
THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING MEANING TRANSFER IN ONLINE NEWS TEXT A CASE STUDY IN INDONESIAN-ENGLISH TRANSLATION: SEMANTICAL ANALYSIS

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Abstract

As news articles are frequently translated or adapted from their original language into different target languages to reach the target reader broader, understanding the process of meaning transfer in translation, in some reasons, is crucial for accurate and effective information. This study focused on investigating the phenomenon of meaning transfer in English-Indonesian news texts, specifically focusing on the transition from English to Indonesian through semantical analysis to examine the semantical nuances and challenges encountered when translating news articles. The study aimed at uncovering patterns of meaning transfer and potential discrepancies between the source language and target languages, identifying the strategies used in meaning transfer, examining the challenges faced in conveying meaning across languages, and evaluating the impact of translation decisions on the overall message and tone of the news texts. A case study is implemented to deeply explore the cases faced in translating the text. The data of the study were derived from the Indonesian news article that was translated into English target. The findings of this research shed light on the complexities involved in translating news texts, highlighting the importance of maintaining accuracy, cultural relevance, and readability in the target language. This study, finally, contributes to a deeper understanding of the dynamics of meaning transfer and provides insights that can inform translation practices and enhance the improvement of cross-linguistic communication in news media.

Keywords: meaning transfer, news text, semantic analysis

INTRODUCTION

The emergence of the internet in the latter part of the 20th century was giving impacts on human life and language as a tool of communication. The influence of the internet on the language improved in 1990. In this period, the internet was considered to become a regular part of our lives as a tool to build communication and to get new information from each other. As a result, the internet became one of people's needs in their daily life and had altered the pattern of communication between them. For example, some activities related to the public services such as banks, office works, health centers, and the other businesses that serve the public use the internet to help their work. In the information business that demands everything done faster, moreover, the internet was regarded as more demanded than other businesses. In relating this condition, Al Kadi &

Rashad, 2018) describes that the internet has drastically altered people's life and the way how they communicate with each other.

Social media platforms, in the context of information, are considered the most popular platforms used by the people that depend on the internet. These platforms are beneficial for the people to connect and find the information they want to search and know. Online news applications, for instance, is the media for the people who want to know the world faster by accessing much information broadcasted in the platform. They can select the information according to their needs and language acquired not only for the local information but also for national and international one. As a result, the media platforms for news serve their news articles in several language forms if the information is expected to be accepted by the wider community. Therefore, translating the news into the target language is needed for this situation. Crystal (2003, p.13) states that internet users are generally fluent in English. This condition is supported that the main language used by the media to share their information to target language is in English since it is regarded as the language that is the most generally used by the people in the world.

In accordance with the phenomena of online media worldwide, the translation has attracted the big issue in the process of transferring the information. As stated by Pardo (2013) that translation is a media for accomplishing goals of communication since in translation the original communicative act is moved to a new location where several players act out of distinct goals, and the actions are qualified at various levels by a mediation process. It's not a simple process as well that involves more than just switching from one language to another, e.g. analysis, transfer, and restructuring (Nida & Taber, 2001). The practice and process of translation works in media online have attracted to explore the challenges and uniqueness that are involved in. For example, one concern in translation studies is a study that applied semantic analysis to explore the transfer meaning in the process of translation. Jurafsky & Martin (2008) explain that semantic analysis is an important component of natural language processing and computational linguistics that is aiming at understanding the meaning conveyed by language. The aspect of semantic analysis is the study of meaning transfer, which refers to the process of conveying and interpreting the meaning of words or expressions across different contexts or languages (Manning & Schütz, 1999). Further explained that meaning transfer plays a vital role in various applications, such as machine translation, information retrieval, sentiment analysis, and news text that involves capturing the nuances, connotations, and subtleties of word meanings and expressing them accurately in different contexts or languages. Meanwhile, Armstrong & Fogelin (2015) and Grundy (2008) in Handayani (2023) described a context that including setting, time, situation, place, and the topic background can identify the intent and purpose of the speech that is happening.

Concerning the semantic analysis on the translation process, this research was exploring the proses of transferring meaning of the news text from Indonesian into English target text taken from online news transcription of video You tube. The goals of the research were analyzing the patterns of meaning transfer and potential discrepancies

between the source and target languages and identifying the strategies used and the challenges faced in the process of meaning conveyance. The research finds are intended to give the contribution to a deeper understanding of the dynamics of meaning transfer and provides insights that can inform translation practices and enhance the improvement of cross-linguistic communication in news media as well.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research was a descriptive qualitative method that implemented semantic analysis to analyze the data. Semantic analysis is the process of extracting meaning and understanding from natural language text (Chaer, 2009). The primary aim of semantic analysis research is to develop methods and techniques that can accurately interpret the intended meaning of text, beyond just the literal or surface-level meaning of the words. The main data of this research is the language used in a viral news report from the Tribun News YouTube channel titled "Tarsum had no heart to mutilate his wife and offer Yanti's body parts to the neighborhood" which aired on May 10, 2024. In order to reach the intended data, there were some steps of collecting data conducted, e.g. . collecting the video from YouTube Channel, selecting the video to find out a viral news in Indonesia, and classified the data into the category of elements in semantic analysis based on Chaer's framework, e.g. semantic syntactic, lexical syntactic, and semantic meaning. Semantics Syntactic is a type of semantics whose investigation targets rely on the same things with relates to a syntax. Meanwhile, lexical semantics are relating to object-type semantics such as a lexicon of language. The semantic meanings are the related semantic types with the use of language styles, such as metaphors, irony, hyperbole and so on.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. *Semantic Syntactic*

