

GRAMMATICAL EQUIVALENCE IN THE INDONESIAN TRANSLATION OF TOTTO-CHAN NOVEL: THE LITTLE GIRL AT THE WINDOW

Oleh:

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Abstract

This research aimed at analyzing the grammatical equivalence between English version as source text and Indonesian version as translated text of Totto-chan Novel: The Little Girl at the Window. This research was designed in qualitative research design. The result of this research showed that there were five grammatical categories found. They were number, gender, person, tense and aspect, and voice. Singular or plural forms was translated into either singular or plural form, feminine or masculine form was translated into feminine, masculine or general, and pronouns were translated into pronouns. Tense and aspect, past, present and future were translated by using temporal determiners and adverb of time, meanwhile for voice category, active or passive voice was translated into either active or passive. It was concluded that grammatical equivalence used to get the closest meaning.

Key words: Translation, Grammatical Equivalence, Novel.

1. INTRODUCTION

Translation is a process that aims at producing a product in the form of text that has a different form of language from the Source Language (SL) with the same meaning. Translation can be interpreted as a process of changing from one form to another, or changing from one language into another. Catford (1965:20) stated that translation may be defined as the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL). The process of translation between two different written languages involved the translator changing an original written text (the source text or ST) in the original verbal language (the source language or SL) into a written text (the target text or TT) in a different verbal language (the target language) or TL (Munday, 2008:5).

At this time, one of the most widely used translation products is novel. A novel is a book-length story in prose, whose author tries to create the sense that, while we read, we experience actual life (Kennedy, 1995:180). One example of a translation product in the form of a novel is the popular novel in the world. It is Totto-chan: The Little Girl at the Window Novel by Tetsuko Kuroyanagi. This novel is best seller and translated in various languages because this novel has interesting story about phenomenon of education in Japan.

One of the things that a translator needed to consider in the translation is the grammatical equivalence between source text and target text. Every language has different grammatical categories, such as: gender, number, person, tense and aspect, and voice.

When translating this novel in various languages, of course the translator would find that there were grammatical differences between the source language (SL) and the target language (TL). Translators would strive to provide the closest meaning between the source language and the target language by striving for grammatical equality which can then influence the meaning to be conveyed. This effort occurred in Totto-chan novel which has been translated into Indonesian. There were different categories between English and Indonesian in grammar in several forms. For example, "Finally, when the music finished, *the musicians* would leave and the *students* would go back to their seats" is translated as "Akhirnya, setelah lagu selesai, *para* pemusik itu pergi dan *murid-murid* kembali ke tempat duduk masing-masing." In form of number, the addition of -s/-es after noun indicated plural in English. In Indonesian, the plural concept is indicated by repeating the noun. The word "Para" indicated plural in Indonesia and "Murid-murid" (repeating the noun) indicated the plural concept.

In this research, the Source Language (SL) is English language and Target Language (TL) is Indonesian. Sometimes, grammatical inequalities are found in translating English text into Indonesian so that the meaning to be conveyed from the Source Language (SL) is not conveyed in the Target Language (TL). This happened because English and Indonesian have different grammatical categories. One way to see whether there is equivalence in a text that has been translated from the source language to the target language is by investigating the grammatical equivalence.

Grammatical equivalence is very important to achieve the closest meaning. It refers to the diversity of grammatical categories across languages. According to Baker (1992:83), grammar is the set of rules which determine the way in which units such as words and phrases can be combined in a language and the kind of information which has to be made regularly explicit in utterances. The equivalence of the grammar between two languages in the translation can affect the content of the information conveyed.

In this research, researcher would see the equivalence between the source language (English) and target language (Indonesian) by comparing the grammatical structures and analyze the grammatical categories. Based on the explanation above, the researchers are interested to analyze the grammatical equivalence entitled "**Grammatical Equivalence in the Indonesian Translation of Totto-Chan Novel: The Little Girl at the Window**".

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research was conducted in qualitative research design. Qualitative research is the collection, analysis, and interpretation of comprehensive narrative and visual (i.e. non numerical) data to gain insights into a particular phenomenon of interest (Gay, Mills, Airasian, 2012: 29).

The technique of data collection in this research was documentation. Firstly, the researchers got the novels in English version and Indonesian version. Secondly, the researchers read the novels repeatedly. Thirdly, the researchers divided the text, English version and Indonesian version, per utterance or per phrase. Fourthly, the researchers identified and classified each utterance or phrase based on five grammatical categories. Fifthly, the researchers numbered the data items.

