

# Translation Accuracy of Online Dictionary *Kamusku* and *U-dictionary* in Translating Narrative Text

*Ika Noviana Nuranita Rismaningtyas, Dwi Rahayu,  
Chusna Apriyanti*

STKIP PGRI Pacitan

*ikanoviana0106@gmail.com ; dwirahayu6537@gmail.com ;*

*chusna.apriyanti@gmail.com*



## Abstract

Translation accuracy is related to meaning correspondence between the source text and target text. This paper aims to analyze the translation accuracy of online dictionaries *Kamusku* and *U-dictionary* in translating narrative text. This is descriptive qualitative research. The data was taken from three titles of narrative text, consisting of 14 paragraphs. The researchers used Translation Quality Assessment by Nababan as the theory of analyzing data. The result shows a three-parameter of translation accuracy, such as accurate, less accurate, and inaccurate. From 14 paragraphs as the sample, 0 paragraphs belong to accurate translation criteria, five paragraphs belong to less accurate translation, and nine paragraphs belong to the inaccurate translation by *Kamusku*. However, five paragraphs belong to accurate translation, eight paragraphs belong to less accurate translation, and 1 paragraph belongs to the inaccurate translation by *U-dictionary*.

**Keyword:** *Accuracy; Narrative Text; Online Dictionary*

## Introduction

English is an international language. Cited from Ethnologue 2020, English is in the first rank of the language used by people with 1.286 million users. It makes the people around the world have to master English, both spoken and written. People believe that books are translated into English to widen buyers. Even television programs, movies, and magazines are also issued bilingually. The conference also runs in English when various delegates from around the world attend it.

Sometimes, people in this world have a limited ability to the English language. Therefore, translation was born. Hadithya (2014) defines to states

a simplistic definition of translation. It can be said that a re-telling, as exactly as possible, the meaning of the original message in a natural way in the language into which the translation is communicated. The term ‘translation’ can be generally defined as interpreting the meaning of a text and producing an equivalent text that communicates the same message in another language. Translation acts as a bridge in communication among countries. The translation concept should use the vocabulary, grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural context of the source language in the target language appropriately (Silalahi et al., 2018). In translation, the existence of a dictionary is almost compulsory. There are two types of

dictionaries: book dictionaries and online dictionaries. In this day, online dictionaries are used widely by the translator because of their practicality and easiness. This is the effect of developing technology that influences human habits. The online dictionary can be installed on a smartphone or PC. It can bring anyway, and users can use it every time.

According to the development of technology, many apps can help the student to do the task. As in translation, the student can use the online technology dictionary. It is more saves time; the translator can find the vocabulary quickly. According to O'Neill (2019), three online tools that students often use to assist them with their language needs are online translators, online dictionaries, and search engines. Online dictionaries can be described as complex tools. Based on Nielsen (2009: 215), online specialized dictionaries can be said to contain several surface components, such as search sites, results in sites (which show results according to a particular order of arrangement, to some extent similar to wordlists in printed dictionaries), and various supporting components such as user guides and appendices. Furthermore, dictionaries have three underlying features, namely: (1) they have been designed to fulfill one or more functions; (2) they contain data that have been selected because they help to fulfill their function(s); (3) they have structures that marshal the data into the task of fulfilling the relevant function(s). Cite from [jalantikus.com](http://jalantikus.com) by

Jaka (2020), seven of the best online dictionaries in 2020 also a free download and recommended are google translate, LINE *Kamus* Inggris, *Kamus Inggris (Kamusku)*, U-Dictionary, *kamus offline lengkap*, Indonesian English Dictionary & translator Free, and Indonesian English Dictionary. Google translate as the best offline, and online dictionary with more than 500 million people have downloaded this app, LINE *Kamus* Inggris with one million downloaders, *Kamus Inggris (Kamusku)* with more than ten million downloaders, U-Dictionary with more than fifty million downloaders, *kamus offline lengkap* with one million downloaders, Indonesian English Dictionary & translator Free with fifty thousand downloaders, and Indonesian English Dictionary with one hundred downloaders.

