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NON-EQUIVALENCE MEANING VARIATION IN CHILDREN BILINGUAL STORYBOOKS

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Abstract

The objectives of this study were to find out the non-equivalence in meaning variation and the probable effects of the occurrence of non-equivalence between the English version and Bahasa Indonesia in children storybook. The descriptive quantitative research was implemented in this study. The researchers focused on meaning equivalence at the word level. The researchers gained the data from twenty children bilingual storybooks. The researcher collected the data by reading the original and translation children bilingual storybooks, underlining non-equivalent in meaning expression, and classifying those non-equivalences into a table. After being collected, the data were analysed by these procedures: selecting the expression in text 1 and text 2, analysing the data by using the theory of meaning equivalence at the word level, drawing the conclusion. The result shows that The non-equivalence in meaning was divided into four categories; propositional meaning (129 number or 57.08%), expressive meaning (97 number or 42.92%), presupposed meaning (0) and evoked meaning (0). The non-equivalent in meaning caused these problems: the source language concept is not lexicalized in the target language, the source and target language make a different distinction in meaning, the target language lacks of superordinate, and different in physical or interpersonal perspectives between SL and TL.

Keywords: Meaning Non-equivalence, Children Storybook, Bilingual, Translation

INTRODUCTION

Translation is needed in human lives. Since the English language becomes an international language, the translation acted as the bridge for those who cannot speak English or vice versa. Through translation, books written in English can be translated into various

languages around the worlds. Besides, the other books with their national language can be translated into English to widen the readers

The term translation has wide definitions. Newmark (1988:32) states that translation is the superordinate term for converting the meaning of any utterance of any source language to the target language. While Catford (1965: 20) says that translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL). On the other hand, Bell (1996:6) states that translation is the replacement of a representation of a text in one language by a representation of an equivalent text in a second language.

In the translation process, meaning must be held constant. According to Larson (1984), translation consists of transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor language. This process is done by changing the form of the source language into the form of receptor language and it is meaning that must be kept constant.

Equivalence in meaning becomes something important to be gained. Equivalence is the translation of fixed expressions such as idioms with an equivalent that is very different in form. (Vinay and Darbelnet in Hatim and Munday, 2004: 339). Besides, Catford (1965:21) states that the central problem of translation practice is that of finding TL equivalents. It means the translator should find the exact synonym for the TL expression. Even though, sometimes the translator cannot fulfil all of the criteria of meaning equivalence. The non-equivalence in meaning sometimes found in the product of translation. The non-equivalence in meaning is divided into two, they are meaning equivalence at word level and above word level (Baker, 1992: 11).

Focusing on meaning equivalence at the word level, Baker divided the lexical meaning into four categories (Baker, 1992: 12). They are propositional meaning, expressive meaning, presupposed meaning and evoked meaning. The propositional meaning of a word or utterances arises from the relation between it and what it refers to or describes in a real or imaginary world, as conceived by the speakers of the particular language to which the word or utterances belongs.

The expressive meaning cannot be judged as true or false because expressive meaning relates to the speaker's feelings or attitude rather than to what words and utterances refer to. The difference between '*don't complain*' and '*don't whinge*' in the expression does not lie in their propositional meanings but in the expressiveness of whinge that suggests that the speaker finds the action annoying.

Presupposed meaning arises from co-occurrence restrictions in language use. It is divided into two: selectional restrictions and collocational restrictions. The selectional restriction is a function of the propositional meaning of a word. For example, the people expect a human subject for the adjective *studious* and an inanimate one for *geometrical*. While collocational restrictions are semantically arbitrary restrictions that do not follow logically from the propositional meaning of a word. For example, *teeth* are brushed in English, but in German and Italian they are *polished*, in Polish, they are *washed*, and in Rusia, they are *cleaned*.

Evoked meaning arises from dialect and register variation in human language. A dialect is a variety of language that has currency within a specific community or group of speakers. While register is a variety of a language that a language user considers appropriate to a specific

situation. For example, American people use the word “cookie” and the English people use the word “biscuit”.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

In this research, the researchers used descriptive quantitative research design.

Target of The Research

This research is about the identification of non-equivalence meaning variation in children bilingual storybook. The researcher focused on meaning-equivalence at the word level. There are twenty bilingual children storybooks that are used in this research. These bilingual children storybooks were published in 2012-2014 by various author and publishers.

Technique of Data Collection

The researcher collected the data from the bilingual children short story. The data were collected by these procedures: read the book (the original version and the translated version), underline the meaning non-equivalence, classify those equivalences and put it on the table. In this research, the researcher played an important role as the main research instrument. The researcher acted as a planner, data collector, analyst and the reporter of the findings.

