

FORM AND MEANING SHIFTS IN INDONESIAN-ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF NOUN PHRASES

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Abstract

Translation is a work of transferring message from one language to another one. Translation work in the focus of noun phrase requires deep understanding of the different grammatical rules in both source language and target language. In transferring the message, the translation could cause translation shift whether it is in the form or the meaning of noun phrase. This study aims at describing the types and the purpose of form and meaning shifts occurred in the translation of Indonesian noun phrases into English. The data sources of this study are Indonesian novel entitled “Bumi Manusia” and its translation in English entitled “This Earth of Mankind”. This study is a descriptive research that describes the analysis of translation result. In collecting the data, the researchers used documentation method by identifying the noun phrases in the novel of source language text and finding its translation in target language text. Once the data were collected, then they were analyzed descriptively. The data of Indonesian and English noun phrases are analyzed by using theory of translation to show the shifts of noun phrase’s elements in the translation results. The classification of data is based on the types of form and meaning shifts in translation. The translation of Indonesian noun phrases found in novel “Bumi Manusia” into English “The Earth of Mankind” causes form and meaning shifts, such as: 1. Form shifts, consists of level shift, structure shift, class shift, and intra-system shift; and 2. Meaning shifts, consists of gain of information, loss of information and skewing of information. The occurrence of translation shift is to find equivalence meanings in source language and target language.

Keywords: *form and meaning shift, translation, noun phrase*

INTRODUCTION

Text contains many sentences to tell ideas to be shared. It is according to a statement proposed by Spears (2002:535); a sentence is a group of words that forms an independent thought, usually including at least a subject and a verb. The study of text structure is discussed in the study of syntax, since it relates to the structure of words in a sentence. Syntax is a study of linguistics which deals with the analysis of words, phrases, clauses, and even sentences (Verhaar, 2004:10). This study focus on the analysis of noun phrase elements, so this study cannot deny the study of syntax especially in the analysis of noun phrase as a part of syntax study.

Halliday (2014) stated that a noun phrase is a phrase whose head is a noun or a pronoun, optionally accompanied by a set of modifiers. The modifiers may be determiners, such as articles, demonstratives, numerals, possessive, and quantifiers, adjectives, participle, other nouns and adverbs.

This study is not only about syntactic structure of noun phrase but also the translation result. Translation is a work of transferring message from one language to another one. In the translation of noun phrase, the translators should have deep understanding of the different grammatical rules in both source language and target language. In transferring the message, the translation could cause translation shift whether it is in the form or the meaning of noun phrase. As proposed by Catford (1965) that translation shifts mean the changes of small linguistic form that occur between source text and target text. In the study of translation, shift becomes the common term that is occurred in the effort to transfer the meaning of source language text into the target language text. Referring to the previous explanation, the writer was interested to analyze the shifts of noun phrase that occur in the translation product. This study aims at describing the types and the purpose of form and meaning shifts occurred in the translation of Indonesian noun phrases into English.

LITERATURE REVIEW

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Some studies about translation shifts have done by some researchers. One of them is Sholekhah (2019) which is entitled “An Analysis of Category-Shifts on The Comic Translation from English into Indonesian in Visual Translation Subject of English Department Tidar University”. This research discussed the category shifts in the students’ translation results. The objectives of this research were to describe the occurrence of category shift on the comic translation translated by the third semester students in Visual Translation subject of English Department Tidar University and to describe the influences of category shift on transferring meaning from source language into target language. This research was a kind of descriptive qualitative research. The data were analyzed by using the theory of category shifts by Catford (1965). The findings show that there are four category shifts occur on the comic translation from English into Indonesian, such as: structure shift, class shift, unit shift and intra-system-shift. The category shift that is dominantly found in the data source is structure shift and the influence of shift causes the complete meaning in the target language. This study provides a very important information of translation shift, which is focused on category shift, so it has contribution to the present study.

