

PRAGMATIC’S ROLE FOR PROPERLY TRANSLATION OF EXPRESSIVE SPEECH ACTS IN WOODS’ BIG ROMANCE NOVEL

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Abstract

Translation is a properly way to a properly communication and pragmatics is how to use language in communication properly. By translation, many things from different languages and cultures can understand to each other. In other words, translation can be stated as a facilitator to make a communication runs well. There are many approaches used in translation. One of prospective translation approaches is pragmatics. The concept of pragmatics is in line to the principle of translation. It means, both of them have the same function in communication. This approach is often used in translating utterances or conversations since a literal meaning found has not produced a maximal result yet. It requires special attention. An intended meaning or message transferred by a speaker to a hearer should be considered appropriately. This paper is aimed at explaining pragmatic’s role towards the properly translation of expressive utterances in romance novel by Sherryl Woods.

Key words: translation, pragmatics, expressive utterances, romance novel

I. Introduction

Nowdays, many translated fictions are easily found in the bookstore. A number of translated fiction books are easily found than books by local authors. It has many reasons. Taken from (<https://www.goodreads.com/topic/show/90241-penerjemah>) , it shows that translated novels are more attractive and the topic brought is diverse. For romance novel, the story is also logic rather than Indonesian romance novels have. However, the existence of translated novels in Indonesia can directly or indirectly enrich the literature and our culture. By reading them, we are able to improve our knowledges in understanding cultures from other nations. Beside, the values existing in the novel should be able to be compared with values from Indonesian novels.

Generally, translated novels in Indonesia are the best-seller novels in their nations written by reliable authors (<http://my-private-things.blogspot.com/search/label/harlequin>). Sherryl Woods, is one of best-seller novel author (New York’s version) for romance novels. She has written more than 100 novel titles. Many awards have been dedicated to her because of her skill in portraying a story. She can present a realistic story like reality. All the characters created are brought into a beautiful romance drama but realistic and logical (<http://www.sherrylwoods.com/y1-090599.shtml>). Hence, her novels are appreciated and translated into several different languages, including bahasa Indonesia.

Translation is defined as facilitator in communication. In other words, it is ‘a bridge’ to overcome a person’s inability to obtain specific information due to language barriers. Translation concerns with communicating the message or idea, that is written in original text. When we talk about the form of a language, we are referring to the

actual words, phrases, clauses, and sentences which are spoken and written. It consists of transferring the meaning of the Source Language (SL) to Target Language (TL). Nababan (2003) proposes that translation is not only about transferring message, but also the language form of Source language (SL) into Target language (TL). It happens in both translating literary works and scientific texts. Thus, there are two major things must be considered by a translator. They are content of the text and the form. Nababan (2003: 12- 13) provides an additional view about translation. He states that translation is a kind of an interdisciplinary science, that accepts many other different field of studies like linguistics, psycholinguistics, pragmatics, communication theory, phylogeny, etc.

One of approaches that can be attached to translation is pragmatics. Both pragmatics and translation have the similarity. Translation is viewed as a bridge in delivering message from someone to others and pragmatics is considered as an approach used in understanding the message or intended meaning transmission. Shortly, both of them have the same function in communication. A good communication means that speaker and hearer understand to each other. Thus, dealing with translation, pragmatics has a big contribution in translating utterances or messages of ads. A good translator should be able to produce a qualified translation and understandable by the readers since a good successful translation result will motivate the translator to improve his ability in translation.

Translating utterances is not similar as translating sentences. It needs special more attention as there is an intended meaning conveyed by a speaker or a writer to a hearer or reader. There is context or situation overshadowing utterances. However, the messages are not transmitted well as the way they are. Then, it can cause some misunderstanding occurred between speakers or hearers. Some ways to avoid this kind of misunderstanding is by mastering pragmatics concept.

This study is focused on the pragmatic's role for properly translation of expressive utterances in two big Woods' romance novels. The novel's titles are *Stealing Home* and *Amazing Gracie*. Generally, a romance contains many expressive utterances and these two novel have a large number of expressive utterances. Hence, this research is conducted to reveal and understand the role of pragmatics for a properly translation of expressive utterances.

