

AN ANNOTATED TRANSLATION FROM NOVEL "FLIPPED" BY WENDELIN VAN DRAANEN

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Abstract

The existence of translation has broadened people's knowledge. People can acquire information about other countries' cultures easily, especially by reading novels. However, in the translation process, particularly in literary translation, translators may encounter some problems since translator must maintain the beauty of the source text in the target text. This research aims to find out what problems are encountered and how the problems are solved. In the process of translation of this novel, I encountered two main types of problems, namely problem in understanding and problem in transfer, but apparently, I also encountered problems both in understanding and transfer. The problems that I found were in the form of word, phrase, and clause. There were some ways that I took to solve the problems, such as looking up an online dictionary, searching on websites, and asking my advisors. To get a better understanding of the terms that I wanted to translate, I entered a keyword on Google and browse the image or watched the film which was adapted from this novel.

Keywords: Annotated translation, translation strategies

INTRODUCTION

Novel is one of the literary works which is most liked nowadays. Ratna (as cited in Yuniarti, 2013) stated that the novel is considered as the most dominant in displaying social elements than poetry and play. Ratna mentioned that novel displays aspects such as story elements and social problems completely. Novel has the most extensive readers. Language which is used in novels is everyday language, language which is commonly used in society.

The other evidence which shown that novel has many readers can be proven by the existence of novels sold in bookstores. Novel has various genres. Examples of genres include science fiction, fantasy, thrillers, new adult, and young adult (teen literature).

In Indonesian bookstores, there are not only Indonesian novels sold but also foreign novels. Novels develop rapidly throughout the world so that novels can be enjoyed not only in the country where they were published. Moreover, there are many novels which have been translated into different languages so that the foreign readers can understand the message of the novels easily. In Indonesia,

there are many popular novels, both domestic or from abroad.

Flipped is a young adult (teen-lit) novel which has a setting from 1994 to 2000. It was written by Wendelin Van Draanen in 2001. Wendelin Van Draanen was born in Chicago, January 6, 1965. Wendelin Van Draanen has written over thirty novels for young readers and teens. *Flipped* won South Carolina Children's book award in 2003. Because of its interesting story, this novel has been adapted into a film with the same title and was released in 2010. The novel differs from another novel since the story is told in two points of view of the main characters.

In translation activity, translators might encounter problems, especially in translating literary work like a novel. Translating literary works differs from translating common documents. The aspect of beauty and the messages of literary works must be maintained. This research is aimed to discover the problems encountered during the translation process by taking notes (annotating) of words, phrases, or sentences which are considered as problems by the researcher. Therefore, the writer decided to

research with the title "An Annotated Translation from Novel 'Flipped' by Wendelin Van Draanen" aimed to translate the novel into Bahasa Indonesia to identify the problems encountered during translating the novel. The problems of this research are as follows (a) what translation problems are encountered? And (b) how can these problems be solved?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Each text has its difficulties in the process of translating. The problems which might be encountered in translation according to Savory (1968) are mentioned below:

- a. Seeking the equivalent word in target language.
- b. Choosing the correct word
- c. Cultural difference between source text and target text.
- d. Idiomatic matters

In addition, Bassnett (2002) stated that a translator took much effort to produce readable text and to keep it smooth. However, there is one thing that a translator must keep in literary translation, that is maintaining the beauty of the text. Therefore, it can be concluded that literary translation is an activity of rewriting messages from one language into another language by maintaining the beauty of the text.

Retnomurti (2016) conducted an annotated translation of a novel with the title *Nights in Rodhante* which contains 224 pages with 19 chapters. In the process of translating the novel, she encountered problems in lexical, grammatical, communication, and cultural problems. Because she translated a literary work, she did not translate the source language into the target language literally. She used strategies in translation, which are commonly used in literary work translation.

RESEARCH METHOD

The design of this research is Annotated Translation by applying a qualitative research approach. Annotated translation is a type of translation which, in its process, the researcher takes notes on the problems encountered.

To differentiate sentences in the novel which were translated with annotation, I developed codes so that it would ease the readers and me to find the sentences which contain problem. Each code which was developed comprised four characters.

The object of this research was a teen lit novel with the title *Flipped* by Wendelin Van Draanen, which was published in 2001 and was adapted into a movie with the same title in 2010. The novel consists of 212 pages and 14 chapters with 60.718 words, but only 16.809 words were annotated translated. The chapters which were annotated translated were chapter 1 until chapter 5. The five chapters were chosen as they comprise various idiomatic expressions which can represent the whole chapters of the story.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

Data of this research was taken from a novel with the title "Flipped" by Wendelin Van Draanen from chapter one until chapter five. All sentences in those five chapters were translated from English into Bahasa Indonesia. There were 1.115 sentences from source text which had been annotated translated into target text. There are two main problems defined for this annotated translation research, namely problem in understanding and problem in transfer.