After the data had been collected, the researchers then analyzed the data. Miles et al. (2014: 31-33) state that there are three steps flows of activity in analyzing the qualitative data. They were data condensation, data display, and drawing and verifying conclusions. In analyzing the data, the researchers selected the data needed which contained the grammatical category. Then, the researchers classified the data for each category. Furthermore, the researchers displayed the data into the table. After that, the researchers described the data displayed. The last was the researchers rechecked or verified the data and drew conclusion of the research result.

3. RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The following was the table of grammatical categories found and the realization of them in the Indonesian translation.

Table of the Grammatical Categories Found and Their Realizations in Indonesian Translation of Totto-chan Novel

No	Grammatical Categories	Realization of Grammatical Equivalence	
		Form in Source Text	Form in Target Text Realized
1	Number	Singular	Singular
		Singular	Plural
		Plural	Plural
		Plural	Singular
2	Gender	Feminine	Feminine
		Feminine	General
		Masculine	Masculine
		Masculine	General
3	Person	First Singular Person	Familiar/Non-Familiar
		First Plural Person	First Plural Person Inclusive/Exclusive
		Second Person	Familiar/Non-Familiar
		Third Person Singular Masculine	Third Person General
		Third Person Singular Feminine	Third Person General
		Third Plural Person	Third Plural Person
4	Tense and Aspect	Past	Past
		Past	Non-Past
		Non-Past	Non-Past
5	Voice	Active Voice	Active Voice
		Passive Voice	Passive Voice

In clear, the following table was the grammatical categories into English and Indonesian form found in the Totto-chan Novel: The Little Girl at the Window.

Table of the Grammatical Categories Found in Indonesian Translation of Totto-chan Novel: The Little Girl at the Window

No	Grammatical Categories	Example					
		English		Indonesia			
1	Number	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural		
		One, a, an, every, each, this, that.	Final -s, final -es, irregular plural form, nouns that end in -y, -o, -f or -ef, a lot of, many, these, those, all, two, several, a few, some, whole.	Se-, sebuah, satu, sekali, masing-masing.	Semua, penuh, reduplication of noun, para, ratusan, deretan, beberapa, segala sesuatu, banyak, dua, berbagai, bermacam-macam, berkali-kali.		
2	Gender	Masculine	Feminine	Masculine	Feminine		
		He, boy, man, him, daddy, his, himself, king, mr., father, men, brother, son.	Mother, her, She, herself, daughter, girl, wife, lady.	Laki-laki, putra, papa, ayah, pria, raja, bapak.	Mama, gadis, perempuan, putri, wanita, istri, ibu guru.		
3	Person	Singular Person			Singular Person		
		First	Second	Third	First	Second	Third
		I	You	She, he, it	Saya, aku, ku-, -ku,	Anda, kau, -mu	Ia, dia, -nya
		Plural Person			Plural Person		
4	Tense and Aspect	Past	Non-Past	Past	Non-Past		
		Past tense, past perfect	Present tense, future tense	The adverb of time used to indicate the past, the word "telah or	The adverb of time used to indicate the present, the word "will"		

				sudah” indicating perfect	indicating future, the word “sedang” indicates progressive
5	Voice	Active	Passive	Active	Passive
		Simple past, simple present, simple future, past perfect	Present progressive passive, Past perfect passive	Active verbs use prefix “meng-”, “- kan”, and “ber-”	Use verbs with prefix -di

1. Number

Number is one of the grammatical categories. This distinction has to be expressed morphologically, by adding a suffix to a noun or by changing its form in some other way to indicate whether it refers to one or more than one (Baker, 1992:102). In this research, researchers found different distinctions about number between English (ST) with Indonesia (TT). ST Singular was translated TT Singular, ST Singular was translated TT Plural, ST Plural was translated TT Plural, and ST Plural was translated TT Singular.

1) ST Singular - TT Singular

ST: It had happened only a weekago.

TT: Kejadiannya semingguyang lalu.

The word “week” is noun. The article “a” was used to indicatesingular concept from noun (week). “A week” was translated “seminggu”. In Indonesia, it indicated the singular form with the addition of “se-”. “Seminggu” or “satu minggu” means one week (indicates the singular). In this case, English singular was translated into Indonesia singular.

