An Analysis of Translation in Translated Drama Script Entitled Waiting for Godot

Tefur Nur Rohman¹; M.R Nababan; Riyadi Santosa²

¹ Student of Magister Linguistics Program, Postgraduate Program, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta, Indonesia
² Lecture of Postgraduate, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta, Indonesia

http://dx.doi.org/10.18415/ijmmu.v6i6.1201

Abstract

The purpose of this research is to determine translation quality of the drama script Waiting for Godot. This research uses descriptive qualitative method. The source of the research data are drama script Waiting for Godot and two version of its translation. This research uses document analysis to analyze data, and focus group discussion is carried out to validate the data. On this research, the researcher assess the translation quality by two aspects, there are; accuracy and reliability. Total data in target language 1 are 168 data, about 96% data are accurate. In target language 2 there are 156 data, and about 94% data are accurate. For the reliability aspect there are 99% data of target language 1 and 2 are reliable.

Keywords: Linguistic; Translation Quality Assessment; Accuracy; Acceptability; Waiting for Godot; Drama Script; Drama

Introduction

There is no deny, translation plays a big role in transferring the contents of the story in SL’s drama script to TL. In fact the translation serves as a bridge that makes the viewer can get information and messages that we do not know in our language or TL. It is also justified by Nida and Taber (in Suryawinata, 2003:12) that translation as an attempt to re-create the message in the source language (SL) into the target language (TL) with the natural equivalent as close as possible, first in terms of meaning and Then the style of the language. In the two things mentioned by Nida and Taber that is meaning and language style is indeed necessary in translating the manuscript of the drama. If only translating from the meaning of its meanings without regard to the style of the language, of course, it would be difficult for actors to play a role in the title script of the foreign figure. One of the most famous foreign theater figures is the Samuel Becket. Many of Samuel Becket's works have been translated into Indonesian language. Examples are; End Game, Come and Go, Breath, Embers, Waiting for Godot, etc.
Research Method

This research belongs to descriptive qualitative research. This research is called descriptive because the data which used are in the form of sentence from drama script Waiting for Godot and its translation.

According to Lyncoln and Guba (in Santosa, 2017:49), in qualitative research, location must be understood as the boundary used to determine the focus of research or focus-determined boundary.

In other words, the location of this study does not have to be geographic or demographic in nature. Therefore the research location of this research is in the drama script Waiting for Godot.

Data in this research are divided into two part, primary data and secondary data. The primary data in this study are the clauses in the drama script Waiting for Godot. While secondary data come from previous studies.

The subject analysis document of this study is a clause in the dialogue of the drama script Waiting for Godot. According to Sutopo (2006:56) The accuracy of choosing and determining the type of data source will determine the accuracy and richness of the data, or depth of information obtained.

Validity is done to get assuredness for the researchers to the conclusions obtained from their research (Sutopo, 2006: 78). Validity is done by focus group discussion. Focus group discussion aims to get reliable result. Focus group discussion is carried out by determining the translation technique that contained in the drama script Waiting for Godot and its translation.

Result and Discussion

Translation quality is related to translation techniques applied by translators. The techniques applied affect the translation quality in terms of the level of accuracy, readability and realibility. In assessing the quality of the translation of the drama script Waiting for Godot, researcher involve three raters to assess the translation quality by doing a focus group discussion (FGD). Three raters gave their scores in each datum, and also some comments to explain why they assessed the translation with that score. The translation quality assessment in this study covers two aspects, namely; accuracy and reliability. The results of the assessment are as follows.

1. Translation Quality Assessment in Accuracy

Accuracy is one of the translation assessments related to how the message from the source language is delivered to the target language correctly. On Target Language (TL) 1 there are 161 (96%) accurate data, 3 (2%) less accurate translation data, and there are 3 (2%) inaccurate data from 168 data. Then on Target Language (TL) 2 there are 147 (94%) accurate translation data, 8 (5%) less accurate translation data, and 1 (1%) inaccurate translation data from 156 data. Based on the research results, most of the data translated accurately.
a) Accurate Translation

According to Nababan (2010), an accurate translation is when the meaning of the word; technical term, phrase, or sentence of the source language is transferred accurately to the target language; there is absolutely no distortion in the sense. The translations belonging to this category are text that is averaging 2.66-3. On TL 1 there are 161 (96%) data from 168 data, and on TL 2 there are 147 (94%) data from 156 data included in the accurate translation. This means that most of the data is translated into the target language correctly, the meaning in the drama script is delivered perfectly. Below are examples of accurate translation.

V39/99
SL: “I’ve already told you?”
TL: “Sudahkuceritakanpadamu, kan?”

When it paired, the sentence in TL already fully satisfies the accuracy criteria. The entire meaning of the word contained in the SL is diverted in a whole with a slight undistorted meaning. There is a small level in the SL structure, which contains the bookmarks of the question sentence “kan” which is not in the SL only represented by a marker of sentences or intonation in the oral range. A similar case can also be found on P/39/97 data, “what was I saying” which translated accurately to “Apa yang pernah kubilang.”

