

**AN ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' GRAMMATICAL ERRORS IN
TRANSLATING THE SHORT SURAH OF QURAN MADE BY ENGLISH
STUDENTS ON SIXTH SEMESTER AT MUHAMMADIYAH
UNIVERSITY OF MAKASSAR**

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed at finding the kind of grammatical errors made by English students on sixth semester in translating the short surah of Quran. The research design on this study applied a descriptive quantitative research which analysed the grammatical error of english students on sixth semester students at Muhammadiyah University of Makassar. The population consisted of 10 classes and each classes consisted of 37 to 38 students, it meanted that the total of population about 380 students. The students were sellected about 10% from each classes. The instruments used a translation test and the tests were done twice. The students translate Indonesias' translation of surah Al-fatihah clause 1-7 which found the relibility of the data. In the second test, the students translated surah Al-alaq clause 1-5 and emphasized the validity of the data. The researcher found about 317 of grammatical errors in the first test, the errors classified of verb about 39 (12.30%), noun 55 (17.35%), conjunction 39 (12,30%), pronoun 21 (6,62%), adjective 117 (36,90%) , adverb 18 (5.67%) and article 28 (8.83%). So that, the researcher may conclude that the most error that produced by the students in the grammatical area is error in adjective about 117 errors (36.90%). In the second test, the researcher found about 326 of grammatical errors. The errors were classified of verb about 59 (18.09%), noun 40 (12.27%), conjunction 38 (11.65%), pronoun 28 (8.58%), adjective 99 (30.36%) , adverb 32 (9.81%) and article 30 (9.20%). Finally, it can be concluded that the students still make errors in grammatical area in translation.

Key Words: Grammatical Errors, Translation and Short Surah of Quran.

ABSTRAK

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan jenis kesalahan grammar dalam menerjemahkan surah pendek Al-Qur'an yang dilakukan oleh mahasiswa Bahasa Inggris di Universitas Muhammadiyah Makassar. Populasi berjumlah 10 kelas dan setiap kelas terdiri dari 37-38 mahasiswa, jadi jumlah mahasiswa yang menjadi populasi adalah 380 mahasiswa. Mahasiswa diseleksi sekitar 10% dari setiap kelas. Instrumen penelitian yang digunakan adalah tes menerjemahkan dan tesnya berlangsung dua kali. Mahasiswa menerjemahkan terjemahan Bahasa Indonesia dari surah Al-fatihah ayat 1-7 untuk mendapatkan data reliabilitas. Dalam tes kedua, mahasiswa menerjemahkan surah Al-alaq ayat 1-5 untuk memastikan data validitas. Peneliti menemukan sebanyak 317 kesalahan grammar pada tes pertama, jenis kesalahannya diantaranya; verb 39 (12.30%), noun 55 (17.35%), conjunction 39 (12,30%), pronoun 21 (6.62%), adjective 117 (36.90%) , adverb 18 (5.67%) dan article 28 (8.83%). Sehingga peneliti dapat menyimpulkan bahwa jenis kesalahan grammar yang terbanyak adalah adjective sebanyak 117 (36.90%). Pada tes kedua, peneliti menemukan sebanyak 326 kesalahan grammar. Adapun jenisnya diantaranya verb 59 (18.09%), noun 40 (12.27%), conjunction 38 (11,65%), pronoun 28

(8.58%), *adjective* 99 (30.36%) , *adverb* 32 (9.81%) dan *article* 30 (9.20%). Akhirnya, dapat disimpulkan bahwa mahasiswa masih melakukan kesalahan grammar dalam menerjemahkan.

Kata Kunci: *Kesalahan Grammar, Penerjemahan dan Surah Pendek Al-Qur'an.*

INTRODUCTION

Translation is an operation perform on languages like a process of substituting a text in one language for a text on another, translation of a theory of the language, general linguistic theory. Translating is a skill that must be master to be able to understand the language of various countries, and in order to understand how to communicate well. Translating is an attempt to re- create the message in the source language into the target language by replacing naturally and can be understood by others. Translating is essentially a form of writing changes in different words and meaning both orally and writing. Regardless of one's profession, there must be trouble in the profession even they are maybe only minor difficulty, but still there are difficulties as well as an English translator professional. Translation is a craft consisting in the attempt to replace a written message and/or statement in one language by the same message and/or statement.

