

CATEGORY SHIFT IN ANDREA HIRATA'S *LASKAR PELANGI* AND ITS ENGLISH TRANSLATION

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Abstract

This research aimed to (1) identify the types of category shifts which occur in the translation of Andra Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* into *The Rainbow Troops* by Angie Kilbane, (2) evaluate the degrees of meaning equivalence in the novel and its translation. This research was a descriptive qualitative method. The data sources were the novel of *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata and its English translation *The Rainbow Troops* by Angie Kilbane. The data were in form of dialogue chunks by the researcher observation. The research instruments of this research were the researcher, the data sheets and related references. The data sheets consisted of types of category shifts, the percentage and total frequency of the occurrences in category shifts. The results of the research were as follows. (1) occurrences of category shifts, consisting of structure shifts, unit shifts, class shifts, and intra-system shifts. The type of category shifts that was mostly used in the data was structure shifts. It means that there were different of grammatical system and language style in the translation process. (2) The overall degree of meaning was mostly represented in category shifts is complete meaning. The highest frequency of complete meaning showed that the translator tried to maintain the messages of the source language.

Keywords: translation, category shifts, *Laskar Pelangi*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk (1) mengidentifikasi jenis category shift yang muncul dalam novel terjemahan *Laskar Pelangi* oleh Andrea Hirata ke dalam novel *The Rainbow Troops* oleh Angie Kilbane, (2) mengevaluasi tingkatan dari meaning equivalence dalam novel tersebut dan terjemahannya. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Sumber data adalah novel *Laskar Pelangi* dan terjemahan dalam Bahasa Inggris yaitu *The Rainbow Troops* oleh Angie Kilbane. Data tersebut dalam bentuk penggalan dialog yang dikumpulkan oleh peneliti. Instrumen penelitian adalah peneliti, data dan referensi yang berhubungan. Data berisi jenis category shift, persentase dan total frekwensi yang terjadi dalam category shift. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah sebagai berikut (1) Jenis category shift yang muncul dalam penggalan dialog yang dibagi menjadi structure shifts, unit shifts, class shifts dan intra-system shifts. Jenis category shift yang sering muncul dalam data tersebut adalah structure shift. Itu artinya bahwa ada perbedaan system tata bahasa dan gaya bahasa dalam proses penerjemahan. (2) Secara keseluruhan meaning equivalence yang paling banyak muncul dalam category shift adalah complete meaning. Jumlah terbesar dari complete meaning menunjukkan bahwa penerjemah tetap menjaga pesan yang disampaikan dari bahasa sumber.

Kata Kunci: translation, category shifts, *Laskar Pelangi*

INTRODUCTION

Every person needs information. The information must be understood by people in order to gain message. Understanding information between a human and another are important thing in the world. The way of understanding each other is language. It helps people in interacting with one another and

sharing information. There are many different languages on the world that a process of translation is needed to communicate with others.

Translation of text is important because people need to know the information inside the texts or books as soon as possible without learning the source language first.

However, translating text is difficult because the process of translation needs wide concept of knowledge. A good translator should be familiar with the cultures, customs, and social settings of the source and target languages. Text has to be transferred naturally and correctly in order to be easily understood by the readers, although the translation process has to deal with additions or omissions. Not all words must be translated literally and precisely, the important thing is the message can be transferred well, so it can be accepted by the readers. A low quality of translation makes the text cannot transfer the information clearly that makes the results are difficult to understand.

