

MEANING ON TRANSLATION OF INDONESIAN-ENGLISH ADS TEXT

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Abstract: This research was actually about the meaning of translation in Indonesian-English ads text, the booklet of PUD in Sukoharjo regency. Translating ads text is not simple because ads text has certain structure to be fulfilled. Then, to translate some cultural terms in ads text, it needs some considerations to keep the quality of the translation itself. One of the considerations is about the concept of readability that consists of length of sentence average, new words, and grammatical complexity. The research belonged to qualitative research and the data were all the phrases and the sentences in the booklet of PUD Sukoharjo regency. The methods of data collecting were questionnaire, in-depth interview, and content analysis with the instruments of questions, interview guides, and data card. The data were then analyzed by using Miles and Huberman interactive model while the data validity was data triangulation. The result of the research showed that the readability of Indonesian-English ads text was rather low for the score of the readability rating instrument was 2.2 from the total score of 3.

Keywords: *translation, ads text, readability*

INTRODUCTION

In a world of business, it is needed a marketing strategy to promote the products. One of the strategies usually used by the producers is advertisement (ads). By using ads, producers can introduce some new products to consumers. It can also remind the consumers that the products are still better than others. Even that ads can keep the brands in ones' mind by showing the superiorities of the products (Wiratno in Sumarlam, 2005, p, 180). In some mass media, ads is effectively considered to be able to attract ones' attention because ads could be the attention-getting device. That is why, ads must represent the image of the product.

A good ads is an ads that all messages can be transferred well to consumers. It has some important elements to support it, such as pictures and colors, languages, lay out (for printed media) and harmonization among the actors, story board and languages (for electronic media). For some products that will be promoted in foreign countries, languages become the key aspect that determine the success of ads. In this case, ads could become a good mediator for the ones

having different languages and different cultures.

Sukoharjo is one of regencies in Central Java that has some superior local products to promote, such as traditional music instruments, traditional furniture, shuttlecocks, clothes, traditional foods and beverages, etc. Such these products are very famous around Sukoharjo and become the speciality there. Even some of them are potentially to export, and few of them have been exported to some abroad. The producers (and most of them), are traditional ones that usually do not care about their markets or how to promote their products. They just produce and usually there are some brokers who can sell the products. In a short, the producers still use traditional marketing.

Sukoharjo government that catches this opportunity to increase the local economic growth, tried to support in marketing sector. The government, through its certain institution helped the producers to promote their products to some other foreign countries by making some ads (printed and electronic media). Jefkins (1994, p, 45-46) said that commercial ads which was

advertised by local government could be classified into commerce ads, and was famous for informative-commercial ads. In this ads, Sukoharjo government promoted the superior products to international consumers.

This research only focused on printed media, especially booklet to promote some superior local products outside the country that released by Sukoharjo regency. The booklet used bilingual texts, they were Indonesian and English. So, it is needed translation area to transfer the messages from producers to consumers.

Translating an ads is not easy because ads actually has its own style of language. The structure of the language is also different to the common ones. It has the specific characteristics. They are short, fluent, simple, neutral, straight to the point and interesting. Language plays an important role in making good ads. It can be started from the title, the selection of words for the title (something that is promising some benefits or words resulting miracles for the consumers) (Ogilvy, translated by Pertiwi, p. 75). More than that, if the ads involved the culture, the translator should think twice before he translates it. Some cases, there are some words don't have equal meanings in Target Language (TL) because of the cultural terms, but the translator should be smart in deciding the the translation. The translation of ads should be effective, having aesthetic sense, and must be easy to understand for the readers. If the translator can't translate the uniqueness of the cultural terms, it will effect the sustainability of the products. In other word, the quality of translation must be paid attention to.

There are some aspects to determine the quality of translation. Barnwell (1983) as cited by Suryawinata (2003) said that the quality of translation depends on accuracy, clarity and naturalness. Accuracy is about the understanding message of SL and transferring the meaning of the message correctly to TL. The main point of this aspect is about the loyalty of meaning in target language. Loyalty in translation doesn't refer to the form, but it refers to the meaning of SL to TL.

