NATURALNESS CHARACTERISTICS IN THE INDONESIAN TRANSLATION OF PAULO COELHO’S NOVEL “THE DEVIL AND MISS PRYM”

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Advisor,

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This study aims to analyze naturalness characteristics in the Indonesian translation of Paulo Coelho’s novel “The Devil and Miss Prym”. Naturalness characteristics lead a translator to make a good translation work because without these characteristics possible irregularities in the translation work be even greater, and it will affect the result of the translation. Naturalness characteristics in translation is divided into seven characteristics based on E. Sadtono and Riyadi Santoso; those are not adapting the nature of source language, not embarking major changes, not preserving the unacceptable grammar, not embarking odd language styles, word choices must fit with the text (technically), exposure of implicit information, and the use of idioms that cover cultural domains. This research focuses on chapter 1 to 5 of Paulo Coelho’s novel “The Devil and Miss Prym” and its translation. A descriptive qualitative method was used in this study. The result of this study shows that the total number of naturalness characteristics found in translation work of Paulo Coelho’s novel is 162 data. The highest frequency of naturalness characteristics is word choices must fit with the text (technically) with 119 data (73.46 %), and there are 7 data (4.32 %) of exposure of implicit information. The frequency of not adapting the nature of source language is 25 data (15.43 %). The use of idioms that cover cultural domains is 3 data (1.86 %), while there are 4 data (2.47 %) of not preserving the unacceptable grammar. The lowest frequency of naturalness characteristics is not embarking major changes and not embarking odd language styles with only 2 data (1.23 %). It can be concluded that word choices must fit with the text (technically) is the most dominant of naturalness characteristics found in the novel. The way and choice of how the translator translates very carefully, it requires theoretical knowledge and an understanding of how choices in texts reflect other relationships between senders and receivers of the information. That is why the translator makes sure word choices must fit with the text, so the readers easily to understand. The translator should transfer either messages or forms of the source text being translated into equivalent target text and should be in natural way. It means that a translated text should not be read as a result of translation. The readers should read the translated text as a text which is written in their own language. In other words, there must be equivalence between the source text and the target text.

Keywords: Naturalness Characteristics, Translation, The Devil and Miss Prym
INTRODUCTION

"Natural language is a language which is readable by everybody, however, it is formal. Ordinary language is the plain non-technical idiom used by Oxford philosopher's explanation. Basic language is somewhere between formal and informal, which is easily understood, and is constructed from languages that are most frequently used by common people" (Newmark, 1988: 87).

The naturalness of translation becomes the important thing in translation. A translator has to pay attention to the naturalness of the target text that he or she translates. It becomes the measurement for the translator to make the product of translation acceptable for the readers in target language text. The text translated would be meaningful if the readers of the target language text can get the point to the text presented.

Moreover, one of aspect in translation is translating a novel. A novel is a long prose which is written in narrative that usually describes in the form of a sequential story. The word novel comes from Italian novella, the meaning is short stories or news while a person who writes the novel is called novelist. If there is not a translator who tries to translate a novel especially a novel is written by a famous novelist. Many people around the world cannot read the novel. Besides, it can be concluded that the famous novelist cannot be recognized in the world if there are not translators who want to try to translate the novel into other languages. In this case, the role of a translator has a big contribution in the field of translation.

There are so many western novels which are translated into Indonesian language. These can raise problem such as the translation naturalness because of the cultural differences. What is natural in one situation may be unnatural in another situation. It can be proved by the facts that there have been misinterpretations if a translator fails to find out natural phrases, clauses, sentences, and utterances for certain terms. For this purpose, there are naturalness characteristics in translation based on E. Sadtono and Riyadi Santoso. Those consist not adapting the nature of source language, not
embarking major changes, not preserving the unacceptable grammar, not embarking odd language styles, word choices must fit with the text (technically), exposure of implicit information, and the use of idioms that cover cultural domains.

