

THE TRANSLATION OF ARTICLES “A/AN” AND “THE” INTO INDONESIAN

ABSTRAK

Many novice translators face the difficulties to translate articles “a/an” and “the”. This research was conducted to answer the question: What are the translations of articles “a/an” and “the” into Indonesian? The aims of the research are to find out the translations of articles “a/an” and “the”. The source of the data is “The 8th Habit” by Covey, Stephen R and its translation version “Kebiasaan Kedelapan” by Brata, Wandu S and Isa Zein. This research uses a qualitative method. In this case, the researcher collected, classified, identified the data concerning with the translation of articles “a/an” and “the”. Then, the researcher calculated the percentage of the categorizations of the translation of articles “a/an” and “the”. The result of the research show that there are two categories of translating articles “a/an” and “the”, namely “translated and untranslated”. Article “a/an” is translated into *seorang, sebuah, semacam, sesuatu, seseorang, satu, sebagai, suatu*, and the rest are not translated. Article “the” is translated into *nya, tersebut, itu, ini, kita, yang, di sana, di sini, di situ, sang*, and untranslated.

Keywords: Translated, Untranslated, Article “a/an”, Article “the”.

INTRODUCTION

In translating English into Indonesian, there are some problems that a translator has to face. One of them is the difference in grammatical structure in SL and TL such as how to translate the articles “a/an” and “the” into Indonesian. In case of the translating articles “a/an” and “the”, the writer encounter problems how to translate them well.

In this research, the researcher tries to find out the translation of the articles “a/an” and “the” into Indonesian. In fact, there are so many adjustment or shifts in translating them. For examples, the translator translated the article “a/an” into: “seorang”, “sebuah”, “suatu”, “sebagai”, “satu” and “nil translation”; and the article “the” into: “nya”, “tersebut”, “itu”, “ini”, “sang”, “yang”, “si”, “di sana”, “di sini”, and “nil translation”. That is why this topic is very interesting to be discussed.

Because of that consideration, the researcher chooses “The Translation of Articles “A/An” and “The” into Indonesian as the title of the research. The researcher chooses the book “The 8th Habit” by Covey, Stephen R and its translated version “Kebiasaan Kedelapan” by Brata, Wandu S and Isa Zein. The reason I choose this book as the source of the data for my research because this book consists of many articles “A/An” and “The”.

According to Carford’s book, *A Linguistic Theory of Translation* (1965:1) sees that translation as an operation performed on languages: a process of substituting a text in one language for a text in another. Based on Larson (1984:3), translation is basically a change of form. When we speak of the form of a language, we are referring to the actual words, phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraph etc., which are spoken/written. Nida in Widyamartaya (1989:11) defines translation consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalence of the SL message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style. Meanwhile based on Newmark in Machali (2000:5) gives definition of translation as follows: “Rendering the meaning of a text into another language

in the way that the author intended the text.” From the theories above, that in translation, we can change the form of a text from one language (SL) to another language (TL), but we must keep the meaning that is intended by the author. Therefore, in the translation the meaning is important to keep constantly rather than the form. In Translation from one language into another language, we also transform one language into another language that is called Transformation Theory. In truth, it is occurred the transformation of structure and semantics when we transform the meaning from one language to another language.

According to Hasibuan, Sofia Rangkuti in *Terjemahan dan Kaitannya dengan Tata Bahasa Inggris* (1991:113-120), there are four kinds of Transformation theory, i.e are theory of edition, theory of deletion, paraphrase, and structural change. Since only theory of addition and theory of deletion that have relation to the research, the researcher will only explain about the theory of addition and theory of deletion. Theory of Addition emphasizes an addition of the aim of the translation. This addition occurs because accuracy of meaning consideration. Addition of word in TL is needed because of structure and it is necessary.

Examples: 1. Itu buku
It is a book
2. Sebaliknya
On the contrary

Theory of Deletion means omission of an element in the TL structure and it is a must to reproduce an appropriate structure of the TL (Hasibuan, Sofia Rangkuti 1991:113-120). Furthermore, Newmark (1981:149) states that theoretically, the translator has to account for every portion and aspect of cognitive and pragmatic sense in the SL text. However, a translator is justified in pruning or eliminating redundancy provided it is not used for emphasis.

In addition, Widyamartaya (1989:46-48), states that indefinite (a/an) and definite articles (the) are not always translated.

Examples:

1. *A dog is an intelligent animal*
= Anjing binatang yang cerdas
Article “a” is not translated
2. *Some of the man*
= Dari mereka ada yang
Article “the” in that sentence is not translated

In Indonesian, definite article (the) is not a must. Moreover, much of the time definite article should not be used if the context is already clear.

