

Conference Paper

Ineffectiveness of Sentences in Bilingual Books in Children's Literature

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Abstract

In the era of the ASEAN Economic Community, children are now required to have linguistic cognitive abilities, either in the first language, the second language, or a foreign language, such as English. Therefore, children need literature works as the introduction. The children's literature in question is a bilingual book. Thus, authors of children's bilingual literature not only need to act appropriately in choosing a translation strategy for a text but also to be able to write it effectively. In fact, the translation is inseparable from the rules of the effectiveness of sentences and the cultural context of the target language. According to the results of the study, children's literature of archipelago fairy-tale series that in the form of bilingual books still contained ineffective sentences in their translation. This ineffectiveness includes grammatical, clarity, unity, and coherence aspects.

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1. Introduction

In the era of globalization, children are required to have cognitive language skills, like us a foreign language. Thus, fairy tales are the best way to introduce children to a language to be learned, such as English. Therefore, bilingual books are needed as media to show actualization. Sneddon revealed that bilingual books are important tools for learning a language and for adding personal experience [1]. One of these that uses the fairy tale genre of prose is the collection of story archipelago legend retold by Lilis Hu, which was published in 2015 by Bhuana Ilmu Komputer in Jakarta. The book includes the fairy tale stories "Timun Mas," "Rara Jonggrang," and "Batu Menangis." Aarne and Thompson (in Zipes) have categorized these as ordinary folk tales [2].

In terms of the existence of bilingual books, the role of translation is very important. This is because the success of a translation will depend on the extent to which a

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translator understands and works a text that will be translated. So the results of a translation will be felt by the reader, especially children. According to Catford, the main problem found by translators in the process of translating is searching for equivalence between the source language and the target language [3]. However, the main concern of writers of children's stories in the form of bilingual books before they are translated into the target language is the effectiveness of the sentences of the written story text with a view to enabling children to easily understand the text they are reading. As revealed in research by Sneddon, Nababan, Nuraeni, and Sumardiono, and Akbari, children's story books using a bilingual system are translated in a different way to general story books [4-6]. Similarly, Tressyalina states that local culture needs to be considered when translating bilingual children's stories into the target language [7].

An effective sentence is a sentence that conveys information briefly and fully and is easily understood by the listener [8]. Effective sentences should also be grammatical, standardized, clear, brief, straightforward, coherent, and efficient [9]. Similarly to the previous definition, Putrayasa says that unity, efficiency, emphasis, and variation are the main features of an effective sentence [10]. Thus, it can be concluded that an effective sentence contains grammatical, standardized, clear, unitary, coherent, varied, and accentuated elements. "Grammatical" means that the subject and predicate must be explicit. "Standardized" refers to the use of spelling in accordance with the standard grammar. "Clear" means using proper punctuation. "Unitary" refers to the solidity of the mind. "Coherent" means the unity of ideas so inter-sentences have a structural or semantic relationship. "Varied" refers to diverse patterns and sentence forms. "Accentuated" refers to an attempt to stress or emphasize the part of the sentence that is considered to be the focus of attention.

Of the seven characteristics of an effective sentence, only grammatical, clear, unitary, and coherent are disabled for further analysis. Based on the above explanation, the writer aims to describe the inactivity of a sentence in terms of in the children's literature used by Lilis Hu as the author of the bilingual collection of stories archipelago legend "Timun Mas," "Rara Jonggrang," and "Batu Menangis."

2. Methods

The research is a qualitative study using a content analysis method. The research instrument is the researcher using a work table. This is to collect data. Data is taken from a bilingual book that is a collection of stories archipelago legend. The research

data is utterances or dialogue from the bilingual book. Because the research has a limited time span, the writer takes the stories "Timun Mas," "Rara Jonggrang," and "Batu Menangis." The technique used for collecting data is documentation. The procedure used for analyzing data was a content analysis based on Mayring's theory [11]. The procedure ends with the interpretation of the results, such as frequencies.

3. Results

The results of the research concerning the inactivity of sentences in children's literature as used by Lilis Hu as the author of the bilingual collection of stories archipelago legend "Timun Mas," "Rara Jonggrang," and "Batu Menangis" can be seen in the following table.