II. Landasan Teori dan Metode

A. Pragmatics Concept

Pragmatics has several definitions coming from some linguists. They have severally proper consideration about pragmatics. Leech (1993) and Levinson (1983) are great pragmatic proposers say "*One cannot really understand the nature of language itself unless he understands pragmatics; i.e. how language is used in communication.*" It means that there are two important things in pragmatics: language use and context. what are the language used for and determining meanings or messages is absolutely based on the context. Therefore, pragmatics is simply defined as a language study focused on utterance meaning beyond certain context.

Context plays an important role. Levinson (1983) said that is the study of the relationship between languages with contexts is called pragmatics. It pragmatic with regard to the ability of language users in connecting and harmonizing sentences and proper contexts or how a language is used in communication. It is also about language user's ability in correlating and matching sentences with context properly or how a language used in communication. The focus is on speaker's meaning. In conclusion, the

definition of pragmatics is the study of meaning of linguistic utterances in certain situations said. There are some theories learnt in pragmatics scope like speech act theory, the theory of implicature, relevance theory, and deixis.

Speech act theory (SAT) is one of the core issue of modern pragmatics, as stated particularly by Austin (1962) and then expanded by Searle (1969). Speech act becomes one of pragmatics' basic ingredients corresponding to sentences and some ways to avoid kinds of misunderstanding in communication (Yule, 2003: 49). In showing their feeling, people should express it by uttering words and also perform actions via those utterances. By producing utterances, a speaker transmits a message to a hearer. Actions that are performed through utterances are generally called *speech act*.

Searle in Yule (2003) proposes five types of translation as the basic actions in speaking, including: *representative* (committing the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition), *directives* (making the hearer to do something), *commissive* (the speaker commits himself to a certain course of a action to be taken in the future), *expressive* (expressing the speaker's feelings, and *declaratives* (bringing out a change in the external situation of the world through utterances).

B. Pragmatics in Translating Speech Acts

Translation is a process of transferring text that has been correlated to the context. A translator is requested to find a proper equivalences to make the translation result understandable. During this, a good translator should have a textual competence to interpret the syntactic and semantic marks in the source language (SL) from a pragmatic point of view. Once a translator misses the relevant contextual elements to be translated, the translated text will no be successfully communicated since lack of considering the function in the target language's culture.

As has been stated above in which pragmatic approach is closely related to the principle of communication. Pragmatics is all about the study of speaker meaning. Doing translation by using pragmatics approach doesn't lie on the locution conveyed due to locutions inclined to the study are in pure semantics scope. Applying this approach in translating utterances is quite necessary. The illocution (intended meaning) is the focus of translation using pragmatics approach. A consideration comes from Fawcet (1997) in which he uncovers the correlation between illocutionary acts and translation. He states "*However it is translated, the illocutionary force of sentence would not change*". This statement means the type of illocutionary act of SL is similar to the type of illocutionary act in TL. Hence, the utterances are not only translated literally, but the most important thing is on the certain message (intention) that should be transmitted.

C. Expressive Speech Acts

Expressive speech act is also known as evaluative speech acts. In addition, expressive utterances are aimed to express the feelings and attitudes about the state of the relationship and the evaluation of the things mentioned. This speech act includes an apology, forgiveness, regret, complain, gratitude, praised, criticized, and others. This opinion is expanded by Leech (1993) also describes the expressive speech acts in the act theory he said. Leech defines expressive speech acts as a kind of speech acts that serve to demonstrate the psychological attitude of the speaker to the circumstances being experienced by the hearer. As one identifier of this speech act is a verb that marks the speech act, for example congratulate, thank, felt was sorry, and apologize. Meanwhile,

Yule (2006: 93) found in expressive speech acts are statements that describe what is perceived by the speakers. This speech act is the psychological reflection speakers against a state, covering grateful, surprised, congratulate, and so on. It can be concluded that the expressive speech is speech that is intended to reveal the expression of the speaker to the hearer.

D. *Stealing Home and Amazing Gracie Novels*

Stealing Home is a contemporary romance novel written by Sherryl Woods, author of New York Times bestseller in 2010. This novel is published by Violetbooks in the same year. This novel was translated into Indonesian by Ursula G Buditjahya be heart wrenched. *Stealing Home* (Hati yang Terenggut) is a story that stirs the emotions of the reader. Although the winding romance story, but it can help refresh the reader who boredom of historical novels (<http://my-private-things.blogspot.com/search/label/harlequin>). Woods began the series of sweet *Stealing Home* with a focus on the impact of her husband's infidelity until the 20-year marriage broke down and divorce on children psychology. Moreover, the love theme here also gives depth and emotional intensity to a romantic relationship. Love, as the main theme of this novel is implicitly expressing that love will make a person feel different. Therefore, it takes hard struggle to maintain it. This research is descriptive qualitative research. It will describe pragmatic's role for a proper translation of expressive speech acts.