The semantic syntactic classification was seen from the function of the words as the sentence elements in the sentence such subject, verb, and object. The results of the sentence structure classification of the news text of Tribun News text video with a video playback duration during 2 minutes 26 seconds analyzed by SVO are identified in Table 1.

Table 1. The number of subject-verb-objects appeared on TribunNews' news videos text titled "Tarsum had no heart to mutilate his wife and offer Yanti's body parts to neighborhood"

SENTENCE ELEMENTS		
SUBJECTS	VERBS	OBJECTS
1. Tarsum	1. Mutilate	1. His wife

2. Yanti (tarsum's wife)	2. Shocked	2. Residents in Ciamis
3. Herawati	3. Discovered	3. Several witnesses
4. Tarsum's brother	4. Questioned	4. The beginning of the Tarsum depression
5. Lina alias Lilis (tarsum's eldest son)	5. Revealed	5. The mutilation case
6. Neneng (tarsum's grandson)	6. Become	6. His goat selling business
7. The victim (Yanti)	7. Suspected	7. The Tarsum rampage
8. The perpetrator (Tarsum)	8. Surprised	8. The victim
	9. Witnessed	9. Medicine
	10. Overwhelmed	10. The perpetrator's response
	11. Suffered	11. His eldest son
	12. Take	12. His grandson
	13. Visited	13. Debt
	14. Expelled	14. His boss
	15. Found	15. Resentment
	16. Harbors	16. Her youngest child
	17. Succumbed	17. The motorcycle
	18. Boil	

Table 1 indicates that comparing to the sentence elements, verb was the sentence element appeared the most frequently followed by object and subject. The description of the transferring meaning according to the semantic syntactic is described as indicated in Data Host 1- 4 (Data H-1-4)

Data H-1 Finally, it was answered that Tarsum had the heart to mutilate his wife, Yanti, until it shocked residents in Ciamis, it was discovered that there were several witnesses who had been questioned by the police regarding the mutilation case.

Discussion:

Semantical syntactic analysis Data H-1 involved examining the relationship between the meanings of words and the structures of sentences within the text. It elicited insights into how meaning was conveyed through the arrangement of words and phrases within sentences as indicated the following formation.

Subject : Tarsum , it (perpetrator)
Verb : shocked, witnesses
Object : his wife, resident in Ciamis

Then, the news that was reported on You tube also contains complex sentences with several clauses, often associated with coordination conjunctions or subordinate conjunctions.

Data H-2 Finally, it was answered that the trigger of Tarsum had the heart to mutilate his wife, Yanti, until it shocked residents in Ciamis, it was discovered that there were several witnesses who had been questioned by the police regarding the mutilation case

Discussion:

Data H-2 shows that the sentences which was spoken by Host from the second 5 to 15 was able to be analyzed that the sentence contained multiple clauses connected such as: that, until, and who.

The article news reported was containing simple sentence as well as indicated in Data H-3.

Data H-3 "Her nephew also revealed the beginning of the Tarsum depression. The suspect mutilation wife was mutilating in Ciamis."

Discussion:

Data H-3 indicates that the sentences were connected by a period that was creating a sentence with a single subject and verb that indicated as characteristics of a simple sentence.

Multiple complex sentence was also found in the article news text as indicated in the following Data H-4.

Data H-4 "Herawati said that Tarsum did look depressed before Ramadan 2024, while the change in Tarsum behavior became a lot of daydreaming and to chat, Herawati suspected that Tarsum was stressed because her goat selling business was not smooth until finally on the night before Herawati and her family's incident Surprised to get reports from his family that the Tarsum rampage in the village"

Discussion:

The video which is played approximately second 29 to second 53 was a complex sentence with multiple clauses connected by "that", "while", "because", "until", and "that".

2. Lexical Semantic

Lexical semantic tends to see the meaning from the word meaning lexically seen from emotionally charge words, descriptive phrases, and nuance of meanings. The explanation of the lexical meaning are show in the following explanation.

2.1 Lexical Analysis of Emotionally Charged Words

There are 5 words in the news text that could be categorized into emotionally changed words, e.g. mutilation, depressed, daydreaming, rampage, and stress. The discussion of these words are described in the following discussion.

Mutilation

Description: This word conveyed a sense of extreme violence, brutality, and the deliberate disfigurement of the victim's body.

Sentence example: The news report described the gruesome mutilation of Yanti's body, which had left her nearly unrecognizable.