In this research, the researcher will analyze the quality of translation results from two dictionaries. Furthermore, in this study, researchers analyze the impact of translation from two online dictionaries *Kamusku* and U-dictionary. In this research, the researcher only focuses on the accuracy of the translation. Sometimes, the readers find a stiff translation text. Grammar and diction are good, but it is unnatural. It isn't easy to be understood by readers. Translation text is called good quality if the text can convey the message. For example, if what is translated is a poem, the result must also be a poem. Accuracy in translation-related with the correspondence meaning of source language and target language. The

meaning of the sentence or paragraph is conveyed accurately. Accuracy refers to the equivalent of meaning, which means that there is no distortion of meaning between original work and translated work. The content or the meanings of original and translated work are the same or equivalent in the meaning (Sutrisno&Anindya, 2019). The translation accuracy refers to the understanding of the reader from the source language to the target language. It is also about the correctness of the target language so that readers can easily understand the meaning. Harjanti (2014) defines the accuracy or message equivalence that could be achieved if the translated texts correlate with linguistics units and its context, author style, and all diction used in the translation are appropriate with its context.

According to Safei & Salija (2018) the text of translation can be said accurate if it does not deviate from the context or information on the source text. If the result of the translation does not match with the meaning of the target language and context, it can be said the translation is not accurate. The first criterion in the Translation Quality Assessment is accurate. A translation can be said to have a good quality if the text conveys the meaning in proportion. It is mean the meaning of the target language according to the source language. There are numbers to quickly determine the accurate text, less accurate or inaccurate text in the level of accuracy. Accuracy in translation consists of studying the lexicon,

grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural context of the source language text, analyzing it to determine its meaning, and then reconstructing this same meaning using the lexicon and grammatical structure which are appropriate in the receptor language and its cultural context (Larson, 1998).

In addition, Larson in Siregar 2016 discusses the ways in assessing the accuracy of translation quality. The accuracy test means checking whether the meaning of the source text (ST) is similar to the target text (TT). A translator should not ignore, add, or reduce the message contained in ST. Larson in Siregar (2016) states the main objectives of the accuracy test are as follows; a) to check the equivalence of information in a text, b) to find another problem by comparing ST and TT, after he/she is sure about the existence of the information need. It means that this test intends to ensure that the meaning and dynamic of ST are conveyed well in TT.

According to Nababan et al. (2012), there are three translation quality assessments: Accuracy, readability, and acceptability. Accuracy refers to the equivalent of meaning, meaning no distortion of meaning between original work and translated work. The content or the meanings of original and translated work are the same or equivalent in the meaning (Sutrisno&Anindya, 2019). In written translation, readability shows how much the target readers easily understand a text. Readability is a way of finding the

best translation methods and techniques to fit with the source text so the readers can easily understand them (Dubay, 2004). Translation equivalence covers two characteristics: the source language (SL) message and natural, which refers to the receptor language. There are two categories in translation acceptability, acceptable and less acceptable. In essence, the translation must comply with the locally good rules; in terms of language style. Whether slang is involved or not, even multi-meaning words in certain cultures. Acceptability is required to create the best possible translation that fits the target reader (Prasetya, et al, 2019) There is some researchers have been discussed translation quality assessment. One of the researchers is Nadhianti (2016). The research study aims at finding out the accuracy level of Google Translate in English – *Bahasa Indonesia* and *Bahasa Indonesia* – English translations. The difference with this research is the object of this research. This research aims to find out the accuracy level of *Kamusku* and U-dictionary in English – *Bahasa Indonesia*.

## **Method**

The data was taken from three titles of narrative text, consisting of fourteen paragraphs. This research will be obtained from two online dictionaries *Kamusku* and U-dictionary, in English to the Indonesian language. The researcher will translate some paragraphs from narrative text using both online dictionaries. To collect the data, the researcher uses field notes. Making a field note is a data collection

method by recording activities, events, and other setting features being observed. This study used field notes to collect data related to source language (SL) and target language (TL) translation results from an online dictionary. The researcher takes one paragraph from some types of text. The paragraph is written on the table. The researcher makes two tables with the same form. One table is for translation by *Kamusku*, and one table is for translation by U-dictionary.

