A TRANSLATION OF REFUSAL EXPRESSIONS IN JOHN GREEN’S PAPER TOWNS
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ABSTRACT: The aim of this research is to figure out the strategies which are used to translate the refusal expressions in John Green’s Paper Towns and its translation novel ‘Kota Kertas’ by Angelic Zaizai and to describe the kinds of refusal expression and to describe translation strategies which are applied. This study adopts refusal expression and translation theory. The research design of this study is a descriptive-qualitative research. The data which are presented are all in sentences which show refusal expressions. The data are classified based on the kinds of refusal strategies and the translation strategies. The analysis of the data divided into two main parts, indirect refusal and direct refusal. The result of the study shows that in translating the indirect refusal expressions, the translator uses seven strategies, as follows: translation by more general word, less expressive word, cultural substitution, loan word, paraphrase using related word, paraphrase using unrelated word and omission strategies. Then, in translating the direct refusal expressions, the translator uses five strategies, as follows: less expressive word, cultural substitution, loan word, paraphrase using related word, and paraphrase using unrelated word strategies, furthermore, there are data which are not used translation strategies. The above result shows that in translating the refusal expressions, the translator uses combined strategies in some data. In conclusion, the refusal expressions are divided into two types: indirect refusal and direct refusal. The indirect refusal uses explanation, statement, promise, reason and suggestion to refuse something. Then, the direct refusal uses “no” directly to refuse over something. In both types, the translator uses translation strategies to translate the non-equivalent data. However, there are some data that do not use any translation strategy because both SL and TL are equivalent.

Keywords: translation, translation strategies, refusal expressions, kinds of refusal.

ABSTRAK: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui strategi penerjemahan dalam menerjemahkan tuturan penolakan dalam novel Paper Towns oleh John Green dan novel terjemahannya yang berjudul ‘Kota Kertas’ yang diterjemahkan oleh Angelic Zaizai dan untuk menjelaskan jenis strategi dalam mengungkapkan tuturan penolakan, serta menjelaskan strategi penerjemahan yang digunakan. Metode penelitian yang digunakan dalam studi ini adalah pendekatan kualitatif-deskriptif. Data yang dihadirkan berbentuk kalimat yang menunjukkan tuturan penolakan. Data tersebut digolongkan berdasarkan jenis strategi tuturan penolakan dan strategi penerjemahan. Analisa dari data tersebut dibagi menjadi dua bagian yaitu tuturan penolakan secara tidak langsung (indirect refusal) dan tuturan penolakan secara langsung (direct refusal). Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa dalam menerjemahkan tuturan penolakan secara tidak langsung, penerjemah menggunakan tujuh jenis strategi penerjemahan, yaitu: strategi translation by more general word, less expressive word, cultural substitution, loan word, paraphrase using related word, paraphrase using unrelated word dan omission. Kemudian, dalam menerjemahkan tuturan penolakan secara langsung, penerjemah menggunakan lima jenis strategi penerjemahan, yaitu: strategi translation by less expressive word, cultural substitution, loan word, paraphrase using related word, dan paraphrase using unrelated word. Selain itu, ada beberapa data yang tidak menggunakan strategi penerjemahan. Hasil temuan menunjukkan bahwa dalam menerjemahkan tuturan penolakan, penerjemah menggunakan strategi campuran (combined strategies) pada beberapa data. Kesimpulannya, tuturan penolakan dibagi menjadi dua jenis: tuturan penolakan secara tidak langsung (indirect refusal) dan tuturan penolakan secara langsung (direct refusal). Tuturan penolakan secara tidak langsung menggunakan penjelasan, pernyataan, janji, alasan, dan usulan untuk menolak
I. INTRODUCTION

Translation is one of the most critical jobs in modern society. It is no longer just the process of translating words, but it has involved into the transformation of meaning and intentions. Newmark (1988) states that translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. Translation has several types for identifying the class of words analyzed in its application, translation is distinguished into 3 types that is, intralingual, interlingual and intersemiotic. It is interlingual translation that has been the focus of translation studies. More particularly, when addressing the difficult problem of equivalence in meaning between words in different languages, he states that here can be no full equivalence between two words (Jakobson, 1959:114)

According to Baker (1992: 6-12), in specific, there are kinds of equivalence, that is, at the level of word, phrase, grammar, text and pragmatics. Not all translated languages are also equivalent. Non-equivalence in word level means that the target language has no equivalence for a word which occurs in the source text (Baker, 1992:20). Then, it is stated that different kinds of non-equivalence require different strategies.