Many strategies are used in translation from the various writers. In translation from *Bahasa Indonesia* to English for example, there are translation shifts. A shift is a translation method that involves replacing the source of language elements to the elements the target without changing the message. Translation shifts occur at various points and levels of text because element of grammatical structures in *Bahasa Indonesia* are different from those in English. According to Catford (1965:73), there are two kinds of translation shift, namely *level shift* and *category shift*. Level shift focuses on changing of level from grammar to lexis, while category shift focuses on all kinds of grammatical changes. The category shift is divided again into structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift. It is obviously more comprehensive and

easier to be analyzed in the translation. That is why the researcher focuses on category shifts and its occurrences in a specific novel.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research applied a descriptive qualitative method. The object of this study was Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* and its translation *The Rainbow Troops* by Angie Kilbane. The researcher analyzed the occurrences of category shift in the novel. The types of category shift were structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift. This research attempt to analyze the meaning equivalence trough the category shift is used in dialogue chunks. The data represent category shifts in *Laskar Pelangi* as the primary data source and their translated expressions in *The Rainbow Troops* as the secondary data. The research instruments were arranged by the researcher and employed credibility and dependability criteria. The techniques to gain validity of the data and the finding was by having regular analytical discussion with the researcher's consultant and by sharing with peers.

In the analyzing of the data, the researcher read the novels both the *Bahasa Indonesia* novel and its translation in English. After reading the novels, the researcher analyzed the occurrence of category shifts that occurred in the novel. In doing analysis, the researcher compared expression to expression between the source language and the target language. Then the researcher

categorized the data based on the types of category shift and the meaning equivalence.

After analyzing the meaning equivalence, the researcher calculated the data according to the types of category shifts and types of meaning equivalence. The researcher used alphabetical symbols to indicate the occurrences of category shifts and the meaning equivalence. Finally, the researcher drew the conclusions from the occurring category shifts found.

The instruments in this research are the researcher herself, data sheets, and related references. In this research, the researcher acted as the planner, data collector, data analyst, and data reporter. In addition, the researcher used other instruments, such as dictionaries and a computer to collect and classify the data.

In this research, the researcher used triangulation to achieve trustworthiness. The researcher asked two translation students who are the researcher colleagues in translation concentration studies. It was used to get multiple sources and perspective to reduce systematic bias. The peer reviewers were asked by the researcher to check the grammatical errors and writing rules, as well as the data analysis.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

A. FINDINGS

According to the table, it can be seen that structure shifts occur in the highest frequency; there are 123 times out of 204 cases or 60.30

%. It happens because the structure of *Bahasa Indonesia* and English are different from each other. The lowest frequency of the occurrence of category shift is intra-system shifts; there are 7 times out of 204 times or about 3.43%. The occurrences of unit shifts are 63 times out of 204 cases or 30.88%. This number consists of upward unit shifts which occur 47 times or 23.04% and downward unit shifts with 16 times or 7.84%.

From the table above, it can be seen that complete meaning is the highest frequency of meaning equivalence. There are 158 times out of 204 cases or 77.45% followed by increased meaning that occurs 18 times out of 204 cases or 8.82%. Different meaning occurs 15 times or 7.36% and decreased meaning occurs 13 times out of 204 cases or 6.37%. The lowest frequency in degree of meaning equivalence is decreased. Almost all of the messages of the dialogue chunks which are analyzed by researcher are transferred completely. Complete meaning occurs when the translator does not add or omit information in the translation, so the message remains the same. The number of occurrences above proves that the translator transfers the message as equally as possible between the source language and the target language. To produce a good translation, a translator should be able to do adjustments either in the meaning or structure to keep the meaning constant. Thus the messages can be conveyed naturally and communicatively.

DISCUSSION

1. The Types of Category Shifts

a. Structure Shift

Structure shifts that are found in *Bahasa Indonesia* and English translations of *Laskar Pelangi* novel occur in words, phrases and sentences in the dialogue chunks. The following are examples of the structure shift in dialogue chunks.

SL: *Tak mau Ibunda, pagi ini ketika berangkat sekolah aku hampir diterkam buaya, maka aku tak punya waktu menunggu, jelaskan di sini sekarang juga!*

TL: No way, Ibunda Guru. This morning I was almost swallowed by a crocodile. I don't have time to wait. Explain it all, and explain it now.