Technique of Data Analysis

Finally, after having been collected, the data are analysed by using the following process: selecting the expression in text 1 and text 2, analysing the data by using the theory of equivalence, drawing the conclusion.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Non-equivalence Meaning Variation

The non-equivalence in meaning was divided into four categories; propositional meaning, expressive meaning, presupposed meaning and evoked meaning. After being analysed, the results of non-equivalence meaning variation are presented in the table below:

Table.1.

Table of Non-Equivalence of Meaning

Title	Non-Equivalence Of Meaning			
	Propositional	Expressive	Presupposed	Evoked
Raja Bangau	30	11	0	0
Anak Beruang Belajar Mandiri	11	11	0	0
Katak-Katak yang Mengagumi Kerbau	4	10	0	0
Kucing	1	0	0	0
Kasuari dan Burung Unta	8	5	0	0
Anak Tupai Akhirnya Jera	4	6	0	0
Kancil dan Jago Mencari Ikan	8	6	0	0
Bona dan Boni	2	4	0	0

Title	Non-Equivalence Of Meaning			
Hakim yang Jahat	3	1	0	0
Ratu Lebah yang Jahat	2	0	0	0
Si Tupai Perjalanan ke Kota	6	2	0	0
Rusa yang Sombong	2	5	0	0
Si Rubi yang Ingin Tahu	11	0	0	0
Si Kancil dan Buaya	12	6	0	0
Pesan Burung Kenari	11	6	0	0
Usul Sang Landak	8	0	0	0
Anak Kera dan Burung Pipit	1	14	0	0
Sang Singa	1	0	0	0
Lebah yang Kesepian	0	1	0	0
Nasehat Eyang Katak yang Bijaksana	4	9	0	0
Total	129	97	0	0
	226			
Percentage	57,08	42,92	0,00	0,00
	100%			

From the table above, the result can be presented in the chart below:

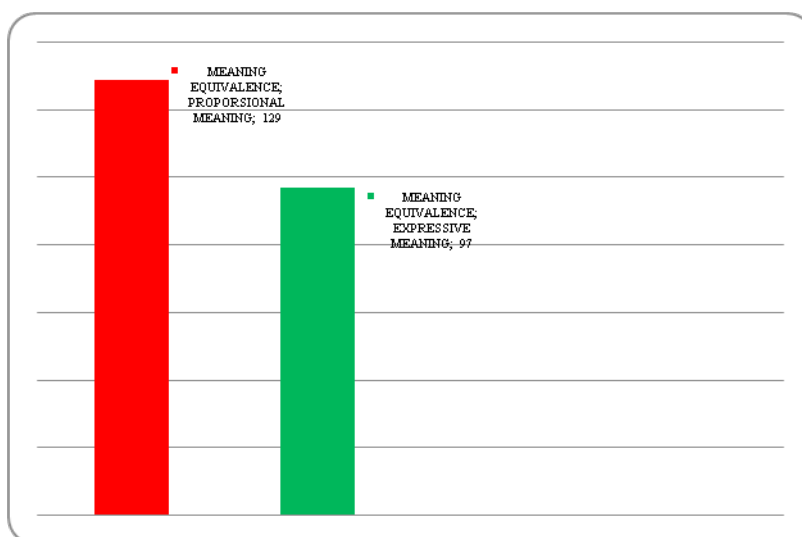


Figure 1. Chart of Non-Equivalence in Meaning

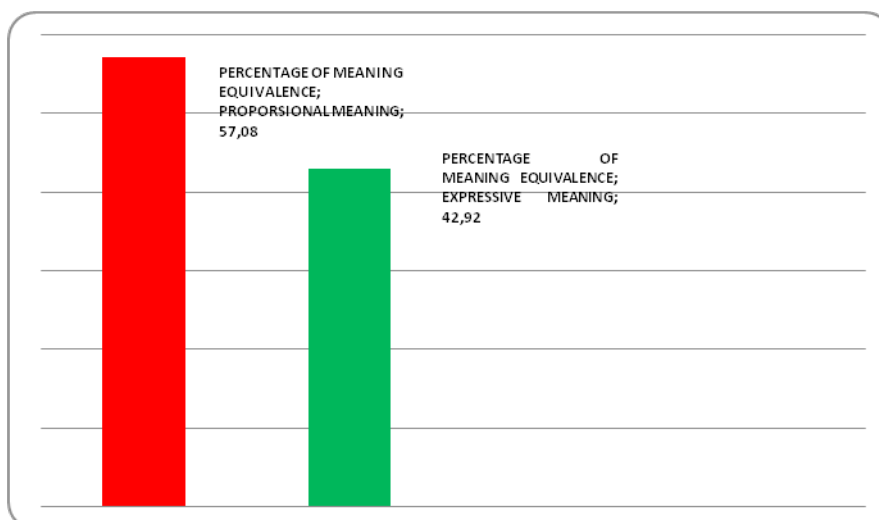


Figure 2. Non-Equivalence in Meaning Percentage

Based on the table and chat above, the results of meaning non-equivalence are explained below:

