Adjective Clauses in Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*: A Systemic Functional Analysis in Translation Studies

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Abstract

This research analyzed translation techniques used to translate adjective clauses found in the novel *The Kite Runner*, described the shifts of semantic categories in some of the translated clauses, and described the effects of the techniques used on the quality of the translated clauses. This study falls into the class of descriptive qualitative research. The main source of the data is the novel *The Kite Runner*, written by Khaled Hoesaini and its Indonesian version. The secondary source of the data is the information given by raters and respondents through questionnaires given to them. The result of this study shows that eleven translation techniques are used to translate 268 data analyzed in this research. In terms of semantic category, 55 data are believed to experience shifts of semantic categories. In general, 231 (86,1%) data are accurate, 35 (13%) data are less accurate, and 2 (0,74) data are inaccurate. In terms of the acceptability, 234 (87,3%) data are acceptable, 31(11,5%) data are less acceptable, and 3 (1,1%)data are unacceptable. Meanwhile, viewed from the level of readability, 226 (84,3%) data have highly readable, 40(14,9%) data moderately readabile, and 2 (0,74%) data hardly readable.

Keywords: *translation, adjective clauses, systemic functional linguistics*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini menganalisis teknik penerjemahan yang digunakan untuk menerjemahkan klausa kata sifat yang ditemukan dalam novel *The Kite Runner*, mendeskripsikan pergeseran kategori semantik dalam beberapa klausa yang diterjemahkan, dan mendeskripsikan pengaruh teknik yang digunakan terhadap kualitas klausa yang diterjemahkan. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif deskriptif. Sumber data utama adalah novel *The Kite Runner*, yang ditulis oleh Khaled Hoesaini dan versi Indonesianya. Sumber data sekunder adalah informasi yang diberikan oleh penilai dan responden melalui kuesioner yang diberikan kepada mereka. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa sebelas teknik penerjemahan digunakan untuk menerjemahkan 268 data yang dianalisis dalam penelitian ini. Dari sisi kategori semantik, 55 data diyakini mengalami pergeseran kategori semantik. Secara umum, 231 (86,1%) data akurat, 35 (13%) data kurang akurat, dan 2 (0,74) data tidak akurat. Dalam hal penerimaan, 234 (87,3%) data dapat diterima, 31 (11,5%) data kurang dapat diterima, dan 3 (1,1%) data tidak dapat diterima. Sementara itu, dilihat dari tingkat keterbacaannya, 226 (84,3%) data memiliki sangat mudah dibaca, 40(14,9%) data cukup mudah dibaca, dan 2 (0,74%) data sulit dibaca.

Kata Kunci: *penerjemahan, klausa kata sifat, linguistik fungsional sistemik*

I. BACKGROUND

Demands to be able to interact and master several branches of science, with many sources written in foreign languages, make the ability and translation activities important. The importance of translation in the context of transferring science and technology especially to developing countries has been recognized and felt by various parties. There are many examples of the success of an organization or state in various fields, especially in the field of economics, which are very much influenced by the mastery of the people towards the science or culture they get from foreign-language books or translations.

Large-scale attempts at translation by large nations, such as China and Japan, have resulted in the development of extraordinary science and technology. Thus translation has become the cause, or at least the main aide, for the progress of a nation and thanks to the efforts of translation that now these countries can compete with other countries that have advanced before them. Besides Japan, Western Europe also feels the same benefits. Louis Kelly said in The True Interpreter (1979) that in developing his civilization, Western Europe was deeply indebted to the translators who had acted as mediators between writers and readers of different language backgrounds.

In the world of literature, the work of translation is no longer something strange or strange, because there are so many literary works that the reading community is basically the work of foreigners who were originally written in a foreign language. Translation works are works that are deliberately translated by translators so that audiences (general readers) can read and enjoy the work. Usually, a work that is translated into various languages is motivated by the quality of the work that is considered interesting, and can add insight to other countries. Besides that, it could be because the author got the literary noble. The work was translated into various languages in the world. The goal is none other so that the scope or segmentation of the reader is wider.