Another research was done by Tirtayasa, Christien Tiyuni & Harris Hermansyah Setiajid (2018), entitled “Translation Shifts in Goenawan Mohamad’s Poem Collection “On God and Other Unfinished Things” (with Special Reference to Poem 33)”. In the study, they discussed translation shifts on literary translation. The research tried to take a look at the translation shifts occurring in the English version of Goenawan Mohamad’s poem collection entitled “On God and Other Unfinished Things” which is translated from Bahasa Indonesia “Tuhan dan Hal-hal Yang Tak Selesai”, with special reference to poem 33. The analysis was conducted by comparing literary elements in Bahasa Indonesia and English versions, especially about category shift in micro-level analysis and also provides the semantic, textual, pragmatic, rhetorical, and stylistic components analysis. Even though this study focus on the literary work, but this study gives complete analysis of category shift in translated text. So, it gives significant contribution to the present study.

METHODOLOGY

This study is a kind of qualitative research. Qualitative research is an inquiry approach useful for exploring and understanding a central phenomenon (Creswell, 2012: 626). It is in accordance to Bogdan and Biklen (1992), which stated that a researcher of qualitative research is the key instrument. It means that the researcher plays an important role in deciding data both to include and to exclude. Since this study is a translation study, so the data were taken from translation text. The source text was Indonesian novel by Pramoedya Ananta Toer entitled “Bumi Manusia”, which is translated into English by Max Lane into “This Earth of Mankind”. In collecting the data, the researcher used documentation method by identifying the noun phrases in the novel both in source text and target text. Once the data were collected, then they were analyzed descriptively. It started from underlining the sentences or clauses which contain the noun phrase to identify the noun phrase in the sentence or clause. Then, they were classified into types of form and meaning shifts in the translation of noun phrase. Afterwards, they were described based on the equivalence meaning of noun phrase between source language and target language. And the last step was drawing conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Form Shifts

The form shifts in translating noun phrases found in the data source can be grouped into two groups, they are 1) level shifts and 2) category shifts. Category shifts can be distinguished into four, namely 1) structural shifts, 2) class shifts, 3) unit shifts, and 4) intra-system shifts. The types of form shift and data analysis are explained as follows.

1. Level Shifts

Level shifts can occur from a level of word in the source language that is transferred into a different level of word in the target language. In the translation data of Indonesian noun phrases into English, the level shift found in the form of a shift from a noun level into a higher level form (such as a noun phrase) and from a noun phrase level into a lower level form (such as: pronoun, adjective) or larger level form (clause).

a. Noun into Noun Phrase

This shift occurs in noun phrase consisting of only one noun which is translated into a noun phrase consisting of at least two elements. The following data is an example of a shift from a noun to a noun phrase attributed to two elements.

SL	TL
Sang peramal buka <u>mulut</u> .	The fortune-teller opened <u>her mouth</u> .

The shift in the translation of the above noun phrase occurs in the translation of the noun "mouth" into a noun phrase "her mouth". This was done by the translator in order to clarify the reference to the noun phrase by adding pronoun "her" which states possession.

b. Noun Phrase into Pronoun

The level shift from a noun phrase to a smaller element can be in the form of pronoun, it can be as the following example.

SL	TL
Setiap pribadi akan datang padanya—mau-tak-mau, dengan seluruh jiwa dan raganya.	We will all eventually arrive there—willing or unwilling, with all our soul and body.

In the sentence above, the translation of the noun phrase "each person" which consists of determinant, in the form of numerative and a noun as its core, is translated into a noun phrase consisting of one pronoun "we". The data is an example of the level shift from noun phrases in the source language to pronoun in the target language. Pronoun is a form of reference that can be used by the translator to maintain the coherence of text in the target language.

c. Noun Phrase into Clause

A shift in the translation of noun phrase can also be a higher level that is in the form of a clause. The example can be seen in the following data.

SL	TL
Semua orang memang memuji-muji <u>kecantikan anaknya</u> .	Everybody, of course, says <u>her daughter is beautiful</u> .

