**Indonesian – English Dissimilarities and Confusions**

**Contrastive Analysis**

**examples**

**Verbal system (governance, tense, mood)**

(think of the underlying question)

I am going to school [Where are you going?] (progressive)

I go to school. [Where do you go every morning?] (repetitive motion/condition)

I go to school. [Why do you not have a job?] (

Dia pergi ke sekolah:

 He is going to school.

 He goes to school (every morning)

 He went to school.

 He has gone to school. (sudah? telah?)

 He will go to school. (Does this match: Dia akan pergi ke sekolah?)

 He will have gone to school. (Dia akan pergi ke sekolah.??)

**Prepositional Usage (verbal governance or noun governance or situation)**

Choosing at versus in etc

 At school, in school, to school, for school

 At the school, in the school, to the school, for the school

Of versus from (versus to)

 Saya ibu dari tujuh anak.

 ~~I am mother from seven children.~~

 I am (the) mother of seven children.

 I am mother to seven children.

 There are seven children from this mother.

Di mana, di sana, di sini – no “of”

Infinitives require the word “to” (technically not a preposition)

 Say ingin (mau) membayar. I want TO pay.

 The second verb of a stacked set is most often an infinitive.

 Dia suka membaca dan menulis. (He likes to read and write.)

 He works in order to live. (untuk?)

**How do you get it right?**

Ask the underlying question that produced the statement?

 Consider the relationship among the words.

 Read and listen A LOT – with thoughtfulness and with abandon.