English Articles

According to Krohn, Robert (1971:54), the words “a/an” and “the” are called articles. In general, we use “a/an” (the indefinite article) when an unidentified specimen is introduced, and we use “the” (the definite article) when the noun which follows names an identified specimen: that is, when we believe that the hearer knows which person, place, or thing the noun refers to.

Indonesian Articles

According to *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia*, article is a word that has function to change a word into noun. Kinds of Indonesian articles are “si, sang, para, bang, yang, nya, ini, itu, suatu, seorang, sebuah”.

For examples:
Si kancil
Sang kekasih
Yang elok

Meanwhile, based on Sudjarwo and Sukardi (2005:15), there three categories of articles.

- 1). Singular meaning: “sang, sri, dang, hang”. It is used to pay honor to someone or a unique thing. For examples:
Kehadiran Sang juara disambut dengan meriah.
Sang Saka Merah Putih berkibar dengan gagahnya.
- 2). Plural meaning: “para”. To mention a group of men who have same characteristic activities or position. For example:

Para ekonom berkumpul membicarakan masa depan bangsa.

- 3). Neutral meaning: "si". It depends on the sentence context: "si" has singular or plural meaning. We use "si" before someone's name and adjective. For examples:

Si pelaku belum ditemukan jejaknya. Itu dia si Hasan.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses qualitative method. The purpose of the research is to find out the translation of articles "a/an" and "the" into Indonesian. The data are from "the 8th Habit" both the original and translated versions, "Kebiasaan Kedelapan" by Brata, Wandu S and Isa Zein. According to Gay (1996:208), qualitative research is the collection and analysis of extensive narrative data in order to gain insights into a situation of interest not possible using other types of research. This approach is led to the background and the individuals themselves holistically. Therefore, this research does not permit isolation of individual or organization into variable, but individual or organization must be included into one complete package.

In collecting data, the researcher identifies articles "a/an" and "the", then identifies the translation of article "a/an" and "the". Those data are classified into two categories: "Translated" and "Untranslated"

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The result of the analysis shows that articles "a/an" and "the" can be both translated and not translated from English to Indonesian. The translator generally translates article "a/an" into Indonesian as follows: se; such as seorang, sebuah, semacam sesuatu (56%), untranslated (36%), and other translations are suatu, satu, sebagai, sekedar, itu (8%). Article "the" is generally translated into

Indonesian as follows: untranslated (30%), nya (27%), tersebut (14%), others; sang, yang, kita, di sama, di situ, di sini, si (12%), itu (9%), and into ini (8%) from total numbers of data that is 100.

The Translation of "A/An"

Translated into: seorang, sebuah, semacam, sesuatu, and seseorang

- 1) SL: *The boss, who was married, was having an affair with **an** employee.* (p.147)
TL: *Bos mereka yang telah menikah itu berselingkuh dengan **seorang** karyawan (p.215)*
- 2) SL: *There is **a** man in Uganda who beautifully illustrates the power of allowing conscience to wisely direct our vision, discipline and passion.* (p.82)
TL: *Ada **seseorang** di Uganda yang dengan indahnya menggambarkan betapa hebatnya pengaruh yang ditimbulkan bila kita membiarkan nurani kita secara bijaksana mengarahkan visi, disiplin dan gairan kita.* (p.123)
- 3) SL: *Another time when I was working at **a** university, I had the privilege of hosting **a** prominent psychologist who was the former president of **a** national psychological association.* (p.170)
TL: *Pada kesempatan lain, ketika bekerja di **sebuah** universitas, saya mendapat kehormatan untuk menjadi tuan rumah bagi **seorang** ahli psikologi ternama yang merupakan mantan presiden **sebuah** asosiasi psikolog nasional.* (p.251)
SL: *I completed graduate school and began teaching at **a** historically black college in Little Rock, Arkansas.* (p.91)
TL: *Setelah lulus S2, saya mulai mengajar di **sebuah** kampus, khusus*

- 4) SL: *Every evening I spend with my mother is **a** peaceful oasis in my busy life.* (p.91)
TL: *Setiap sore saya lewatkan dengan ibu saya menjadi **semacam** oasis yang penuh kedamaian dalam kehidupan saya yang sibuk.* (p.136)
- 5) SL: *I remember once having an unpleasant confrontation with **an** individual on **a** very jugular issue.* (p.175)
TL: *Saya pernah mengalami konfrontasi yang tidak menyenangkan dengan **seseorang** mengenai **sesuatu** yang benar-benar menjengkelkan.* (p.260)

Article "a/an" is translated into seorang, sebuah, semacam, seseorang, sesuatu when "a/an" precedes a singular noun with countable (see i.e. no. 1,2,3,4, 6) and adjective phrase (see i.e. no. 3,5,6).