Therefore, the researcher tries to analyze naturalness characteristics in the Indonesian translation in a famous novel “The Devil and Miss Prym” is written by Paulo Coelh o. He was born on August 24, 1947 in Rio de Janeiro Brazil. Coelho has sold over 86 million in over 150 countries worldwide and also his works had been translated into 66 languages.

“The Devil and Miss Prym” is the conclusion to the trilogy And on the Seventh Day which began with “By the River Piedra, I Sat Down and Wept” and the hugely popular “Veronika Decides to Die”. Each of the three books focuses on a week in the life of ordinary people faced with a major life-changing force; be it love, death or power, it is Coelho’s firm belief that “the profoundest changes take place within a very reduced time frame”.

There are many responses in pros and contras of “The Devil and Miss Prym” novel. The data of reader responses show that most of the readers like this novel but many of the readers dislike this novel. It can be seen such as in www.amazon.com. There was someone suggests that “The Devil and Miss Prym” is interesting story because the writer uses a simple narrative technique to approach some very difficult question “are people bad?” Although some people might think it would be impossible to explore good vs. evil without a certain amount of rhetoric but Coelho’s approach is fresh and does not resort to the usual cliches.

“The Devil and Miss Prym” tries to answer the question that haunts ones minds and hearts whenever someone is in distress or sufferings. It is a question that arises in the human mind at times of distress, rejection or betrayal. It teaches one to believe in nature. It is the age old fight between good and evil beautifully portrayed with references to Bible and religion including the last
supper. Put simply, the question is “Are people bad?” or are we good or are we bad?

The story begins with Berta watching a stranger come into town. For almost fifteen years, old Berta had spent everyday sitting outside her front door, watching over the little, idyllic village Viscos, occasionally talking with her deceased husband. She is waiting for the devil to come, as her husband has predicted to her. Then one day, actually a stranger appeared with the intention of staying one week in the village. Somewhere in the wood, he buries a treasure 11 bars of gold. On the way back, he meets Chantal Prym, a young and rather beautiful barmaid, who is bored of the idyllic scenery and slow pace of life. Regularly she takes a fancy to passing tourists and easily seduces them to her bed in the hope that one of them, just one of them will prove to be her escape route. Miss Prym has edges, she is not wholly likable, but the reader can also understand some of her frustrations. However, the stranger shows her the buried treasure and promises that it will belong to the villagers if they agree to kill someone before the week is over. From this moment on, there is a ferocious battle within the young woman; a battle between her angel and her devil. She sees in the gold the ticket to finally escape this hell, which is a paradise to others. Still, something holds her back.

After some days of hard thinking, she decides to tell her fellow men what the stranger has proposed, trusting that they will refuse. The people’s reaction to her the next day, however, plants the seed of doubt inside of Chantal. Now she fears for her own precious life. As an act of desperation, she plans to abandon Viscos with one of the stranger’s bars. Destiny though seems to have other plans with her, and therefore sends a rogue wolf, which threatens Chantal’s life. Luckily, the stranger arrives, and both manage to escape. There they have a meaningful discussion, which is able to keep his devil at bay for a while. Meanwhile the villagers assemble in the church to choose their victim, in order to get the promised bounty. Their selected scapegoat was old Berta, for she was already old and life had to be a burden for her, after all her husband
died of a hunting accident long ago. Shortly before the villagers execute the poor old lady, Chantal makes a stand and persuades the inhabitants of Viscos what a great stupidity they are about to make. She proves them wrong about all their foolish dreams about the gold and convinces them that under no circumstances murder are justified. This way she gave the stranger the answer to his question, as well. Every human being embodies some evil and some good; our conduct is a matter of control and choice.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is very interested in analyzing naturalness characteristics in the Indonesian translation of Paulo Coelho’s novel “The Devil and Miss Prym”.

