Comparison of Translation Techniques Between Human and Microsoft Translator (Windows 11) in Translating Folklores

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to describe the comparison of folklore translation techniques performed by human and Microsoft translator (windows 11). This research was conducted using Descriptive Qualitative method. The research subjects were taken from folklores titled “Ki Ageng Gribig” and “Wendit” in “Little Sunshine Bilingual Book” translated by Lestiono et al (Human translator) and Microsoft translators (Windows II). The object of this research is the translation techniques found in the translation results between human translators and Microsoft translators (Windows II). The result of this study is that in translating the folklores entitled “Ki Ageng Gribig” and “Wendit”, human translators and Microsoft translators (Windows II) used several translation techniques. The human translator used eleven translation techniques, namely adaptation (6 data), amplification (9 data), description (5 data), Establised equivalent (4 data), generalization (1 data), linguistic amplification (2 data), linguistic compression (3 data), literal (16 data), modulation (17 data), reduction (31 data), transposition (2 data). Meanwhile, Microsoft translator (Windows II) used eight translation techniques, namely adaptation (4 data), borrowing (1 data), Calque (1), description (1 data), Establised equivalent (2 data), literal (86 data), modulation (3 data), reduction (1 data).

Keywords: Folklore, translation techniques, Human translator, Microsoft Translator (Windows 11)

Abstrak

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan perbandingan teknik penerjemahan cerita rakyat yang dilakukan oleh penerjemah manusia dan penerjemah Microsoft (windows II). Subjek penelitian diambil dari cerita rakyat berjudul “Ki Ageng Gribig” dan “Wendit” dalam “Little Sunshine Bilingual Book” yang diterjemahkan oleh Lestiono dkk (penerjemah manusia) dan penerjemah Microsoft (Windows II). Objek penelitian ini adalah teknik penerjemahan yang terdapat pada hasil terjemahan antara penerjemah manusia dan penerjemah Microsoft (Windows II). Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah bahwa dalam menerjemahkan cerita rakyat yang berjudul “Ki Ageng Gribig” dan “Wendit”, penerjemah manusia dan penerjemah Microsoft (Windows II) menggunakan beberapa teknik penerjemahan. Penerjemah manusia menggunakan sejumlah teknik penerjemahan, yaitu adapasi (6 data), amplifikasi (9 data), deskripsi (5 data), padanan lazim (4 data), generalisasi (1 data), amplifikasi linguistik (2 data), kompresi linguistik (3 data), harfiah (16 data), modulasi (17 data), reduksi (31 data), transposisi (2 data). Sementara itu, penerjemah Microsoft (Windows II) menggunakan delapan teknik penerjemahan, yaitu adapasi (4 data), peminjaman (1 data), Calque (1), deskripsi (1 data), Padanan yang ditetapkan (2 data), literal (86 data), modulasi (3 data), reduksi (1 data).

Keywords: Folklore, translation techniques, Human translator, Microsoft Translator (Windows 11)

Introduction

Comparison of Translation Techniques Between Human and Microsoft Translator (Windows II) in Translating Folklores
English plays an important part in people’s daily lives. The fact that English is widely used in books, articles, advertisements, TV shows, and job postings and is easy to learn makes it a universal language. People cannot communicate with others if they do not know English, and we may fall behind in knowledge, education, and employment opportunities.

Translation is the process of converting voice or text from one language to another while maintaining its meaning. In the areas of intercultural communications, diplomacy, International Business, Education, and many other fields translation has an important role to play. Language and cultural differences can be understood and learned using translation. The simplest and least expensive method of exchanging knowledge and information between languages is translation (Sipayung et al., 2021).

The methods or techniques used by translators to produce the correct and appropriate translation from one language to another are known as translation techniques. Translation technique is the use of meaning to transfer a message from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL) at the word, phrase, clause, or sentence level.

The process of translating words and content from one language to another is known as human translation. The translation process is carried out completely by humans in the case of Human Translation. In cases where a document is complicated or contains unique nuances, human translation is frequently thought to be more accurate in conveying the precise and nuanced meaning of the original. Humans are usually more accurate in translating compared to machines (Li et al., 2023).

