THE CORRELATION BETWEEN VOCABULARY MASTERY AND TRANSLATION ABILITY OF THE ELEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMA NEGERI 11 PALEMBANG

A Thesis by

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UNIVERSITAS TRIDINANTI PALEMBANG

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DEDICATIONS

This thesis is dedicated to:

1. **My greatest God and Buddha Maitreya because of their blessing, strength, and love, the writer is able to finish this thesis.**
2. **My beloved parents (Moi Soe Min and Merry Nganto). They are my trully support system to finish this thesis.**
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4. **My lovely son (Eleos Earth Erfenthia) who always teach me how to be grateful.**
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8. **Tridinanti University of Palembang as my almamater.**

MOTTO

"*Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all*"

(Aristotle)

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PERNYATAAN

Saya menyatakan dengan sebenar-benarnya bahwa seluruh data, informasi, interpretasi serta pernyataan dalam pembahasan dan kesimpulan yang disajikan dalam karya ilmiah ini, kecuali yang disebutkan sumbernya adalah merupakan hasil pengamatan, penelitian, pengelolahan, serta pemikiran saya dengan pengarahan dari pembimbing yang ditetapkan.

Apabila ternyata dalam naskah skripsi ini dapat dibuktikan terdapat unsur-unsur jiplakan, saya bersedia skripsi ini digugurkan dan gelar akademik yang telah saya peroleh (S-1) dibatalkan, serta diproses sesuai dengan peraturan perundang-undangan yang berlaku (UU) No. 20 Tahun 2003, Pasal 25 ayat 2 dan pasal 70.

Palembang, 29th March 2021

Mahasiswi,

Cynthia Eka Pertiwi

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ABSTRACT

In this study, the writer focused on the correlation between vocabulary mastery and translation skill. The significances of this study were to find out whether there was a correlation between vocabulary mastery and translation ability of the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang and how much did vocabulary mastery contribute toward translation ability of eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang. There were two variables in this study, the independent variable (vocabulary mastery) and dependent variable (translation ability). The population of this study was the eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang. The writer applied purposive sampling in selecting the sample. The sample was taken 70 students from 478 populations. In collecting the data, the writer used vocabulary test and translation test, they were one procedure text for translation test and multiple choice items that consisted of 30 items for vocabulary test. In analyzing the data, correlation analysis was used. Based on the statistical anlysis, it was found that the correlation between students' vocabulary mastery and students' translation ability was 0.535 at the significance level of 0.000. It means students' vocabulary mastery and students' translation ability was correlated significantly since the (p-value) 0.535 was higher than 0.05. Both variables were moderately strong correlated with each other in a high level. It indicated that there was significant correlation between vocabulary mastery and translation ability at eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang.

Keywords: *Correlation Research, Vocabulary Mastery, and Translation Skill.*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the writer presents: (1) Background, (2) The Problem of Study, (3) The Objective of Study, and (4) The Significance of Study.

1.1 Background

Language is one of the most essential aspects which plays a great role that cannot be separated in human's life. Through language, people are able to communicate each other. According to Patel (2008, p. 27-28), language is a system of communications which consist of a set of sounds and written symbols which are used by the people of a particular country for talking or writing. It means that language helps each individual to express their emotion, needs, and thoughts also to maintain a good social relationship in community.

There are many languages available in the world, English is the commonly used one. Nowadays, English is a language which is used globally as an international language over the world and it is studied as a foreign language especially in Indonesia. As it is stated by Setiyadi (2006, p. 22) that in Indonesia, English is learned only at schools and people do not speak the language in the society. English is really a foreign language for language learners in Indonesia. On the other hand, many job advertisements list a good command of English as one of the top requirements that is why English is very important to learn. Therefore, the private courses or English courses are becoming more popular nowadays (Lie, 2007, p. 3).

Based on the explanations above, it is clear that English is the foreign language which is taught in Indonesia and becomes an important subject that must be taught in all of class. Therefore, education plays the biggest role to improve the students' skills especially in English. Basically, there are four skills in English, namely listening, reading, speaking, and writing. These four skills are related to each other and the students should also master the language components such as vocabulary, pronunciation, spelling and grammar. Language skills and language components can be easily taught when students have good translation skills.

