

TRANSLATION PROCEDURES IN TRANSLATING ABSTRACTS OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS OF SULTAN AGENG TIRTAYASA UNIVERSITY

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Abstract

The research conducts to understand the translation procedures used in the translation of the thesis abstracts of postgraduate students. This research is qualitative. The data collected from students' thesis abstract of Indonesia Language and Learning Technology programs. The result shows that there are five translation procedures applied, such borrowing, calque, literal translation, transposition, and modulation; and the most dominant procedure used in translated thesis abstracts is literal translation with 9 sentences (32,14%), followed by modulation, borrowing and transposition with each of them is (17,85%), and the last is calque (14,28%).

Keywords: translation procedure, thesis, abstract

1. Introduction

In this present time, the role of translation has been widely known as an important part of communication. Translation focuses in the area of education, especially in the higher education. Therefore, university students feel the needs to translate work into English in order to inform what they have done. It is a contribution for the development of science. The Post Graduate Program University of Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa, especially educational department also takes this role. They encourage their students to be mastered in English for academic purposes, especially in thesis writing.

The final step of writing thesis is abstract writing. It is the important part of thesis that contains the basic ideas. An

abstract is a brief summary of the most important points in a scientific paper as (Day, 1998)) states an abstract is a mini version of the paper. (Houghton, 1975) said that an abstract can be defined as a summary of the information in a document. By reading the abstract, the readers are able to decide whether or not they need to read the whole content of thesis. In this case, students of the Post Graduate Program of Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa University are required to be able to write the thesis abstract in English.

In Indonesia, the need to translate abstracts of thesis into English is a requirement for students to complete their academic final year. Some universities obligate students to have the abstracts of their scientific papers translated by an official institutional language center, but,

some others do not require official translation service to translate their abstracts into English. As a result, students are allowed to use whatever tools to translate their abstracts as fast as possible without taking into account the accuracy of the translated text.

Doing translation is not an easy task. Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language by equivalent material in another language (Catford, 1965). A translator should have equal knowledge of the source language and target language. The requirement must be fulfilled because translating a text is not only translating words, but also in explaining concepts and ideas. A translator may use a variety of translation procedures that differ in importance according to the contextual factors of both the source language and the target language. Among the factors involved in translation such as form, meaning, style, proverbs, idioms, etc., the present paper is going to concentrate mainly on the procedures of translating abstracts in general.

The role of translation is very important to support the development of science in Indonesia. (Muhtar, 2013) says that translation becomes important since most of the text about science and technology from developed countries is written in foreign language, particularly

English. Moreover, it is important to reconsider the balance of content and the product of translation, because if it is not accustomed, it will make multi-interpretation.

This study focuses on analyzing procedure since every translator has different ways in doing translation based on the theory which the translator relies upon. By analyzing the translation procedure, the writer would be able to find out the perspective of the author in doing the translation of the abstract which will affect the quality of the translation itself. In translation procedures, there are many theories suggested by the experts and in this thesis, the writer applies Vinay and Dalbarnet's theory (Venutti, 2000).

Those abstracts were taken from Postgraduate Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa University Education Faculty. There are four majors in Education Faculty such as Indonesian Education, Learning Technology, Mathematic Education, and English Education. But, the writer was only taking two majors (Indonesian and Learning Technology) while two majors again were still new and had not produced some thesis. The writer took six abstracts, three abstracts of Indonesian Education and three again from Learning Technology. The writer took six abstracts and those were mixed between quantitative and qualitative.

In this study there are three research problems. Translation errors occur in content and grammatical errors. Doing abstract translation from Indonesian into English may make errors or fail in the task. For this analysis the problems are elaborated by the following. (1) What are the translation procedures used in the translation of the students' abstracts? (2) What are the dominant translation procedures used in translation of the abstracts? (3) Why the dominant translation procedure can be happened in most of abstract?

2. Theoretical Review

Translation is the action of text meaning interpretation and then makes the translation product become equivalent. (Crystal, 1987) states that translation is the neutral term used for all tasks where the meaning of expression in one language (source language) is turned into the meaning of (target language), whether the medium is spoken, written, or signed. (Newmark, 1984) said that translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. It is said that translation was the way to find the equivalence of meaning from source text into target text. (Catford, 1965) stated that translation is the replacement of textual

material in one language by equivalent textual material in another language.

It means that the important thing in process of translation is a way to find the equivalent meaning between source language (SL) and target language (TL) and the readers or listeners can understand and does not misunderstanding with the meaning of translation product.

