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# ANTONYMY STRATEGY IN TRANSLATING UTTERANCES FROM ENGLISH INTO INDONESIAN IN A SERIES ENTITLED "YOUNG SHELDON" SEASON 01 EPISODES 1 - 5

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Abstract: Antonymy is a translation strategy with the oppositeness of

meaning by changing the positive element in the source text into negative

in the target text or the negative element in the source text into positive in

the target text. This present research aims at exploring the implementation

of antonymy strategy in translating utterances from English into Indonesian in a series entitled "Young Sheldon" season 1 episodes 1-5. The antonymy

is based on semantic point of view. By applying qualitative research, the result shows that there are eleven (11) data found that are translated using

antonymy strategy based on Chesterman (2016). The data are taken from a

series entitled "Young Sheldon", season 1 from episodes 1 until 5. Even though there is a changing, the meanings are all transferred accurately

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from the source text into the target text.

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# INTRODUCTION

The process of transmitting a certain message from one language into another is called translation. This process cannot be said easy due to strategies or techniques of translation that a translator has to be mastered. Chesterman (2016) divided translation strategies into three primary groups such as syntactic, semantic (S) and pragmatic (Pr). This research focuses only on Semantic Strategies, Antonymy. The emphasis of this strategy falls on when the translator selects an antonymy and combines this with a negation element or vice versa. For example, the word "exklusive", positive element, in Germany which means exclude, is translated into "do not include" in English with negation or negative element. Additionally, Vinya and Dalbernet (1995) termed this negation as "modulation" which has the same objective to find a variation of the form of the message and it is obtained by a change in the point of view. The change is by turning a negative source text expression (element) into a positive target text expression (element) and vice versa.

Antonymy has a strong relation with oppositeness (Gao & Zheng, 2014). However, the term "antonymy" and "antonym" are different. They are different in context. Larson (1998) stated that not all languages have the exact opposite or contrasts in some parts of its meaning because different languages have different set of antonyms. The antonyms here merely talk about the exact opposite, as in "dead" pairs with its antonym "alive". While antonymy is the oppositeness of meaning (Lyons, 1977). It is based on semantics. Antonymy is used to "refer to the pair-wise relation of lexical items in context that are understood to be semantically opposite" (Jones, et al., 2012). To avoid misunderstanding, it can be concluded that the antonymy is the process of changing the expression by using negation and vice versa. Thus, the message conveyed can be delivered accurately in the source text without too many restrictions. In other words, there is flexibility. Additionally, based on semantic point of view, "the most challenging and at the same time most

intriguing problem in lexical semantics is the flexibility of word meaning and its sensitivity to context" (Paradis & Willners, 2011; Gao & Zheng, 2014).

Based on some research, this topic has not conducted by many researchers yet especially in Indonesia. Fortunately, a researcher who discussed the same topic with this present research is found. The article is written by Rustamovna, K.N. The aim was to explore the world of translation using antonymic approach from English into Russian. It was mentioned that, in most cases, the translation from English (as her source text) into Russian (as her target text) occurred in different way. Changing the direction using the opposing points may not effect on the original meaning.

Streaming online movies these days can be done by the present of paid apps such as Disney+ Hotstar, Viu, Netflix, and many more. They also make it easier for the researcher to find the most suitable movie or even series to be researched. The researcher chose a series entitled "Young Sheldon". This series has seven (7) seasons that talk about a live of Sheldon when he was young. However, to save time, the researcher will only use five (5) episodes from season 1. Hence, this present research aims at exploring the implementation of antonymy strategy (semantically) in translating the utterances from English into Indonesian in a series entitled "Young Sheldon" season 1 episodes 1-5.

## **METHOD**

Qualitative research is applied in this present research, which involves "an interpretive, naturalistic approach to the world" (Denzin & Lincoln, 2018). This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, the interpretation of phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them. The object taken is the English and Indonesian subtitles or utterances of a series entitled "Young Sheldon", season 1, episodes 1-5 and directed by Jon Favreau (2017). To gather the data, deciding the episodes to be taken is the first step. Each season consists of 22 episodes, therefore, to save time, episodes 1 until 5 (orderly) are chosen. After that, downloading the English and Indonesian subtitles respectively (episodes 1-5). Then, taking notes and classifying all data found into tables by separating words, phrases, and sentences from negative (English) to positive elements (Indonesian) and from positive (English) to negative elements (Indonesian). To analyze the data, the first step is comprehending the theories as good as possible, looking for "the oppositeness of meaning" of each word, phrase, or sentence in Cambridge and Collins Online Dictionary. Then, analyzing each data found based on the theory proposed by Chesterman (2016).