Realizing that the translation ability is important skill for students to have, the teachers are able to use translation in the process of teaching and learning English as foreign language to facilitate students to understand what they express and say in their languages, write in their letters, and communicate with their friends. It is in line with Dagiliene (2012, p. 124), he defines that translation is activities which are applied in the foreign language learning process to achieve progress in improving language skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. However, translation is not an easy job that can be done by anyone without knowing the procedures, methods and techniques. The difference between the source language and the target language and the variations of their cultures make the process of translating becomes very problematic. Factors involved in translation are form, meaning, style, proverbs, idioms, grammar mastery, vocabulary mastery, etc.

According to Gill cited by Serhan (2011, p. 477), translation is one of great value in sensitising students to contrasts and compare between the grammars

of their own language and the source language. Therefore, vocabulary mastery plays an essential role to achieve the translation skill. It is one of the basic lessons to be introduced to students in acquiring a new sentence in English. Vocabulary can decide whether the translation product is readable or not, whether it is producing the exact translation for the reader or not. It seems to be the basic yet crucial of all aspects to understand language.

Besides translation ability, vocabulary mastery is one of the aspects to support the mastery of four language skills. Vocabulary mastery is divided into two types (Nation, 2001). The first is productive vocabulary, it is word that student uses correctly and understand when students are speaking and writing, it is associated with the productive skills. Meanwhile, the second is receptive vocabulary, it is word that students recognise and understand while listening and reading and it is associated with receptive skills. The students mainly use their productive vocabulary since the translation is in written form.

Based on the observation conducted by the writer with English teachers at SMA Negeri 11 Palembang, some students had difficulties in translating English text because they did not understand the specific word, the word structure, the word choice, and the students were worried about making mistakes. They stated that vocabulary is the main problem when they had to translate a text and article. Mainly it was caused by their lack of English vocabulary, they still had to consult the meaning of the words from dictionary to know their definition. Even if they already found the meaning, sometimes they found it was hard to match the word

meaning with the context of the text. If they were not able to translate the words from source language (SL) to target language (TL), they left it blank.

Based on the phenomenon above, the writer attempts to find whether or not there was a significant correlation between vocabulary mastery and translation ability and to find out how much the contribution of vocabulary mastery to translation ability of eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang. Therefore, the writer was interested to conduct a research entitled "The Correlation Between Vocabulary Mastery and Translation Ability of the Eleventh Grade Students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang".

1.2 The Problem of the Study

1.2.1 Limitation of the Study

The limitation of this study was specified on vocabulary mastery which focused on productive vocabulary and translation ability which focused on procedure text of eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang.

1.2.2 Formulation of the Study

Related to the background above, the problems of this study were formulated as follows:

1. Was there any significant correlation between vocabulary mastery and translation ability of eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang?
2. How much did vocabulary mastery contribute to translation ability of eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study were to find out whether or not there was any significant correlation between vocabulary mastery and translation ability and how much vocabulary mastery contributed toward translation ability of eleventh grade students of SMA Negeri 11 Palembang.

1.4 Significances of the Study

The writer hopes that after conducting this study, it would give some benefits for teacher, students, school and other writers in order to develop English teaching and learning activity.

(1) For the Students

The process of this study would be useful for the students in how to understand the material, especially procedure text and as a reference to improve the students' translation ability in exploring more about vocabulary mastery.

(2) For the Teachers

The result of this study can be used as a reference for the teacher to be more creative and it would be giving a good impact to make students more interest to learn English, especially to increase students' vocabulary mastery and translation ability.

(3) For the School

The result of this study would give a good contribution to the development of teaching vocabulary mastery and translation skill, especially to SMA Negeri 11 Palembang.

(4) For the Writer and Other Researchers

By conducting this study, it would increase the writer's knowledge in conducting a correlation sudy. For other reseachers, this study can help to get some informations and a reference in conducting their research.

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