

ABSTRACT

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This research is about the translation difficulties, especially in translating idiomatic expressions. It is aimed to know about how students translate the idiomatic expressions, and the difficulties experienced by students of English education program at University of Muhammadiyah Semarang in translating the idiomatic expressions.

The sample of this study was taken by using purposive sampling. 18 students of eighth and sixth semester students from English Education were taken as the sample of the study. The students were given translation test consisted of some sentences containing idiomatic expressions. The sentences were taken from *Jakarta Post* daily newspaper. The results of the students' translation were analyzed to know the accuracy level. The result of the accuracy level then leads to the analysis of students' difficulties in translating idiomatic expressions. Therefore, questionnaire and short interview were employed to gain further data.

The research found that 15% of students' translations were totally inadequate, 23% were inadequate translation, 10% were adequate translation, 14% were almost successful translation, and 38% were successful translation. The fact that the amount of the inaccurate translation data was more than the accurate translation data indicated that the students experienced translation difficulties during the translating process. Meanwhile, the translation difficulties experienced by students were lexical difficulty at 73%, stylistic difficulty at 67.5%, cultural difficulty at 66%, and the least 64% for grammatical difficulty.

Based on the result, it is suggested that the students should improve their knowledge of English idiom. The students should also improve their ability in translating. In addition, the students should optimize the use of dictionary to help the students in producing good translation product. Besides, the students should pay more attention to the meaning of the idioms. Meanwhile for the teacher and teacher candidates, the result of the research can be used to reflect the students' difficulties in translation, so that they are expected to overcome the difficulties by considering students' ability and background knowledge in translation.

