

CATEGORY SHIFT OF NOUN PHRASES IN TRANSLATING FIVE LITTLE PIGS NOVEL BY AGATHA CHRISTIE

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ABSTRACT

The purposes of this study are to identify the kinds of category shift and describe how the principles of translation occurs in the translation of noun phrase in Five Little Pigs novel. In this study the data was taken from a novel by Agatha Christie (1942) entitled Five Little Pigs as the source language and its translated version in Indonesian entitled Mengungkit Pembunuhan as the target language. The data were collected by using observation method and combine with note taking method to find out and classify the data. The theory used in analyzing the data were a theory of Category Shift proposed by Catford (1965) and a theory of principles of translation by Nida (1975). Descriptive qualitative method was used to analyze the data. The findings of this study demonstrate that all kinds of category shifts were discovered in the novel's translation of noun phrases. The most frequent data found was the structure shift consisting of 155 data or 49.3%. The second is unit shift that has 108 data or 34.3%, the third was class shift which reach the number of 31 data or 9.8%. And the last is intra-system shift consisting 20 data or 6.3% percentages out of the total data were 314 data. Moreover, for the principles of translation, the highest frequency found is gain of information with 139 data or 44% out of 314 data. Then, loss of information with 110 data or 35% and skewing of information that has 65 data or 20%.

Keywords: Translation, Category shift, Principles of translation, Noun phrase, Novel

INTRODUCTION

Translation is a means for transferring meaning between two different languages. Newmark (1988: 5) states “translating is rendering meaning of the text into another language in the way that the author intended in the text”. Translation is considered as a device to communicate among different languages, it helps to deliver the messages and convey the meaning, therefore people who speaks different language can understand and get the meaning of a text that not their original language. However, the result of translation from source text into target text cannot be perfectly equivalent because every language has its own characteristics and differences of grammatical and structure. To

overcome this issue the translator need to shift the form of the linguistic items to adjust the target language system and reach the natural translation.

Translation shift is the departure from formal correspondence in the process of going from the source language to the target language (Catford, 1965). Shift in translation is a method where the translator need to replace the elements of SL into the elements of TL without changing the meaning. The translator need to shift the form to keep the meaning and the message can be transferred naturally in target language. There are two types of translation shift namely the level shift and category shift. Level shift dealing with the changes that involved linguistics level such as tenses in a language, while category shift is the departure from formal correspondence. These changes occur due to every language has its own characteristic and grammatical structure in constructing a sentence.

One of the grammatical units in language is phrase. Tallerman, 1998 states “a phrase is a group of words which has no subject”. Phrase is a small group of words that express a single idea but do not constitute a complete sentence, usually contain a head word and accompanied by modifiers. One type of phrase is noun phrase, according to Herring (2016) noun phrase consist of a noun plus any determiners or modifiers directly related to it. The use of noun phrase can be found in literary works such as novel due to it contains sentences to tell the story. Best-selling novels usually has its translated version in many other languages. Therefore, in the process of translation some changes may occur because the translator tries to replace the meaning from SL into TL and find words that are natural and has equal meaning as the source language. Therefore, this study focused on analyzing the types of category shifts that occurred in translating the noun phrases in novel entitled *Five Little Pigs* by Agatha Christie. This novel was chosen as the data because it contains a lot of noun phrases and category shift were frequently found in the process of translation.

Another study about category shift was conducted by Sunarto (2015), the aims of this study is to identify the used of translation shifts in translating the noun phrase found in the process of subtitling a film entitled *Ice Age 4* and to describe the equivalence of translation of the noun phrases. There is also another study that raised the similar issue such as, a study by Putri (2016) which has purpose to identify the translation shifts happened on noun phrase in Instagram caption translation and to evaluate the translation accuracy of noun phrase from SL to TL. And also a study by Ardliansyah and Ediwan (2019) that aims to identify and analyze the types of category shifts happened in *Avengers: Infinity War* movie and to describe how the category shifts takes place in *Avengers: Infinity War* movie subtitle.

DATA SOURCE

The data source of this study were taken from a novel entitled *Five Little Pigs* by Agata Christie (1942) and its Indonesian version entitled *Mengungkap Pembunuhan* translated by Alex Tri Kantjono W. (2018). This novel is chosen because it is one of the best seller novels by Agatha Christie who known as the ‘Queen of Mystery’. Besides, this novel also has the translated version (English-Indonesia). Since it involves two languages in the process of translation, which has different structure and grammatical rules, the occurrence of category shifts particularly in the translation of noun phrase is frequently occur.

METHODS

This study used descriptive qualitative method in analyzing the data. There are three steps that applied by the writer in analyzing the data as follows:

1. Finding the noun phrases that contained in the original novel and its translated version in Indonesian
2. Comparing the structure and grammatical system of the noun phrases found in both novel
3. Classifying the types of category shift occurs in the process of translation using a theory of translation shift proposed by Catford (1965)
4. Identifying the principles of translation applied in the data found by using theory proposed by Nida (1975).

