A Descriptive Analysis of the Translation of English Auxiliary Verbs into the Indonesian Language

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ABSTRACT

This research is a descriptive analytical research. The object of the research was both the novel “The Naked Face” and its Indonesian translation “Wajah sang Pembunuh”. The purposes of this research are: a) to find out the translations of English auxiliary verbs do/does/did into Indonesian language, and b) to analyze the strategies used in translating English auxiliary verbs do/does/did into Indonesian. In conducting this descriptive research, the researcher employed a qualitative research design with descriptive analysis. There are 30 English auxiliary verbs which were analyzed in this research. It is found that the translator employed four strategies namely emphasis on stylistic appropriateness, pragmatic, naturalizing, and syntactic strategies. Most of the strategies used were the emphasis on stylistic appropriateness.

INTRODUCTION

In this study, the researcher attempted to find out what is the translation of English auxiliary verbs into Indonesian as its target text. Theoretically, there are many kinds of auxiliary verbs in English. The researcher wanted to carry out this area of study because as the English language is different from the Indonesian language, the English auxiliary verbs might be widely apart in meaning in the Indonesian language. This is the reason that the researcher was interested in studying in order to know more deeply concerning the translation of English auxiliary verbs from English into the Indonesian language.

The problems in this research are formulated as follows: a) what is the translation of English auxiliary verbs do/does/did into Indonesian? and b) what are the strategies used in translating English auxiliary verbs do/does/did into Indonesian? Based on the aforementioned problems, the purposes of this study are a) to find out the translations of English auxiliary verbs do/does/did into Indonesian, and b) to analyze the strategies used in translating English auxiliary verbs
do/does/did into Indonesian. This study is only investigating the translation of certain English auxiliary verbs —do/does/did — in the novel The Naked Face by Sidney Sheldon (1970) and its Indonesian translation Wajah sang Pembunuh by Adiwiyanto (2009).

Translation

Munday (2001) defines translation as follow, “Translation is a subsection of such a model with specific reference to interlingua exchanges, to the emission and reception of significant messages between different languages…. According to Newmark (1988) in his book, “Translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text.” On the other hand, Larson (1984) said, “…translation consists of transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor language. This is done by going from the form of the first language to the form of a second language by way of semantic structure. It is meaning which is being transferred and must be held constant.”

Strategies of Translation


1. Syntactic strategies such as shifting the world-class, changing the clause or sentence structure, adding, or changing cohesion;
2. Semantic strategies such as using hyponyms or super-ordinates, altering the level of abstraction, redistributing the information over more or fewer elements;
3. Pragmatic strategies such as naturalizing or exoticizing, altering the level of explicitness, adding or omitting information.
   Note: point 1, 2, and 3 are taken from Gabr (2000) as cited in Williams and Chesterman (2002).
4. Emphasis on stylistic appropriateness. Emphasis is featured such as the choice of oral or written mode; the role of sociolinguistic and situation factors; the selection of appropriate genre and type of discourse; appropriate language varieties or styles; and the choice of formal features and lexical items.

There are some translation theories, such as idiomatic translation by Larson (1984) and semantic translation which is suggested by Newmark (1986). Theories of shifts, which are taken from Catford (1965) as cited in Munday (2001) conveys two major shifts in the translating process, namely level and category shifts; theories of naturalness in translation are involving Nida and Taber (1969), Larson (1984), and Newmark (1986); and theories of pronoun from Alwi (2003).

a. Shift. Catford divided his theory of shift into two categories: (1) shift of level and (2) shift of category. 1) Level shift means that a Source Language (SL) item at one linguistic level has a Target Language (TL) translation equivalent at a different level; 2) Category shift are departures from formal correspondence in translation.

b. Implicit and Explicit Meaning. Summer Institute of Linguistics (1984), mentioned, “It may be necessary to make some information explicit in the translation, even though it was not explicit in the original message”.

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c. Naturalizing. Newmark (1981) mentioned that “Normally, the translator should write within his own idiolect or his conception of the source language text author’s, always provided the text appears to be written naturally”. On the same topic, Larson (1984) stated that “Literal translation of words, idioms, figures of speech etc. results in unclear, unnatural, and sometimes nonsensical translation.


