

# AN ERROR ANALYSIS ON SENTENCE STRUCTURE IN TRANSTOOL'S INDONESIA INTO ENGLISH TRANSLATION

**Endang Suciati**

*Universitas Pesantren Tinggi Darul'Ulum Jombang*

*endangsuciati24@gmail.com*

## **Abstrak**

Penerjemahan diartikan sebagai suatu proses pengalihan suatu bahasa (bahasa sumber) ke bahasa lain (bahasa target). Karena berkenaan dengan teks, penerjemahan harus memiliki kesesuaian bahasa antara bahasa sumber dengan bahasa target. Namun dalam prosesnya kadang-kadang ada beberapa kata, frase atau kalimat yang tidak diterjemahkan secara tepat sesuai bahasa target. Dengan kata lain terjadi error dalam penerjemahan. Penelitian ini menganalisa struktur kalimat yang diterjemahkan dari bahasa Indonesia ke bahasa Inggris melalui media computer: Trans Tool Translation Program.

**Kata kunci: transtool, error analysis**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Language is a powerful influence on the way people perceive and adjust to the world outside them. Fowler (1986: 39). Language is one of the most important things for people's life in the world; it is because of its significance roles in any field of their life. The first language role is not only as the source of human life but also as the human power. As it is stated by Fromkin (2003:3), language is the source of human life and power. The second role is language become a means of communication. Lehman (1976:4) states that language is a system for communication of meaning through sounds.

In this world people have many different kinds of languages. The diversity of these languages becomes a problem when they really need to get some information but they do not know the other people's languages. So, people need to transfer those various languages into their own. The process of transferring the first language (Source Language/SL) into the second language (Target Language/TL) or vice versa is called translation.

## **METHODOLOGY**

There are two forms of translation, written translation and spoken translation. Particularly for written translation, a translator (a person who translates) should consider the

equivalent text between the first language (SL) and the second one (TL) because it deals with text. As stated by Roger (1997:6): translation is the replacement of a representation of a text in one language by a representation of an equivalent text in a second language.

To fulfill the effectiveness and the efficiency to translate, people create a new way in translation. This way is by technology or Trans Tool translation program. Meanwhile, translation by technology or computer program can not do as human do to reach the appropriate result of translation. It creates some errors. It is as a result that Trans Tool translation translates the elements of the source language literally (word for word translation). Translation by that way represents the stiff translation because the translator is strongly tied to the word form of the source language. Catford (1974:25) states that word for word translation usually only searches the word equivalent of each word.

## ANALYSIS

This subchapter consists of the result of Trans Tool translation as the TL (Target Language), the correct sentence structures according to English rules, the classification of errors and the interpretation of the cause of the errors by this program.

### Positive Non verbal Simple Sentences

The translation of *saya di sini* into *I here*, for example, clearly proves that the program cannot translate correctly non verbal sentences due to **the lack of *be verb*** in the translation. According to Wishon (1980:2), the simplest sentence pattern in English is *Noun + Verb*. The next problem is **the unnecessary use of *be verb***. The sentence *they are is happy*, for example, contains two main *be verb* namely *are* and *is*. Another problem is **the incorrect plural forms**. The word *pupil pupil* in *pupil pupil [in] school* is an incorrect plural form.

### Negative Non verbal Simple Sentences

The sentence structure errors of negative form of non verbal simple sentences are the incorrect *be verb* and incorrect auxiliary verb. *He/she [do] not [in] Jakarta*, for example, uses the incorrect negative *be verb*. In this case *[do] not* should be *is not* because the (S) is a singular third person pronoun (he/she) (Azar, 1989, 120).

The next Trans Tool translation problem is about **incorrect auxiliary verb**. The sentence *He/she have never here*, as the example provides errors in using the auxiliary (have/has). When the subject is *he/she/it*, the auxiliary must be *has*.

### Positive Verbal Simple Sentences

The disagreement between (S) and (V) occurs in sentence, *Mother make cake*. The next problem deals with **the incorrect plural forms**. The word *letter* in *They write two letter* is clearly incorrect. The correct form is *letters* because the number of the letter is two. **The incorrect passive form** is the third problem. The sentence *All book bought by them* is incorrect according to the English grammar due to the lack of *be* in it (All books **are** bought by them). The fourth problem deals with the inability of Trans Tool program to construct a correct **word order** (noun phrase order), as in *two that letter [is] written by me*.

