ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS IN MOVIE SUBTITLING: THE ACCURACY OF THEIR PRAGMATIC TRANSLATION

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Abstract
Translation plays a number of important roles in constructing and understanding about foreign or unknown products of linguistic world such as books, articles, and any other literary works. In translating literary works, translators should consider several things, including one of the micro aspects of pragmatics: speech act. Due to the importance of pragmatic meanings, accuracy in pragmatic translation is obligatory. The present study aims at describing the types of illocutionary acts in the movie subtitle of “The Hunger Games” and examining the accuracy of their pragmatic translation. The data of the study were subtitles in the Hunger Games movie. They were collected through documentation method and analyzed through content analysis. The result shows that six types of illocutionary acts of the source language (English) were translated similarly into the target language (Bahasa Indonesia) including: assertive, directive, commissive, representative, declarative and, expressive acts. Regarding the accuracy of their translation, the present study found that most of the data or 95% were rated as accurate, 4% of the data were less accurate, and 0.9% data were judged as inaccurate.

Keywords: Translation Analysis, Subtitle, Pragmatic Accuracy, The Hunger Games

INTRODUCTION
People may face problems in understanding foreign unknown products of linguistic world such as papers, books, and the like. It is due to the differences of the language acquisition among people in a certain country to the other. Therefore, the idea of translation was born to answer the problem faced by human beings.

According to Haryanti (2014), translation work has flourished rapidly in several countries. It proves that translation becomes a demand within society to be aware of the foreign linguistic products as explained previously.

Nowadays, the need for translation does not only apply to the written materials but also to the audio-visual materials, including movie. The translation related to audio-visual materials is known as subtitling. A good translation and subtitle must be able to deliver the message from the source language to the target language. The message of the source language may have several elements. One of those elements is a pragmatic element, which is the main consideration in the audio-visual translation or subtitle. The micro-aspect of pragmatics, speech act, can be commonly found in the movie or novels. The current research studied the quality of movie subtitles.

It is understood that the need of Indonesian people towards foreign movie has increased every year. Certainly, the imported movies should be translated into the target language, so that they can enjoy them. In this case, subtitling is needed.

The translation work does not only contain its linguistic form but also pragmatic aspects including the macro and micro aspects.

A pragmatic translation has to be translated accurately, particularly the micro-aspect of pragmatics: speech act. The amalgamation of the two arena of the study (subtitle, as a part of translation study and speech act, as a part of pragmatics) is necessary to be investigated.

1. RELATED LITERATURE
There have been several studies pertaining pragmatic aspects such as Hartono (2014), Li (2013), Hellberg (2013), Triki (2013), and Khanfar (2013).
Hartono (2014) studied translation analysis of English utterances used in daily communication based on the pragmatic aspects. The result of his study showed that the 40 English utterances translated into Indonesian language based on the pragmatic aspects dominantly contained implicit meaning (52.5%), co-text and context (22.5%), deixis (12.5%), and politeness (0%).

Li (2013) studied a pragmatic equivalence in Chinese-English translation of public signs. This paper introduced Nida’s functional equivalence theory and analyzed its implication to Chinese-English translation of public signs. This study found the limitation of this theory which is inevitable. Further exploration and enrichment are needed to provide guidance for translation practice.

Hellberg (2013) analyzed the translation of pragmatic markers from English into Swedish. The source text that was translated and used as a basis for the study was an article called “Black Books”, which was published in the British music magazine Progin January 2013. It aimed to investigate how these types of pragmatic markers could be translated in a dynamic and natural way, as well as how a careful analysis can facilitate the search for appropriate translation equivalents.

Triki (2013) studied the pragmatic approach to the study of English-Arabic Translation errors. Triki’s (2013) paper seeks first to explore the interface between pragmatics and translation with a specific reference to English-Arabic or Arabic-English real translation, i.e. it foreshadowed possible translation, Constantine University, Algeria, are likely to make at the pragmatic level. Second, this work attempted to account for the pragmatic errors made by the translation students. Third, it tried to show how important pragmatic knowledge and pragmatic competence are in translation.