In translating the text, there are some processes that the translator has to go through to make the translation appropriate with the original text. According to (Larson, 1984) when translating a text, the translator's goal is an idiomatic translation which makes every effort to communicate their meaning of the SL text into the natural forms of the receptor language. Furthermore, translation is concerned with the study of the lexicon, grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural context of the SL text, which is analyzed in order to determine its meaning.

(Vinay and Darbelnet, 2000) stated that at first the different methods or procedures seem to be countless, but they can be condensed to just seven, each one corresponding to a higher degree of complexity. In practice, they may be used either on their own or combined with one or more of the others.

Furthermore, Vinay and Darbelnet explained that translators can choose from two methods of translating, namely direct, or literal translation and oblique translation. In some translation tasks it may be possible to transpose the source language message element by element into the target language, because it is based on either parallel category, in which case we can speak of structural parallelism, or on parallel concepts, which are the result of metalinguistic parallelism. But translators may also notice gaps in the target language which must be filled by corresponding elements, so that the overall impression is the same for the two messages.

The different methods or procedures seem to be countless, but they can be condensed to just seven, each one corresponding to a higher degree of complexity. In practice, they may be used either on their own or combined with one or more of the others.

Borrowing is the simplest of all translation methods. For instance, in order to introduce the flavor of the source language (SL) culture into a translation, foreign terms may be used “dollars” and “party” from American English, Mexican Spanish food names “tequila” and “tortillas” and so on. In English such words as “menu” and “hangar” are no longer considered to be borrowings. The

decision to borrow a SL word or expression for introducing an element of local color is a matter of style and consequently of the message (Vinay and Darbelnet, 2000)

A calque is a special kind of borrowing whereby a language borrows an expression form of another, but then translates literally each of its elements. The result is either a lexical calque, as in the first example, below, a calque which respects the syntactic structure of the TL, whilst introducing a new mode of expression; or a structural calque, as in the second example, below, which introduces a new construction into the language (Vinay and Darbelnet, 2000).

Literal, or word for word, translation is the direct transfer of a SL text into a grammatically and idiomatically appropriate TL text in which translators’ task is limited to observing the adherence to the linguistic servitudes of the TL (Vinay and Darbelnet, 2000).

The method called transposition involves replacing one word class with another without hanging the meaning of the message. In translation there are two distinct types of transposition: obligatory transposition, and optional transposition (Vinay and Darbelnet, 2000). The structure shifts found in translating English text into Indonesian text belong to

obligatory transposition due to the difference of language structure.

Modulation is a variation of the form of the message, obtained by a change in the point of view. This change can be justified when, although a literal, or even transposed, translation results in a grammatically correct utterance, it is considered unsuitable, unidiomatic or awkward in the TL (Vinay and Darbelnet 2000).

We have repeatedly stressed that one and the same situation can be rendered by two texts using completely different stylistic and structural methods. In such cases we are dealing with the method which produces equivalent texts. In general, proverbs are perfect examples of equivalences (Vinay and Darbelnet, 2000).

The method of creating equivalences is also frequently applied to idioms. For example, “To talk through one’s hat” and “as like as two peas” cannot be translated by means of calque.

With the seventh method we reach the extreme limit of translation: it is used in those cases where the type of situation being referred to by the SL message is unknown in the TL culture. In such cases translators have a new situation that can be considered as being equivalent. Adaptation can, therefore, be described as

a special kind of equivalence, a situational equivalence (Vinay and Darbelnet, 2000).

(Wilkinson, 1991) in *The Scientist’s Handbook for Writing Papers and Dissertation* states that an abstract is a stand-alone statement that briefly conveys the essential information of a paper, article, document or book; presents the objective, methods, results, and conclusions of a research project; has a brief, non-repetitive style.

Although an abstract appears as the first section of a paper, it should be written last. You need to have completed all other sections before you can select and summarize the essential information from those sections, an abstract involves boiling down the essence of a whole paper into a single paragraph that conveys as much new information as possible.

Many abstracts are published without the complete paper itself in abstract journals or in online databases. Thus, an abstract might serve as the only means by which a researcher determines what information a paper contains. Moreover, a researcher might make a decision whether to read the paper or not based on the abstract alone. Because of this need for self-contained compactness, an abstract must convey the essential results of a paper.

According to (Borko and Seymour, 1963), there are two types of abstracts:

descriptive and informative. They have different aims, so as a consequence they have different components and styles. There is also a third type called critical, but it is rarely used.

A descriptive abstract indicates the type of information found in the work. It makes no judgments about the work, nor does it provide results or conclusions of the research. It does incorporate key words found in the text and may include the purpose, methods, and scope of the research. Essentially, the descriptive abstract describes the work being abstracted. Some people consider it an outline of the work, rather than a summary. Descriptive abstracts are usually very short—100 words or less.