Auxiliary Verbs in English

Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (2000) explains that the auxiliary do/does/did function as auxiliary instead of the main verb. The functions of those auxiliaries are 1) to form negative sentences, 2) to form interrogative sentences, 3) to avoid the repetition of main full verb, 4) to form question tag, 5) to emphasize what we are saying, 5) and they are also used to change the order of the subject and verb when an adverb is moved to front of a sentence.

METHODS

This study employs a qualitative research method in which the data is presented in the form of soft data (words). It is different from the quantitative research method, which is the data is presented through numbers or other statistical means. The discussions of the research design include the selection of: (1) the main data source in the forms of printed materials concerning English auxiliary verbs (do, does) in English, (2) method and technique of collecting the required data, (3) method and techniques of analyzing the obtained data, and (4) method and techniques of presenting the analyzed data.

The data used in this research were taken from a Sidney Sheldon “The Naked Face”. The story is originally written in English by Sidney Sheldon published in 1970. The Indonesian version was translated by Anton Adiwiyoto in 2009, entitled “Wajah sang Pembunuh”. The use of many auxiliary verbs in the English version and the translation of them into Indonesian is an interesting study. Based on the researcher’s preliminary reading and observation of the novel, there are many English auxiliary verbs found in the novel. The data are taken directly from the data source which is in the forms of auxiliary verbs (do, does, did) in English and their corresponding translation equivalents in Indonesian belong to the category of primary and main data required for this study.

In collecting data, the following procedures are taken: 1) Identify the Source Language (SL) data which consists of English sentences (SL) related to their markers then underline them; 2) Identify the Target Language (TL) data which consists of Indonesian translated from English (TL) related to their markers then underline them; 3) The data of the Source language (SL) and the target language (TL) are put together side by side in a list then give the number of page and line to each data.

In analyzing the data, the researcher first read the English version novels while observing the usage of English auxiliary verbs in the sentences used in the novel. Then the researcher looks up
the translation of each of the auxiliary verb (do, does, did) in the Indonesian version of the novel. The following step is typing all the data into two tables. After completing the tables of the data, the researcher looks up the relevant translation strategies used by the translator of that novel. The final step is by matching the translation of each verb (do, does, did) in Indonesian with the relevant translation theories. The data will be presented in tables. The tables will be completed by analysis, translation strategies, and translation theories.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the primary data taken from both the novels, the researcher discussed 10 data concerning the translation of English auxiliary verbs found in the novels.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Text</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Target Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘You know a lot about human nature, don’t you, Doctor?’</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>“Anda tahu benar tentang watak manusia bakun, Dokter?”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: The translation of ‘do+not’  
Source: primary data

The translation of auxiliary word do which added by the not—contracted into don’t—is **bukan**. The position of the don’t is after the main verb which is called question tag in English. The function of question tag in English is to ask the listener to make sure whether his statement is true or false. The translation strategy of the translation above is an emphasis on stylistic appropriateness; emphasized in the choice of oral mode.

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<tr>
<td>‘Do I tell you how to run your business?’ Moddy asked.’</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>“Apakah saya harus mengatakan kepada Anda bagaimana Anda sebaiknya melakukan urusan Anda sendiri?” Tanya Moody.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: The translation of ‘do’  
Source: primary data

In yes/no question or close-ended question, to begin the question is by using an auxiliary verb which asks about an action. The usage of auxiliary verb in a close-ended question must meet the requirement such as the subjects and the tense of the sentence. The auxiliary verb do is used by subject I, you, they and we. In this sentence, the word ‘do’ is translated into **apakah** because the auxiliary verb functions as an auxiliary verb to make a close-ended question. The translation strategy is an emphasis on stylistic appropriateness. It emphasized the choice of oral mode. In this case, the word ‘do’ is used to make a present close-ended question.

Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (2000) explains that the auxiliary do/does/did function as auxiliary instead of the main verb. The functions of those auxiliaries are 1) to form negative sentences, 2) to form interrogative sentences, 3) to avoid the repetition of main full verb, 4) to form question tag, 5) to emphasize what we are saying, 5) and they are also used to change the order of the subject and verb when an adverb is moved to front of a sentence (p. 389–390).
The auxiliary verb ‘do’ in the sentence above to stress the main verb. The auxiliary verb ‘do’ followed directly by the main verb kill which translated by the translator into sampai. It is a syntactic strategy namely shifting the word-class. In this case, the auxiliary verb do changes into a preposition sampai.