Next is clarity. Clarity shows the easiness level of a text to understand the meaning. The involvement of readers to determine the level of clarity and readability becomes the important thing in language factors. Clarity has close relation to readability. In other word, clarity means readability. Readability here is, of course, involving both SL and TL. It tends to discuss about the concept of words from SL to TL. A good translator ability for the concept of words can help him in doing translation. Theoretically, there are some factors determined the level of readability. They are: 1) length of sentence average, 2) numbers of new words, 3) grammatical complexity of the language (Richards et.al (1985) in Nababan, 2003, p. 63). By this definition, it can also be said that clarity is affected by the translator's strategy. The translator's decision in choosing the meaning of a word or the decision in using foreignization or naturalization can make the translation becomes clearer or not.

The last is naturalness. Naturalness is about the effectiveness of translation. Naturalness means that the translation is interesting to read and enjoyable for the readers. In other word, the result of translation is very smooth so the reader doesn't realize that the text is a result of translation. Talking about effectiveness, Nababan (2003, p, 87) said that the effectiveness of translation is determined by 3 dimensions. They are : linguistics and cultural knowledge, purpose, intuition.

A translator must have linguistics knowledge because in doing his job, he must be able to transfer meaning from SL to TL. Besides that, he must also know the cultural knowledge of SL and TL. So, to get good meaning, a translator must understand the difference structure of SL and TL and also understand the culture context of SL and TL.

As the main actor in translation process, a translator must make some decisions about his purpose that he would like to get. His decisions is very important to determine whether the result of translation is still loyal to SL, the style of language is suitable to SL, the level of readability suits to the ability of readers and the use of

translation strategy without making the ambiguity of meaning.

In the process of translation, it involves translator's intuition (Nababan, 2003, p. 92). Intuition has a function to determine the beauty of translation works, although one's can be different to others.

Based on the phenomenon and the theories mentioned above, the researcher determined the problem statement of the research was follow: How is the Meaning on Translation of Indonesian-English Ads Text based on Readability Concept in Translation?

METHOD

This research belonged to descriptive qualitative research. It meanted the researcher tried to describe and identify in detail about the translation of Indonesian - English ads text in details. In this case, the researcher found out the equal meaning of Indonesian-English ads text. The equal meaning here was seen from the understanding of the readers and measured by using readability rating instrument level. Some numbers that appeared in this research symbolized the meaning of readability level and were not operated into statistics formulas.

The data of the research were all phrases and sentences in Indonesian-English ads text of booklet, released by Sukoharjo regency, in the year of 2012. The number of total data were 92 data. After reducing data, the researcher still got 69 data (23 phrases and 46 sentences).

The method of collecting data were questionnaire, in-depth interview and content analysis. While the instruments of the research were question list, interview guide and data card. Questionnaire was given to some informants to know the equal meaning of

some Indonesian-English phrases and sentences that became the data. In-depth interview was held to some foreign informants to know their comments related to the meaning of translations for some phrases and sentences that potentially having the problem for meaning. Next, content analysis is technique of data collecting used by document notes. In this research, content analysis was used to collect the data (phrases and sentences) found on ads text of the booklet. Then all collected data were given the code number based on the classification. Example of Data Code was like this:

1/Wcn.TC/Fr/1b

means

1 = Number of Data

Wcn = Wacana

TC = Tujuan & Cara Pemaparan

Fr = Frasa

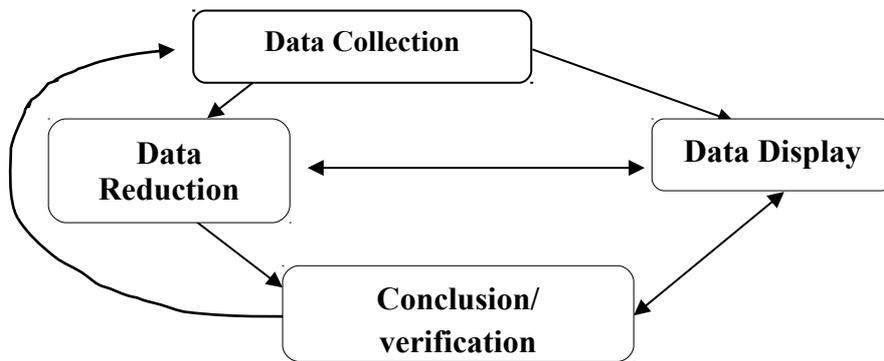
1b = halaman 1 butir b

The data sources were the Indonesian-English ads texts of booklet released by Sukoharjo regency and the informants. The informants were taken by purposive sampling with the criteria of Indonesian experts (Indonesian lecturers) and some foreign readers to know whether the English ads text could be understood or not.

The validity of the research was data triangulation. Here, the researcher got the data from some informants and foreign readers by using questionnaire and interview methods.

