

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE THIRD-YEAR ENGLISH LITERATURE  
STUDENTS' ABILITY TO TRANSLATE IDIOMS FROM ENGLISH  
INTO INDONESIAN AT BUNG HATTA UNIVERSITY**

**THESIS**



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2024**

**UNIVERSITAS BUNG HATTA**

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**THESIS**

*Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement  
for Getting the Strata One (S1) Degree*



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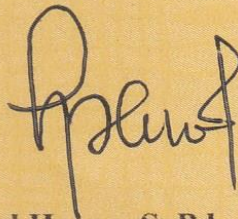


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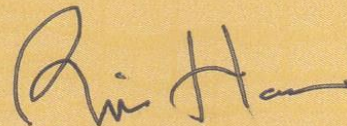
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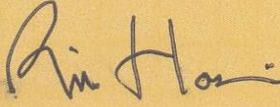

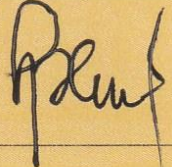


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## ABSTRACT

WahyuTullah, F. 2024. *An Analysis of the Third-Year English Literature Students' Ability to Translate Idioms From English into Indonesian at Bung Hatta University*

Advisor : Lailatul Husna, S. Pd., M. Pd

The purpose of this research was to describe the third-year English Literature students' ability in translating idioms from English into Indonesian at Universitas Bung Hatta. The population of this research was third-year students, and total sampling technique was used in this research with the number of sample was 23 students. The instrument used in this research is descriptive research. The reliability index of the test was 0.99( very high correlation), which means that the test was reliable.

Overall, the results of this study showed that the third-year students have a very good ability in translating idioms in sentences. In general, 18 students have very good ability (78%), 3 students have good ability (13%), and 2 students have low ability (9%). Specifically, the results of this study showed that student's ability to use lexical equivalence in translating Idioms in sentences is very good. This is evidenced by 17 students have very good ability (74%), 3 students have good ability (13%), 1 students have moderate ability (4%) and 3 students have low ability (9%) (See Appendix 8). Students' ability in using grammatical adjustments in translating Idioms in sentences is very good. This is proven by the presence of 20 students who have very good ability (87%), 1 students who have good ability (4%), and 2 students who have low ability (9%).

Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that the ability of third-year students in translating idioms in sentences from English into Indonesian at the English Literature Study Program of Bung Hatta University is very good. The students should improve their ability in using lexical equivalence and maintain their ability in grammatical adjustment. The lecturers are advised to give more practice on idiom translation.

**Keyword: Ability, Idioms, Translating**

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses a number of aspects. They are the background of the problem, the identification of the problem, the limitation of the problem, the formulation of the problem, research question, the purpose of the research, the significance of the problem, and the definition of key terms.

#### 1.1 Background of the Problem

English can make easier to find and share information because it is the most widely used in the international world. One of the skills that we must have when learning English is translation. Translation is needed if one require to communicate with other people from other countries with different languages. Therefore, the act of translation happens almost every moment to disseminate knowledge and information in society.

Translation ability is the ability to transform language from source texts to target texts.(Widowati et al., 2021). In addition, Newmark in Krisandini & Sutrisno, (2022) state that translation is a work that consists of an attempt to replace a message or written statement from one language with the same message or statement in another language. In this sophisticated era, it is very easy to translate languages, one of which is the use of technology such as Google Translate.

Even though there are still obstacles and mistakes in doing translation such as when translating idioms. It is often difficult to do because idioms cannot be translated word by word. According to Longman in Lestari, (2019), an Idiom is a

phrase which something different from the meanings of the separate words from which it formed.

Idioms are typically employed to communicate more effectively and graphically, to toy with words, to stand out, or to be humorous or clever, according to Langlots in Wisudawanto, (2019). Idioms cannot be translated literally into a foreign language. Idioms are a matter of language used by native speakers. It can be said that idioms are word arrangements that cannot be interpreted word by word but should be based on the whole in the context of a conversation. The problem students have in translating idioms is that there are many figurative words or a lack of matching words between Indonesian and English. The problem students have in translating idioms is that there are many figurative words or a lack of matching words between Indonesian and English.