The translation of auxiliary word does which added by the not—contracted into doesn’t—is tidak. The position of doesn’t is after the main verb which is called a negative sentence. The word does is used by the third singular person such as she/he/it. The translation strategy above uses emphasis on stylistic appropriateness. It emphasized the choice of oral mode—in a negative statement.

The use of the word did in the sentence functions to stress the action of verb break. It stresses the verb break. The translation above uses pragmatic strategy namely naturalizing. The word did is not translated into tidak because in the sentence the word did functions to stress the verb break. Thus, the translator translates the word did naturally into memang.

The auxiliary word did means to fully stress the verb phrase look like. In this case, the translator explained the verb phrase look like by translating the word did into samasekali. The word did has an intrinsic meaning according to the context of the sentence. Thus the translator translates the word did into samasekali.
The translation above uses pragmatic strategy namely naturalizing. The word don’t is not translated into tidak because in the sentence the word don’t refers to a prohibition. Thus, the translator translates the word don’t naturally into jangan. The translation above uses pragmatic strategy namely naturalizing.

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<tr>
<td>‘I’ll bet he did.’</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>“Saya berani bertaruh memang itu yang akan dilakukannya.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7: The translation of ‘do+not’
Source: primary data

The word did function to mention what happened before the statement. In the sentence above it is not clearly mentioned what happened. But, the translator used the word/auxiliary verb did to state the activities done by someone. Therefore, the word did is translated into memang itu yang akan dilakukannya. The translation above uses pragmatic strategy namely altering the explicitness. The word did explicitly is translated into memang itu yang akan dilakukannya.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘Does God often talk to you?’</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>“Apakah Tuhan sering berbicara kepada Anda?”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 8: The translation of ‘did’
Source: primary data

To begin a close-ended question, we need auxiliary verbs. In yes/no question or close-ended question, we use an auxiliary verb that asks about an action. The usage of auxiliary verb in a close-ended question must meet the requirement such as the subjects and the tense of the sentence. The auxiliary verb does is used by the third-singular pronoun namely she, he, and it. In this sentence, the word does is translated into apakah because the auxiliary verb functions as an auxiliary verb to make a close-ended question. The translation strategy is an emphasis on stylistic appropriateness. It emphasized the choice of oral mode. In this case, the word does is used to make a present close-ended question for the subject of God.

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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘Did your father and mother have a good relationship?’</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>“Apakah hubungan antara ayah dan Ibu Anda baik?”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 10: The translation of ‘did’
Source: primary data

In yes-no question or close-ended question, we use an auxiliary verb that asks about an action. To begin a close-ended question, we need auxiliary verbs. The usage of auxiliary verb in a close-ended question must meet the requirement such as the subjects and the tense of the sentence. The auxiliary verb did is used by all subjects. In this sentence, the word did is translated into apakah because the auxiliary verb functions to make a simple past close-ended question. The translation strategy used by the translator is an emphasis on stylistic appropriateness. It emphasized the
choice of oral mode. In this case, the word does is used to make a present close-ended question for the subject they.

CONCLUSION

The translation strategies used in translating English auxiliary verbs (do, does, did) in the Indonesian version, English into Indonesian, the translator used four strategies namely emphasis on stylistic appropriateness, pragmatic, naturalizing, and syntactic strategies. Most of the strategies used by the translator are an emphasis on stylistic appropriateness. The word don’t/doesn’t/didn’t is not translated into tidak because in the function of these auxiliary verbs in sentences is to forbid someone to do something. Thus, the auxiliary verbs are translated in accordance with their function in a sentence. The auxiliary verbs are translated differently in their meanings. The translations also change the word class of source text in the target text. Their translations are memang, sama sekali, memang itu yang dilakukannya, and sampai.

This study has revealed that there are many strategies for translating English verbs into Indonesian. Thus, the present researcher hopes the next researchers can use the result of the current study to enrich their knowledge in translating other English auxiliary verbs such as has, have, had, and others. Moreover, the result of this study may be used as an input data by any student of translation and translator generally as the difficulties during the process of translation especially in translating English auxiliary verbs into Indonesian as a target language text.

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REFERENCES