In each translation result, there are three things that are always considered to find out the quality of the translation results. These are usually used by researchers in the field of translation in their research. The three things are accuracy, acceptability, and readability. This study applies the framework of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) theory. This theory focuses on the study of text or discourse in a social context. Text is a language that functions or is doing a task (Halliday, 1994: 13). This theory is used for several reasons. The first is that there has not been much research in the field of translation that applies the SFL theory in dissecting the translation products at the clause level. The second reason is

that this theory includes analysis of linguistic aspects and semantic aspects, which are applied simultaneously. The last is that this SFL theory has a sufficiently complete and sufficient tool to examine clauses in more than one language. Besides that, this theory is also believed to have the advantage of combining formal analysis of language as a code by analyzing functional language as behavior, and putting it in a social-semiotic perspective. Linguistics in the view of SFL is an understanding that distinguishes functions in the context of paradigms and functions in a systematic context.

With this approach, the clauses studied can provide a broader picture of the translation of relative clauses. This larger amount is caused by the increase in the types of relative clauses that exist. In traditional grammar, clause is always finite or must have a subject. However, the relative clause in the SFL also has one other type, namely non-finite. This means that the relative clause does not always have to have a subject. Besides, it also considers the post-modifier consisting of participle, to-infinitive, and adjective as a relative clause.

The system causes people to be able to interpret paradigmatic relationships while the structure of language allows people to interpret syntactical relationships. Thus, as stated by Matthiesen (1992: 1), it appears that SFL is not a theory of grammar and is not the same as functional grammar commonly known. SFL has a study phenomenon that is not only related to grammar, but also covers all the complexity of semiotic language in a social context.

By realizing the importance of translation, standardization of translation products is needed, by setting values that are included in the measure of translation quality. We have found many studies on translation, especially translation techniques and methods. This certainly aims to find out translation techniques which are used by translators to translate a work, and the results are used to determine the quality of the product.

Most research on translation still focuses on theories and conveys or classifies the translation techniques used by translators. A study of relative clauses (Dalilan and Mulyono, 2005) describes similarities and differences between relative clauses in English and in Indonesian. This research does not at all explain the translation techniques that should be used by translators. Besides that, the research only provides case examples that are deliberately made by themselves. In other words, the study does not discuss the phenomenon of translation of clauses relative to practice or to an object that can be studied.

Other research on clauses has been carried out by Purwaningsih (2003). The study discusses the translation clause technique that functions as a pre-modifier in a novel, and assesses the quality of its translation in an Indonesian version of the novel. The study does not address quality from all sides (three sides), but only focuses on two sides; accuracy and acceptability.

Besides that, Suedibyo (2002) conducted a research on contrastive analysis of English and Indonesian clauses. The study did not mention the problem of translating the relative clauses of the two languages. The approach used in the research is traditional grammar initiated by Noam Chomsky.

A similar study was carried out by Bonaedy (2007). This study discussed a shift in semantic categories in the translation of clauses relative to scientific texts. However, the study did not discuss translation techniques and the quality of the translation results. Wirawati (2006) also conducted research on relative clause translation. The study discusses the shift of relative clauses from active forms to passive and vice versa.

The lack of focus of previous researchers in the detailed description of the relative clauses in the novel or other texts is an evidence that research on clauses is relatively rare, especially research that uses a systemic functional linguistic approach, initiated by Halliday. Based on these facts, researchers believe that researchers have the opportunity to discuss and focus on translation techniques used to translate relative clauses in novels, and on changes in the types of clauses relative to their semantic functions in novels when translated into Indonesian. Besides that, researchers will also use a new approach, Systemic Functional Linguistics.

Newmark (1988: 5) states that translation is a process of transferring a message from a source language (SL) text into the target language (TL) text. In the case of the translation of the novel, the source language in question is the language used by the author of the novel, while the target language is the language of the readers of the novel that speak a different language.

