

Category Shifts in Translating Text from English into Indonesian (An Applied Linguistics Study)

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Abstract: *This paper is conducted in order to find out the shifts in novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard into Indonesian. Shifts are inevitable in rendering text. According to Catford (1965:80) in Hatim (2001:15) classified the translation shifts into two major types of shifts are identified: Level Shift and Category Shift. Category shift could be as structure, unit, class, and intra-system shift. Problems discussed in this research: 1) what kinds of category shifts found in the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard? 2) what is the dominant category shift found in the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard? The data of this research were taken from the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard and its translation by Reni Indardini. The findings would show: 1) all kinds of category shifts found in the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard, 2) the dominant category shift found is unit shift.*

Keywords: translation, shift, unit, structure, class, intra-system

1. Introduction

In this globalization era, communication in many languages is very important and certainly the method of communication is needed to apply the communication. Since there are so many languages all over the world, the communication becomes problem for them. The only solution of the problem in different languages is through translation. According to Larson (1984:1) "Translation is basically changing a text from SL into TL." Moreover, Catford (1965-20) defined translation as the replacement of textual material in the other language (TL). Bell (1991:20) defined the phenomenon as "the replacement of a representation of a text in one language by a representation of an equivalent text in a second language". Baker (1998:77) defined equivalence as the relationship between a source text (ST) and a target text (TT) that has allowed the TT to be considered as a translation of the ST in the first place.

Nida and Taber (1982:12) also stated that "translation consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style". Based on the definition, translating means transfer the message from SL to TL. The message in TL should have the equivalence and closely meaning with the SL. In summary, meaning is more important than style in translation.

Base on the importance of translation, the researcher is interested in conducting a research of category shifts in translation. In fact, there are two main types of shifts; level shift and category shift. Technically, a translator has to know that in translating the source language to target one, shifts, equivalency, and techniques are inevitable. In this occasion, the researcher would only focus on analyzing category shifts in translation. The object of this research is the translation in the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard from source language (English) into target language (Indonesian).

1.1 Problems of the Research

Based on the above explanation, the problems created as the following:

- 1) What kinds of category shifts found in the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard into Indonesian translation?
- 2) What is the dominant category shift found in the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard into Indonesian translation?

1.2 Objectives of the Research

The objectives of this research are to answer the problems as what have been mentioned in the previous point. They are as follow:

- 1) To find out the kinds of category shifts found in the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard into Indonesian translation
- 2) To find out the dominant category shift found in the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard into Indonesian translation

1.3 Scope of the Research

There are two major types of translation shifts, namely level shift and category shift. In this research, the researcher would only discuss category shifts which cover unit, structure, class, and intra-system shift. In this case, the shifts in translation would be discussed through the translation of novel. There are so many novels could be the object of the research yet in this one the researcher will use the novel of Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard from English into Indonesian translation by Reni Indardini.

1.4 Significance of the Research

The research is very important for better understanding about the shifts in translation from the source language text (English) into the target language text (Indonesian). From the analysis, the researcher hopes that the research would be useful for making the readers know more about translation, especially shifts in translation. Also it could expand the

researcher's knowledge about the shifts in translation which cover the unit, structure, class, and intra-system shifts. In addition, the researcher hopes that the analysis of this research would be a worthy inspiration for those who want to do further research in the shifts of translation.

2. Theoretical Review

2.1 Definition of Translation

There are many theorists describe what translation is in different ways. They have their own explanation about translation. Translation is not only the transferring something written in source language into target language. Munday (2000:4) says that the term translation itself has several meanings it can refer to the product and the process. The product involves the translated text and the process involves the translator changing an original written text (source language) into written text (target language) in different verbal language.

Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL) (Catford, in Machali 2000:5). It means that the translation is changing of the text material of the source language (SL) to the target language (TL) which in the target language the text has the equivalence in the source language. Translation means rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the autor intended the text (Newmark, 1988), it means that the translation is to translate the meaning of the text to another language must be intended with the message of the author.

Translation involves the rendering of a source language (SL) text into the target language (TL) so as to ensure that (1) the surface meaning of the two will be approximately similar and (2) the structure of the SL will be preserved as closely as possible but not so closely that the TL structure will be seriously distorted (Basnett, 1980:2).