For the data analysis, the researcher used interactive models of Miles and Huberman. This model consists of 3 stages, they are reduction, display data and verifying or conclusion (Sutopo, 2002, p. 93).

Figure 1. The Interactive Model of Miles & Huberman



The steps of this model were 1) data collecting, 2) data reduction, 3) data display and 4) conclusion. In this research, the researcher got enough data, so it was not necessary for the researcher to get back to data collection again before conclude the result, finally.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In analyzing the data, the researcher got 92 data but then the researcher reduced 23 of same data . So, the total data were 69 data that classified into 23 phrases and 46 sentences. The researcher revealed about meaning on translation of Indonesian-English Ads Text based on Readability Concept.

In the concept of readability, it refers to clarity that consists of 3 elements. They are

a) length of sentence average, b) numbers of new words, and c) grammatical complexity of the language. The first point (Length of Sentence Average) refers to the average numbers of sentences in a text. The second poin (New Words) can possibly happen in TL because of the different culture between SL and TL. While the third point (Grammatical Complexity) refers to complex sentences used by translator.

Based on the result of data analysis, the researcher got some variations of the length of sentence average. To know about the length of sentence average, the reseacher gave the questionairre to some informants. The result could be visualized in the table as follow:

Table 1. *Length of Sentence Average*

No	Length of Sentence Average	No of Data	Frequence	Criteria
1	21 words - more than 29 words per sentence	24/Wcn.TC/Kal/2	14	Difficult
		25/Wcn.TC/Kal/2		
		28/Wcn.TC/Kal/4		
		31/Wcn.TC/Kal/5		
		37/Wcn.TC/Kal/6		
		40/Wcn.TC/Kal/7		
		41/Wcn.TC/Kal/7		
		44/Wcn.TC/Kal/8		
		45/Wcn.TC/Kal/7		
		47/Wcn.TC/Kal/9		
		52.b/Wcn.TC/Kal/11		
		59/Wcn.TC/Kal/13		
		70/Wcn.TC/Kal/16		
		88/Wcn.TC/Kal/21		
2	15 words – 20 words per sentence	29/Wcn.TC/Kal/4	14	Fair
		35/Wcn.TC/Kal/6		
		51/Wcn.TC/Kal/10		
		51.b/Wcn.TC/Kal/10		
		55/Wcn.TC/Kal/12		
57/Wcn.TC/Kal/12				

		63/Wcn.TC/Kal/14 67/Wcn.TC/Kal/15 73.b/Wcn.TC/Kal/17 77/Wcn.TC/Kal/18 79/Wcn.TC/Kal/19 84/Wcn.TC/Kal/20 85/Wcn.TC/Kal/20 87/Wcn.TC/Kal/21		
3	14 words – below 8 words per sentence	32/Wcn.TC/Kal/5 33/Wcn.TC/Kal/5 33.b/Wcn.TC/Kal/5 36/Wcn.TC/Kal/6 48/Wcn.TC/Kal/9 56/Wcn.TC/Kal/12 60/Wcn.TC/Kal/13 61/Wcn.TC/Kal/13 64/Wcn.TC/Kal/14 67/Wcn.TC/Kal/15 68/Wcn.TC/Kal/15 73/Wcn.TC/Kal/17 75/Wcn.TC/Kal/18 76/Wcn.TC/Kal/18 81/Wcn.TC/Kal/19 82/Wcn.TC/Kal/19 86/Wcn.TC/Kal/20 89/Wcn.TC/Kal/21	18	Easy
Total Number			46	100,00

From the table above, it could be seen that 39,13 % of the sentence average length were categorized into 'easy'. It means that the length of a sentence was built by maximally

14 words. Most of them were simple sentences either active or passive sentences. The examples are taken randomly:

