

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Translation

Translation is a work of replacing textual material from a language into another language (Catford, 1965:20). This work of translation is performed in a given direction; it is uni-directional. By using the word *uni-directional*, Catford (1965) means that the replacement is done by changing the SL into the TL. In addition, Larson (1998:3) states that translation is a change of form where the SL form is replaced by the TL form.

However, besides the change of form, translation also concerns with the transfer of meaning. Although the SL form is translated into different form in the TL, the equivalent message from the SL has to be brought to the TL (Jakobson in Munday, 2008:37). In this case, the transfer of meaning is more important than the transfer of form since in order to reach the equivalence in the TL, a translator must transfer not only the form but also the meaning from the SL. Take this example, for instance:

English (SL): teabag

Indonesian (TL): 1) kantong teh

2) teh celup

The English noun *teabag* can be translated into the Indonesian noun *kantong teh* or *teh celup*. If a translator only transfers the form, then s/he will translate the SL *teabag* into the TL *kantong teh*. However, Indonesian people understand *teabag* as

teh celup due to its function. From this example, it can be seen that the concept is translated differently according to its meaning.

2.2 Translation Shifts

The term ‘translation shifts’ was originally introduced by Catford (1965) to refer to the “departures from formal correspondence in the process of going from the source language to the target language” (Catford, 1965:73). Catford (1965:32) points out that formal correspondence is the corresponding translation of the SL in the TL. He divided translation shifts into two major types: level shift and category shift. Level shift is the change of linguistic level, while category shift is subdivided into structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift.

In addition, Cyrus (2006), Djamila (2010), and Sanguinetti, Bosco, and Lesmo (2013) add more classifications, arrangements, and descriptions to Catford’s (1965) theory of translation shifts such as grammatical shift and semantic shift. Based on their ideas and for the purpose of the present study, the theory of translation shifts is summarized as:

1. Grammatical Shifts

Grammatical shifts mainly concern with the grammatical rule of the language.

a. Structure Shift

Structure shift occurs when the TL has different structure from the SL.

It is a change of word sequence.

English (SL): a red bag
 X
Indonesian (TL): *sebuah* tas merah

The SL phrase undergoes a structure shift: the word order is reversed. In English, a noun phrase consists of a head word and a modifier which comes before the head word, while in Indonesian, the modifier comes after the head word. In other words, this kind of shift occurs when the TL's syntactical structure is different from the SL's.

b. Class Shift

Class shift occurs when the TL is in different class from the SL. It is a change in word class (a shift from one part of speech to another).

English (SL): a medical student

French (TL): un étudiant en médecine

The SL phrase undergoes a class shift from an adjective (*medical*) to a noun (*médecine*). In other words, this kind of shift occurs when there is no corresponding word class in the TL.

c. Unit Shift

Unit shift occurs when the TL is at different rank from the SL. It includes shifts from morpheme to word, word to phrase, clause to sentence, and vice versa.

English (SL): Yesterday I came up short.

Indonesian (TL): Kemarin aku tekor.

In the SL sentence, the verb phrase undergoes a unit shift from a phrase (*came up short*) to a word (*tekor*). In other words, this kind of shift occurs when the TL has a simpler or more complex expression for the corresponding word or phrase.

d. Passivization

Passivization occurs when the voice of the SL is changed into passive.

It is a change from an active sentence to a passive sentence.

English (SL): The class starts at seven.

Indonesian (TL): Kelasnya dimulai jam tujuh.

In the SL sentence, the sense is active (*starts*). However, in the TL, the sense is changed into passive (*dimulai*). In other words, this kind of shift occurs when there is a difference in the concept of voice between the SL and TL.

e. Depassivization

Depassivization occurs when the voice of the SL is changed into active. It is a change from a passive sentence to an active sentence.

English (SL): The room will be cleaned by Jack.

Indonesian (TL): Jack akan membersihkan ruangan tersebut.

In the SL sentence, the sense is passive (*will be cleaned*). However, in the TL, the sense is changed into active (*akan membersihkan*). In other words, this kind of shift also occurs when there is a difference in the concept of voice between the SL and TL.

f. Number Change

Number change occurs when the TL has different number system from the SL. It includes shifts from singular form to plural form, and vice versa.

English (SL): Women in the 15th century had not known emancipation.

Indonesian (TL): Wanita di abad ke-15 masih belum mengenal emansipasi.

The SL noun is plural (*women*), but it becomes a singular noun (*wanita*) in the TL. In this context, *women* refers to all women, while *wanita*, even though it takes a singular form, it refers to women in general; it has already represented all women. In other words, this kind of shift occurs when there is a difference in the concept of number system between the SL and TL.

2. Semantic Shifts

Semantic shifts mainly concern with the change of meaning.

a. Generalization

Generalization occurs when the TL is more general than the SL.