Grammar is an essential part of language. People can learn about a language simply by learning the grammar. According to Hall as cited by Azh-zhohir (2014) states that grammar is a description of certain organizing aspects of a particular language. It is usually included phonological (sound), morphological (word composition) and syntactic (sentence composition).

According to Septialindar (2009) grammar is very necessary when we want to write English. For example, we can learn sentences, tense, part of speech, classes, preposition and so on. Unfortunately, the ability of the students in mastering grammar is still poor. Actually, if we want make a good translation, we have to understand grammar by knowing the way to arrange and translate the words well.

It is why the writer tries to investigate the research tittle "an analysis of students' grammatical errors in translating the short surah of Quran made by English students on sixth semester at Muhammadiyah university of Makassar" How to overcome the problems in the translation is to interpret the word by words first. And a professional translator should have capability to independent, and sometimes takes a long time.

In this research, the kind of problem which will be identified is the gramatical errors. The chosing of sixth semester of students to be the object of research is a one challage for the students to know their translations' level after passing the translation 1 and 2 in the previous semester.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

A. Material

1. Definition of Translation

Different researchers on files, depends on how they view language and translation, the following have defined translation in many ways:

- a) Catford (1975) states that translation may be defined as follows: the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL).
- b) Basnett as cited by Hasanah (2016) suggests that translation involves the transfer meaning contained in one set of language signs through competent use of dictionary and the process also involves a whole set extra linguistic criterion communicative in meaning.
- c) Brislin (1976) states that translation is the general term referring to the transfer of thoughts and ideas from one language (source) to another (target), whether the languages are in written or oral form; whether the languages have established orthographies or do not have such standardization or whether one or both languages is based on signs, as with sign languages of the deaf.
- d) Newmark (1981) Translation is a craft consisting in the attempt to replace a written message and or statements in language by the same message and or statements in another language.
- e) Wilss and Noss as cited b Nugraha (2015) Translation is a transfer process which aims at the transformation of a written SL text into an optimally equivalent TL text, and which requires the syntactic, the systematic and the pragmatic understanding and analytical processing of the SL.

2. Concept of Grammatical Error

Grammatical Errors would be characterized as errors dealing with the grammar of the target language, including errors of usage, collocation, syntax and tense. It may sound funny to even imagine for a professional translator that someone could make linguistic, grammar-based errors while translating but the fact remains that people do make them. The problem with translation as a profession or industry is largely unregulated and is empowering process. The moment one translate a document, one feels a great sense of achievement and the client who commissions the job almost rarely knows about the target language, unless the target language is an English.

a) Analysis of Grammatical Errors

Tandikombong, Atmowardoyo and Weda (2016) State that the types of error made by the students in translating Indonesian text into English were dealing with the grammatical area which were classified as follows:

- a. Errors in the verb area are in the forms of missing verbs, errors of verb tense, incorrect negative form, to infinitive and participle errors.
- b. In the noun area, the errors consist of the missing nouns, singular/plural misplace, and inappropriate choice.
- c. Errors in the conjunction area consist of missing conjunction, superfluous, inappropriate choice errors.
- d. In area pronoun consist of missing pronoun, Superfluous, misplace.

- e. Errors in the adjective area consist of: missing adjective, Superfluous, misplace, inappropriate choice and errors in the adverb area involve missing adverb, Superfluous, misplace, inappropriate choice.
- f. Errors in the article area consist of missing article, superfluous, inappropriate choice.
- g. The last one is errors in the preposition areas consist of; missing preposition, superfluous, inappropriate choice.

b) Source of errors

Errors occur for many reasons. One obvious cause is interference from the native language. The learners may make errors because they assume that the target language and their native language are similar. While in fact they are different, they generalize the similarity between the target language and their mother tongue known usually as "overgeneralization"

Brown (2000) states that Causes of errors are inter-lingual errors, intra-lingual errors, context of learning, and communication strategies. For more details, please look at the explanations below:

a. Inter-lingual Errors

Inter-lingual errors is cause of error from transferring knowledge or grammar into the target language. It means the native language interference the target language in terms of patterns, system or rules. The inter-lingual errors such as transfer, coalescence, under-differentiation, reinterpretation, over differentiation and split.

b. Intra-lingual Errors

Intra-lingual errors refer to errors caused by the lack competence of the language being learnt (TL). There are items produced by the learner that does not reflect the structure of the mother tongue, but generalizations based on partial exposure to the target language. The learner tries in this case to derive the rules behind the data to which has been exposed by the learner, and may develop hypotheses that correspond neither to the mother tongue nor to the target language. The intra-lingual errors such as over generalization, ignorance of the rule restrictions, incomplete application of rules and false concepts hypothesized.