I encountered seventy five difficulties or problems during the translation process. It covered problems in understanding with fourteen items and transfer with sixty-one items. In addition, I also found a problem which contained understanding and transfer, which was the combination of major problems in this research. I faced twenty-three difficulties in understanding and transfer immediately. Each problem was encountered as word, phrase, and clause.

First, problems were encountered in understanding. It comprised difficulties in words were four items, phrases were eight items, and clauses were two items. The data is presented in the Table 1 below.

Table 1. Problems Encountered in Understanding

Type of Problems (Understanding)	Number of Annotated Items	Percentage
Word	4	28.57%
Phrase	8	57.14%
Clause	2	14.29%
Total	14	100%

Second, problems were encountered in transfer. It comprised difficulties in words were nineteen items, phrases were fourteen items, and clauses were twenty-eight items. The data are presented in the table below.

Table 2. Problems Encountered in Transfer

Type of Problems (Transfer)	Number of Annotated Items	Percentage
Word	19	31.148%
Phrase	14	22.95%
Clause	28	45.90%
Total	61	100%

Based on the above data, 81.33% of the problems were identified in the transfer process, compared to 18.67% related to understanding.

Table 3. The Sum of Problems in Understanding and Transfer

Type of Problems	Number of Annotated Items	Percentage
Understanding	14	18.67%
Transfer	61	81,33%
Total	75	100%

Third, problems were encountered in understanding and transfer. It comprised difficulties in words were four items, phrases were seventeen items, and in clauses were two items. The data is presented in the Table 4 below.

Table 4. Problems Encountered in Understanding and Transfer

Type of Problems (Understanding and Transfer)	Number of Annotated Items	Percentage
Word	4	17.39%
Phrase	17	73.91%
Clause	2	8.69%
Total	23	100%

Since there were only two main problems defined, I summed up those three problems. The detailed information is presented in the tables below.

Table 5. The Sum of Understanding Problems

Type of Problems (Understanding)	Number of Annotated Items	Percentage
Word	8	30.57%
Phrase	25	67.56%
Clause	4	1.87%
Total	37	100%

Table 6. The Sum of Transfer Problems

Type of Problems (Transfer)	Number of Annotated Items	Percentage
Word	23	27.38%
Phrase	31	36.90%
Clause	30	35.72%
Total	84	100%

Table 7. The Sum of Problems Encountered

Type of Problems	Number of Annotated Items	Percentage
Understanding	37	30.57%
Transfer	84	69.43%
Total	121	100%

Problems which were encountered during translation activity were distinguished into two main problems, they were understanding and transfer.

Problems of understanding

Problems encountered which included in understanding were word, phrase, and clause.

Example – understanding words

CODE	SOURCE TEXT	TARGET TEXT
I-38-U-W	I smiled and said, "Sure thing!" then jumped off the liftgate and headed for my new front door.	Aku tersenyum dan berkata, "Tentu saja!" lalu melompat keluar dari pintu belakang van dan menuju pintu depan rumah baruku.

The word *liftgate* in Bahasa Indonesia means *pintu lift*. However, I thought the meaning was not suitable for the context. I searched on the internet using the word as the keyword. After that, I went to the image explorer. From the picture shown, I understood that liftgate is a backdoor of vehicles like kinds of cars or trucks. Therefore, I translated liftgate into *pintu belakang van* in Bahasa Indonesia.



Figure 1. Lifgate

Example - understanding phrases

CODE	SOURCE TEXT	TARGET TEXT
V-958-U-P	First she had to get all mushy with that mangy mutt of hers.	Pertama-tama dia harus bermesraan dengan anjingnya terlebih dahulu.

To get the meaning of the phrase, I used Google and entered the highlighted phrase as the keyword. I found a website, *hinative.com*, and it defined the idiom as expression to express someone's affection. Since the expression could not be translated literally, the expression could be changed into expression which has closer meaning (Bassnett, 2002). Therefore, I translated get all mushy into *bermesraan*.

Example - understanding clause

CODE	SOURCE TEXT	TARGET TEXT
I-137-U-C	It started out slow – one of those Nah-that's-not-right ideas you get and forget.	Dimulai mencoba beberapa ide dengan perlahan. Tidak, ternyata itu bukan ide yang bagus yang kau dapat, lalu lupakan.

