



An Analysis of Swearing Words in Indonesian Translation of Vampire VS the Bronx Movie

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Abstract— Swear words are often seen as negative language which is not appropriate to use for individuals or society in communicating. However, the use of swear words is starting to be accepted lately in public to express bad feelings, anger, or humiliation. It proved with the use of the words in various media such TV, Movies, and songs lyric. One of them is film entitled “Vampire VS the Bronx” as the source of data of this study. This film is not only attracted the local demand, but also attracts the international audiences. Therefore, various foreign language translations were created including Indonesian subtitle to make the audiences easier understand the contexts conveyed. This study will identify the types of swear words that occurs in the source of data, find the translation technique that used by the translator, and verify the audience reaction of swearing words in “Vampire VS the Bronx”. The data of this study is words and speech acts the characters. The research method of this study is descriptive qualitative method. That supported by [1] and [2] theories.

Keywords— Swear words; translation technique; audience reaction

I. INTRODUCTION

Language is a tool of communication for human and social intercourse. People have many ways to express their feelings and idea which one of the ways is the use of swear words. In this modern Era, the use of swear words is common in daily language to express of anger, loneliness, sadness, disappointed or emotions. However, not all kinds of swearing are annoyance, it also can be used to express the relation, kinship, or to great someone.

For the linguistic perspective, swearing is seen as a type of linguistic behavior that society regards as disrespectful, vulgar, and even offensive [3]. Swearing words is formulated of a language or words that have different meaning from the genuine meaning. For some statement swear words may be a factor in reducing stress [4]. Swear words can be used intentionally or unintentionally, based on the speakers' emotions and conditions. Hughes (1991) stated that people swear by, people swear to (do something), people swear at (somebody or something), and exasperation. Every language has its own swearing form. It is very various according to the environment. Such in English are “fuck, Goddamn, Bitch, asshole” and etc. In Indonesia are “bangsat, brengsek, bodoh” and etc.

This study tries to find kinds of swear words that occurs in Indonesian Translation of “Vampire VS the Bronx” which the writer looking for the swear words in Indonesian language by the translator's perspective. The writer also

analyze the translation technique that used by the translator to translate the Source of language (SL) to Target language (TL).

Based on the background of this study, the research problems which are proposed in this study are as follows: What kinds of swear words that used in Indonesian subtitle of “Vampire VS the Bronx” movie? What are the techniques that translator used to translate the swear words of Source language to Target Language?

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Swear Words

This section is an explanation of the definition and types of swear words. Swearing words are the expression to link the emotions and usually it uses taboo or abusive words. Usually is impolite. The form of swearing can be in the form of words, phrase, and clause.

[1] stated that swearing draws upon such powerful and incongruous resonators as religion, sex, madness, excretion, and nationality, encompassing an extraordinary variety of attitudes, including the violent, the amusing, the shocking, the absurd, the casual and the impossible. There are 8 kind of swear words proposed by [1]:

1. swear words related to genital terms
Sexual organ is a part of human’s genital body which is including sexual reproduction. It also include the sexual activity Examples: Ass, prick, pussy, dick, fuck and so on
2. swear words related to excretory terms
Swear words from excrement generally related to things which are assumed to be dirty, disgusting and rude. Example: Shit, turd, piss, fart and so on.
3. swear words related to name of animal
The names of animals are not taboo at all. However, if they are purposely uttered or referred to the person or things, it may be considered as swear words.
4. Swear words related to personal background
Swear words of this kind are spoken by the speakers to a person who is considered have a low status or profession. It means to insult, to degrade, or to put down someone. Example: Bitch, whore, and so on.
5. Swear words related to anatomical terms
People uses the anatomical terms of body that regarded as an embarrassing and dirty thing example: your head, your ass, your eyes, and so on.
6. Swear words related to taboo or religion or Oath
Swear word that used sacred word, such the name of God, unspeakably vile like cannibalism or incest. Example: God, the Devil, death, and damnation.
7. swear words related to imbecilic terms
The used of symbol of people with mild mental retardation and IQ (intelligence Quotient) of 50-70. Example: Idiot! Fool!
8. Swear Words Related to Racism
The term can be used against people who admit to holding racist beliefs. Example: Redneck!