B. Method

This research applied a descriptive method, where the data was collected some references from many resources and gave the test after class about translating some of Indonesians' translation of Quran from Indonesian into English. It aimed to describe and analyze the grammatical error of the students in translating Indonesian texts which are content by the Indonesians' translation of short surah of Quran to English made by the sixth Semester of English Students in Muhammadiyah University of Makassar.

To see the Grammatical Errors, the instrument of the research gave the test. The test aimed to know what kind of grammatical errors in translating the short surah of Quran from Indonesians' translation into English. The test found out the data about the grammatical errors in translation. The instrument of the the Indonesian's Translation text of short surah of Quran and found out

the data about the Grammatical errors in translating short surah of Quran especially the surah Makiah, the researcher distributed two short surah those are surah *Al-Fatihah* and Surah *Al-Alaq*.

The researcher applied certain way to collect the data. The first test was translating the Indonesians' translation of surah *Al-Fatihah* clause 1 to 7. This test was done to find the data about the students' grammatical errors based on the seventh parts of grammar which. Also, the test aimed to know the Validity of data. The data analyzed by using certain techniques;

1. Identification of grammatical errors from the students' translation.
2. Classification of grammatical errors.
3. Description and explanation of grammatical errors.
4. Correction of grammatical errors.
5. Statement of grammatical error frequency.

RESULTS

1. Kinds of grammatical errors in translating surah of *Al-fatihah* clause 1-

Based on the translation test that was apply by the researcher, it was show that the english students on sixth semester at Muhammadiyah university of Makassar can be done the translation test of short surah of quran by their own ability. Even though, they keep produce some errors in the grammatical area those are verb, noun, conjunction, pronoun, adjective, adverb and article.

- a. Classification of Grammatical Errors

The classification of grammatical errors was done based on the study of Tandikombong, Atmowardoyo and Weda (2016) which classified by the seven part of grammar (verb, noun, conjunction, pronoun, adjective, adverb and article) as the errors in the grammatical area that usually occure in translation process.

Table 1. Result of Kinds of Grammatical Errors In Translating Surah *Al-Fatihah* Clause 1-7.

NO	Kinds of Grammatical Errors	Total of Errors	Persentage
1	Verb	39	12,30%
2	Noun	55	17,35 %
3	Conjunction	39	12,30%
4	Pronoun	21	6,62%
5	Adjective	117	36,90%
6	Adverb	18	5,67%
7	Article	28	8,83%
Total		317	100%

Based on the table 4.1 above, the researcher found about 317 of grammatical errors translation test of short surah of quran (surah *Al-Fatihah* clause 1-7). The errors were classified of verb about 39 (12,30%), noun 55 (17,35%), conjunction 39 (12,30%), pronoun 21 (6,62%), adjective 117 (36,90%) , adverb 18 (5,67%) and article 28 (8,83%). So that, the researcher may conclude that the most error that produced by the students in the grammatical area is error in adjective about 117 errors (36,90%).