English (SL): Apply this lotion on your skin.

Indonesian (TL): Gunakan krim ini pada kulit Anda.

The SL *apply* becomes the TL *gunakan*, which is more general (back-translation: *use* or *put on*). In this case, generalization occurs because

Indonesian people do not *apply* lotion, cream, etc. on their skin. Instead, they *use* or *put* them *on* their skin (compare: *mengaplikasikan* vs *memakai* or *menggunakan*).

b. Explication

Explication occurs when the TL is more specific than the SL.

English (SL): She hits her brother on the face.

Indonesian (TL): Ia menampar saudara laki-lakinya.

The SL *hits* becomes the TL *menampar*, which is more specific (back-translation: *slaps*). In this case, explication occurs because if a woman hits someone on the face, it usually means that she slaps that person; she does not hit by using her fist like men do.

c. Addition

Addition occurs when something has been added to the TL.

English (SL): My grandfather tries to remember the way things were.

Indonesian (TL): Kakekku mencoba untuk mengingat kembali hal-hal yang telah lalu, di saat ia masih muda.

The TL words *di saat ia masih muda* (when he was young) are added to give more explanation to the SL. When “*the way things were*” happened? It happened “*when he was young*”. In this case, addition occurs in order to add extra information in the TL. Besides, addition sometimes occurs in culture-specific words where those words need to

be translated to the TL with extra information. This kind of addition can be found in *borrowing* method of translation.

Indonesian (TL): Lontong merupakan salah satu makanan khas Indonesia.

English (SL): Lontong (steamed rice wrapped in banana leaf) is one of Indonesia's traditional food.

d. Deletion

Deletion occurs when something has been deleted in the TL.

English (SL): If information on a website seems fishy or incredible to you, verify it in another source.

Indonesian (TL): Jika informasi pada sebuah situs tampak mencurigakan bagi Anda, cocokkan kembali dengan sumber yang lain.

The SL words *incredible to you* are omitted in the TL. In this case, deletion occurs because the deleted words are not vital enough in the text development. Besides, deleting the words does not change the meaning of the SL.

The above classification is presented in Figure 2.1.

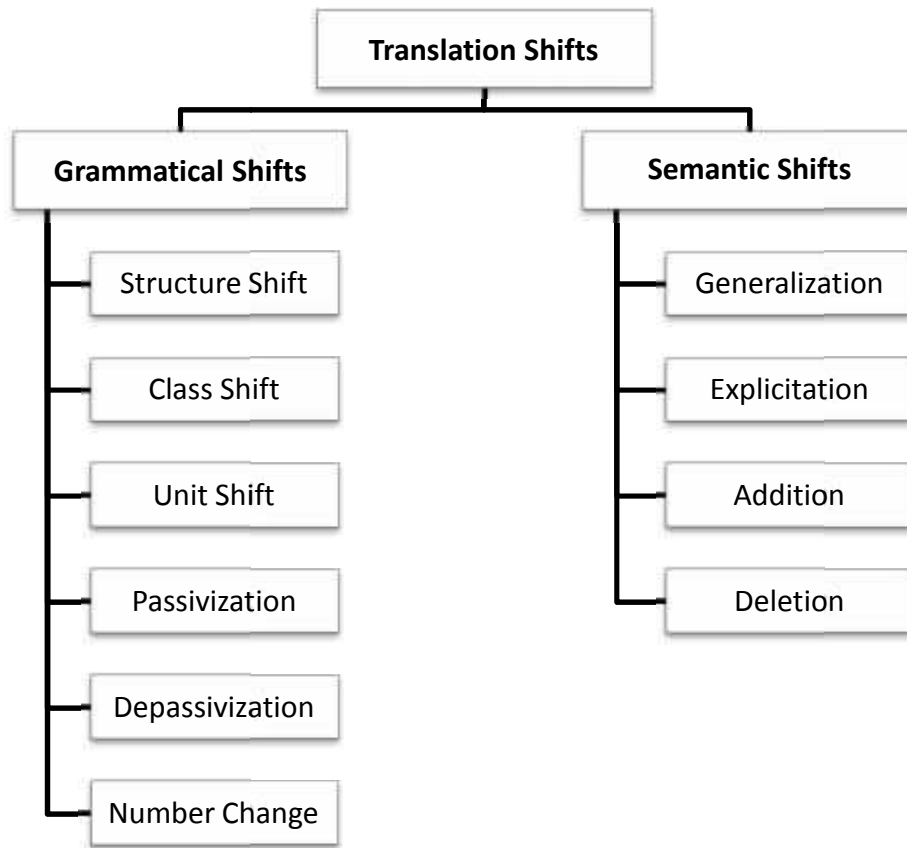


Figure 2.1. Classification of Translation Shifts