A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF HUMAN TRANSLATION AND MACHINE TRANSLATION WITH POST-EDITING: INTEGRATING TEXT DOMAIN AND TRANSLATION COMPETENCE

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ABSTRACT

Machine translation (MT), with the help of rapid advances in technology, has become an effective tool for translators in the process of translation, particularly when the translator does not possess good translation skills and is not familiar with the text domain. However, since MT is highly mechanical and mathematical, it lacks human touch that makes it not able to recognize certain linguistic aspects. As a result, the translated text is not ready to use and thus requires post-editing before being published. This study focuses on the HT and MT with PE translations of texts of two domains, i.e. academic and literary texts, by two groups of translators, i.e. professional and amateur translators. The purposes of the present study are twofold, i.e. (1) to explore the similarities, differences, and processes of these two modes of translation; (2) to explicate the categories of errors and the strategies to correct them. The data will be in the form of English source texts, Indonesian target text, and questionnaires. Google Translate will be the MT system used in this study because of its easy and free accessibility. A total of 40 subjects will be timed on their translation tasks, and their performance and text accuracy will be determined by the number of errors in the translated text. The results may offer insights into the practical use of machine translation, as well as problems encountered by users and how to tackle them. It is hoped that these results may serve as a basis to facilitate the use of MT in translation practice and teaching.

Kata Kunci: machine translation, human translation, post-editing