

TRANSLATION ANALYSIS OF PROMISING AND OFFERING UTTERANCES IN *FORREST GUMP* MOVIE

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Abstract

The purpose of the paper is to analyze the promising and offering utterances in commissive of speech act, translation techniques and its equivalences in Forrest Gump movie subtitles. The method used is qualitative method. The results showed several techniques employed, such as adaptation, borrowing, established equivalent, linguistic compression, literal translation, modulation, particularization, reduction, transposition, and variation. The translation technique mostly used is established equivalence. For the shift rendering in source text and target text in Forrest Gump movie subtitles, it is concluded that mostly the data do not occur any shift in promising or offering utterances. Also, in terms of translation equivalence, the dominant kind of translation equivalence in this research is dynamic equivalence.

Keywords: *Analysis, Commissive, Offering, Movie, Promising, Speech Act, Translation*

INTRODUCTION

Language is used for communication between individual to individual, individual to group, etc. It is often viewed as a system to express the thought, idea, or feeling from one person to another. In everyday life, language also serves equally important social and emotional functions. According to Weiten (2007), he defines that *A language consists of symbols that convey meaning, plus rules for combining those symbols, that can be used to generate an infinite variety of messages.* Those meanings or intentions that conveyed in language can be used for good or bad. It can influence an act of a person to someone else, because language is important in our communication.

Therefore, if language conveyed a meaning from one person to another, it shows an act in he/her speech. This is called as a

speech act according to (Trask, 1999) *speech act is an attempt that doing something purely by speaking. There are very many things that we can do, or attempt to do, simply by speaking. We can make a promise, ask a question, order or request somebody to do something, make a threat and so on.* Meanwhile, in attempting to express themselves, people do not only produce utterances containing grammatical structures and words, they perform action via those utterances (Yule, 1996: 47). He also stated that actions performed via utterances are generally called speech acts and are commonly given more specific labels, such as apology, complaint, compliment, invitation, promise, or request. Also, Trask (1999) defines speech act as an attempt is doing something purely by speaking. There are very many things that we can do, or attempt to do, simply by speaking.

We can make a promise, ask a question, order or request somebody to do something, make a threat and so on.

A promise is to do an act that is to commit the speaker to doing something. The utterance is a promise if he successfully performs the act of making a promise then he necessarily commits himself to doing something (Searle, 1969). Meanwhile, offer is regarded as a common word in every day usage of language for the purpose of presenting something to be accepted or refused (to offer someone a drink, money or help) or to express one's willingness or intention to do something and leave the offeree free to accept or refuse that offer (Oxford, 1992: 739).

Each one of these is a particular speech act. Speech act belong to the domain of pragmatics, and their study namely speech-act theory. When people are interacting with others in a society, they must use language to communicate with each other. We use language to send vital messages about what we want to say or express regarding to several circumstances, where, when and whom we associate with. This study called pragmatics, which is the study of speaker meaning. There are many definitions about pragmatic from many experts. Leech (1983: 6) defines pragmatics as "the study of meaning in relation to speech situations". Also, Levinson (1983: 9) defines that *Pragmatics is the study of those relations between language and context that are grammaticalized, or encoded in the structure of a language*. Pragmatics is

concerned with the study of meaning as communicated him to say exactly what he means. So, it is clearly said that speech act is an action performed via utterances to express the meaning, or an utterance that expresses an intention of the speaker.

Based on that phenomenon, the writer is interested to analyze promising and offering which are found in commissive types of speech act that translated in *Forrest Gump* movie. Also, the writer chooses *Forrest Gump* movie which was released in 1994 because that film became a commercial success as the top film in North America released in that year and it won multiple awards and nomination in award ceremony. According to Nida (in Venuti, 2000: 129), Formal equivalence focuses attention on the message itself, in both form and content. In such a translation one is concerned that the message in the receptor language should match as closely as possible the different elements in the source language. Meanwhile, Dynamic equivalence aims at complete naturalness of expression, and tries to relate the receptor to modes of behavior relevant within the context of his own culture; it does not insist that he understand the cultural patterns of the source language context in order to comprehend the message. According to Molina and Albir (2002: 509), they define translation techniques as procedures to analyze and classify how translation equivalence works. Translation techniques are not the only categories available to analyze a translated text. Coherence, cohesion, thematic

progression and contextual dimensions. So, the writer is interested to make a research entitled *Translation Analysis of Promising and Offering Utterances in Forrest Gump Movie*. This research focuses on analyzing the technique used in translating the speech act found in the movie.

