that the students were very satisfied with the translation tool.

The first indicator is absorption. The range score is in between 65.00% - 84.38%. The highest percentage is in number 1 and the lowest is in number 8. For this indicator, students' level in absorption is in a high category. There are three statements getting very high category and seven statements get high category. It means DeepL Translate is one of translation tool that help students to translate word or sentence without any error. DeepL Translate helps students to improve their translation skill. Furthermore, DeepL Translate is faster than other translate tool and the function is easy to understand. The use of DeepL Translate makes students easier to learn in English class, because they can translate faster, more accurate, and sound natural. DeepL can translate sentence, paragraph without messy structure.

The second indicator is understanding, the range score is in between 56.25% - 86.25%. The highest percentage is in number 20 and the lowest is in number 15 and 18. For this indicator, students' level in understanding is in a high category. There are two statements get very high category, five statements get high category, and three

statements get medium category. Same as the first indicator, understanding as second indicator also get a good category. It means DeepL is really a good translate tool in learning. It can be seen from the lowest score in percentage in number 15 and 18, “DeepL Translate makes the sentence structure messy” and “DeepL Translate cannot be a good medium of translation tool in the reading class,” it shows that the DeepL Translate is a good tool, because it is not make sentence structure messy and can be used in the reading class. Students can use DeepL Translate because it is easily to use and easy to be understood. So, the use of DeepL Translate is better than other translation tools.

The third indicator is evaluation. The range score is in between 78.13% - 83.75%. The highest percentage is in number 28 and 30 and the lowest is in number 21 and 23. For this indicator, students’ level in evaluation is in a high category. There are two statements getting very high category and eight statements get high category. DeepL Translate is really useful in reading comprehension, because it make students easier in translation the word that they do not know. Moreover, DeepL has various languages and more natural than Google Translate. DeepL Translate sounds more natural because the structure is good and not makes sentence or paragraph messy.

As a comparison as related studies, Polakova et al. (2023) showed the current empirical pilot study details an experiment involving the use of neural machine translation for formal writing in a foreign language, specifically for the purpose of writing a summary. The study's findings also reveal the kinds of errors that students made when writing summaries.

The second research is from Sidiq and Syafryadin (2024) showed that DeepL is a device installation that easy to use in text translation. Students’ perception had a good towards DeepL, it because it is a simply to translate using it. But, students had mixed perception about it. The next is Agung et al. (2024), the study uses a qualitative research was designed to assess the quality of machine translation in translating literary work. There were three types of translation errors: concepts that were mistranslated, omitted, and untranslated. Both Google Translate and DeepL found difficulties when translating idiomatic expressions, address terms, slang words, culture terms, onomatopoeia, and abbreviations.

The last research is Mardini G et al. (2024), the research used a case study design. Based on the study's findings and future investigations can use the ASAG Spanish dataset as a baseline. More balanced datasets could be obtained by adding a third annotator or by attempting to apply various data augmentation techniques. Other approaches for ASAG could also be taken into consideration in order to test the built dataset. Lastly, the research employed a quantitative approach.

Based on the result, this research found out the percentage of the questionnaire is in high category. The highest percentage is Evaluation, then, Absorption, and last is Understanding. The researcher determined the perception of first year students in English education at Universitas Riau. So, from the result of this research it can be concluded that the perception of DeepL Translate for reading comprehension in English education at Universitas Riau is in good category.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusion

Based on the data analysis, the research found that the score of percentage was more than 60%. It means students' perception towards DeepL Translate was in high category. This result showed that the use of DeepL is easier, faster, and sound natural than other translation tools. The first indicator the highest percentage was a high category. There were three statements getting very high category and seven statements get high category. The second indicator students' level in understanding was in a high category. There were two statements get very high category, five statements get high category, and three statements get medium category. And the last, For this indicator, students' level in evaluation was in a high category. There were two statements getting very high category and eight statements get high category.

Recommendations

According to this research, the researcher would like to offer several recommendations:

1. The students are able to use DeepL Translate tool to improve their translation skill. They can use it because based on the research, this tool is easy to use, faster, and sound natural. It is also does not change the sentence structure.
2. Teacher is able to help students to improve their translation skill by using DeepL Translate. It is hoped teacher can know what students' need and how to make them always improve in English.
3. For further research, this research can be a reference to do research with using other variables, sample, or size, and method can improve DeepL Translate implementation.

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