"A/An" is not translated

- 1) SL: *Once Einstein saw the needle of **a** compass at the age of four, he always understood that there had to be "something behind things, something deeply hidden."* (p.46)
TL: *Ketika pertama kali melihat jarum jam kompas pada umur empat tahun, Einstein mengerti bahwa pasti ada "sesuatu di balik benda-benda, sesuatu yang jauh tersembunyi."* (p.69)
- 2) SL: *All things are created twice: first, **a** mental creation, second, a physical creation.* (p.70)
TL: *Semua hal diciptakan dua kali: pertama, merupakan ciptaan pikiran, kedua ciptaan fisik.* (p.104)
- 3) SL: *Almost all people belong to **an** organization of one kind or another.* (p.99)
TL: *Hampir semua orang merupakan bagian dari organisasi, apa pun bentuknya.* (p.147)
- 4) SL: *These five emotional cancers literally metastasize their cancerous cells into relationships, and sometimes through **an** entire culture.* (p.135)
TL: *Kelima kanker emosional ini benar-benar bisa menjangkiti hubungan beragam, dan kadang-kadang merasuki seluruh unsur budaya.* (199)
- 5) SL: *One's sense of wrath is intrinsic and doesn't come from **a** particular weakness, known or blind.* (p.178)
TL: *Harga diri seseorang adalah hal yang intrinsik dan tidak datang dari kelemahan tertentu, baik yang disadari maupun tidak.* (p.264)
- 6) SL: *In short, in **a** bad economy, we may go back to the carrot-and-stick, great jackass theory of human motivation because it works.* (p.302)
TL: *Secara singkat, dalam kondisi ekonomi yang buruk, kita mungkin akan kembali ke teori keledai, wortel dan cambuk untuk memotivasi manusia, karena hal itu memang pernah berhasil.* (p.450)

Percentage of Translation of Articles "A/An"

No	Translated	Frequency	%
1	Se (seorang, sebuah, semacam, sesuatu)	56	56%
2	Untranslated	36	36%
3	Others (suatu, satu, sebagai)	8	8%
	Total	100	100%

Percentage of Translation of Article "The"

No	Translated	Frequency	%
1	Untranslated	30	30%
2	Nya	27	27%
3	Tersebut	14	14%
4	Others (sang, yang, kita, di sana, di situ, si)	12	12%
5	Itu	9	9%
6	Ini	8	8%
	Total	100	100%

Article "a/an" is not translated when "a/an" precedes a singular noun with countable (see i.e no. 1,3) and adjective phrase (see i.e no. 2,4,5)

Translated into: satu, sebagai, suatu, sekedar, itu

- 1) SL: *You will find that if you will actually seek to apply what you learn in each chapter for a month. (p.33)*
TL: *Anda akan menemukan bahwa jika Anda pelajari dalam masing-masing bab selama satu bulan. (p.52)*
- 2) SL: *He said further, that up until that experience with his father, he had knowingly taken the easier road, acting basically in a custodian role in the traditions of the past. (p.29)*
TL: *Ia katakan lebih lanjut, bahwa sebelum sampai pada pengalaman-pengalamannya dengan ayahnya itu, ia secara amat sengaja memilih jalan yang lebih mudah, dan pada dasarnya hanya bertindak sebagai penjaga tradisi masa lampau. (p.46)*
- 3) SL: *Now imagine someone comes up to you and tries to persuade you to become what he calls a "farmer". (p.12)*
TL: *Sekarang bayangkan, ada seseorang mendatangi Anda dan mencoba membujuk Anda untuk menjadi seorang yang dia sebut sebagai "petani". (p.22)*
- 4) SL: *It has no need to censor information and is open to an awareness of reality from every direction. (p.78)*
TL: *Dia tidak merasa perlu menyensor informasi, dan terbuka terhadap suatu pemahaman terhadap realitas dari arah mana pun (p.117)*
- 5) SL: *Most people think of leadership as a position and therefore don't see themselves as leaders. (p.16)*
TL: *Kebanyakan orang memandang kepemimpinan sebagai suatu posisi dan karena itu tidak memandang diri mereka sebagai pemimpin. (p.28)*
- 6) SL: *When all you want is a person's body and you don't really want their mind, heart or spirit (all inhibitors to the free-flowing process of the machine age), you have reduced a person to a thing (p.15)*
TL: *Yang Anda perlukan hanya tubuh orang-orang itu, dan bukan pikiran, hati atau jiwa (yang semuanya merupakan penghalang bagi mulusnya proses zaman mesin); dan dengan demikian Anda menurunkan derajat manusia menjadi sekedar benda. (p.26)*