(Datum/40/111/64)

The words formation in the sentence changes from the source language into target language. The phrase “*Pagi ini*” in *Bahasa Indonesia* is translated into “This morning” in English. Although there is a change of the structure but in the target language there is not change in the meaning. In structure shift, there is a shift in the word formation in the translation.

b. Unit shifts

Unit shift is the change of rank that is departed from formal correspondence in which the translation equivalent of a unit at one rank in the source language is a unit at a different rank in the target language. The rank of language is started from the smallest one:

morpheme, word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, and text.

1) Upward shift

Upward shift is a shift that changes from a low level to a higher level. Here are the examples of upward shift.

SL: *Anak Pak Cik akan sebangku dengan Lintang.*

TL: Pak Cik, your son will share a desk with Lintang.

(Datum/3/10/8)

The word “*sebangku*” is changed into noun phrase “share a desk”. There is an upward unit shift from word to phrase. In addition, the shift occurs from a low rank to a higher rank. In source language, there is not meaningful but it can be acceptable in the target language.

2) Downward shift

Downward shift is a shift that changes from a high level into a lower level. Here are some examples of downward shift from the novel of *Laskar pelangi* by Andrea Hirata and its English translation by Angie Kilbane.

SL: *Sebagai ketua Societeit, saya merasa mendapat respek dengan perlakuan beliau itu.*

TL: As a head of Societeit, I feel respected by him!

(Datum/177/423/250)

The phrase “*perlakuan beliau itu*” is changed into word “him” shows that there is a downward unit shift from phrase into word. This shift decreases the meaning of the source language because the translator omits the word “*perlakuan*” in the target language.

c. Class shifts

Class shift occurs when the translation equivalent of a source language item is a member of a different class from the original item. The following are examples of class shift found in the translation of Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi*.

SL: *hmm ... hmmm ... sebuah topik yang memang patut dipelajari lebih jauh, menarik sekali, siapa yang membimbing Anda menulis ini?*

TL: Hmm, hmm ... this is a topic that deserves further study, full of challenges. Who guided you in writing this?

(Datum/196/462/273-4)

The word class of the source language "menarik" is an adjective. It is translated into "challenges". In English, the word class of "challenges" is a noun. It is clear that there is a class shift between source language into target language: from adjective into noun.

d. Intra-system shifts

Intra-system shifts refer to changes that occur internally within a system. All languages have their system of number, deixis, articles, etc. Intra-system shifts happen when a term is singular in the source language and its textual equivalent is plural, or vice versa (a change in number even though the languages have the same number system).

2) SL: *Dia sudah tidak ingin lagi sekolah di sekolah PN dan sudah membolos dua minggu.*

TL: She no longer wishes to attend the PN school and has been absent for two weeks now.

(Datum/121/353/170)

The word "minggu" in *Bahasa Indonesia* can be realized into plural, without any changes the meaning and function. In the target language, it is translated into "weeks" the realization of plural although it can be changed into singular. However, it should be done to adjust another word. Thus, it can be accepted in the target language.

2. The Different Degree of Meaning Equivalence

Category shifts cause the different degree of meaning equivalence in meaning. Degree meaning equivalent is divided into equivalent meaning (complete, increased, and decreased meaning) and non equivalent meaning (different and no meaning).

a. Equivalent Meaning

1) Complete Meaning

Complete meaning means the information of the source language is exactly transferred in the target language. There is no addition or omission to the information which is delivered in the target language.

SL: *Baiklah ini kesempatan terakhir untukmu mengenalkan diri, jika belum bersedia maka harus kembali ke tempat duduk.*

TL: Okay, this is your last chance to introduce yourself. If you aren't ready yet, then you need to return to your seat.

(Datum/6/27/18)

Although the structure between the source language and the target language are different, the meaning does not change. In the source language, “*Kesempatan terakhir*” has the same meaning with “last chance” in the target language. Thus, it is a complete meaning.