THEORETICAL REVIEW

The theories used in analyzing the data in this study based on a theory of translation shift proposed by Catford (1965) and the theory of principles of translation by Nida (1975). The translation shift theory is distinguished into two type namely level shift and category shift, however, the type that is focused in this study is only the category shift. Category shifts are divided into four type such as, structure shift, unit shift, class shift, and intra-system shift.” Meanwhile, the theory of principles of translation are divided into three types namely, gain, loss, and skewing of information.

A. Category Shift

Category shifts are departures from formal correspondence in translation. Catford (1965: 27) states “formal correspondence is the similarity of linguistic categories from two different languages including units, classes, structures, and structural elements, they can be interchanged in the same position”.

1. Structure Shift

Structure shift is the changing of words sequence in a sentence and involve the grammatical structure between the source language and target language. For instance:

Source Language	Target Language
You really are the worst brother	Kau memang saudara yang terburuk (Ediwan, 2019: 262)

There is a change of structure or word order between the source language and target language. The structure in source language is made up of determiner *the*, followed by pre-modifier *worst*, and head noun *brother*. While in target language the structure is constructed by head noun *saudara*, then followed post-modifier *yang terburuk*.

2. Unit Shift

Unit shift occurs when there is a change of language rank in the process of translation. This change may occur from higher level to lower rank or vice versa.

Source Language	Target Language
We are gonna have a nice dinner tonight	Kita akan makan malam (Ediwan, 2019: 262)

The unit shift occurs in the translation above. The noun in source language is *dinner* which is a word, meanwhile when it is translated into Indonesian it become a phrase *makan malam*. Here, there is a change of rank from lower level (word) into higher rank (phrase).

3. Class Shift

Class shift occurs when the translation equivalent of source language item is the member of a different class or part of speech from the original item. Or it simply can be said as the change that occurs due to the differences of word class that caused in the process of translation.

Source Language	Target Language
I heard about the beatdown you took. Fucking savages.	Aku dengar kau dipukuli . Mereka itu bajingan (Suastini, 2022: 7)

The word *beatdown* in source language has function as a noun, while it is translated into *dipukuli* in target language which is a verb. It can be seen that there is a change of word class in the translation above, which the noun become a verb.

4. Intra-system Shift

Intra-system shift occurs when an internal system of the source language is being changed or shifted according to the internal system of the target language.

Source Language	Target Language
Many houses on the coast were swept away by the flood	Banyak rumah di pinggir pantai tersapu banjir (Alzuhdy, 2014: 190)”

The word ‘houses’ has a corresponding plural, but the system in Bahasa Indonesia still shows a singular form *rumah*. It is done in order to make it acceptable in target language although the corresponding system of plurality in target language is *rumah-rumah*. It sounds strange if “many houses” is translated into *banyak rumah-rumah*, because the word *banyak* is already signified plural.”

B. Principles of Translation

Principles of translation means that no translation in a receptor language can be the exact equivalent of the model in the source language (Nida, 1975: 27). Therefore, in the process of translation, the translator need to change form and find a word that has similar or equal meaning in target language. This adjustment done to get the natural translation result and it usually lead to the occurrence of loss, gain and skewing of information.

1. Loss of Information

Loss of information occurs when the translation in TL cannot deliver the full information of the SL item. Baker in Darso (1992: 40) explains “loss is omission of lexical item due to grammatical

or semantic patterns of the receptor language”. This omission is carried out if the meaning expressed by a particular item is not significant in developing the statement. For instance:

SL: **The worthy country policeman** shook his head.

TL: **Polisi pedesaan itu** menggeleng. (Darso, 2021: 78)

Source language	Target language
The	Itu
Worthy	-
Country	Pedesaan
Policeman	Polisi

In the table above, the translation of word *worthy* is missing in TL although the word can be translated as *layak* or *bernilai* which has the same and equal meaning as the SL. The translator chooses to not translate that word to avoid redundancy of information, moreover the expression *polisi pedesaan itu* already has equal meaning as the phrase in source language. Therefore, due to the deletion of information in target language, this data belongs to loss of information.

2. Gain of Information

Gain of information occurs when the translation of SL item into TL item is with increasing or addition of information. This process is sometimes prompted by the need to emphasize a point or make an utterance more coherent, resulting in a shift in syntactic units at different levels. For instance:

SL: After that he gave **a long sigh of satisfaction**

TL: Sesudah itu ia **mendesah panjang penuh kepuasan** (Darso, 2021: 82)

Source language	Target language
A	-
Long	Panjang
Sigh	Mendesah
-	Penuh
Satisfaction	Kepuasan

In this table, it can be seen that the translator adds an information relates to the noun phrase. The information that added in translation version is *penuh* to exaggerate the meaning of word *satisfaction* in SL. Besides, this addition of information also brings naturalness and make the translation version more appropriate in the TL.

