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# PROSIDING
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# "MENILIK ULANG TEORI
# DAN PRAKTIK PENERJEMAHAN"

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# Daftar Isi

# THE ASSESSMENT OF TRANSLATION QUALITY IN *FREETRANSLATION.COM*

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### *Abstract*

Translation service is very useful especially for some people who need it, but it is necessary to examine and assess the translation result of the translation services to recognize their translation quality. This research aims to figure out the translation quality of *FreeTranslation.com*. To analyze it, the researcher employed the theory of Larson. This theory helps the researcher to analyze the data finding in order to recognize the translation quality of *FreeTranslation.com* by analyzing its accuracy, clarity, and naturalness. Descriptive qualitative method was employed in this research. The result showed that the translation quality of *FreeTranslation.com* calculating all the points for all the sentences is: 1) Accuracy: (a) bad score is 11 points, (b) fair score is 16 points, (c) good score is 3 points, (d) excellent score is 0 point, 2) Clarity: (a) bad score is 13 points, (b) fair score is 14 points, (c) good score is 0 point, (d) excellent score is 0 point, (3) Naturalness: (a) bad score is 14 points, (b) fair score is 12 points, (c) good score is 0 point, (d) excellent score is 0 point. The scores which were given by the researcher for *FreeTranslation.com* have been validated by the expert. It can be concluded that the most score for all of the sentences is bad for the accuracy, clarity, and naturalness aspect.

**Keywords:** *Translation Quality Assessment, Machine Translation, FreeTranslation.com*

## 1. Introduction

The globalization era makes the people's life become more practical. The practicality can be seen from the ease in the fulfillment of human needs. One of them is using the internet technology. There are many internet services which are interested, one of them is online translation service. This service is interested because nowadays many information and knowledges are written in foreign language especially in English Language. For some people who don't understand it, they need a tool which can help them to translate and understand the foreign language, and online translation service is a tool which can translate from one language to another language. It is used in order that information and knowledge from source language can be understood faster and easier, but the result of translation should be examined because sometime the result of translation is not good enough and unreadable. Because of that reason, it is necessary to examine and assess the translation result of those translation services to know their translation quality based on the theory of the assessment of translation quality.

According to Nida and Taber (2004:12), ―Translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style‖. It means that translation is not as a mere transfer of the source language (SL) form to target language (TL) form, but the meaning and the language style in target language (TL) have to be equivalent with the source language (SL).

Everyone has different opinion in assessing the translation result of a text, because different readers will understand the text in their own way. The final result depends on their personal background knowledge, beliefs and attitudes. Therefore, there is more than

one reading and more than one rendering of a single text. So, in assessing the translation result of these translation services have to refer to the criteria of translation quality assessment.

According to Barnwell (1983:15), to make a good and qualified translation, it has to fulfill three main criteria, those are accuracy, clarity, and naturalness. Same way as Barnwell, Larson (1984:485) says that there are three aspects of translation to measure the translation quality namely accuracy, clarity and naturalness. Therefore, the translation can be categorized as a good translation if those three criteria are included in that translation. The translation quality of each translation service will be known after doing an assessment toward their translation result by using these criteria.

In this research, the writer chooses *FreeTranslation.com*. It is wholly owned by *Simple Direct Media Layer (SDL)*, a company providing software and service solutions for language translation purposes including interpretation services. Powered by the leading business Machine Translation engines on the market. *FreeTranslation.com* allows users to obtain free translations of text, documents, and web pages, and offers translation in 41 languages (http://www.freetranslation.com). The writer chooses this online translation service because it is the fifth ranking online translation service in 2016 based on CSA (Common Sense Advisory) Research. CSA Research includes "The Language Services Market‖, it is the ranking of the largest language service providers, as well as regional rankings. It was listed the largest 100 translation companies in the world based on revenue, and *Simple Direct Media Layer (SDL)* is the fifth ranking (http://www.commonsenseadvisory.com).

The reason makes the writer interested in analyzing the translation quality on online translation service which is focused on *FreeTranslation.com* is to know the quality of this translation service based on the criteria of translation assessments. Therefore, as the descriptive qualitative analysis, this study attempts to figure out the assessment of translation quality in *Freetranslation.com* by assessing its accuracy, clarity, and naturalness.

## 2. Literature Review

Larson (1984:3) states that translation consist of translating the meaning of the source language into the receptor language, it is done by going from the first language form to the second language form by using the semantic structure. It is the meaning which is being transferred and must be held constant and only the form which changes. Translation is not only in the written language but also in the spoken language. This matter based on Newmark's opinion. He says that translation is a craft in the attempt to replace a written message and/or statement in one language by same message and/or statement in another language (Newmark, 1982:7). Based on definition of translation above, it can be concluded that translation is not as a mere transfer of the source language (SL) form to target language (TL) form, but the meaning or message in the source language text can be read easily in the target language text readers as the original readers do in its original text. Translation indeed a term covering both written text and oral text interpretation. However, translation in this study is merely limited to refer to the written text.