### Negative Verbal Simple Sentences

The translation of *ibu Rina tidak membuat kue* into *Mother of Rina [do] not make cake* for example, obviously proves that this program **cannot choose the correct auxiliary verb**. According to English Grammar, the basic rule to construct negative verbal sentences is *S + Auxiliary + not + Verb* (Bald, 1986:19).

The next Trans Tool translation problem is **incorrect plural forms**. It can be seen in sentence *we [do] not buy some book*. **The incorrect be and verb forms** occurs in the translation of *passive voice*, as in *book [do] not buy by me* that should be *the book is not bought by me*.

### Positive Non verbal Compound Sentences

The problem of **no be verb** can be found in *They here but I over there*. This sentence contains two main/independent clauses which are combined by coordinating conjunction *but*. Because this sentence is a non verbal one, it clearly lacks of *be verb* (They **are** here but I **am** over there) (Bald, 1986:65).

The next error is **the incorrect word order** when translating a non verbal compound sentence with a conjunction *and* between clauses. The problem in **incorrect be verb** is in *he/she are sorrowful*, for instance, has incorrect *be verb are*. In translating *adiknya (nya* for human) into *its brother/sister*, for example, proves that this program cannot choose the correct personal possessive adjective.

### Negative Non verbal Compound Sentences

The incorrect *be verb* occurs in sentence, *weather is not ugly and I [do] not at home* the incorrect *be verb* is [do] that must be *am* (weather is not ugly/bad and I am not at home).

The next problem is **incorrect word order**. Trans Tool translation always has difficulty in translating these second clause, especially after a conjunction *but*. In sentence *they is not rich but kindhearted them*, the words *kindhearted them* is clearly incorrect because the original text in SL is in form of clause not phrase.

### Positive Verbal Compound Sentences

The first problem is **the disagreement between (S) and (V)**, it can be seen in sentence, *he/she want to be doctor but its old fellow prohibit him*, the verb *want* and *prohibit* disagree with the subject *he/she* and *old fellow*, respectively. To have the disagreement between (S) and (V), the verb *want* should be changed into *wants* and *prohibit* into *prohibits* (Azar, 1989:198).

The next translation problem will be about **the incorrect Subject pronoun after conjunction (but/or/and)**. It happens in sentence, *mereka membaca koran tetapi kami membaca majalah* it will be translated into *They read newspaper but us read magazine*. There is *shifting* of *Subject pronoun* (we) into *Object pronoun* (us) in the second clause after conjunction *but*. The last problem is about **incorrect passive voice and incorrect possessive pronoun**. The sentence *its book will be sold or will present by its owner* shows that this program cannot make the correct possessive pronoun (the first clause *its*) and incorrect passive voice (the second clause *will present*). In this case, possessive (*its*) should be changed into *his/her* because the subject is *person* (Marcella Frank, 1972:29). The second clause shows that this program cannot make *passive voice* correctly since it has no *be* and its verb is not in form of *past participle*, as the pattern of *passive form* (S) + (be) + (Past Participle/V3), (Bald, 1986:7).

### Negatives Verbal Compound Sentences

The case of **incorrect auxiliary verb** and **possessive pronoun** can be noticed in sentence, *dia tidak ingin menjadi dokter tetapi orang tuanya menyuruh dia* is translated into *he/she [do] not want to be doctor but its old fellow order him*. This sentence uses incorrect auxiliary verb **do not** after subject, and uses possessive pronoun **its** for person.

The next Trans Tool translation problem is in relation to **the incorrect of *be*** in passive voice. The example is *that newspaper [do] not be read by us and [his/its] magazine [do] not be read by them* when the pattern is (S) + (be + not) + (Past Participle) + (by Object), (Azar, 1989:130). The correct sentence must be *that newspaper is not read by us and [his/her] magazine is not read by them*. From this illustration, it can be observed that the translation of *tidak* (SL) will be translated into **do not** for all kinds of *Subjects*.

The next problem will be about **incorrect Subject pronoun after conjunction (but, or, and)**. The sentence *I [do] not be seen by him and him [do] not be seen [by] its [sister/ brother]* contains some errors. One of them is about subject pronoun (him) after conjunction *and* (the second clause). The clause *and him [do] not be seen*, for example, uses incorrect *subject pronoun* after conjunction *and*.