The problem students have in translating is that there are many figurative words or a lack of matching words between Indonesia and English. Based on the researcher experiences when taking translation subject, he found it difficult to translate idioms. They struggled to find appropriate meaning and vocabulary to translate idioms. Moreover, idioms are often found in conversational texts, books, or novels, even in song lyrics. This prevents students from understanding the meaning. When students translate idioms, the translations are often inappropriate and out of context, resulting in confusing translations. Therefore, this study is needed to find out students' ability in translation.



## **1.2 The Identification of the Problem**

Translation is process of converting a source language into the target language so that the meaning is conveyed properly. Translators should pay attention to two important components: lexical equivalence and grammatical adjustment. According to Dzikri(2022), Lexical equivalence refers to vocabulary or words that are needed to be considered when translating a text. Lexical equivalence also has no underlying structure and has a different meaning when translated.

In addition, grammar also plays a very important role in translation. According to Dzikri (2022), one of the things that translators should pay attention to when translating texts is grammatical adjustment. In general, grammar is limited to phrases and sentences. A phrase consists of two or more words that have a meaning, and some types of phrases include verbs, nouns, adjectives, etc. From the above explanation, it can be concluded that a good translation must pay attention to two important aspects, namely lexical equivalent and also grammatical adjustment so that the sentence has a structure that builds it has good grammar rules and meaning so that it can be conveyed to the reader.

Idioms are words or phrases that have a very unique meaning and have a hidden or implied meaning and are usually used to express ideas creatively. According to Retmono in Hartono (2017), idioms should be translated into idiomatic expressions, metaphors, and personifications. Not only that, the problem that often arises is that students do not understand the context contained in the idioms, because sometimes idioms have more than one meaning depending on the context of a sentence. Based on the explanation, the researcher concludes that the

translator must understand the phonology, morphology, lexical, syntax, and semantics of words, sentences, or ideas before translating a text so that the translation result can be understood well and in accordance with the translation rules.

### **1.3 Limitation of Problem**

Based on the problem identification above, the researcher limits this study to students' ability to translate idioms in sentences from English into Indonesian considering linguistic aspects; grammatical adjustment, and lexical equivalence. This research was conducted on third-year English Literature students at Bung Hatta University.

### **1.4 The Formulation of the Problem**

Based on the problem limitation above, the researcher formulates the research problem as follows "How is the ability of the third-year English Literature students at Bung Hatta University to translate idioms from English into Indonesian?".

### **1.5 Research Questions**

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the research questions of this study are as follows:

1. How is the ability of the third-year English Literature students' at Bung Hatta University in using lexical equivalence when translating idioms in sentences from English into Indonesian?

2. How is the ability of the third-year English Literature students' at Bung Hatta University in doing grammatical adjustments to translate idioms sentences from English into Indonesian?

### **1.6 The Purpose of Study**

Generally, the main purpose of this research is to describe the student's ability in translating Idioms from English into Indonesian. Specifically, the purpose of this research are as the following :

1. To describe the ability of the third-year English Literature students in using lexical equivalence of translating idioms in sentences from English into Indonesian at Bung Hatta University.
2. To describe the ability of third-year English Literature students in doing grammatical adjustment of translating idioms in sentences from English into Indonesian at Bung Hatta University.

### **1.7 Significance of the Study**

The results of the research are hoped to be useful for researchers and lecturers as well as other students. For lecturers, it can add knowledge and information on the ability of students' English Literature to translate English idioms into Indonesian. and is expected to find appropriate strategies and techniques for teaching idioms.

For students, it is hoped that they are able to translate their ability to recognize English idioms. For researcher, they are expected to be able to increase their knowledge in doing research.

## **1.8 The Definition of Key Terms**

To avoid misunderstanding and understanding of the terms in the study, researcher must define them as follows.

1. Translate is a way and process done in changing a reading or speech from one language to another. Translating aims to provide information or messages correctly and precisely in the form of writing or speaking.
2. Idioms are words or phrases of speech in a sentence or conversation that aim to convey messages and ideas in a way that is more interesting and creative to read and hear.
3. Lexical equivalent is a word in another language that has a similar meaning or function. It is important in translation to maintain the accuracy and authenticity of the message by using appropriate words.
4. Grammatical adjustment is the process of adjusting when translating text from one language to another. This is important to ensure the translation sounds natural and follows the rules of the target grammar.