

THE BIAS OF NUMBER OR PLURALITY IN INDONESIAN: A STUDY OF THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION INTO INDONESIAN

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ABSTRACT

Translation is much supported by the existence and the development of linguistic universals. Meaning is universal being that covers things, events, attributes, and relations. Things, as the list of belongings of the world, are described and modified as well as classified into numbers, genders, concreteness, commonness, and others. Every language has its own way of description, modification, classification of numbers which have to be taken into consideration in translation process; not to be bias, and then there will be no mistranslation. Consequently numbers of English text are partly not translated into Indonesian because they are supposed not significant in Indonesian text, as in English.

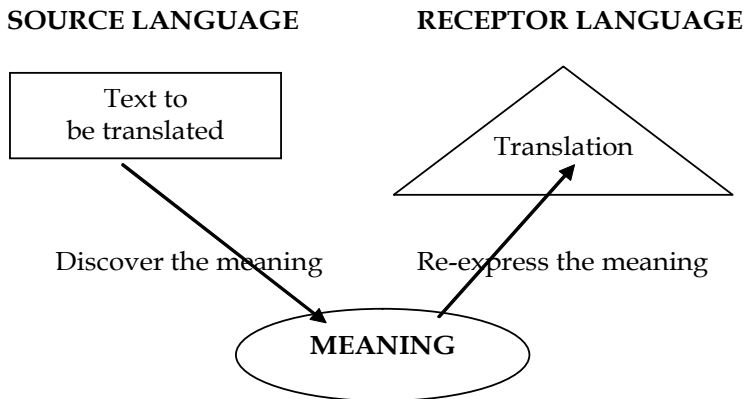
Key words: linguistic universal, number, meaning, plurality, formation.

A. INTRODUCTION

Translation has been the major study in most of the vocational language study, the students are supposed, first of all, to be good bilingual in the source language and the receptor language passively or actively. Bilingual, here, covers the system of the language: in meaning and in form. The translator is trying to catch up the meaning via the form which is integrated by the system of the phonology,

morphology (word structure), syntax (sentence structure), and the spelling system, and the structure of discourse. In regard to the form, to be fluent translator, one does not concern only the matter of word choice but also the grammatical structure (Larson, 1984: 5).

The following is the framework of translation flow of carrying the meaning to different form (language)



Translator also needs to have capability in, besides the basic linguistic structure, the sociolinguistic factors to have maximum coverage of message of the source language. On the other words, the translator needs the understanding of culture of the both source and the target language. The sociolinguistic competence is closely related to the contents of the subject matter discussed, because language is, basically, a means of cultural in-teraction, of which exchange of information is only a part (Bowlinger, 1975: 329), while linguistic is a science, and sciences are by definition of logical system. A major task of sociolinguistic is to move analysis on beyond the sentence. It emphasizes on the study of the use of language by symbol group (Gumperz and Hymes, 1972 : 272).

Form and meaning has its own specific inter-twinned relation in specific form combination and sociolinguistic factor. Certain form may express a variety of meaning and a single meaning can be expressed in a variety of forms, those are depending on the context and the combination of the forms, to find the primary meaning and the secondary meaning.

Form and meaning can be identified as surface and deep structure/semantic structure, and semantic structure is more universal (Larson, 1984: 26). Every language has the universal unit of meaning: features, unit, and the relationship. It has universal meaning components as: things, events, attributes, and relations. Thing covers the nouns or pronouns and quantifiers, event explains the happenings/actions (verbs), attribute is the modifier of the thing and event: adjective and adverb.

Linguistic universal, sometimes, relates to the universal prime words (Wierzbicka, 1996) which cover: substantive (I, you, someone, something, people), determiners (this, the same, other, some), quantifier (one, two, many, all, more), mental predicates (think, know, want, feel, see, hear), speech (say), action/event (do, happen), evaluator (good, bad), descriptor (big, small), time (when, before, after, now, long time, short time), space (where, under, above, far, near, side, inside, here), partonomy and taxonomy (part of, kind of), metapredicates (not, can, very) interclausal linkers (if, because, like) augmentor (more), movement/existence (move, there is, live).