In the process of translating, some problems, related to the difference of the two languages, often occur, so that translators need to master the techniques of translation. There are eighten techniques that can be used in translating texts from a source language into a target language. The use of technique in terms of translation should always be based on the problem accuring during the process of translating. The following is the description of each technique of translation, as stated by Molina & Albir (2002).

1) Adaptation

This technique is done by adjusting the existing cultural elements in the source language with similar cultural elements in the target language.

2) Amplification

A translation technique by making explicit or paraphrasing information that is implicit in the source language.

3) Borrowing

The translation technique is done by borrowing words or expressions from the source language

4) Calque,

Teknik penerjemahan yang dilakukan dengan menerjemahkan frasa atau kata bahasa sumber secara literal.

5) Compensation,

The translation technique is done by conveying messages to other parts of the translated text.

6) Description,

A translation technique that is applied by replacing a term or expression with a description of its form and function.

7) Discursive Creation,

Translation technique with the use of out-of-context equivalents. This is done to attract the attention of potential readers.

8) Established Equivalence,

Techniques with the use of familiar terms or expressions (based on dictionaries or everyday usage).

9) Generalization,

This technique uses more general terms in the target language for a more specific source language.

10) Linguistic Amplification,

The translation technique is done by adding linguistic elements in the target language

11) Linguistic Compression,

The technique is carried out by synthesizing linguistic elements in the target language

12) Literal Translation,

The technique is done by translating word for word and the translator does not relate it to the context.

13) Modulation

This translation technique is applied by changing the point of view, focus or cognitive category

14) Particularization

A translation technique in which the translator uses more concrete, precise or specific terms, from superordinate to subordinate.

15) Reduction

The technique is applied with partial omission, because the omission is considered not to cause distortion of meaning.

16) Substitution

This technique is done by changing the linguistic elements into paralinguistics (intonation or gesture).

17) Transposition

A translation technique in which the translator makes changes to grammatical categories.

18) Variation

Techniques by replacing linguistic or paralinguistic elements (intonation, gestures) that have an impact on linguistic variations.

III.   RESEARCH METHOD

Nababan (2012:46) states that the quality of translation product, as the thing which helps readers understand what is meant by the writer of the original text, is basically influenced by two things; the competence of the translator and the reader. The competence of the translator is related to how he/she makes a decision. The decision may deal with how he chooses words, structures, and terms, which are all applicable to the text. His choice should be based on the situation, and culture of the target readers. In order to measure the quality of a translation product, a strandardized theory should be used. Assessment of translation focusses on three aspects. They are accuracy, acceptability and readability.

A.   Accuracy

Pinto (2001:297) states, "Accuracy or precision would give us an approximate idea of the success of the translator in dealing with the text overall, allowing us to check the adaptation to the source text and the inclusion, or omission, of extra-textual information." Accuracy here means how far the message from source language can be conveyed to target language. An accurate translation is the one that is succesfully transferring the message from source language to target language without any reductions or omittions.

In measuring the quality in terms of accuracy, Nababan, et al (2012) proposed the following scale.

Category	Score	Qualitative Parameter
Accurate	3	All of the meanings of words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or texts in a source text are accurately delivered without any distortions.
Less Accurate	2	Most meanings of words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or texts in a source text are accurately delivered. However, there are still some distortions which can change the meaning of the texts as a whole.
Inaccurate	1	All of the meanings of words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or texts in a source text are not accurately delivered, or are deleted.

B. Acceptability

Acceptability is related to the natural feeling of the text as an original of the target reader. It deals with the target language system and its culture. This factor is so important that many sentences in any source language are not literally translated into a target text, because of this factor. In measuring the quality in terms of acceptability, Nababan, et al (2012) proposed the following scale.

Category	Score	Qualitative Parameter
Acceptable	3	The result of the translation sounds natural; the technical terms used are reader-friendy. Frases, clauses and sentences used are grammatically correct, according to the target language.
Less acceptable	2	The result of the translation is mostly natural, but some technical terms are not properly used, and there are some grammatical mistakes.