METHODS

This research used qualitative method. According to Kumar (2008:8) qualitative method is concerned with qualitative phenomenon, i.e., phenomena relating to or involving quality or kind. For instance, when we are interested in investigating the reasons for human behavior, we quite often talk of *Motivation Research*, an important type of qualitative research. Qualitative research is especially important in the behavioral sciences where the aim is to discover the underlying motives of human behavior. The writer chooses qualitative method because the result of the data analyzed is in descriptive phenomenon such as words, sentence and utterance in order to know the promising and offering which are found in commissive types of speech act and what kind of translation techniques are mostly used in this movie. The source of data in this research is the promising and offering which are found in commissive types of speech act from *Forest Gump* movie which was released on 1994. The following steps of the data collection procedure that the writer used for this research were as follows: 1). Watching

the movie carefully until the end and understand it; 2). Identifying each statement where the speech act is found; 3). Putting the speech act that was found into a table; 4). Making a classification of speech acts; 5). Collecting some theories that relate to the research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The following below is the analysis of data for Translation techniques.

Adaptation

The conversation occurs in a bar, when Forrest told Lieutenant Dan about his plan to buy a shrimp boat and be a captain since Bubba was dead in the war. After hearing that, Lieutenant Dan laughing but soon tell Forrest that he will be his first mate the day Forrest becomes a shrimp boat captain. From that utterance when Lieutenant Dan said *I will come and be your first mate* is belonging to *promising* type of speech act.

It implies that Lieutenant utters that sentence is to show that he is willing or commit to be Forrest's first mate. There is shift in form and meaning from ST *I will come and be your first mate* to TT *Aku akan menjadi tangan kananmu yang pertama* which is promising in commissive translated into stating in assertive. Also, as for the translation techniques used, the utterance *your first mate* in source text that is translated into *tangan kananmu yang pertama* in target text is uses adaptation translation technique because

the cultural element in the ST of *first mate* words is not found in TT. So, instead of *pasangan pertama* it translated to be *tangan kananmu yang pertama*.

Borrowing

The conversation occurs in a school, when Mrs. Gump talk to Mr. Hancock about Forrest to get into that school, but as principal, Mr. Hancock offering her something to look at and tell her that Forrest is not fit in to that school because his capability. From that utterance when Mr. Hancock said *I want to show you something* is belong to *offering* type of speech act and it implies because he has an intention to show a paper about IQ scores where Forrest should be placed and leave that the Mrs. Gump to accept or refuse that offer. The utterances from ST to TT do not occurs any shift in form and meaning, because *I want to show you something*, Mrs. Gump” translated into *Aku ingin tunjukkan sesuatu*, Mrs. Gump are still an offering act and the message is the same, offering something to Mrs. Gump. Also, the word *Mrs. Gump* in TT which is translated from *Mrs. Gump* in ST uses borrowing translation technique. It is not translated into *Nyonya* because borrowing technique is used to translate the ST to take a word or expression straight from another language.

Established Equivalent

In the conversation occurs in a bridge, when Jenny and Forrest arguing about

something and Jenny, she asked him to make a promise to her, and Forrest promised her from whatever she tells him to do and then she leaves Forrest with an unknown man who is driving a car. From that utterance when Forrest said *Okay* is belong to *promising* type of speech act. It is implying that he is willing or commit to do whatever she wants him to do. Also, there is no shift in form and meaning from ST *Okay* translated into TT *OK*, because both utterances have the same meaning and are still in a promising act form. As for the translation technique, the word *Okay* in ST translated into *OK* in TT uses established equivalence because it is in the dictionary and is an expression recognized in Indonesian daily conversation.

Linguistic Compression

The conversation occurs when Forrest and his mother, Mrs. Gump are waiting for a school bus to come, Mrs. Gump tells Forrest to do his very best since he is going to school and Forrest promised to his mother about that. From that utterance when Forrest said *I sure will* is belonging to *promising* type of speech act. That imperative sentence implies that he is willing or commits to do his very best for his mom. Furthermore, there is no shift in form and meaning from ST to TT, because *I sure will*, *Mama* in ST translated into *Pasti*, *Mama* in TT have the same meaning and the form are still a promising act. As for the translation technique used for that utterance *I sure will* in ST is translated into *Pasti* in TT

uses linguistic compression because it is to synthesize linguistic elements in TT and the translator only focus on one point of the sentence.

Literal Translation

The utterance occurs in a hospital, when Forrest just entering a hospital room while he is still on the bed and holding two ice creams on his hands. Then he saw Lieutenant Dan laying down on his bed and offer him if he wants an ice cream, but he only threw that away into a urine pot. From that utterance when Forrest said *I got you some ice cream* it is belong to *offering* type of speech act. The way he utters that phrase is implies that he willing or intention to give his ice cream to Lieutenant Dan and leave that the Lieutenant Dan to accept or refuse that offer. There is no shift in form and meaning from ST to TT because *Lieutenant Dan, I got you some ice cream* in ST translated into *Letnan Dan, aku punya es krim untuk mu* in TT are still an offering act. Also, the translation technique used for the word *got* in ST is translated into *punya* in TT uses literal translation because it is an expression word for word and instead of translated into *mendapatkan* is because the translator does associate it with the context.

Modulation

The utterance occurs in Forrest's house when a Minister offers guests to take a sit because the wedding is about to start.

