

TRANSLATION SHIFTS IN “PERCY JACKSON AND OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF” NOVEL BY RICK RIORDAN

Regina Seliana¹⁾, Priska Meilasari²⁾

¹⁾English Study Program, Faculty of Communication Sciences
Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University, Madiun Campus
email: selianaregina7@gmail.com

²⁾English Study Program, Faculty of Communication Sciences
Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University, Madiun Campus
email: priska.meilasari@ukwms.ac.id

Abstract

This research focuses on the theory of translation shifts and accuracy of translation. The data were analyzed through the theory of translation by Catford (1965), namely unit shifts, structural shifts, intra-system shifts, class shifts, and level shifts from English (SL) to Indonesian (TL). The problems discussed in this research are the types of translation shifts used in translating the novel “Percy Jackson and Olympians: The Lightning Thief” as well as how accurate the translation is. To solve the problem, a qualitative descriptive method was applied in this research. The data is taken from the novel “Percy Jackson and Olympians: The Lightning Thief” written in English and translated into Indonesian. The result of data analysis found that there were as many as 107 data. The most dominant data found in the novel is unit shift with 50 data, structure shift with 36 data, intra-system shift with 8 data, class shift with 8 data, and level shift with 4 data. In addition, the researcher also found 104 data were considered accurate translations, 3 data were considered less accurate translations, and none were inaccurate.

Keywords: *Translation, translation shift, translation accuracy*

1. INTRODUCTION

Catford (1965) states that shifts in translation mean to move or shift from formal correspondence in the process of transferring text from SL to TL so that the results of the translation is acceptable. The translation from the SL into the TL cannot be exactly equivalent as both languages are widely different in structure and cultural background. Understanding the system and the culture in both languages is a requirement for a translator. Munday (2004: 28) states that, the shift is said to occur when in certain TL, the translation equivalent other than formal correspondence occurs for certain SL elements.

One of the unavoidable phenomena in translation is translation shift. Shifts are changes that occur during the process of translation from SL to TL. In contrast, in texts different languages translation shifts are observable everywhere. Catford (1965) presented two main types of translation shifts: Level shifts and category shifts. Category shifts are divided into four subgroups: structure shifts, class shifts, unit shifts, and intra-system shifts.

According to Nababan et al. (2012), the translation quality assessment focuses on three main aspects: Accuracy, acceptability, and readability. In all aspects, the quality of the translation is enough to affect the results of the translation. Based on all three aspects above, this research chooses accuracy aspect as an instrument of translation quality in this case. So, translation accuracy refers to how well the translation conveys the message in the target language. The accuracy used in evaluating translation products refers to SL and TL text equivalents.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses descriptive qualitative research because the data analyzed is explained descriptively. The data to be analyzed are words, phrases, and sentences. Djajasudarma (2006:11) states that "qualitative methodology is a procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken data in language communities." She also said that the data collected was not numbers but in the form of words or images of something. This is as a result of the qualitative method.

The data form of this research are words, phrases, and sentences. The data are taken from the novel "*Percy Jackson and Olympians: The Lightning Thief*" written by Rick Riordan and published in June 2005. Data are retrieved only from 3 chapters of the novel in which there are twenty sub-chapters. The Indonesian version of the novel is entitled "*Pencuri Petir*" which was translated by Femmy Syahrani. It was published in 2008 by Noura Books, PT Mizan Publika.

The data collection technique is document analysis. The document used in this research is the novel "*Percy Jackson and Olympians :The Lightning Thief*" written by Rick Riordan that was published in June 2005. Data collection techniques as an independent method to the method of analysis and or even become the main tool of the method and data analysis technique.

The analysis technique used is descriptive data analysis technique, namely by collecting factual data and describing it. Data derived from all information obtained from documents through several stages. This research used some stages in data analysis based on Miles and Huberman (1994), there are some data analysis procedures, they are: data collection, recording data, reduction data, and presentation and verification. The analysis of the study is on going together with the data collection process or carried out after the data is collected.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

RESULT

Translation Shift and Translation Accuracy in *Percy Jackson and Olympians : The Lightning Thief* Novel

Shift	Accurate	Less Accurate	Inaccurate	Total
Unit Shift	48	2	0	50
Structure Shift	36	0	0	36
Intra-system Shift	9	0	0	9
Class Shift	7	1	0	8
Level Shift	4	0	0	4
Total	104	3	0	107

1. Unit Shift

a. Phrase translated into word

Code	SL	TL	Accuracy
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02/P.9/US/A	Believe whatever lie your mom or dad told you about <i>your birth</i> .	Pokoknya percayai saja apa pun kebohongan yangdiceritakan ayah-ibumu tentang <i>kelahiranmu</i> .	Accurate
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The data shows how a high rank term is translated into a low rank term. In this case, the source language consists of more than a few words that are then translated into one word only. On the other hand, it can be said that the number of words in the sources language is more than the target language. The phrases “*your birthday*” consists of two words and is translated into “*kelahiranmu*” which only consists of one word.

