

THE TRANSLATION OF ENGLISH SLANG WORDS IN SIDNEY SHELDON “NOTHING LAST FOREVER”

ABSTRAK

The aim of the research is to find out what kind of equivalence classification mostly used in the translation of English slang words of “Nothing Lasts Forever” into Indonesian. This research uses a text analysis with a descriptive qualitative method due to the problem statements. The data is 65 words and there are 11 words of slang being analyzed into five equivalents: denotative, pragmatic, connotative, textual, and formal equivalence. From the data, there are twelve slang words found in the novel. Among them, seven words appear more than two times than the other. Therefore, the writer will analyze seven of them. They are ‘damn’, ‘fuck’, ‘hell’, ‘bastard’, ‘bitch’, ‘horny’, and ‘ass’. Finding shows that there are five types of equivalence form in slang words from English into Indonesian, they are: 5 denotative equivalence, 2 pragmatic equivalence, 2 connotative equivalence, 1 formal equivalence and 1 textual equivalence.

Keywords: slang words, equivalence and translation

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INTRODUCTION

The concept of equivalence has been one of the key words in translation studies. Equivalence has been used to define translation and in translation itself. The term equivalence has a central role. It expresses the correspondence of context from the source text (ST) and target text (TT) as far as their contents are concerned. Although not all English idioms and expressions, for instance, have equivalence translation in Bahasa Indonesia, those facts have become only a little problem. But those facts for Indonesian translators are one of natural problem that can be found in translating English literature into Bahasa Indonesia. Sometimes they might tend to scrape those foreign words using their own styles.

As we know that not all English expression including slang words have equivalence. So, it is possible that slang words do not have equivalence at all. Slang words as one of English expression are usually used by native to convey their strong emotion when they are swearing or to get angry. It may produce embarrassment, disgust and violate social norms in the society, yet we need them in our linguistic performance.

Not only in verbal communication, slang words are also found in written form such as in novels because literary works or novels consist of the dialogs. It may be that they want to support the plot of the whole story, to emphasize the characterization, or to improve their characterization. It is also definite that the encounter with translation problems especially slang words during the translation process is inevitable. To translate them into the receptor language correctly and appropriately, a translator needs to know the history, concept and meaning of slang words themselves. Newmark stated that in transferring a material from SL to TL, “a translator requires a knowledge of literary and non-literary textual criticism, since he has to assess the quality of a text before he decides

how to interpret and then translate it” (1981:5).

The purpose of this research is to find out what kind of equivalence classification mostly used in the translation of English slang words of “Nothing Last Forever” into Indonesian.

Definition of Translation

Translation often through not any means always. It is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended in the text. (Newmark, 1988, p.5)

Translation have three distinguish meanings, if confined to a written language, translation is a cover term with three distinguishable meanings: 1) translating, the process (to translate; the activity rather than the tangible object), 2) a translation: the product of the process of translating (e.g. the translated text), and 3) translation: the abstract concept which encompasses both the process of translating and the product of that process. Bell (1991, p.13)

Meanwhile, Cholimudin stated “The ordering of the words and ideas in the translation should match the original as closely as possible..However, differences in the language structure often require changes in the form and order of words. When in doubt, underline in the original text the words on which the main stress falls.” (2005, p.42)

Process of Translation

Larson (1984,p.17) stated,

When translating a text, the translator 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, he stated that translation is concerned with a study of the lexico and grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural context of the SL text, which is analyzed in order to determine its meaning. The discovered meaning is then re- expressed or re-

constructed using the lexicon and grammatical structure which are appropriate in the receptor language and its cultural context.

Cholimudin (2005, p.13) stated that “The context of situation and the wider context of culture make up non verbal environment of a text.” ...”Every text is also a context for itself.”

Equivalence

Vinay and Darbelnet view “equivalence-oriented translation as a procedure which replicates the same situation as in the original, whilst using completely different wording.” (1995, p.342)

According to them, equivalence is therefore the ideal method when the translator has to deal with proverbs, idioms, clichés, nominal or adjectival phrases and the onomatopoeia of animal sounds.

