TECHNIQUES OF TRANSLATING THESIS ABSTRACTS OF ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT STUDENTS IN MEDAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

The study deals with the techniques of translation on thesis abstracts in Economics Department. The objectives of study were to identify the types of translation techniques, to find out the most dominant type of translation techniques used, and to describe the reasons of the translation techniques used in translating thesis abstract. The study used descriptive qualitative design. Nazir(1998: 34) states that descriptive qualitative is a method of research that makes the description of the situation of events or occurrences clearer. It is understood that descriptive qualitative is a method of research which provides the description of situation, events or occurrences, so this method is an intention to accumulate the basic data. Qualitative research involves analysis of data such as words and phrases written in abstracts. The data were taken from twenty translated thesis abstracts of Economic Department. The findings show that there were eight techniques of eighteen techniques used in thesis abstracts. The most dominant type of translation techniques was established equivalent due to the translator intention to avoid misunderstanding by using the dictionaries and particular equivalent known by target language. It is recommended that in doing any translation, the most essential thing is to keep the meaning or the message of the source language remains the same when it is being translated into the target language.

Keywords: *Translation, Translation Tehniques, Thesis Abstracts.*

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INTRODUCTION

Kramsch (in Rahyono 2011:21) states that language is the principal means whereby we conduct our social lives. When it is used in contexts of communication, it is bound up with culture in multiple and complex ways. As an example of the application of Kramsch's definition about language; for instance, some international events that are put on air on the television, the Internet or the newspaper require language as the medium to communicate the message or information as well as possible. Therefore, we couldn't deny the existence of the language which occurs in our social lives.

Unfortunately, we are not living in the world which unites humanity in one language. Stephen Juan, Ph.D., an anthropologist of University of Sydney, states (via theregister.co.uk) that more than 6,800 living languages spoken in the world. With that huge number of languages, humanity needs a solution to prevent the misunderstood meaning while communicating; therefore, translation is the only way to solve the language problem. The beneficial effect of translation could be seen many ways; for instances, in various written text, such as books, magazines, newspaper, poem, etc.

This research examined about the technique of translation of Thesis Abstract into English. Thesis abstract, consisting of two languages, Indonesian as source language (SL) and English as target language (TL) was able to indicate a form of translation and demonstrates the use of technique of translation within technical terminology.

Related to analysis, the technical terminology became main object of this analysis, because it showed changes that occur when a term in Indonesian translated into English. Some changes were indicated by a change in the structure and form ofthe word; some words were translated longer than SL, and some word were shortened after translated, some word also showed meaning shift; nevertheless, the changes that occured still referred to the technique of translation which applied by the translator.

Furthermore, this study would open the reader's mind about how important the translation from SL to TL in giving comprehension and understanding about the shifting proccess in Thesis' Abstract.

There are three questions that should be answered in this study, namely: What techniques were applied in the translation of Thesis Abstracts of Economics Department Students in Medan State University?, What was the most dominant technique of translation in Thesis Abstracts of Economics Department Students in Medan State University?, Why that dominant technique was used in Thesis Abstracts of Economics Department Students in Medan State University?

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Definition of Translation

Oxford Learner Pocket Dictionary (2008:473) defines the word "translate" as to put something written or spoken into a different language. Some experts have defined the meaning of translation to give a better explanation to the reader; for instances, Larson (1984:51) states that a text form in the source language is replaced by the text form in the target language. The main purpose of translation is indeed to try communicating from language to another language. Hence, based on those definitions above, it can be concluded that translation is to render one message from the text or speaking of the source language to target language without changing the real meaning.

Technique of Translation

Related to the process of translation, Molina and Albir (2002:509) define technique as a choice made by the translator. Substantiating their definition about technique of translation, Molina and Albir adduce the five basic characteristics of technique of translation.

1) They affect the result of the translation
2) They are classified by comparison with the original
3) They affect micro-units of text
4) They are by nature discursive and contextual
5) They are functional

Molina and Albir (2002:509-511) adduce the techniques of translation into:

1. *Adaptation*. Replacing the element of source language culture with the element of the target language culture.

