

LEXICAL ANALYSIS OF SEMANTIC ERRORS FOUND IN THE TRANSLATION OF JOKO WIDODO'S INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

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Abstract

This research focuses on the semantic errors in lexis occurred in the translation by Instagram Machine Translation. This research aims at identifying the types of semantic error in lexis made by Instagram Machine Translation found in the Joko Widodo's Instagram account. This research also analyses semantic errors in lexis to show how Instagram machine translation works and the potential errors that it may cause. This study utilized observation method in collecting the data. Descriptive qualitative method was applied in analyzing the semantic errors in lexis by elaborating each type of them. In addition, translation procedures were also examined to find out clear explanation on what procedures contribute to the errors. The data were taken from the posts in Joko Widodo's Instagram account and were analyzed by the semantic errors in lexis based on theory by James (1998). The study concluded that the confusion of sense relations in choosing a wrong synonym is mostly found in the translation of Instagram machine translation.

Keywords: lexical, semantic errors, Instagram machine translation

Introduction

Language is a simply human and non-instinctive strategy for conveying thoughts, feelings, and desires through an arrangement of voluntary delivered images [1]. In linguistics, there is a study of meaning and is known as semantics. Semantics becomes important in order to understand the meaning especially in English. Moreover in Indonesia, English plays a significant role and it is used in many sectors such as education, politic, culture, daily life, etc. As Indonesians, sometimes we misunderstand the meaning of English sentences and make an ambiguity. This phenomenon is affected by how we translated the meaning from source language to the other language.

In translation, the type of the Source Language (SL) is supplanted by the type of the receptor (target) language as the essential difference in structure [2]. Replacing form of the receptor language to the basic language cannot avoid the problems and interference of different aspects. The issue may fluctuate in scope relying upon the way of life and semantic

hole between the two dialects concerned as stated by Nida [3]. It is including the advancement of technology that influences translation process and people start to use machine translation to complete a translation process. In accelerating the process of knowing the meaning of texts in social media, social media provided a feature for translating texts, such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.

Instagram becomes a popular social media in the world. Even our president Joko Widodo is also active in Instagram to share his routines. His posts have been seen by people in other countries. They will use Instagram Machine Translation to understand the caption of our president. The accuracy of the translation results is still debatable and questionable because of the wrong use of lexis, wrong grammar and even wrong context. In this manner, machine translation can not satisfy the standards of good translation and it will impact the result and the meaning of target language.

This study focused on semantic errors in lexis that divided into confusion of sense

relations and collocational error found in the Joko Widodo's Instagram account, we could analyze the semantic errors in lexis in the translation process of Joko Widodo's Instagram account.

In order to support the analysis, some previous studies are used as references. Susanti (2018) characterized, recognized and portrayed the types of errors created by Instagram machine translation utilizing the hypothesis and realized how machine translation dispatched by Instagram addressed the original language [4]. As the outcome, she discovered that Instagram machine translation created such countless errors. The essayist discovered three sorts of errors in lexical class from ten chosen subtitles of "Indo_Psikologi".

To compare the previous study and this research, there are differences and similarities. The differences between the previous study and this research are the problems discussed by the writer, the theory that used to analyze the data and also the data source that used to support the study. The similarity between the previous study and this study is the used of Instagram Machine Translation as the tool of translation process.

The other study is named "Semantic Errors in the Translation into English about Actions to Defend Islam in 2016" by Pudjianti and Fadilah (2017). They discover semantic errors of referential, linguistic and logical importance of translation inscriptions and deciding if individuals have benefits to utilize IMT for understanding the subtitles in English [5]. The investigation result showed that three sorts of semantic mistakes, specifically linguistic, referential, relevant importance were altogether there. The differences between the previous study and this study are the data source that used to support the study and the theory used in the study. The similarities is the tool of translation process used Instagram Machine Translation. The last research article, Fitria (2018) recognize the kinds of translation procedures and to discover the most predominant types of the

translation procedure utilized in the translation of journal abstracts *Edunomika* STIE AAS Surakarta in Vol 2, No 01 (2018). The investigation shows that the most prevailing types of translation procedure is Transposition/Shift. In compare the previous studies, this research is different in terms of the problem discussed, the data source used, and the theory used to analyze the data [6]. To compare the previous study and this study, there are difference and similarity between both studies. The differences between the previous study and this research are the problem of the study brought by both study and the theory that used in both study. Meanwhile, the similarity is the translation procedure used in both study by Molina and Albir (2002).