# RESULT AND DISCUSSION RESULTS

Based on the aim of this present research, to explore the implementation of antonymy strategy from semantic point of view, the result shows that there are eleven (11) data found that are translated using antonymy strategy based on Chesterman (2016). The data are taken from a series entitled "Young Sheldon", season 1 from episodes 1 until 5. Furthermore, Antonymy translation strategy is characterized by its opposite meaning, negative and positive element or vice versa. They are shown in the following table:

# Table 1. Positive and Negative Element (Antonymy)

English Source Text (Positive Element)

excited

ignoring

failed

Indonesian Target Text (Negative Element)

tak sabar

tidak diacuhkan

tak dapat

forgo tak

a little time waktunya tak banyak frown upon tak menyukai

English Source Text (Negative Element) Indonesian Target Text (Positive Element)

I don't see why ... can't sit with him Seharusnya ... menemaninya

don't mindbolehmakes no sensekonyoldon't thinkrasaI don't see why notTentu saja

# DISCUSSION

Referring to the results shown above, all the data found are going to be described as clearly as possible. The descriptions are as follows:

#### Data 1

English Version (ST): Everybody excited to start school Monday? (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 1) Indonesian Version (TT): Semua tak sabar untuk mulai sekolah hari Senin? (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 1)

The word "excited", positive element, in English is translated into its antonymy "tak sabar", negative element, in Indonesian. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary "excited" means "feeling very happy and enthusiastic". It can be seen that the meaning itself is not a negation. However, the translator chooses the negation element, which is the oppositeness of meaning. If it is linked with its context, it is implemented because Mary, who has three kids, will soon enter a new class, new level, and new teachers. Especially her genius son, Sheldon, who is 9 years old, will be in High School (SMA), the same class with his big brother. Even though the translator could actually use the positive term "antusias atau bersemangat" in Indonesian, the message is transferred accurately.

#### Data 2

**English Version (ST): I don't see why** his brother **can't sit with him**. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 2)

**Indonesian Version (TT):** Seharusnya saudaranya menemaninya. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 2)

In the utterance above, there are two phrases that are translated from negation expression (English) into positive expression (Indonesian). The first phrase "I don't see why", negative element, in English is translated into "seharusnya", positive element, in Indonesia. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary, the phrase is an idiom which means "to see no reason not to do something" and it is translated into a non-idiom in Indonesian. This strategy is implemented could be due to maintaining the quality and accuracy of the translation, especially, to avoid wordiness. The same reason is applied for the second phrase "can't sit with him", negative element, in English is translated into "menemaninya", positive element, in Indonesian. In view of the fact that the first phrase is translated into positive expression, thus, the second phrase must also follow the same strategy or the message conveyed cannot be transferred accordingly.

#### Data 3

**English Version (ST):** Right now the kids are just **ignoring** Sheldon. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 2)

Indonesian Version (TT): Sekarang dia hanya tidak diacuhkan. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 2)

The word "ignoring", positive element, in English is translated into its antonymy "tidak diacuhkan", negative element, in Indonesian. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary "ignore" means "to intentionally not listen or give attention to". It can be seen that the translator chooses to use its negation. Even though the translator could actually use the exact term "mengabaikan" in Indonesian, the message is transferred accurately.

## Data 4

**English Version (ST):** I **failed** to make a single friend. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 2) **Indonesian Version (TT):** Aku tak dapat satu pun teman. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 2)

The word "failed", positive element, in English is translated into its antonymy "tidak dapat", negative element, in Indonesian. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary "fail" means "not succeed". It can be seen that the translator chooses to use its negation. Even though the translator could actually use the term "gagal atau tidak berhasil" in Indonesian, the message is transferred accurately.