The data above contains a noun phrase "beauty of her child" in the source language which is translated into a clause "her daughter is beautiful" in the target language. This shift occurs as a result of effort by translator to convey the meaning of the source language communicatively in the target language, so that the target reader can easily understand the meaning and structure of the target language. When viewed structurally, noun phrase in the source language consist of a noun "*kecantikan*" and followed by a noun "*anak*" and finally closed by a possessive pronoun "*-nya*" attached to the second noun. In the translation, the phrase is translated into a clause composed of a pronoun "her", followed by a noun "daughter" which functions as the subject of the clause, then followed by an auxiliary verb "is" which functions as a predicate in the clause, and finally followed by an adjective "beautiful" which functions as clause complement. So, the shift in the translation of noun phrase in the data is a shift from a lower level to a higher level.

Another example of a level shift from noun phrase into a clause can also be seen in the following data.

SL	TL
" <u>Pendapat umum</u> perlu dan harus diindahkan, dihormati, kalau benar.	You must pay heed to and respect <u>what people think</u> if they are correct.

The source language data above consists of one noun phrase element which is translated into a clause in the target language. The noun phrase "*pendapat umum*" in the source language sentence is translated into a clause "what people think" in the target language. The translator prefers to use the level of clause in target language to transfer the equivalent meaning of noun phrase in source language, so that the target reader can understand it well. Noun phrase in the source language consist of a noun "*pendapat*" as the head of the phrase and is followed by an adjective "*umum*" as the constituent. Whereas, in the target language, the phrase is translated into a higher level in the form of a clause, consisting of question pronoun "what", followed by a noun "people" and closed with a verb "think".

d. Prepositional Phrase into Adjective

The level shift in the translation of noun phrase can also occur in one element of the constituent of the noun phrase. Noun phrase in the source language can be constructed by various elements which can be word, phrase or clause, so that a shift can occur in one of its constituent elements. The following sample data is an example of a level shift that occurs in one of the constituent element of a noun phrase.

SL	TL
... ia menunjuk pada <u>patung kecil dari perunggu</u> .	She pointed to <u>a small bronze statue</u> .

The data above has a noun phrase element "*patung kecil dari perunggu*" consisting of a noun "*patung*" as the core phrase and followed by an adjective "*kecil*" and closed with the preposition phrase "*dari perunggu*" as its constituent. The level shift that occurs in the translation of this noun phrase is in the translation of the preposition phrase of the constituent. The prepositional phrase "*dari perunggu*" in the noun phrase is translated into an adjective "bronze", so the level shift occurs from the higher level to the smaller one in the translation of the noun phrase.

2. Category Shift

Category shift in the translation of Indonesian noun phrases into English are found in the data source; they are in the form of structural shifts, class shifts, unit shifts and intra-system shifts. Each of these shifts are explained in the following section.

a. Structural shifts

Structural shift in translation is often unavoidable because each language has different grammatical rules, so that the grammatical structure in each language, both the source and target language, will be different. The examples of structural shifts in the translation of noun phrases found in the data source are as follows.

SL	TL
Lagi pula <u>semua guruku</u> kelahiran sana, dididik di sana pula.	And, further, <u>all my teachers</u> had been born and educated in Europe.

In the data above, the translation of the noun phrase "*semua guruku*" into "all my teachers" causes a structural shift. In the source language, the use of pronoun to indicate possession in noun phrase always follows the noun as a core of the phrase. Meanwhile, in the target language, the appearance of possessive pronoun always precedes the core noun, so that the word "*guruku*" in the source language is translated into "my teachers".

Another example of structural shift in the translation of nominal phrases found in data sources can be seen in the following data.

SL	TL
Tanah di sini sangat bagus, bisa menghasilkan <u>kacang-tanah kering glondongan tiga ton</u> setiap hektar.	The land here is very good; it can produce <u>three metric tons dry weight of peanuts</u> per hectare.

Structural shift occurs in the translation of the noun phrase "*kacang-tanah kering glondongan tiga ton*" into "three metric tons of dry weight of peanuts" in the target language. The structural shift can be seen in the shift of the phrase core "*kacang*" which appears at the beginning of the phrase in the source language, then in the target language the core noun "peanuts" is in the middle of the phrase. The shift in structure occurs because of differences in the structure of the source language and target language.

b. Class shifts

The class shift can occur in one of the constituent of the phrase. The class shift found in the data source can be explained as follows.