Table 2. *Examples of Sentence Average Length Variation*

No	Coding	SL	TL
1	61/Wcn.TC/Kal/13	Jumlah produksi mencapai 125.000.000 buah per tahunnya.	The production can reach about 125.000.000 items in a year.
2	76/Wcn.TC/Kal/18	Jumlah pengrajin terdapat 534 orang dan menyerap tenaga kerja 1.122 orang.	There are 534 people, which absorb 1.122 workers.
3	86/Wcn.TC/Kal/20	Hasil produksinya telah dipasarkan ke seluruh wilayah Indonesia.	The production has been sold to every region in Indonesia.
4	55/Wcn.TC/Kal/12	Industri gamelan ini ada di desa Wirun dan desa Laban Kecamatan Mojolaban	The industry of gamelan takes place at Wirun village and Laban village the Mojolaban sub district.
5	28/Wcn.TC/Kal/4	Kabupaten Sukoharjo terkenal dengan sebutan kota tekstil, karena lebih dari 10 perusahaan besar dan menengah bergerak di bidang tekstil, diantaranya: Sritex, Batik Keris, Danliris, Tyfountex, Sukoharjotex, Sandang Anggun Moratex, Panca Bintang, Panrama Vista Garment, Sumber Sandang Artogunan dan telah menampung sekitar 61.268 orang tenaga kerja dengan jumlah produksinya mencapai 545.270.000 meter per tahun nya.	The regency of Sukoharjo is well known as a town of textile, because more than ten big and middle companies active in textile industry, for example Sritex, Batik Keris, Danliris, Tyfountex, Sukoharjotex, Sandang Anggun Moratex, Panca Bintang, Panrama Vista Garment, Sumber Sandang Artogunan and held 61.268 workers.

Length of sentence average isn't the one and only determination to see whether

the sentence is readable or not. But there are other factors can also become causes of

readability, for examples new words and grammar complexity.

Data number 61, 76 and 86 were categorized into easy level of readability. Data number 61 belongs to simple sentence and can be easy to understand. This is because length of the sentence is short enough (only having 10 words in a sentence) and no new words there. Data number 76 is relatively easy to understand and shorter than previous sentence (having 8 words in a sentence), though it doesn't belong to simple for having 2 predicates. While data number 86 is a passive sentence and has more words (10 words in a sentence) but it is still easy to understand. For data number 55, it belongs to fair level of readability because there are much more words in a sentence (16 words) and there is a new word (gamelan) in TL. The last example, data number 28 is the longest sentence in the examples. It has more than 29 words in a sentence and categorized into difficult level of readability. In fact, this sentence can be easy to understand for it is simple sentence and most of the words in that sentence are about name of companies.

The category above are not always true for the fact that long sentences can also be easy to understand. This is because the sentence only consists of 1 subject and 1 predicate, no new words in TL and most of the words in the sentence are only mentioning the name of companies or the name of area, etc.

The second point is about new words in TL. New words have relation to meaning, the most important thing in translation. Talking about meaning, it can't be separated

by the culture covering the context of both languages (SL & TL). So, it must be very careful for the translators to transfer meaning having different culture between SL and TL. In some cases, it is impossible for the translators to find out the equal meaning for some terms. In this case, the translator usually try to convey the concept of the word. Related to the culture itself, there are many things considered as culture, for examples: clothes, art, weapon, foods, tradition and so on.

Translating ads text is different to translating other texts because it has certain style of language. Translator must think about the essence of the ads, by transferring the meaning in simple way with limited space but must be understandable and interesting for audience (mass). For the booklet of PUD in Sukoharjo regency, the result of the research showed that the construction of SL ads text was effective enough to translate. It could be explained further in the table below:

In the booklet of PUD in Sukoharjo regency, it was found 69 data. The new words rose in phrases and were repeated insome sentences. From 23 data of phrases, 18 data (78,26 %) were about cultural terms (cloth, foods, drink, music instrument and furniture). Based on the research result, 5 from 18 data (27,78 %) of cultural terms are still endured in the original terms (transliteration), 6 from 18 data (33,33%) of cultural terms belong to naturalization and 7 data (38,89 %) can be translated as well. For the detail data, they can be seen in the table below:

Table 3. Data of New Words Related to Cultural Terms

No	Number of Data	Terms	TL	Note
1	6/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.d	Industri Tekstil	Textille Industry	Ntrl
2	7/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.e	Mebel Kayu	The Wooden Furniture	Done
3	8/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.f	Mebel Rotan	Rattan Furniture	Ntrl
4	9/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.g	Industri Kaca Grafir dan Ukir Kaca	An Engraving & Glass Carving	Done
5	10/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.h	Kerajinan Tatah Sungging	Enameling Inlaid Craft	Done
6	11/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.i	Kerajinan Gitar	Guitar Craft	Ntrl
7	12/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.j	Kain Batik	Batik	Trnslt
8	13/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.k	Alkohol	Alcohol	Ntrl
9	14/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.l	Kerajinan Gamelan	Gamelan Craft	Trnslt
10	15/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.m	Industri Genteng	A Tight Roof Industry	Done
11	16/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.n	Kerajinan Shuttlecock	Shuttlecocks	Trnslt
12	17/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.o	Kerajinan Tenun Sarung Goyor	Sarong Goyor Spindle Craft	Ntrl
13	18/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.p	Hortikultura	Horticulture	Ntrl