Nida and Taber (1982:12) proposes a rather complete definition of translation. According to the two experts, "Translating consisting of reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalence of source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style." The definition proposed by Nida and Taber contain some elements that should be taken into account by a translator in performing his/her task: responding the message, equivalence, natural equivalence, closest equivalence, priority on meaning and also style. According to the definition, the translator should try reproduce the message contained in the source language into the one in the target language. In this matter, what the translator should do in translating is to create the equivalent message, not the form in the target language. It can also be stated that an emphases should be put on the reproduction if the message rather than the conversation of the form or grammatical structures. To get such equivalent message, many grammatical and lexical adjustments should be made.

By summarizing the various definitions above, it is known there are so many factors that should be considered to get a good translation. A good translation, therefore, does not

sound like translation. It should be natural as if it is originally written in target language.

2.2 Concept of Shifts

Based on Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary (1985), "Shift is change position or place, substitution of one thing to another". Catford (1965:141) gives the idea on shift, namely "The change of formal structure of the source language into the target language".

Catford (1965:80) in Hatim (2001:15) classified the translation shift into two major types of shift are identified: level shift and category shift. Level shift means a SL item at one linguistic level has a TL translation equivalent at a different level. This shift commonly occurs with shift from grammar to lexis and vice versa. However, category shift means change from the formal correspondence in translation. Furthermore, it is divided into structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift.

- 1) Structure shifts, which involve a grammatical change between the structure MH (Modifier + Head) into HM (Head + Modifier)
- 2) Class shifts, that grouping members of a given unit which is defined by operation in the structure of the unit next above. Class shift occurs when the translation equivalent of a source language (SL) item is member of a different class form the original item
- 3) Unit-shifts, which involve changes in rank, that is departures form formal correspondence in which the translation equivalent of unit at one rank in the source language (SL) is a unit at different rank in the target language (TL)
- 4) Intra-system shifts, which occur when 'SL and TL possess systems which approximately correspond formally as to their constitution, but when translation involves selection of a non-corresponding term in the details of category shifts will be introduced in the following parts

2.2.1 Category Shifts

Category shifts refer to unbounded and rank-bounded translation. The first being approximately normal or free translation in which source language and target language equivalents are up at whatever rank is appropriate. It is clear that category shift is unbounded, which might be normal of free translation, depends on what rank is appropriate. It includes structure, class, unit, and intra-system shifts.

2.2.1.1 Structure Shift

The descriptive units of grammar of any language are arranged into meaningful stretches or patterns. One single instance of these patterns is called 'structure.' This abstract category which applies to all units in the grammar of a language (except the one lowest in rank), accounts for the various ways in which one unit may be realized by the unit text below it. sometimes, however, a unit may be realized by a unit above it. This phenomenon is known as rank shifting.

Language exhibits a considerable amount of differences both in the realization of similar structure existing in these languages and in the type of structures existing in each language. It is worth mentioning here that the distinction

between deep representation of linguistic relations and their surface realizations constitutes an important phase for the analysis of structural shifts.

A 'structure shift' involves a change in grammatical structure between source text and target text. Catford considers structure shifts the most frequent type of shifts that may occur at all ranks. For example:

English SL: first love

Indonesian TL: cinta pertama

It is clear here that there is a shift from M-H (modifier+head) to H-M (head+modifier) between the two versions above.

2.2.1.2 Unit Shift

A 'unit shift' where a strict rank-for-rank correspondence between SL and TL sentences, clauses, groups, words and morphemes is not observed: e.g. the English definite article change in word order in Russian; (Catford, (1965:80) in Hatim (2001:15). Unit shifts occur when translation equivalent of a source text unit at one rank in is a unit at a different rank in the target language. It includes shifts from morpheme to a word, word to phrase, clause to sentence, and vice versa. For example:

English SL: considerable

Indonesian SL: dapat dipertimbangkan

From the example of translation above, unit shift can be found in source text (ST) is considerable (word) that is translated into target text (TT) **dapat dipertimbangkan (phrase)**. It means that shift from word to phrase. Unit shifts can also be from low level to higher or from high level to lower level. It is caused by the differences of amount of meaning component in different concept.

