

ANALYSIS OF THE TRANSLATION OF PROCESSES IN THE EXPOSITORY TEXTS OF *ASK BARBARA: THE 100 MOST ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT LOVE, SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS*

A Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) Approach

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Abstract

This research is aimed to analyze the translation of Processes in the Expository Texts of *Ask Barbara: The 100 Most-Asked Questions about Love, Sex and Relationships*. Translation is expressing ideas in one language into another. In Systemic Functional Linguistics perspective, representation of ideas into language is part of the Ideational Meaning which focuses on the Process (verbal phrase) as the core of the clause. The SFL approach to translation studies should provide the technical terms as the linguistic evidence to account for the equivalence in the syntactical elements of the clause. The research question is: what are the Processes in the Expository Texts in *Ask Barbara: The 100 Most-Asked Questions about Love, Sex and Relationships*? The objective of this research is to find out the types of Process in the Source language (English) and those in the Target language (Indonesian). This is a descriptive qualitative study of an embedded case study type. The data source of this study is the popular book *Ask Barbara: The 100 Most-Asked Questions about Love, Sex and Relationships*. The data are the Processes in the texts. The purposive sampling technique was used to obtain the data through the content analysis and Focus Group Discussion. The technique of analyzing the data includes domain analysis, taxonomy analysis, componential analysis, and the cultural theme or values. The data analysis reveals that from 297 clauses in the target language, there are 18.8% Processes in the Thesis, 75.4% Processes in the Argument, and 11.8% Processes in the Reiteration. In each of the elements of the generic structure of the expository texts, there are 22 Relational Attributive (39.3%), 19 Material (33.9%), 11 Mental (19.6%), 2 Existential (3.5%), 1 Relational Identifying (1.8%) and 1 Verbal (1.8%) processes. The Argument part of the texts is made up of 85 Material (37.9%), 75 Relational Attributive (33.5%), 39 Mental (17.4%), 16 Verbal (7.1%), 4 Behavioral (1.8%), 3 Existential (1.3%) and 2 Relational Identifying (0.9%) processes. In the Reiteration part of the text, there are 17 Material (48.5%), 7 Mental (20.0%), 5 Relational Attributive (14.2%), 2 Relational Identifying (5.7%), 2 Behavioral (5.7%), 1 Existential (2.8%) and 1 Verbal (2.8%) processes. In general, the expository texts in this book use 121 Material processes (40.7%), 102 Relational Attributive (34.3%), 57 Mental (19.2%), 6 Existential (2%), 6 Behavioral (2%) and 5 Relational Identifying (1.7%) processes. There are not many changes or shifts in the types of Process in the translation of this book. However, there are some shifts which include: 1 Material process becomes Mental process; 7 Relational:Attributive become Material processes; 3 Material processes become Relational:Attributive; 2 Material become Verbal processes; 2 Material become Existential processes; 1 Mental becomes Relational:Attributive process; 1 Relational:Attributive becomes Behavioral process and 1 Relational:Attributive becomes Mental process. Besides, there are also deletions of process in the translation because the processes are deleted or left untranslated.

Keywords: process types; expository text, staging

Introduction

Translation is an effort to reconstruct the meaning of a text in its contexts through choices (Mathiessen 2010, 2014). The choices are taken by the translator when he is both interpreting the source language (SL)

text and reproducing or reconstructing the into the target language (TL). The book “*Ask Barbara. The 100 Most-Asked Questions about Love, Sex, and Relationship*” (1997) written by Barbara De Angelis and its translation “*Tanyakan Barbara. 100*

Pertanyaan yang Paling Sering Ditanyakan Tentang Cinta, Hubungan, dan Seks” (2000) by Sudarmaji is selected and studied. This is a popular book which is written by a famous writer and the world first-rank writer according to New York Times daily newspaper and which has got positive reviews from its readers (www.goodreads.com). The book contains texts which belong to the exposition genre (text type). According to Christie and Derewianka (2008) dan Martin dan Rose (2008) in Emilia and Hamied (2015:161), the exposition text has specific characteristics “that requires the writer to adopt a position and argue for it, endeavoring to persuade the reader to accept the proposition”. Also, the text has specific generic elements, i.e. social function, schematic structure and linguistic features.

Nida and Taber (in Nord 2001, p. 7) suggest about the definition of translation that “translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalence of the source-language message”. The definition contains the words “reproducing” and “closest natural equivalence” which imply that the act of translation means reproducing new texts which require a natural, closest equivalence as the original text.