In accordance with Chen 1996 (noted in Tanck 2004), the speech act of refusal occurs when a speaker directly or indirectly says no to a request or invitation. Further, Semantic is used to analyze speech act of refusal (refusing requests, invitation, offer and suggestions. Direct refusal (i.e., “No”) is not a common strategy for any subjects. Refusal is significant in maintaining the relationship because people must say “No” directly or indirectly toward request, demand, command, offer, invitation or suggestion.

The topic of the present study is translation of refusal from English into Indonesian. The aim of the research is to analyze translation of English Refusal expression into Indonesian in John Green’s Paper Towns. The writer wants to know the differences of refusal expressions in English (SL) and Indonesian (TL). Besides that, to translate the refusal expressions, the writer use Semantics approach to examine it.

To prove the originality of the study, the writer presents the previous research studies. In the previous study, there were several studies which used “Refusal Expression” found in
literary works, especially novels as the topic, they are Politeness Strategy on Refusal Expression in Stephen King’s *Carrie* (Elsafitri, 2016), in her thesis, she discussed about the politeness strategy on refusal expression using sociolinguistics and semantics approach. Further, the previous study comes from a post-graduate which discussed about the types of refusal and the translation of refusal expressions and its impact toward the quality of translation. The researcher applied Molina and Albir theory to analyze the translation of refusal. (Rusjayanti, 2015)

II. METHOD OF THE RESEARCH

The study uses descriptive-qualitative research which applying the analysis procedures as follows: identifying the types of refusal expressions, identifying the change of the refusal expressions in SL into its translation strategies. The instrument of the research was the writer herself in order to get the valid data. The source of data is a novel by John Green entitled “*Paper Towns*” having 305 pages as the source language and its translation novel entitled “*Kota Kertas*” which is translated by Angelic Zaizai.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. Indirect Refusal

1. Datum IR1

   **SL:** Quentin: “No, don’t blow the air horn,”
   Margo: “I’m sorry, I couldn’t hear you. What was that?”

   **TL:** Quentin: “*Jangan bunyikan klakson angin,*” (34, 13)
   Margo: “*Sori, aku tak bisa mendengarkanmu. Apa katamu?*”

   In the conversation, Quentin Jacobsen gives Margo a command not to blow the air horn, but Margo refuses it plays the one who refuses’ it. The conversation happens when they are shopping some stuff to fulfill Margo’s plan in Wal-Mart. And then, in boating supplies, Margo finds an air horn. She takes it out of the box and holds it up in the air. Quentin tries to stop her by requesting to not blow it but Margo refuses indirectly. Margo absolutely knows that Quentin commands her not to blow the air honk, but she cuts his command off by honking the air honk while he is talking. Right after it, she pretends that she does not hear what Quentin is talking to refuse his command. It can be seen that Margo refuses Quentin’s command through indirect way.

   In the TL, the refusal is “*Sori, aku tak bisa mendengarkanmu. Apa katamu?*” The translator uses loan word strategy. “I’m sorry” is translated to be “*sori*” only. *Sori* is a loan word from English. “*Sori*” according to KBBI (Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia) means “*maaf*”. The pronunciation of the word “sorry” and the word “*sori*” is similar, but the spellings are different. Refusal I’m sorry should be translated to be “*Aku minta maaf*”, but the translator makes it simpler because it is
informal conversation. Then, the expression “What was that?” means “apa itu”, but the translator translates it to be “apa katamu?” because the word “itu” can refer to an object. So, it can be concluded that the translator uses paraphrase using related word since it is still related to the co-text. This translation is more acceptable in the TL.

