

# CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

The higher demand of translation necessity has a direct impact on the development of technological aids for translators. The recently published *Survey of the Canadian Translation Industry* stated that the growth has reached by 50% per year (1999, p.39). Translation technology covers many different types of computer aids for translators, ranging from word processors and electronic dictionaries to machine translation systems. However, one of the most popular types of tool on the market at the moment is the translation memory (TM) tool, and this will be the focus of this research.

So far, most people have heard that machine translation (MT) refers to a computer program that has a capability to transfer text from one language to another. In fact, the foundation of machine translation has been around and discussed within the translator and the linguistics researcher since the 1940's, and after the last 60 years have passed, Machine Translation technology has brought out a great deal of progress in computational linguistics. However, as an imperfect human technology, machine translation is still mostly dependent on human intervention especially in the process of pre- and post-editing to bring the output up to acceptable standard. It seems that the goal to create a fully automatic high-quality translation (FAHQQT) is still a long way off.

Recently, the researchers have tried to explore the new alternative usage of the computer as a support tool for human translators. They hope that this step will bring more advantages to the translation industry. One of these alternatives is Translation Memory (TM) concept. It has been receiving a great deal of attention in recent years. TM is generally is defined as a collection of translations from previous translation jobs that the useful information can be extracted for reuse in the next translation jobs. The idea to look up the previous translation and compare it with the later translation job actually has been the standard procedure for the translators, but in this case, automating this procedure is expected to remove the unpredictable aspect of the task and theoretically increase consistency and productivity. We should take into account that Translation Memory (TM) is different from Machine Translation (MT). Unlike MT, in a TM System, human translator still holds the primary role in translation process.

However, although there are many claims especially from vendors that produce TM software that their TM system can dramatically increase the translation quality, there are still limited researches attempting to measure the increase of translation quality of human translators with TM assistance in their translation process and compare the result with those who translate without TM assistance.

Furthermore, Gow (2003:25) states that there are mainly two major potentials of Translation memory; consistency and speed.

Translation Memory can remind the translator of how they have translated a particular sentence before (if the translator has translated the exact or the similar sentences in his/her previous translation job). For sure, this feature will help the translator to keep their translation consistent; besides they can also revise their previous translation for better result, therefore, help the translator to increase their translation quality.

Based on those reasons, this research will try to compare the students' translation quality before and after using Translation Memory.

Furthermore, to conduct this research, the researcher needs a TM software which is *user friendly* in installation and application, light in file size, powerful in functionality and affordable in prize. Later on, the researcher has found the TM software that fulfils those characteristics, namely Wordfast. The researcher downloads this software freely from [www.wordfast.net](http://www.wordfast.net).

It is expected that this research will lead to a new alternative to provide more effective translation process. Consequently, the result will be useful for those who have a concern in Translation Technology or interested in using Translation Memory on their translation process.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problems**

The research tries to find the answer the following questions:

- a. Does Wordfast Translation Memory improve the students' translation quality?

- b. How far does Wordfast Translation Memory improve the students' translation quality?

### **1.3 The Aims of the Research**

The aim of this study is to measure the effectiveness of Wordfast Translation Memory in increasing the student's translation quality.

Hopefully, the result can lead to the suggestions and recommendations to the possibility of implementing this technology to be applied in the professional translation services, and furthermore this research will broaden the students' knowledge about the actual technology in the translation field.

### **1.4 Limitation of the Research**

The following is the limitation of the research:

1. This research only compares the students' translation quality achievement, before and after the treatment.
2. The Translation Memory software involved in the research is Wordfast 4.22.
3. The translation direction involved in the research is English to Indonesian.

### 1.5 Hypothesis

The objective of this research is to prove the following hypothesis:

$H_0$  : There is no significant contribution given by Wordfast Translation Memory application to the improvement of the student translation quality.

$H_a$  : There is a significant contribution given by Wordfast Translation Memory application to the improvement of the student translation quality.

### 1.6 Methodology of the Research

Single group pre-test and post-test design will be employed in this research. As a sub-category of quasi-experimental method this research will employ only one group. The following is the design of the research:

GROUP	Pre-Test	TREATMENT	Post-Test
Experimental	T <sub>1</sub>	X	T <sub>2</sub>

This group will receive a training of the usage of Wordfast 4.22 in a translation job. Before the training, this group will have a pre-test to measure their initial Translation quality level. A post-test will be held after the training, and the translation quality level before and after the treatment will be compared.

### **1.6.1 Population and Samples**

The population is the 7<sup>th</sup> semester students of English Language and Literature Program of Indonesia University of Education. The researcher chooses this population because most of the students have finished their principles of translating courses as the indicator that they basically have introduced to the translation procedure. As a sample 20 students will be chosen. All of them are class 7A.

### **1.6.2 Data Collection**

The instruments used for this research is test. The tests are divided into two. The pre-test is given to the group before the treatment to measure their initial translation quality. The post-test is given after several treatments to see whether the treatments give any contribution to the improvement of their translation quality which is indicated by the higher translation quality score.

### **1.6.3 Data Analysis**

The goal of this study is to compare the students' translation quality achievement before and after the treatment in a single group; consequently, the most appropriate data analysis is dependent t-test.

This research will be based on the following procedure:

- 1) Testing the instruments
- 2) Collecting the data
- 3) Analyzing the data
  - a. Determining the students translation quality achievement before and after the treatment.
  - b. Determining how far the Wordfast usage does influences students translation quality by comparing the students translation quality score before and after the treatments with t-test formula.
- 4) Interpreting the data

The finding is interpreted based on the data analysis in order to give explanation about the result of the research during the observation.

### 1.7 Clarification of the Terms

1. **Effectiveness**, means having the power to produce a result especially a desired result (American Everyday Dictionary).
2. **Wordfast**, a Computer-Aided Translation (CAT) program that combines two technologies: segmentation and Translation Memory (TM). This software is written by Yves Champoleon.
3. **Translation Memory**, a database of previously translated text in which source-language segments are linked with their corresponding translations and from which information can be

retrieved during the translation of new texts (Francie Gow 2003,125).

4. **Improve**, means become or make better (Oxford learner's pocket dictionary).
5. **Students**, the 7<sup>th</sup> semester students of English Language and Literature Program in Indonesia University of Education.
6. **Translation Quality**, the sum of the students' Translation Accuracy, Clarity and Naturalness score.

### **1.8 Organization of the paper**

This paper will be organized as the following arrangement:

#### **Chapter I Introduction**

This chapter contains introduction which discuss:

Background, statement of the problem, aims of the research, research methods, clarification of the terms and organization of the paper.

#### **Chapter II Theoretical Foundation**

It contains review of related literatures, which is served as a basis for investigating the research problems.

#### **Chapter III Methodology**

This chapter includes the methodological of the research discussing the steps and procedures of the research, the



instruments of the research and the reason for choosing the procedure.

#### **Chapter IV Findings and Discussions**

In this chapter, the findings of the research are presented and discussed in detail. The data collected are presented using tables.

#### **Chapter V Conclusions and Suggestions**

Based on the empirical data discussed in the previous chapter, the writer is going to highlight some conclusions regarding to the topic of the research. It also contains the suggestions of the writer in accordance with the research.