2) ST Singular - TT Plural

ST: When she’s written the ‘A’ over again, she puts every single item back into the desk, one by one.

TT: Ketika sudah selesai mengulang menulis ‘A’, dia memasukkan kembalisesemua peralatannya ke bawah meja, satu per satu.

The word “every” and “single” indicated the singular concept which was translated “semua” (plural). It could be acceptable because the word – every sometimes used to indicate the plural (all).

3) ST Plural - TT Singular.

ST: It is just that I feel it is quite unnecessary to ask swallows what they are doing in the middle of class.”

TT: Saya hanya merasa, tidaklah perlu bertanya kepada sepasang burung walet apa yang sedang mereka kerjakan ketika kita sedang mengikuti pelajaran.”

The word “swallows” referred to the plural concept. It was translated “sepasang” which indicated the singular “satu pasang”. It could be acceptable because “sepasang burung walet” means there were some swallow (more than one swallow).

2. Gender

The second category is gender. It refers to which a noun or pronoun is classified as masculine or feminine in translating the source text (ST) into target language (TT). In this research, ST Feminine was translated TT Feminine, ST Feminine was translated

TT General, ST Masculine was translated TT Masculine, and ST Masculine was translated TT General.

1) ST Masculine - TT Masculine

ST: “My little boy wants a job in the station, too, so you can work together.”

TT: “Anak laki-lakiku juga ingin bekerja di stasiun kereta.Mungkin nanti kalian bisa bekerja sama-sama.”

“Boy” refers to the masculine gender which is used for a child (son). It was translated “anak laki-laki”. In Indonesia, “laki-laki” refers to the masculine gender.

2) ST Masculine -TT General

ST: Totto-chan whispered back, “You said he was the headmaster, but if he owns all these trains, he must be a stationmaster.”

TT: Totto-chan balas berbisik. “Mama bilangdia kepala sekolah, tapi kalau dia yang punya semua gerbong itu, dia pasti kepala stasiun.”

“He” is translated “dia”. It could be “men” or “women”. Bahasa Indonesia does not differentiate between feminine and masculine references of third singular person.

3) ST Feminine - TT Feminine

ST: “Your daughter distrupts my whole class. I must ask you to take her to another school.”

TT: “Putri anda mengacaukan kelas saya. Saya terpaksa meminta anda memindahkannya ke sekolah lain.”

The word “daughter” refers to the child (a little girl) that pointed to feminine. It was translated “putri”. The word “putri” refers to the girl in Indonesia (anak perempuan).

4) ST Feminine - TT General

ST: Then she opens her desk again, puts her head inside, gets our a pencil, quickly shuts the desk, and writes an “A”.

TT: Kemudian diamembuka meja lagi, memasukkan kepalanya, mengeluarkan pensil, cepat-cepat membanting tutupnya, lalu menulis “A”.

“She” is feminine third person which is translated “dia”. The word “dia”could be “men” or “women”. So, ST feminine is translated TT general. But it could be acceptable because “dia” refers to Totto-chan (a little girl).

3. Person

The third category is person.English andIndonesiahavetheperson distinctions.In English, there are seven subject pronouns. They are subject I, you, we, they, she, he, it which divide into singular and plural. For singular, it consists of subject I, you, she, he, it while for plural, it consists of subject we and they.

ST: “May I keep it!” Totto-chan asked the ticket collector.

TT: “Bolehkah aku menyimpannya?” Totto-chan bertanya kepada petugas pengumpul karcis.

The subject "I" is first singular person in English while in Indonesia "saya", "aku", dan "daku" is the first singular pronoun. The use of "saya", "aku" dan "daku" are standard forms, but have different place of use.

The word "I" was translated "aku" bukan "saya" or "daku" because that conversation happened in an informal situation. In Indonesia, "aku" is mostly used in informal situations and shows more familiarity between speaker/writer and listener/reader. Therefore, "aku" is often found in stories, poetry, and daily conversation. So, it was translated "aku" because this conversation happened at the railroad station (informal situation) and it was a conversation between Totto-chan and a ticket collector.

4. Tense and Aspect

1) Past

Past tense is used to state events or actions that occurred or performed in the past. For example:

ST: All the railroad cars were quiet, for the first classes of the day had begun.