14	19/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.q	Industri Jamur Lingzhi	Lingzhi Mushroom Industry	Done
15	20/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.r	Emping Mlinjo	Emping Mlinjo	Trnslt
16	21/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.s	Industri Jenang Rasikan	Jenang Rasikan Industry	Trnslt
17	22/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.t	Jamu	The Healing Herb	Done
18	23/Wcn.TC/Fr/1.u	Keripik Belut	The Eel Chips	Done

From the data above, it could be explained that 26,08 % of total data were about cultural terms. Some of them could be translated well because of the equal meaning, but some of them couldn't be translated for the different cultures between SL and TL. The ones didn't have equal meaning were about traditional music instrument (gamelan), clothes (batik) and traditional foods (emping mlinjo and jenang rasikan).

Based on the result of questionnaire, the translation of jenang rasikan and emping mlinjo couldn't be understood well by the foreign readers. This was because jenang rasikan and emping mlinjo didn't have same concept in TL, and also were not so popular yet in abroad. This condition was different to a data of guitar craft which became the translation of kerajinan gitar. This translation could be understood well because guitar had

same concept and equal meaning between SL to TL.

For the terms that couldn't be translated well for not having equal meaning were about batik cloth, foods, traditional music instrument. While the ones that could be translated as adopted terms were about drink (alcohol), music instrument (guitar), furniture (rattan).

The third point is about grammatical complexity. Usually, grammatical complexity happens in complex sentence. Complex sentence is more difficult to understand than simple sentence. This is because in complex sentence, it may consist of more than one idea. So, it must have more than one clause. From the analysis of grammatical complexity in the ads text of booklet PUD Kab. Sukoharjo, it could be performed below:

Table 4. Grammatical Complexity

No	Data Coding	SL	TL
1	37/Wcn.TC/Kal/6	Produksi rotan ini, 90 % telah mampu menembus pasaran internasional di berbagai negara	The production can reach about 400.000 bonus in a year and 90% of it has broken through to the international market in several countries.
2	70/Wcn.TC/Kal/16	Potensi produksi tanaman hortikultura di Kabupaten Sukoharjo adalah melon, dengan luas lahan 173 ha.	The potential production of the Horticulture plants at Sukoharjo regency consist of Melon with the land wide of 173 hectares can produce 5.690 tons, mango the total number of 78.198 mango's trees can produce 12.138 tons, kedondong with 12.823 trees can produce 1.023 tons, mlinjo is produced around 787 tons and banana which is produced around 3.619 tons.

From the table above, we can see that complex sentence usually uses complex grammar because there are dependent clauses that has function as modifiers. This situation can make the text becomes difficult to understand. More than that, if there are many new words that don't have the equal meaning or same concept in TL, the readability becomes lower and lower. The

more the complex sentences in a text is, the lower the readability of a text is.

For example, data number 70 is a simple sentence in SL, but it changed into complex sentence in TL. The length sentence average in TL is long (59 words). Besides that, there were some new words that didn't have any equal meaning in TL. So, it is difficult for the foreign reader to understand the meaning of the text. On the other hand,

data number 69 belongs to grammatical complexity for the complex sentence. It also came to category of fair in length sentence average (23 words), but it was still rather easy to understand for the foreign readers because it didn't have any new or difficult words. So, complexity grammar had to get much pay attention for the translator because it became the translator's determination in transferring the message.

CONCLUSION

Meaning is the most important thing in translation works. In this research, meaning was shown by the concept of readability that had 3 items in it. They were length of sentence average, new words, and grammatical complexity.

From the analysis of those three items, it can be concluded that the length of sentence average in the booklet of PUD Sukoharjo regency was in the criteria of easy (39,13%). This criteria showed that each sentence was built not more than 14 words. Then about the new words, the booklet of PUD Sukoharjo regency was completed by

some cultural terms that didn't have the same concept in TL. This situation could make difficult for the foreign readers to understand the meaning. Last, grammatical complexity in the booklet of PUD Sukoharjo regency was not found much. Only 4,34% belonged to grammatical complexity.

Besides, from the result of questionnaire that were distributed to the informants, it showed that the average score for readability of text was 2,22 (for the maximal score 3). It means that the result of translation couldn't be fully understood.

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