

THE TECHNIQUES OF METAPHOR TRANSLATION IN THE HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS NOVEL

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ABSTRACT

The research aims at analyzing the metaphor translation of an English novel namely *Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets* and its Indonesian novel version entitled *Harry Potter dan Kamar Rahasia*. Metaphorical translation is deserved to be the research topic since it has a high difficulty on the way it is translated. Metaphor which is a figurative expression, is a cultural expression from the language where it belongs. Translating language means translating the language in it. This is for the relation between culture and language is like two sides of an unseparatable coin.

The method of the research is qualitative descriptive research. 67 data were taken through observation and interview. The result shows that the translator uses 7 types from 18 types of translation techniques as stated by Larson. They are Reduction, Variation, Adaptation, Established Equivalent, Description, Transposition and Literal translation technique. Established Equivalent technique is used as majority since it is used in 43 data in the research. Adaptation technique is used in one data as same as Description and Literal translation technique.

Keywords: translation, metaphor, techniques

I. INTRODUCTION

Metaphorical translation is a type of curious translation. Translator as the one who is responsible to the transfer of the message bind by the proper meaning several obstacles to look for the appropriate meaning or the nearest meaning of the source text. In addition, translating metaphorical words or phrases or even sentences is not a piece of cake. The beauty of certain style showed in the translation text should be as gorgeous as the style of the source text. Translator has to have

certain weapons to undergo the difficulties risen in translating metaphor. Informal style should be translated into the same one. Even a conversation is not appropriate to be translated into speech. Any mistranslated did will only lead to a rigid translation result or even an misunderstandable translation.

Therefore, a translator is pushed to adjust the suitable meaning based on the context bind it. He also has to notice the figurative expressions such as metaphor in both languages used in the

translation in order to avoid the misinterpretation of meaning in the translation. The existence of metaphor becomes the problem that should be solved by a translator. It is because metaphor can not be translated easily using word for word translation and it also has a high difficulty in process of translating.

Larson (1984: 293) in his book entitled *Meaning-Based of Translation* said that if a metaphor is translated by word for word translation, it will raise a misunderstanding translation result. It is because in the metaphor the culture of the source text society lies behind it. The culture of the source text is not merely the same with the target text. In details, there are several reasons that make metaphor literally untranslatable for example because the image used in the source text metaphor is not used in the target text metaphor, or also the topic of metaphor is not explicitly explained. Moreover, the point of similarity can be implicit, unknown and has multi-interpretations in the variety of cultures. In addition, the last reason is the target language metaphors do not have the comparison as it has in the source text.

The purpose of the translation is to expose the content and the message of the source to the target texts in both style and meaning. Thus, the deep understanding about the languages involved in the text and a diving through both cultures are two significant things to be concerned. The research is aimed at revealing the techniques of metaphor translation used by the translator of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* novel and its translation version namely *Harry Potter dan Kamar Rahasia*. The techniques used by the translator will lead to the conclusion the

preferences of the translator in using them.

As discussed previously, metaphor is part of figurative language. The existence of culture in metaphorical texts which has to be translated increases the untranslatability. This is since a translator has to consider not only the usage of languages involved but also the cultures. Related to the cultural factor that impact to the translation difficulties Larson (1984:137) said 'One of the most difficult problems in translating is found in the differences between cultures'.

The difficulties faced by a metaphor translator is generally because the translator does not recognize the metaphor in the target language used. As a result he tends to translate it literally. In translating metaphor, it is important to see the point of similarity between two involved languages. Larson (1984: 276) shows the sentence 'He is a sheep' in some cultures will get different meanings as the cultural context that binds it. In a culture the sentence is translated into 'a person who just follows without thinking', or in another culture it has the meaning as 'A young fellow waiting for girls to follow him', and many more.

Based on that phenomena Larson (1984: 276) uncovered five ways to translate metaphor as follow:

- a. Metaphor will last the way it is as long as it is natural and clear for the readers.
- b. Metaphor can be translated as simile by adding such words like as, likely, et cetera
- c. The source metaphor is replaced by the targetted language which has the same meaning. .
- d. Metaphor is maintained by explaining the meaning or by

adding the topic or the point of similarity.