Khanfar (2013) focused on the pragmatic or linguistics equivalent of translation of puns. Khanfar investigated the translation of puns from English to Arabic, with specific reference to advertisements. It highlighted the graduate and undergraduate students’ choice of meaning (pragmatic or semantic). It also highlighted the influence of context upon puns, and considers whether there are other factors that influence the process of translation (such as socio-cultural factors). The findings revealed that punning as a theoretical device is one of the aspects of indirectness; as a consequence, puns are inherently misleading (by virtue of the fact that each pun word obtains more than one meaning). Secondly, pun words were frequently associated with confusion and incorrect translation. The third finding was that both graduate and undergraduate English department major of An-Najah National University confronted two main challenges: broadly speaking, these challenges could be reduced to context and culture. Finally, this study revealed that translators should attain vital information about the socio-cultural background of the context in which the pun words occur because it enhanced the understanding of the pun words and enables translators to capture the real meaning of each individual pun.

There were several studies focused on the translation of pragmatic aspects. The current research concerns with the translation of pragmatic equivalence. The major focus of the study is on the speech act, micro-element of pragmatics. The analysis of pragmatic equivalence was investigated as this analysis belongs to translation quality assessment. The study may fill the gap in the arena of translation analysis.

**Subtitling**

Cintas and Remael (2014: 8) state “subtitling may be defined as a translation practice that consists of presenting a written text, generally on the lower part of the screen that endeavors to recount the original dialogue of the speakers, as well as the discursive elements that appear in the image (letters, inserts, graffiti, inscriptions, placards, and the like), and the information that is contained on the soundtrack (songs, voice off)”. Furthermore, they state that there are three components of subtitle: the spoken word, image, and subtitle (Cintas and Remael, 2014).

Hatim and Mason (2005: 65) summarize the main constraints in subtitling: (1) the shift in mode from speech to writing; (2) factors which govern the medium or channel in which meaning is to be conveyed; (3) the reduction of the source
text as a consequence of (2); and (4) the requirement of matching the visual image.

**Taxonomy of Illocutionary Act**

Pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader) (Yule, 1996: 3).

Pragmatics deals with micro and macro aspect. This current study deals with one of the micro-aspect of pragmatic: speech act. In this case, Searle (1979) formulated the taxonomy of illocutionary acts. Those are (1) assertive, (2) directive, (3) commissive, (4) expressive, (5) declarative, and (6) representative.

The point purpose of the members of the assertive class is to commit the speaker (in varying degrees) to something’s being the case, to the truth of the expressed proposition (Searle, 1979: 12). The illocutionary point of directives acts consists in the fact that they are attempts (of varying degrees, and hence, more precisely, they are determinates of the determinable which includes attempting) by the speaker to get the hearer to do something (Searle, 1979: 13). Commissives are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to commit themselves to some future action (Yule, 1996: 54). Then, the illocutionary point of expressive class is to express the psychological state specified in the sincerity condition about the state of affairs specified in the prepositional content (Searle, 1979: 15). Declaratives are acts which bring about a corresponding change in the world (Smith, 1991: 8). The last is representatives which are those kinds of speech act that state what the speaker believes to be the case or not (Yule, 1996: 53).

**Assessing Pragmatic Accuracy of Translation**

The idea of pragmatic accuracy of translation relates to the qualitative parameter of the accuracy itself. In this study, the parameter is the combination of two theories by Nababan, Nuraeni and Sumardiono (2012) and Baker (1991). The first theory is about the assessment criteria in general, such as word, technical term, phrase, etc. Then, the second theory is in the area of pragmatic accuracy itself, such as coherence, implicature, and the other pragmatic aspects. The qualitative parameter is divided into three clusters which employs the certain criteria of the pragmatic translation.

The first cluster is rated with the highest level or it has score 3. In this case, the meaning of the words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or source language text are transferred accurately into target language text; there are no meaning distortion. Based on the context in its communication, the message of SL is transferred accurately. The pragmatic element of the SL text is also translated accurately into target language text. The translation represents a coherent and cohesive translation. The implicature is represented accurately as intended by the speaker in the target language text.

The second category is rated as medium level and it has 2 score which means that mostly, the meanings of the words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or source language texts are transferred accurately into target language text. However, there still have distortion in meaning, and it distracts the wholeness of the message. Based on the context in its communication, the message of SL is transferred less accurately. The pragmatic element of the source language text is translated accurately into target language text, but there are some misinterpretations in the target language (e.g. culture understanding). Some translations take into account as coherent and cohesive, but some other do not. The translation does not represent fully the implied meaning of speaker’s intention.