Unacceptable	1	The result of the translation sounds unnatural; the technical terms used are not reader-friendly. Frases, clauses and sentences used are grammatically incorrect, according to the target language.

C. Readability

The last aspect to assess the quality of translation is readability. Readability refers to how naturally and easily a translation can be read. The more natural are the vocabulary and the forms used in a translation the higher it will rank in readability. Readability is an important feature as Pinto (2001:298) says "One important measurement of quality should be the clarity and readability of the final product."

The following is what Nababan et al (2012) says about the quality of translation in terms of readability.

Category	Score	Qualitative Parameter
Highly readable	3	All of the meanings of words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or texts can be easily understood by the readers.
Quite Readable	2	Most of the meanings of words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or texts can be easily understood by the readers. There are saveral points which should be read repeatedly to get their meanings.
Hardly Readable	1	The result of the translation can hardly be understood.

In assessing the quality of the translation, a rater is employed to rate the quality of the translations, according to the what is stated in the three tables above. The rater is a postgraduate student of English education, who has read both the English and the Indonesia versions of the novel.

III. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A.   Findings

Molina and Albir (2002: 509) define translation techniques as a procedure for analyzing and classifying how equivalence translations take place and can be applied to various lingual units. From the results of the Search obtained the use of 11 translation techniques. Translators do not only apply one technique, some techniques are applied to one translation problem. Therefore the number of techniques identified amounted to 352 translation techniques at the level of units of words, phrases, clauses and sentences, as shown in the following table.

No.	Techniques	Number	Frequency
1	Literal	224	64,3 %
2	Established equivalence	11	3,08%
3	Transposition	17	4,77%
4	Modulation	32	9,26%
5	Linguistic compression	12	2,8 %
6	Reduction	22	5,61 %
7	linguistic amplification	16	4,49 %
8	Adaptation	2	0,56%
9	Borrowing	1	0,28%
10	Compensation	14	4,49%
11	Calque	1	0,28%
Total		352	

In translating the relative clause, the semantic category of the BSa clause should be a reference, so that the translation clause has the same emphasis on the message. In order to realize comparable relative clauses, namely translations understood by BSa readers as BSu readers understand BSu's relative clauses, there are several techniques used by translators, including transposition, modulation. This is in line with what Warastuti (2005) said that in translating the relative clauses of transposition and modulation techniques are often found. But in this study, it was found that the literal technique is the dominant translation technique. Of the 356 uses of translation techniques, literal techniques were used 240 times (67.4%). This is due to the relative clause that is used using simple language, so the relative clause structure used is not much different from the structure in the target language. Of the many data samples found it can be seen that most are simple clauses.

As mentioned by Houng (2008) that sometimes sentences that contain relative clauses in English are difficult to translate literally into other languages. This is caused by linguistic systems and language habits systems in different languages. Difference

This then makes the clause relatively often not translated into relative clauses, but is translated into other forms, such as by "splitting" (Huong, 2008) or even structural reduction into phrases or words. The reduction of the structure in question is as mentioned by Quirk and Greenbaum (1987) that reduction is "a grammatical principle, which is the avoidance of redundancy of expression." Reduction and change in structure results in a shift towards the translation results. Simatupang (2000) mentions the types of shifts in translation as follows:

1. Shift in the Morpheme Level (The smallest grammatical unit in an

    language / sentence that has meaning)

2. Shifts in the Syntax Level

3. Shifts in the Syntax Level

4. Shifting Meanings due to differences in cultural viewpoints

Bonaedy (2007) states that translators can make changes to the equivalent form so that the translation results are acceptable and feel reasonable so the message is conveyed well. This shift is generally intended to find the most appropriate equivalent or closest to the source language. Furthermore, Bonaedy (2007) states that the shift in the translation process shows that dynamic equivalence is more prioritized than formal correspondance.