Noun into Adjective

The shift of noun into adjective occurs in noun phrases composed of one noun as the core and another noun as the delimiter. The example found in the data can be explained as follows.

SL	TL
Kau pun jangan lupa, dalam dirimu ada juga <u>darah Pribumi</u> .	Don't you forget either, in your veins runs <u>Native blood</u> too.

In the data above, the shift of word class can be seen in the translation of the noun phrase "*darah pribumi*" into "native blood". The word that experiences a class shift in the phrase is the word "*pribumi*" which is categorized as a noun is translated to be "native" which is categorized as an adjective.

Verb into Adjective

This class shift occurs in the translation of noun phrase consisting of noun as the core of the phrase and accompanied by adjective as their constituent. Following are the examples found in data source.

SL	TL
Di mana saja sama: <u>bocah-bocah kecil telanjang bulat</u> bermain-main, sebagian besar dengan ingus tergantung pada hidung.	It was the same everywhere: <u>little, naked children</u> playing everywhere, most with snot hanging from their noses.

In the data above, the class shift occurs in the translation of the noun phrase "*bocah-bocah kecil telanjang bulat*" into "little, naked children". The word that experiences a class shift in the phrase is the word "*telanjang*" which is categorized as a verb is translated into "naked" which is categorized as an adjective.

c. Unit Shift

Unit shift is a shift that occurs at the same level but at different units. The examples of unit shift in the translation of noun phrase found in the data source are as follows.

SL	TL
“Itu <u>topeng-topeng cerita Sie jin Kuie,</u> ” ia menerangkan.	“These are <u>the masks from the story of Sie You Chie,</u> ” she explained.

In the data above, the noun phrase "topeng-topeng cerita Sie jin Kuie" is translated into "the masks from the story of Sie You Chie". The unit shift occurred in the translation of the noun phrase "cerita Sie jin Kuie" into a prepositional phrase "from the story of Sie You Chie". In this shift, there was no change in the level of the source language and the target language, both are in the form of phrases. But, the different is the unit, which is from a noun phrase into a prepositional phrase. This is certainly needed in translation to achieve the equivalent meaning to be conveyed from the source language into the target language.

d. Intra-System Shift

This shift occurs by involving the internal system of language formation in translation. The source and target languages have different singular and plural forms. This is certainly in accordance with the rules that apply in both languages. The following are the examples of intra-system shift that occur due to system differences in both languages.

SL	TL
<u>Orang tuaku</u> telah mempercayakan diriku pada mereka.	<u>My parents</u> had entrusted me to them.

Intra-system shift can also occur in the translation of the noun phrase "*orang tuaku*" which refers to father and mother. Meanwhile, if it is translated into the target language, it can be equivalent to the phrase "my parents". In the source language the word "orang tua" is single but refers to the plural objects, namely father and mother. When translated into the target language, the form will be equivalent to the plural "parents" which is marked by the addition of the bound morpheme "-s" in the free morpheme "parent" which indicates the object being referred to is plural. However, in the translation, there is no level shift, that is the form of noun phrase in the source language still being a noun phrase in the target language.

SL	TL
Hanya ada <u>tiga ekor</u> di dalamnya.	There were only <u>three horses</u> inside.

Intra-system shift also occurs in the translation of the noun phrase "*tiga ekor*" which refers to the information previously mentioned, that is "*tiga ekor kuda*". In Indonesian, the plural is only indicated by a numerative that precedes the core noun. Whereas, when translated in the target language, the phrase can be equivalent to the phrase "three horses". In the source language the word "*ekor*" is single but refers to the plural objects, it is indicated by the numerative that precedes it. In the target language, it will be equivalent to the plural "horses" marked by the addition of bound morpheme "-s" to the free morpheme "horse" which indicates the object being referred to is plural. Differences in singular and plural systems in the two languages causes intra-system shift in translation.