The next error is **incorrect word order**. The sentence *kamu tidak harus mengumpulkan tugas atau kamu boleh mengikuti ujian* is translated into *you [do] not have to collect or duty may follow test*.

### **Positive Non verbal Complex Sentences**

Errors that occur in non verbal complex sentence in positive form are incorrect *be* verb, incorrect *Subject pronoun* after conjunction *when* and *since*, possessive form, reflexive form, plural form, incorrect word order after conjunction *when*, *since*, and *because*.

The example of **incorrect *be* verb** can be seen in sentence, *he/she are beautiful once when him still is small* obviously proves that Trans Tool translation cannot agree the subject (he/she) and *be* as its *verb*.

The SL *orang tuanya di luar negeri* is translated into *its old fellow beyond the sea* it gives an evidence that this program uses **its** (for things) as the possessive pronoun.

The next example is concerning with **the incorrect reflexive**. The example *Since them [in] Surabaya, ourselves* is incorrect. It must be *Since they are in Surabaya, we are alone*. To translate *kami sendiri* this program uses *reflexive (ourselves)* not *clause we are alone*. It proves that this program cannot agree the SL and TL context.

The next error will be about **incorrect *be*** and **incorrect subject pronoun after conjunction** *when* and *since*. The sentence is *he/she are beautiful once when him still is small*. It must be *he/she is very beautiful when he/she is still small*.

**The incorrect word order** after conjunction *when*, *since*, and *because* can be noticed in sentence, *mother I am wonderful because all its clever child* uses phrase form after

conjunction *because*. It must be translated into *mother is happy because all her children are clever*.

### Negatives Non verbal Complex Sentences

In translating negative non verbal complex sentence form will be found some sentence structure errors, the first translation error is concerning to **the incorrect be verb**. It is stated in sentence are *we [do] not be kept quiet [by] when silent them* and *since them at home, we [do] not [by] xself*. It can be seen that the word **tidak** is translated into **do not**. In English rule, to show negative must be use this pattern *auxiliary verb + not* (Bald, 1986:19).

The next problem will be about **the incorrect word order after conjunction when, since, and because**. The sentence *mother I am not wonderful because all its clever child* performs wrong phrase construction between conjunction *because*. It indicates that Trans Tool translation does not agree with the SL context that it must be in form of clause not phrase.

The incorrect **subject pronoun** occurs in sentence *he/she is not beautiful once when him still is small*. It proves that Trans Tool translation will only uses object pronoun after subordinate conjunction it must be *subject pronoun*. The correct construction is *when he is still small*.

Besides, it has also **the inappropriate possessive pronoun and plural form**. This program will translate *semua anaknya pandai* into *all its clever child*. *all* in this clause indicates that the object (child) is more than one. Therefore it must be changed into *children*. As well as the possessive pronoun, this program always uses (*its*) as the possessive.

### Positive Verbal Complex Sentences

The common errors occurs in Trans Tool translation when translating positives verbal complex sentence are concerning with the disagreement of subject and verb, incorrect possessive form, inconsistency of *be*, unnecessary possessive pronoun and about incorrect subject pronoun after subordinate conjunction.

**The disagreement of subject and verb** is proved in translating *dia mengatakan bahwa kita akan makan ketika cafe dibuka oleh pemiliknya* into *he/she say that we will eat when cafe opened by its owner*. It takes place in the first clause that there is no (-s/-es) attaches its *verb* While, there must be (Verb + -s/-es) after subject he/she (3<sup>rd</sup> person singular,

present simple tense) (Bald, 1986:46). The correct sentence will be *he/she says that we will eat when cafe is opened by the owner*.

The translation of *pemiliknya* in sentence *dia mengatakan bahwa kita akan makan ketika cafe dibuka oleh pemiliknya* into *he/she say that we will eat when cafe opened by its owner* proves that the program uses **the unnecessary possessive**.

The next problem is the inconsistency of *be*, it is performed particularly in passive voice. This program can only translate *dia mengatakan bahwa kita akan makan keafe dibuka oleh pemiliknya* into *he/she say that we will eat when cafe opened by its owner* without *be* before past participle. Another problem is concerning with **the incorrect subject pronoun after conjunction when**. Sentence *that accident [is] witnessed by them when us go to Surabaya* give the evident of this case.