    For example,   1. *LaskarPelangi* in Indonesia is translated into The *Rainbow Troops* in English.Andrea Hirata (2010:1).

2. *Amplification*. To introduce detail that is not formulated in the ST: information, explicative paraphrasing.

    For example, 1. When translating*Ramadhan* into English, the translator may add some information, such as *Ramadhan, month of fasting.*Molina and Albir (2002:510)

3. *Borrowing*. To take a word or expression straight from another language. The change may be pure (without any change) or made as natural as possible to TL, in order to fit the spelling rules.

    For example, 1. Melodrama in English (Lawrence, 1960:107), it is translated into melodramain Bahasa Indonesia (BI) (Achyar, 2008:242).

4. *Calque*. Literal translation of a foreign word or phrase; it can be lexical or structural.

    For example, 1. _Brigade General_ in English changes into _Brigadir Jenderal_ in Indonesian.

5. *Compensation*. To introduce a source text (ST) element of information or stylistic effect in another place in the target text (TT) because it cannot be reflected in the same place as in the ST.

    For example, 1. To see your picture in English changes into *untuk melihat foto (kepunyaan) anda* in Indonesian.

6. *Description*. To replace a term or expression with a description of its form or/and function.

    For example,   1. To translate the Indonesian *Tarombo* as *the scripture which tell about the family tree in Bataknese people* in English.

7. *Discursive creation*. To establish a temporary equivalence that is totally unpredictable out of context.

For example,   1. The English translation of mouse as *tetikus.*

8. *Established equivalent*. To use a term or expression recognized (by dictionaries or language in use) as an equivalent in the TL.

For example, 1. To translate the English expression *general* as *umum* in Indonesian.

9. *Generalization*. To use a more general or neutral term.

For example, 1. To translate the Indonesian *membuat, melakukan, menjadikan, memproduksi*, as *make* in English.

10. *Linguistic amplification*. To add linguistic elements. This is often used in consecutive interpreting and dubbing. It is in opposition to linguistic compression.

For example,   1. To translate the English expression *Don't be so mean* into Indonesian as *Jangan kasar <u>begitu</u>* instead of using an expression with, *jangan kasar*.

11. *Linguistic compression*. To synthesize linguistic elements in the TT. This is often used in simultaneous interpreting and in sub-titling. It is in opposition to linguistic amplification.

For example,   1. To translate the Indonesian expression *tidak apa-apa* With *it's ok*, in Indonesian, instead of using a phrase with *nevermind*.

12. *Literal translation*. translating an expression word for word in text.

For example, 1. <u>Cut</u>, <u>copy</u>, <u>and paste</u> in English translated into

V   V   conj V

<u>Potong</u>, <u>salin dan tempel</u> in Indonesian.

V   V   conj V

13. *Modulation*. To change the point of view, focus or cognitive category in relation to the ST; it can be lexical or structural.

For example,   1. To translate an expression *She got kicked from her office* in English, instead of *dia ditendang dari kantornya*; but *dia dipecat* in another expression of English *She's fired.*

14. *Particularization*. To use a more precise or concrete term. It is in opposition to generalization.

For example,   1. To translate *canggih* in Indonesian as *sophisticated* in English, instead of *modern*.

15. *Reduction*. To suppress a ST information item in the TT. It is in opposition to amplification.

For example,   1. *Bar Mitvah, the Jewish boy coming of age rituals* is translated into *Bar Mitvah*.

16. *Substitution* (linguistic, paralinguistic). To change linguistic elements for paralinguistic elements (intonation, gestures) or vice versa.

For example,   1. To translate the Japanese gesture of bowing your body down as *giving honor* or *greetings*.

17. *Transposition*. To change a grammatical category without changing the meaning within the same language.

For example, 1. <u>*Development*</u> *of the nation is our priority*

                                N

<u>Developing</u> the nation is our priority

                         Gerund

18. *Variation*. To change linguistic or paralinguistic elements (intonation, gestures) that affect aspects of linguistic variation: changes of textual tone, style, social dialect, geographical dialect, etc.