- e. Metaphor meaning is explained without using the metaphorical images.

II. Technique of Translation

The special target on the research is to reveal the techniques used in translating any words, phrases or sentences that contain metaphor existing on the Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets novel to its Indonesian version Harry Potter dan Kamar Rahasia. Translator ability to translate very much influences the success of the translation result. Therefore the suitable technique is essential to be the point of attention.

On translating text, a translator needs certain techniques. Technique analysed in research is to find how the translator translating text. For example, the word “*computer*” in English will be translated into Indonesian as “*komputer*”. According to what Molina and Albir (2002:499) said the text used the borrowing technique which the word still has the same structure and spelling in the source text. Molina and Albir divided the translation technique into 18 techniques which will be explained below :

- a. Adaptation,
It is a technique which shifts the cultural elements. Example, an idiom “as white as snow” is translated into “seputih kapas” because there is no snow in Indonesia.
- b. Amplification,
It is a translation technique which paraphrasing an implicit information in the source text.
- c. Borrowing,
This technique used when a word in the source text language

is taken directly to be translated in the target text language. For example the English word “clip” becomes “klip” in Indonesian language.

- d. Calque,
This technique translates and incorporates the source text into another language.,
- e. Compensation,
It is an item of information or a stylistic effect from the source text which cannot be reproduced in the same place in target text is introduced elsewhere in target text.
- f. Description,
A technique that changes the term of something with a description or function of it. For example “sandwich” translated into “roti isi daging dan sayuran”.
- g. Discursive creation,
A technique of temporary equivalent used which out of context or unpredictable. For instance, in Indonesian language “Si Malinkundang” translated into “A betrayed son Si Malinkundang”.
- h. Established equivalent,
The used of common term in dictionary or in the target text. For example, “blue sky” becomes “langit biru” in Indonesian language.
- i. Generalization,
A technique which uses a general or neutral term in the target text, such as “becak” in Indonesia becomes “vehicle” in English.
- j. Linguistic Amplification,
This technique adds the linguistic element of translation in the target language. Example “I got it” translated to “biar aku

No	Techniques	Quantity
1	Reduction (R)	2
2	Variation (V)	17
3	Adaptation (A)	1
4	Established Equivalent (EE)	43
5	Description (D)	1
6	Transposition (T)	2
7	Literal Translation (LT)	1
Total		67

saja yang melakukannya” in Indonesia.

- k. Linguistic Compression,
The changed of linguistic element in order to be the more simple translation. For example a sentence “you must find out!” is translated into “carilah!” in Indonesian language.
- l. Literal translation,
A technique which translates the source text word by word such as d “I read a book” becomes “ Saya membaca sebuah buku”.
- m. Modulation,
In this technique the translator changes their point of view, focus, or cognitive categories. For example the sentence “I cut my finger” translated into Indonesian language becomes “Jariku tersayat” not “Aku memotong jariku”.

- n. Particularization,
The used of specific terms, not the general. For example, “air transportation” translated into “pesawat” in Indonesian language.

- o. Reduction,

- p. It is a technique used by shifting the word with the component of meaning in target text. For example “fasting month” becomes “Ramadhan”.

- q. Substitution,

This technique shifts the linguistic elements to paralinguistic or the opposite.

- r. Transposition,

The shift of word class technique or a shift of the category of grammar.

- s. Variation,

The technique of linguistic or paralinguistic elements changes which affect the aspect of linguistics such as social dialect, geographic dialect, and so on.

This research found the techniques used by translator from Molina and Albir (2002:499). Thus, from the 18 techniques, there are some of them that are used on translating the Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets novel

III. Research Method

The method of the research is qualitative descriptive research. The data were taken from observation to the source of data and an interview was done to some raters who value the used strategies.

IV. Results and Discussion

The result of the research provides the technique sused by the translator to translate words, phrases or sentences that contain metaphor in

Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets novel and its translation version in Indonesian language novel with the title *Harry Potter dan Kamar Rahasia*.

Data used in the research are 67 words, phrases, or sentences containing metaphor in the Harry Potter and The Chamber of Secrets. The theory used to analyse is by Molina dan Albir (2002). It is to identify the techniques used by the novel translator. There are 7 techniques applied from totally 18 techniques mentioned by Molina dan Albir (2002). The following is the table of techniques used in the research.