Suryawinata (in Nababan 2003, p. 25) describes the translation process in several stages. The first stage is analyzing the SL text. This step is started by reading and understanding the content of the text. The understanding includes two aspects, i.e. the linguistic and extralinguistic ones. The linguistic aspects include the ranks of sentence, clause, phrase, and word, while the extralinguistic aspects relate to the socio-cultural factors of the SL text. The second stage is for the translator to understand the meaning and message contained in the SL text before he transfers the meaning and message into the meaning and message in the TL text. The last stage of the translation process is restructuring, i.e. a process of transfer into the stylistic form suitable with

the TL readers and listeners (Kridalaksana in Nababan 2003, p. 28).

Molina and Albir (2002) define the translation technique as “procedure to analyze and classify how translation equivalence works”. This definition refers to the steps taken the translator in the translation process, i.e. “the actual steps taken by the translators in each textual micro unit”. The translation technique means the ways by which the SL text is reproduced in the TL text on the micro-levels of word, phrase, clause or sentence. There are 18 techniques of translation including adaptation, amplification, borrowing, *Calque*, compensation, description, discursive creation, established equivalence, generalization, linguistic amplification, linguistic compression, literal translation, modulation, particularization, reduction, substitution (linguistic, paralinguistic), transposition, and variation.

Mona Baker, Roger T. Bell, Basil Hatim and Katharina Reiss have associated the development in the linguistic theories and the development in the translation theories (Bassnett 2004). Systemic functional linguistics (SFL) views a language as a meaning-making resource used to communicate each other in the situational and social contexts. SFL is concerned with the lexico-grammar aspects, which is meaning in the level of text or discourse. Therefore, this particular linguistic theory is relevant in the translation study as the translator cannot understand and reproduce the text coherently without understanding the meaning on the level of text and discourse. Also, it is important to use this linguistic approach because this particular linguistic theory can provide the technical terms as the linguistic evidence in handling the linguistic elements on the clause level.

Halliday (1994, p. 106) believes that the world phenomena or experiences consist of “happenings”, i.e. actions, thoughts, feelings and conditions. These are discussed under the grammar of Transitivity which

covers the experiential domains into six types of Process: Material, Mental, Relational, Behavioral, Verbal and Existential. Each Process has its own characteristics although in some instances the border between one and another is sometimes subtle (Matthiessen 2004). This kind of grammar also means the way how meaning is expressed in a clause to represent the speaker's mental reality (Simpson 1993).

The expository texts have specific rhetoric or textual stages different from other types of text so that these texts requires different linguistic resources. Typically, the expository text functions to express the speaker's opinion or to persuade the addressee's mind. Some typical Processes are found in the text type such as Mental, Material and Relational Processes (Gerot and Wignell 1995). The Mental processes function to express the internal phenomena within the speaker such as emotions (feeling), thoughts or ideas (thinking) or perceptions (perceiving). Material processes function to encode how the social phenomena occur (happening) or how someone conducts an action (doing). Relational processes are used to express the situation or condition of the speaker or his environment.

The researcher therefore had the research question of what kinds of process are found in the texts of the book "Ask Barbara: The 100 Most-Asked Questions about Love, Sex, and Relationships"?

Methodology

This is a translation research which is product-oriented using the qualitative approach. The research location is the popular book "Ask Barbara: The 100 Most-Asked Questions about Love, Sex, and Relationships" and its translation in Indonesian language. There are two kinds of data resource, i.e. the linguistic and translation sources. The linguistic data source is the texts in the original book while the translation data source is both the original and translated versions of the book.

In this qualitative research, there two kinds of data, i.e. the primary and secondary ones. There are two kinds of primary data, i.e. the linguistic and translation data. The linguistic data are taken from the clauses in the target language whereas the translation data are the translation techniques taken by comparing the original and translated versions of the book. The secondary data include the findings in the previous related researches on the transitivity and translation and discussion on the popular book "Ask Barbara: The 100 Most-Asked Questions about Love, Sex, and Relationships".

The purposive sampling or criterion-based sampling technique is used to determine the data and data source in this research, which implies that the selection of data and its source is based on the research objective. However, there specific criteria of data selection, as follows:

- Data are obtained from each of the eight topics in the book;
- From each topic, a question is taken which contains an expository text;
- All clauses in the expository text are analyzed using the Transitivity table to reveal the Process types in each clause;
- All steps in section a, b, and c are done to both the original (English) and translated (Indonesian) books.

The data in this research are clauses taken as the sample from the 8 topic containing 100 questions and the responses from the consultant (Barbara, the writer). The Data analysis is done in four stages, i.e. the domain analysis to learn the transitivity patterns of the clauses, taxonomy analysis, componential analysis and cultural theme analysis.

Findings and Discussion

1. Staging of the text

There are 100 questions in this book which are grouped into 8 chapters based on the theme or topic of discussion. Therefore, there are 8 texts obtained to represent the expository text, either analytical exposition or hortatory exposition. The text

identification is done based on the elements of the genre, i.e. the social function, rhetoric or generic structure and linguistic or lexicogrammatical features typical of the text type.