For example, to introduce or change dialectal indicators for characters when translating for the theater, changes in tone when adapting novels for children, etc.

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The design of this research was descriptive research by using qualitative approach. Descriptive qualitative research is a research method which describes

the condition, events or situations. This study was conducted by using descriptive qualitative method because the intention of this study was to show the techniques applied in thesis abstracts. The data of this study were in form of words and phrases which contain the use of translation techniques on twenty translated thesis abstracts.

The Techniques of Collecting Data

The data would be collected from thesis abstracts of Economics Department by applying documentary technique. In this research, the steps of collecting data were as follows:

1) Searching the thesis of economics department by doing librabry search in Digital Library Unimed and Economic Faculty Library Room.

2) Checking and taking the abstracts that are led to be analyzed.

The Techniques of Analyzing Data

After collecting all the data, the data would be analyzed based on Molina and Albir's theory about translation shift in *Thesis Abtracts of Economics Department in Medan State University* by using descriptive technique based on these following steps:

1. Identifying the type of translation techniques in the form of words and phrases.

2. Classifying and listing the data into the kind of technique of translation.

3. Tabulating the total number of words and phrases of each type of translation techniques.

4. Explaining the reason of why the technique was dominantly used in translating *Thesis Abstracts of Economics Department in Medan State University.*

RESULT

Based on the research process, this research found that there were 104 occurences of Thesis Abstracts related to techniques of translation applied. After the data ware collected, the research was leaded to identify the technique of the translation. Here are some data and techniques applied in thesis abstracts.

a) Adaptation

This technique of translation tried to replace the element of source language culture with the element of the target language culture. It tended to render a meaning into a word or phrase which widely known and referred to the original context that does not exist in TL.

Bursa Efek Indonesia (BEI) → *Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX)*

Bursa Efek Indonesia was changed into Indonesia Stock Exchange as the translator tried to find the suitable meaning into target language therefore, the translator used "exchange" instead of effect in translating "efek" from Bursa Efek Indonesia which actually had same meaning in concept.It adapted the idea that's known in the target language without changing the syntatical form of the source language .

b) Amplification

This technique of translation tried to introduce details that were not formulated in the ST: information, explicative paraphrasing.

Alternatif →*Alternative teaching method*

Alternatif was translated into alternative teaching method by adding some new information which did not even exist on the first source text.when translating the word alternatif into English , the translator had to put more details to render the meaning, thus "teaching method" was added into the target language.

c) Compensation

This technique of translation tried to introduce a source text (ST) element of information or stylistic effect in another place in the target text (TT) because it couldnot be reflected in the same place as in the ST.

Laporan keuangan tahunan →*Annual financial statements*

Laporan keuangan tahunan was stylistically changed into annual finacial statements since the element of information (tahunan) could not be place at the same position into the target language. In this case the other position of word annual could reflect the idea and meaning of tahunan in bahasa into English.

d) Discursive Creation

This technique of translation tried to establish a temporary equivalence that was totally unpredictable out of context.

Dimana 5 siswa (19,23%) *yangmemenuhi KKM*→   Only 5 students (19,23%) *passed*

Phrase   **Verb**

Based on grammatical structure, *yang memenuhi KKM* was a phrase and it turned into *passed* which was averb. When **_"yang memenuhi KKM"_** was translated literally with changing writing system in English it becameOnly 5 students (19, 23%) *passed*. In order to make the meaning more acceptable to the readers of target language, *the translator tried to condense the phrase into verb and make equivalence in TL by shortening information as well.*

e) Established Equivalent

The technique of translation tried to use a term or expression recognized (by dictionaries or language in use) as an equivalent in the TL.

Struktur Modal→Capital Structure

The term expression was recognized (by dictionaries or language in use) as an equivalent in the TL.

f) Literal Translation

This technique of translation tried to translate a word or an expression word for word in text.