3. Skewing of Information

Skewing of information is when the translation of the SL item cannot reach the equivalent in the TL. This happens when the translator is having trouble finding the exact word in the TL that has the same meaning as the SL. For instance:

SL: White Mason is **a very live man**

TL: White Mason **orang yang cerdas** (Darso, 2021: 84)

Source language	Target language
A	-
Very live	Yang cerdas
Man	Orang

As it can be seen in the translation of phrase *very live* in SL is transferred into *yang cerdas* in TL. The word *live* in this phrase means to be alive or excited which can be transferred as *hidup* or *bersemangat* in TL that has equal meaning. Besides the adverb *very* is also not translated as equal, while it can be transferred as *sangat*. Therefore, because the translation result is not exact equivalent, this data belongs to skewing of information.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This part shows the number of translation results that were classified as types of category shifts and its principles of translation. There are found four types of category shifts in the translation of noun phrase in *Five Little Pigs* novel, such as structure shift, unit shift, class shift, and intra-system shift. Moreover, all types of principles of translation are found in this study such as, loss, gain, and skewing of information. The result of the finding is presented in data tabulation below.

Table 1. Category Shifts Found in *Five Little Pigs* Novel

No.	Type of Category Shift	Occurrence	Percentage (%)
1	Structure Shift	155	49,3%
2	Unit Shift	108	34,3%
3	Class Shift	31	9,8%
4	Intra-system Shift	20	6,3%
	Total	314	100%

From the table above, it can be found that there are 314 data of noun phrase in the novel *Five Little Pigs* that belongs to category shift. The predominant data is structure shift consisting of 155 noun phrases or 49.3% data. The second largest data is unit shift that has 108 data or 34.3%, the third is class shift which reach the number of 31 or 9.8% data. And the last is intra-system shift consisting 20 data or 6.3% percentages out of the total data were 314 data. The most frequent data found is structure shift because it involved of grammatical structure between the SL and TL, especially the change of word order and the position of modifiers and head word of the noun phrase.

Table 2. Principles of Translation Found in *Five Little Pigs* Novel

No	Types of Principle of Translation	Number of Occurrence	Percentages of Occurrence
1	Loss	110	35%
2	Gain	139	44%
3	Skewing	65	20%
	Total	314	100%

As can be seen in the table above, gain of information occurs in the highest amount which is 139 data or 44% out of 314 data. The second types is loss of information that reach 110 data or 35%, and the lowest occurrence is skewing of information that has 65 data or 20%. This phenomenon occurred because the translation result of the noun phrases cannot be perfectly equivalence, there always be a loss, gain or addition of information made by the translator to make the output of the translation acceptable and natural in target language.

1. Datum 1: Structure Shift (Skewing of Information)

SL : Yes, she was **a great pet** (Christie, 1942: 68)

TL : Ya, dia **anak yang lucu** (Kantjono, 2018: 100)

Source language	Target language
a	-
great	yang lucu
pet	anak

The noun phrase above belongs to structure shift. The phrase in SL is *a great pet* consisting of *a* (infinite article) as the determiner, *great* (adjective) as the pre-modifier, then followed by *pet* (noun) as the head. While in the TL this phrase is translated into *anak yang lucu* which consists of head noun *anak* followed by post-modifier *yang lucu*. It shows that in SL the sentence's pattern is determiner + pre-modifier + head noun, while in target language the head is comes first before the modifier. This shift is mandatory, because it is determined by the structure in the TL. The translator cannot create the structure of determiner + pre-modifier + head in TL because the phrase *yang lucu anak* is not natural and grammatical incorrect in target language or Bahasa Indonesia.

Meanwhile, according to the theory of principles of translation this data belongs to skewing of information. It can be seen in the translation of phrase *a great pet* into *anak yang lucu* in TL. According to oxford dictionary, the noun *pet* in SL means an animal that someone have at home for pleasure, while *anak* in TL means an immature young human. Here the translator used the word *anak* instead of used *peliharaan* to replace the meaning of word *pet* to adjust the culture in TL, because it is not common and quite rude to call a child as a pet in Indonesia. Besides, the phrase *a great* is not translated as appropriate, it should be translated as *besar* or *hebat* that has same meaning as the SL. Therefore, due to the translation result in TL cannot transfer the information in source language equally, this data belongs to skewing of information.

