

**THE CORRELATION BETWEEN STUDENTS' READING  
COMPREHENSION AND TRANSLATION ABILITY OF EFL  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS AT TRIDINANTI UNIVERSITY**

**A Thesis By**

**SUCI INDAH SARI**

**Student's Registration Number 1904410002.P**

**English Education Study Program**



**FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY OF TRIDINANTI**

**2023**

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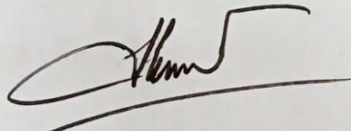
**Student's Registration Number 1904410002.P**

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**Faculty of Teacher Training and Education**

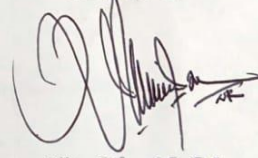
**Approved by**

**Advisor I,**



**Dr. Darmawan Budiyanto, M. Pd.**

**Advisor 2,**



**Nita Ria, M. Pd.**

**Certified by**

**Dean of Faculty of Teacher Training and Education**



The stamp is circular with a blue border. Inside the border, the text "UNIVERSITAS TRIDIANANTI" is written at the top, and "FACULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN" is written at the bottom. In the center, there is a logo featuring a stylized bird or flame above wavy lines. A handwritten signature in blue ink is written across the stamp.

**Nyayu Lulu Nadya, M.Pd.**

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Day : Tuesday

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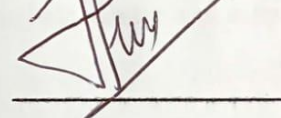
1. **Dr. Darmawan Budiyo, M. Pd.**  
(Member)



2. **Nita Ria, M. Pd.**  
(Member)



3. **Heru Setiawan, M.Pd.**



**Palembang, 2023**

**Dean of Faculty of Teacher  
Training and Education**



**Nyayu Lulu Nadva, M.Pd.**

**NIDN.0209058702**

## **DEDICATION AND MOTTO**

This thesis is dedicated to:

- Allah SWT for blessing me to finish this thesis and the prophet Muhammad SAW who always guides me to be a good muslim.
- My beloved parents, (H. Dentjik, SH., M. Si and Hj. Nurmalia, SH., M. Si) who always love, support, and pray for my success. Thank you so much for everything.
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### **MOTTO**

**“It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you don’t stop.”**

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This thesis is submitted to fulfill one the requirements to accomplish S1 degree of Faculty of Teacher Training Education, English Study Program at Tridinanti University.

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Palembang, 2023

Suci Indah Sari

## SURAT 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 merupakan hasil pengamatan, penelitian, pengelolaan serta pemikiran saya dengan pengarahannya dari pembimbing yang telah ditetapkan.

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

Palembang,

2023



Suci Indah Sari

## ABSTRACT

Reading comprehension can affect the students' translation ability in transferring a language appropriately, in constructing a sentence or comprehending a text, the students should understand the text that can lead the students easily interpret the text and be able to increase translation performance. The purposes of this research were to find out the correlation between students' reading comprehension and translation ability and the contribution of reading comprehension on translation ability. The population was the undergraduate of English education study program. In choosing the sample, purposive sampling was used that involved 57 students. The data were collected by using reading comprehension and translation ability tests. The data were analyzed by using Rank-Spearman to investigate the correlation between both variables and regression analysis. The results showed that the coefficient of correlation was (0.579) it indicated that there was a fair correlation between student's reading comprehension and translation ability of EFL Undergraduate students at Tridinanti University then the result of regression it was found that there was also contribution of reading comprehension to translation ability of EFL Undergraduate students at Tridinanti University as much 26,5%. Therefore, the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) was rejected, and the alternative hypothesis ( $H_a$ ) was accepted. In other words, reading comprehension affects translation ability and having a rich reading comprehension can make students easier for students to translate.

**Keywords:** *Correlation, reading comprehension, translation ability*

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# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter discusses (1) background of study, (2) problems of study, (3) objectives of the study, and (4) the significances of the study.

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Language is a very important aspect of human life because without language we cannot express our feeling and communicate with each other. As stated by Patel (2008), language is a system of communication that consist of a set of sounds and written symbols that are used by people of a particular country for talking or writing. It means that language help human expresses their feeling and communicate and build a good relationship in the community.