2. Datum IR2

SL: Margo: “I need your car,”
    Quentin: “I don’t have a car,”
(25,13)
TL: Margo: "Aku butuh mobilmu."
    Quentin: "Aku tidak punya, "

In datum IR.2, Margo asks Quentin to lend her a car, but she does not use a question. She tries to borrow a car by saying that she needs a car. The way she expresses her want is indirectly. Quentin refuses what Margo wants because he does not have a car. The car is owned by his parents. He expresses it directly. Quentin says “I don’t have a car” to tell Margo that he definitely does not have a car. Refusal strategy which is used by Quentin is based on reality that the car is not his, but his parents’.

In the SL, Quentin says “I don’t have a car,” but in the TL the words “a car” are not translated, so the refusal in target language changes into “aku tidak punya.” Translation strategy which is applied by the translator to translate the refusal expression is omission. The object is omitted in the sentence because it has already known that the two of them are talking about car. And in Indonesian, it is common not to state the object.

3. Datum IR12

SL: Quentin: “Wegottagohome,”
    Margo: “I thought you closed your eyes when you died,”
(5,18-19)
TL: Quentin: “Kitaharuspulang,”
    Margo: "Ku pikir kita memejamkan mata ketika mati,”

Datum IR12 is a flashback when Quentin and Margo are still children. They find a man lying in Jefferson Park. The two of them try to assure whether he is already dead or still alive, but Quentin is not as brave as Margo, so he asks him to go home while Margo is trying to touch the blood in the man’s body. Instead of listening to his command, she refuses him indirectly. Quentin’s command to ask her to go home is a declarative command. Then, the way Margo to refuses his request by changing the topic of the conversation. She talks about how she thinks about when people die.

In the refusal expressions in SL, the text says “I thought you closed your eyes when you died” and the TL says “Ku pikir kita memejamkan mata ketika mati.” In this case the translation strategy which applied is translation by more general word. It can be seen that you as object changes to be more general object which can be referred to “kita”. This kind of changing is considered as acceptable because it is not objective which only point on Quentin “you”,
but the translator shows that human beings close their eyes when they die. The translation of the whole sentence is lexically translated.

4. Datum IR15

SL: Quentin: “You just gotta tell her, man,” “You just gotta say, ‘Angela, I really like you, ...”
Radar: “Yeah, I don’t think I’ll put it exactly like that, but I’ll deal with it.” (31, 7-11)

Radar: “Yeah, kurasa aku tidak akan mengatakannya persis seperti itu, tapi aku akan membereskannya.”

The above conversation is that Quentin advises Radar to tell Angela about his secret. He suggests that he should tell Angela about the truth why he cannot bring her to his house. Quentin says that what he needs to do is explaining that there are more than 1000 Black Santas inside his house. Radar accepts his suggestion but he actually refuses him because he is not going to tell Angela in detail like Quentin says, but he will tell Angela the truth in his own way. Radar’s refusal is categorized as indirect refusal with alternative statement.

In the SL says “Yeah, I don’t think I’ll put it exactly like that, but I’ll deal with it.” Meanwhile in the TL says “Yeah, kurasa aku tidak akan mengatakannya persis seperti itu, tapi aku akan membereskannya.” In this case, the translator uses loan word and paraphrase using related word strategies. The loan word is “yeah”. “Yeah” in Indonesian means “yah” and it is adopted from English. But the translator still uses “yeah” instead of “yah”. Then, paraphrase using related word is applied in translating “I don’t think I’ll put it exactly like that.” The noun clause “I’ll put it exactly like that” which is actually having a positive meaning is translated into “aku tidak akan mengatakannya persis seperti itu” which has negative meaning and vice versa. The sentence “I don’t think” which is having negative meaning is translated into positive meaning, “kurasa.” In this case, the translator uses paraphrase using related word strategy because there is a change of positive meaning into negative meaning and vice versa.