Example of translation has high degree of accuracy. There are 3 raters that give score 3 in the example in assessing the accuracy of the datum without comments and alternative translations. This means that the datum is accurate. In addition, by analyzing the data, researcher has similar argument to the rater. The verbal translation in clause above produces good quality.

b) Less Accurate Translation

Translations are considered less accurate when most messages from the drama script in the source language are transferred to the target language well, but there is some distortion of meaning. On TL 1 There are 3 (2%) data from 168 data and on TL 2 there are 7 (5%) data from 156 data classified as translation is less accurate. Below is an example of a less accurate translation.

V 26/66:
SL: "He's on the alert."  
TL: "Ia kini sadar."

It is translated using modulation technique. 3 raters gave a score 2 in the datum assessment, it means that the translation included less accurate translation. The overall meaning of the sentence in TL already represents the meaning contained in the SL. In other hand, if we look to the data carefully there is a small distortion, that is, the shift of participant processes from relational attributive process to mental cognitive process, which means that the clause has changed functionally so that the translator does not transfer the meaning well so that the translation of the clause becomes difficult to understand.

Many of the clauses that have less accuracy are derived from clauses that use modulation techniques in their translations, both in TL 1 and TL 2. Not all translations using modulation techniques cause an accuracy level in less translation, since there are also some translations using modulation techniques to have good accuracy. This is because there are several clauses that are translated using the modulation technique then the message remains accurate, and there are some clauses whose messages change to be less accurate.
c) Inaccurate Translation

According to Nababan (2010), an inaccurate translation is when the meaning of a word, technical term, phrase, or sentence of the source language is transferred inaccurately or omitted into the target language. On TL 1 there are 3 (2%) Data from 168 data and on TL 2 there are 2 (1%) data from 156 data classified as translation is inaccurate. Below is an example of inaccurate translation;

P28/71
BSu: "I'll regret my decision."
BSa: "Saya akan bimbang membuat keputusan."

That datum uses discursive creations techniques. 3 The raters gave score 1 in the clause, which means that the translation included is inaccurate. The translations in the above clause were judged to be submitted inaccurately. Although between SL and TL looks accurate, but in fact between SL and TL there is a difference if we noted carefully. The SL uses participants of the affective mental process, but translates to mental cognitive. Although it is included mental processes, but between mental affective and mental cognitive is two different things. Also, the use of the word 'membuat keputusan' on TL is not suitable for translating the word 'my decision'.

2. Translation Quality Assessment in Acceptability

Acceptability is one of the assessments of translations related to the conformity of translations with the target language's linguistic and textual norms. Most of the data in this drama was judged by raters as an acceptable translation. There are 166 data (99%) From 168 data on TL 1, and 154 data (99%) From 156 data are acceptable on TL 2. Almost all techniques used in translating the drama text are acceptable, except deletion technique. Here is an example of data with acceptable translations.

a) Acceptable Translation

According to Nababan (2010), the acceptable translation is when the translation feels natural, the technical terms used are prevalent and familiar to the reader's meaning, and the clauses used are already in accordance with the rules of the language. There are 166 data (99%) From 168 data on TL 1, and 154 data (99%) From 156 data are acceptable on TL 2. Almost all techniques used in translating the drama text are acceptable, except deletion technique. Here is an example of data with acceptable translations.

E20/25
BSu: "We hardly know him."
BSa: "Kami hampir tidak mengenalnya."

The translations above belong to the acceptable translation category. Third raters provide an average score for the level of acceptance 3. Thus, the acceptance of the translation of that clause belongs to the category of acceptable. The technique used in the clause is a common equivalent technique. The techniques that translators use in addition to maintain the original text in the source language can also make translations natural. Although there are some shifts in the process participants in the source language clause into the target language but it does not affect the acceptance rate of translations.
b) Unacceptable Translation

According to Nababan (2010), a translation that is not acceptable is when the translation is natural or feels like a translation work, the technical terms used are also unusual and not familiar to the reader, but also clauses and sentences that In accordance with the Indonesian rules. There are 2 data (1%) From 168 data on TL 1 and 2 data (1%) Of the 156 data on TL 2 which is included in the translation is not acceptable. All the data included in the translation which is not acceptable using the deletion technique of translation. Here is an example of unacceptable data;

P38/47
SL: "He refused once."
TL: "Pernah dulu sekali."

The translation clause above belongs to the category of translation with no acceptable. The three raters give a rating of 1 for that clause, which means the translation of the clause is not acceptable. This is because the translation on TL does not use the appropriate Indonesian rules so it is difficult for readers to understand the clause. The use of deletion techniques affects the level of acceptance of the manuscript.

Conclusion

In this study, the accuracy and reliability of the translation of the drama Waiting for Godot was influenced by the translation technique. Accuracy and reliability translations are influenced by the proper techniques applied by translators. The less accurate, inaccurate, less acceptable and unacceptable translation is influenced by the use of improper translation techniques applied by translators, including deletion and modulation translation techniques.

Reference


An Analysis of Translation in Translated Drama Script Entitled Waiting for Godot


Copyrights

Copyright for this article is retained by the author(s), with first publication rights granted to the journal.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

An Analysis of Translation in Translated Drama Script Entitled Waiting for Godot 200