Baker stated that:

In a bottom-up approach to translation, equivalence at word level is the first element to be taken into consideration by the translator. In fact, when the translator starts analyzing the he/she looks at the words as single units in order to find a direct ‘equivalent’ term in the TL. (1992, p.11)

Koller described five different types of equivalence (1979, p.187-191):

- (1) Denotative; analyzing the correspondences and the interaction with textual factors and focus in lexis.
- (2) Connotative; triggering the similar associations of different language. It focus in additional dimension; formality (poetic, slang, etc), social usage, stylistic effect (archaic), emotion.
- (3) Text-normative; being used in the same context in their respective language. The focus is looking at usage in different situations.
- (4) Pragmatic; having the same effect between text and readership, overriding the requirements of other

equivalence. Focus in analyzing the communicative conditions valid for different language pairs and texts.

- (5) Formal; having similar phonological and orthographic features and showing analogical form in the TL. Then focus in analyzing the potential of equivalence in rhyme, metaphor and other stylistic forms.

Slang Word

Jay (1992, p.2-9) classified taboo words into ten categories, namely: cursing, profanity, blasphemy, taboo, obscenity, vulgarity, slang, epithets, insults and slurs, and scatology. He classified them into categories of usage and semantic taxonomies so that "one can see that what is considered taboo or obscene revolves around a few dimensions of human experience and that here is a logic or purpose behind dirty word usage. They are not simply outbursts of hot air, devoid of meaning of communicative intent." Jay's some classifications and explanations are below:

- a. Cursing
The intent of cursing is to invoke harm on another person through the use of certain words or phrase. A religion curse, for example: *damn you, goddamn you*. Cursing could also be non-religious, for example: *eat shit and die, or I hope you break your neck*.
- b. Obscenity
In American-English, obscenities are pointedly sexual in nature. Words that gain universal restriction would be *fuck, motherfucker, cunt, or tits*.
- c. Vulgarity
Vulgarity means the language of the common person, "the person in the street", or the unsophisticated, un-socialized or under-educated. These words may be considered vulgar: *kiss my ass, up yours*.
- d. Slang
Slang is a vocabulary that is developed in certain sub-groups (teenagers, musicians, soldiers, drug users, or athletes) for ease of communication. Slang terms are *pimp, dweeb or cupcakes*.
- e. Epithets
Epithets are brief but forceful burst of emotional language. Examples: *shit, damn, hell, fuck you, Jesus Christ, goddamn it*.
- f. Insults and Slurs
Insults and slurs are verbal attacks on other people. Some insults use animal imagery, such as *pig, dog, son of the bitch*, or based on social deviations like: *whore, bastard, homo, fag, queer*.

The application of slang words to show strong feeling or emotions usually takes form when a person is in anger or swearing. Montagu (1973, p.105) described swearing as "the act of verbally expressing the feeling of aggressiveness that follow upon frustration in words possessing strong emotional associations."

Therefore, it is obvious that if we need

to express our strong feelings or hostile emotions, like it or not, we have to express them through vulgar slang words since those words are the most suitable for the situation.

RESEARCH METHOD

In this research, the writer uses a qualitative descriptive method. The source of the data is taken from a novel which written by Sidney Sheldon entitled "Nothing Last Forever", It published in New York in 1994 by William Morrow and Company, Inc.

The procedures to collect data are: finding the original novel and its translation, read the novel thoroughly, underline the slang words in original novel and its translation then arrange the data. The number of words and phrases taken as the data are 65. They are selected randomly. The data are classified into five categories: denotative equivalence, pragmatic equivalence, connotative equivalence, formal equivalence and textual equivalence. They are categorized into seven subcategories: 'damn', 'fuck', 'hell', 'bastard', 'bitch', 'horny', and 'ass'.

RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data is 65 words and there are 11 words of slang being analyzed into five equivalents: denotative, pragmatic, connotative, textual, and formal equivalence. From the data, there are twelve slang words found in the novel. Among them, seven words appear more than two times than the other. Therefore, the writer will analyze seven of them. They are 'damn', 'fuck', 'hell', 'bastard', 'bitch', 'horny', and 'ass'. But first of all, here is the meaning of each word:

Damn

The word 'damn' has some derivations. They are: damned, goddam, and dammit. In some English dictionaries mean: to condemn as guilty, to condemn as bad or inferior, often used in the imperative as a curse, to criticize adversely, to cause the ruin of; make fail (Webster), say that something is bad or worthless (Oxford)

Fuck

In the word 'fuck', there are some derivations, they are 'fucking' and 'fucked'. In Oxford dictionary it means have sex with, used for showing anger, annoyance, etc. According to Longman dictionary, 'fuck' means an extremely rude expression said when you are very angry of someone or about something.

