THE MAPPING OF ACTION VERBS IN '*PELUKIS*' TRANSLATED INTO 'PAINTER'

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Abstract

This research focus on the translation of action verbs applying the Natural Semantic Metalanguge (NSM) approach proposed by Wierzbicka (1996), in case where the source language is Indonesia and the target language is English. Meanwhile, descriptive qualitative approach was applied in which the data were analyzed by explaining descriptively in paraphrases. Initially, the action verbs were identified in both source language (SL) text and target language (TL) text. Then, the meanings of the action verbs were mapped comprehensively into English by adopting exponential mapping technique and explication. The action verbs are derived from the small collection of semantic primitive 'DO' which is categorized as the prototypical concept of ACTION; DO, HAPPEN, MOVE, PUT, and GO.

Keywords: NSM, Action Verbs, Translation, Short Story

1. Introduction

The goal of the translator is to keep the massage of the original text constant in natural expression in the target language. It means that the goal of a translator should produce a receptor language text, which has the same massage as in the source language but it expressed in natural way in the receptor language. The meaning of every single exponent, for example, action verbs, including exponents having a tiny rate of differentiation of meanings in different languages can be explicated perfectly. The specialty of this theory realizes that there is a semantic uniqueness in a natural language. However, there is a universal semantic structure which is called semantic prime behind the semantic uniqueness.

The natural semantic metalanguage (NSM) is a minilanguage that is believed to correspond to the common core of all languages. It has come to light through wide-ranging cross-linguistic investigations pursued over more than three decades. The NSM system was developed primarily as a linguistic theory aimed at identifying the "language of thought" and the shared core of the lexicon and grammar of all natural languages, but it has been shown to have important practical applications in many areas, including cross-cultural communication and the pursuit of knowledge in the globalized world increasingly dominated by English.

Analyzing the action verbs in the Indonesia-English translation from the perspective of semantics offers distinctive impressions and challenges. The impressions and challenges are caused by the action verbs, which have their own uniquely different semantic features.

2. Materials and Method

The data of this writing were taken from the short story entitled '*Pelukis*' and translated into 'Painter'. It isoriginally written in Balinese language in 1970 and translated into Indonesia then English by Wahyu. The story is under the compilation of shorts story book entitled '*Ketemu Ring Tampaksiring*' by I Made Sanggra and written in three languages; Bali, Indonesia and English. The book is published by Yayasan Bali Anyar in 2004.

The focus of this study is on the translation of action verbs applying the Natural Semantic Metalanguge (NSM) approach proposed by Wierzbicka (1996), in case where the source language is Indonesia and the target language is English.Meanwhile, descriptive qualitative approach was applied in which the data were analyzed by explaining descriptively in paraphrases. Initially, the action verbs were identified in both source language (SL) text and target language (TL) text. Then, the meanings of the action verbs were mapped comprehensively into English by adopting exponential mapping technique and explication.

The mapping of the action verb meanings might be producing several exponents which have distinctive semantic features to each other, and finally all meanings of action verbs are explicated by using the small collection of semantic primes. Meanwhile, explication is based on reductive paraphrase (that is, breaking

concept/words down into combination of simpler concepts) using a small collection of semantic primes.

The paraphrasing model of mapping is proposed by Wierzbicka (1996) in order to paraphrase all meanings which are including the meanings that exist in a tiny rate of differentiation, with the formulation as; 'X does something to Y'. Because of that something happens to Y. Something happens because X does something to Y. Meanwhile, the mapping of action verb meanings in this section can be performed in three different typical classifications, such as; the action verb type of movement, type of utterance, and, type of doing.

3. Results and Discussions

This part deals with the analysis of action verbs applying the Natural Semantic Metalanguge (NSM) approach proposed by Wierzbicka (1996).

3.1 Type of Movement

There are found several action verbs which are classified into the type of movement.In order to have the detail explanation about the characteristics of the action verb meanings which belong to this type, let's see the following examples:

Data 1

Subtype of Top-Down Movement/ Down-Top Movement

SL	TL
Pan Nukara <u>turun</u> dari tempa tduduknya, tergesa-gesa keluar rumah, mengejar Ida Bagus Alit Agung, bermaksud meminta uang pembeli beras untuk bekal bekerja.	Pan Nukara <u>rose</u> from his chair and hurriedly marched out to catch Ida Bagus and ask money for provision.

In the data above, *turun*is translated into *rose* (past form of 'rise'). *Turun* means to do some kind of movement from top to down or descend. The semantic features of *turun*can be drawn as follows:
The explication of **turun**:
At that time, X did something (top-down movement)
X did this because of something (to reach the bottom)
X did this in some places (building, tree, place of sit etc.)
X did this on something (on purpose/not on purpose)
X did something like this

Basically, this lexical item <u>turun</u> can be equalized into the meaning of 'to descend' in English. The meaning orientation (goal) of this lexical item can be drawn obviously in its basic action. It is commonly performed by someone in order to reach the bottom of something (building, tree, place of sit, etc.). It supposes to be followed by an argument with several specific references such as; place, object, and height.