**RESEARCH METHOD**

**Data and subject**

The data were taken from Paulo Coelho’s novel entitled “The Devil and Miss Prym” published in 2000 by Harper Collins publisher, New York and its translation into Rosi L. Simamora’s “Iblis dan Miss Prym” published in 2011 by Gramedia Pustaka Utama, Jakarta. The novel of English was presented in 201 pages, while the Indonesian novel was presented 250 pages. The ISBN of the English novel is 0-00-711603-9 and the ISBN of the Indonesian novel is 978-979-22-6834-8. The data of this study were English-Indonesian novels focused on Chapter 1 to 5.

Based on the rating of this novel in www.amazon.com, this novel is popular enough. It is proven by the selling of this novel and being the bestseller book in the world. This novel is subtitled “A novel of a temptation”. This novel has been translated into 63 languages and published in 150 countries, including Indonesian languages and many people like Paulo Coelho’s The Devil and Miss Prym. It also met him got a lot of award, the two prestigious Italian Award in 1994, he was given The Prestigious Crystal Award and BAMBI 2001 The Oldest and Most Prestigious Award in Germany. Paulo caused a real sensation when he
traveled to Russia where five of his books simultaneously are on the bestseller list, and The Devil and Miss Prym at number one.

**Unit of Analysis**

The unit analysis of this research study is about natural phrases, clauses, sentences, and utterances which are existed in “The Devil and Miss Prym” novel.

**Technique of Data Collection and Analysis**

In terms of collecting data, the researcher will use technique with the following steps:

1. Selecting *The Devil and Miss Prym* novel in both English and Indonesian versions.
2. Reading both English and Indonesian of *The Devil and Miss Prym* novel.
3. Searching natural phrases, clauses, sentences, and utterances which are existed in the novel.
4. Collecting and taking note about natural phrases, clauses, sentences, and utterances found in the novel.
5. Coding the data into table based on the number, the title of the book, the page, the chapter, the line, and the sentence.

Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Source Text</th>
<th>Target Text</th>
<th>Naturalness Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>She was hopeless at telling people's ages,</td>
<td>Ia tak pandai mengira-ngira usia orang,</td>
<td>Not adapting the nature of source language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(001/TDAMP/P1/C1/L15/S8)</td>
<td>(001/IDMP/P12/C1/L15/S9)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In analyzing the data, the researcher will use technique with the following steps:

1. Presenting the data that are assumed as natural phrases, clauses, sentences, and utterances found in the novel.
2. Describing the data based on criteria of E. Sadtono and Riyadi Santoso.
3. Analyzing the data of each category.
4. Calculating the finding of the data.
5. Making the general conclusion by relating to the theory of E. Sadtono and Riyadi Santoso.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Finding

**Table 4.1 The Quantity of Naturalness Characteristics in the Indonesian Translation of Paulo Coelho’s novel “The Devil and Miss Prym”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Naturalness Characteristics</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Not Adapting The Nature of Source Language</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15.43 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Not Embarking Major Changes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.23 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Not Preserving The Unacceptable Grammar</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.47 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Not Embarking Odd Language Styles</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.23 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Word Choices Must Fit with The Text (Technically)</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>73.46 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Exposure of Implicit Information</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.32 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>The Use of Idioms that Cover Cultural Domains</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.86 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>162</strong></td>
<td><strong>100 %</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.1.1 shows that translation work of Paulo Coelho’s novel “The Devil and Miss Prym” contains naturalness characteristics. Those consist not adapting the nature of source language appears 25 data (15.43 %), while the frequency of not embarking major changes and not embarking odd language styles have the same frequency with 2 data (1.23 %), there are 4 data (2.47 %) of
not preserving the unacceptable grammar, exposure of implicit information consists 7 data (4.32 %), then the use of idioms that cover cultural domains are 3 data (1.86 %), moreover the highest frequency belongs word choices must fit with the text (technically) with 119 data (73.46 %). The result from the table above shows that the total of the data are 162.