B.   Discussion

This study discussed shifts in terms of semantic categories. As mentioned earlier, the relative clauses, both in English and in Indonesian, are semantically divided into two: restrictive and non-restrictive. It was found that there were many data that experienced a shift in semantic categories, both from the restrictive category to non-restrictive and from non-restrictive to non-restrictive. Type shifts are also caused by shifting the level of grammatical units, from clauses to sentences, ... and from clauses to phrases. This shift occurs in almost all the techniques used by translators. Among the uses of techniques that have resulted in shifts are the use of common equivalence techniques, reduction, modulation, transposition, literal, linguistic compression, linguistic amplification, and

compensation. In terms of the type of use of the technique in translating it was found that the use of multiple techniques has more potential to produce translations with shifting categories. The use of a single technique basically can also result in a shift in the semantic category in the relative clause. However, the use of this type of technique, which is dominated by literal techniques, has a smaller potential. Of the overall data that experienced a shift in the semactic category, 53.1% of them were translated using multiple techniques.

In relation to the quality of the translation results, we can see that the semantic category shift does not affect the accuracy, acceptability, and readability of the message in the source language text. This can be seen from the results of this study that of the 55 data that experienced this shift, there were 15 (27.2%) data that were less accurate and there were 2 (3.6%) inaccurate data. In terms of acceptability, there are 50 (90.9%) acceptable data, 2 (3.6%) data is less acceptable, and 3 (5.45%) data is not acceptable. The same thing also happened at the level of readability of the translation results, which in this case there were 47 (85.4%) data had a high level of readability, 6 (10.9%) data had moderate readability, and 2 (3.6%) data has a low readability level. On the other hand, we can say that the quality aspects that are most influenced by the shift in the semantic category are aspects of accuracy. This can be seen from the results of the analysis carried out that of the 55 data that experienced a shift, there were 15 (27.2%) data that were less accurate and there were 2 (3.6%) data that were not accurate. This is consistent with what Bonaedy (2007) said that translators can make changes to the equivalent form so that the translation results are acceptable and feel reasonable so the message is conveyed well.

In general, we can see that from 268 data, there are 231 (86.1%) accurate, 35 (13%) data are less accurate, and 2 (0.74%) data are inaccurate; 234 (87.3%) data is acceptable, 31 (11.5%) data are less acceptable, and 3 (1.1%) data are not acceptable; 226 (84.3%) data has a high level of readability, 40 (14.9%) data has a moderate readability, and 2 (0.74%) data has a low reading level. Using the translation quality assessment method proposed by Nababan (2012), the relative quality of the translation clause found in the novel *The Kite Runner* is classified as high quality with the final result of 2.83.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

A. Conclusions

Based on the discussion on translation techniques, shifts in semantic categories, and the relative quality of

translation clauses in terms of accuracy, acceptability, and readability, conclusions are obtained as follows:

1. There are 11 translation techniques used in translating relative clauses in the novel *The Kite Runner*. The eleven translation techniques are literal, common equivalence, transposition, modulation, linguistic compression, reduction, linguistic amplification, adaptation, borrowing, compensation, and calculation. Of the 268 data in this study, 352 translation techniques were found. In some data, more than one translation technique can be found. The application of two or three translation techniques can be found in the clauses which are translated by borrowing techniques, compensation, reduction, linguistic compression, and other combined translation techniques.

2. Literal translation techniques, transposition, and modulation are good techniques to be used in translating relative clauses. These techniques can produce good quality translations. Besides being a simple clause and having a structure that is not much different, the relative clauses in the novel *The Kite Runner* do not use many cultural terms. Translation with reduction techniques and linguistic amplification is also sometimes done, and the techniques also have the potential to cause the shift of the semantic categories of the translated clauses.

3. Semantic category shifts are things that often occur and are difficult to avoid. This is because at certain stages, the relative clauses structure in the source language feels less natural if maintained in the target language. Transposition and modulation techniques are techniques that often cause a shift in semantic categories, and aspects of quality that are much influenced by this shift are aspects of accuracy. However, this shift does not affect the quality of the results of the translation as a whole.

4. Overall, the translation clause in the novel *The Kite Runner* can be categorized as good.

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