Finally, the last category is related with the score 1. In this case, the meanings of the words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or source language texts are not accurately transferred into target language text or deleted. Based on the context in its communication, the message of SL is not transferred accurately. The pragmatic element of the source language text is not translated accurately into target language text, so it makes misunderstanding (pragmatic failure). The translation, then, is not coherent and cohesive. The implied speaker’s intention is not translated accurately.

**RESEARCH METHODS**

The present is descriptive qualitative research. It focuses on the qualitative description of the quality if pragmatic translation of movie
The data of the study were the subtitle of The Hunger Games movie. To ensure the reliability of the data, the study applied expert judgments and the data rating was conducted by three raters.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION
The result of the study and its discussion is presented in the following section.

A. The Translation of Illocutionary Acts in the Subtitles of The Hunger Games

1. Assertive Act

Assertive acts were the most dominant illocutionary acts such as informing, asserting, asking for information, etc. The following is the example.

Excerpt 1
SL Sneeca : It comes out of a particularly painful part of our history.
TL Sneeca : Diawali dari perjalanan pahit pada masa sejarah kita dulu.

The assertive utterance that was uttered by Sneeca (one of the characters appears in the movie). Sneeca was a broadcaster who broadcasted the entire game. Sneeca would like to inform to the audiences about the game. It can be said that the information stated by Sneeca is a prolog. The utterance can be classified as an assertive utterance. The utterance was translated into "Diawali dari perjalanan pahit pada masa sejarah kita dulu." The translation is similarly labeled as an assertive utterance.

2. Directive Act

This is a speech act in which the speakers get someone else to do something such as requesting, telling, requiring, or permitting. The following is the example of the translation of the directive act.

Excerpt 2
SL Katniss : Go sit down there with the little kids.
TL Katniss : Duduklah di sebelah sana, bersama anak-anak yang lain.

The datum above was categorized as a directive utterance in the form of a request, that is Katniss Everdeen wanted Primrose to sit down with Primrose’s Friends. The request was similarly translated in the target language "Duduklah di sebelah sana, bersama anak-anak yang lain."

3. Commissive Act

Commissives are those kinds of speech act that the speakers commit themselves to some future actions such as promising, consenting, or refusing. The following is the example of promising which is similarly translated in the target language.

Excerpt 3
SL Katniss Everdeen : Where?
TL Katniss Everdeen : Kemana?
SL Katniss Everdeen : I just gotta go
TL Katniss Everdeen : Aku harus pergi.

The promise was stated by the major character of the movie, Katniss Everdeen who promised to her sister, Primrose Everdeen to go back home. Where the promise was similarly translated into the target language "Tapi aku akan kembali."

4. Representative Act

Representatives acts are the ones in which the speakers believe that something to be the case or not (Yule, 1996: 53). The following is the example.

Excerpt 4
SL Effie Trinket : I believe we have a volunteer.
TL Effie Trinket : Akhirnya kita mempunyai sukarelawan.

The representative act was uttered by Effie Trinket, one of the minor characters in the movie. The translator translated it similarly to the target language. However the translator deleted three words, i.e. I, believe, and a, also substitutes the words I, and believe into akhirnya.

5. Declarative Act

This type of act brings about a corresponding change in the world via utterances (Smith, 1991: 8; Yule, 1996).

Excerpt 5
SL Officer : May I present the winners of the 74th
The excerpt above shows that the officer (or The Hunger Games Committee) who has authorization to pronounce the winner of the game declares the winner, Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark. Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark were declared as the winners of the game. The utterance was similarly translated into the target language.

6. Expressive Act

The illocutionary point of this class is to express the psychological state specified in the sincerity condition about the state of affairs specified in the prepositional content (Searle, 1979: 15). In addition, expressives are those kinds of speech acts that state what the speaker feels (Yule, 1996: 53). People may express their own feelings such as pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy, or sorrow. The following is the example.

Excerpt 6
SL Old Seller : You keep it.
TL Old Seller : Simpansaja.
SL Katniss : Thank you.
TL Katniss : Terima kasih.

In the datum above, Katniss Everdeen, the main character of the movie, expressed her thank to an old seller. The conversation takes place in a traditional market in District 12. Katniss Everdeen expressed it after she got a mocking jay pin from the old seller. It was translated similarly into the target language terima kasih.

B. The Accuracy of the Pragmatic Translation

To assess the accuracy of the speech act translation, the study involved three raters. The rating was divided into three levels of accuracy: accurate, less accurate and inaccurate translation.