A good translation should be read natural and conveys the meaning and the message of the text. Larson (1984:485-487) says that there are three determining and widely accepted criteria in assessing the quality of any translation. These three criteria are important throughout the translation, so entire translation must be checked for each one. These criteria are:

1. Accuracy

   Accuracy means correct of the source message, and transfer of the meaning of that message as exactly as possible into receptor language. It refers to the precise understanding of the source message and transferring the meaning of the message as accurate as possible into the target language, it means that all information in the source text is conveyed.

2. Clarity

A translation may be accurate but still not communicate to the people who use it. The forms of the language used should be those which make the message of the source text as easy to understand as the source text itself was to understand. The only way to check for clarity is to test it with person who are not familiar with the source text and ask question which will show what they understand. It means that the translation must be understandable to the people who are depending on it for information.

3. Naturalness

A translation may be accurate in that the translator understood correctly the source text and is attempting to communicate that information, and it may even by under stable, and yet the forms may not be natural idiomatic forms of the receptor language. The translation must be tested to see if the grammatical forms used are those normally used. The message is accurate and clear but at the same time, they sound strange. It means that a translation should not sound foreign, and should use the natural form of the receptor language.

These are three determining and widely accepted criteria in assessing the quality of any translation. The translator is constantly struggling to achieve the ideal in all these three areas. When it seems impossible to reconcile all three criteria, then accuracy should be the priority. Considering the criteria above, it is concluded that the highest and the main priority of translation is not only reproducing the content of the message but also the meaning should be made sense to all the readers.

An inclusive and nearly exact indicator for the quality category of accuracy to be utilized in this investigation is adapted from Kurniadi (2014). He conceives of four levels for accuracy of a translated text:

| 1. | Bad | Semantically, misleading, and incomprehensible, unclear  meaning, the some grammatical errors, and divination of meaning. |
| 2. | Fair | Correct meaning, minimum redundancy, and grammatical error. |
| 3. | Good | Correct meaning, no omission, addition or any changes of meaning. |
| 4. | Excellent | Accurate, clear, no omission, addition or any changes of meaning. |

Larson (1984) argues that a translation may be accurate but still not communicate to the people who are to use it. The quality category of clarity as cited in Kurniadi (2014) can be evaluated on four levels:

| 1. | Bad | Stylistically awkward, structurally burdensome, poorly structure, diction and mechanical errors. |
| 2. | Fair | Complex syntax but understandable meaning and some diction that have mechanical error. |
| 3. | Good | Appropriate words, phrase and grammar and also clear meaning. |
| 4. | Excellent | Easy to be understood, correct words, phrases, and grammar, and no ambiguity. |

Eventually, the purpose of naturalness tests is to see if the form of the translation is natural and the style appropriate. Kurniadi's indicators (2014) for the quality category of naturalness are the following:

| 1. | Bad | Unnatural form, awkward language, linguistically unnatural, stylistically awkward. |
| 2. | Fair | Makes sense and minimum unnatural words, grammar, phrases and idioms. |
| 3. | Good | Correct meaning, appropriate idiom and word but there are some syntactic structure errors. |

| 4. | | Excellent Make sense and read naturally (written in ordinary language, common grammar, proper idioms and words). |
|---|---|---|

### 3. Methodology

In the research, descriptive qualitative method was employed. Moleong (2011:4) states that a qualitative research method is a procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of words written or spoken about the properties of the individual, situation, the symptoms of a particular group which can be observed. It is employed to describe the assessment of translation quality of *FreeTranslation.com*. The writer began the study by choosing an English article from *The Jakarta Post* (the best and the famous English daily newspaper in Indonesia), opening the website of *FreeTranslation.com,* then translating the articles from English to Bahasa by using *FreeTranslation.com*. After collecting the data, the writer continues to assess the translation result of *FreeTranslation.com* sentence by sentence uses criteria of translation assessment.