Berpengaruh secara simultan→Affect simultaneously

  Verb   **adv**   **verb**   **adv**

Kriteria untuk penerimaan dan penolakan→ The criteria for acceptance

 Noun   **noun**   **conj**   **noun**   **noun**   **noun**

  and   rejection

  Conj noun

When translating the phrase "berpengaruh secara simultan'' into English "affect simultaneously" the position of each word remained the same without interupting the meaning .

g) Modulation

This technique tried to change the point of view, focus or cognitive category in relation to the ST; it can be lexical or structural.

Permasalahan yang dibahas pada penelitian ini→In this research ,the issue discussed

To translate "Permasalahan yang dibahas pada penelitian ini"into English, instead of translating it lierally such as "the issue discussed in this research..."; the translator focused on changing point of view in relation to ST in another expression "*In this research ,the issue discussed*". It usually happened due to the impression that the translator wanted to convey to the readers.

h) Particularization

This technique tried to use a more precise or concrete term. It's in opposition to generalization.

Dilakukan　　　→　　Carried out

Dilakukan was changed into "carried out" in English. The translated word of dilakukan in English was actually the word "done" but the translator tried to generate the precise meaning of "dilakukan" into target language by using word "carried out".

i) Reduction

This technique of translation tried to suppress a ST information item in the TT. It's in opposition to amplification.

Reduksi data, *yang merupakan pemaparan data*→Data reduction

The translation of "Reduksi data, *yang merupakan pemaparan data*" into data reduction only happened when the translator tried to condense the word without interupting the meaning of the word in target language.

j) Borrowing

The research did not find any data related to this technique of translation.

k) Generalization

The research did not find any data related to this technique of translation.

l) Calque

The research did not find any data related to this technique of translation.

m) Description

The research did not find any data related to this technique of translation.

n) Linguistic Amplification

The research did not find any data related to this technique of translation.

o) Linguistic Compression

The research did not find any data related to this technique of translation.

p) Substitution

The research did not find any data related to this technique of translation.

q) Transposition

The research did not find any data related to this technique of translation.

r) Variation

The research did not find any data related to this technique of translation.

CONCLUSIONS

Having collected and analyzing the data, some conclusions were given below:

1. The techniques on the table adduced that there were 104 (one hundred and four) findings, with the classification: 14 (fourteen) Adaptation (13,46 %), 7 (seven) Amplification (6,73 %), 2 (two) Compensation (1,92 %), 3 (three) Discursive Creation (2,88 %), **42 (fourty two) Established Equivalent (40,38 %)**, 10 (ten) Literal translation (9,61 %), 1 (one) Modulation (0,96 %), 17 (seventeen) Particularization (16,34 %), 8 (eight) Reduction (7,72 %), 0 (zero) Borrowing (0%), 0 (zero) Generalization (0%), 0 (zero) Calque (0%), 0 (zero) Description (0%), 0 (zero) Lingustic Amplification (0%), 0 (zero) Linguistic Compression (0%), 0 (zero) Substitution (0%), 0 (zero) transposition (0%), 0 (zero) Variation (0%).

2. The result showed that the most dominant type of translation was **42 (fourty two) Established Equivalent (40, 38 %).**

3. The reason of implementing and using established equivalent technique was the intention of the translators to avoid misunderstanding in target language by using dictionaries or particular equivalent.

SUGGESTIONS

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The writer would like to recommend that in doing any translation, the most essential thing is to keep the meaning or the message of the source language remains the same when it is being translated into the target language.

Specifically, the research can be suggested as follows:

1. All information in the text is very essential; since it's informative text and contains technical terminology which is only a few people comprehend the real meaning within. It is suggested that the translator should be careful in choosing suitable word to the Target Language before implementing the translation process, because it needs full of awareness to establish the right meaning, so the result can prevent the misunderstanding.

2. It is suggested that the translator look for relevant technical terminology dictionary to find the equivalence of foreign term.

3. It is suggested that the researcher can analyze about either its translation methods, translation approaches, or the ideology of its translation with the various scope of research, such as sentence, phrase, language style, etc.

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