This research used the theory of semantic error in lexis by James (1998).). As per James (1998) there are two fundamental sorts of semantics errors in lexis, namely confusion of sense relations and collocational errors. In investigating confusion of sense relation, there are were types of error, namely using a more general term, using too specific a term (hyponym for superonym), using the less apt of two-co-hyponyms, and using the wrong one from a set of near-synonyms. Nonetheless, the collocational errors have three levels of collocation. To begin with, it is semantically decided word determination. Next, there are blends with measurably weighted inclinations. At last, there are self-assertive blends [7].

Methodology

The data of this study were taken from Joko Widodo's Instagram account as the President of Indonesia. Joko Widodo's Instagram account [8] was chosen because as the President, many people see what he was posted in his Instagram and we could find semantic errors in lexis when we used Instagram Machine Translation to translate the caption of Joko Widodo's post. Currently there were 38,8 million users followed his Instagram account. He posted the latest issues and events about

Indonesian country. It made it interesting for his followers to know what he thought from his Instagram caption. In this study, the data was taken from the post on June until September 2019, so not all data in his Instagram's account used to support the discussion. The chosen data used as samples to represent the whole data.

Data collection is a process of how the data were collected from the data source. The data were collected through observation method. Observation means the action of the research is reading the data source. The data was taken by reading caption from Joko Widodo's Instagram account and its translation carefully and repeatedly to find the semantic errors in lexis, taking a note of the sentences which containing semantic errors in lexis, and determining the data based on the classification of semantic errors in lexis

The collected data were analyzed descriptively by using the theory of James. C (1998) in *Error in Language Learning and Use: Exploring Error Analysis* about semantic error in lexis. In analyzing the data, the procedure takes were classifying the determined data based on types of semantic errors in lexis of the translation and then analyzing the classified data based on the theory adopted. Then the analysis is presented through description why the data are classified as certain types of semantic errors in lexis in the translation.

Findings and Discussion

The data were collected from the posts of Joko Widodo's Instagram account from June to September 2019. The data were classified based on types of semantic errors in lexis which can be specifically presented as follows:

Table 3.1 Semantic Errors in Lexis in Joko Widodo's Instagram Account

NO	Types of Semantic Errors in Lexis	Occurrence	Percentage (%)
I	Confusion of Sense Relations		
1	Using general term for specific term	20	8.40
2	Using too specific term	18	7.56
3	Using the less apt of two co-hyponyms	2	0.84
4	Using a wrong synonym	131	55.04
II	Collocational Errors	67	28.16
	TOTAL	238	100%

There were 238 data found in the Joko Widodo's Instagram Account. From the 238 data, there are 171 (71.84%) data of confusion of sense relations; a) 20 data (8.40%) of using general term for specific term, b) 18 data (7.56%) of using too specific term, c) 2 data (0.84%) of using the less apt of two co-hyponyms, and d) 131 data (55.04%) of using wrong synonym. There are 67 data (28.16%) of collocational errors. The most founded data is the use of wrong synonym with 131 data (55.04%). This phenomenon occurred because the Instagram Machine Translation chose the lexis in the target language without considering the context of the caption and a word could have some synonyms which have different context. The least founded data is using the less apt of two co-

hyponyms with 2 data (0.84%). This phenomenon occurred because most terms having hyponyms have been translated correctly and the data that consist of co-hyponyms are rarely found in the data source.

Confusion of Sense Relations

Lexicologists depict jargon as far as lexical frameworks, mirroring the importance relations existing between words. In the confusion of sense relations, there are four types; 1) Using general term for specific term, 2) Using too specific term for general term, 3) Using the less apt for two co-hyponyms and 4) Using a wrong one from a set of near-synonyms.

