Category Shift of Noun Phrase in the Short Story of “The Backward Fall”

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Abstract - In accordance with Catford’s (1965:73), translation shift was categorized into two major types: Level Shift and Category Shift. This study is conducted so as to find out the category shift of noun phrase in the Indonesian translation of The Backward Fall by Jason Hermandollar that is Jatuh ke Atas by Harum Wibowo. The data were collected by using the source text (the English text) and the Target Text (the Indonesian text). Listing all the noun phrases used in source text (ST) with their Indonesian translation then identifying the category shifts based on Catford’s theory (1965:76) which were classified into Structure Shift, Class Shift, Unit Shift and Intra System Shift. The results of the study found that the Structure shift was dominant (25.52%) then followed by Intra-system Shift (17.57%), Class Shift (2.93%) and Unit Shift (3.76%) were rarely used in the study. Furthermore, it was interesting that several combinations of the shifts were also found such as Unit Shift+Intra-System Shift (15.90%), Structure Shift+Unit Shift (18.41%), and Structure Shift+Intra-System Shift (15.06%).

The findings of the research may be good for a supplementary guideline of similar studies.

Keywords: Translation, Category Shift, Noun Phrase, Text

INTRODUCTION

It seems translating is only about reconstructing the words’ meaning from one language (source language) into another language (target language). In fact, Catford (1965:20) defined translation as the replacement of textual material in the other language (TL). Moreover, Bell (1991:20) defines that translation is the phenomenon as “the replacement of a representation of a text in one language by a representation of an equivalent text in a second language.” Baker (1998:77) says that it is equivalence as the relationship between a source text (ST) and a target text (TT) that has allowed the TT to be considered as a translation of the ST in the first place. In addition, Nida and Taber (1982:12) stated that translation consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style”. Then the above theory is strengthened by Wills (1982:12) in Choliludin (2007:3) saying that translation is a procedure which leads from a written source language text to an optimally equivalent target language text and requires the syntactic, semantic, stylistic, and text pragmatic comprehension by the translator of the original text.

The translation from the source language into the target language cannot be exact equivalents as both languages are widely different in structure and cultural background. The understanding of the structure and the culture in both languages is required by the translator as it makes the translator capable of grasping the meaning in the text accurately and allows him to transfer the same meaning. One of the rules in doing translation is about shift. According to Catford (1965:73), a shift is the departure from formal correspondence in the process of going from the source language to the target one [1]. Two major types of shift occur: level shifts and category shifts. Level shifts mean that a source language (SL) item at one linguistic level has a target language (TL) translation equivalent at a different level such as from grammar to lexis and vise versa. Category shifts referred to unbounded and rank-bound translation (Catford, 1965:75). In this study, it will focus on the category shift analysis of noun phrase in the Indonesian translating translation of The Backward Fall.

Problem of the Research

Based on the explanation above, the problems to be discussed in this study are:
1. What kinds of category shifts used in the translation of The Backward Fall?
2. How is the occurrence of Catford’s shifts in the translation of The Backward Fall?
3. What is the dominant category shift probed in the short story of The Backward Fall into Indonesian translation?

Objective of the Research

The objective of this research is to answer the problems that have been mentioned in the previous point. They are:
1. To find out the kinds of shifts used in translating used in the translation of The Backward Fall?
2. To obtain the occurrence of Catford’s shifts in the translation of The Backward Fall?
3. To probe the dominant category shift in the short story of The Backward Fall into Indonesian Translation?
Scope of the Research

As explained in Introduction that translation shifts are classified into two major types of shift are identified: “Level Shift” and “Category shift”. In this research, the writer will analyze the category shifts from the short story of The Backward Fall by Jason Hernandollar into Jatuh ke Atas by Harum Wibowo.

THEORITICAL REVIEW

Definition of Translation

There are many theorists describe what translation is in different ways. They have their own explanation about translation. Translation is not only the transferring something written in source language into target language. Translation means rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text (Newmark, 1988). it means that the translation to translate the meaning of the text to another language must be intended with the message of the author. Translation involves the rendering of a source language (SL) text into the target language (TL) so as to ensure that (1) the surface meaning of the two will be approximately similar and (2) the structures of the SL will be preserved as closely as possible but not so closely that the TL structures will be seriously distorted (Basnett, 1980:2).