In this data the translation is accurate because the meaning of the message is conveyed as precisely as possible into the TL. From the data above, the translation can be easily understood by the reader receiving the message and the message is clearly translated by the translator.

b. Word translated into phrase

Code	SL	TL	Accuracy
17/P.10/US/A	I hoped the trip would be <i>okay</i> .	Aku sempat berharap karyawisata itu akan <i>berjalan lancar</i> .	Accurate

In this data there is a unit shift where the word in the SL has changed to an adjective phrase. The word “*okay*” is translated into the phrase “*berjalan lancar*”. In this case, the higher shift in ranking occurs not because of translator preference but related to grammatical needs.

The data has an accurate translation in translating the word “*okay*” become the phrase “*berjalan lancar*”. SL messages are sent accurately into TL. There is no deviation in meaning even though there is a grammatical change in the translated phrase. Therefore, even though there are additional words in this data it will not changethe meaning. The additions here are only to clarify some information in TL so that the translated text will look natural and be easily understood by the TL reader.

2. Structure Shift

a. Sentence structure shift

Code	SL	TL	Accuracy
13/p.10/SS/A	But <i>Mr. Brunner, our Latin teacher, was leading this trip</i> , so I had hopes.	Namun, <i>karyawisata kali ini dibimbing Mr. Brunner, guru Bahasa Latin kami</i> , jadi aku sempat berharap.	Accurate

Structural shift happens in the whole sentence or both SL and TL have a total different grammatical structure because of both grammatical rules. The sentence “*Mr. Brunner, our Latin teacher, was leading this trip*” that has a pattern as subject + verb + noun phrase is translated into “*karyawisata kali ini dibimbing Mr. Brunner, guru Bahasa Latin kami*” that has a pattern as noun phrase + verb + subject. In this case, the structure shift happens in the whole sentences in both SL and TL because the difference of both grammatical structure.

This data is considered an accurate translation. The sentence “*Mr. Brunner, our Latin teacher, was leading this trip*” is translated into “*karyawisata kali ini dibimbing Mr. Brunner, guru Bahasa Latin kami*” in TL. Differences in the grammatical structure of SL and TL affect the translation process. Even though there was a change, the meaning of the translation was not removed and the word was fully translated into TL. In this case, this data is considered an accurate translation.

b. Modifier head translated into head modifier

Code	SL	TL	Accuracy
65/p.20/SS/A	Grover was an <i>easy target</i>	Grover memang <i>sasaran empuk.</i>	Accuracy

This data shows that structural shift happens in translation because of the different grammatical structure patterns in SL and TL. The phrase “*easy target*” in SL is modifier + head, which is translated into “*sasaran empuk*” in TL is it head + modifier. It means that there is a shift in which the positions of phrase are interchanged.

This data is considered an accurate translation because even though there is a shift in the data it is still an accurate translation. The use of the word “*empuk*” to make some information clear in TL so that the translated text will look natural and easily understood by the reader.

3. Intra-system Shift

a. Plural translated into singular

Code	SL	TL	Accuracy
41/P.13/ISS/A	“Eew!” said one of the <i>girls</i> behind me.	Ihh!” kata seorang <i>gadis</i> di belakangku.	Accurate

The data shows that there is an intra-system shift in the concept of plural noun to singular noun, which is indicated by the word “*girls*” which is translated to “*gadis*”. In SL, the word “*girls*” which is plural signifies by the additional of the word “*S*” in the end of the word. Meanwhile, Indonesian system to show plurality is done by using repetition. “*gadis*” is indicated as singular in Indonesian language because here is no repetition in the phrase.

This data shows that the translation is accurate. The words in SL are translated clearly into TL so that the reader is not confused when reading it. Even though there is a shift in the translation, when the plural noun in SL is translated into singular in TL, the meaning is transferred fully. Therefore this translation is considered accurate.

b. Singular translated into plural

Code	SL	TL	Accuracy
72/P.23/ISS/A	I was used to the occasional <i>weird</i> experience, but	Aku sudah terbiasa dengan pengalaman <i>aneh-</i>	Accurate

	usually they were over quickly.	<i>aneh</i> yang kadang terjadi, tetapi biasanya pengalaman itu cepat berlalu.	
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In this data there is a change in the number of nouns. The word “weird” in SL in the singular form is translated into “*aneh-aneh*” in TL in the plural form. The word “Weird” is indicated as the singular in English because there is no additional “s” at the end of the word. Meanwhile, in Indonesian, it is translated as “*aneh-aneh*” which is the plural form indicated by the repetition of words.

The data is an accurate translation because words in SL are transferred accurately into TL and there is no problem with their meaning. So, even though the word that is transferred to TL in the plural form is not a problem and can still be accepted by the reader and this translation will make it easier for the reader to understand it.