The majority of abstracts are informative. While they still do not critique or evaluate a work, they do more than describe it. An informative abstract includes the information that can be found in a descriptive abstract (purpose, methods, and scope) but also includes the results and conclusions of the research and the recommendations of the author. The length varies according to discipline, but an informative abstract is rarely more than 10% of the length of the entire work. In the case of a longer work, it may be much less.

3. Method

In this study, qualitative method used because the data which is analyzed is explained descriptively. The data to be analyzed are in the form of phrase and clause. (Djajasudarma, 2006) states that qualitative methodology is a procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or oral language in society. He also says that the collected data is not numbers, it can be words or description of something. This is as a result of qualitative methods. This feature is consistent with the qualitative naming. Description is the accurate overview of the data's features itself.

The data are the sentences containing in the abstract of the students' thesis of Education Faculty both in English and Bahasa Indonesia. The source data used in this research are four abstracts from four departments of Education Faculty issued in 2017. The departments are Technology Learning, Mathematic, Indonesian, and English. Source of data are taken directly in Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa University Postgraduate library.

The method of the research applied is qualitative method, which is done by applying the library research to get data or information related to the topic to support the ideas. The source data are the abstracts taken from Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa Postgraduate library. After

reading the data, the data will be displayed and analyzed as using content analysis.

Three steps are applied in analyzing the data. (Miles and Huberman, 1994) suggest that qualitative data analysis consists of three procedures, they are: (1) data reduction, (2) data display, (3) Conclusion drawing/verification.

First, the research started by collecting the data. Here, in this study the data collection were done by reading the abstracts in Bahasa Indonesia and English. The collected data were given a code, the source data are coded alphabetically and the data are coded in numeral.

Second, after collecting the data, reduction was done by reading the material comprehensively and then identifying the sentences. Then the data were displayed. If data collection and reduction have been done, conclusion and verification can be made depending on the data display. In analyzing the data, Vinay and Dalbernet theory (Venuti, 2000) was used in order to find out the procedures applied in translating the abstracts.

4. Result

After collecting the data, the next step is to identify the translation procedures that are found in the thesis

abstracts. The data identification is shown in the table below:

Table 1. Translation Procedures from Abstracts of Master of Indonesian Language Program

No	Source Language	Target Language	Translation Procedure
1a	Hubungan Antara Media Microsoft Office Publisher	The Relationship Between the Use of Media Microsoft Office	Transposition
2a	Metode yang dipakai adalah penelitian survey dengan pendekatan korelasional	This research was used a survey research with the correlational method	Transposition
3a	Penelitian ini dilakukan di SMPN 3 Pontang	This research was conducted at SMPN 3 Pontang	Borrowing Literal
4a	Taraf signifikansi ketiga variabel tersebut lebih besar dari 0,05, maka penyebaran datanya berdistribusi normal	Significance level of these three variables is greater than 0,05, then the spread of the data is normally distributed	Literal

Table 2. Translation Procedures from Abstracts of Master of Learning Technology Program

No	Source Language	Target Language	Translation Procedure
1b	Evaluasi Implementasi Manajemen Peningkatan Mutu Berbasis Sekolah	Improved Quality Evaluation of the Implementation of School Based Management	Transposition Calque
2b	Pada SMP Islam Al-Hikma Teluk Naga	Based on SMP Islam Al-Hikma Teluk Naga	Borrowing
3b	Dengan menerapkan sistem	By implementing a management	Modulation Transposition

	manajemen pendidikan harus lebih terbuka, accountable, serta mengoptimalkan partisipasi orang tua dan masyarakat	system of education should be more open, accountable, and to optimize the participation of parents and communities	
4b	Penelitian ini bersifat kualitatif	This research is qualitative	Transposition

Table 3. Translation Procedures from Abstracts of Master of Indonesian Language Program

No	Source Language	Target Language	Translation Procedure
1c	“Ode Kampung dan Kampung Maling” Karya Golagong	“Ode Kampung and Kampung Maling” Golagong’s work	Borrowing
2c	Tujuan penelitian ini difokuskan pada desain bahan pembelajaran puisi menggunakan pengkajian semiotik	The aim of this study is focused to design of poetry learning material that uses assessment of the semiotic	Modulation
3c	Puisi pada karya Golagong menjadi bahan kajian semiotic yakni berupa unsur intrinsic puisi berkisar pada tema, makna kata, citraan dan majas	Poetry on the Golagong’s work becomes semiotic study materials in the form of the intrinsic elements of poetry revolves around the theme, the meaning of words, the imagery, and the figure of speech	Modulation
4c	Berdasarkan kajian dalam puisi karya Golagong terdapat beberapa makna yang terungkap berdasarkan kajian semiotik	Based on the study on Golagong’s work, there are some meanings revealed by the study of semiotic	Modulation
5c	Makna puisi menengahkan problematika	The poetry meaning presents social	Modulation Borrowing