5. Datum IR16

SL: Radar: “Can we brainstorm over video games?”
Quentin: “I’m not really in the mood.” (31, 7-11)

TL: Radar: “Yeah, oke. Apa kita bisa membahasnya sambil menonton video game?”
Quentin: “Aku tidak terlalu kepengin.

In the above conversation, radar asks Quentin to play the video game, but he says that he is not really in the mood. It shows that Quentin refuses Radar’s request to play video game. He refuses it indirectly by describing his mood that time.
In the TL says “Aku tidak terlalu kepengin.” “In the mood” is an idiomatic expression. According to Idiom dictionary “in the mood” means “dalam suasana hati yang cocok”. In this case, the translator uses less expressive word strategy in translating it. The translator translates “in the mood” into “kepengin”. The word “kepengin” is a colloquial since it is not formal. In Indonesian, the word “kepengin” comes from the word “menginginkan”. According to KBBI, the word “menginginkan” means having a desire to do something. The word “kepengin” is more acceptable by the reader in the TL.

6. Datum IR20

SL: Quentin: “Wow, I figured you’d already gotten past that,” … “What with you being such a pimp and everything.”
Radar: “Shut up, bro. I’m freaked out,” (212, 28-29)

TL: Quentin: “Wow kupikir kau sudah melakukan lebih dari itu”… “Mengingat kau itu germo dans emuanya.”

The context of the above datum is that they have a conversation about Radar’s behavior after he kissed his girlfriend, Angela. Quentin teases Radar that he is no longer a virgin. Quentin thinks that Radar is a pimp. Radar immediately asks him to stop talking and he says that he is freaked out. What he says implies that he refuses Quentin’s opinion about him. His strategy is indirect refusal by asking to shut his mouth up, also it is followed by telling his feeling.

In the SL says “Shut up, bro. I’m freaked out,” and translated to be “Tutup mulut, bro. Aku panik.” In this case, the translator uses more general word strategy. The translation by more general word is used to translate the word “freaked out”. According to Echols and Shadily, “freak out” means aneh; but the translator chooses the word “panik” to replace it. That word “panik” is more appropriate toward the context of the conversation.

7. Datum IR22

SL: Quentin: “Margo, this is a bad idea.”
Margo: “Just drive” (39, 3-4)

TL: Quentin: ”Margo, ini gagasan yang buruk.”
Margo: “Menyetir sajalah,“

In the above datum, Margo and Quentin are in the car. They debate over Margo’s mission. Quentin wants to go home after helping her accomplish her first mission of the eleven missions. When Margo instructs him to move on another place to do her second mission, Quentin says that that is a bad idea. However, Margo does not pay attention to him, she even tells him to just drive the car. What Margo says implies that she refuses Quentin’s argument in indirect way.

In the SL says “Just drive” and translated to be “menyetir sajalah,” In this case,
the translator does not use any strategy to translate Margo’s refusal toward Quentin because it is lexically and semantically translated.

B. Direct Refusal

1. Datum DR1

   SL: Margo: “We gotta check on our progress. And the best place to do that is from the top of the SunTrust Building.”
   Quentin: “Nope. No. No way. You said no breaking and entering.” (54, 17-21)
   TL: Margo: “Kita harus memeriksa kemajuan pekerjaan kita. Dan tempat terbaik untuk melakukannya adalah dari puncak SunTrust Building.”

   In the above datum DR1 describes about Margo’s plan to check their progress in doing their 11 missions in the top of SunTrust Building which is the highest building in Orlando. Indirect request is implemented by Margo to ask Quentin to go to the SunTrust Building. Her command is considered as declarative command. Her will does not run well because Quentin refuses what she wants. In this case, he refuses her in direct way. He says “Nope. No. No way. You said no breaking and entering.”, this direct refusal is non-performative but it is followed by a reason. He emphasizes that he refuses Margo’s idea by expressing “no” for three times; nope, no and no way and in the last is the explanation of his reason.