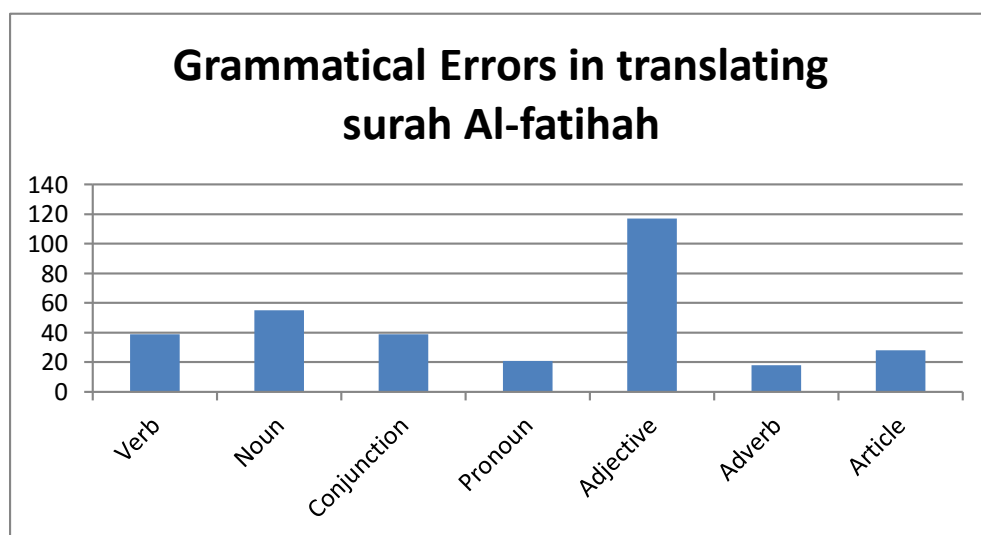


Chart 1. The Grammatical Errors In Translating Surah *Al-Fatihah* Clause 1-7.

2. Kinds of grammatical errors in translating surah of *Al-alaq* clause 1-5.

The use the indonesians' translation of short surah of Quran is a little hard and challeged for students, it was show in the first test. In the second test which was the students translate the indonesians translation of surah *Al-alaq* and they look more excited to did the test.

Based on the second translation test that was done by the students, the students more excited because the indonesians' translation of surah *Al-alaq* is. Although, they keep produce some errors in the grammatical area those are verb, noun, conjunction, pronoun, adjective, adverb and article.

The classification of grammatical errors was done based on the study of Tandikombong, Atmowardoyo and Weda (2016) which is classify the seven part of grammar (verb, noun, conjunction, pronoun, adjective, adverb and article) as the errors in the grammatical area that usually occure in translation process.

Table 2. Result of kinds of grammatical errors in translating surah *Al-alaq* clause 1-5.

NO	Kinds of Grammatical Errors	Total of Errors	Percentage
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1	Verb	59	18,09%
2	Noun	40	12,27 %
3	Conjunction	38	11,65%
4	Pronoun	28	8,58%
5	Adjective	99	30,36%
6	Adverb	32	9,81%
7	Article	30	9,20%
Total		326	100%

Based on the table 4.2 above, the researcher found about 326 of grammatical errors translation test of short surah of quran (surah *Al-alaq* clause 1-5). The errors were classified of verb about 59 (18,09%), noun 40 (12,27%), conjunction 38 (11,65%), pronoun 28 (8,58%), adjective 99 (30,36%) , adverb 32 (9,81%) and article 30 (9,20%). So that, the researcher may conclude that the most error that produced by the students in the grammatical area still the error in adjective area about 99 errors (30,36%).

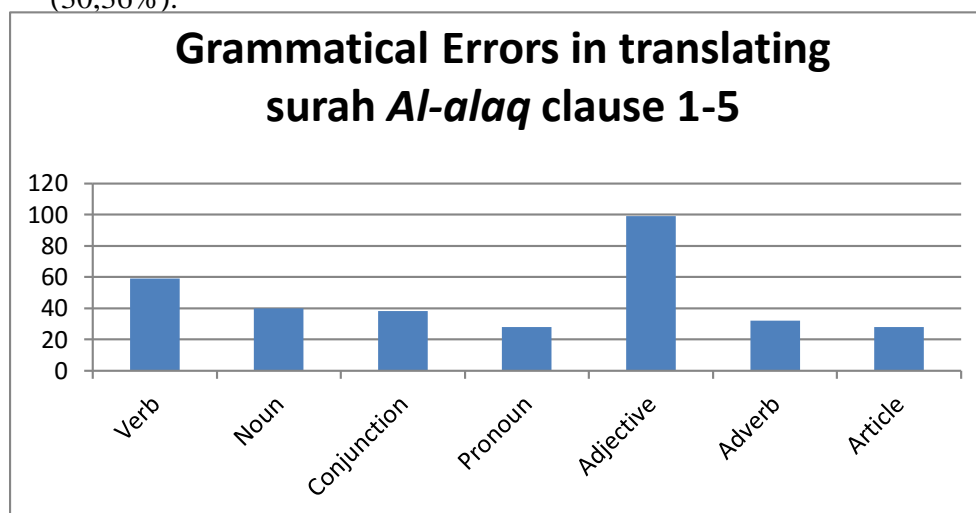


Chart 2. Grammatical Errors in translating surah *Al-alaq* clause 1-5

DISCUSSION

In discussion, the researcher deeply explains about the kinds of grammatical errors and the correction of the grammatical errors.

