RHYME, METRE ANALYSIS AND TRANSLATION STRATEGIES OF SAPARDI DJOKO DAMONO’S POEMS

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ABSTRACT

This thesis is entitled Rhyme, Metre analysis and Translation Strategies of Sapardi Djoko Damono’s poems. The objective of this study is to find out what translation strategy applied by the translator in translating Sapardi’s poems in the book Black Magic Rain. This thesis was a qualitative research. The data were collected through two steps, the first step was to collect the data from book, and thesecond step was to divide the data into stanza and stanza into line. In analyzing the data, the researcher read the bilingual poems and found the classified data to be analyzed. There are 47 lines in the poems which analyzed and classified according to the translation strategies composed by Andre Lefevere. The result shows that there are 3 translation strategies applied by the translator in order to translate the poems. The 1st translation strategy is translation using literal translation strategy it is applied 32 times (68,08%). The 2nd translation strategy is translation by using Interpretation which is applied 8 times (17,03%). The 3rd translation strategy is translation by using Blank Verse. This translation strategy was applied 7 times (14,89%). In conclusion, it can be concluded that the dominant translation strategy applied by the translator in translating Sapardi’s poem is Literal translation strategy.

Keywords: Translation Strategies, Poems, Rhyme and Metre, Black Magic Rain Book.
INTRODUCTION

Recently translation has become a very interesting field and challenging object to study because in this globalization era a lot of literary works such as books, movies, song and poetry is translated to many languages, especially in English. Translating literary works into English is a way to immediately introduce literary works to a much broader audience and Moreover English is a global language the language which the world’s most widely spoken that’s why it is important for us to master English. By mastering English language it will allow us to access unlimited amount of information written in English and enjoyed unlimited amount of entertainment such as movies from Hollywood, English song and literature. A lot of literary works such as novel and poem have been translated to English in order to introduce the works to global market. However, Translation is not a simple process by translating word by word using dictionary, it is a process which requires a lot of cultural awareness and understanding.

There are many expert proposed different definitions about translation. One of the most prominent definitions of translation is given by an English professor of translation at The University of Surrey named Peter Newmark (1988: 5) who defines translation as “rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text”. His definition focused on rendering meaning of the source language text into the target language text as what is intended by the author. Moreover, translation is a process which not only deals with language it is also deals with culture aspects. Kridalaksana, an expert in translation theory states on his book (1983:128), “Translation is a transfer of an intercultural of an interlanguage in terms of grammatical and lexicalby maintaining its intended meaning, its form and its impact.” Based on the definition above it can be concluded that his view about translation is a process of transferring message not only the language itself but also the cultures.

According to the definition given by two experts above, it can be concluded that the point of translation is to render the message from the source language (SL) into target language (TL) which requires cultural awareness and understanding.

There are several things that need to be considered in translating activity one of them is the choice of word the translator use to translate the text so the result of the translation will be accurate, clear, natural and effective. So, the message from the Source language (SL) can be perfectly transferred in the Target language (SL) and the text has a good degree of readability.

In translating literary works, The role of a professional translator is very important because a translator is a mediator between cultures. So, a translator has to be a competent person who masters both the source language and the target language and have awareness of the culture both the source and target language reader so the translator will be able to translate a text based on the culture of the target readers. The most important thing is a translator should have empathy for his target reader. For example a text translated for elementary school student should be simple and easy to understand and a text translated for university students must be suited to their level of comprehension.
One of the challenging materials to be translated by a professional translator is poems. Translating poems is considered to be one of the most complicated types of translation because poetry has unique structures and aesthetic values such as rhyme, meter, rhythm, metaphor hyperbole and devices such as assonance, alliteration and onomatopoeia which can’t be find in daily language conversation and make poems different from another literary works. That’s what makes translating poems as a complex and thrilling project for a translator to do.

