**GOOGLE TRANSLATE AS A STRATEGY FOR**

**VOCABULARY MASTERY**

**(A STUDY AT EXCELLENT COURSE)**

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Abstract

This study discusses learning as a meaningful language learning activity, and the use of Google Translate as a strategy that can improve and is highly accessible for students to learn vocabulary.

As we know, there are many difficulties in learning vocabulary. Constraints experienced by students include low understanding of English, lack of motivation to learn vocabulary, and difficulties in translating English sentences. In addition, teachers who teach still use conventional methods. This method makes students bored and takes a long time to understand the sentences given. Teachers need to learn learning strategies that students prefer to increase students' interest in learning vocabulary. This is very important so that the teaching and learning process becomes more memorable and enjoyable. One strategy that can be used is to use online applications on smartphones such as Google Translate.

This research was conducted to answer the students' steps in using Google Translate to master vocabulary and what benefits students get in using Google Translate as an effort to master vocabulary in language learning. By using a qualitative descriptive approach, this research data was obtained from observations, questionnaires and online interviews with students in the Excellent Course, as well as documentation.

Research shows that the benefits that students feel in the Bangkalan Learning Excellence Course using the google translate application are about the speed of this service to find the meaning of the word they want to use. Also, since it's an app, it certainly becomes more practical than carrying a dictionary. The drawback of this application is that the translation results are sometimes inaccurate, so students at Excellent Course Bangkalan often work around this with translation results according to the context.

Keywords: Google Translate, Learning Strategy, and Vocabulary.

**INTRODUCTION**

Vocabulary mastery is the most important aspect for foreign language learners or second language learners. It is important for them in order to be able to communicate using target language fluently. By having enough vocabulary about the materials that will be discussed (for examples: reading text, video presentation, listening materials, presented by lecturer in the classroom).

Teachers need to think about learning strategies that students like to increase students' interest in learning vocabulary. This is very important so that the teaching and learning process becomes more memorable and enjoyable. One strategy that can be used is to use online applications on smartphones such as Google Translate, an online translation machine that contains millions of vocabulary words from hundreds of languages in the world, including English.

Google Translate helps students learn English vocabularies, it can be seen from its function that can translate many languages, one of which is English. Students' perception of Google Translate is also good it can be seen from so many students who use google translate in the learning process.

Google translate (hereinafter referred to as Google Translate) is one of the many translation engines used by many people to translate from one language to several languages another. The unpaid Google Translate service has made it a choice by many insiders perform machine assisted translation. Google continues to innovate to produce the best service for its users. In November 2016, Google made an innovation on machine translation Google Translate by evolving from the Stastical Machine Translation model (SMT) to Neural Machine Translation (NMT). This development is certainly expected produce better and more accurate translation results. Currently, Google has succeeded provides free translation services for 103 languages in the world.

**LITERATURE REVIEW**

## Teaching Strategy

Teaching is a way of how to prepare a learning experience for students. In other words, teaching is a process carried out by teachers in guiding, assisting, and directing students to have a learning experience (Jones A. Majid, 2005:16).

**Definition of Vocabulary**

Faraj (2015: 10) says that vocabulary is an essential building block of language and as such it makes sense to be able to measure learners knowledge of it. There four vocabulary is one of the most pivotal components of language learning and teaching of a foreign language since it affords learner of the language access to all forms of oral and written communication of word.

**Difficulty Learning Vocabulary**

Thornbury (as quoted in Rohmatillah, 2017) classifies several points that influence students in learning vocabulary. They are as follows:

Pronunciation , spelling, Word length, Grammar, Meaning, Range, Connotation and Idiomaticity

## Google Translate

Google Translate is a machine translation provided by Google Company for free to translate one language into another. Not only can you translate language quickly, it also includes a speaker facility to help users hear how to pronounce it. In a journal by Gennady Medvevev (2016), it is explained that GT works by analyzing hundreds of millions of natural bilingual text pairs (Koehn, 2009). Currently accessible via smartphone apps / interfaces and application programming interfaces (APIs) which can be incorporated into new software.

**Advantages of Using Google Translate**

There are many reasons why the users use Google translate as the tool for translating some text. Google translate is easy to be accessed anywhere and anytime by hand phone or computer. According to Alhaisoni and Alhaysony (2017), accessing Google translate can be used through PC smartphone systems such as android and IOS, which makes the accessibility of Google translate very familiar to users.