Researchers use descriptive qualitative to analyze data. Data analysis used to collect the data become information. It can understand and answer the problem related to the research. This research use theory of Nababan (2012) to analyze the data about translation quality assessment. According to Miles and Huberman (1994), there are three major phases of data analysis for the technique of data analysis. It consists of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing/verification. Data reduction refers to the process of selecting data, focusing, simplifying, abstracting, and transforming the data that appear in written-up field notes or transcriptions. Data reduction occurs continuously throughout the life of any qualitatively oriented project. In this case, the researcher selects the data from taking a note dan the questionnaire from users of an online dictionary. The second major flow of analysis activity is data display. It makes the data to be meaningful. Data display can have formed many types, such as matrices, graphs, charts,

and networks. The third stream of analysis activity is conclusion drawing and verification. The conclusion is also verified as the analyst proceeds. After the researcher gets data from several methods to collect data, the researcher can conclude or find some way to solve the problem in the research.

## Findings and Discussion

This chapter describes the general description of the study and the research findings and discussion based on the analysis of the collected data derived from translation results of two online dictionaries *Kamusku* and U-dictionary. The research objectives were aimed to know the accuracy of translation results of online dictionary *Kamusku* and U-dictionary. Nababan (2012) sets out three degrees of accurateness: Accurate, Less Accurate, and Not Accurate; each with corresponding descriptions on the assessment criteria. Skopos on the other hand does not regard accurateness as important. Due to the lack of equivalence, and the focus on whether the reader understands or not makes accuracy less meaningful than correctly placed sentence structure. The result of this objective is presented in the research findings below.

### The Translation Accuracy from *Kamusku*

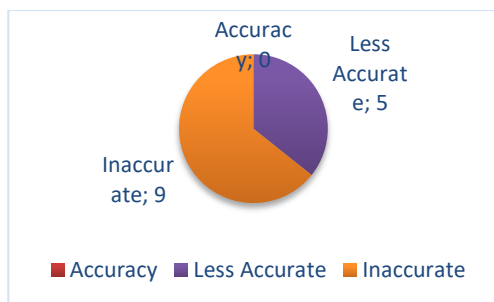


Figure 1 The translation accuracy of narrative text by *Kamusku*

Fourteen paragraphs have been translated by *Kamusku* from 3 titles of the narrative text have been translated by *Kamusku*. The title of narrative text which is to be a data of the research are Pinocchio, Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar, and Golden Eggs. The narrative text entitled Pinocchio has four paragraphs, the text Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar has seven paragraphs, and the text of Golden Eggs has three paragraphs. The result of the research is 0 paragraph has accurate translation, five paragraphs have a less accurate translation, and nine paragraphs have inaccurate translation.

#### § Accurate

The translation result can be said accurate if the data consist of a word, technical terms, phrase, clause, or sentence of the source text that accurately transferred into the target text without distortion of meaning (Nababan, 2012). The narrative text has no accurate text because it is not fulfilling the criteria of accurate translation.

#### § Less Accurate

The translation result is reputed less accurate if the data where most of its content, such as word technical term, phrase, clause, or sentence is transferred accurately into the target text, but still needs the improvement (Nababan, 2012). Some texts that have less accurate translation will describe below.

**Table 1 Less Accurate Translation of the Narrative Text by *Kamusku***

Type of text	Paragraph	Source language	Target language
Narrative	Text 1 paragraph 3	<p>“Pinocchio, come back!” Jiminy Cricket <u>ran after</u> him..... <u>There</u> Pinocchio met a new boy Candlewick. He soon discovered that in Toyland, the lazy and rude kids <u>were turned</u> into donkeys..... “I want to save him!” <u>decided</u> the puppet.</p>	<p>"Pinocchio, kembali!" Jiminy Krike <u>berlari setelah</u> ia..... <u>Ada</u> Pinocchio bertemu anak baru Lilinwick. Ia segera menemukan bahwa di Toyland anak-anak malas dan kasar itu <u>berubah</u> menjadi keledai..... "Saya ingin menyelamatkan dia!" <u>memutuskan</u> boneka itu.</p>