4. Class Shift

a. Adjective translated into verb

Code	SL	TL	Accuracy
26/P.11/CS/A	This trip, I was <i>determined</i> to be good.	Untuk wisata kali ini, aku <i>bertekad</i> menjadi anak yang baik.	Accurate

The data shows class shift. The word “*determined*” in the SL is translated into “*bertekad*” in the TL. In SL, the word “*determined*” is an adjective, while in TL, it is translated into “*bertekad*” which belongs to verb. Here, there is a change of grammatical class (class word) of an adjective in SL into a verb in TL.

The data above is considered an accurate translation. The word “*determined*” translated into “*bertekad*” in TL. Differences in the structure of SL and TL word classes affect the translation process. Even though there was a change, the meaning of the translation was not lost and the word was translated clearly into TL. In this case, this data is considered an accurate translation.

b. Adverb translated into adjective

Code	SL	TL	Accuracy
93/P.29/CS/A	During the whole bus ride, Grover kept glancing <i>nervously</i> down the aisle, watching the other passengers.	Sepanjang perjalanan, Grover terus-menerus melirik <i>gugup</i> kelorong, mengamati penumpang lain.	Accurate

This data shows, the word “*nervously*” which is an adverb is translated into “*gugup*” into TL which is an adjective. In this case, the class shift occurs by changing from an adverb to an adjective. The word “*nervously*” comes from the word “*nervous*” which is indicated as an adjective but because of the additional “*ly*” at the end of the word, it is indicated as a different

class, namely as an adverb. Therefore, in this data there is a class that changes from adverb into adjective.

The data is considered as an accurate translation. In SL the word *nervously* is translated into *gugup* in TL. Even though, there is an addition in SL, but it is still counted as an accurate. The addition is to make some clear information in TL so the translation text will look naturally and easily understood by the target language.

DISCUSSION

Based on the category of translation shift given by Catford, there were found five types of shifts in *Percy Jackson and Olympians: the Lightning Thief* novel. Through the data analysis, the most found shift was unit shift (50 data) with a high level of accuracy (47 data). Catford defined unit shift as a change of rank, from one rank to a different rank. The changes occurred in the source of data were phrase into word and word into phrase. The phrases into word shifts are often found in the translation process. Translators often face the challenge of transferring the exact meaning from the SL to the TL. In an effort to make the text easier for readers to understand, translators often simplify and shift words. For instance, in translating “*come for you*” into “*memburumu*” and “*nasty ways*” into “*mengerikan*”. There were also some unit shifts caused by the difference of the two languages’ structures. As in “*warn you*” into “*memperingatkanmu*” and “*my name*” into “*namaku*”.

On the other hand, the word to phrase shift occurred because the translator needed to transfer the message as complete as possible. For example, the translation of “*battlefield*” into “*medan perang*”. It was, then, followed by 36 data of structure shift with 35 of them belong to accurate translation. The other types of translation shift were applied occasionally. They were Intra-system shift (9 data), Class shift (7 data), and Level shift (4 data). Among the 107 data, the 101 data were considered accurate. It means that the shift happened in the process of translation did not shift the meaning and did not cause distortion in meaning. In other words, the shift affected the quality of translation positively. It is in line with the finding of Mariani (2021) who found that unit shift was also the most dominant shift in translating Indonesian-English novel, “*Pasung Jiwa*”. She also concluded that the grammatical structure changes did not affect the translation accuracy.

In this research, unit shift was the dominant shift applied by translator in translating novel translation shift in *Percy Jackson And Olympians: The Lightning Thief*. There are 50 data of translation shift found in this research. This type of shift is usually obligatory for translator. English and Indonesian undoubtedly has lots of difference in terms of linguistic system. The language origins may contribute to this difference.

4. CONCLUSION

The data of this study amounted to 107 in the form of words, phrases, and sentences taken from the novel “*Percy Jackson and Olympians : The Lightning Thief*” and the Indonesian version entitled “*Pencuri Petir*” Each data is categorized into five types of translation shifts. After that, the data is analyzed to find the accuracy of the translation.

There are five kinds of translation shifts found in this research based on Catford's translation shift theory. The translated data are from SL which is English to TL in Indonesian. Translation shifts found are level shifts, class shifts, structure shifts, unit shifts, and intra-system shifts. The most dominant data found in the novel is unit shift with 50 data, then structure shift with 36 data, followed by intra-system shift with 9 data, after that class shift with 8 data, lastly the least is a level shift with 4 data.

After categorizing all the data into five shifts, the researcher also analyze its accuracy. The accuracy of the translation is assessed from the theory of translation quality assessment put forward by Nababan et al. Based on the 107 data, 104 data were considered accurate translations, 3 data were considered less accurate translations, and none were inaccurate.

In translating the novel "*Percy Jackson and Olympians : The Lightning Thief*" the quality of the translation is mostly accurate. The translation shift gives a positive effect in the accuracy of the translation. It is shown by how the change of form from SL to TL does not change the meaning or does not cause distortion of meaning in translation. In conclusion, translation shifts do not affect the accuracy of the translation results.

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