a) Low Level to Higher Level

For example:

English SL : household

Indonesian SL: rumah tangga

From the example above, it is translation in term low level to higher level. It means that in the source language there is one word, but after translating it into target language, it becomes more than one word. It can be seen in word "household" which consists of one word and is translated into "rumah tangga" which consists of two words (phrase).

b) High Level to Lower Level

For example:

English SL : regular mortal

Indonesian SL: manusia

From the example above, it is translation in term high level to lower level which is the opponent of low level to higher level. In this case, the source language consists of more than one word and is translated into one word. In the other hand, it can be said that the amount of word in source language is more than in target language. The phrase "regular mortal"

consists of two words and is translated into "manusia" that consists one word.

2.2.1.3 Class Shift

Class shift occurs when the translation equivalence of an SL item is a member of a different class from the original item. It is a change in word class. Catford defines class shift following Halliday's definition "that grouping of members of a given unit which is defined by operation in the structure of the unit next above" (quoted in Hatim and Munday, 2004:45). Structure shifts entail class shifts. This is because of the "logical dependence of class on structure" (Catford, 1965:119). For example:

English SL : annual report

Indonesian TL : laporan tahunan

From the example of translation above, it can be found in source text (ST), there is **annual** (adjective) which is translated into target text (TT) **tahunan** (noun). It means that there is a class shift from the phrase above and it is proved that structure shifts entail class shifts.

2.2.1.4 Intra-System Shift

A system is meant the closed number of elements among which a choice must be made. In fact, the terms available in each system in one language can show fundamental differences from the terms of the same system in another language. This can be considered as a major source of shifts at this level of language description. In other words, intra-system shifts refer to those changes that occur internally within a system. They are regarded only on the assumption that is formal correspondence between the two languages, i.e. ST-TT should possess approximate systems. The equivalence is said to occur at a non-corresponding term in the TL system. All languages have their systems of number, diction, articles, etc. Intra-system shifts happen when a term is singular in the source text and its textual equivalent is plural, or vice versa (a change in number even though the languages have the same system). For example:

English SL : victories

Indonesian TL : kemenangan

From the example of translation above, it can be seen in the source text (ST) there is victories (plural) translated into target text (TT) kemenangan (singular). The product (TT) should be in plural too, but if it is transferred into "kemenangan-kemenangan", the meaning will sound weird. Thus, it is translated into singular in the target text. the changes from plural to singular is called intra-system shift.

3. Research Method

This chapter discusses about the method and procedure which are used to overcome the problem of the research. The researcher has written some theories in previous chapter in order to describe research design, subject, object technique of collecting data, and technique of analyzing data.

3.1 Research Design

Here for the research, the researcher uses the combination of using descriptive qualitative and quantitative approach. The

purposes of the usage both are: a) Qualitative approach is used to describe the data. One of the characteristics of qualitative method is to see process we have to deal with setting, that is the place where all things to be researched. b) Quantitative approach is used to count the percentage of each variation that will be related to some non-linguistics factors.

3.2 Data Source

The data source was taken from the English novel of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard* and its translation by Reni Indardini. The researcher analyzed both and tried to find out the shifts in translation from source language text (English) into target language text (Indonesian) as the data to be analyzed.

3.3 Technique of Collecting Data

There are many chapters in a novel, so the researcher scopes only the first five chapters to be analyzed. After reading the whole book, the researcher himself thought that it was the best of all to be analyzed from the beginning of the story.

3.4 Technique of Analyzing Data

After categorizing the data from the research subject, the researcher uses some steps in analyzing the data as the following:

- 1) Analyzing the TL from novel of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*
- 2) Finding the shifts used in the novel of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*
- 3) Finding the dominant shift from the novel of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*

4. Finding and Discussion

After collecting the data, the researcher found in his research that all kinds of category shifts found in the English novel of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard* and its translation (Indonesian). The category shifts used are: unit, structure, class, and intra-system shifts. The amount of category shifts that have been found and collected is 45 data; 5 of them were taken to be analyzed, consisting of 2 unit shifts (from low level to higher level and vice versa), structure shift, class shift, and intra-system shift. Those shifts are analyzed and classified according to the type of category shifts. The number and percentage of each type of word class changes is presented in the figure 1.