However, when *turun* is translated into English, the action verb is not translated into top-down movement, instead, it is translated into *rose* (past form of 'rise') which is categorized as down-top movement. According to Oxford dictionary, 'rise' means to move upward or to get up from the lying, sitting or kneeling position. The two lexical items (*turun* and *rose (rise))* are equally translated because both them express 'sub type of movement'. To prove the idea, here is the explication of *rose* (past form of 'rise'):

The explication of **rose**:
    At that time, X did something (down-top movement)
        X did this because of something (to get up from a position)
        X did this in some places (building, tree, place of sit etc.)
        X did this on something (on purpose/not on purpose)
        X did something like this

Data 2

3.1.1 Subtype of Away Movement

SL	TL
Pan Nukara turun dari tempat duduknya, tergesa-gesa keluar rumah, <u>mengejar</u> Ida Bagus Alit Agung, bermaksud meminta uang pembeli beras untuk bekal bekerja.	Pan Nukara rose from his chair and hurriedly marched out <u>to catch</u> Ida Bagus and ask money for provision.

The expression reflects a meaning configuration in someone mind that this action is performed by someone in order to reach a certain place or someone very quickly (on purpose). Commonly, someone who does this action will be sweating, and the breath moves fast. The legs are playing the most important role for this action. Basically, this action is performed on purpose or not on purpose. Someone performs this action for a several reasons or not on purposes. The meaning of this action verb can be explored comprehensively through the following explication.

The explication of **mengejar 'to catch'**:
    At that time, X did something (away movement)
        X did this because of something (several purposes)
        X did this because for something (to catchsomeone quickly)
        X did something like this

The lexical item of '*mengejar*' which is translated into 'to catch' has an equal meaning that is explicated by using a same explication as the examples presented above.

3.2 Type of Utterance
    This type of utterance will be intensively involving two participants which are grouped to speaker and hearer. Basically, these action verbs are represented by the polysemy (semantic primes) DO and HAPPEN from the prototypical concept

of ACTION. It seems that there is a kind of compositional relationship between them which is familiarly known as *the implicational Relationship* (Goddard, 1996:29).

Data 3

3.2.1 Subtype of Inquisitive Utterance

SL	TL
Saya menanyakan tentang lukisan saya	I am asking for my painting.

The basic target of this illocutionary meaning of this action verb menanyakan `to ask' is constructed by the element of natural meaning to say. Because, the lexicon menanyakan 'to ask' is focusing on the response of other lexicon CI want you to say something which allows someone to know something. In other word, someone asks a question to someone else with an implication that something is becoming clear.

The translation of '*menanyakan*' into 'asking' have an equal meaning that's make both of lexicon applied in the same explication:
The explication of **menanyakan** translated into **asking:**

At that time, X said something to Y
X said this because of X wanted Y said something to X
X said something like this

Data 4

3.2.2 Subtype of Responsive Utterance

SL	TL
"Baiklah tuan," jawab Ida Bagus Alit Agung	"Yes sir" Ida Bagus Alit Agung replied.

The combination of several semantic primes such as: do, think, know, feel and say are forming the semantic structures of the lexical item *jawab*in this subtype of responsive utterance.

Actually, the action verb *jawab* has a semantic relation to the action verb *menanyakan* 'to ask'. This might happen with a reason that when someone asks a question to someone else, he/she has a purpose to get information about something. Meanwhile, *jawab* is indicating that someone gives information to someone else about something. Therefore, the semantic structure of this action verb can be paraphrased as follows;

The explication of **jawab:**

At that time, X said something to Y
X said this because of X thought Y wanted X said something
X thought Y wanted to know something

X said something like this

The lexical *jawab*has been translated into 'replied' instead of answered. According to oxford dictionary, "replied" or the past form of reply means to say something as an answer to somebody. It is equal in meaning with the lexical '*jawab*' and the explication of "replied' can be drawn as follows:

The explication of **replied**:
　　At that time, X said something to Y
　　　　X said this because of X thought Y wanted X said something
　　　　X thought Y wanted to know something
　　　　X said something like this

3.3 Type of Doing

There are several elements of meaning that form the characteristic of this subtype of this subtype of doing incineration. These elements of meaning are: `to buy'

Data 5

3.3.1 Subtype of Doing Transaction

SL	TL
Behh Dewa Ratu… dengan harga berapa Ida Bagus <u>menjual</u> lukisan itu.	Behh Dewa Ratu… How much does he <u>sell</u> my panting?

Every transaction is involving various action those are including, selling and purchasing (take and give). The combination of the polysemy to take and to give are considered the basic components which reflect several inherent characteristics of meaningsnamely; 'to sell'. The lexical item of *'menjual'*- 'to sell' associated with an action conducted by someone in order to givesomething for someone else. Likewise, someone has to give something to someone else which must be equal to the amount of the thing that is taken. This action is commonly conducted in several places and with several terms of payment.

It is clearly understood that this lexicon must be supported by several arguments such as place (market, store, stall, etc), and the legal terms of payment (cash, cheque, money transfer, etc).

The explication of **menjual:**
　　At that time, X did something to Y
　　　　X did this with some things (things: painting)
　　　　X did this in some places (market, store, stall, etc)
　　　　X did something like this

The sub type of doing transaction '*menjual*' is translated into 'sell' which is equally in meaning and has a same explication:

The explication of **sell:**

> At that time, X did something to Y
> > X did this with some things (things: painting)
> > X did this in some places (market, store, stall, etc)
> > X did something like this

4. Conclusions

Based on the data analysis which has been presented in the previous chapter, there are some examples of mapping action verbs in various explications. It gives a huge access to sufficient understandings of the characteristics of each lexical item. Every single meaning of action verb was observed and mapped into various exponents, then each meaning of the exponents was explicated comprehensively using the NSM approach. This exponential mapping technique and explication enable to compare every single characteristic of meaning of the action verb that might become an exponent of the other action verb.

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