B. Translation Technique

Translating is an activity when someone (translator) transfers a language in a text from source of language (SL) into another language or target language (TL) accurately. [5] states that translation means replacing a textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in other language (TL). To translate a text from SL to TL the translator should consider the process of translating[6] stated that there are some techniques to translate a text; they are word-for word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, adaptation, communicative translation, equivalent, and free translation.

III. METHOD

Considering the problems and the aims, this study uses qualitative research method that aligned with the characteristic of qualitative research. The characteristics are studying of life in the real world, contributing to existing concept that can help explain social and human behavior [7]. It is support the social phenomena that occurs in this study that is swearing in Indonesian subtitle of “Vampire VS the Bronx Movie” and the process of translating the subtitle. This study also applied survey method which the data are respondents of “Vampire VS the Bronx Movie”. The instrument of this method is questioner. The technique of collecting the data is the writer compiled the collected the data as the sample of this study in the form of diagram. The writer observes, identify, and categorized the data based on each types, then put some survey for verify the audience reactions of the swear words in the movie. The data is words and speech act of the characters which cannot be manipulated from other sources.

There were some steps in collecting the data. First the writer read the script of Indonesian subtitle, together with the second step which each utterance that are relevant to the topic were directly noted down. Third, the writer repeated the steps around three times to find the detail or missing words. Fourth, the writer categorized the data based on the types. The last is drawing conclusion.

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

After the writer collected data of the swear words that found in Indonesian subtitle of “Vampire VS the Bronx movie” based on the translator’s interpretation. There they are describing on the table I as follows:

TABLE I. Research Result Table

No.	Data	Context	Types
1	<i>"Sial"</i>	expression of pique	taboo/religion
2	<i>"stress ini membuat gula darahku menggila"</i>	feel annoyed because of the disease he had	imbecilic terms
3	<i>"kau paranoid kawan"</i>	expression of unstable mental health	imbecilic terms
4	<i>"kami akan memusnahkan kalian seperti hama"</i>	intend to get rid of the children	name of animal
5	<i>"dan ibumu akan menyabet bokongmu dan bokongku"</i>	shameful act	anatomical terms
6	<i>"dasar kafir, jika sesekali ke gereja kau pasti tau"</i>	insult someone who has minus spiritual	taboo/religion
7	<i>"lanjutkan penelusuran cabul kalian"</i>	let vulgar action happens	Genital terms
8	<i>"iblis"</i>	equates bad human behavior with the demons	taboo/religion

9	" <i>Cuma sekelompok anak malang</i> "	insult the children as poor child	personal background
10	" <i>siapa jalang ini</i> "	give a vulgar terms to someone	personal background
11	" <i>mataku tidak bisa dipercaya</i> "	expression of disappointed	anatomical terms

A. The form of swearing words used in "Vampire VS the Bronx Movie"

In the movie, swearing is used by several types of swear words, such as the sexual terms, taboo or religion, animal names, anatomical terms, imbecilic terms, and personal background. And the writer also explain the translation technique that used by the translator.

1. swear words related to taboo or religion

Data 01 : "Sial"

The word of "Sial" is an expression of destiny which people in a bad luck or in unluckiness. For some occasion the word "Sial" such a swear words, when people feel disappointed with their expectation. The word also commonly used to convey pique or anger. Word "Sial" considered as a taboo/religion swears words, because this word refer to the destiny. And no one knows what happen with their luckiness and destiny.

In this data the translator used free translation technique, which the SL of the data is "fuck" which the literal meaning is about sexual activity and it could be categorized as swearing words relate to genital terms. While in Indonesian translation it become "Sial" which considered as swearing words relate to taboo/religion.

Data 06: "dasar kafir, jika sesekali ke gereja kau pasti tau"

This data also indicate the swear words related to taboo or religion terms. Which word "kafir" refers to someone who loses their religion or level down of spiritual. In Indonesian culture word "kafir" is rarely used as a swear words or daily words, because it is sensitive to be spoken. It only used by someone with their close friend or best friend.