Category Shifts		Number	Percentage
Unit Shifts	Low to Higher Level	18	40%
	High to Lower Level	5	11.1%
Structure Shift		14	31%
Class Shift		5	11.1%
Intra-system Shift		3	6.6%
Total		45	100%

Figure 1: The amount of word class changes in the *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*

From the figure 1, it can be seen that the number of unit shifts (low to higher level) is 40% and (high to lower level)

is 11.1%. After collecting the data above, the writer would like to discuss the translation. The writer found that the dominant category shifts used in the novel of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard* is unit shift, consisting of low level to higher level and vice versa. It can be seen by the writer in counting the shifts from the English version into Indonesian by Reni Indardini. The next dominant is structure shifts. As we know that, the most difference between English and Indonesian is the position of Head-Modifier and Modifier-Head. Here are given the analysis of category shifts has found in the *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*; 5 of them were appeared in the translation:

For unit shifts it can be found in the data analysis below:

Unit Shift from Low Level to Higher Level

Data 1

Source Language Text	Target Language Text
Spring had arrived early in Boston. (p. 5)	Musim semi telah tiba lebih awal di Boston. (p. 4)

Comment

The word **Spring** in the source language text is translated into **Musim semi** in the target language text which is a phrase.

Unit Shift from High Level to Lower Level

Data 2

Source Language Text	Target Language Text
At the corner of Boylston, I scrambled up the side of a parking garage. (p. 18)	Di pojok Boylston, aku buru-buru memanjati sisi sebuah garasi. (p. 19)

Comment

The phrase **parking garage** in the source language text is translated into **garasi** in the target language text which only consists one word.

For structure shift, it can be found in the data analysis below:

Data 3

Source Language Text	Target Language Text
He could be an elf, a dwarf, a small giant, or even an ax-murdered god. (p. 15)	Dia mungkin saja peri, kurcaci, raksasa kecil, atau bahkan dewa pembunuh berkapak. (p. 15)

Comment

The phrase **small giant** in the source language text is translated into **raksasa kecil** in the target language text. There is a change of structure from modifier+head to head+modifier.

For class shift, it can be found in the data analysis below:

Data 4

Source Language Text	Target Language Text
Keeps the forces of evil from destroying the universe and whatever. (p. 46)	Mencegah agar jangan sampai kekuatan jahat menghancurkan alam semesta dan sebagainya. (p. 55)

Comment

The word evil in the source language text is a noun and translated into jahat in the target text which is an adjective. There is a change of word class from the source language text into the target language text.

For intra-system shift, it can be found in the data analysis below:

Data 5

Source Language Text	Target Language Text
I may have mentioned I don't like wolves. (p. 19)	Aku barangkali sudah bilang aku tidak suka serigala (p. 20)

Comment

The word wolves in the source language text is translated into **serigala** in the target language text. If it should be in plural, it would be translated into "serigala-serigala" and certainly the meaning would sound weird. Thus the translator translated it into serigala.

The data discussed above only some parts of the translation as sample to be shown as analysis. They are chosen as sample due to show that there are shifts used to any translation, especially in the novel of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*. After analyzing the data above, the researcher would like to discuss the translation. The researcher found that the dominant category shifts used in the novel of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard* is unit shift, consisting of low level to higher level and vice versa. It can be seen by the researcher in counting the shifts from the English version into Indonesian by Reni Indardini. The next dominant is structure shifts. As we know that, the most difference between English and Indonesian is the position of Head-Modifier and Modifier-Head.

5. Conclusion

After describing an overview about the translation shifts and analyzing them in the novel of *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard*, some conclusions are drawn as the following:

- 1) Based on the novel, all category shifts are found in the novel from English version into Indonesian, they are unit, structure, class, and intra-system shift.
- 2) The dominant category shift found in the novel is unit shift.

This paper has shown the analysis of the language from English version to Indonesian context. More research needs to be conducted to make further analysis in other kinds of text in order to get a better understanding of shifts in translation since the researcher feels that his research through analyzing the translation of novel is not enough yet to fulfill human's needs in further studying of translation shifts.

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