Article "a/an" is translated into satu, sebagai, suatu, sekedar, and itu when "a/an" precedes a singular noun with countable (see i.e. no. 1,2,3,4,5,6)

The Translation of "The"

"The" is not translated

- 1) SL: *When you study the lives of all great achievers-those who have had the greatest influence on others, those*

who have made significant contribution, those who have simply made things happen- you will find a pattern. (p.65)

TL: *Bila Anda mengkaji kehidupan semua orang yang mencapai prestasi gemilang yaitu orang-orang yang memiliki pengaruh besar terhadap sesamanya, mereka yang telah berjasa besar, dan orang-orang yang telah mewujudkan hal-hal yang luar biasa-Anda akan menemukan sebuah pola. (p.95)*

- 2) SL: *The visionary leader thinks big, thinks new, thinks ahead-and most important, is in touch with the deep structure of human consciousness and creative potential. (p.67)*

TL: *Pemimpin visioner berpikir besar, berpikir secara baru, berpikir ke depan, dan yang lebih penting lagi, bersentuhan dengan struktur yang mendalam dari kesadaran dan potensi kreatif manusia. (p.99)*

- 3) SL: *Margaret Thatcher was the first female leader of a major industrial nation. (p.68)*

TL: *Margaret Thatcher adalah pemimpin perempuan pertama di negara industri besar. (p.101)*

- 4) SL: *Her critics are not few, but she was passionate about urging people to assume the discipline of personal responsibilities and to build self-reliance. (p.68)*

TL: *Para pengkritiknya tidak sedikit, tetapi ia amat getol mendorong orang-orang untuk berdisiplin dalam hal tanggung jawab pribadi dan membangun kemandirian. (p.101)*

Article "the" is not translated when "the" precedes a singular or plural noun with countable (see i.e. no. 1), uncountable noun (see i.e. no 4), and adjective phrase (see i.e. no.3,4,5).

Translated into: "nya"

- 1) SL: *When the infrastructure shifts, everything rumbles. (p.12)*

TL: *Ketika infrastukturanya bergeser, segala sesuatu (akan) runtuh. (p.21)*

- 2) SL: *The main difference is the words used, but you can see that the meaning is essentially the same. (p.115)*

TL: *Perbedaan utamanya hanya terletak pada peristilahan yang dipakai, tetapi Anda bisa melihat bahwa makna pada intinya sama. (p.170)*

- 3) SL: *Any time you think the problem is out there, that very thought is the problem. (p.128)*

TL: *Setiap kali Anda berpikir bahwa masalahnya ada di luar sana, sebenarnya pemikiran itu sendirilah masalahnya. (p.189)*

- 4) SL: *The key is balance. (p.25)*
TL: *Kuncinya adalah keseimbangan. (p.331)*

Article "the" is translated into "nya", when "the" precedes a singular or plural noun with countable (see i.e. no. 1, 2,3,4) and adjective phrase (see i.e. no 2)

Translated into: "tersebut"

- 1) SL: *The president would not make any significant moves without Ben's blessing. (p.142)*

TL: *Rektor tersebut tidak akan membuat keputusan penting apa pun tanpa persetujuan Ben. (p.209)*

- 2) SL: *But below you'll find a brief summary of the 7 habits. (p.152)*

TL: *Cukup kalau di sini diulas secara singkat 7 kebiasaan tersebut. (p.223)*

- 3) SL: *The problems arise because of system or structures. (p.235)*

TL: *Masalah tersebut muncul karena sistem dan struktur. (p.343)*

Article "the" is translated into "tersebut" when "the" precedes a singular or plural noun with countable (see i.e. no. 1,2,3).

Translated into: "itu"

- 1) SL: *I'll guarantee the loan, I'll sign whatever they want me to sign. (p.8)*

TL: *Saya akan menjadi penjamin semua pinjaman itu. Akan saya tandatangi apa pun yang harus saya tandatangi. (p.33)*

- 2) SL: *The throat infection was the symptom of something else. (p.20)*

TL: *Infeksi tenggorokan itu adalah gejala dari suatu penyakit yang lain. (p.33)*

- 3) SL: *One word expresses the pathway to greatness. (p.28)*

TL: *Satu kata bisa menyatakan jalan keagungan itu. (p.44)*

Article "the" is translated into "itu" when "the" precedes a singular noun with countable (see i.e. 1,2,3)

Translated into: "ini"