Data 08: "iblis"

Indicate the swear words of taboo or religion also, because the speakers mention the name of demons. This terms sometime used when the speakers really sick up with another people. The use of word "iblis" is not only express anger, but it is also used and deliver to someone annoying.

2. swear words related to name of animals

Data 04: "kami akan memusnahkan kalian seperti hama"

This phrase is expression of someone who feels enough and disturbed, if they do not obey the speakers rules they will get rid by the speakers. Such better silent rather than noisy in some peace occasion.

3. Swear words related to personal background

Data 09: "Cuma sekelompok anak malang"

This data categorized as related to personal background, because it involved someone identity or low status of individual in society. So, it considered as bad words that inappropriate to be spoken, because it indicate insulting and hurts someone feelings. The word "anak malang" in Indonesia means as pathetic in English. While the source language (SL) of the movie is "a bunch of poor kids", if the translator use a literal technique translation, it means "kelompok anak miskin", but the translator choose idiomatic translation technique to delivered the equivalent meaning.

Data 10: "siapa jalang ini"

“jalang” in English means a bitch or a whore, which rated as the lowest profession at the social life. It such a dishonor job and unsettles some people.

4. swear words related to genital terms

Data 07: "lanjutkan penelusuran cabul kalian"

The word “cabul” in Indonesia means desire or indecent act leading to sexual acts who committed to gain self-satisfaction. It regards as a bad action that who dare to do that, they will get punishment in law, and get social discrimination.

5. swear words related to imbecilic terms

data 02: "stress ini membuat gula darahku menggila"

The word “stress” indicates the mental of someone in bad condition which makes the speaker’s another disease heat up. It makes the speakers feel annoyed. Therefore, he said that ‘menggila’ means that the case is raise up.

Data 03: "kau paranoid kawan"

The word “paranoid” also describe the mental someone. Which it could be indicates as s mental illness that aligned with the types of Hughes concept. The translator used a borrowing technique of translation, because ‘paranoid’ is a name of disease. Therefore, scientific terms usually should be defended from the source language.

6. Swear words related to anatomical terms

Data 05: "dan ibumu akan menyabet bokongmu dan bokongku"

The word “bokong” is casual word refers to human body, but the use of this word is depended to the context. it used for health issues, or context refers to sexual or genital issues, because in social life the word “bokong” still rarely mentioned in some conversation and usually used as swear words.

Data 06: "mataku tidak bisa dipercaya"

This phrase indicate expression of disappointed, which the speakers seeing something in not good ways. But, the hidden meaning is because not the eyes health condition, it is the speaker’s expression when he amazed with something.

B. Translation Qualities

This translation quality assessment intended as an instrument for measuring the quality of translated text from source language (SL) to target language (TL), or from English to Indonesia. This steps also used to find a summary of the translation technique that used by the translator to produce the translated text. Translation quality which is measured includes the level of accuracy, acceptance level, and legibility level. [8] the level of accuracy determined by how accurate the content or message from SL into TL. The level of acceptance based on the context or the text of SL already disclosed in accordance of the rules, norms, and culture of TL or not. The level of legibility is the translated text is understandable or not. The assessment of the translation quality of Indonesian subtitle “Vampire Vs the Bronx Movie” can see in the table bellows:

TABLE II. Translation Quality Assessment

Translation Quality	Score	Qualitative Parameter
Accuracy	3	Almost all the meaning words, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or the source of language accurately into the language target. As well as the choice of stress and paranoid words that are maintained by the translator because the languages are commonly used in Indonesia

Acceptance	3	The translation feels natural. Technical terms that is used commonly used and familiar to readers. Phrases, clauses, and sentences used are in accordance with the rules of the Indonesian language.
Legibility	2	In general, the translation can be understood by the reader. However there are certain passages that should be more than one time to understand the translation.