2. Datum 2: Unit Shift (Gain of Information)

SL : He usually won **his cases** (Christie, 1942: 23)

TL : Dia biasanya memenagkan **kasus-kasus yang ditanganinya** (Kantjono, 2018: 34)

Source language	Target language
his	-nya
cases	kasus-kasus
	yang ditangani

In the data above, it can be obviously seen that the noun phrase in source language is *his cases*, however in the target language this noun phrase is translated into *kasus-kasus yang ditanganinya*. The structure of source language is made up determiner *his* (possessive pronoun), then followed by

head noun *cases*. While in target language the structure is headed by noun *kasus-kasus*, then post-modifier *yang ditanganinya*. The unit shift is found in the changing of rank from lower rank into higher rank, due to the data in source language is a phrase but when it translated to target language it become a clause.

Meanwhile, this data belongs to gain of information according to the theory of principle of translation. As can be seen in the table of comparison above, there is an addition of information in target language which is *yang ditangani* to emphasize the word *cases*. The relative clause *yang ditangani* means something that someone handled. This addition is done to increase the meaning and make the expression clearer, thus it will be easier for the reader to understand.

3. Datum 3: Class Shift (Loss of Information)

SL: She said with **a little smile** (Christie, 108: 1942)

TL: Dengan agak **tersenyum** dia berkata (Kantjono, 157: 2018)

Source language	Target language
a	-
little	-
smile	tersenyum

As can be seen in the table above, the English noun phrase *a little smile* is translated into *tersenyum* in TL. In SL the phrase *a little smile* has constituent of determiner *a* (indefinite article), pre-modifier *little* (adjective), and followed by head noun *smile*. While in TL this phrase is translated into verb *tersenyum*. In this translating process there is found an occurrence of category shift namely class shift, which is the change of word class of the word *smile* which is a noun in SL into a verb *tersenyum* in TL.

The table above provide the comparison of each linguistic item of SL and TL to show how the loss of information of this phrase take place. It can be clearly seen that there is no translation for word *a* and *little* in TL, despite it can translated as *sebuah* and *kecil* that has equal meaning as the SL word. However, the translator rather not to translate those word. Therefore, due to this omission the translation result in TL is not equivalent and the information cannot be fully transferred.

4. Datum 4: Intra-system Shift (Loss of Information)

SL: **many books have been written** on your Mary Queen of Scots (Christie, 102: 1942)

TL: **banyak buku yang telah ditulis** tentang Ratu Mary dari Scotlandia (Kantjono, 150: 2018)

Source language	Target language
many	banyak
books	buku
have been written	yang telah ditulis

The noun phrase in the example above is *many books that have been written* consisting of *many* as the quantifier, *books* as the head noun, and *that have been written* as the post-modifier. Meanwhile in TL it is translated into *banyak buku yang telah ditulis* which constructed of *banyak* as the quantifier, *buku* as the head noun, and *yang dulu telah ditulis* as the post modifier (relative clause). Intra-system shift happens in the translation of *many books* into *banyak buku*. The plural form in SL is translated into singular form in TL. The word *banyak* in TL is already indicated plural, therefore

the translator did not make the noun plural too, and it is done to avoid the redundancy of information. The translator need to shift the form to keep the meaning intact and the message can be transferred naturally in TL.

As can be seen in the table of comparison above, the loss of information occurs in the translation of *have been written* which is a present perfect continuous tense into lexis *yang telah ditulis*. This changes happens due to there is no grammatical system in Indonesian to show the past time.

CONCLUSION

Based on the result and discussion above, it can be concluded that there are 314 data of category shift found in the translation of noun phrases in Five Little Pigs novel. The category shift occurred in the translation process can be divided into four types. The first is structure shift, from 314 data there are found 155 data or 49,3%, the second is class shift with 108 data or 34,3%, then class shift with total 31 data or 9,8%, and 20 data or 6,3% that belongs to intra-system shift. The predominant type found is structure shift because it involved the change of grammatical structure, such as the word order or word position between the SL and TL. This phenomenon happens because the differences of structure and grammatical rules in both languages in constructing the words. In source language, the head of noun phrase usually comes after the modifier, while in target language the head is placed in the beginning of the phrase or before the modifier. Meanwhile, unit shift found in the translation of noun phrases when the rank of language changed, it involved the change from the lower rank into higher rank and vice versa. Then, class shift occurs if the translation of SL item is a member of a different grammatical class or part of speech in the original item. Finally, the least type found is intra-system shift, this shift occurs internally between the system of language. Intra-system shift here is applied in translating several noun phrases that has plural form, but when it is transferred into TL it become singular form due to there is a different system in both languages to convey the thing in plural. Meanwhile, the noun in plural form are least used by the author because it is only used as needed based on the needs of the story.

The loss, gain, and skewing of information occurred as a result of the category shift in translating the noun phrases. This case arose due to structural and grammatical discrepancies between the SL and TL. To make an acceptable and natural translation, the translator need to follow the structure and linguistic system of the TL. As a result, the output of the translation can achieve equivalence, acceptability, and naturalness by adding and eliminating some information in the target language.

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