The example was taken from the third paragraph from the narrative text entitle Pinocchio. The narrative text Pinocchio consists of four paragraphs. The third paragraph that is translated by *Kamusku* includes a less accurate translation. The sentence above is a less accurate translation. The meaning word of ran after that translated *berlari setelah* from a source language to the target language is not according to the sentence’s meaning. Run after is an idiom. If the word is translated, each word ran = *berlari*, and after = *setelah*. It can be an ambiguous meaning. The meaning of run after in English is *mengejar*. It is the verb and according to the context of a sentence. The word there in the second sentence of a paragraph is not according to the meaning of the context. The mean of there is not *ada*. In this sentence, the meaning of there is *di sana*. The word

there can be translated *ada, di sana*, etc. Translation of the interpreted text according to the context. The word that was turned in the third sentence of the paragraph is passive voice. Was/were + V3 is a form of simple past. The meaning of where turned is *diubah*. According to the dictionary, the meaning of decided is *memutuskan*, but in this sentence, decided is the word that shows there people just talking about something.

#### § Inaccurate

The translation results are reputed inaccurate if the source text is inaccurately transferred into the target text. It concludes the deletion and elimination of important information of source text (Nababan, 2012). An example of inaccurate text is described below.

**Table 2 Inaccurate Translation of the Narrative Text by *Kamusku***

Type of text	Paragraph	Source language	Target language
Narrative	Text 2 paragraph 4	“Just enough length of my headcloth,” continued Aji Saka.	“Cukup lama saja baju kepalaku sendiri,” sambung Aji Saka.

The example was taken from the fourth paragraph from the narrative text entitled Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar. The narrative text Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar consist of seven paragraphs. The second paragraph was translated by *Kamusku* includes an inaccurate translation. The translation result of “Just enough length” is not suitable with the context of meaning the sentence. Suppose each word translates the phrase. Just = *hanya*, enough = *cukup*, length = *Panjang*. So just enough length = *cukup sepanjang* translating the text, must attend the context, not only focus of translating word by word. Something there is a phrase, clause that has meaning not according to the meaning word by word.

**The Translation Accuracy from U-Dictionary**

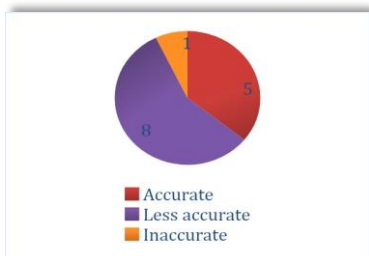


Figure 2 The translation accuracy of narrative text by U-dictionary

U-dictionary has translated Fourteen paragraphs from 3 titles of the narrative text. The title of narrative text which is to be a data of the research are Pinocchio, Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar, and Golden Eggs. The narrative text entitled Pinocchio has four paragraphs, the text Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar has seven paragraphs, and the text of Golden Eggs has three paragraphs. The result of the research is 5 paragraph has accurate translation, eight paragraphs have a less accurate translation, and 1 paragraph has inaccurate translation.

**§ Accurate**

The translation result can be said accurate if the data consist of a word, technical terms, phrase, clause, or sentence of the source text that accurately transferred into the target text without distortion of meaning (Nababan, 2012). Some texts that have accurate translation will describe below.

**Table 3 An Accurate Translation of the Narrative Text by U-Dictionary**

Type of text	Paragraph	Source language	Target language
Narrative	Text 2 paragraph 1	Many years ago, the kingdom of Medang Kamulan was ruled by a king named Dewata Chengkar. This king had a strange and frightening habit. He liked to eat human beings.	Bertahun-tahun yang lalu, kerajaan Medang Kamulan dikuasai oleh raja bernama Dewata Chengkar. Raja ini memiliki kebiasaan aneh dan menakutkan. Dia suka makan manusia.

The example was taken from the very first paragraph from the narrative text entitle Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar. The narrative text Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar consists of four paragraphs. The third paragraph that is translated by U-dictionary includes an accurate translation. The text above concludes accurate translation. There is no distortion of meaning from the source language to the target language. The message was delivered well to the

target language.