1. Accurate Translation

An accurate translation is obtained when the English language text (source language text or SL) is transferred accurately into Indonesian language text (target language text or TL), and the pragmatic elements of the SL is translated accurately into the TL. The study found that most of the data were accurately translated (95%).

An example of accurate translation can be seen as follows.

Excerpt 7
SL Old Seller : You keep it.
TL Old Seller : Simpansaja.
SL Old Seller : It's yours.
TL Old Seller : Untuk mu.
SL Katniss : Thank you.
   Everdeen
TL Katniss : Terima kasih.
   Everdeen

The datum above was categorized as accurate translation because the SL utterance you keep it was accurately translated into TL as simpansaja. Even though the translator deleted the word you and it, and adds the word saja. The translation did not change the whole meaning of the SL message. In other words, the illocutionary force of the utterance was transferred into the TL accurately.

2. Less Accurate Translation

The less accurate translation was found in a subtitle of the movie. In this case, probably, it is due to the un-translated pragmatic aspects from the source language to the target language. This study found 4% data belong to this classification.

Excerpt 8
SL Sneeca : I think, it has grown from that.
TL Sneeca : Namun, sepertinya hal itu telah berkembang.

The above example was rated as less accurate translation. The raters argued that the pragmatic aspect was not translated accurately. The tentative opinion in I think in the source language was translated into a conjunction, namun, and therefore the tentative of the speaker’s opinion was not present at the TL.

3. Inaccurate Translation
Inaccurate pragmatic translation was also found in the subtitle, but the frequency was very low. This study found 0.9% of inaccurate translation. The following is an example of inaccurate translation.

The following is the presented data found.

**Excerpt 9**

**SL** Haymitch: Now that’s a good way to get killed

**TL** Haymitch: Cara bagus seperti itulah yang akan membunuhmu

The example above was rated as an inaccurate pragmatic translation. The SL irony now that’s a good way to get killed was translated into *cara bagus seperti itulah yang akan membunuhmu*. Based on the rating, the translation did not share the same irony as in the TL.

The research findings regarding to the pragmatic accuracy of the translation is summarized in the following chart.

The studies that had been done by the researchers provided in this current study may establish that the idea of translation is important to be investigated. Moreover, the studies do not only concern to the translation itself. However, it is coalesced to the area of pragmatic aspect. The amalgamation of these two disciplines becomes a hot issue in the arena of translation study.

The previous research emphasized the micro-aspect of pragmatic, speech act, or broader than this, pragmatic in general. Some of them underlined the term pragmatic equivalence in several spots of the study. Furthermore, the method in conducting the research was actually the same: documentation method. However, what makes this study is different is that the objective, data and data source, several elements of method in analyzing data and the result of this present study.

Hartono (2014), in his study of translation of English utterances used in daily communication based on the pragmatic aspects, found that the 40 English utterances were translated into Indonesian language based on the pragmatic aspects dominantly contained implicit meaning (52.5%), co-text and context (22.5%), deixis (12.5%), and politeness (0%).

The present study also uses illocutionary act as the data. However, the data source employed to this study is the movie subtitle of *The Hunger Games*, which is different to what has been investigated by Hartono (2014) and other studies such as Li (2013), Hellberg (2013), Triki (2013), and Khanfar (2013).

Furthermore, this current study emphasizes several aspects such as the types of illocutionary acts found in movie subtitling and their pragmatic accuracy. The documentation method and content analysis were employed to collect and analyze the data. Furthermore, in order to determine the accuracy of the illocutionary act, this study involved three raters to rate the data of illocutionary act.

Based on the data analysis, the study found six illocutionary acts that were translated similarly into Indonesian. This current study found that there is no significant translation shift from the English version towards the Indonesian translation of the movie.
This study confirms what was proposed by Searle (1979) in relation to the taxonomy of illocutionary act: assertive, directive, commissive, representative, expressive, and declarative. This study fortifies the theory, since this study found all those types inside. In the movie subtitle of *The Hunger Games*, the translator refers the translation in accordance to the source language. Therefore, the overall data shows that the types of the English speech acts are translated into Indonesian speech acts in the similar types.

However some data show that the translator seemed to translate it literally, in other words, the translation technique is word-for-word translation. The translation represents SL that was translated into TL. The following excerpt 1 displays the example.

