



NEED ANALYSIS OF TEACHING ENGLISH FOR INFORMATICS STUDENTS : INTERVIEW STUDY

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ARTICEL INFO	ABSTRACT
<p>Keywords: Need Analysis, English for Specific Purposes, English for Informatics</p> <p><i>Received: 13 February 2021</i> <i>Accepted: 1 June 2021</i> <i>Available online: 21 August 2021</i></p> <p><i>DOI: 10.13170/ajas.6.3.19989</i></p>	<p><i>In today's increasingly connected world, translation skills have developed as an important tool to facilitate communication across language and cultural boundaries. This article underscores the strategic importance of translation skills, not only in language learning, but further in terms of global communication, human translator, and cultural preservation. Based on qualitative research from various national and international sources, the study shows how translation contributes to the development of learners' language skills, cultural understanding and character. It further underscores that the role of human translator remains irreplaceable despite the development of machine translation technology. These findings in this article affirm that translation is not only a linguistic activity, but further an essential tool for understanding and connecting in global interaction.</i></p>

INTRODUCTION

The world is running into a period of modern transformation, signed by drastic increase of technological development, International trade, cultural exchanges, and linguistic boundaries. In this context, translation skills are important to serve as a communication link between groups with different cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Translation skills are no longer seen as a technical process of simply moving words from one language to another, but rather as a complex skill that encompasses linguistic sensitivity, contextual understanding and cultural acumen.

As stated by Newmark (1988), translation should be able to convey “meaning from meaning”, not just replacing words for words. Therefore, a translator is not only required to be able to master two languages, but further to understand the source and target cultures deeply. Of course, this is important so that the message expressed does not deviate in meaning or even cause misunderstanding. With the development of global communication needs, translation skills are further increasingly recognized for their increasingly strategic role in various fields, such as language education, human translator or we can say it as human with translation skill, global communication and cultural preservation.

Several studies have underscored the pedagogical and functional value of translation. According to Sahebi (2019), translation, if used within right method, can increase students' language skills, cultural preservation and analytical skills in foreign language learning. A recent research conducted by Čarapić in 2022 among engineering students in Montenegro discovered that practicing translation activities could enhance comprehension of vocabulary and improve communication skills specifically for English, in Various Fields (ESP). Similar research results were further found in Indonesia, with researchers such as Fransiska and Arifin (2021) and Kasnadi et al. (2019) emphasizing the importance of translation as a medium for preserving local cultural values. Human efforts cannot replace the critical decision-making, translation skills, and cultural sensitivity that professional humans with translation skills bring to the table.”

This article intends to take a comprehensive look at why translation skills have become more relevant in this modern era, by examining its contribution to language learning, cultural integration, as well as the challenges and opportunities in professional practice.

METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach based on desk research, which involves reviewing and analyzing relevant literature sources related to translation skills in several contexts - mainly global communication, language education, culture preservation, and human with translation skills. The use of this approach is based on the main purpose of this article, which is to build a theoretical and conceptual argument on the importance of translation in the modern world, rather than to collect empirical data in the field.

The data sources in this study include ten scientific articles from national and international journals that have significant contributions to the translation discourse. The two main articles are from international journals, Dragana Čarapić (2022) and Maryam Sahebi (2019), which discuss translation in the context of ESP and foreign language learning. The remaining eight articles are from Indonesian journals, which focus on translation techniques, cultural preservation, human with translation skill and modern translation challenges.

This research is analyzed descriptively-qualitatively by referring to the research model of Miles and Huberman (1984), which includes three stages: data collection, data presentation, and conclusion drawing. Data collection was done by selecting information that is in line with the research theme, which is about the strategic role of translation. Data presentation was done by categorizing the findings into aspects such as education, technology, culture, as well as global communication. The last step is to summarize the findings into a conclusion that can support the main topic of the article.