A. Kinds of grammatical errors in translating surah *Al-fatihah* clause 1-7.

1. Errors of verb

There are two kinds of verb based on its function; auxiliary and ordinary verb. When verb stands alone in a sentence, this is called ordinary verb. Then, when verb stands with another verb, then it is called auxiliary

verb as complement of ordinary verb. For instance, auxiliary verb is a verb used with main verbs to show tense, mood, etc. (Hornby. 1995). Main verb, thus called ordinary verb, is always the verb which is put in the final position after subject. Auxiliary verb is used to construct passive or progressive sentence, and sentence with modal. In this research, the students mostly produce some errors of Auxiliary verb (am, is are/was,were). for example in *surah Al-fatihah* clause 7 :

Students Translation :“(Is) the way of those that you was given so much grace”

It should be :“(Is) the way of those that you were given so much grace”

Sometimes the students are missing to use the Auxiliary verb. for example *surah Al-fatihah* clause 7) :

Students Translation :“(That is) the way of those whom you favoured.

It should be :“(That is) the way of those whom you are favoured.

2. Errors of noun

The result found that the student did the error of using singular and plural noun. A final -s or -es is added to a noun to make a noun plural (Azar, 1989), but irregular plural nouns. Below is the example:

Surah Al-fatihah clause 2 :

Students' Translation: “All praise for Allah, God of the world.”

It should be : “All praises for Allah, God of the worlds.”

In another case, the students did some errors in putting the noun after adverb (most), event though the sentence is not getting error in the grammatical area, but, it is changed the semantic meaning of the clause or the sentece. Below is the illustration of error :

Surah Al-fatihah clause 3 :

Students' Translation: “The most creation, the most merciful.”

It should be : “The most gracious, the most merciful.”

3. Errors of conjunction

Conjunction are used to connect words, phrase and clauses. In this case the errors that were occure such as missing conjunction and inappropriate of putting the conjunction. The errors are illustrated as follow:

Surah Al-fatihah clause 5:

Students' Translation: “Just to Allah we adore and just to Allah we ask help.”

It should be : “Just to Allah we adore and just to Allah we ask for help.”

Surah Al-fatihah clause 4:

Students' Translation: “ The king of the day and judgment.”

It should be : “The king of the day of judgment.”

The using “and” in this clause is changed ambiguosly of the meaning event though it is correct of the structure.

4. Errors of pronoun

Pronoun is used to substitute nouns. It has many types; personal, reflexives, indefinite, relative, interrogative, demonstrative and expletive

pronouns. The errors of students mostly about the using of possessive pronoun and the the using pronoun as subject or object. The examples are printed as follow:

Surah *Al-fatihah* clause 6:

Students' Translation: "Show as the straight path."

It should be : "Show us the straight path."

Surah *Al-fatihah* clause 5:

Students' Translation: "Just to god our pray."

It should be : "Just to god we pray

5. Errors of adjective

The errors were consist of: missing adjective, misplace, inappropriate choice and superflouse Look at the examples below:

Surah *Al-fatihah* clause 1 is missing of adjective:

Students' Translation: "In the name of Allah, the most, the most merciful."

It should be : "In the name of Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful."

Surah *Al-fatihah* clause 1 contain of inappropriate adjective:

Students' Translation: "In the name of Allah the most precious, the most merciful."

It should be : "In the name of Allah the most gracious, the most merciful."

Surah *Al-fatihah* clause 1 contain of superflouse:

Students' Translation: "In the name of Allah the most precious, compassionet and merciful."

It should be : "In the name of Allah the most gracious, the most merciful."

6. Errors of adverb

Adverb is word that usually modify. that is, they limit or restrict the meaning of verb. They may also modify adjectives, other adverbs, phrases, or even entire sentences. The students' errors in adverb area is about the missing adverb.

Surah *Al-fatihah* clause 1:

Students' Translation: "In the name of Allah, the gracious, the merciful."

It should be : "In the name of Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful."

7. Errors of article

The use of article is also determinate by the noun whether it is countable or uncountable and whether it is singular or plural. There are two kinds of articles; those are definite article (the) or indefinite article (a/an). The students' error as follow:

Surah *Al-fatihah* clause 6:

Students' Translation: "Show as a straight way."