A. Using general term for specific term

Data 1

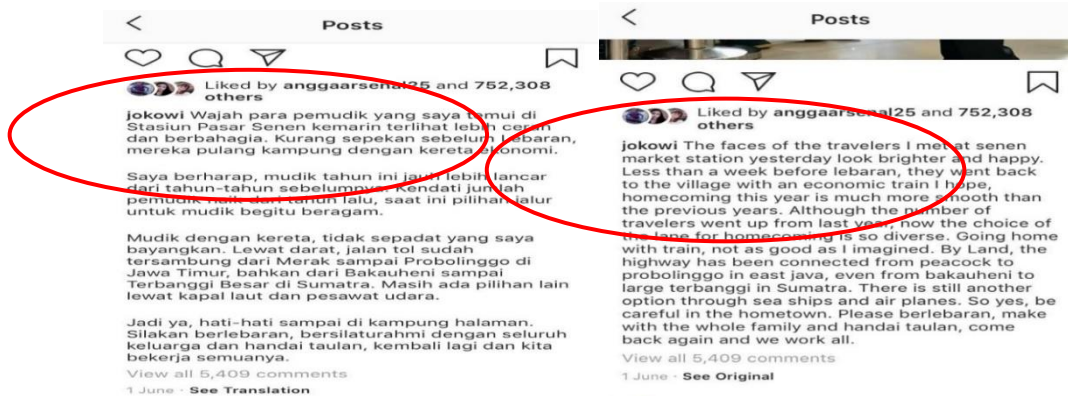


Figure 1 Joko Widodo’s Post on 1st of June 2019

SL : Wajah para **pemudik** yang saya temui di Stasiun Pasar Senen kemarin terlihat lebih cerah dan berbahagia.

TL : The faces of the **travelers** I met at Senen market station yesterday look brighter and happy.

(<https://www.instagram.com/jokowi/> on 1st of June 2019)

This translation has semantic errors in lexis and can be categorized as the confusion of sense relations in choosing the general term for specific term. The target language used a general term for the result of translating the source language which has specific meaning. Based on KBBI Daring, “*pemudik*” in the source language means

people who come back to their village after staying in different place for education or economic purposes. Unfortunately, the Instagram machine translation failed to deliver the specific meaning of this type of travelers. In the target language, according to Oxford Dictionary the ninth edition “*travelers*” means people who are travelling or who often travel. Thus, the meaning between “*pemudik*” and “*travelers*” is not connected. “*Pemudik*” means the specific travelers which come back to where they come from, but “*travelers*” means people who do travel to other places outside their home.

B. Using too specific term

Data 2

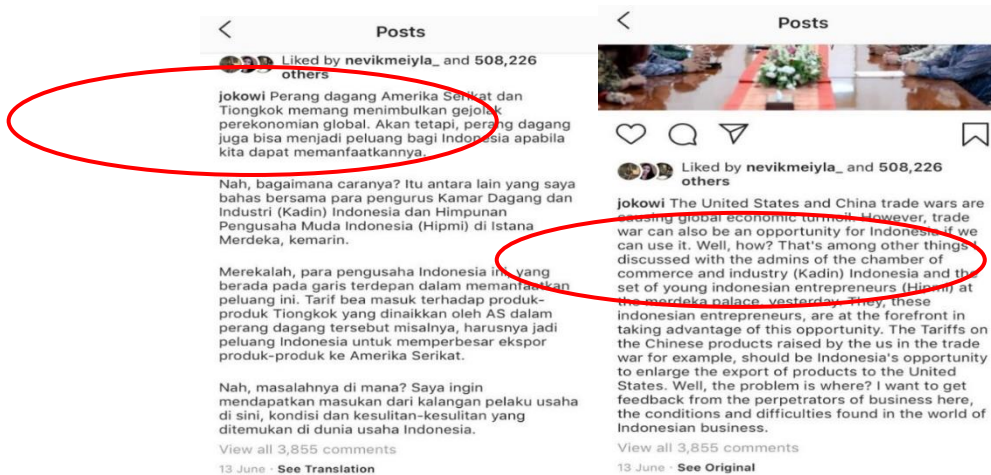


Figure 2 Joko Widodo’s Post on 13th of June 2019

SL : Perang dagang Amerika Serikat dan Tiongkok memang

menimbulkan perekonomian global.

gejolak

TL : The United States and China trade wars are causing global economic **turmoil**.