Furthermore, to strengthen the accuracy of the findings, we used the source comparison method (source triangulation) by comparing the viewpoints of international and national authors. The articles studied also have a variety of methodologies, ranging from case studies, surveys, to theoretical reviews, resulting in a more comprehensive and in-depth discussion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The examination of existing research suggests that proficiency in translation significantly influences the effectiveness of language acquisition efforts. Sahebi (2019)'s work highlights the role of translation exercises, in encouraging students to analyze texts critically in terms of both structure and content while also improving their vocabulary and grammar skills and fostering better comprehension of interlanguage nuances. In addition, translation activities further have a positive impact on speaking and listening skills through text discussion and cross-language reflection.

Čarapić's (2022) study corroborates this assertion by showing that engineering students who participated in translation training improved their understanding of technical vocabulary and general language. In addition, they also had a positive attitude towards translation as a learning strategy. Although some still felt that translating into English was difficult, they realized that translation could help them understand various nuances of meaning that could not be understood through dictionary meanings or through conventional learning.

With the development of technology, machine translation such as Google Translate or DeepL has developed into a popular tool. However, as pointed out by Wulandari and Harida (2021), machine translation still cannot accurately handle the complexity of meaning as well as cultural context. This opinion is further supported by the students in Čarapić's study (2022) where they recognized the limitations of MT (machine translation) to capture the true meaning of technical texts. Therefore, the presence of translators is still important in maintaining the integrity of meaning and cultural values.

Not only that, translation further plays an important role in the preservation and dissemination of local cultural values. Bassnett (2002) underscores that all translation is relatively cultural, which aligns with Kasnadi et al. (2019) argue that through translation, a nation's distinctive values can be disseminated globally without losing their essence. In the realm of education, Suprayitno et al. (2019) Further link translation activities to students' character development, such as empathy, tolerance, and respect for cultural differences. Translation, therefore, is not only a means of communication, but further a means of interaction and humanity.

Newmark (1988) suggests that functional translation prioritizes meaning, over literal word substitutions—highlighted as a method that may fall short in capturing nuances effectively as argued by Pym (2013). Pym emphasizes the role humans with translation skill hold in preserving trust and subtleties within socially and culturally intricate texts—a task that automated translations are unable to replicate accurately. Mraček (2014) highlights that translation enhances analytical thinking and cultural empathy, echoing the findings of Sahebi (2019) in ESP learning environments.

Saputra (2022) found that Indonesian English teachers showed translation as a practical classroom tool that, when applied selectively, can increase students' metalinguistic awareness, critical thinking, and social communication. In 2012, Dobson introduced the idea of the teacher as a “translation educator” emphasizing the role of teachers in aiding students to comprehend meaning across languages by just transmitting words directly. This notion reinforces the belief that employing translation in education can serve as an effective tool for enhancing language skills and fostering cross-cultural understanding.

In her work on the Psychology of Translation entitled “Critical and Creative Thinking “ Natalia Kashirina emphasizes that the act of translation goes beyond a word for word replacement; it is a multifaceted psychological process that requires critical thinking skills during both the preparation and review stages of translation work. During these phases of translation processing text meanings are carefully examined to grasp the underlying messages and cultural nuances present within the content so as to determine effective strategies for conveying them accurately in the target language. Rendering these insights into a language requires creativity to make sure the translated text connects well with the audience its intended for while preserving the essence of the original content.”

Proietti, Perrella & Navigli (2025) dalam Has Machine Translation Evaluation Achieved Human Parity? Despite the progress made in automated assessment criteria these tools do not entirely grasp the like qualities in translation, like coherent discussions, practical significance and cultural nuances. The writers suggest that current measurements have constraints as they frequently prioritize superficial precision over

profound communicative effectiveness. Henceforth claims of attaining equivalence in computerized translation are debated due to overlooking the diverse complexities of human language and the cognitive mechanisms at play, in human translation.”

