A Study of Vietnamese EFL Teachers'and Students' Perceptions on Using Google Translate in the Classrooms

Using Google Translate (GT) is as a free online machine translation tool gives many benefits for teaching and learning activities. Almost teachers and students believe GT is helpful for their learning. Nearly all students and most of teachers have used GT language learning at varying frequencies as a dictionary. However, using GT in EFL learning also has negative effects on learners'outcome learning. Many Vietnamese students and teachers also use GT in EFL classrooms but there are few published studies related to this issue. There has been a gap in the literature investigating how machine translation in general and GT in particular are used and effective in practice despite their increasingly important role in social, business, and academic fields. This study aimed to find out EFL teachers'and students'perceptions on using GT in classrooms. Based on Appraisal theory and Ecological System theory, research design included cross-sectional survey and semi-structured individual interview. Upon the collected data from 450 students and 12 teachers, the findings clarified what kind of practices, awareness and evaluations of using GT in classrooms of teachers and students. The results could inform educators, policymakers, and researchers about the role and perception of Google Translate in EFL education, and lead to more effective language instruction and ethical technology integration in the field of language education.

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