It can be concluded that word choices must fit with the text (technically) is the most dominant of naturalness characteristics found in the novel. The way and choice of how the translator translates very carefully, it requires theoretical knowledge and an understanding of how choices in texts reflect other relationships between senders and receivers of the information. That is why the translator makes sure word choices must fit with the text, so the readers easily to understand. The translator should transfer either messages or forms of the source text being translated into equivalent target text and should be in natural way. It means that a translated text should not be read as a result of translation. The readers should read the translated text as a text which is written in their own language. In other words, there must be equivalence between the source text and the target text.

**DISCUSSION**

According to the finding, the discussion reveals that naturalness characteristics of phrases, clauses, sentences, and utterances found in the novel. Naturalness characteristics lead a translator to make a good translation work because without these characteristics possible irregularities in the translation work be even greater, and it will affect the result of the translation.

A good translation work is a translation that does not adapt the nature of the source language into the target language. And also should not make big changes, such as translating historical news from the source language as happened ten years ago in an area near our residence. Therefore the historical context in the source language is an important thing. In other words, a good translation work is a translation that does not translate culture does not
translate "culture", but the translation "in terms of language". But it does not also indicate the odd or awkward grammar and style. It means that translations should not adapt the nature of source language that makes errors in the delivering of the idea and meaning. To evaluate naturalness characteristics of translation, the reader should be aware of these items which are constituent of target culture norms.

However, based on theories of translation no one can specify a set of factors for grading the naturalness characteristics of a translation. Some theorists call translation a relative task; when a translation is good for a particular reader in a special time, may be regarded absurd for him in another situation.

1. Not Adapting The Nature of Source Language

The excerpt 1

Source Text: She was hopeless at telling people's ages, (001/TDAMP/P1/C1/L15/S8)

Target Text: Ia tak pandai mengira-ngira usia orang, (001/IDMP/P12/C1/L15/S9)

The researcher states that this sentence is not adapting the nature of source language. It is because its translation impressed natural sentence. The word hopeless in the source text has definition as not able to learn or act, perform or work as desired: As a bridge player, you are hopeless. However, in the source text She was hopeless at telling people's ages, the term She was hopeless can be interpreted as dia putus asa but it is not natural in the target text. Then She was hopeless is translated into Ia tak pandai, its translation seems more natural sentence in the target text.

2. Not Embarking Major Changes

The excerpt 2

Source Text: had nothing to do with the stranger's arrival. (002/TDAMP/P3/C1/L55-56/S23)
Target Text: *tidak ada hubungannya* dengan kedatangan orang asing itu.

(002/IDMP/P13/C1/L59-60/S30)

The researcher states that this sentence is not embarking major changes because its translation *tidak ada hubungannya dengan kedatangan orang asing itu* does not use new or different meaning. The word *do* means perform the task or behaviours typically associated with something, especially as part of one’s character or normal duties. The phrase *had nothing to do* in the source text is translated into *tidak ada hubungannya* in the target text. *Had nothing to do* means *tidak melakukan apapun*. Moreover, two phrases of *tidak ada hubungannya* and *tidak melakukan apapun* have the same meaning. So the translator does not make a major change and appears more natural sentence in the target text.

3. **Not Preserving The Unacceptable Grammar**

The excerpt 3

Source Text: For almost fifteen years, **old Berta had spent every day** sitting outside her front door. (003/TDAMP/P1/C1/L1-2/S1)

Target Text: *Setiap hari selama hampir lima belas tahun, Berta tua duduk seharian* di luar pintu muka rumahnya. (003/IDMP/P11/C1/L1-2/S1)