In this study the researcher is interested in analyzing poems written by Sapardi Djoko Damono and its English translation translated by Herry Aveling derived from a volume published in Malaysia, *Sihir Hujan or Black Magic Rain* (Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, Kuala Lumpur, 1984). The book was awarded the “Second Putra Poetry Prize” in 1983, in a literary competition sponsored by the Bank Bumiputra Malaysian Berhad, and organized by GAPENA, the Malaysian National Writer Association. In this study, the researcher takes eight poems or 20% of poems from 40 poems in Black Magic Rain volume that Sapardi writes.

The reason why the writer chose poems written by Sapardi Djoko Damono is because he is well known as a living legend and one of the best indonesian poet. His poetry has drawn many praise and admiration from public. A number of his poems have become highly popular after being set to music, while many of his works also widely distributed on social media. One of the reasons why he is very famous is because his ability to uses simple and endearing language in his work. He is one of indonesian talented writer which a lot of his works has been translated into English.

In this study, the researcher wants to find out what strategies are used to translate poem written by Sapardi Djoko Damono entitled *Kami Bertiga, Di tangan Anak- Anak, Perahu Kertas, Sihir Hujan, Cermin, Yang Fana Adalah Waktu, Bertebaran Sayap and Apakah* written by Sapardi Djoko Damono and they are translated into English as: *Three of us, In Children’s Hands, Paper Boat, Black Magic Rain, Mirror, Time is Meaningless, Spreading Wings and The Problem* by Harry G Aveling.

The translation strategies used in this study are translation strategies from Belgian theorist Andre Alphons Lafevere. He notes seven strategies of translation for translating poems. There are phonemic translation strategies, literal translation strategies, metrical translation strategies, verse-to-prose translation, rhymed translation, free verse translation, and interpretation. Comparing to the other translation strategies, the strategies from Andre Lafewere is the most suitable strategies to analyze the translation of poems and song lyrics.

**RESEARCH METHOD**

**Research Design**

The research design to analyze the problem in this study was qualitative research. Qualitative research was the method to describe the subject or the object of the research based on the fact or reality. According to Denzin and Lincoln (1994), qualitative method focuses on interpretation of phenomena in their natural setting to make sense in terms of the meanings people bring to these settings.
Unit of Analysis

The unit of analysis of this study was the textual elements and the translation strategies used in every stanza of the poems entitled *Kami Bertiga, Di tangan Anak- Anak, Perahu Kertas, Sihir Hujan, Cermin, Yang Fana Adalah Waktu, Bertebaran Sayap* and *Apakah* written by Sapardi Djoko Damono and they are translated into English as: *Three of us, In Children’s Hands, Paper Boat, Black Magic Rain, Mirror, Time is Meaningless, Spreading Wings* and *The Problem* by Harry G Aveling.

Source of Data

The data of this study were taken from the poems in bilingual version. The researcher takes 20% of poems or 8 poems from 40 poems in book *Black Magic Rain* to be analyzed. The poetry is written by Sapardi Djoko Damono entitled *Kami Bertiga, Di tangan Anak- Anak, Perahu Kertas, Sihir Hujan, Cermin, Yang Fana Adalah Waktu, Bertebaran Sayap* and *Apakah* they are translated into English by Harry G Aveling. The poem was taken from Black Magic Rain Volume Published by Department of Malay Studies National University of Singapore in 1993.

Technique of Data Collection

The data collection of this study used documentation method. The researcher collected the data from the book. It contained two languages; they were Indonesian as the source language and English as target language. In collecting data the researcher used the following steps:

1. Choosing the data
   The researcher found poems book by Sapardi Djoko Damono from e-book on the internet and then the researcher chose eight poems from the book or 20% from the total of poem in that book.

2. Reading the data
   The second step was reading the poems written by Sapardi Djoko Damono as the source data, and then compared it with its translation.

3. Identifying the data
   The next step of data collection was identifying the data, the researcher identified the data into each stanza of the poems.