C. Audience Response of Swearing Words in “Vampire VS the Bronx Movie”

This point shows the response of the Indonesian audience about the swear words uses in Indonesian Subtitle of “Vampire VS the Bronx” Movie and the uses of swear words in daily language. There are three questions and six respondents who fill the questioners, And the results could be seen on the diagrams belows:

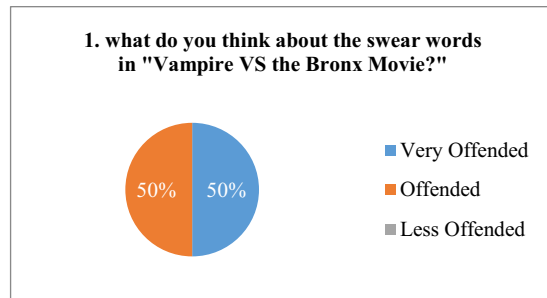


Diagram I. audience response about the swearword uses in “Vampire VS the Bronx” Movie

The picture of diagram I. is the result questioner that fills by the respondents. It shows the response of Indonesian audience about the swear words uses in Indonesian Subtitle of “Vampire VS the Bronx” Movie. They think that the uses of swear words is not appropriate to be spoken in the film. According to the respondent it is a bit taboo to be heard, because most of the swear words used to express an anger and as the emphasizing utterance that want to be delivered.

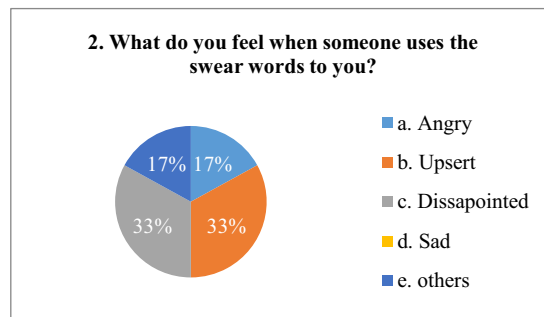


Diagram II. Respondents’ feeling when someone uses the swear words to them

The results of the questioners in diagram II shows the responses of the audiences about how their feeling if someone uses swear words towards them. And the response is various. Some people feel angry, some people feel upset, some people feel chill out which show that the uses of swear words is depend on the context and the response of other speaker who involved the conversation. Because

some respondent said that the uses of swear word is not only express anger or insult someone, it could be used as expression of shocked, happy, and recently used as a daily language for friendship or someone closes with. But the result of the questioners shows that people still taboo to accept the swearing words.

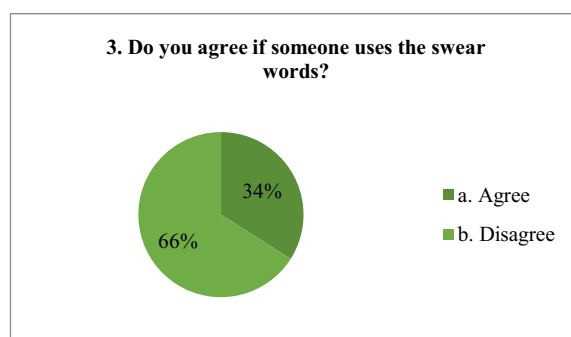


Diagram III. Respondents' opinion of the swear word uses in

Picture of diagram III. Is the last questions which the writer ask about the uses of swear words in daily life and most of the audience disagree.

V. CONCLUSION

The swearing words that found in Indonesian subtitle of "Vampire VS the Bronx movie" are very various. There are eight types of swearing words according to Hughes theory, but in this study the writer found six types of swearing words include swearing related to genital terms, taboo or religions, animal terms, anatomical terms, imbecilic or mental illness terms, personal background. Every swear words uttered by people has different function depending on the person's feeling and the context where it is uttered.

The writer also found the translation technique that translator used to produce the Indonesian subtitle. They are borrowing translation, idiom translation, and free translation technique. This study also provides a translation quality assessment for measuring the quality of translated text. The writer also takes a sample of the audience about the uses of swearing word in Indonesian Subtitle of "Vampire VS the Bronx" Movie and in daily language, which the major answer is they uncomfy to accept the swear words, they feel that the uses of swear word is an inappropriate words to be spoken, and most of the audiences disagree if swear words uses in daily.

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