

# **TRANSLATION OF THEMATIC STRUCTURE OF DESCRIPTIVE TEXT FROM INDONESIAN INTO ENGLISH**

**Meikardo Samuel Prayuda<sup>1</sup>, Theresia Shintanauli Margaretha Silalahi<sup>2</sup>, Fiber Yun Almanda Ginting<sup>3</sup>**

Universitas Katolik Santo Thomas<sup>1</sup>, SMP Medan Mulia<sup>2</sup>, Universitas Katolik Santo Thomas<sup>3</sup>  
Email: meichardohanon@gmail.com<sup>1</sup>, theresiasilalahi45678@gmail.com<sup>2</sup>,  
fiberginting1988@gmail.com<sup>3</sup>

## **ABSTRACT**

This research was made to analyze the translation of the thematic structure of descriptive text from Indonesian into English. The result of this research was that there were some shifts occurred from the source text into the target text on the descriptive translation made by the students. The result was that the most shifts occur on the clause number 5 with 10 shifts. Secondly was clause number 6 with 6 shifts. Thirdly was clause number 9, 10, 11 with each of them consists of 3 shifts. The students who want to make translation of descriptive text from Indonesian into English to pay attention on their translation especially on the shifts that might be occurred on their translation. The shifts of the translation from the source text into the target text might result the shifts of meaning too.

**Keywords:** translation\_analysis, thematic\_structure, descriptive\_text

## **INTRODUCTION**

Language is a mean of communication which has been used by humans in communicating their thoughts from one to another. They use language in their daily life to live in societies. The societies develop as the time goes on and create variation in their language.

The variations of the language are influenced by some factors as culture, place, ethnicity, etc. It describes the differences of language among each countries. Realizing the differences of the language and the need of communication which purposed to communicate thoughts to each other, it was decided that it was important to create an international language.

English is an international language which has been approved by all of the nations in the world. The acquisition of English language has become an important thing to achieve in order to get in touch with the international world. That reason has made most countries to include English in their curriculum. The analysis of the text in functional grammar is known as the textual analysis or in this case the thematic structure. The thematic analysis allows the

analyzer to see the meaning transfer of source language into the target language equality. The equality can be described as if the position of theme and rhyme of source language is the same with the position of theme and rhyme of the target language after the translation process.

Move from the preliminary study which has been done in this study, it was found out that most of the students had missed transfer of the meaning from the source language into target language as found out when the students asked to transfer the meaning of, “Mereka pergi ke Medan kadang-kadang” into, “Sometimes they go to Medan”. The meaning transfer was changed and the quality meaning from the source language and the target language was not equal in thematic structure term as the theme and rhyme of the source language was different with the position of the theme and rhyme of the target language.

The result of the preliminary study above resulted curiosity to conduct this study with the title, “The Translation of the Thematic structure of Descriptive Text from Indonesian into English of English

Department Students of FKIP HKBP Nommensen Pematangsiantar University.”

A translation is part of a process concerning a dynamics of verbal interaction; as a verbal object it is a sign activated and conditioned, on the one hand, by the social organization of the individuals participating in the communicative process, and on the other hand, by the conditions in which that interaction occurs (Bakhtin 1977:41).

Translating concerns the processing phases and the mechanisms functioning in complex relationships modified and structured by the interplay between human activity and interlingual textual production; as such, translating begins with the reception of the ST, and continues in the actualization of the RT in the receptors' interpretative contexts.

In translating, we shall distinguish a number of factors related to the concrete forms of social communication, since the transfer of a message from ST to RT, as a passage of an utterance from a given national language or social territory to another, is a semiotic transfer to another linguistic system.

According to Brislin (1976: 1) translation is a general term referring to the transfer of thoughts and ideas from one language to another, whether the language is in written or oral form, whether the languages have established orthographies or not; or whether one or both languages is based on signs, as with signs of the deaf.

Another expert, Wilss (1982: 3), states that translation is a transfer process which aims at the transformation of a written source language text (SLT) into an optimally equivalent target language text (TLT), and which requires the syntactic, the

semantic, and the pragmatic understanding and analytical processing of the source text. Syntactic understanding is related to style and meaning.

Understanding of semantics is meaning related activity. Finally, pragmatic understanding is related to the message or implication of a sentence. This definition does not states what is transferred. Rather, it states the requirement of the process.

Nida and Taber (1982: 12) see translating as a process of 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. In other words, translation is a transfer of meaning, message, and style from one SLT to the TLT. In the order of priority, style is put at the last. Here the things to reproduce (transfer) is stated, message.

Newmark (1991: 27) defines the act of translating very briefly. It is the act of transferring meaning of a stretch or a unit of language, the whole or a part, from one language to another. (The discussion on meaning can be seen at sub-point F. Meaning, Message, and Style.)

## FINDINGS

The data above provided some results which discussed broadly in this finding. Mainly, the analysis was divided into two main categories. They are Theme, Rheme. Broadly, the analysis went deeper to the analysis of the elements of theme which were Unmarked theme, Marked theme.

From the data analysis, the result was drawn as follow.

Table 4.2 Text Analysis

Sentence	Source Language	Shift in Target Language	Description
1	UT	2	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is " Ruang mungil di sisi depan rumahku ini bersih dan rapi ". In this sentence the theme is Ruang mungil and it is unmarked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "In front of my house there is a living room". In this sentence the theme is in front of and it is marked.
2	UT	0	There is no structure shift in this sentence.