Propositional Meaning

The propositional meaning of a word or an utterance arises from the relation between it and what it refers to or describes in a real or imaginary world, as conceived by the speakers of the particular language to which the word or utterances belongs. In the analysis, there are 129 non-equivalence in propositional meaning aspects of 57. 08% from the entire number of non-equivalent in meaning. Here is the example:

Cited from “ <i>Si Rubi yang Ingin Tahu</i> ”
“ <i>Aku adalah anjing polisi, aku dan pemilikku bahu-membahu menangkap penjahat</i> ” <i>jawab</i> <i>anjing.</i>
“I was a police dog, I and my owner works together to catch criminals” <i>responsible</i> dog.

The above example shows the inaccuracies in translating the word “*jawab*” into “responsible”. In SL, the author writes “*jawab*” meaning “answering or responding” the previous statements. However, it seems awkward if the translator translates it into “responsible”. “Responsible” here means “*tanggung jawab*”. It has different meaning and different perspectives between “*jawab*” and “*tanggung jawab*” or “*bertanggung jawab*”. “*Jawab*” means the expression of exactly answering the questions or responding the statements (by saying some expressions) while “*tanggung jawab*” or “*bertanggung jawab*” means the action (not only saying) to respond the command. Another example:

Cited from “ <i>Raja Bangau</i> ”
Di samping buli-buli itu ada secarik kertas yang berisi tulisan dalam bahasa kuno.
In addition to the jar of a slip of paper containing writing in the ancient language.

The above example shows the non-equivalent in propositional meaning. In SL, the author writes “*di samping*” meaning “in the next place” or “beside the thing”. However, it is irrelevant if the translator translates it into “in addition”. It has different propositional meaning. “*disamping*”

means “*barang yang berada disebelahnya. Jadi disamping atau disebelah buli-buli itu terdapat secarik kertas dalam bahasa kuno*”. However, “in addition” means “the act of adding information related to previous speaker’s statement”. It is not placing a thing “beside” another thing (physical action), but it means “supporting the previous statements with another statement” (verbal action/ saying).

Expressive Meaning

The expressive meaning cannot be judged as true or false because expressive meaning relates to the speaker’s feelings or attitude rather than to what words and utterances refer to. The difference between ‘*don’t complain*’ and ‘*don’t whinge*’ does not lie in their propositional meanings but in the expressiveness of the words that suggest that the speaker finds the action annoying. In the analysis, there are 97 non-equivalences in expressive meaning aspects of 42. 92% from the entire number of non-equivalent in meaning. Here is the example:

cited from “ <i>Si Kancil dan Buaya</i> ”
<i>Ketika menaiki tubuh buaya yang terakhir, Kancil pun mengambil ancang-ancang untuk melompat jauh.</i>
When the body up the last crocodile, Mouse deer also square off for a jump away.

The above example shows the non-equivalent in expressive meaning. The writer writes “menaiki” in the SL and the translator translates it into “up”. Here, those words have different expressive meaning. The word “menaiki” means ‘climb’ or there is an action to jump into the above side of the object. Here, the SL’s readers can guess that the mousedeer jumps from one crocodile into the last crocodile. However, it cannot be translated into “up”. The word “up” means “lifting the body upward”. Here means the subject itself lifting his/her body without considering the other bodies. Another example:

<i>Berry yang sejak tadi lapar segera mendekati ikan salmon itu ia meloncat menjeburkan diri.</i>
Berry, who had been hungry soon approaching salmon that he jumped dedicated themselves.

The above example shows the non-equivalent in expressive meaning. In SL, the writer writes “menjeburkan” and the translator translates it into “dedicated”. It has different expressive meaning. In SL, “menjeburkan” means “splash”. It is the action when Berry jumped to the sea to find the salmon. While in TL, the word “dedicate” means “*dedikasi*”. It consists of different meaning. “Dedicated” does not need the action of splashing or jumping. It does not need action. It can be in the form of a statement.

The Probable Effects of non-Equivalent in Meaning

The result shows that there are many non-equivalences in meaning in the translation between SL and TL. Those non-equivalences in meaning can cause several effects below:

The source language concept is not lexicalized in the target language accurately.