The researcher states that this sentence is natural sentence because it is not preserving the unacceptable grammar. The source text used past perfect tense. The past perfect refers to a time earlier than before now. It is used to make it clear that one event happened before another in the past. It does not matter which event is mentioned first. The tense makes it clear which one happened first. The sentence **old Berta had spent every day** and its translation *Berta tua duduk seharian* seem more natural sentence than translated into *Berta tua sudah menghabiskan setiap hari* in the target text. The sentence will be ambiguous and makes confused to the reader.
4. Not Embarking Odd Language Styles

The researcher states that this sentence is not embarking odd language styles. The source text I’ll get my hands dirty used the future tense. In grammar, the future tense is a verb form that generally marks the event described by the verb as not having happened yet but expected to happen in the future. The translator translated into Nanti tangan saya kotor in the target text. It appears more natural sentence because it is not translated word for word such as Saya akan mendapatkan tangan saya kotor in the target text. It will seem unnatural sentence because she would not do something.

5. Word Choices Must Fit with The Text (Technically)

The researcher states that this sentence is using word choices must fit with the text because the source text Again she wished that the stranger would simply leave at once; fits with the target text Sekali lagi ia berharap orang asing itu segera angkat kaki dari desanya; The source text means she hoped that the stranger would leave immediately.

6. Exposure of Implicit Information

The researcher states that this sentence is a one-way ticket out of the valley where she was born.

Target Text : Jalan keluar untuk meninggalkan lembah tempat ia dilahirkan.
The researcher states that the sentence is exposure of implicit information because its translation appears too long and will expose the implicit information. The phrase *one-way ticket* means a ticket entitling a passenger to travel only to his or her destination, without returning. *One-way ticket* in the source text will seem unnatural phrase if the translator translates into *sebuah tiket jalan keluar* in the target text.

7. **The Use of Idioms That Cover Cultural Domains**

The researcher states that the sentence is using idiom that covers cultural domains. The use of idiom in the source text *The story of one man is the story of all men* should be replaced with idiom in the target text. The translator may uses idiom such as *Seayun bagai berbui* means *seia sekata, sepenanggungan sependeritaan* or *seciap bagai ayam, sedencing bagai besi* means *seia sekata senasib sepenanggungan*. It will be more natural and better than translated into *Kisah satu manusia adalah kisah seluruh umat manusia*.

**CONCLUSION**

One of the most frequent criticisms of translation is that it does not sound natural. This is because the translator’s thoughts and choice of words are too strongly molded by the original text. A good way to avoid the influence of the source text is to set the text aside and translate a few sentences aloud from memory. This will make natural patterns of thought in the first language which may not come to mind when the eye is fixed on the source text.
Based on the data analysis of chapter IV, it can be concluded that there are 162 data of naturalness characteristics in translation work of Paulo Coelho’s novel “The Devil and Miss Prym”. Not adapting the nature of source language appears 25 data (15.43 %). There are 4 data (2.47 %) of not preserving the unacceptable grammar. Exposure of implicit information consists 7 data (4.32 %). Then the use of idioms that cover cultural domains are 3 data (1.86 %). While the frequency of not embarking major changes and not embarking odd language styles have the same frequency with only 2 data (1.23 %). Moreover, the highest frequency belongs word choices must fit with the text (technically) with 119 data (73.46 %). The naturalness characteristics have been analyzed by the researcher based on E. Sadtono and Riyadi Santoso.

It can be concluded that word choices must fit with the text (technically) is the most dominant of naturalness characteristics found in the novel. The way and choice of how the translator translates very carefully, it requires theoretical knowledge and an understanding of how choices in texts reflect other relationships between senders and receivers of the information. That is why the translator makes sure word choices must fit with the text, so the readers easily to understand. The translator should transfer either messages or forms of the source text being translated into equivalent target text and should be in natural way. It means that a translated text should not be read as a result of translation. The readers should read the translated text as a text which is written in their own language. In other words, there must be equivalence between the source text and the target text. Naturalness characteristics lead a translator to make a good translation work because without these characteristics possible irregularities in the translation work be even greater, and it will affect the result of the translation.

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