Munday (2000:4) says that the term translation itself has several meanings: it can refer to the product and the process. The product involves the translated text and the process involves the translator changing an original written text (source language) into written text (target language) in different verbal language. Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL) (Catford, in Machali 2000:5). It means that the translation is changing of the text material of the source language (SL) to the target language (TL) which in the target language the text has the equivalence in the source language.) Wills (1982:12) in Choliludin (2007:3) saying that translation is a procedure which leads from a written source language text to an optimally equivalent target language text and requires the syntactic, semantic, stylistic, and text pragmatic comprehension by the translator of the original text. Nida and Taber (1982:12) proposes a rather complete definition of translation. According to the two experts, “Translating consists of reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalence of source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style.” The definition proposed by Nida and Taber contain some elements that should be taken into account by a translator in performing his/her task: reproducing the message, equivalence, natural equivalence, closest equivalence, priority on meaning and also style.

According to the definition, the translator should try to reproduce the message contained in the source language into the one in the target language. In this matter, what the translator should do in translating is to create the equivalent message, not the form in the target language. Or it can be stated that an emphasis should be put on the reproduction of the message rather than the conversation of the form or grammatical structures. To get such equivalent message, many grammatical and lexical adjustments should be made. Based on the various definitions above, it is known there are so many factors that should be considered to get a good translation. A good translation, therefore, does not sound like translation. It should be natural as if it is originally written in target language.

Concepts of Shifts

Based on Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (2009), “Shift is a change in the way people think about something, in the way something is done. Catford (1965:141) gives the idea on shift, namely “The change of formal structure of the Source language into the Target language”. Catford (1965: 80) in Hatim (2001:15) classified the translation shift into two major types of shift are identified: “Level Shift” and “Category shift”. Level shifts means a SL item at one linguistic level has a TL translation equivalent at a different level. This shift commonly occurs with shift from grammar to lexis and vice versa. However, category shift means change from the formal correspondence in translation.

Furthermore, it is divided into structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra shift.

a. Structure-shifts, which involve a grammatical change between the structure MH (modifier + Head) into HM (Head + Modifier)

b. Class-shifts, that grouping members of a given unit which is defined by operation in the structure of the unit next above. Class shift occur when the translation equivalent of a source language (SL) item is member of a different class form the original item.

c. Unit-shifts, which involve changes in rank, that is departures form formal correspondence in which the translation equivalent of unit at one rank in the...
source language (SL) is a unit at different rank in
the target language (TL)
d. Intra-system shifts, which occurs when „SL and TL
possess systems which approximately correspond
formally as to their constitution, but when translation
involves selection of a non-
corresponding term in the TL system‟. For
instance, when the SL singular becomes a TL
plural.

Details of category shifts will be introduced in the
following parts

Category Shifts

Category shifts refer to unbounded and rank-bounded
translation. The first being approximately normal or
free translation in which source language and target
language equivalents are up at whatever rank is
appropriate. It is clear that category shift is
unbounded, which might be normal of free
translation, depends on what rank is appropriate. It
includes, structure, class, unit, and intra-system shifts

Structure Shift

The descriptive units of the grammar of any language
are arranged into meaningful stretches or patterns.
One single instance of these patterns is called
'structure.' This abstract category which applies to all
units in the grammar of a language (except the one
lowest in rank), accounts for the various ways in
which one unit may be realized by the unit next below
it. Sometimes, however, a unit may be realized by a
unit above it. This phenomenon is known as rank
shifting. Languages exhibit a considerable amount of
differences both in the realization of similar structures
existing in these languages and in the type of
structures existing in each language. It is worth
mentioning here that the distinction between deep
representation of linguistic relations and their surface
realizations constitutes an important phase for the
analysis of structural shifts. A „structure shift‟
involves a change in grammatical structure between
source text (ST) and target text (TT). Catford
considers structure shifts the most frequent type of
shifts that may occur at all ranks.

For example: ST : wooden guitar
              M  H
TL : gitar kayu
     H  M

It is clear here that there is a shift from M-H (modifier
head) to H-M (head + modifier) between the two
versions above.

Unit Shift

A „unit shift‟ where a strict rank-for-rank
correspondence between SL and TL sentences,
clauses, groups, words and morphemes is not
observed: e.g. the English definite article translated
by a change in word order in Russian; (Catford,
(1965: 80) in Hatim (2001:15) Unit shifts occur when
translation equivalent of a source text unit at one rank
in is a unit at a different rank in the target language.
It includes shifts from morpheme to a word, word to
phrase, clause to sentence, and vice versa.