It should be : "Show us the straight path."

Surah *Al-fatihah* clause 1 was misseng article :

Students' Translation: "In the name of Allah, most gracious, most merciful."

It should be : "In the name of Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful."

B. Kinds of grammatical errors in translating surah *Al-alaq* clause 1-5.

1. Errors of verb

In this test, the students also produce some errors of Auxiliary verb (am, is are/was,were/have,has,had/do,does,did).

for example in Surah *Al-alaq* clause 2 :

Students Translation : "He have created the human being from a blood clot."

It should be : "He has created the human being from a blood clot."

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 5 :

Students Translation : "He were teach human what they don't know."

It should be : "He was teach human what they don't know."

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 5 :

Students Translation : "He teaches human what they doesn't know."

It should be : "He teaches human what they don't know."

2. Errors of noun

The error that made by the students in noun area are the using singular and plural noun. Below is the example:

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 2 :

Students' Translation: "He creates peoples from a blood clot."

It should be: "He creates people/humans/men from a blood clot."

3. Errors of conjunction

The errors in conjunction area are about missing conjunction and misplace in using conjunction. The errors are illustrated as follow:

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 3:

Students' Translation: "Read, Allah is the most gracious."

It should be : "Read, and Allah is the most gracious."

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 2:

Students' Translation: "Read, for Allah is the most noble."

It should be : "Read, and Allah is the most noble."

4. Errors of pronoun

The errors of students also about the using of possessive pronoun , misplace and the using pronoun as subject or object. The examples are printed as follow:

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 1:

Students' Translation: "Proclaim in the name of they lord and the carisher who created."

It should be : “Proclaim in the name of they lord and the carisher who created.”

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 6:

Students’ Translation: “He has created human from him clotted blood.”

It should be : “He has created human from the blood clot.

5. Errors of adjective

The errors were consist of: missing adjective, misplace, inappropriate choice and superflouse Look at the examples below:

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 3:

Students’ Translation: “Read, and Allah is the most.”

It should be : “Read, and Allah is the most **bounteous**.”

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 1 contain of the misplace adjective:

Students’ Translation: “Read by the name of Allah the most merciful.”

It should be : “Read by the name of Allah who created.”

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 5:

Students’ Translation: “He teaches human what they unknowing.”

It should be : “He teaches human what they knew not.”

6. Errors of adverb

The students’ errors in adverb area is about the missing adverb.

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 1:

Students’ Translation: “Read , and your god is the glorious.”

It should be : “Read, and your god is the most glorious.”

7. Errors of article

The students’ errors in the article area were missing article and using inappropriate article, the errors illustrate as follow:

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 3 was missing article:

Students’ Translation: “Read, and your god is bounteous.”

It should be : “Read, and your god is **the** most bounteous.”

Surah *Al-alaq* clause 2:

Students’ Translation: “He creates human from the blood clot.”

It should be : “He creates human from **a** blood clot.”

CONCUSSION

The sixth semester students of English Department at Muhammadiyah University of Makassar made various kinds of grammatical errors. Errors they had made categorized into verb, noun, conjunction, Pronoun, Adjective, Adverb and Article. In the first test whic is the students translate the indonesians’ translation of surah *Al-fatihah* clause 1-7, the students made the total of 317 errors. The number of grammatical error of adjective with the total of error about 117 (36,90%) and became the highest than all errors in the orientation and error in noun is the second highest with the total of error about 55 (17,35%) . Error in using Verb about 39 (12,30%) and conjunction about 39 (12,30%) are equal and higher than errors in

using article article 28 (8,83%) and pronoun pronoun 21 (6,62%). The last error happened in using adverb 18 (5,67%) as the lowest error than all errors.

The second test shows that the students made some grammatical errors in translated the Indonesians' translation of surah *Al-alaq* clause 1-5. Errors they had made categorized into verb, noun, conjunction, Pronoun, Adjective, Adverb and Article. The number of grammatical errors are varieted as follow; adjective as the highest error with the total of error about 99 error (30,36%). And the next is verb about 59 errors (18,09%) higher than noun with he total errors about 40 (12,27%). Than, the error in using article is higher than the error in using adverb. The last as the lowest error happen in pronoun area.

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