B. Meaning Shifts

Shift of meaning found in the data source are in the form of gain of information, loss of information and skewing of information. All types of meaning shifts will be discussed as follow.

a. Gain of Information

In this type of shift, the added information is not found in the source language but being added in the target language. The example can be seen in the following data.

SL	TL
Di dalamnya terdapat juga <u>patung Erlangga ukiran Bali</u> , duduk di atas <u>punggung garuda</u> .	There was also <u>a Balinese carving of the East Javanese king Erlangga</u> , riding on <u>the back of the mythical garuda bird</u> .

In the data above, there are two noun phrases that are translated with the addition of information in the target language, they are "*patung Erlangga ukiran Bali*" and "*punggung garuda*". The noun phrase "*patung Erlangga ukiran Bali*" is translated into a noun phrase "a Balinese carving of the East Javanese king Erlangga ". There is an additional information in the translation of the phrase, the information of "the East Javanese king Erlangga" is used to match the name "Erlangga". The gain information is by adding the information of 'Erlangga is the name of a king from East Java' in the target language. It is done to provide information to the target reader who might not know who Erlangga is, because Erlangga is the name of a king known in Indonesia. In addition, additional information also occurs in the translation of "*punggung Garuda*" which is translated into "the back of the mythical Garuda bird". In the translation result, the gain information is the information about Garuda which is the name of a bird known in Indonesia and not in other countries. The information added is about the mythical bird 'Garuda' that is believed by the people of Indonesia. Thus, in finding the equivalent meaning of the noun phrase in both source language and target language requires additional information "the mythical bird" to make it easier for the target reader to imagine the object that is being referred to.

b. Loss of Information

The loss of information is carried out by the translator if the meaning indicated by a particular word or expression is not important enough, so to make the translation result more communicative then the translator can apply omission. The example of the loss of information found in the data source can be described as follows.

SL	TL
Dan tak pernah <u>dugaanku yang kira-kira tepat itu</u> aku ceritakan pada orang lain.	I've never told anyone <u>what I thought</u> .

The data above consists of the noun phrase "*dugaanku yang kira-kira tepat itu*" which is translated into "what I thought". There is a loss of information on the translation, that is, information about the source language "*yang kira-kira tepat itu*" because the information is not too important so that the translation of the target language can be removed. Even though, there is an omission of information in target language but the meaning of source language is still transferred equivalently in target language text.

c. Skewing of Information

Changes of information are often done by translators if the words of the source language cannot be translated word for word to achieve the equivalent meaning of the source language and target language. So, in order to make the translation result more communicative the translator often changes the information but does not neglect the intent of the source text. The following data is an example of skewing of information made in the translation of noun phrase.

SL	TL
Dan dia bisa memuji <u>kebagusan cerita</u> .	And she could praise <u>the strengths of a story</u> .

The source language data contains an element of the noun phrase "*kebagusan cerita*" which is translated into "the strengths of a story". Skewing of information occurred in the translation of the noun phrase is the translation of word "*kebagusan*" with the word "strengths". The meaning contained by the word "*kebagusan*" is something good and beautiful. If it is translated into word "strengths" which means "a quality or an ability possessed by someone or something that can provide an advantage", then the change in meaning that occurs is the meaning of "*bagus*" turns into a quality or ability that may not mean good, could mean strength, or prominent strength. Even though the

change of meaning is done by the translator, the intention to convey from the source language into the target language is the same, which shows the prominent quality of a story. It is done in purpose of making the translation result be readable for the target reader.

CONCLUSION

Based on the data analysis, the conclusions of this study are as follows: Shifts of form occurred in the data source can be grouped into two groups, they are 1) level shifts and 2) category shifts. Category shifts can be distinguished into four, namely 1) structural shifts, 2) class shifts, 3) unit shifts, and 4) intra-system shifts. Shift of meaning found in the data source are in the form of gain of information, loss of information and skewing of information. The shift in structure occurs because of differences in the structure of the source language and target language. And the purpose of form and meaning shifts occurred in the translation of Indonesian noun phrases into English is to give equivalent meaning of source language into target language and make the translation result be readable for the target reader.

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