   In this case, the refusal expression is translated by applying paraphrase using unrelated word strategy. It can be seen how the translator transfer the word “nope” to be “enak saja”. According to Echols and Shadily, “nope” means tidak, nggak, and kagak. Expression “enak saja” shows an unwillingness to do something which has strong refusal. Indonesian young-adult people usually use that expression to refuse the addressee instead of “tidak.” This datum is taken from young-adult novel, so it can be the reason why the translator finally decides to use that. Then, Quentin’s reason which is attached in the refusal expression is translated by using the word paraphrasing.

2. Datum DR2

   SL: Margo: “No, it’s not a felony or no you won’t help?”
   Quentin: “I won’t help. Can you enlist some of your underlings to drive you around?” (26, 16-18)
   TL: Margo: “Tidak itu bukan kejahatan atau tidak tak kan membantuku?”
   Quentin: “Tidak aku tak kan membantu. Tidak bisa kau menyuruh beberapa asistenmu untuk mengantarmu kemana-mana?”

   The context of the above conversation is when Margo wants Quentin to help her to
complete her mission. That conversation can show that Margo assures Quentin that it is not kind of crime, and she asks him whether he wants to help him or not. Quentin directly says that he will not help her, and he offers another to Margo in order to ask her others friends.

In this datum, the translation strategies of the refusal expression used are paraphrase using related word and translation by less expressive word. There is significant difference when it is translated to Indonesia. In the SL, Quentin just says “I won’t help” to shows his direct refusal, but there is an addition in his refusal. In the TL, it changes to be “Tidak aku tidak akan membantu.” The addition of the word “tidak” is kind of emphasizing that he refuses her. Then, the translation of alternative statement which is said by Quentin is literally translated but there is a little change. In the SL says “Can you enlist some of your underlings to drive you around?”, and in the TL changes to be “Tidak bisakah kau menyuruh beberapa asistenmu untuk mengantarmu kemana-mana. The word “Can” which has positive meaning is translated into “Tidak bisakah” that changes to have negative meaning. According to Echols and Shadily “underlings” means “bawahan”, but he translator translates it into “asisten”. Both the words have related meaning but the word “bawahan” is more general than the word “asisten”. In this case, the translation strategy used is less expressive meaning because of using more specific word. And the rest of the sentence is equivalently translated.

3. Datum DR3

SL: Margo: “Everything’s uglier close up.”
Quentin: “Not you,” (57, 16-17)

TL: Margo: “Semuanya terlihat jelek dari dekat,”
Quentin: “Tapi kau tidak,”

The above conversation is when Quentin and Margo in SunTrust building see their city in the night. Margo says that everything in this world is made from paper. She has opinion that the city looks beautiful because it is far away from their eyes. Margo believes that everything is uglier when it is close up. Soon, Quentin refuses her opinion by saying that she is the only exception.

The refusal expression in the SL says “Not you” and it becomes “Tapi kau tidak,” According to online KBBI, the word “tapi” is used to express something which is contradicted against other’s opinion. In this case, the translation strategy used is paraphrase using related word because the translator adds the word “tapi” to emphasize the refusal.

4. Datum DR5

SL: Quentin: “Spell usurped,”
Margo: “No,” “I’m not giving up my crown over usurped. You’ll have to do better.” (62, 9-11)

TL: Quentin: “Coba eja mengudeta,”
Margo: “Enak saja,” “aku tidak mau menyerahkan
The context of the conversation is when Quentin and Margo are debating who is better in using grammar. Quentin asks her to spell a word “usurped”, but Margo directly refuses him and says that she will not give the crown of using good grammar to Quentin. The illocutionary of her refusal actually shows that she does not know the spelling of usurped, so that is why he says it in laugh. Not only it, she also suggests him to look for another way to beat her down in using good grammar.

Datum DR5 uses translation by paraphrasing using unrelated word strategy to translate Margo’s direct refusal and alternative statements. The word “no” is translated to be “enak saja”. That expression is usually used by Indonesian to refuse something. The translation of the word “no” is similar with the word “nope” in datum DR1. Then, “You’ll have to do better” is translated to be “Kau harus cari cara lain”. The translator translates “…to do better” to be “…cari cara lain”. It can be seen that she applies paraphrase using unrelated word strategy because the words above have no relation. However, by applying this strategy, it makes the translation more acceptable in the TL.