Tabel 1. Translation Technique

Several techniques appeared in the research can be described as follow.

a. Reduction.

The technique is the opposite of amplification technique. The information in the source text language is compacted in the target text language.

The technique is found in data number BSu/01/TR in the sentence:

A : He roared around the table
(Source language)

B : Raungnya (Target language)

The source language text is a sentence which is translated into a verb phrase 'Raungnya'. The subject of the sentence is 'he' with the predicate 'roared' and an adverb of place 'around the table' is translated by reduction technique so that the result is briefer and in the form of verb phrase 'raungnya'. There is only one data using this technique in the research.

b. Variation.

The realisation of using this technique is by changing the linguistics or paralinguistics unres which influence linguistics variation such as the change

of textual tone, language style, social dialect and geographical dialect. The technique is commonly used in translating Drama text..

Data that seen to use this vaiation technique is 17 data with the number of 02,03, 04,06, 08,09, 14,16, 23, 24,25, 29, 35,36,37, 46, and datum number 51. As the example let's see the datum number BSu/25/TV.

A : Harry felt his stomach disappear

B : Hatinya mencelos

b. Adaptation.

Adaptasi is a translation technique used by replacing the source language culture with the target language culture which has a similarity and the culture is 'friendly' to the target language readers. The research shows that adaptation technique is applied in the datum number BSu/05/TA:

A : Thundered his uncle

B : Gelegar pamannya

The word thunder is literally meant as rumble. However, the situational context said that the word 'thunder' used as uncle Vernom said angrily with a high tone he has, the translator adapts the meaning as the word 'gelegar'.

c. Established Equivalent.

Established Equivalent is a technique used to translate a familiar term or expression. (based on dictionary or daily using) The technique is similar to literal translation. There are 43 data using Established Equivalent technique in this research. It is the proof that this technique is used mostly by the translator to translate the Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets novel. It seems that the translator eagers to make the translation result acceptable by Indonesian society comprehension by bring forward to show the public the daily Indonesian language usual words.

d. Description.

Description is a translation technique that applies by substituting terms or expressions with the description of the form and the function. There is only one description technique found in the research viz datum number BSu/31/TD. Here is the explanation of the data.

A : Mind spinning

B : Otaknya dipenuhi pertanyaan-pertanyaan yang sama yang tak bisa dijawab.

Description technique is used to give the best meaning by replacing the term or expressions by its form and function.
e. Transposition.

Transposition is a translation technique by substituting grammatical category. The technique is similar to rankshift technique used for category, structure and unit. Verb in the source language is changed into noun in the target language. There are two data using transpositional technique in the research from 67 data analyzed by the research viz data number BSu/38/TT and data number BSu/66/TT. Data number BSu/38/TT shows a noun phrase of 'A nasty greenish color' which then by the translator it is translated by 'Wajah Ron berubah pucat'. Transposition technique utilizes to change the noun phrase structure to be a complete sentence with its subject, predicate and adverb.

e. Literal Translation

Literal Translation is a technique that translator translates the term word for word. The use of this technique is only in one datum number BSu/61/This. Here is the explanation in brief.

A : Mountain of toast

B : Bergunung-gunung roti panggang

It is very lucky that from all data analysed, metaphor in this datum 61 is analysed with literal translation technique. It is not surprising because in metaphor the cultures where the languages belong always involved. Therefore literal translation technique should not get too many opportunities in this technique.

V. Conclusions

The conclusion emerged from this research is that the translator eventually has to choose the types of certain techniques used in the process of translating the metaphor words, phrases or sentences in the novel of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. There are 7 techniques used to translate as from 18 types mentioned by Molina dan Albir (2012). Those techniques are Reduction (R), Variation (V), Adaptation (A), Established Equivalent (EE), Description (D), Transposition (T) dan Literal Translation (LT). The finding shows that the Established Equivalent is used mostly in the research. There are 43 data from 67 data altogether that are analysed in the research. Understanding that there is a different language structure between English and Indonesian language as a result the established equivalent is the best technique that should be applied by the translator.

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