Depressed

Description: This term indicates that Tarsum was suffering from severe mental health issues, potentially including clinical depression or a profound emotional/psychological disturbance.

Sentence example: Tarsum's family members reported that he had been deeply depressed in the months leading up to the tragic incident.

Daydreaming

Description: The use of this word suggests that Tarsum may have been detached from reality, perhaps retreating into his own imagination or inner world as a coping mechanism.

Sentence example: Witnesses stated that in the days before the attack, Tarsum had been seen aimlessly daydreaming and staring off into the distance.

Rampage

Description: This term implies that Tarsum's actions were uncontrolled, violent, and potentially carried out in a frenzied, destructive manner.

Sentence example: The news report described Tarsum's rampage, during which he brutally attacked and mutilated his wife in a fit of rage.

Stress

Description: This word highlights a key factor that may have been affecting Tarsum's mental state and contributing to his violent behavior, such as financial pressures, relationship issues, or other sources of significant stress in his life.

Sentence example: Investigations revealed that Tarsum had been under immense stress in the months leading up to the incident, which may have exacerbated his mental health problems and led to the tragic outcome.

2.2 Descriptive Phrases

There 4 phrases in the news text that can be classified into descriptive phrases, e.g. heart to mutilate, shocked residents, behavior became a lot of daydreaming and to chat, and Tarsum suffered head injured. The description of each phrase can be found in the following description.

Heart to mutilate

Description: This phrase emphasizes the emotional and psychological state required to commit such a horrific act. It suggests a deep-seated desire or intent to deliberately cause severe harm or disfigurement to another person.

Sentence example: The suspect's heart to mutilate the victim's body showed a level of cruelty and premeditation that shocked the community.

Shocked residents

Description: This phrase reflects the community's reaction and the gravity of the incident. It conveys a sense of disbelief, horror, and disturbance among the local population in response to the event.

Sentence example: The news of the brutal attack left the normally quiet neighborhood's residents shocked and deeply unsettled.

Behavior became a lot of daydreaming and to chat

Description: This phrase indicates a significant change in Tarsum's normal behavior patterns. It suggests that instead of engaging in his usual activities, Tarsum began to exhibit behaviors characterized by excessive daydreaming and increased social interaction, potentially as a response to an underlying issue or event.

Sentence example: Tarsum's family members noticed that his behavior became a lot of daydreaming and chatting with friends, a marked departure from his previous routine.

Tarsum suffered head injuries

Description: This phrase suggests physical consequences from an earlier event, possibly linked to his mental state. It implies that Tarsum had sustained injuries to his head, which could have contributed to or resulted from the changes in his behavior.

Sentence example: Investigations revealed that Tarsum had suffered head injuries prior to the concerning changes in his behavior, raising concerns about the potential connection between the physical trauma and his altered mental state.

3. Semantic Meaning

Semantics meaning is looking at the context of text to find out the nuances of meaning delivered to the audiences. The meaning of the text in this context can be earned throughout the narrative characteristics of the text. The data analysis shows that the news text on Tribun News' news videos text titled "Tarsum had no heart to mutilate his wife and offer Yanti's body parts to neighborhood" indicated contain two nuances of meaning, namely, emotional and psychological descent and community dynamics that indicated in Data H-1, Data H-2 and Data H-3.

- Data H-1 It was answered that the trigger of Tarsum had the heart to mutilate his wife
- Data H-2 it was answered that the trigger of Tarsum had the heart to mutilate his wife finally on the night before Herawati and her family's incident Surprised to get reports from his family that the Tarsum rampage in the village. This moment was witnessed by RT local residents to Yanti
- Data H-3 There was a lot of debt in the bank and with his boss. makes Tarsum even more depressed other than because of debt

Emotional and Psychological Descent

The narrative highlights Tarsum's gradual descended into a state where he committed a violent act. Words like "depressed," "stress," and "daydreaming" painted a picture of a person giving description of losing grip on reality.

Community and Family Dynamics

The reactions of residents and testimonies from family members provided a broader context of how Tarsum's actions impacted and were perceived by those around him. Semantic and lexical analysis of the text revealed complex narratives involving emotional stress, financial stress, and family tension leading to tragic and violent outcomes. The choice of emotionally charged words and descriptive phrases effectively conveys the seriousness of the situation and psychological state of the main character, Tarsum, while highlighting the impacted and responded of the community and family members. The text uses several specific terms and phrases related to the incident, such as "mutilate", "rampage", "debt" "stress". These words carried strong semantic meaning within the context of the story. Therefore, the term like "the heart to mutilate" can be considered a colloquial or idiomatic expression according to the context.

CONCLUSION

Meaning transfer in the process of translation practice needs analysis of some aspects in order to produce a high quality in translation product. Translating news texts from Indonesian into English target texts is required to consider the aspects of meaning transfer such as the semantic transmission patterns and potential differences between source and target languages, strategies used in meaning transmission and dynamics of meaning transmission in order to deliver the accurate and effective information.

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