Microsoft Translator is a translation service offered by Microsoft (Windows 11). Users are allowed to translate text in different languages through Microsoft Translator. Cross-language communication can be facilitated with this service in a variety of settings, including travel, business, and education. It should be noted that the translations generated have varied outcomes even if the Microsoft Translator and Google Translate functions are similar (Putri & Nugroho, 2022). According to (Yudiarti, 2019) it is still not possible to use Microsoft Translator without the involvement of translation experts, using appropriate proofreading and editing tools.

In translation activities, two types of translation can be done, namely the translation of non-literary texts and literary texts. Folklore is included in literary works. Translation of folklore is, then, a way to translate the stories or aspects of folk culture from one language to another. For the translation of the text, the change in form is acceptable, but the meaning must remain in the target text (Sipayung, 2020). Folklore, itself, relates to the culture and society’s orally known traditions, customs, stories, or beliefs that have been passed down through
generations. More advanced words and forms, such as idioms, are commonly used by folklore, which should be translated well.

The researcher compared eighteen translation techniques according to (Molina & Albir, 2002) between human and Microsoft translators to translate folklore in this study. The researchers consider that the skills of both human and Microsoft translators differ in their use of translation techniques. It is important to know the translation technique so that you can make an informed choice as to whether your translation focuses on a source language or its target language.

Table 1.1 Preliminary research of comparison of translation techniques between human and Microsoft translator (windows II) in translating Folklores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Translation Techniques</th>
<th>ST</th>
<th>TT (Human Tr)</th>
<th>TT (Ms Tr)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>After</td>
<td>Getting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mendapat</td>
<td>A lesson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>pelajaran</td>
<td>From</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>dari</td>
<td>Sunan Tembayat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunan Tembayat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Learning Islam</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>With</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Literal</td>
<td>Literal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Literal</td>
<td>Literal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Literal</td>
<td>Literal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:

- **ST**: Source Text
- **TT**: Target Text
- **Human Tr**: Human Translation
- **Ms. Tr**: Microsoft Translator

The table above clearly shows that Human and Microsoft translators apply different translation techniques. There's a reduction of the word "mendapat" in the human translator, but it doesn't change the meaning of the sentence. While Microsoft Translator uses a literal translation technique that translates the sentence word by word. The fact that human and Microsoft translators have different characteristics concerning maintaining equivalence or reintroducing a target language.
Some previous studies already discuss a similar topic (Sipayung et al., 2021) demonstrated how varied technique applications caused the two machines to produce different destination messages for the same source language; U-dictionary was shown to use a wider range of translation strategies than Google Translate. The researchers concentrated on outlining the techniques employed by Google Translate and U-Dictionary to translate an explanatory text “The Importance of Manners in Daily Life”. In line with (Jusry & Cahyono, 2021) there are 555 lines of conversation which are divided into phrases, clauses, and sentences. The types of translation techniques mostly used by the translator are established equivalent. (Saputra et al., 2022) categorize the types of translation techniques and the most prevalent translation techniques used in movie subtitles. (Fitria, 2020) Determine which kind of English-to-Indonesian subtitle translation process is most common by classifying the many methods used for the "Crazy Rich Asian" movie’s subtitles. In some of the previous studies above, no one has compared translation techniques between human translation and Microsoft Translator. That is what makes this research different from previous studies. Research on human and machine translation techniques seems to be of interest to only a few researchers. In addition, research on Microsoft Translator is still lacking. Therefore, the researcher is interested in conducting this research.

This research aims to compare the translation technique between Human and Microsoft Translator (Windows II) in translating folklore. The research is expected to provide a better understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of each translation technique. The study can also provide new insights into the application of machine translation in cultural and literary contexts, such as the translation of folktales, which often have specific cultural nuances and expressions.

This study can contribute significantly to our understanding of the extent to which machine translators, particularly Microsoft Translators, can replace or complement human skills in folklore translation. It helps assess the effectiveness of such technologies in handling complex cultural content. This study will help future research determine the pros and cons of human translation technology and Microsoft Translator. This understanding can guide further development in both areas by improving the performance of machine translators and enhancing human translation strategies. Based on the reasons above, the researcher has a great desire to conduct a study entitled “Comparison of translation techniques between human and Microsoft translator (windows II) in translating Folklores”.