Hell

The word 'hell' does not have derivation. 'Hell' means used for showing anger or for emphasis (Oxford) and in Webster dictionary, it means any extremely disagreeable, unsettling, or pushing

treatment or experience, as an interjection expressing irritation, anger, etc.

Bastard

There's also no derivation in the word 'bastard'. Based on some English dictionaries, the word 'bastard' means: a person born of parents not married each other, illegitimate child, anything spurious, inferior, or varying from standard. A person regarded with contempt, hatred, pity, resentment, etc, or sometimes, with playful affection: a vulgar usage (Webster).

An offensive word for someone, especially a man, who you think is unpleasant, an insulting or joking word for a man. (Longman)

Bitch

'Bitch' means a lewd or promiscuous woman, anything especially unpleasant or difficult, a complaint (Webster). Based on Longman dictionary, 'bitch' is an insulting word for a woman that you dislike or think is unpleasant.

Horny

'Horny is sexually excited, sexually attractive (Longman). Based on Webster dictionary, 'horny' is sexually excited, easily aroused sexually.

Ass

'Ass' means a stupid or silly person; fool, the buttocks (Webster).

Denotative Equivalence

Source Text

(1) **Damn** this place! She said

Target Text

Semuanya gara-gara tempat **keparat** ini! Ia berkata

Analysis:

The word 'damn' in Source Text (ST) and the word 'keparat' in Target Text (TT) above might shows a denotative equivalence because its equivalence is related to the extra linguistic content of a text which is referring to the same thing in its reality. The word 'keparat' itself refers to a thing or place and not refers to a person. In sentence (1) of ST, the word 'damn' is a verb because it is followed by noun phrase 'this place' as the object. It shows that 'damn' is a transitive verb. From the context. It seems that 'damn this place' is a curse sentence with the subject is omitted.

Meanwhile in TT, the word 'damn' is rendered into 'keparat' that functions to modify 'tempat'. It means they have denotative or referential equivalence although there is a different in word class between ST and TT. Based on Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia, the word 'keparat' means a rude word which also as a curse word. As a result, it can be said as an adjective because 'keparat' describes the word 'tempat' as a noun. In TT, the

translation also shows the expansion of the meaning of ST.

Source Text

(2) Andrews stopped to take a deep breath they're all women! Three goddam woman doctors! The media is treating them like celebrities.

Target Text

Andrews menarik napas panjang. dan ketiga-tiganya wanita! Tiga dokter wanita brengsek! Pihak media memperlakukan mereka seperti selebriti Ia berkata

Analysis:

In sentence (2), the word 'goddam' in ST is also rendered into 'brengek' in TT is might be as a denotative equivalence because the word 'goddam' in ST and the word 'brengek' in TT referring to the same thing in the reality. It means that the word in ST and TT shows their original meaning. Then in sentence 'Three goddam woman doctors!' in ST that rendered into 'Tiga dokter wanita brengsek!' in TT which is looking from its grammatical meaning is grammatically correct and appropriate.

In ST of sentence (2), the word 'goddam' which preceded by numerals 'three' comes from the word 'god' and particle 'damn'. Then, the word 'goddam' is also an adjective because it modifies the word 'woman'. In English structure, adjective is come before noun.

While in TT, the word 'goddam' is rendered into 'brengek' which also as an adjective which is modifies 'wanita'. On the contrary, in Indonesian structure, adjective is come after noun. It means they have denotative or referential equivalence although there is a different in word class between ST and TT.

Source Text

(3) The sadistic **bastard** needed a whipping girl, someone to humiliate

Target Text

Bajingan sadis itu memerlukan seseorang untuk dibentak-bentak dan dihina.

Analysis:

Based on the sentence (3) above, the word 'bastard' in ST which is rendered into the word 'bajingan' in TT might be as a denotative equivalence because those words having real meaning and referring to the same thing in the real world. Besides, this equivalence also related to the extra linguistic context of a text. Thus, the phrase 'sadistic bastard' in ST and 'bajingan sadis' in TT might has a grammatical meaning because it is referring to the diversity of grammatical categories across languages.

The word 'bastard' in "The sadistic bastard needed a whipping girl.." in sentence (3) of ST is a noun because it is the name of a thing or person. The word 'sadistic' as an adjective and modifier, comes before the word 'bastard' which is in English word structure usually noun comes after modifier.

Source Text

(4) This will feel good. Spread your legs. Come on, you little **bitch!**

Target Text

'Kau akan menikmati ini. Rentang kan kakimu. Ayo, **sundal** kecil!'