TT: Semua gerbong kereta itu hening, karena saat itu jam pelajaran pertama untuk semua kelas sudah di mulai

The verb phrase "had begun" refers to the past perfect which indicated an activity or situation began and ended at a particular time in the past. It was translated "sudah dimulai". The word "sudah" is used to indicate past perfect.

2) Non Past

Non past consisted of present and future. The simple present is used to express habitual or everyday activities. If the subject of the sentence is they, we, I, and you or other plural nouns used are simple form of the verb without the addition of the suffix -s or -es. While if the subject of the sentence is he, she, it or singular form used are simple form by the addition of suffix -s or -es. Then, verb that end with "o", "ss", "sh", "ch", and "x" takes suffix "-es" while the verb that end with "y" preceded consonant, "y" is changed to "i" and add the suffix "es".

Meanwhile, future tense states an activity or action that will happen or do in the future. Generally, future tense marked by adverb of time such as tomorrow, tonight, later, soon, immediately, someday, in the future, next week, next month, next year, etc.

ST: When she gets to the next letter, she goes through it all again first then the notebook, then the pencil, then the eraser opening and shutting her desk every single time.

TT: Ketika dia sampai ke huruf berikutnya, dia mengulang semuanya mula-mula buku catatan, lalu pensil, lalu penghapus. Setiap kali melakukan itu dia membuka dan menutup mejanya.

The verb "get" and "go" were written "gets" and "goes" because the subject of this word was singular third person. The suffix -s add in verb "get"

because the verb "get" end with the consonant "t" while suffix -es add to verb "go" because it ends with "o". It was translated "sampai" and "mengulang" In Indonesia, the verb that indicates the present that does not change in other form. It is stated in the same form but the adverbs that they use indicate the tense whether it is past, present or future.

5. Voice

The last category is voice. Voice is a grammatical category which defines the relationship between a verb and its subject. It consists of active and passive.

a. ST Active - TT Active

In active clauses, the subject is the agent responsible for performing the agent.

ST: Your daughter distracts my whole class.

TT: Putri anda mengacaukan kelas saya.

The word "distracts" is active verb translated "mengacaukan" in bahasa Indonesia. The word "mengacaukan" is an active verb uses prefix "meng-" and "-kan".

b. ST Passive - TT Passive

In passive clauses, the subject is affected by entity, and the agent may or may not be specified, depending on the structures available in each language. There was found that the ST passive was translated TT passive.

ST: Mother had been sent for by Totto-chan's home room teacher, who came straight to the point.

TT: Mama dipanggil wali kelas Totto-chan yang langsung berbicara tanpa basa-basi.

The verb phrase "had been sent" is past perfect passive. It was translated into perfect passive in Bahasa Indonesia which temporal determiner "telah" and prefix "di-" are used.

4. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

Based on the research finding above, it was found that they were five grammatical categories found in the translation of Totto-chan Novel: The Girl at the Window. They were number, person, gender, tense and aspect, and voice.

For number category, source text singular was translated target text singular, source text singular was translated target text plural, source text plural was translated target text plural, and source text plural was translated target text singular. For gender category, source text feminine was translated target text feminine, source text feminine was translated target text general, source text masculine was translated target text masculine, and source text masculine was translated target text general. For person category, source text first singular person was translated target text familiar/non-familiar, source text first plural person was translated target text first plural person inclusive or exclusive, source text second person was translated target text familiar/non-familiar, source text third person singular masculine

was translated target text third person general, source text third person singular feminine was translated target text third person general, source text third plural person was translated target text third plural person. For tense and aspect category, source text past was translated target text past, source text past was translated target text non-past, and source text non-past was translated target text non-past by using some temporal determiners and adverb of time. For voice category, source text active was translated target text active and source text passive was translated target text passive.

The grammatical categories in the source language of *Totto-chan* novel: *The Girl at the Window* that was written in English were very different from the grammatical categories in the target language written in Indonesian. The forms of grammatical categories in SL were realized in different forms in TL and adapted in TL rules. Therefore, it was concluded that the forms of grammatical categories of SL in *Totto-chan* novel: *The Girl at the Window* were realized in the different forms of TL in number, person, gender, tense and aspect, and voice.

Suggestion

The researchers suggest the next translators to pay much attention on grammatical categories between source language and target language in order that the translated text is equal with source without reducing the content of any materials.

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