For the sake of the practical purposes, before translating any text, a translator must firstly decide about: the text, the target for the audience, the team, and the tool used and agreed on procedure of translating: preparation (prepared-creative writer and reading through several times), learning the background of the material, studying the linguistic matter, and the analysis: finding the key words, grouping, indentifying the opening and closing of the text, finding the cohesive devices (Larson, 1984: 467-483).

B. PROBLEM

This paper discusses the linguistic universal of things, mainly the plurality of the noun which is bias in the translation English text into Indonesian

C. THE DISCUSSION

The discussion here focuses on the disappearing of the plurality marker in the receptor language, Indonesian, so there is a loss of meaning feature or meaning component in the resulted translation. The source of the data is taken from text Tulips of Garuda Magazine published for March 2004 by PT Indonesia Multi Media page 18-24.

Firstly the data is presented in the source language text, the English-into-Indonesian translated text done by the magazine, and then, finally, the inserted bolded words are the omission of the plurality in Indonesian. The grouping of the discussion is classified according to the marker or modifier of the noun (thing): the losing of the plural marker, like pronoun/noun, cardinal number, indefinite number, anaphora, diaphora.

1. PRONOUN

- a. Tsu (source language): **There are** flower-arranging demonstrations, a special plot devoted to heath plants and an amaryllis hothouse to wander through.

Tsa (target language): **Terdapat juga berbagai** peragaan menyusun bunga, suatu plot khusus untuk serbaneka rerumputan dan rumah kaca amarilis untuk dilalui.

- b. Tsu: *Europeans discovered the *tulip in Turkey in 1554 at Sultan Suleiman II's court where *they brightened harem days.*

Tsa: *Orang-orang Eropa menemukan tulip di Turki pada tahun 1554 di taman Raja Sulaiman II tempat mereka menghias taman harem.*

- c. Tsu: *If the heat of the day gets too much, head for the air-conditioned cover of one of the **many** shopping centers in the area.*

Tsa: *Kalau kita merasa kepanasan pada siang hari, kita bisa 'ngadem' di **banyak** emperan toko yang berAC di daerah itu.*

2. CARDINAL NUMBER

- a. Tsu: *From the Esplanade, to Marina Square Shopping Mall, to Suntec City with its four towers and convention center, to CityLink Mall (a completely subterranean shopping mall) to Raffles City shopping mall connected to the Swissotel the Stamford and Raffles Plaza you can walk the entire way without once stepping 'outside'.*

Tsa: *Mulai dari Esplanade sampai Marina Square Shopping Mall, ke Suntec City dengan **empat** menara dan balai sidangnya, ke City Link Mall (pusat perbelanjaan yang terletak di bawah tanah), ke pusat perbelanjaan Raffles City yang terhubung dengan Swissotel, the Stamford dan Raffles Plaza, sehingga Anda pun tak perlu melangkah ke luar.*

- b. Tsu: *Mustafa reports that they're selling around two units a day.*

Tsa: *Mustafa melaporkan bahwa mereka menjual sekitar **dua** unit setiap hari.*

3. INDEFINITE NUMBER: BERBAGAI, BANYAK, SEDIKIT, SEBAGIAN KECIL/BESAR, BEBERAPA, SEMUA, SEKELOMPOK, SEJUMLAH, LAINNYA, PARA, ANEKA/SERBANEKA, KERAGAMAN/BERAGAM, ETC.

- a. Tsu: *For travelers, don't forget that many of the world-class hotels that line Orchard Road are either attached to shopping malls or have their own boutique shopping arcades which are worth checking too.*

Tsa: *Untuk **para** pelancong, jangan lupa bahwa **banyak** dari hotel kelas dunia yang berjejer sepanjang Orchard Road terhubung dengan **berbagai** pusat perbelanjaan atau memiliki **sejumlah** arcade belanja butiknya sendiri yang juga perlu diamati.*

- b. Tsu: *Map-clutching, Hawaiian-shirted tourists brush shoulders with zippy, mini-skirted, hand-bag-swinging career girls, swooning, hand-holding couples, radical youths with their assorted piercings and cockerel hair styles and serious-looking, latte-sipping expatriates.*

Tsa: **Beberapa** turis berkemeja Hawai mengempit map bersentuhan bahu dengan **beberapa** wanita karier mengenakan rok mini yang mengayun-ayunkan tas, pasangan bergandengan tangan yang sedang mabuk asmara, pemuda radikal dengan **aneka** macam anting-anting dan gaya rambut yang funky dan **para** ekspatriat bertampang serius yang sedang menikmati kopinya.