Analysis:

In the sentence above, the word 'bitch' in ST which is rendered into the word 'sundal' in TT might be as a denotative equivalence because it is referential identity between ST and TT unit and has its real meaning. Then, it also has a grammatical meaning because the phrase '...little bitch!' in ST that rendered into '...sundal kecil!' in TT is grammatically correct when we're looking from its equivalence.

The word 'bitch' in ST is a noun which modified by the word 'little' as an adjective. In English structure, a noun comes after modifier. Based on Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia, the word 'sundal' means 'perempuan (jalang)' and it has a rude meaning. While in TT, the word 'bitch' which is rendered into 'sundal' has a function as a noun and modified by the word 'kecil'. On the contrary, in Indonesian structure, a noun comes before modifier.

Source Text

(5) 'Sure. Those **horny** bastards'.

Target Text

Tentu. Bajingan-bajingan itu selalu **mengumbar nafsu.**

Analysis:

The word 'horny' is rendered into the phrase 'mengumbar nafsu' in TT is a denotative equivalence. Those words related to equivalence of the extra linguistic content of a text. Besides, the word 'horny' in ST and 'mengumbar nafsu' in TT have a real meaning. It is an adjective that modify the word 'bastard'. The word 'mengumbar' is as a verb and 'nafsu' as a noun. Based on Kamus Bahasa Indonesia, the phrase 'mengumbar nafsu' is a metaphor.

Pragmatic Equivalence

Source Text

(6) A lot of them don't even want us around. They either want to **fuck** us or they want to **fuck** us. You know it's not fair.

Target Text

Tak sedikit dari mereka yang tak senang kita berada di sini. Mereka mau **tidur** dengan kita atau mereka mau **tidur** dengan kita. Ini tidak adil

Analysis:

Based on the sentence (6), the word 'fuck' in ST which is rendered into 'tidur' in TT might be as a pragmatic, equivalence. The translator seems to consider the importance of the same effect while the readership reading those words. The word and style do not have to be exactly but the reader can get the same messages.

In ST of sentence (6), the word 'fuck' in 'They either want to fuck us or they

want to fuck us or they want to fuck us' is a verb because it shows what a person or thing does or is. It shows that 'to fuck' is an infinitive with to.

Meanwhile in TT, the word 'fuck' is rendered into 'tidur' which also as a verb. Actually, it might be rendered as 'bersetubuh' or 'bercinta'. But we can see that the word is might be refined which is the reader catch the word more decorous.

Source Text

(7) He grinned. 'You look like **hell.**' 'Thanks. Why do they do this to us?' Paige asked.

Target Text

Dia meringis. 'Tampangmu tidak **karuan.**' 'Terima kasih. Kenapa mereka menyiksa kita seperti ini?' tanya Peige

Analysis:

In sentence (7) above, the word 'hell' in ST and the phrase 'tidak karuan' in TT might be a pragmatic equivalence because this equivalence is oriented towards the receiver of the text or message. It means that the word 'hell' in ST which rendered into the phrase 'tidak karuan' in TT is connotative meaning because the word 'hell' does not rendered into 'neraka' as its real meaning. The word 'hell' that rendered into 'tidak karuan' just tried to make the readership understood easily. So, they might be said as a pragmatic equivalence.

The word 'hell' in 'You look like hell' in ST of sentence (7) is used for emphasis because it extra force given to a word. In TT, the word 'hell' is rendered into 'tidak karuan' which is particle 'tidak' as an adverb and the word 'karuan' as an adjective that function to modify 'tampangmu'.

Connotative Equivalence

Source Text

(8) I bet the boys at the hospital ten thousand dollars I could **fuck** this black doctor

Target Text

Aku bertaruh dengan anak-anak di rumah sakit bahwa aku sanggup **menaklukkan** dokter kult hitam itu.

Analysis:

The word 'fuck' in sentence (8) of ST which is rendered into the word 'menaklukkan' in TT might be as a connotative equivalence because the word 'fuck' in ST and the word 'menaklukkan' in TT triggering the same or similar association in the minds of speakers of the two languages. This equivalence tried to make the readership understood while reading those words. The word 'fuck' in sentence 'I could fuck this black doctor' in ST is a verb because it shows what a person or thing does.

Meanwhile in TT, the word 'fuck' is rendered into 'menaklukkan' which also as a verb. The word 'menaklukkan' in TT

has prefix verbal *men-* and suffix verbal *-kan* which means to subjugate someone to follow their command or showing an action what a person can do to someone else.