No	Source Language	Target Language	Translation Procedure
	kehidupan social yang ada di Banten	life’s problem in Banten	
6c	Sangat cocok untuk disusun menjadi sebuah bahan ajar sastra bagi siswa SMK	Very suitable to be arranged into literary teaching material for vocational school students	Calque Literal
7c	Karakteristik tersebut berupa keragaman bentuk, penggunaan kata yang bermakna denotasi dan konotasi.	The characteristics are diversity of forms, the use of meaningful words denotation and connotation.	Literal

Table 4. Translation Procedures from Abstracts of Master of Learning Technology Program

No	Source Language	Target Language	Translation Procedure
1d	Manajemen Laboratorium Kimia Analitik	Chemical Analytic of Laboratory Management	Calque
2d	Informan dipilih secara purposive dipadukan dengan snowball sampling	The informant has been chosen purposively by combination of snowball sampling	Borrowing Literal
3d	Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah ingin mengetahui manajemen laboratorium kimia analitik di SMK Kimia PGRI Kota Serang yang difokuskan pada perencanaan, pengarahannya, pengendalian, kedisiplinan, dan lingkungan kerja.	The purpose of this study is to determine chemical analytic of laboratory management at SMK Kimia PGRI of Serang City , which is focused in planning, directing, controlling discipline, and work environment.	Literal Borrowing Calque
4d	Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah kualitatif dengan latar alami	The method used in this study is by qualitative natural setting	Literal

No	Source Language	Target Language	Translation Procedure
5d	Pengumpulan data menggunakan teknik wawancara mendalam, pengamatan peran serta, dan studi dokumentasi.	Data collection is using in depth interviews, observations of participants, and documentation study.	Literal
6d	Analisis data dilakukan dengan cara reduksi data, penyajian data dan kesimpulan.	Data Analysis was done by data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion	Literal
7d	Disiplin dan lingkungan kerja : sumber daya manusia perlu penambahan penambah teknisi perawatan sarana, prasarana, dan peningkatan pelatihan guru produktif dalam mengoperasikan instrument laboratorium, serta perlunya peraturan tertulis	The discipline and working environment: Human resources needs to gain the technician of facilities and infrastructures ad the improvement of training for productive teacher in laboratory instrument operation, also the needs of written rules.	Literal

To overcome a lacuna, usually a metalinguistic one (e.g. new technical process, an unknown concept), borrowing is the simplest of all translation methods. For instance, in order to introduce the flavor of the source language (SL) culture into a translation, foreign terms may be used, e.g. “dollars” and “party” from American English, Mexican Spanish food names “tequila” and “tortillas” and so on.

Some well-established, mainly older borrowings are so widely used that they are no longer considered as such and have become a part of the respective TL lexicon. In English such words as “menu”

and “hangar” are no longer considered to be borrowings. The decision to borrow a SL word or expression for introducing an element of local colour is a matter of style and consequently of the message (Vinay and Darbelnet, in Venuti and Baker, 2000). The use of borrowing procedure can be found in following example.

ST : “Ode Kampung dan Kampung Maling” Karya Golagong

TT : “Ode Kampung and Kampung Maling” Golagong’s work

The example above shows that there is no changing of “ode kampung and kampung maling.” Even though it can be changed into ode village and maling village, but the author does not change it and still use the same title in Indonesian.

A calque is a special kind of borrowing whereby a language borrows an expression form of another, but then translates literally each of its elements (Vinay and Darbelnet, in Venuti and Baker, 2000:85). The use of calque procedure can be found in:

ST : Evaluasi Implementasi Manajemen Peningkatan Mutu Berbasis Sekolah.

TT : Improved Quality Evaluation of the Implementation of School Based Management

From example above, it can be seen that author of abstract use calque in translating the sentence. The meaning of both

sentences are the same but it has different position compared to source language.

Literal, or word for word, translation is the direct transfer of a SL text into a grammatically and idiomatically appropriate TL text in which he translators' task is limited to observing the adherence to the linguistic servitudes of the TL (Vinay and Darbelnet, in Venuti and Baker, 2000:86). The use of literal procedure can be found in:

ST : Pengumpulan data menggunakan teknik wawancara mendalam, pengamatan peran serta, dan studi dokumentasi.