Based on the background above, a problem can be formulated as follows: How are the comparison of translation techniques of folklores made by human and Microsoft translator (windows II)?
RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

The research design in this study used descriptive qualitative research to describe the compare Translation Techniques Between Humans and Microsoft Translator (Windows II) in Translating Folklore. According to (Hasibuan et al., 2018), descriptive qualitative is research used to describe a natural phenomenon. The translation results from both translators were compared. Later, after Microsoft Translator translated the folklore text, the researcher compared the results of the Human translation (Lestiono et al., 2016) with the results of Microsoft Translator and analyzed the translation techniques used in both translations. The researcher conducted this study by applying Molina & Albir’s.

Subject and Object of Research

The research subjects were taken from folklore titled “Ki Ageng Gribig” and “Wendit” translated by the human translator in “Little Sunshine Bilingual Book” by (Setyaningrum et al., 2018) which is excerpted from “Bilingual Nusantara Folklores” translated by (Lestiono et al., 2016) and Microsoft translator (Windows II). The object of this research was translation techniques found in the translation results between Human and Microsoft translators (Windows II).

Instrument of Collecting Data

Research instruments were tools used to collect data or measure the subject of a research variable (Muslihin et al., 2022). In this study, the data collection instrument is the researcher herself who analyzed the documents and observations of several folklore that had been translated by humans from the source language to the target language in the bilingual book and as a translator by translating the folklore using Microsoft translator (Windows II). After obtaining the results of the translation of folklore from human translation and Microsoft translator, then the researcher analyzed and compared the translation techniques used between Human and Microsoft translator.

Technique of Collecting Data

In this study, the researcher has several techniques to collect data as follows:

2. Then the researcher selected some folklore from the bilingual book entitled “Ki Ageng Gribig” and “Wendit” translated by the human translator in “Little Sunshine Bilingual Book” by (Setyaningrum et al., 2018) which was excerpted from “Bilingual Nusantara Folklores” by (Lestiono et al., 2016).
3. The researcher then translated the source language of the folklore in the bilingual book using Microsoft Translator (Windows II) by typing the text of the folklore into Microsoft Word.
4. Next, the researcher blocked the sentences and right-clicked the touchpad on the laptop.
5. Then several options appeared, and the researcher clicked the “translate” option.
6. After that, the translation results appeared from Microsoft Translator from the source language to the target language on the right side of the paper in Microsoft Word.
7. The researcher collected the translation results from Microsoft Translator (Windows II).
Comparison of Translation Techniques Between Human and Microsoft Translator (Windows 11) in Translating Folklores

8. The researcher determined the translation techniques used by human translators and Microsoft translators (Windows 11) in translating folklore in bilingual books based on the categories of translation techniques (Molina & Albir, 2002).

**Technique of Analyzing Data**

Researchers used several steps in analyzing data to answer research problems as follows:
1. The researcher identified the translation of folklore made by humans.
2. The researcher identified the translation of Folklores Made by Microsoft translator.
3. The researcher tabulated the results in the table.
4. The researcher compared the translation techniques.
5. The researcher concluded the main findings.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

In the findings of this study, the researcher collected and classified the data in which based on the results of the analysis found differences in translation techniques by Molina and Albir (2002) used by human translator and Microsoft translator (Windows 11) in translating folklores entitled “Ki Ageng Gribig” and “Wendit” from the source text to the target text. The data could be tabulated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Translation Techniques</th>
<th>Human Translator</th>
<th>Microsoft Translator (Windows 11)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Adaptation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Amplification</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Borrowing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Calque</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Established equivalent</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Generalization</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Linguistic amplification</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Linguistic compression</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The table above shows that in translating the folktales entitled "Ki Ageng Gribig" and "Wendit", human translators and Microsoft translators (Windows 11) used several translation techniques. The human translator used eleven translation techniques, namely adaptation (6 data), amplification (9 data), description (5 data), established equivalent (4 data), generalization (1 data), linguistic amplification (2 data), linguistic compression (3 data), literal (16 data), modulation (17 data), reduction (31 data), transposition (2 data). Meanwhile, Microsoft translator (Windows 11) used eight translation techniques, namely adaptation (4 data), borrowing (1 data), Calque (1), description (1 data), established equivalent (2 data), literal (86 data), modulation (3 data), reduction (1 data). This data proves that human translators and Microsoft (Windows II) translators have different abilities in choosing the translation techniques used.