#### § Less accurate

The translation result is reputed less accurate if the data where most of its content, such as word technical term, phrase, clause, or sentence is transferred accurately into the target text, but still needs the improvement (Nababan, 2012). Some texts that have less accurate translation will describe below:

**Table 4 Less accurate translation of the narrative text by U-dictionary**

Type of text	Paragraph	Source language	Target language
Narrative	Text 2 paragraph 6	The king kept going backward, step by step, as the cloth kept unraveling. He stepped back through the palace square, backward across the village, holding the end of Aji Saka's headcloth. The king kept stepping backward until he reached the sea cliffs of the sea.	Sang raja terus mundur, selangkah demi selangkah, selagi kain itu masih terurai. Dia melangkah mundur melalui alun-alun istana, mundur melintasi desa, memegang akhir kain kepala Aji Saka. Raja terus melangkah mundur sampai mencapai dasar laut.

The example was taken from the fourth paragraph from the narrative text entitle Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar.

The narrative text Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar consist of seven paragraphs. The sixth paragraph that is



translated by *U-dictionary* includes less accurate translation. The text above concludes a less accurate translation. The meaning of cliffs of the sea is *jurang di laut*, but in the text above Clift of the sea is translated *dasar laut*. It is a distortion of the meaning. It can be a misunderstanding if the reader reads the text.

### § Inaccurate

The translation results are reputed inaccurate if the source text is inaccurately transferred into the target text. It concludes the deletion and elimination of important information of source text (Nababan, 2012). An example of inaccurate text is described below.

**Table 5 Inaccurate translation of the narrative text by U-dictionary**

Type of text	Paragraph	Source language	Target language
Narrative	Text 2 paragraph 4	“Just enough length of my headcloth,” continued Aji Saka. “Come, Young Man. Let’s measure your headcloth so that I can have my meal, and you can have your land,” agreed the king.	Hanya cukup panjang kain kepala saya sendiri. "Saka lanjutan." Ayo, anak muda. Mari kita mengukur kain kepala Anda sehingga saya bisa makan saya dan Anda dapat memiliki tanah Anda "setuju sangraja.

The example was taken from the fourth paragraph from the narrative text entitle Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar. The narrative text Aji Saka and Dewata Cengkar consists of seven paragraphs. The second paragraph that is translated by *U-dictionary* includes inaccurate translation. The text above concludes an inaccurate translation. The meaning of the phrase continued Aji

Saka is “Aji Saka continued his talking before.” It is unclear if the phrase continued Aji Saka translated *saka lanjutan*. It also can be a distortion of meaning. Then, the word my meal translated *makanan*. The translation result is *makan saya*. It can be an ambiguous meaning.

### Conclusion

This chapter explains the conclusion of the research and the suggestion of the researcher. Based on the result of the data analysis and the finding in the previous chapter, the researcher would like to conclude the accuracy of the online dictionary *Kamusku* and *U-dictionary*. The researcher has a conclusion based on the problem as

follows. Throughout the analysis of translation accuracy of translation results from *Kamusku*, there are three parameters of accuracy. These are accurate, less accurate, and inaccurate. In this research, the researcher found the totally of paragraph of the narrative text has been translated by *Kamusku* are 14 paragraphs, with the result the research 0 paragraphs (0%) have an accurate translation, five paragraphs (35,7%) have less accurate translation result, and nine paragraphs (64,3%) have inaccurate translation result. It means the online dictionary *Kamusku* have less accurate translation result from English to the Indonesian language in translating narrative text. It is because there is a distortion of meaning from the source language to the target language.

Throughout the analysis of translation accuracy of translation results from U-dictionary, there are three parameters of accuracy. These are accurate, less accurate, and inaccurate. In this research, the researcher found a total of paragraphs of narrative. U-dictionary has translated the text are 14 paragraphs. The result of the research five paragraphs (35,7%) have accurate translation results, eight paragraphs (57,1%) have less accurate translation results, and one paragraph (7,2%) have inaccurate results. The online dictionary U-dictionary has a less accurate translation from English into the Indonesian language in translating narrative text. It is because there is a distortion of meaning from the source language to the target language. By considering the conclusion above, the researcher gives some suggestions: According to the research in translation accuracy of online dictionary *Kamusku* and U- dictionary, the user more attention to use also choice the online dictionary to help translation process. The user also has rechecked the translation result by rereading the translation result. The user must repair the translation result if evident the result has a bad quality translation. This research is far from being perfect. It is just discussed and analyzed about translation quality assessment inaccuracy. The researcher expected that other researchers can discuss and analyze deeply about the translation quality assessment.

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