TT : Data collection is using in depth interviews, observations of participants, and documentation study.

ST : Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah kualitatif dengan latar alami.

TT : The method used in this study is by qualitative natural setting

Both of those examples are using literal translation. It means there are not only subject, verb and object but also those are very structural and neat sentence.

The method called transposition involves replacing one word class with another without hanging the meaning of the message. In translation there are two distinct types of transposition: (i) obligatory transposition, and (ii) optional

transposition (Vinay and Darbelnet, in Venuti and Baker, 2000:88). The structure shifts found in translating English text into Indonesian text belong to obligatory transposition due to the difference of language structure. The use of transposition procedure can be found in:

ST : Hubungan Antara Media Microsoft Office Publisher.

TT : The Relationship Between the Use of Media Microsoft Office

That example above is transposition. There is additional word „the use“ but there is no exactly meaning in source language. Even there is no meaning, but the meaning does not change and it is suitable for that sentence.

ST : Dengan menerapkan sistem manajemen pendidikan harus lebih terbuka, accountable, serta mengoptimalkan partisipasi orang tua dan masyarakat.

TT : By implementing a management system of education should be more open, accountable, and to optimize the participation of parents and communities

Example above is another transposition. There is different meaning between source language and target language. In source language „orang tua dan masyarakat“ translated into target language „parents and communities“. „masyarakat“ itself has many translations

such as citizen or society. Even it has the different words, but the meaning is the same and acceptable

Modulation is a variation of the form of the message, obtained by a change in the point of view. This change can be justified when, although a literal, or even transposed, translation results in a grammatically correct utterance, it is considered unsuitable, unidiomatic or awkward in the TL (Vinay and Darbelnet, in Venuti and Baker, 2000:89). The use of modulation procedure can be found in:

ST : Makna puisi mengetengahkan problematika kehidupan sosial.

TT : The poetry meaning presents social life's problem in Banten

Sentence above is the example of using modulation. There is different point of view between source language and target language. In source language, it is said „mengetengahkan“ and in target language become „present.“

From the table above, it indicates the dominant translation procedure used by author is Literal translation where literal translation is to translate word or an expression word for word. The literal translation is suitable to apply, however in the translation procedures; the variation of translation procedure should be able to maximize the quality of a translation product.

There are some factors that influence author to translate literally. First, it is possible that the author focus on grammatically of target language as Vinay and Derbelnet said that author is using this procedure because the translator focus predominantly on adhering to the linguistic rules of the target language. Second, Vinay and Derbelnet also said that literal translation occurs most commonly when translating between two languages of the same family and culture. It means that Indonesian and English are almost the same in sharing family and culture aspects. Third, this procedure also among preferred ways of translating in those functional contexts where more emphasis is laid on preserving the verbatim meaning of the original text than attaining stylistic elegance, which is often the case with legal translation. Therefore, it is possible that the author of abstract prefer to use literal translation in translating their abstract.

Table 5. The Result of Translation Procedures

No	Translation Procedures	Total Data	
		Number	Percentage
1	Borrowing	5	17.85 %
2	Calque	4	14.28 %
3	Literal	9	32.14 %
4	Transposition	5	17.85 %
5	Modulation	5	17.85 %
6	Equivalence	-	
7	Adaptation	-	

5. Conclusion

After doing the whole analysis of the thesis abstracts of Education Faculty and its translation, it can be concluded that (1) there are five translation procedures applied out of seven translation procedures by Vinay and Dalbarnet. The five translation procedures are borrowing, calque, literal translation, transposition, and modulation; and (2) the most dominant procedure used in translated thesis abstracts of Education Faculty is Literal Translation with 9 sentences (32,14%), followed by modulation, borrowing and transposition with each of them is (17,85%), and the last is calque (14,28%).

After conducting the study, the writer would like to give some suggestions for translating Bahasa Indonesia into English. Translation is an effort to find an equivalent meaning of a text into the target language, a good translator should be familiar with the culture, history and beliefs not only of source language but also target language in order to avoid misinterpretation in conveying meaning.

Knowing how to speak two languages is not the same thing as knowing how to translate. There are rules and cultural differences to be considered in both languages. Looking at the result of the assessment, the writer suggests

making improvement to the translation of the book into Bahasa Indonesia so that it can be more easily understood by the intended readers. Thesis abstract is one of the most essential part in writing scientific research (thesis). It is the whole content of the research in brief content. It also attracts the readers to see and knowing more about one particular scientific research. Therefore, the writer really concerns on how effective a translation in thesis abstract to give right understanding about a research to anticipate any misunderstanding

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