Example: ST : her head
          phrase
TT : kepalanya
     word

From the example above, unit shift can be found at
Source Text (ST) is her head ( phrase), that is translated into Target Text (TT) kepalanya (word).
It means that shift from phrase to word. Unit shifts
also can be from low level to higher level or from high
level to lower level. It is caused by the differences of
the amount of meaning component in different
concept.

A. Low Level to Higher Level

Example:
ST: A cove of pines
   Word  word
TT: Lautan kecil  pohon cemara
   Phrase  phrase

From the example above, it is translation in term low
level to higher level. It means that in the source
language there is one word but after translated into
target language became more than one word. It can be
seen on word “cove” and “pines” which consist of
one word was translated into “lautan kecil” and
“pohon cemara” that consists of two words.

B. High Level to Lower Level

Example:
ST: Her bidding
    phrase
TT: Pertolongan
    word

From the example above, it is translation in term high
level to lower level is the opponent of low level to
higher level. In this case, the source language consists
of more than one word and then translated becoming
just one word. On the other hand, it can be said that
the amount of word of source language is much more
than in target language. The word “her bidding” that
consists of two words was translated into “pertolongan” that consists of just one word.

Class Shift

Class shift occurs when the translation equivalence of
an SL item is a member of a different class from the
original item. „It is a change in word class. Catford
defines class shifts following Halliday‟s definition
that grouping of members of a given unit which is defined by operation in the structure of the unit next above” (quoted in Hatim and Munday, 2004:45). Structure shifts entail class shifts. This is because of the “logical dependence of class on structure” (Catford, 1965:119).

Example: 

**ST:** The bend  
**Noun** 

**TT:** membelok  
**Verb**

From example of translation above, it can be seen that the Source Text (ST) of *The bend (Noun)* in the form of a phrase is translated into *membelok (Verb)* in the target text (TT). It means that there is class shifts from the sentences above by a change of a word class from a noun into a verb and it is proved that structure shifts entail class shifts.

**Intra-System Shift**

A system is meant the closed number of elements among which a choice must be made. In fact, the terms available in each system in one language can show fundamental differences from the terms of the same system in another language. This can be considered as a major source of shifts at this level of language description. In other words, intra-system shifts refer to those changes that occur internally within a system. They are regarded only on the assumption that is formal correspondence between the two languages, i.e. ST-TT should possess approximate systems. The equivalence is said to occur at a non-corresponding term in the TL system. All languages have their systems of number, deixis, articles, etc. intra-system shifts happen when a term is singular in the source text and its textual equivalent is plural, or vice versa (a change in number even though the languages have the same number system).

Example:

**ST:** The petals  
**Plural noun**

**TT:** Daun bunga  
**Singular noun**

From example of translation above, it can be seen that the ST of *The petals (Plural)*, is translated into *Daun Bunga (Singular)* in the TT. The product (TT) should be in plural too if it is transferred into “daun bunga-daun bunga”, the meaning sounds strange. But it should be in singular (vice versa). The changes from plural to singular is called intra-system shift.

**Short story**

According to https://www.cliffsnotes.com/cliffsnotes/subjects/literature/what-is-a-definition-of-short-story, July, 1st, 2018; 23:02, a short story is fictional work of prose that is shorter in length than a novel. Edgar Allan Poe, in his essay "The Philosophy of Composition," said that a short story should be read in one sitting, anywhere from a half hour to two hours. In contemporary fiction, a short story can range from 1,000 to 20,000 words. Because of the shorter length, a short story usually focuses on one plot, one main character (with a few additional minor characters), and one central theme, whereas a novel can tackle multiple plots and themes, with a variety of prominent characters. Short stories also lend themselves more to experimentation — that is, using uncommon prose styles or literary devices to tell the story. Such uncommon styles or devices might get tedious, and downright annoying, in a novel, but they may work well in a short story.

Mentioned in online Webster dictionary, a short story is an invented prose narrative shorter than a novel usually dealing with a few characters and aiming at unity of effect and often concentrating on the creation of mood rather than plot. (https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/short%20story, July, 1st, 2018; 23:18)

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**Research Design**

In this study, the researcher used the combination between descriptive qualitative and quantitative approach. Qualitative approach is used to describe the data. Meanwhile, quantitative approach is used to count the percentage of the kinds of category shifts found in the translation.

**Source of The Data**

The data of the research for finding out the kinds of category shifts and the occurrence of the shifts of noun phrases were analyzed were taken from the English – Indonesian translation of a short story entitled “The Backward Fall” written by Jason Helmandollar whose Indonesian version entitled “Jatuh ke Atas” translated by Harum Wibowo.