III. Analisis dan Pembahasan

Translating expressive speech acts are not easy as they should be closely related to the context. As has been stated that pragmatics is called as contextual meaning. It means that the meaning produced should be based on the context. Expressive speech act is the expression uttered by a speaker. It is influenced by her feelings and emotions. *Stealing home* novel is a romance novel written by Sherryl Woods. It contains many expressive utterances. A properly translation of expressive speech act should involves pragmatic's role. For example the utterance "*Thanks for being here for me.*" is translated into "*Terima kasih sudah menghiburku.*" The pragmatic's role here is the context beyond the utterance. The context says that it is an expressive to a friend for accompanying speaker. In this case, a speaker feels complicated and she need to to tell all her feelings to someone. Then, her friend or hearer tries to be a good listener for her till the speaker feel relaxed. Thus, this expressive speech act is properly translated into "*Terima kasih sudah menghiburku.*" rather than "*Terima kasih sudah disini untukku.*" Another expressive speech act also found like "*Then why the hell did he leave us for her.*" It is translated into "*Lalu kenapa dia pergi dari kita demi pelacur itu.*" The focus of translated word from an utterance above is the word 'her' is translated into 'pelacur'. Why so? The pragmatic's role in the translation of this utterance is the utterance's context. This utterance is delivered by a boy to her mother. He expresses his anger because of his father's new wife. He consider the women (he) is pelacur. Besides, it is based on the context that he hates his father because of leaving him and his mother.

1. 001/M

Bsu: *You've managed to reduce twenty years of your lives to this.*

Bsa: *Kau menghilangkan dua puluh tahun dalam hidupmu untuk ini.*

Suasana makan siang di keluarga Townsend yang biasanya ceria tiba-tiba berubah menjadi tegang dan dingin. Bill yang seorang dokter dengan terbuka mengatakan di depan istri dan anak-anaknya bahwa dia akan menikahi Noreen, suster yang biasa bekerja dengannya. Bill terlibat perang mulut dengan istrinya, Maddie. Terlebih lagi ketika Bill mengatakan bahwa Noreen telah hamil. Maddie sangat marah dan menyalahkan Bill yang tega menodai pernikahan mereka yang telah berjalan lebih dari 20 tahun.

Berdasarkan konteks yang menaunginya, tuturan tersebut dapat dikategorikan sebagai tindak tutur ekspresif *menyalahkan* dimana Maddie menyatakan atau memandang salah apa yang dilakukan oleh B, suaminya dalam hal ini adalah keinginannya untuk menikah lagi dengan suster yang biasa bekerja dengannya. Dilihat dari struktur kalimatnya, tuturan ini merupakan kalimat deklaratif yang mengekspresikan tuturan *menyalahkan* lawan tuturnya, yakni suaminya. Kedudukan sosial antara penutur dan mitra tutur adalah suami istri, sehingga tidak ada kedudukan yang lebih tinggi dan istri memiliki hak untuk memarahi suaminya. Tuturan ini menunjukkan istri yang sedang marah dan menyalahkan perbuatan suaminya.

In translating expressive speech acts, the meaning should be transmitted without distortion, the intention or message should also be able to be delivered. Illocutions can be used as a pragmatic aspect of translation quality parameters. A good translation is the similar form of illocutionary act in both source language (SL) and target Language (TL).

IV. Conclusion and Suggestion

Pragmatics has important role in translation. is the study of speaker meaning or meaning in relation to situations. The meaning should be assessed in terms of its function as means of communication. It can be a an appropriate approach in translation activity, especially in translating utterances. As we know that utterances are uttered with certain intention. And the certain intention is based on the context covered the utterances. Thus, to translate them, a translator should understand what actually the speaker intends. Pragmatic's role for a properly translation of expressive speech act is having a deep comprehension of contextual meaning of the utterances. In other words, context should be involved. Then, the suitable selection of diction is also properly needed to make the translation result easily understandable by the readers. Therefore, it is suggested for the next researcher to be able to investigate the characteristics of properly translation of expressive speech acts or exploring pragmatic competencies in translating other literary works, like poetry or drama.

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