The next step is the identification of each generic element. First, it is confirmed that the objective of the text is to serve the function to express ideas, attitudes or position toward an issue of the consultant. Second, parts of the texts represent the generic structure of the text, i.e. the Thesis, Arguments, and Reiteration or Recommendation. In general, the first parts or paragraphs of the text form the thesis of the text. The next parts are paragraphs which express the examples, the arguments or reasoning given by the writer as to form the arguments of the text. The next step is the identification of the linguistic features of the text. Each elements of the generic structure of the text (Thesis, Arguments, and Reiteration/Recommendation) is developed by the typical lexicogrammatical features to serve the function of the text in making meaning.

The thesis is made up from a clause or clauses having Relational processes (being verbs) to express the attitude or position toward an issue; the Mental process (thinking or sensing verbs) also make up clauses to show thoughts or ideas or feelings; the Material processes (doing verbs) are also many in number to show the actions involved or to take in the issue discussed.

The Argument part of the text also includes the Material processes, Mental processes, Verbal processes (saying verbs) and Relational Process.

The closing part of the expository text which is supposed to serve the Reiteration or Recommendation is realized by the Relational processes, Mental processes, or Mental processes.

2. Types of the process

The linguistic data of the Process types are obtained from eight expository texts taken from the eight chapters in the

book *Ask Barbara: The 100 Most-Asked Questions about Love, Sex and Relationships*. Certain process types are supposed to represent the expository text type. Also, certain processes are found in different staging of the text. Therefore, it is important to determine the Process type in each staging of the text.

Here are the descriptions of the Process types in each stage of the expository text found out in this research.

Table 1. The Process types in each staging of the Text

Staging	Process Types	Total	(%)
Thesis	Relational Attributive	22	39.3
	Material	19	33.9
	Mental	11	19.6
	Existential	2	3.5
	Relational Identifying	1	1.8
	Verbal	1	1.8
Arguments	Material	85	37.9
	Relational Attributive	75	33.5
	Mental	39	17.4
	Verbal	16	7.1
	Behavioral	4	1.8
	Existential	3	1.3
	Relational Identifying	2	0.9
Reiteration	Material	17	48.5
	Mental	7	20.0
	Relational Attributive	5	14.2
	Relational Identifying	2	5.7
	Behavioral	2	5.7
	Existential	1	2.8
	Verbal	1	2.8

In the Thesis part of all the texts analyzed, six types of Process are found with the following frequency: Relational Attributive, Material, Mental, Existential, Relational Identifying and Verbal. From the total of 55 Processes, the Relational Attributive type is mostly found, 22 (39.3%); followed by the Material type, 19 (33.9%); Mental type, 11 (19.6%); some Existential type, 2 (3.5%); and Relational Identifying and Verbal types, each 1 (1.8%).

In all parts of Argument of the texts, 224 Processes are found, in which 85 (37.95%) are Material processes, 75 (33.5%) are Relational Attributive types, 39 (17.4%) are Mental processes, 16 (7.1%) are Verbal

process types, 4 (1.8%) are Behavioral Process types, 3 (1.3%) are Existential and 2 (0.9%) are Relational Identifying processes. In this part of the text, the Material clauses with Material processes in there are mostly used since most of the arguments presented are in the form of illustration of physical actions given by the speaker. From the 35 Processes found out in the Reiteration or Recommendation part of the text altogether, 48.5% (17) are Material processes, 20% (7) are Mental processes, 14.2% (5) are Relational Attributive types, 5.7% are Relational Identifying processes, 5.7% (2) are Behavioral types, and 2.8% (1) each are Existential and Verbal processes.

Table 2 shows the Process types found in the expository texts in this research.

Table 2. The Process types found in the expository texts

Process Types	Total	(%)
Material	121	40.7
Relational Attributive	102	34.3
Mental	57	19.2
Existential	6	2
Behavioral	6	2
Relational Identifying	5	1.7
Total	315	

For all the text analyzed, as the above table shows, from all 315 Processes identified, the Material processes are mostly identified in 40.7% (121), the Relational Attributive Processes in 34.3% (102), Mental processes in 19.2% (57), Existential types in 2% (6), Behavioral processes in 2% (6), and 1.7% (5) are Relational Identifying process types.

Conclusion

From the discussion on the research findings above, it can be concluded that the texts used as the research data are truly the expository texts since all the generic elements of the texts have been confirmed. The Process types mostly found in the Thesis parts are Relational, Mental and Material types. In the Argument parts, the types of Process are Material, Relational Attributive and Mental processes. In the Reiteration or

Recommendation part of the texts, the Material, Mental and Relational Attributive process types are mostly identified. The use of certain translation techniques such as Modulation and Transposition has caused some shifts or changes in the process type in the translated version of the text. Therefore, a further research on the various techniques of translation and their impact on the quality of translation should be conducted.

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