Sentence	Source Language	Shift in Target Language	Description
3	UT	1	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is " Ruang itu bercat abu-abu ". In this sentence the theme is Ruang itu and it is unmarked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "painting with grey color". In this sentence the theme is painting and it is marked.
4	UT	0	There is no structure shift in this sentence.
5	MT	10	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is " Senada dengan cat tembok, kursi di ruang tamu kami berwarna abu-abu.". In this sentence the theme is senada dengan and it is unmarked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "The wall and the chairs are grey" or "the chairs is grey. In this sentence the theme is the wall or it and it is marked.
6	UT	6	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is " Ada tiga kursi disana, satu kursi panjang dan dua buah kursi kecil ". In this sentence the theme is ada tiga kursi and it is unmarked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "with three seats". In this sentence the theme is in front of and it is marked.
7	MT	1	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is " Diantara kursi tersebut terdapat meja pendek berwarna coklat". In this sentence the theme is diantara and it is marked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "There is a short brown table near the chairs". In this sentence the theme there is and it is unmarked.
8	UT	1	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is " Ruang ini juga tidak memajang perabotan yang banyak, terdapat satu lukisan pemandangan diatas kursi yang berukuran panjang.". In this sentence the theme is Ruang ini and it is unmarked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "not showing many furniture". In this sentence the theme is not and it is marked.
9	UT	3	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is " Ruang mungil ini dibatasi oleh kayu yang dipasang bercelah sehingga ruang didalam pun tampak dari ruangan ini.". In this sentence the theme is Ruang mungil and it is unmarked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "Patched with a pairs of wood". In this sentence the theme is patched of and it is marked.
10	UT	3	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is "Pembatas kayu tersebut terdapat 3 hiasan guci kecul di dalam rak". In this sentence the theme is pembatas kayu and it is unmarked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "using a wood we make a patch as a gap". In this sentence the theme using and it is marked.
11	MT	3	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is "selain itu diatas meja juga terdapat hiasan sederhana berupaa miniatur jembatan terkenal". In this sentence the theme is selain itu and it is marked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "There is a miniature of a famous bridge". In this sentence the theme is there is and it is unmarked.
12	UT	2	There is a shift in the structure of language of this sentence. In the source language the sentence is "Suasana itu membuat aku merasa nyaman menyambut tamu". In this sentence the theme is suasana and it is unmarked. There is structural shift in the source language, where the sentence is "Make the guest feel comfort".

Sentence	Source Language	Shift in Target Language	Description
			In this sentence the theme is make and it is marked.

## CONCLUSION

The objective of this research is to find out the academic students of HKBP Nommensen university translation of the thematic structure of descriptive text from Indonesian into English. Based on the objective, the findings has found out the answer, which shows that there are some

shifts occurred from the source text into the target text on the descriptive translation made by the students. The result is that the most shifts occur on the clause number 5 with 10 shifts. Secondly was clause number 6 with 6 shifts. Thirdly was clause number 9, 10, 11 with each of them consists of 3 shifts.

## REFERENCES

- Agusti'n Llach, M.P. (2007) Lexical errors as writing quality predictors. *Studia Linguistica* 61 (1), 1\_19.
- Agusti'n Llach, M.P. (2009a) Lexical L1 transfer in Spanish EFL writing. Paper presented at the XXVII International AESLA Conference, Ciudad Real, 26\_28 March 2009.
- Bakhtin, M.M. (1977). *The Bakhtin Circle and Translation*. Modern Humanities Research Association
- Bakhtin, M.M. (1977). *The Bakhtin Circle and Translation*. Modern Humanities Research Association
- Brislin, R.W. (1976). *Translation: Application and Research*. New York: Gardnes Press. Inc
- Danes, F. (1974). Functional sentence perspective and the organization of the text. In F. Danes (Ed.), *Paperson functional sentence perspective* (pp. 106-128). Prague: Academia/The Hague:Mouton.
- Diaz, Myriam. (1985). *Translating Poetic Discourse: Questions on Feminist Strategies in* Adrienne Rich. Philadelphia
- Halliday, M.A.K. (2004). *Introduction to Functional Grammar*. Great Britain
- Hohulin, Richard. (1982). *The Quest for Dynamic Equivalence in Translation*. Ross
- Kothari. (2004). *Research Methodology*. New Age International Limited Publisher. New Delhi
- Newmark, Peter. (1991). *About Translation*. Multilingual Matters
- Nida, Eugène A. (1964). *Toward a Science of Translating*. Leiden: E.J. Brill.
- Richards, J. C., Platt, J., & Platt, H. (1992). *Dictionary of language teaching and applied linguistics* (2nd ed.). London: Longman.
- Thompson, G. (1996). *Introducing functional grammar*. London: Arnold.
- Unsworth, L. (1993). *Researching language in schools and communities: Functional linguistics perspective*. London / Washington: Cassell.
- Wills, Wolfman. (1982). *Padanan Terjemahan, Sepuluh Makalah mengenai Penerjemahan*, ed. R. B. Noss, penerj. K. Gunawan. Jakarta: Rebia Indah Prakarsa