To get the meaning of the clause, first I read the whole sentence. After I read the sentence, I realized that there was a word that I did not know the meaning yet, the word was Nah. Then I searched the meaning of the word "Nah". I searched on Google using the word as the keyword. According to an online dictionary, *dictionary.cambridge.org*, "Nah" is the slang of the word no. After that, I tried to think the translation based on the context. Then I consulted to my advisor to make sure that I translated correctly.

Transfer problems

Problems encountered which included in understanding were word, phrase, and clause.

Example - Transferring words

CODE	SOURCE TEXT	TARGET TEXT
II-204-T-W	The first day I met Bryce Loski, I flipped.	Pertama kali aku bertemu Bryce Loski, Aku terpukau.

The word flipped in this context cannot be translated literally. I searched on Google the

other definition of the word flipped. Based on dictionary.com, the word flipped is defined as a reaction towards something in an enthusiastic, amazed, and happy way. Moreover, I also watched the film which was adapted from the novel. The translator translated the word flipped into *terkesima* in Bahasa Indonesia. After I consulted with my supervisor, it would be better to translate the slang word into *terpukau*.

Example - Transferring phrases

CODE	SOURCE TEXT	TARGET TEXT
I-33-T-P	I knew right off that this was a ditch play.	Aku langsung mengerti kalau ini adalah ditch play ¹ .

Based on bilingual dictionary, "ditch" in Bahasa Indonesia means *menyingkirkan*. Since I still could not get the meaning, then I searched on Google using the phrase as the keyword. I found a website namely englishforums.com. The website explained ditch play as ending relationship in an impolite way. In Bahasa Indonesia, it can be called as *mengusir*. Moreover, it also took example from the same novel I translated. Based on the context above, it can be concluded that Bryce's father wanted to get rid of Juli. Then he uses a strategy (play) to make her go. From the explanation above, I tried to explain what was meant by ditch play. I wrote the explanation in the form of footnote. Footnoting is one way to explain from visibility change pragmatic translation strategy as suggested by Chesterman (1997).

Example - Transferring clauses

CODE	SOURCE TEXT	TARGET TEXT
I-4-T-C	And since we're now about done with the eighth grade, that, my friend, makes more than half	Karena kami akan naik ke kelas sembilan, maka genap sudah setengah dekade aku menghindarinya secara sengaja

¹ Taktik atau strategi yang digunakan seseorang untuk mengusir orang lain yang kehadirannya tidak diharapkan.

	a decade of strategic avoidance and social discomfort.	dan terstruktur dan selama itu aku merasa sangat tidak nyaman.
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The clause "And since we're now about done with the eighth grade," if it is translated literally, the translation becomes "Karena kami akan selesai dari kelas delapan,". The translation is still understood Indonesian. However, it does not sound natural. To make it better, I applied translation strategy from Chesterman (1997) namely paraphrase. Paraphrase is categorized in semantic strategy which functions to modify the original word meaning.

Discussion

Based on the problems encountered and the way to solve them, the strategies which were suitable to translate this novel were Chesterman's translation strategies and strategy to translate idiomatic terms which was derived from Duff (as cited in Suratni, 2013) and Belloc (as cited in Bassnett, 2002). The principle of literary translation has to be applied in translating prose or novel. In addition, since the target text is in Bahasa Indonesia, it will be much better if translator use KBBI (Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia), which is also available in the form of application for mobile phone to check the standard form of language in Indonesian.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusion

From those problems I encountered during conducting the research, there are two main problems that I found, they were problems in understanding and problems in transfer covered in the form of word, phrase, and clause. To overcome the problems, I did apply some strategies, for instance, using dictionary, both bilingual dictionary or online dictionary. In this research, online dictionaries were very useful because they provide information about idiomatic terms which sometimes are not available in offline dictionaries. I did not only use internet to find the meaning of terms, but also analysed the meanings

through searching some websites and looking for related pictures which provided information about the meaning of words that I was looking for.

Translation strategy and translation theories which was derived from experts were also applied, especially guidelines to translate literary work, in this case prose or novel. In addition, I also gained information by asking my friends and my advisors when dictionaries and internet did not help.

Suggestion

From the research that I have been conducted, the translation strategies from Chesterman (1997), Bassnett (2002), Belloc (as cited in Bassnett 2002), and Duff (as cited in Suratni, 2013) are the most useful theories used to translate this teen lit novel. However, in this modern era, translators must be able to use technology to get clearer image of a particular word or term. Moreover, in translating a prose or novel which are categorized into teen lit genre, searching information on the internet really helps if looking up information in dictionary is not enough.

The next research practitioners must be able to differentiate between literary translation and other types of translation. In literary translation, translators must maintain the beauty of the original text in target text. Translator must use references as many as possible so that the translation result will be good and understandable.

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