Source Text

(9) 'The problem is, you *didn't*! If you ever wake me up again in the middle of the night for a heartburn case, I'll have your **ass**. You understand that?'

Target Text

Masalahnya kau *tidak* berpikir! Kalau kau sekali lagi membangun kan aku di tengah malam buta karena kasus *heartburn*, kau akan menerima **akibatnya**. Mengerti?

Analysis:

The word 'ass' in ST which is rendered into the word 'akibatnya' in TT is a connotative equivalence. This equivalence triggering to the similar association in the minds of speakers of the two languages but the words tried to make the readership understood.

In the sentence (6) above, the word 'ass' is a noun. We can notice that the word 'ass' in the sentence 'I'll have your ass' is not only about the buttock but also as a metaphor too. In TT, the word 'ass' in ST is rendered into 'akibatnya' as a noun. The ending *-nya* in 'akibatnya' based on Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia means as an indicator of direction of the previous sentence 'Kalau kau sekali lagi membangun aku di tengah malam buta karena kasus *heartburn*'.

Formal Equivalence

Source Text

(10) The resident standing next to Paige whispered in her ear, 'I guess you know what *stat* stands for. 'Shake that **ass**, tootsie!'

Target Text

Rasident yang berdiri di samping Paige berbisik ke telingany, 'Kau tahu kan, apa artinya *stat*? 'Shake that **ass**, tootsie!'

Analysis:

The word 'ass' in ST which is rendered into the word 'ass' too in TT is a formal equivalence. The words are having similar phonological features and this equivalence allows readership familiar with the source text to see how the meaning was expressed in the original text.

The word 'ass' in 'Shake that ass, tootsie!' is a noun which modified by the word 'that' as an adjective. The word 'ass' itself is talking about the buttock. Meanwhile, the word 'ass' is not rendered into 'bokong' because the translator might translate the original text in the target text. From the previous of word 'shake', there is a word 'stat' which means 'shake that ass, tootsie' and it is not necessary to be rendered so the translator translate into the original word. It might caused

the message in TT should match as closely as possible in ST which attempts to translate the text word by word.

Textual Equivalence

Source Text

(11) 'You'll over anesthetize him, **dammit!**'

Target Text

'**Awas!** Anda terlalu banyak memberi obat bius!'

Analysis:

In sentence above, the word 'dammit' is another derivation from the word 'damn'. The word 'damn' comes from the word 'damn' and particle 'it'. Thus, 'dammit' in ST and 'awas' in TT might show a textual equivalence because the word because the word 'awas' form is observed to be the equivalent of the word 'dammit' form. The concept of this equivalence is to cover similarity in ST and TT information. It can be seen in sentence above that the word 'dammit' in ST as a warning is located in the last sentence while the word 'awas' in TT as a warning too is located in the front of the sentence.

From the context of ST we can see that the word 'damn' is a verb. Then the word 'damn' is added with particle 'it' which indicated the phrase 'over anesthetize'. In TT, the word 'dammit' is rendered into 'awas' which is an adjective. We can see that the word 'awas' is located at the beginning of the sentence because the speaker was giving a warning to someone to be more careful.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

From the result of this research, there are some weakness, the first, it is quite impossible to analyze all the data because it will take time, so that's why the writer only analyze 11 data from 65 data. Second, the writer should look at more than one dictionary in analyzing the data to find the meaning of each slang words. It aims to make sure that the words belong to slang word or not and to find out whether the source text (ST) equivalent with target text (TT) or not.

Even so many weakness in this research, but the writer can conclude that kind of equivalence classification that mostly used in slang words of Sidney Sheldon's novel "Nothing Last Forever" is denotative equivalence and pragmatic equivalence.

Finding shows that there are five types of equivalence form in slang words from English into Indonesian, they are: 5 denotative equivalence, 2 pragmatic equivalence, 2 connotative equivalence, 1 formal equivalence and 1 textual equivalence.

Suggestion

From the conclusion above, there are recommendation that might be considered; the first, point in time dealing with translation of slang words, it might always consider the meaning in English dictionary, second, the translator might notice the meaning of slang word, which equivalence they might be put on. Third, people might analyze not only the equivalence in slang words but also can analyze from its cultural aspect and the last, it would be better for the novel readers not only to read the novel in Indonesian version, but also in English version.

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