**Data Collection**

This research paper is conducted by finding the short story mentioned above as the source text (ST) its translation as the target language. The short story was chosen as it provides the needed data, noun phrases, will be analyzed by using category shift theory.

**Data Analysis**

The following procedures are carried out to analyze the data of the research

1. Underline the noun phrases on the ST and the TT.
2. Make a list of all the noun phrases of the ST and TT whose total was 239.
3. Analyze each noun phrase on the ST and the TT.
4. Classify the noun phrases into a proper type of category shifts that is based on Catford’s theory (1965).
5. Count the percentage of each kind of category shift to get the dominant shifts from both the ST and the TT

6. Analyze each category shift according to Catford’s theory (1965) by giving descriptive explanation.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

First, the writer’s analysis found that there are several classification of category shifts of noun phrases in the short story of ‘The Backward Fall’ by Jason Hermandollar (ST) with its translation ‘Jatuh ke Atas’ by Harum Wibowo (TT).

Table 1. Frequency of the Category Shift Occurrence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Types of category shifts</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Structure Shift</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>25.52 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Unit Shift</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3.76 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Class Shift</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2.93 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Intra System shift</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>17.57 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Unit Shift + Intra System Shift</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>15.90 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Structure Shift + Unit Shift</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>18.41 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Structure Shift + Intra System Shift</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>15.06 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Untranslated</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.84 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From table 1, the dominant category shift is structure shift (25.51%) though it doesn’t dominate much as its percentage is not more than 50%. It was found that there were several combinations of the category shifts that were Intra System Shift + Unit Shift, Structure + Unit Shift, Intra System Shift + Structure Shift and Structure Shift + Intra System Shift + Unit Shift. Most of the mixed category shifts had significant percentage except Structure Shift + Intra System Shift + Unit Shift that was only 1.24%.

Discussion

1. Structure Shift

Structure shift involves a change in grammatical structure between the source language and the target language and it usually about the structure MH (modifier + Head) into HM (Head + Modifier). In this research, there were 61 data (25.51%) categorized into structure shift. It proved Catford’s (1965 : 77) which regarded that structure shifts was the most frequent category shifts at all ranks in translation. Here are the two samples of the structure shift analysis.

Table 2. Data of Structure Shift

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Pg/Pr</th>
<th>Source Text</th>
<th>Pg/Pr</th>
<th>Target Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>“Dad?” she says, “I swear, I can’t remember the words to <em>my own songs.</em>”</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>“Ayah?” katanya. “Sumpah, aku tidak bisa mengingat kata-kata yang ada pada <em>lagu-lagu sendiri.</em>”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2 1/1 She is sixty-two sitting on the edge of the couch, her old acoustic guitar. 1/1 Wanita itu berumur enam puluh dua tahun dan sedang duduk di pinggiran sofa, gitar akustik tuanya.

Source: Taken from The Backward Fall by Jason Helmandollar and its translation by Harum Wibowo

Analysis:

1. ST: my own songs
   M H
   TT: lagu-lagu ku sendiri
       H M

2. ST: her old acoustic guitar
   M H
   TT: gitar akustik tuanya
       H M

It is clear here that there is a shift from M-H (modifier head) to H-M (head+ modifier) between the ST and the TT of the two data above. Having a look from No. 1 and 2, it can be seen that the modifiers here are in the form of adjective and the heads are in the form of noun.

2. Unit Shift

A “unit shift” where a strict rank-for-rank correspondence between SL and TL sentences, clauses, groups, words and morphemes is not observed: e.g. the English definite article translated by a change in word order in Russian; (Catford, (1965: 80) in Hatim (2001:15. Unit shifts occur when translation equivalent of a source text unit at one rank in is a unit at a different rank in the target language. It includes shifts from morpheme to a word, word to phrase, clause to sentence, and vice versa. From the research, 9 data (3,72%) were identified as unit shift. The table below provides the data of the unit shift.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Pg/Pr</th>
<th>Source Text</th>
<th>Pg/Pr</th>
<th>Target Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1  | 4/29  | Low level to higher level  
   He watches for a time as her face voids of all emotion, all evidence of thought. |
   4/12 | Dia memperhatikan sebentar sementara wajah istrinya menampakkan kekosongan – tnapa emosi, semua bukti yang pernah dipikirkan. |
| 2  | 3/19  | High level to lower level  
   After a few moment, she turns her head to him. |
   3/19 | Setelah beberapa saat, dia membalikkan kepalanya ke arah suaminya. |