### 4. Discussion and Findings

This part describes how the translation quality of *FreeTranslation.com* according to the researcher's analysis which has been validated by the expert who knew more about the translation in both theory and practice. The text that was used in this research is the English article about religion. The article contains of 20 sentences of which they were analyzed and interpreted. It has been analyzed as follows:

| No | The Source Text | The Target Text (*FreeTranslation. com*) | Aspect | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Accuracy | | | | Clarity | | | | Naturalness | | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Ramadhan is likely to fall on Saturday. | *Ramadhan adalah kemungkinan untuk jatuh pada hari Sabtu.* | ∫ | | | | ∫ | | | | ∫ | | | |
| 2. | The government will hold an isbat (confirmation) meeting on Friday to decide on the beginning of the Ramadhan fasting month, despite some Islamic groups already announcing the date. | *Pemerintah akan menye-lenggarakan pertemuan isbat (penegasan) pada hari Jumat untuk memutuskan pada permulaan bulan puasa Ramadhan, meskipun beberapa kelompok-kelompok Islam telah mengumumkan tanggal.* | | ∫ | | | ∫ | | | | | ∫ | | |
| 3. | The meeting at the Religious Affairs Ministry is scheduled to start at 4 p.m. and will involve representatives from several Islamic organizations, the ministry | *Pertemuan di Departemen Agama, dijadwalkan untuk mulai di 4 p.m. dan akan melibatkan perwakilan dari beberapa organisasi-organisasi Islam, departemen* | ∫ | | | | | | ∫ | | | ∫ | | |

| No | The Source Text | The Target Text (FreeTranslation.com) | Accuracy | | | | Clarity | | | | Naturalness | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | announced on its official website, kemenag.go.id. | mengumumkan pada situs web resmi, kemenag.go.id. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. | —The meeting will start with the astronomical reading of the hilal [new moon],‖ the ministry's information and public relations head Zubaidi wrote on the website. | "Pertemuan tersebut akan mulai dengan pembacaan astronomi hilal [bulan baru]," kementerian informasi dan hubungan masyarakat Zubaidi kepala menulis pada website. | | ∫ | | | ∫ | | | | ∫ | | | |
| 5. | Representatives from the Hisab Rukyat Board and the National Aeronautics and Space Institute (Lapan) will be present. | Perwakilan dari Board Rukyat Hisab dan Aeronautics Nasional dan Ruang Institute (III diraih Lapan) akan hadir. | ∫ | | | | ∫ | | | | ∫ | | | |
| 6. | Zubaidi said the results, which are based on observations of the moon's position as seen from several points across the country, would inform the ministry's final decision. | Zubaidi mengatakan hasil, yang didasarkan pada pengamatan bulan pada posisi seperti yang dilihat dari beberapa poin di seluruh Indonesia, akan meng-informasikan kepada kementerian keputusan akhir. | | ∫ | | | ∫ | | | | | ∫ | | |
| 7. | Muhammadiya, Indonesia's second-largest Islamic organization, which announced that Ramadhan would begin on Saturday, will also be present at the isbat meeting. | Muhammadiyah, Indonesia, organisasi Islam terbesar kedua, yang diumumkan bahwa Ramadhan akan dimulai pada hari Sabtu, juga akan hadir pada pertemuan isbat. | ∫ | | | | ∫ | | | | ∫ | | | |

| No | The Source Text | The Target Text (*FreeTranslation. com*) | Aspect | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Accuracy | | | | Clarity | | | | Naturalness | | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8. | —We will send representatives. But, we expect the ministry to reply to our letter detailing our conditions and requests relating to the isbat meeting,‖ Muhamma-diyah secretary Abdul Mu'ti said as quoted by Antara news agency on Thursday. | *Kami akan mengirim perwakilan. Tetapi, kami berharap departemen untuk membalas ke surat kita merinci kondisi kita dan yang berhubungan dengan isbat permintaan rapat," sekretaris Muhammadiyah Abdul Mu'ti yang dikutip Antara news agency pada hari Kamis.* | | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | ʃ | | | |
| 9. | In the letter, Muhammadiyah called on the ministry to only invite Islamic organizations that had their own calculation systems to determine the start of Ramadhan. | *Dalam surat tersebut, yang disebut pada pelayanan Muhammadiyah untuk hanya mengundang organisasi-organisasi Islam, yang mempunyai sistem perhitungan sendiri untuk menentukan permulaan Ramadhan.* | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | |
| 10. | The organization also demanded that the meeting be closed and that there would be no media coverage, especially by television stations. | *Organisasi juga menuntut agar pertemuan tersebut ditutup dan bahwa tidak akan ada liputan media, khususnya oleh stasiun televisi.* | | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | |
| 11. | Based on its observations, Muhammadiyah announced that the fasting month would begin on Saturday. | *Berdasarkan-pemerhatiannya, Muhammadiyah mengumumkan bahwa bulan puasa akan dimulai pada hari Sabtu.* | | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | |

| No | The Source Text | The Target Text (FreeTranslation.com) | Aspect | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Accuracy | | | | Clarity | | | | Naturalness | | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 12. | Meanwhile, the country's largest Islamic organization, Nahdlatul Ulama (NU), announced Ramadhan would start on Sunday. | *Sementara itu, organisasi Islam terbesar di Indonesia, Nahdlatul Ulama (NU), mengumumkan Ramadhan akan memulai pada hari Minggu.* | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | |
| 13. | NU advisory board secretary-general, A. Malik Madaniy, said that according to NU's observations, Saturday would mark the end of Sya'ban month, meaning Ramadhan should start on Sunday. | *NU dewan penasehat sekretaris jenderal, A. Malik Madaniy, mengatakan bahwa menurut NU, Sabtu akan menandai akhir bulan Sya'ban, maksud harus dimulai Ramadhan pada hari Minggu.* | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | |
| 14. | —Insya Allah [God willing], Nahdlatul Ulama and its community will start fasting on Sunday,‖ he said in a phone interview. | *"Insya Allah [Insya Allah], Nahdlatul Ulama dan masyarakat yang akan mulai berpuasa pada hari Minggu," dia mengatakan dalam sebuah wawancara telepon.* | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | |
| 15. | Madaniy also raised doubts that the ministry would determine anything on Friday as the crescent moon had only reached a 0.25 degree position under the horizon as of Thursday. | *Madaniy juga dibangkitkan keraguan bahwa departemen akan menentukan apa-apa pada hari Jumat sebagai bulan sabit telah hanya mencapai posisi gelar 0.25 di bawah horizon sebagai hari Kamis.* | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | |
| 16. | He said based on an agreement among Islamic countries, the start of | *Ia mengatakan berdasarkan sebuah kesepakatan diantara negara-negara Islam, mulai* | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | | | |

| No | The Source Text | The Target Text (*FreeTranslation.com*) | Accuracy | | | | Clarity | | | | Naturalness | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Ramadhan could only be determined when the crescent moon had reached at least 2 degrees above the horizon. | *Ramadhan hanya dapat ditentukan ketika bulan sabit telah mencapai sedikitnya 2 derajat di atas horizon.* | | | | | | | | | | ʃ | | |
| 17. | In Padang, West Sumatra, some 5,000 members of Muslim organization Naqsabandiyah will start fasting on Friday. | *Di Padang, Sumatera Barat, beberapa 5.000 anggota organisasi Muslim Naqsabandiyah akan mulai berpuasa pada hari Jumat.* | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | |
| 18. | West Sumatra Naqsabandiyah secretary Edison said that the first day of Ramadhan had been set using a method called the hisab munjib, which defines the first day of Ramadhan to be 360 days after the first day of the previous year's Ramadhan. | *Sekretaris Naqsabandiyah Sumatera Barat Edison mengatakan bahwa hari pertama Ramadhan telah disetel menggunakan metode yang disebut hisab munjib, yang menentukan hari pertama Ramadhan menjadi 360 hari setelah hari pertama dari tahun sebelumnya Ramadhan.* | ʃ | | | | | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | |
| 19. | ‒This is the calendar that our teachers have used for generations,‖ Edison said. ‒So, we will start Tarawih prayer on Thursday evening.‖ | *"Ini adalah kalendar yang telah digunakan untuk guru kita," kata Edison generasi. "Jadi, kita akan mulai doa pulang tarawih pada hari Kamis malam."* | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | | | ʃ | | |
| 20. | Consequently, the congregation will celebrate Idul Fitri ahead of the | *Akibatnya, jemaat akan merayakan hari raya Idul Fitri menjelang pemerintah-setel* | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | | ʃ | | | |

| No | The Source Text | The Target Text (*FreeTranslation. com*) | Aspect | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Accuracy | | | | Clarity | | | | Naturalness | | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | government-set date. | *tanggal.* | | | | | | | | | | | | |

### 5. Conclusion

Based on the result of the research can be concluded that the translation quality of *FreeTranslation.com* in translating a religion article is relatively bad in three aspects of translation quality assessment, namely accuracy, clarity, and naturalness (Larson, 1984:485). Translation quality of *FreeTranslation.com* calculating all the points for all the sentences is: 1) Accuracy: (a) bad score is 11 points, (b) fair score is 16 points, (c) good score is 3 points, (d) excellent score is 0 point, 2) Clarity: (a) bad score is 13 points, (b) fair score is 14 points, (c) good score is 0 point, (d) excellent score is 0 point, (3) Naturalness: (a) bad score is 14 points, (b) fair score is 12 points, (c) good score is 0 point, (d) excellent score is 0 point. The result of analysis about the translation quality of *FreeTranslation.com* which were validated by the expert showed that the dominantly scores were given to *FreeTranslation.com* for all of sentences is bad score for accuracy, clarity, and naturalness aspect. This because the translation of *FreeTranslation.com* are unclear meaning, the usage of wrong diction, unnatural meaning, the presence of some grammatical errors, and awkward language.

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