### Negatives Verbal Complex Sentences

In sentence *he/she say that we will not eat when cafe opened by its owner* the independent clause should be *he/she says that we will eat*. It can be said that Trans Tool translation cannot **agree its subject and verb**. Another case will be **incorrect possessive form** for personal pronoun. The sentence *what got by him [is] what [do] not be expected by its mother*, for instance, using *its mother* to translate *ibunya*.

In some cases, this program **lacks of be** when translating passive voice. In sentence *when cafe opened by its owner*. To make passive meaning of *dibuka* (SL) must be (*be*) + (*past participle*) so the correct form will be *is opened* (TL).

When translating clauses with conjunctions, Trans Tool translation makes mistake in **forming the subject pronoun**. It always use *object pronoun* after conjunction not *subject pronoun*. The sentence *when them go to Surabaya, all food [do] not be brought* for example, gives clearly evidence that this program uses object pronoun **them**. The translation of *ketika dia tidak pergi ke surabaya* into *When he/she [do] not go to Surabaya* for example, obviously proves that this program **cannot choose the correct auxiliary verb**.

### CONCLUSION

Based on the error analysis of sentence structures in Trans Tool's Indonesian into English translation, the research has found that Trans Tool translation program creates errors

when translating simple, compound and complex sentences both non verbal and verbal forms (including positive and negative sentence forms).

When translating non verbal sentences, this program encounters problems related to incorrect plural form, possessive form, reflexive and verb, in this case *be verb*. Verb problems are divided into two groups. The first group is verb problem in positive form. They are lack of be verb, unnecessary of be verb, and incorrect be verb. The second group is verb problem in negative form. They are incorrect auxiliary be verb and incorrect be verb. Particularly for compound and complex non verbal sentence forms, it is found out that Trans Tool translation program has problem related to incorrect word order and subject pronoun after coordinate and subordinate conjunctions.

The next error is related to the translation of verbal sentence forms. The errors will be divided into two parts, active sentence forms and passive voice. The errors occur in active sentence forms are incorrect plural form and possessive form. Besides, this program is not able to make an agreement between subject and verb. It also makes incorrect auxiliary verb (have/has) and (do/does), and unnecessary preposition.

When translating verbal sentences, in terms of passive voice, this program will use the incorrect *be* before *past participle*, even it lacks of *be*. In certain case, it uses incorrect verb forms. Meanwhile, the case of incorrect *be auxiliary* and *no be auxiliary* occur when this program translates the negative sentences form.

Those errors are caused by the way this program translates the SL into TL using first type of the translation equivalent (word for word translation). The weakness of this type is not able to cover the whole meaning, as there are different structures between Source Language and Target Language.

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## THE IDENTIFICATION OF SENTENCE STRUCTURES ERRORS

Errors Identification Sentence Types	Lack of be Verb	Unnecessary use of be Verb	Incorrect Plural Form	Incorrect be Verb	Incorrect Aux. Verb	Incorrect Word Order	Incorrect Possessive Form	Incorrect Subject Pronoun	Incorrect Reflexive Form	Disagreement of Subject and Verb	Incorrect Passive Voice	Unnecessary Preposition	Incorrect be and Verb Form	Inconsistency of be
(+) Non Verbal Simple Sentence	♥	♥	♥											
(-) Non Verbal Simple Sentence				♥	♥									
(+) Non Verbal Compound Sentence				♥		♥	♥							
(-) Non Verbal Compound Sentence				♥		♥								
(+) Non Verbal Complex Sentence			♥			♥	♥	♥	♥					
(-) Non Verbal Complex Sentence				♥			♥	♥	♥					
(+) Verbal Simple Sentence			♥			♥				♥	♥			
(-) Verbal Simple Sentence			♥		♥							♥	♥	
(+) Verbal Compound Sentence							♥	♥		♥	♥			
(-) Verbal Compound Sentence					♥	♥	♥	♥						
(+) Verbal Complex Sentence							♥	♥		♥				♥
(-) Verbal Complex Sentence					♥		♥	♥		♥			♥	♥