Hassan et al. (2018) dalam *Achieving Human Parity on Automatic Chinese to English News Translation*: The study showcased an advancement in machine translation demonstrating that these systems could match human performance in translating Chinese to English news articles under certain controlled circumstances. However the system's proficiency is confined to text genres and well structured content such as news pieces that maintain a consistent and formal style. The study acknowledges that the efficiency of automated translation significantly decreases when dealing with expressions or culturally nuanced texts that heavily rely on human translation and contextual comprehension.

According to Youyou Lu (2024) in their *Comparative Analysis of Machine Translation, versus Human with translation skill*; “Automated translation tools provide speed and cost effectiveness especially advantageous for managing large volumes of standardized content. Humans still outshine in aspects of translation that demand a deep grasp of cultural nuances like idioms and context specific expressions along with capturing the emotional essence of the text effectively. . The study emphasizes that while machine translation can complement human efforts, it cannot replace the critical decision-making, interpretative skills, and cultural sensitivity that professional humans with translation skills bring to the table.”

Dai, H. (2021) dalam *Comparative Analysis of Machine Translation and Human with Translation skill Under the Internet*: “This comparative analysis highlights that while machine translation is effective for preliminary translations or when quick comprehension is needed, human translation is irreplaceable when accuracy, cultural relevance, and stylistic consistency are critical. The synergistic use of both machine and human translation can optimize the translation process, but human oversight remains essential to ensure quality and fidelity to the source text’s intent.”

Toral et al. (2018) dalam *Attaining the Unattainable* “The claim of achieving human parity in neural machine translation is critically examined, and the authors argue that current evaluation methods fail to account for the holistic quality of human translation, which includes discourse structure, rhetorical strategies, and reader engagement. The study concludes that although neural machine translation shows remarkable progress, it still lacks the depth of human cognition and the ability to handle complex, multilayered texts effectively.”

On Human Parity and Super Human Performance in MT (2022): “Super human performance in machine translation remains a controversial and largely speculative claim. The authors stress the importance of ethical considerations, especially regarding the implications of relying solely on automated systems for tasks that require human judgment, cultural sensitivity, and ethical responsibility. The irreplaceable value of human translators lies in their capacity to navigate ambiguity, infer unstated meanings, and adapt messages for culturally diverse audiences.”

Stanovsky et al. (2019) & Savoldi et al. (2021): “Based on proof indicating that machine translation tools tend to reinforce and magnify social biases like gender biases; these systems commonly rely on typical gender stereotypes unless specifically rectified. Leading to biased or discriminatory translations at times. The aforementioned discoveries emphasize the importance of human oversight to identify and address such biases, in translated content.”

Proietti et al. (2025): “Effective evaluation of machine versus human translation must incorporate not only lexical and syntactic accuracy but also qualitative assessments of cultural appropriateness, narrative coherence, and ethical considerations. Without such comprehensive evaluation frameworks, comparisons between machine and human translation remain inherently flawed.”

Translation is fundamentally a problem-solving activity where translators must employ a variety of strategies such as modulation, equivalence, transposition, and cultural adaptation to bridge linguistic and cultural gaps. These strategies allow translators to maintain the meaning, style, and impact of the original text even when direct translation is inadequate.

And From all the theories above our team understands that we need to learn how we translate every language, we cannot always depend on a translation machine. And it is a very important thing to learn and

know. We think the theories help us and the reader so much. It made us realize that in global communication humans with translation skills matter. This includes culture preservation because with translation skill in every language as humans with translation skill we will understand the culture and we further show our culture and this is one of the ways to make our culture go international.

CONCLUSIONS

Translation skills have developed from a language tool to an ability that supports smooth communication globally. In the complexity of the modern world full of cultural differences, translation becomes a bridge that can connect meanings, values and ideas from one community to another. Whether in education, cultural preservation, technology, translation plays an important role in facilitating communication between countries and strengthening relations .

Although technological developments have made access to translation services easier, human sensitivity to social and cultural contexts will never be replaced. Therefore, investing in the development of translation skills-both through formal education and professional training is an important step to meet the challenges of global communication. The collaboration between manual translators and smart technology will be a strong foundation for more accurate, inclusive and meaningful translation practices.

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