- c. Tsu: *From the Fullerton Hotel, a glittering restoration of Singapore's General Post Office with its own compact arcade including a couple of gorgeous antique and art galleries, cross the bridge to the north and you come to the Esplanade Theatres on the Bay (commonly known as the 'Big Durian' because of its spiky armadillo-like exterior).*

Tsa: Mulai dari Hotel Fullerton dengan kegemerlapannya, dulunya gedung Kantor Pos Umum Singapura, dengan arkadanya yang memiliki **sejumlah** gerai barang antik dan seni yang indah, kita naik jembatan ke arah utara dan akan tiba di daerah yang bernama the Esplanade Theatres on the Bay (secara umum dikenal sebagai si 'Durian Besar', karena luarnya tampak seperti buah durian).

- d. Tsu: *An arcade of shops inside the Esplanade is also worth a look, including an unusual shop called the Potter's Cove with unique works of pottery by Singaporean artists.*

Tsa: **Sejumlah** daerah pertokoan di dalam Esplanade juga patut dikunjungi, termasuk sebuah toko yang aneh bernama Potter's Cove berisi keramik unik buatan beberapa seniman Singapura.

- e. Tsu: *Restored colonial structures like the Asian Civilizations Museum, the Supreme Court Building, and St. Andrew's Cathedral as well as the parks and the riverside views, make this 'lifestyle precinct' a pleasure to stroll around of a morning or afternoon.*

Tsa: **Berbagai** bangunan kolonial yang sudah dipugar seperti **sejumlah** Museum Peradaban Asia, Gedung Mahkamah Agung, dan Katedral St. Andrew serta taman-taman dan **sejumlah** pemandangan tepi sungai, membuat 'kawasan gaya hidup' ini tempat yang menyenangkan untuk jalan-jalan pagi atau sore.

- f. Tsu: *Here you'll find what must be one of the largest interconnected shopping zones in the world.*

Tsa: *Di sini Anda akan menemukan **sejumlah** pusat pertokoan yang saling terhubung dan terbesar di dunia.*

- g. Tsu: *Somehow the night seems hotter and the air a little thicker in Little India pervaded by the spicy aromas of the exotic subcontinent.*

Tsa: *Namun, malam hari terasa lebih panas dan udara lebih pengap di Little India karena tercampur **berbagai** aroma dari India yang eksotik.*

- h. *Holland Village is known as an expat hangout with relaxed street-side cafes and restaurants.*

*Holland Village dikenal sebagai tempat bersantai **para** ekspatriat di kafe dan restoran pinggir jalan yang bersuasana rileks.*

- i. *With its astounding variety of shopping options to suit all budgets and tastes spanning the centuries from age-old traditional Chinese medicine to the latest cutting edge technological gadgets a retail-oriented sojourn in Singapore truly does offer a unique shopping experience.*

*Dengan **ragam/aneka** pilihan yang begitu **banyak** yang cocok untuk **semua** anggaran dan selera, mulai dari obat tradisional Cina yang berumur ratusan tahun sampai peralatan teknologi mutakhir, untuk orang yang suka membeli barang kecil-kecilan, persinggahan di Singapura bisa memberikan sesuatu untuk semua orang.*

4. REDUPLICATION

- a. Tsu: *For shift-workers and travelers with jetlag or flights departing at odd hours, Mustafa Mall is a godsend.*

Tsa: Untuk **orang-orang** yang bekerja secara bergiliran (*shift*) dan para pelancong yang menderita jetlag atau harus terbang pada jam yang tidak enak, Mustafa Mall merupakan karunia.

- b. Tsu: Also virtually every mall will be holding exciting events, promotions and giveaways.

Tsa: Di sana, hampir setiap pertokoan juga akan mengadakan berbagai atraksi menarik, promosi dan **membagi-bagikan** hadiah.