The concept in SL is not lexicalized accurately if the translator did not translate the expression of SL into TL accurately. Here is the example:

Cited from “*Katak-Katak yang Mengagumi Kerbau*”

Pak Big yang semakin penasaran dan tak mau kalah, kembali menggembungkan dirinya lebih besar lagi, namun usahanya sia-sia, sebab katak kecil terus saja menjawab bahwa dirinya masih kurang besar dibanding binatang yang ia temui tadi.

Big pack directly inhale as much air as possible and inflating its body. “Is he as big as this?” ask Mr Big. “Waaahhh still less dispersive. Big...” said the small frog. The other frogs were surprised

The above example shows the inaccuracy in translating the word in SL into TL. In SL, the author writes “Pak Big” meaning “a character with name Pak Big” while the translator translates it “Big pack” meaning “a big thing packed”. It has different lexical meaning. The SL means a big character while the TL means a big thing packed. Actually, the translator should translate it into “Mr Big”.

The source and target languages make different destinations in meaning.

Sometimes, the non-equivalent in meaning caused the different destination in meaning. Here is the example:

Cited from “*Nasehat Eyang Katak*”

Beruntung Eyang Katak **membangunkan** mereka dan cepat **naik** ke atas sebelum air semakin berkurang dan semakin sulit keluar dari sumur.

Develop their Grandparent lucky frog and quickly **rose** to the top before the water gets reduced and more difficult to get out of the pit

The above example shows the different destination in meaning. The author in SL writes “membangunkan” and the translator translates it into “develop” in TL. Those words have different meaning perspectives. The SL focused on the action to wake the other frogs up. It is usually when the other characters sleep and “Eyang Katak” wake them up. The SL “develop” means “grow or cause to grow and become more mature, advanced, or elaborate”. Therefore, it has different meaning between “membangunkan” and “develop”. It has different perspectives. The physical action is different. “Membangunkan” here tends to human beings’ action while develop tends to things, issues, ideas, etc.

The target language lacks in superordinate.

The superordinate in choosing a word is important in translation. The superordinate in choosing words means that the translator sometimes finds the lower level of synonym or the upper level of synonym. Here is the example:

Cited from “*Ratu Lebah yang Jahat*”

Setelah berfikir sejenak, dewa Zeus berkata “Baiklah ratu lebah **permintaanmu** ku kabulkan tapi berjanjilah, gunakan senjatamu itu sebaik mungkin, atau sengat itu akan mencelakai dirimu sendiri.”
After thinking for a moment, the god Zeus said, “Let me grant your **petition** the queen bee but promise, it’s best to use a weapon, or the sting will hurt yourself.”

The above example shows the lack of superordinate in translating SL to TL. In SL, the author writes “permintaanmu” means “demands”. It will have different perspectives among readers. The translator translates into “petition”. “Petition” means “a formal written request, typically one signed by many people, appealing to authority with respect to a particular cause”. “Permintaan” here is spoken orally. It will be different from “petition”.

Different in physical or interpersonal perspective between SL and TL.

Different in physical or interpersonal perspective is usually happened in translation. Here is the example:

Cited from "Pesan Burung Kenari"
<i>Dalam hati</i> , <i>Titi ingin segera bertemu Riri untuk mengucapkan terimakasih.</i>
<i>In the liver</i> , Titi wanted to see Riri say thank you.

The above example shows the different in physical or interpersonal perspective. In SL, the author writes "*dalam hati*". It relates to deep feeling. Therefore, it will have the different perspective if the translator translates it into "in the liver". Liver means human organ. It is physically organ. It will be different from feeling.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

Based on the result of the research, here are the conclusions that can be drawn:

1. The non-equivalence in meaning was divided into four categories; propositional meaning (129 number or 57.08%), expressive meaning (97 number or 42.92%), presupposed meaning (0) and evoked meaning (0).
2. The occurrence of non-equivalence in grammar can cause four possible effects. They are: the source language concept is not lexicalized in the target language, the source and target language make the different distinction in meaning, the target language lacks of superordinate, and different in physical or interpersonal perspectives between SL and TL.

Suggestions

The researcher suggests the research for the following parties:

1. Translator

The translator should be careful in translating literary works, especially in the bilingual children storybooks. Since it is published for children, sometimes it becomes the instrument for the children to learn English. It is dangerous if the children learn English from the translated books with many non-equivalences especially in meaning because non-equivalent in meaning can cause different perspectives among readers.

2. Other Researchers

Still many other fields in the translation of literary works and translation equivalence can be researched. The other researchers can research other features of translation or other data sources related to equivalences.

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