- 1) SL: *The foundation of seeking for Third Alternatives. (p.195)*

TL: *Ini merupakan dasar dari pencarian Alternatif Ketiga. (p.288)*

- 2) SL: *The key to creating passion in your life is to find your unique Most of the world's work is done in and through organizations. (p.99)*

TL: *Kunci untuk menciptakan gairah dalam hidup anda adalah menemukan bakat unik, peran dan tujuan khusus Anda di dunia ini.*

- 3) SL: *Early in the book I made the statement. "To know and not to do is really not to know." (p.274)*

TL: *Di bagian awal buku ini saya membuat pernyataan, "Mengetahui namun tidak melakukannya pada dasarnya adalah sama dengan tidak mengetahui. (p.409)*

Article "the" is translated into ini when "the" precedes a singular noun with countable (see i.e. 1,2,3)

Translated into: "sang, yang, kita, di sana, di situ, di sini, si"

- 1) SL: *Later the Colonel told me privately that he had been planning to retire and relax. (p.29)*

TL: *Belakangan sang colonel secara pribadi menceritakan kepada saya bahwa sebenarnya dia telah*

- merencanakan untuk pensiun dan hidup dengan santai. (p.46)
- 2) SL: **The** Beloved does not mind repairing. "Everything I have is also yours." (p.39)
TL: **Yang** Mahakasih tidak jemu mengulang "Apapun milik-Ku adalah juga milikmu." (p.57)
- 3) SL: **The** important thing is to come up with what we'll call a Scoreboard, a compelling scoreboard. (p.242)
TL: **Yang** penting adalah membuat apa yang kami sebut sebagai Papan Pencatat skor, sebuah papan pencatat skor yang menggugah. (p.359)
- 4) SL: How does **the** body balance and harmonize the functioning of the brain, which contains **the** mind, with the functioning of the heart, which symbolically represents emotional intelligence? (p.51)
TL: Bagaimana tubuh **kita** menyeimbangkan dan menharmoniskan berfungsinya otak, yang menjadi wahana pikiran **kita**, dengan berfungsinya jantung, yang secara simbolik menyatakan kecerdasan emosional kita? (p.76)
- 5) SL: When I arrived at **the** school, many of these children had on their native costumes and carried their native flags. (p.61)
TL: Ketika saya tiba **di sana**, para siswa memakai pakaian tradisional mereka dan melambai-lambaikan bendera nasional mereka. (p.90)
- 6) SL: Mutual respect becomes **the** moral imperative. (p.127)
TL: Rasa saling menghormati menjadi keharusan moral **di sini**. (p.187)
- 7) SL: He was right. **The** atmosphere seemed poisoned with suspicion and lack of trust. (p.147)
TL: Dia benar. Suasana kerja **di situ** diracuni oleh kecurigaan dan kurangnya kepercayaan. (p.215)
- 8) SL: When the various activities had been listed, **the** instructor asked, "Which of these activities could be done by the janitors? (p.263)

TL: Saat berbagai aktivitas tersebut telah dituliskan dalam daftar, **si** instruktur bertanya, "Yang mana dari aktivitas-aktivitas ini yang bisa dilakukan oleh para petugas pembersih itu sendiri? (p.391)

Article "the" is translated into sang, yang, kita di sana, di situ, di sini, and si when "the" precedes a singular or plural noun both countable and uncountable (see I.e. no 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8)

CONCLUSION AND SUGESTION

Conclusion

The researcher found two categories of translating articles "a/an" and "the", namely "translated and "untranslated".

- The translation of article "a/an" are "seorang, sebuah, semacam, sesuatu, seseorang, satu, sebagai, suatu, and nil translation".
- Article "a/an" is translated into "seorang, sebuah, semacam, sesuatu, seseorang, most of the time (56%).
- Article "a/an" is untranslated some of the time (36%).
- Very seldom (8%) is article "a/an" translated into "suatu, sebagai, and satu."
- The translations of article "the" are "nil translation, nya, tersebut, itu, ini, and others (sang, yang, kita, si, di sana, di situ, di sini)."
- Article "the" is untranslated some of the time (30%).
- Article "the" is translated into "nya" some of the time (27%).
- Seldom and very seldom is article "the" translated into "tersebut" (14%), into "itu" (9%), and into "ini" (8%), as well other translation, i.e. "sang, yang, kita, di sana, di situ, di sini (12%).

Sugestion

Since the sample of this research is still very limited, it is suggested that other research be conducted with bigger samples to produce a

more convincing result. In addition, this research has not answered when articles "a/an" and "the" translated or not translated. Therefore, it is suggested that another be conducted dealing with this problem.

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