- c. Tsu: Orchard Road offers everything from the largest book stores in the region (Borders, Kinokuniya) to top luxury designer brands (Hermes recently opened a major three-storey boutique on the podium level of Liat Towers) high end (Valentino, Prada, Kenzo), mid-range (Zara, Mango, Lola) and local fashions (Urban&Co, Womb, Song+Kelly21) as well as watches (Omega, Cartier, Rolex), jewelry (Tiffany & Co, Bulgari) cosmetics, electronics, toys, sporting goods, arts, crafts, souvenirs and quirky items that you wouldn't find anywhere else.

Tsa: Orchard Road menawarkan **segala-galanya**, dari **sejumlah** toko buku terbesar di kawasan ini (Borders, Kinokuniya) hingga **berbagai** merek disainer kondang (Hermes baru-baru ini membuka butik utamanya berlantai tiga di Liat Towers di tingkat podium), **sejumlah** fashion papan atas (Valention, Prada, Kenzo) menengah (Zara, Mango, Lola) dan lokal (Urban&Co, Womb, Song+Kelly21), juga **berbagai** jam tangan (Omega, Cartier, Rolex) perhiasan (Tiffany & Co, Bulgari), kosmetika, elektronik, mainan, **barang-barang** keperluan olahraga, seni, kerajinan, suvenir dan benda aneh yang tidak bisa diperoleh di tempat lain.

- d. Tsu: If you're looking for electronics, (may be a new digital camera, video, or computer peripheral) head for Funan the IT Mall down towards the river on North Bridge Road, or Sim Lim Square on Bencoolen Street.

Tsa: Bila Anda ingin mencari **barang-barang** elektronik (kamera digital, video, atau komputer periferal), beranjaklah menuju Funan, Mal IT ke

arah sungai di North Bridge Road, atau ke Sim Lim Square di Bencoolen Street.

- e. Tsu: *A bride between the East and the West for centuries, Singapore, located in the heart of fascinating Southeast Asia, continues to embrace tradition and modernity today.*

Tsa: Jembatan yang menghubungkan antara timur dan barat selama **ber-abad-abad**, Singapura, berlokasi di pusat Asia Tenggara dengan keindahannya, berlanjut ke pelukan tradisi dan modernisasi.

- f. Tsu: *Besides ordinary tulip blossoms, there are fringed, crimped, curled, orchidlike, spiky-tipped, doubled and redoubled varieties, *some as luzuriantly ruffled as a cancan dancer's petticoats.*

Tsa: *Disamping **kuncup-kuncup** tulip yang kebanyakan ada pada umumnya, terdapat juga berbagai jenis tulip yang pinggirannya berjumbai, keriting, seperti anggrek, berujung runcing, dobel dan berlapis, sebagian dengan jumbai yang subur seperti layaknya rok para penari can can.*

5. AFFIXATION

- a. Tsu: *You can also take daily tours from Brussels or Amsterdam.*

Tsa: *Anda juga dapat mengikuti berbagai tur **harian** dari Brussel atau Amsterdam.*

- b. Tsu: *Towering trees, banks of shrubbery, and sprawls of green lawns set the scene.*

Tsa: **Pepohonan** yang menjulang, pinggirannya semak belukar dan hamparan lapangan hijau bersama-sama membentuk keindahan taman bunga itu.

- c. Tsu: *While Orchard Road is the flagship of Singapore's shopping fleet, there are other impressive, less-known shopping centers that are definitely worth seeing.*

Tsa: Kalau Orchard Road merupakan pembawa bendera dari armada belanja Singapura, masih ada banyak pusat **perbelanjaan** lain yang kurang dikenal tetapi patut dikunjungi.

- d. Tsu: No flower beds seem the same, *no tulip species repetitious.

Tsa: Tidak ada petakan bunga yang terlihat sama, tidak ada **pengulangan** jenis tulip.

D. CONCLUSSION

Good translation will have no switch of meaning and shift of meaning, ideally, every meaningful component should be expressed in the target language. Plurality is meaningful component, as one of the linguistic universal, especially in number of thing. The plurality in Indonesian is expressed by many kinds of modifier of the noun and ways: the use of pronoun, indefinite and definite number, reduplication (partly or fully), and affixation.

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