(<https://www.instagram.com/jokowi/> on 13th of June 2019)

This translation has semantic errors in lexis and is categorized as the confusion of sense relations in choosing too specific term for the general term. The target language used too specific meaning for translating the source language which has general meaning. Based on KBBI Daring “*gejolak*” in the source language means the movement of something. Unfortunately, the Instagram

machine translation failed to deliver the meaning of movement and translating it into “*turmoil*”. In the target language, according to Oxford dictionary the ninth edition “*turmoil*” means the feeling of anxiety and confusion. Therefore, the meaning between “*gejolak*” and “*turmoil*” is different. “*Gejolak*” means the movement of the economy world in this post but “*turmoil*” has specific meaning that tends to the human’s feeling like anxiety and confusion.

C. Using the less apt of two co-hyponyms

Data 3

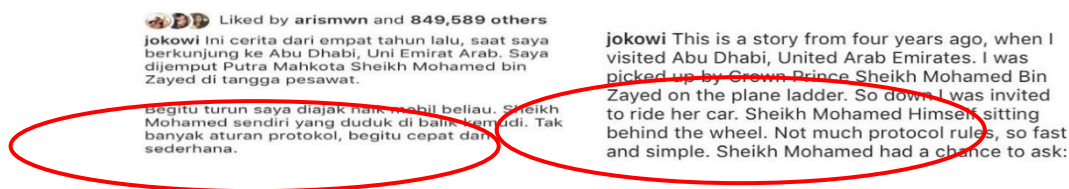


Figure 3 Joko Widodo’s Post on 21st of August 2019

SL : Begitu turun saya diajak naik mobil **beliau**.

TL : So down I was invited to ride **her** car.

(<https://www.instagram.com/jokowi/> on 21st of August 2019)

This translation has semantic errors in lexis and categorized as the confusion of sense relations in choosing the less appropriate between two co-hyponyms. The target language used the less appropriate hyponyms for translating the source language which has better hyponym to deliver the right meaning of the source

language. “*Beliau*” in the source language means Crown Prince Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed which is a man. Unfortunately, the Instagram machine translation failed to deliver the meaning of “*beliau*” and choose the less appropriate co-hyponyms. In the target language, “*her*” means the pronoun of women. The used of “*her*” could not represent the “*beliau*” and could replace with “*his*” because based on the context, “*beliau*” is a man and “*his*” is the best word choice in order to point the man.

D. Using a wrong synonym

Data 4

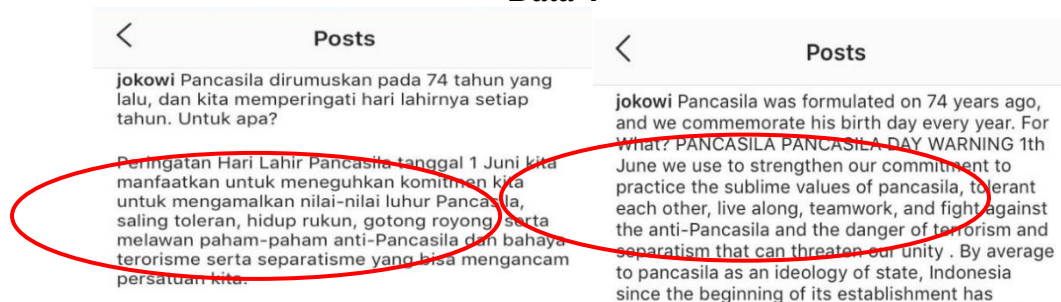


Figure 4 Joko Widodo’s Post on 2nd of June 2019

SL : Peringatan Hari Lahir Pancasila tanggal 1 Juni kita manfaatkan untuk meneguhkan komitmen kita untuk mengamalkan nilai-nilai **luhur** Pancasila,...