2) Increased Meaning

Increased meaning occurs when there is adding information in the target language in which the information is not found in the source language. It aims to clarify the meaning of the source language.

SL: *Shalatlah tepat waktu, biar dapat pahala lebih banyak.*

TL: Say your prayer on time, and your reward will be greater.

(Datum/7/31/29)

Here the translator adds “say your” in the target language which there is no word “*katakan kamu*” in the source language. The translator hopes that the readers will understand what being talked by adding the context. This does not change the whole meaning but gives further understanding the message in that sentence.

3) Decreased Meaning

Decreased meaning occurs when the translator omits some information that appears in the source language.

SL: *Biar kujadikan kau pria sejati pujaan kaum hawa.*

TL: Let me make you a real man!

(Datum/15/79/40)

The translator does not translate the meaning of the original sentence completely. The expression “*pria sejati pujaan kaum hawa*” should be translated into “a real man who is adored by women” but the word “who is adored by women” is omitted by the translator. In this case, there is a decreased meaning.

b. Non Equivalent Meaning

1) Different Meaning

Different meaning occurs when translators change the information that is contained in the source language by using words that have different meaning in the target language.

SL: *Klenik, ilmu gaib, takhayul, paranormal, semuanya sangat dekat dengan pemberhalaan.* (p.350)

TL: Mysticism, paranormal science, superstition, they are all forms of idolatry. (p.169)

(Datum/108/350/169)

The source language “*sangat dekat*” has different meaning with “forms” if it is translated into the target language. It could be seen of the translator translates from source language into target language with different meaning and class.

2) No Meaning

No meaning occurs when the source language is not translated into target language. Translators eliminate all of the information in the source language. Thus the target language loses all of the information in which consist of the source language. In

Andrea Hirata's novel, there is no data to indicate no meaning in category shifts.

1. Category Shifts Found in *Laskar Pelangi* Novel

The first objective of this research is to identify the types of Category shifts in *Laskar Pelangi* novel. Types of category shifts that are occurred in the *Bahasa Indonesia* – English translation of the *Laskar Pelangi* novel are structure shift, unit shift which is classified into upward and downward shifts, class shift, and intra-system shift. The data of this research are in the form of words, phrases, and clauses/sentences which consist of category shift in dialogue chunks in Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* and its English *The Rainbow Troops* by Angie Kilbane. There are 204 occurrences of category shifts, consisting of structure shifts, unit shifts, class shifts, and intra-system shifts. The occurrences of structure shift are 123 cases or 60.30%. Unit shifts consisting of upward and downward shifts. Upward unit shift occurs in 47 times or 23.04% and the occurrences of downward shift are 16 times or 7.84%. The occurrences of unit shift are 63 times or 30.88%. The occurrences of class shift are 11 times or 5.39%. The occurrences of intra-system shift are 7 times or 3.43%. It shows that there are different grammatical system and different language style in the translation process.

2. The Effects of Category Shift on Meaning Equivalence

The second objective of this research is to evaluate the effects of category shifts on meaning equivalence in *Laskar Pelangi* novel. The category shifts that occur in Bahasa Indonesia – English dialogue chunks of *Laskar Pelangi* novel can cause equivalent meaning (complete, increased and decreased meaning) and non-equivalent meaning (different and no meaning). The effects of category shifts in *Bahasa Indonesia* - English translation may change the degree of meaning equivalence in the target language. However, in this novel of *Laskar Pelangi*, complete meaning has the highest frequency of occurrence that is 158 times out of 204 cases or 77.45%. This shows that the translation still maintains the message of the source language. Followed by increased meaning which occurs in 18 times out of 204 cases or 8.82%. It implies that the translation does not do much addition of information in the target language. Decreased meaning with 13 occurrences or 6.37%. Different meaning occurs in 15 times out of 204 cases or 7.36% while no meaning does not occur in the category shifts in Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* and its English Translation.

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