From that utterance when a Minister said *Please take your seat* is belong to *offering* type of speech act. He utters that imperative sentence to imply that he is willing or has an intention to lead some guests to take their seat before the wedding start and leave that to the guests to accept or refuse that offer. Furthermore, there is no shift in form and meaning from ST to TT because *Please take your seat* in ST is translated into *silahkan duduk* in TT have the same meaning and form which is an offering act. Also, the translation technique for the utterances *Please take your seat* in ST which is translated into *silahkan duduk* in TT uses modulation of translation technique because it is to change the point of view of focus in structural.

Particularization

The utterance above occurs in a bridge, when Jenny and Forrest arguing about something and before Jenny leaves Forrest with an unknown man who is driving a car, Forrest promised to Jenny that he will write letters for her. From that utterance when Forrest said *I'll write you all the time* is belong to *promising* type of speech act. The way he utters that imperative sentence implies that he is willing or commit to write letters for Jenny all the time. Also, there is no shift in form and meaning from ST to TT because *I'll write you all the time* in ST is translated into *Aku akan menyuratimu setiap saat* in TT are still promising act. As for the translation technique, the word *write* in ST is translated

to *menyurati* in TT uses particularization of translation technique because it is more precise or specific of what he is writing to her instead of *menulis*.

Reduction

In example the utterance occurs when Mrs. Gump comes to Forrest graduation in his college, she looks happy and so proud of him and then she offers to hold his stuff. From that utterance when Mrs. Gump said *Here, I'll hold this for you* is belong to *offering* type of speech act. The way she utters that imperative sentence implies that she is willing to hold Forrest's stuff for him and leave that to Forrest to accept or refuse that offer, in this condition he accept and let her do that. Also, there is no shift in form and meaning from ST to TT as *Here, I'll hold this for you* in ST is translated into *Kupegangkan untukmu* in TT have the same meaning and the form are still an offering act. As the translation technique used in that utterance, the word *here* in ST is omitted in TT, it uses reduction of technique translation because the translator only focuses on the point and it does not change the whole meaning.

Transposition

The conversation above occurs when Forrest accompany Jenny before she is leaving to San Fransisco and there is a man trying to talk and convince her that he will never hurt Jenny. From that utterance, the man said *I would never hurt you* is belonging

to *promised* type of speech act. It is implying that he is commit to Jenny that he will never hurt her. Furthermore, there is no shift in form and meaning as *I would never hurt you* in ST is translated into *Aku tak akan pernah menyakitimu* in TT carry the same meaning and the form are still a promising act. Also, the translation technique used for the utterance *I would never* in ST is translated into *Aku tidak akan pernah* in TT uses transposition of translation because it is changing the grammatical structure.

Variation

In example the conversation above occurs when young Forrest and young Jenny are talking with each other and they are sitting together on the tree. From that utterance, Forrest said *I'll stay* is belonging to *promising* type of speech act. The way he utters that phrase implies that he is willing or commit to what Jenny said by staying with her. Also, there is no shift in form and meaning in ST *Okay, Jenny, I'll stay.* translated into *OK, Jenny, aku akan tinggal* in TT because both utterances carry the same meaning and have the same form which is a promising act. Furthermore, for the translation technique used for the utterance *I'll stay* in ST is translated into *aku akan tinggal* in TT uses variation of translation techniques. Variation is used to translate the word *aku* is chosen means the translation the technique that is used is variation as there are choices for the translation of the word "*P*"; *saya, ku, daku,*

gue, etc. In addition, the word *aku* is chosen because Forrest is talking to Jenny who is his friend that he adores so much.

Equivalence of Translation

There are 10 translation techniques found in promising and offering utterances in *Forrest Gump* movie with 191 total frequencies. The translation techniques are adaptation, Borrowing, Established Equivalent, Linguistic Compression, Literal Translation, Modulation, Particularization, Reduction, Transposition, and Variation. From all the techniques that are found in the analysis, the dynamic equivalence is the most collected in the *Forrest Gump* movie. Since according to Nida (in Venuti, 2000: 129) Dynamic equivalence aims at complete naturalness of expression, and tries to relate the receptor to modes of behavior relevant within the context of his own culture; it does not insist that he understands the cultural patterns of the source language context in order to comprehend the message. This dynamic equivalence focuses more on the reader and the source language of this movie.

CONCLUSION

From the analysis of speech act and the translation techniques in *Forrest Gump* movie, the writer found that commissive types of speech act in the subtitle of *Forrest Gump* movie there are five kinds of utterances; they are promising, planning, vowing, betting, opposing, but the writer only

focused on promising and offering utterances. From sentences that are taken, it is found that adaptation, borrowing, established equivalent, linguistic compression, literal translation, modulation, particularization, reduction, transposition, and variation. The translation technique that mostly used is established equivalence. That happened because it is translated by using an expression recognized by dictionary and it is equivalent with the words in Indonesian. For the shift rendering in source text and target text in *Forrest Gump* movie subtitles, it is concluded that mostly the data do not occur any shift in promising or offering utterances. Also, the dominant kinds of translation equivalence in this research is dynamic equivalence,

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