TL : Pancasila day warning 1st June we use to strengthen our commitment to practice the **sublime** values of Pancasila,...

(<https://www.instagram.com/jokowi/> on 2nd of June 2019)

This translation has semantic errors in lexis and is categorized as the confusion of sense relations in choosing the right synonyms. The target language used the wrong synonym for translating the source language which has the right synonym to

deliver the right meaning of the source language. Based on KBBI Daring “*Luhur*” in the source language that means the value of something to be concerned. Unfortunately, the Instagram machine translation failed to deliver the meaning of “*Luhur*” and translating it into “*sublime*”. In the target language, according to Oxford dictionary the ninth edition “*sublime*” means a great quality of something and could create great admiration. Instead of using “*sublime*”, it is better to use valuable or noble.

Collocational Errors

Collocations are the words that have a specific word ordinarily keeps organization with

Data 5

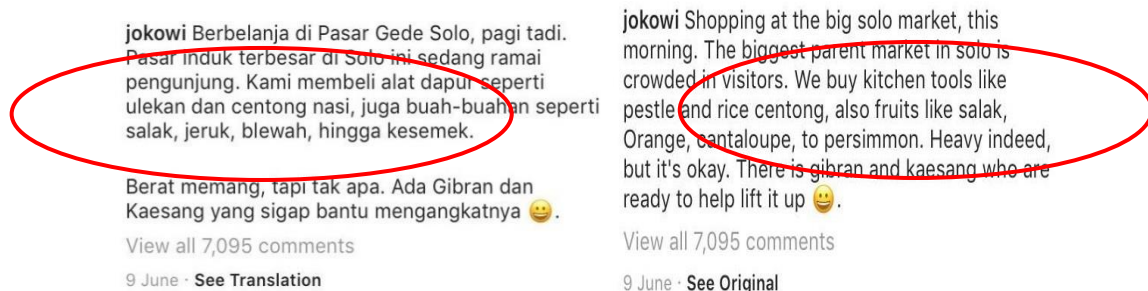


Figure 5 Joko Widodo’s Post on 9th of June 2019

SL : Kami membeli **alat dapur** seperti centong dan ulekan nasi, juga buah-buahan seperti salak, jeruk, blewah hingga kesemek.

TL : We buy **kitchen tools** like pestle and rice centong, also fruits like salak, orange, cantaloupe, to persimmon.

(<https://www.instagram.com/jokowi/> on 9th of June 2019)

This translation has semantic errors in lexis and is categorized as the collocational errors. The source language “*alat dapur*” has been matched with it’s the collocation “*alat*” and “*dapur*” that mean the equipment that we can find in the kitchen. Unfortunately, in the target language, the Instagram machine translation is translated it into “*kitchen tool*”. This translation is

translated literally, but violating the collocation in English. The word “*kitchen*” and “*tool*” is not appropriate to describe the meaning of things that we can find and use in the kitchen. The appropriate one is “*kitchen ware*”.

Conclusions

According to the result finding and discussion, it tends to be presumed that there are 238 data of semantic errors of lexis found on the caption of Joko Widodo’s Instagram account. Based on James (1998) there are two types of semantic errors in lexis. First, confusion sense of sense relations is divided into four sub-types; a) using general term for specific term, b) using too specific term, c) using the less apt of co-hyponyms, and d) using a wrong

synonyms. The second type of semantic errors in lexis is collocational errors. From the 238 data, there are 171 (71.84%) data of confusion of sense relations; a) 20 data (8.40%) of using general term for specific term, b) 18 data (7.56%) of using too specific term, c) 2 data (0.84%) of using the less apt of two co-hyponyms, and d) 131 data (55.04%) of using wrong synonym. There are 67 data (28.16%) of collocational errors. The most type that showed is the using a wrong synonym with 131 data (55.04%). This phenomenon occurred because the Instagram Machine Translation chose the lexis in the target language without considering the context of the caption and a word could have some synonyms which have different context. The least founded data is using the less apt of two co-hyponyms with 2 data (0.84%). This phenomenon occurred because most terms having hyponyms have been translated correctly and the data consisting of co-hyponyms are rarely found in the data source.

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