Technique of Data Analysis

This study used qualitative method of research. In the research, the researcher analyzed the data using the following steps:

1. Dividing the poems into stanzas.
2. Comparing rhythm and meter by finding the number syllables of each line in each stanza.
3. Comparing rhyme by finding the rhyme pattern of each line in each stanza.
4. Comparing the data between Indonesian and English version
5. Determining the translation strategies used by the translator in translating Sapardi Djoko Damono’s poetics based on the comparison of textual elements in two versions of poems.
6. Drawing conclusion
FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

According to Andre Alphons Lefevere, there are 7 translation strategies which can be applied in translating poems. The translation strategies are phonemic translation, literal translation, metrical translation, verse-to-prose translation, rhymed translation, free verse translation, and interpretation. However, in translating Sapardi’s poems the researcher found that there are only 3 strategies applied. The following Table 4.1 presents the amount and percentage of each translation strategy applied by the translator in translating Sapardi Djoko Damono’s poems.

Table 4.1 The Translation Strategies Applied in translating Sapardi’s poems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Translation strategies</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Literal translation</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>68.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Blank verse translation</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Interpretation</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Data</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above shows the amount and percentage of 3 translation strategies applied by the translator in order to translate Sapardi’s poems. Those are literal translation which applied 32 times (68.08%), Interpretation which applied 8 times (17.03%), Blank verse translation strategy which was applied 7 times (14.89%). It can be concluded that the dominant translation strategy applied by the translator is the Literal translation strategies which take 68.08% or applied 32 times.

Discussion

According to the findings, the discussion about the applied translation strategies in translating Sapardi Djoko Damono’s poems can be given as follows:

From the 47 lines of poem, there were 3 translation strategies applied by the translator to translate Sapardi’s poems into TL. Those translation strategies are, Literal translation strategy, Interpretation strategy and Blank verse translation strategy.

Translation using Literal translation

Based on the data finding, the translator applied the literal translation to translate 32 lines of poems in the bilingual poems book by Sapardi Djoko Damono. This translation strategy focuses on transferring words for words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>DTA/S01/L01</th>
<th>Translation Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>Di tangan anak anak kertas menjelma perahu sinbad</td>
<td>Literal translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TL</td>
<td>In children’s hands, paper becomes Sinbad’s boat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The strategy that is used in translating the line above is literal translation. In the line above each element of the word is translated according to the meaning or the meaning closest to the context of the sentence, the words rearranged, and there are some words that deliberately omitted by the translator.

**Translation using Literal translation Blank Verse Translation Strategy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>APK/S01/L02</th>
<th>Translation Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>Adam, apakah kau dengar yang lancing dalam isak isterimu</td>
<td>Blank Verse Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TL</td>
<td>Adam, what poetry did you hear in your wife’s weeping</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blank verse is an unrhymed translation which emphasizes the meaning of the original poem. There is rhyme detected in the Source Language. But, in the Target Language there is no case of rhyme has been detected. However, the message of the poem from the source language is delivery well conveyed into the target language. Translation by unrhymed lines is blank verse translation. Using this method can give greater accuracy and higher degree of literalness.

**Translation using Interpretation strategy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>PRK/S02/L02</th>
<th>Translation Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>Kau Sangat Gembira</td>
<td>Interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TL</td>
<td>Delighted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the stanza two of the poem *Perahu Kertas* the translator uses the version type of interpretation method. The TL is semantically same with the SL poem, but physically different. The form of two versions of poems is different. The different is in the number of stanza. The original poem has 5 lines and English poem has 4 lines. There are a lot of words or sentence in the original poem have become shorter in the English poem.

**Conclusion**

The objective of this analysis is to find out what is the translation strategy applied by the translator in translating Sapardi Djoko Damono’s poems. Based on the objective, some conclusions can be given bellow. Based on the data finding, there are 3 translation strategies by Andre Lefevere which are applied by the translator to translate Sapardi’s poems. Those translation strategies are literal translation strategy, interpretation strategy and blank verse translation. The literal translation was applied by the translator to translate 32 (68.08%) lines. The interpretation strategy applied by the translator to translate 8 (17.03%) cases of pure idioms. The blank verse translation strategy applied by the translator to translate (14.89%) case of pure idioms. From the amount and the percentage of the translation strategy applied by the translator to translate Sapardi’s poems, it can be concluded that literal translation is the dominant strategy applied by the translator.
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