SL: *Sneeca*: It comes out of a particularly painful part of our history.
TL: *Sneeca*: *diawali dari perjalanan pahit pada masa sejarah kita dulu.*

This study noted that the data above can be classified as assertive speech act translated into assertive speech act. The SL translated into TL literally. Although, the translation was touched by some strategies in order to achieve equivalence. The translator translated the SL “it comes out of a particularly painful part” into “diawali dari perjalanan pahit”. The translator tried to express the pragmatic element of the SL into TL.

Then, the study highlighted that the other part of the SL: “our history” was translated into “pada masa sejarah kita dulu”. The present study found that this type of translation was not acceptable enough since it was not effective. It is better when the SL would be just “pada masa lalu” since it is easier for people or readers to get to know the meaning, as the TL shares common sense.

Regarding the pragmatic equivalence, this study found that 95% data were rated as accurate, 4% data were rated as less accurate, and 0.9 data were rated as inaccurate translation. This study involves 1067 data of illocutionary acts in the movie subtitle. The rating was accomplished by three raters. According to this analysis, this study divided the rating into three judgments. It is based on the amalgamation of two existed theories: Nababan (2012) and Baker (1991).

The first cluster is rated with the highest level or it has score 3. In this case, the meaning of the words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or source language text are transferred accurately into target language text; there are no meaning distortion. Based on the context in its communication, the message of SL is transferred accurately. The pragmatic element of the SL text is also translated accurately into target language text. The translation represents a coherent and cohesive translation. The implicature is represented accurately as intended by the speaker in the target language text.

The excerpt 7 shows an accurate translation as follows.

**SL**: *Old Seller*: You keep it.
**TL**: *Old Seller*: Simpansaja.
**SL**: *Old Seller*: It’s yours.
**TL**: *Old Seller*: Untuk mu.
**SL**: *Katniss*: Thank you.
**TL**: *Katniss*: Terimakasih.

The above datum shows an accurate translation. The bolded speech act is the focus, while the others are just to support the speech act. The old seller talks to Katniss Everdeen: “you keep it”. Then, it was translated into Indonesian version: “simpan saja”. It can be seen that the translator deleted the word “it”. This is the strategy used by the translator in order to achieve equivalence. Even though it was deleted, the translator kept expressing the message of SL into the TL. In other words, it is not necessary to translate all the words into TL.

The second category is rated as medium level and it has 2 score which means that mostly, the meanings of the words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or source language texts are transferred accurately into target language text. However, there still have distortion in meaning, and it distracts the wholeness of the message. Based on the context in its communication, the message of SL is transferred less accurately. The pragmatic element of the source language text is translated accurately into target language text, but there are some misinterpretations in the
target language (e.g. culture understanding). Some translations could be considered as coherent and cohesive, but some other could not or the translation does not represent fully the implied meaning of speaker’s intention.

The following data (excerpt 8) shows the data which represent a less accurate translation.

SL Sneeca : I think, it has grown from that.
TL Sneeca : Namun, sepertinya hal itu telah berkembang.

The above example was rated as less accurate translation. The raters argued that the pragmatic aspect was not translated accurately. The tentative opinion in I think in the source language was translated into a conjunction, namun, and therefore the tentative of the speaker’s opinion was not present at the TL.

Finally, the last category is related with the score 1. In this case, the meanings of the words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or source language texts are not accurately transferred into target language text or deleted. Based on the context in its communication, the message of SL is not transferred accurately. The pragmatic element of the source language text is not translated accurately into target language text, therefore it may induce misunderstanding (pragmatic failure). The translation, then, is not coherent and cohesive. The implied speaker’s intention is not translated accurately. The following is the example.

SL Haymitch : Now that’s a good way to get killed
TL Haymitch : Cara bagus seperti itulah yang akan membunuhmu

The example above was rated as an inaccurate pragmatic translation. The SL irony now that’s a good way to get killed was translated into cara bagus seperti itulah yang akan membunuhmu. Based on the rating, the translation did not share the same irony as in the TL.

CONCLUSION

Concluding the analyzed and discussed data, this study noted that the illocutionary speech act found in the movie subtitle of The Hunger Games were in the form of these classifications: assertive speech act translated into assertive speech act, directive speech act translated into directive speech act, commissive speech act translated into commissive speech act, representative speech act translated into representative speech act, declarative speech act translated into declarative speech act, and expressive speech act translated into expressive speech act. The study found that most of the subtitle of the Hunger game movie was translated accurately.

REFERENCES