# Data 5

**English Version (ST):** This one morning, I decided to **forgo** my normal 20 chews per bite, as prescribed by the American Medical Association. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 4)

**Indonesian Version (TT):** Pagi itu aku memutuskan **tak** mengunyah 20 kali per potong sesuai anjuran Asosiasi Medis Amerika. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 4)

The word "forgo", positive element, in English is translated into its antonymy "tak", negative element, in Indonesian. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary "forgo" means "to give up or do without". It can be seen that the translator chooses to use its negation. Even though the translator could actually use the term "menyerah" in Indonesian, the message is transferred accurately.

### Data 6

English Version (ST): You don't mind, right? (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 4) Indonesian Version (TT): *Boleh kumakan*, 'kan? (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 4)

The phrase "don't mind", negative element, in English is translated into its antonymy "boleh", positive element, in Indonesian. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary "don't mind" means "don't bother". It can be seen that the translator chooses to use its positive expression. Even though the translator could actually use the exact term "tidak keberatan" in Indonesian, the main message is delivered accurately.

#### Data 7

**English Version (ST):** Statistically, always punting on fourth down **makes no sense**. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5)

**Indonesian Version (TT):** *Menurut statistik, punt di down keempat itu konyol.* (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5)

The phrase "makes no sense", negative element, in English is translated into its antonymy "konyol", positive element, in Indonesian. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary "make no sense" means "in no way". It can be seen that the translator chooses to use its positive expression. Even though the translator could actually use the exact term "tak masuk akal" in Indonesian, the main message is delivered accurately.

#### Data 8

**English Version (ST): I don't think** your math is right. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5) **Indonesian Version (TT):** *Ayah rasa hitunganmu salah*. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5)

The phrase "I don't think", negative element, in English is translated into its antonymy "Ayah rasa", positive element, in Indonesian. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary it expresses an ironical statement. It can be seen that the translator chooses to use its positive expression. Even though the translator could actually use negative expression in Indonesian, the main message is delivered accurately. It can be seen too that the word "right" in English is translated into "salah" in Indonesian.

## Data 9

**English Version (ST): I don't see why not**. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5) **Indonesian Version (TT):** *Tentu saja*. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5)

The utterance "I don't see why not", negative element, in English is translated into its antonymy "tentu saja", positive element, in Indonesian. If it is translated in a full sentence, it could be "Tidak ada alasan untuk tidak melakukannya", which still makes sense. Even though the translator could actually use the negative expression in Indonesian, the main message is delivered accurately.

# Data 10

**English Version (ST):** You understand there's **a little time** crunch involved. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5)

Indonesian Version (TT): Kau tahu bahwa waktunya tak banyak. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5)

The phrase "a little time", positive element, in English is translated into its antonymy "tak banyak", negative element, in Indonesian. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary "a little time" means "less". It can be seen that the translator chooses to use its negation. Even though the translator could actually use the exact term "waktunya sedikit" in Indonesian, the main message is delivered accurately.

# Data 11

**English Version (ST):** Actually, they **frown upon** my presence here. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5)

**Indonesian Version (TT):** Sebenarnya, mereka tak menyukai kehadiranku di sini. (Young Sheldon, Season 1, Episode 5)

The phrasal verb "frown upon", positive element, in English is translated into its antonymy "tak menyukai", negative element, in Indonesian. Based on Cambridge Online Dictionary "frown upon" means "reject or disapprove". It can be seen that the translator chooses to use its negation. Even though the translator could actually use the exact term "menolak" in Indonesian, the main message is delivered accurately.

# CONCLUSION

This present research aims at exploring the implementation of antonymy strategy in translating utterances from English into Indonesian. In the beginning, the researcher expected to find many English words or phrases are translated using antonymy strategy in Indonesian. Surprisingly, there are not as many as that. From 5 episodes that have been selected, only 11 data are found. There is no antonymy found in episode 3. It is also surprising that one complete sentence with a negative element is translated into a positive

element. From this research, it can be concluded that the implementation of the antonymy strategy cannot be implemented at any time. This is closely related to culture, style, naturalness, and accuracy in translation. If it is associated with the findings above, the result will depend on the context and the sense uttered by the movie actors. In other words, this strategy is not commonly used when the translation process takes place. This could be the reason why this topic is still under-researched in Indonesia. Additionally, the changing of point of view that exists in the source text does not influence the message to be conveyed or it can be said that the main message in the source text is delivered accurately in the target text. For future researchers, if they are interested in this series, they can examine it from a pragmatic perspective, especially when young children utter improper words at a young age.

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