5. Datum DR8

SL: Quentin: “Then I’ll come over to your house. How soon?”

Ben: “Bro, you can’t come over here … I’ll just see you tomorrow at school.” (190, 19-22)

TL: Quentin: “Kalau begitu, aku ke rumahmu. Seberapa cepat?”

Ben: “Bro, kau tidak boleh kesini … Kita bertemu besok saja di sekolah.”

The context of datum DR8 is that Quentin asks Ben to come to his house because he finds some new clues which are related to Margo, but it is rejected by Ben in the previous conversation. Then, Quentin says that he will come to Ben’s house but Ben is too tired that he directly refuses Quentin’s will. Ben promises him that he will meet Quentin in the school in the next day.

Ben’s refusal expression is translated by applying loan word and general word strategies. The loan word is “bro”. “I’ll just see you tomorrow at school”. In the TL, it is translated to be “Kita akan bertemu besok di sekolah”. The word “I” is translated into the word “kita”. It means the translator simplifies the subject “I” and the object “you” to be the word kita (we).

6. Datum DR10

SL: Radar: “Can we call Ben then?”

Quentin: “No. Ben’s an asshole.”

(194, 17-18)

TL: Radar: “Kalau begitu bisa kita telepon Ben?”

Quentin: “Tidak. Ben itu bajingan.”

The context of the datum above is Radar in Quentin’s house. Radar says to Quentin
whether they can call Ben, but it gets a direct refusal from Quentin. Quentin is still annoyed to Ben because he feels that he does not want to help him for figuring out information about Margo. Quentin feels that he is an asshole. So that, it can be seen that Quentin uses non-performative direct refusal to Radar and it is followed a reason.

The word “asshole” has a negative meaning. In lexical meaning it means “lubang dubur” and it means like a jerk semantically. The translator translates the word “asshole” to be “bajingan” because both of words show that it is a swear word. So, the translator does not use any strategy to translate this refusal expression.

IV. CONCLUSION

There are refusal expressions which are found, and the analysis divided into two main parts: indirect refusal strategy and direct refusal strategy. In this novel, the indirect refusals are most often used by the characters to refuse something. Indirect refusal expressions are mostly expressed by the main characters in the novel. Indirect refusal strategy is used to refuse a command, suggestion, request, and statement. Indirect refusal strategy is expressed in many shapes, such as explanation, alternative statement, promise, and reason. In addition, direct refusal is expressed by the speaker by saying “no” directly.

In translating the indirect refusal expressions, the translator uses seven (7) translation strategies: More General Word, Less expressive word, Cultural substitution, Loan Word, Paraphrase using related word, Paraphrase using unrelated word, and Omission. In this refusal expressions, there are also some data do not use any specific translation strategies.

Then, in translating the direct refusal expressions, the translator uses five (5) translation strategies: Less expressive word, Cultural substitution, Loan word, Paraphrase using related word, and Paraphrase using unrelated word. In this refusal expression, there are also some data which do not use translation strategies.

Besides, the above result of indirect and direct refusal expressions. In conclusion, refusal expressions are divided into two kinds. They are indirect and direct refusal expressions. In indirect refusal, the speaker does not say “no” directly to refuse over something, but the speaker uses an explanation, statement, promise, reason, and suggestion to refuse something. The translation of indirect refusal is not always equivalent. Thus, there are some strategies used in translating the indirect refusal. Afterward, in the direct refusal expressions, the speaker says “no” directly to refuse over something. In the SL, most of the direct refusal expressions apply “no”. However, the translation of the word “no” in the SL is not always similar with the TL.
because the meaning is adjusted with the context of the conversation. As a result, the translation strategies are needed to translate it. More to the point, there are several data from those two kinds of refusal that do not use any translation strategy since it is equivalent between SL and TL.

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