**Disadvantages of Using Google Translate**

Nowadays there are many language teachers who doubt the quality of language translations on Google translate because the use of approved translation tools can damage the actual language acquisition process (Groves & Mundt, 2015, p.119). The present software is not a substitute for an accurate translator to translate human language correctly into the target language because Google translate is a regulated machine and it could not adjust if it is not set.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research design of this study is Descriptive Qualitative. Cresswell J [24] states that the qualitative research have some characteristics, those are natural setting, researcher as key intstruments, multiple sources of data, inductive data analysis, participants, meaning, emergent design, theoritical lens, intreperetive, and holistic acount. Then, this research consists around of Excellent Course Bangkalan on Perum Graha Mentari Block B2 No. 3 Mlajah Bangkalan. Next, the data collection technique of this research are use synthesize the data collecting from various sources into a coherent description of what the researcher observe and discovered. Those are observation, interview, and documentation. Finally, data analysis technique begin from coding data, reducing, presenting and conclussion.

**DISCUSSION**

This chapter intends to explain data analysis and research findings also describe the results of this research. It is discussing the implementation of whatsapp in listening class and the students response in teaching listening using whatsapp.

## Research Findings

First, it will be stated in general about the area that is the location of the research. This research conducted in Excellent Course Bangkalan on Perum Graha Mentari Block B2 No. 3 Mlajah Bangkalan. The main focus of Excellent Course Bangkalan is the English language program, the type of English course Excellent Course Bangkalan is divided into two categories, namely pathway programs/children and youth programs (EC Kidds, EC Teens, General English), and specialized programs/professional programs (professional courses, preparation courses, examination centers).

**4.1.1.** **Profile of Excellent Course Bangkalan**

**A. Vision and Mission**

Vission

Excellent Course Bangkalan as the first choice to study English in the city.

Mission

1) Improving the quality of human resources

2) Provide career opportunities for all staff and employee

3) Improving employee welfare

4) Provide a sense of comfort for employees and students

**Informant Profile**

The discussion in this sub-chapter is based on all the data that was collected when the authors conducted research at Excellent Course Bangkalan. The data referred to in this case is primary data sourced from the answers of informants using interview guidelines or direct interviews as data collection media or instruments used for this purpose. (Herdiansyah. 2010).

From this data, several answers regarding the personal life of the informants were obtained, including some of the things that underlie or motivate teenagers to spend their time in front of their cellphone screens.

The number of informants in this study was seven people, where in determining the informants it was done by using a snowball technique (snowball sampling) by selecting teenagers who were already using mobile phones. In determining the informants, first one or two people were selected, but because these two people did not feel complete with the data provided, the researchers looked for other people who were considered more knowledgeable and could complete the data provided by the two previous people (Moleong, 1989). ) And so on, so that the number of informants that the researcher determines is seven people.

**The Steps for the Students to use Google Translate for Vocabulary Mastery**

In this part, the researcher describe the result of analysis based on the problem statement. In this research used interview to obtain accurate and valid data. The researcher do interview to the steps for the students to use Google Translate.

**How do you use Google translate?**

Based on interviews that have been conducted with respondents described by several students: There are so many ways that can be used, we can use it by typing directly, copying, perform translations by voice or using a photo‖. Google Translate can be a medium to help students to translate, especially English. The fun thing is the translation of a word or sentence can be done in many different ways, from text, voice, images, to handwriting. The offline feature support also makes it easier to use even though there is no internet connection. With this ability, this application can be a medium for learning and translating languages in an easy way. The function of the free language translator app is voice translator. Just say and easily translate all words in the selected language. Speak at once and translate repeatedly in multiple languages. Press the voice button and hold and say the words then the words will be translated in the target language easily.

**4.1.4** **The Students Strategy to Use Google Translate for Vocabulary Mastery**

There were four results of the strategies related to the Google Translate technology used by the students in learning process. The findings were, using headset to get clear listening speaker of Google Translate, setting web address for accent speaker, searching internet to get new knowledge, translating sentences 5000 words as maximum file, and minimizing the size of file converted into PDF format.

**CONCLUSSION**

Based on the findings and discussion of data analysis conducted by the author at Excellent Course Bangkalan, the authors put forward the following conclusions:

1. There were four results of the strategies related to the Google Translate technology used by the students in learning process. The findings were, using headset to get clear listening speaker of Google Translate, setting web address for accent speaker, searching internet to get new knowledge, translating sentences 5000 words as maximum file, and minimizing the size of file converted into PDF format.

2. Based on the results of this study, it is known that the benefits felt by students in Excellent Course Bangkalan Learn by using the google translate application is about the speed of this service to find the meaning of the word you want to translate. In addition, because this is an application, of course it becomes more practical than carrying a dictionary. As for the drawbacks of this application, the translation results are sometimes inaccurate, so that students in Excellent Course Bangkalan often work around this by re-matching the translation results according to the context.

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