The findings of a study comparing the translation techniques used by human translators and Microsoft Translator (Windows II) in translating folklores provide valuable insights into the contrasting approaches and capabilities of human and machine translation systems. The findings shed light on the strengths and limitations of both approaches, as well as their implications for translation quality and effectiveness. Human can interpret the context and convey the same meaning, rather than a direct literal translation (Systems, 2023) humans can understand creative uses of language, such as puns, metaphors, cultural elements, and so on.

One of the striking differences is the frequent use of the reduction translation technique by the human translators. Human translators used the reduction technique 31 times, indicating a tendency to simplify or condense the content of the original text. This may be done to improve readability, maintain the storyline, or convey the essence of the story more effectively. However, from the analysis, the researcher believes that due to the large number of translation reduction techniques used by human translators, a lot of text is omitted so that some of information from the source language is lost or not conveyed to the target language. Modulation, which was also frequently used, indicates a conscious effort to modify the form or structure of the original text to convey the intended meaning effectively.

In contrast, Microsoft Translator’s frequent use of literal translation may reflect its adherence to a more literal or word-for-word approach, possibly due to limitations in understanding context or cultural nuances. The inclusion of borrowing and calque techniques by Microsoft Translator further indicates its reliance on direct lexical or structural transfers from the source language.

In the previous study "Translation Techniques Used by Google Translate and Microsoft Translator in Translating Abstract Text" by (Putri & Nugroho, 2022), it was found that the translation results from Microsoft Translator applied literal translation techniques. Microsoft Translator tends to translate word by word so that the
impression obtained from the translation results is considered less accurate. In this study, Microsoft Translator predominantly used the literal translation technique, with 86 occurrences.

This study was supported by (Meisha Rahmania & Havid Ardi, 2023) confirms that there are eleven types of translation techniques used by the translators in translating the angry speech contained in the novel, namely borrowing with 9 data, compensation with 9 data, transposition with 8 data, modulation with 12 data, amplification with 21 data, adaptation with 39 data, common equivalent with 61 data, generalization with 1 data, reduction with 11 data, variation with 2 data, and one technique that is not included in Molina & Albir’s theory, namely neutralization with 9 data. So, we know that translation techniques used by humans transfer language from the source text to the target text by using various translation techniques without changing the meaning of the text. The same with this study which shows that humans translate by using several translation techniques that not only translate word by word but still maintain the meaning of the text. However, there is a difference between this study and the previous one in that in this study, the researcher found 16 data of literal translation techniques used by humans in analyzing the translated texts, which is quite different from the findings in the previous study which did not find any literal translation techniques in analyzing the translated texts. In fact, the previous researcher also analyzed translation techniques from the results of human translation in translating texts.

Overall, the findings suggest that human translators and machine translators, such as Microsoft Translator, approach translation tasks differently. While human translators demonstrate a nuanced understanding of context and employ a variety of techniques to convey meaning effectively, machine translators may prioritize literal accuracy and struggle with contextual nuances and cultural subtleties.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results, there are significant differences in the use of translation techniques between human translators and Microsoft Translator (Windows II) in translating the folktales of "Ki Ageng Gribig" and "Wendit". The human translator used eleven translation techniques, namely adaptation (6 data), description (5 data), Established equivalent (4 data), generalization (1 data), linguistic amplification (2 data), linguistic compression (3 data), literal (16 data), modulation (17 data), reduction (31 data), transposition (2 data). Meanwhile, Microsoft translator (Windows II) used eight translation techniques, namely adaptation (4 data), borrowing (1 data), Calque (1), description (1 data), Established equivalent (2 data), literal (86 data), modulation (3 data), reduction (1 data). Human translators and Microsoft Translator (Windows II) have different abilities in selecting the translation techniques used. Future research could involve a more in-depth study of the factors that influence the selection of translation techniques by humans and machines. The researcher recommends conducting a comparative study of translation techniques between Microsoft Translator and other machine translations in translating folklore.

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Comparison of Translation Techniques Between Human and Microsoft Translator (Windows II) in Translating Folklores


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