Source: Taken from The Backward Fall by Jason Helmandollar and its translation by Harum Wibowo

Analysis:

1. ST: all evidence of thought
   word
   TT: semua bukti yang pernah dipikirkan
       Phrase

2. ST: her head
   Phrase
The term low level to higher level to the word of “thought” in the ST was applied since its form is in a word which was translated in the TT into a phrase “ yang pernah dipikirkan”. However, the opposite one happen to the second data, “ her head’ whose form is in a phrase was translated into “ kepalanya” which become a word. Hence, this unit shift applied the term of high level to lower level.

3. Class Shift

Class shift occurs when the translation equivalence of an SL item is a member of a different class from the original item. It is a change in word class. Catford defines class shifts following Halliday’s definition “that grouping of members of a given unit which is defined by operation in the structure of the unit next above” (quoted in Hatim and Munday, 2004:45). It was found that unsignificant data of class shift. There were 7 data (2.48%) and most of them were about the change of the word class from noun into verb. Here are the representatives.

Table 4. Data of Class Shift

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Pg/Pr</th>
<th>Source Text</th>
<th>Pg/Pr</th>
<th>Target Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>She smiles and strums the guitar with a flourish. “Lucky guess,”</td>
<td>2/6</td>
<td>Wanita itu tersenyum dan memetik gitarnya dengan mendayu-dayu. “Tebakan yang beruntung.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2/10</td>
<td>“What’s that, Mom?” he says. He is instantly on his feet, ...</td>
<td>2/10</td>
<td>“Ada apa, Bu?” dia berkata. Dia segera tegak bersiap-siap, ...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Taken from The Backward Fall by Jason Helmandollar and its translation by Harum Wibowo

Analysis:
1. ST : a flourish
   TT : mendayu – dayu
2. ST : his feet
   TT : tegak bersiap-siap

From the data above, it is definitely explained that there was a change of the word class from noun into a verb on the two data in the table 4. A flourish and his feet are the phrases (ST) whose function are as noun while mendayu-dayu and tegak bersiap-siap in the TT function as verb.

4. Intra System Shift

Intra-system shifts, which occur when, SL and TL possess systems which approximately correspond formally as to their constitution, but when translation involves selection of a non-corresponding term in the TL system”. For instance, when the SL singular becomes a TL plural. This study found that there were 42 data (17.42%) classified into Intra System Shift. Here are the samples of the shift :

Table 5. Data of Intra System Shift

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Pg/Pr</th>
<th>Source Text</th>
<th>Pg/Pr</th>
<th>Target Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Prosiding SNIT Hal. C-15
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Shift Combination</th>
<th>The Source Text</th>
<th>The Target Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Unit Shift + Intra System Shift</td>
<td>The ceiling</td>
<td>Atas atap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Structure Shift + Unit Shift</td>
<td>His chair</td>
<td>Kursinya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Structure Shift + Intra System Shift</td>
<td>The same song</td>
<td>Lagu yang sama</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Taken from The Backward Fall by Jason Helmandollar and its translation by Harum Wibowo

Analysis:

1. “The ceiling” applied unit shift + Intra System Shift due to the fact that the definite article of “the” is usually translated into “itu” to show the definite meaning, yet in the TT, “the” was not translated and identified as Intra System Shift. Then a word of “ceiling” was translated into two words or a phrase in the TT that was “atas atap”. This shift is called as Unit Shift.

2. “His chair” whose pattern is M-H was translated into “kursinya” whose pattern is H-M and that used Structure Shift. Then the phrase of “his chair” was translated into a word “kursinya” and it showed it applied unit Shift.

3. The structure shift was applied in the phrase of “the same song” whose structure is M-H in the ST and it was translated into “lagu yang sama” whose structure is H-M in the TT. Moreover, the Intra System Shift was applied since the definite article of “the” was not translated.

CONCLUSION

The conclusions of this study are:

a. There were 7 (seven) category shifts identified in this research. Four categories was compatible with Catford’s theory (1965). They were Structure Shift, Unit Shift, Class Shift and Intra System Shift. In addition, 3 (three) types of combination shifts were significantly found whose total was 118 out of 239 data.

b. The dominant shift in this study was structure shift whose total was 61 data and it was corresponding with Catford’s (1965:77)
saying that the structure shifts was the most frequent category shifts at all ranks in translation.

REFERENCES