

ABSTRACT

Mohammad Slamet Hamdani. 2025. Analysis of Students' Perceptions of The Utility of Google Translate in Assisting Comprehension of English Texts at SMAM 3 Jember. Thesis. English Language Education Program, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas Muhammadiyah Jember. Advisors: (1) Henri Fatkurochman M.Hum. (2) Muhlisin Rasuki M.Pd., M.A., Ed.D.

Key Word: Students Perceptions, Google Translate, English Texts Comprehension

The rapid development of artificial intelligence (AI) technology has significantly influenced English language learning. However, students over reliance and inaccuracies in translation remain concerns. This research aims to determine the level of eleventh-grade students' perceptions regarding the utility of Google Translate in assisting their comprehension of English texts at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember.

This study applied a descriptive quantitative method with a survey approach. A Likert-scale questionnaire, adapted from previous studies, was distributed to 97 out of eleventh-grade students through Google Forms. After data was collected, the screening and checking process was carried out by the researcher and resulted in the final data of 81 respondents' answers that were suitable for analysis. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics via SPSS version 27.

The percentage score of the main finding in statement 3 reached (91.4%), which falls within the range of $\geq 85\%$ in line with level 5 classified as "Very Positive". Indicating that the majority of eleventh-grade students at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember have a very positive perception of the utility of Google Translate in assisting comprehension of English texts. These factors contribute to the students' positive perceptions because students agreed that the tool is easily accessible, saves time, and is more practical than a physical dictionary. Limitations were identified: (25.9%) of students doubted its accuracy in translating paragraphs, (80.2%) recognized the risk of changing the original meaning, (69.2%) acknowledged confusing sentence structures, and (30.8%) expressed concerns that over dependency could reduce critical thinking skills.

Based on the classification between the percentage of the main findings and the existing classification table, it can be concluded that eleventh-grade students at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember have a very positive perception of Google Translate as a helpful tool for comprehending English texts. Their level of perception falls into level 5, which is the highest level in the classification of perception. This finding aligns with Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), which emphasizes that the adoption of technology depends on its perception of ease and usefulness, However, undirected use can risk reducing critical thinking skills, so proper learning strategies are needed to still understand the texts in depth without relying so much on translation tools.