There are many languages known in the world. One of them is English. When some people meet a foreign person or visit another country, it is possible that they will use English to communicate. Thus, students are also expected to learn English as a means to broaden their knowledge of science, technology, culture, and the arts.

According to Braine (2011), English has been described as the first foreign language in Indonesia and it is officially taught to students from elementary school until university level. 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).

In learning English, there are four skills should be mastered. They are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The four basic English language skills are divided into two categories in terms of receptive skills and productive skills. Receptive skills are a term used of reading and listening skills, where meaning is extracted from the discourse; while productive skills is the term of speaking and writing skills, where students actually have to produce language themselves Harmer (2007).

One of the skills that should be acquired is reading that helps the students enlarge their knowledge that can be obtained from the textbook and any other sources. In other words, reading is the process of interpreting a message that this skill can make students to get any information or knowledge from newspaper, book, letter, magazine and other sources. Moreover, reading skills have benefit to get successful in the academic. Harmer (2007, p. 99) states that reading is useful for language acquisition provides that students more or less understand what they read, the more they read the better they comprehend it because they will understand a lot of things.

Reading comprehension can affect the student's translation ability in transferring a language appropriately. It is supported by Macizo and Bajo (2004) argues that reading comprehension put a set of processes from speech processing (segmentation and classification of the incoming input), process accessed (recognition of isolated words and access to information associated with them), and sentential processing (extraction and combination of syntactic information to obtain a sentence interpretation), to discourse processing (integration and interpretation successive sentence to arrive at a global mental representation) and all of these

comprehension processes are involved during both reading and translation. It assumes that reading comprehension of the text is needed to reformulate the message into the target language. Furthermore, reading comprehension skill plays crucial role to determine the quality of translation. In other words, reading skill has components for translation process, source text of reading and the interpretation into the target language.

According to Rindianti (2010 p. 15), Indonesia students find the difficulties in translating English (Source language) to Indonesia (Target language) or vice versa. In translating the text, undergraduate students should think critically. Barzegar (2008) states translation is defined as an attempt to replace a written message and or statement in one language by the same message and or statement in another. In constructing a sentence or comprehend a text, the students should understand the text that can lead the students easily interpret the text and be able to increase translation performance.

Based on the writer observation at Tridinanti University on Mei 2022, some students had difficulties in translating English text because they did not understand how to analyze, transfer and also reconstruct the text from source language into target language.

Based on the explanation above, the writer was interested in conducting a study entitled “The Correlation between Students' Reading Comprehension and Translation Ability of EFL Undergraduate Student at Tridinanti University.



## **1.2 Problem of the Study**

### **1.2.1 Limitation of the Problem**

The limitation of this study is focused on correlation between reading comprehension and translation ability of EFL undergraduate students at Tridinanti University.

### **1.2.2 Formulation of the Problems**

The problems of this study were formulated as follows:

- 1) Was there any significant correlation between students' reading comprehension and translation ability of EFL undergraduate students at Tridinanti University?
- 2) How much did students' reading comprehension contribute to translation ability of EFL undergraduate students at Tridinanti University?

### **1.2.3 The Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problems above, the objectives of the study were as follows:

- 1) To find out whether there was any significant correlation or not between students' reading comprehension and translation ability of EFL undergraduate students at Tridinanti University.
- 2) To find out how much students' reading comprehension contributed to translation ability of EFL undergraduate students at Tridinanti University.

#### **1.2.4 The Significances of the Study**

1) For the Students

Hopefully, the results of this study were expected that the students could help more aware of the important of reading comprehension which could help students improve their translation ability.

2) For the English Lectures

The results of this study will be useful as a reference and feedback for English lectures, so the teacher encourage the students more reading activities to increase their reading comprehension, so that the students understand the text and enlarge their knowledge that could help students to translate the text accurately.

3) For the Writer Herself

By conducting this study, it would increase the writer's knowledge and get new experience in conducting scientific research about reading comprehension and translation ability that occurred in educational environment.

4) For the Other Researchers

The result of this study can be as a reference and expected to give motivation for other researchers who are interested in conducting further research regarding the reading comprehension and translation ability.

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