

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of research, statement of problems, purposes and significances, organization of paper and clarification of terms.

A. Background of Research

There is an irony at the simile translations. It is usually considered that simile is translated in order to give a sustained image or analogy, yet at the same the translation itself does not only translate the words but also adapt the message.

Regarding the simile translation, the writer assumes that not every reader, particularly children, can understand the use of simile as a figurative language in narratives. Through the language in which they are couched, simile is a figure of speech in which one thing is likened to another, in such away as to clarify and enhance an image. It is an explicit comparison recognizable by the use of the words *like* or *as* (Cuddon, 1998:340).

For further information regarding the simile translations in this research, see the following example taken from Sharon Creech's novel (1994:5) *Walk Two Moons* and Indonesian version of the novel (2003:13) *Perjalanan Dua Purnama*.

Also-although this wasn't important-I think Dad did not trust Gram and Gramps to behave themselves along the way unless they had me with them. Dad said that if they tried to go on their own, he would save everyone a lot of and embarrassment by calling the police and having them arrested even they leave the drive away. It might sound a bit extreme for a man to call the police on his own tottery old

parents but when my grandparents get in a car trouble just naturally follow them like a filly tailing behind a mare.

The following passage is taken from Indonesian version of the novel which contains simile.

Dan juga—meskipun alasan ini tidak terlalu penting seperti alasan-alasan tadi—aku rasa Ayah tidak percaya kalau Kakek dan Nenek mampu menjaga diri mereka selama dalam perjalanan, apabila aku tidak ikut bersama. Kata Ayah, jika mereka pergi berdua saja, ia akan menghemat waktu semua orang dengan langsung menelepon polisi agar menahan Kakek dan Nenek. Mungkin terdengar agak ekstrem mendengar seseorang menelepon polisi agar menahan kedua orang tuanya yang sudah tua, tapi jika Kakek dan Nenekku melakukan perjalanan dengan mobil, otomatis masalah akan mengikuti mereka berdua seperti anak kuda yang mengekor induknya.

Based on the passages above, the sustained image, here, of the *when my grandparents get in a car trouble just naturally follow them like a filly tailing behind a mare* is expressed as simile. The word *like* is indicating simile. The author uses this word to reveal the meaning. The similarity statement is artificial resuming a mare and its youngster who always naturally follow, producing a memorable simile. The writer assumes that it will be interpreted by the readers at the end of the narrative: when *the two grandparents get in a car* (the topic) are compared to *a filly tailing behind a mare* (the vehicle) attributing to them the uncontrolled behavior of young animal that play and are not aware of the consequences of its actions. The simile uses language indicating to the readers how to read it as comparison.

In addition, the comparison of the simile translations below, Creech provides the sustained image of simile:

...follow them **like** a filly tailing behind a mare

...mengikuti mereka berdua **seperti** anak kuda yang mengekor induknya.

The bold print above highlights the signals given to the reader that these are comparisons and supports the reader's interpretation. Since the purpose of this research is to understand simile translations, the writer tries to aim only simile translations.

The writer supposes that when dealing with translation of novel, particularly children's literature, sometimes, it needs to ask questions about what it is and flesh out what it means. Translators often stress how important it is to translate for children just as well as for adult readers. The assumption is that the translators must not adapt, abridge, or alter children's literature in any way while translating, but it must keep to the same level of accuracy as he or she does when translating for adults.

B. The Statements of Problem

The research problems are limited to the procedures applied, problems encountered, and solutions provided by the translator. Thus, the research questions are addressed as follows:

1. What translation procedures the translator used to translate the similes from source language (SL) into target language (TL)?
2. What are the common problems encountered by the translator in translating similes in the novel?
3. What techniques does the translator use to overcome the common problems in translating similes in the novel?

C. Purpose and Significance

This study has several goals that must be achieved. The purposes are related to the procedures used, problems encountered by the translator in translating similes in the novel and solution or techniques use to overcome the common problems in translating similes in the novel provided by the translator. Hence, the purposes of study are:

1. To identify the simile translations procedures.
2. To analyze the most common problems encountered by the translator during translating simile.
3. To analyze the techniques of solving problems used by the translator in overcoming the problems in translating similes in the novel.

The writer hopes the results that emerge from this study may be beneficial for the writer-self and the readers. Academically this research adds writer's knowledge about translating simile, particularly translating simile for children. Besides it will be significant to the learners in understanding about simile translations. It is as well supposed to expand the readers of this research in the field of translation and open their mind to become more alert of the importance of the translation theories and its practice.

D. Organization of Paper

This section is organized into five chapters. Chapter one presents background of research, statements of problem, purposes and significances, clarification of terms, organization of paper, and concluding remarks. Chapter

two, the related theories to the research of simile translations are presented. Chapter three presents the methodology of research. Chapter four is the data analysis. Chapter five contains conclusion and suggestion.

E. Clarification of Terms

The explanations in respect to some important terms used, especially related to the *Skripsi* title, are provided, in this study, to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation, as follows:

1. Translation in this study is a general term referring to the transfer of thoughts and ideas from one language (source) to another language (target).
2. Simile is a figure of speech in which one thing is likened to another, in such away as to clarify and enhance an image. It is an explicit comparison (as opposed to the metaphor, where the comparison is implicit) recognizable by the use of the words *like* or *as* (Cuddon, 1998: 85). Simile translations used in this study are taken from Sharon Creech's novel *Walk Two Moons* and Indonesian version *Perjalanan Dua Purnama*.
3. Novel is a story long enough to fill a complete book, in which the characters and events are usually imaginary (Oxford, 2000:867). This research used Sharon Creech's novel entitled *Walk Two Moons* and Indonesian version of the novel *Perjalanan Dua Purnama* translated by Esti A. Budi Habsari.

This section has discussed introduction of research. These included background of research, formulation of problem, purposes and significances,

organization of paper, and clarification of terms. The next chapter discusses the literature review of related theories to research findings.





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