TABLE 1: Ineffectivity of Sentences in Bilingual Collection of Archipelago Legend Stories.

Features of Ineffective Sentence	Children's Literature		
	Timun Mas	Rara Jonggrang	Batu Menangis
Grammatical	39.36%	39.36%	41.28%
Clear	100%	100%	90.24%
Unitary	0%	0%	0.24%
Coherent	10.56%	7.68%	4.8%

The ineffectiveness of sentences in terms of the elemental elements has varying percentages. Some are the same and some are not. However, the highest percentage in terms of sentence inefficiencies is for "clear," while the lowest is for "unitary."

The ineffectiveness of sentences contained in children's bilingual literature in the form of the short stories "Timun Mas," "Rara Jonggrag," and "Batu Menangis" is in the aspects "grammatical," "clear," "unitary," and "coherent." The following explains this.

3.1. The ineffectiveness of sentences in terms of the "Grammatical" element

The results of the research on ineffectiveness in terms of the "grammatical" element in "Timun Mas," "Rara Jonggrang," and "Batu Menangis" indicate that the subject element and the predicate element do not become a unity in a sentence, but a new element of the sentence. This is indicated by each line beginning with a capital letter

indicating that the line is one sentence. Look at the following paragraphs from the “Rara Jonggarang” story.

1. *Bila Prabu Bandowoso dapat memenuhi*
Should Prabu Bondowoso fulfill her test
Mewujudkan semua permintaan putri
All in timely fashion, precise and pristine
Rara Jonggrang bersedia berjanji
Rara Jonggrang vowed true, none in jest
Untuk dijadikan sebagai istri
To make her his bride and loving queen

In the first sentence in the paragraph above, there is no subject and predicate, so it is still a description. Therefore, the sentence requires an additional proposition to have a complete grammatical element. Semi states that in a sentence, the subject and the predicate must be explicitly expressed in order to obtain full meaning [9]. However, in essence, the proposition that is meant already exists in the paragraph, only in the form of a new sentence, not part of the first sentence. Fabb says “[t]hat the sequencing of words does not by itself produce a meaning; instead there is a hidden organization of the words which gives them their meaning” [12] If the paragraph consisting of four sentences is made into one sentence by combining them, such as in “*Bila Prabu Bandowoso dapat memenuhi mewujudkan semua permintaan putri, Rara Jonggrang bersedia berjanji untuk dijadikan sebagai istri,*” then it has become a sentence that qualifies as being “grammatical.”

3.2. The ineffectiveness of sentences in terms of the “Clear” element

The ineffectiveness of sentences in terms of clarity in the stories “Timun Mas,” “Rara Jonggarang,” and “Batu Menangis” is the most dominant ineffectiveness used by the author. The ineffectiveness is shown by the fact that there is not a single punctuation mark. On the other hand, punctuation is important for providing pauses in the reading, and for determining the meaning of the proposition contained in a sentence. Look at the following passage from the “Timun Mas” story.

2. *Jarum peniti, garam, dan terasi*

The salt, shrimp paste and also the pin
Adalah benda-benda pusaka
 Were heirlooms inherited, protect you they would
Yang diberikan oleh seorang peri
 As gifts from glad fairy, it offered with grin
Karena dirawat Bu Tani ketika terluka
 Since wife of old farmer did treat it when ill

The paragraph above shows that the author of the story only uses two commas (,). The sentence on the first line should end with a full point (.) Because the second line is prefixed with capital letters. However, it still contains unity because when one sentence is combined with another, such as "*Jarum peniti, garam, dan terasi adalah benda-benda pusaka yang diberikan oleh seorang peri karena dirawat Bu Tani ketika terluka,*" with the ending a final intonation will have intact meaning. Therefore, the use of capital letters on each line is not considered appropriate. When examined, it seems that the intention of the authors in not including punctuation and capital letters on each line is to give the effect of a rhythmic sound at the end of the sentence, which is as if rhymed "ab-ab," as in traditional poetry. Nevertheless, it must be adapted to the proposition contained by a sentence.

3.3. The ineffectiveness of sentences in terms of the "Unitary" element

The results regarding the ineffectiveness of sentences in the stories "Timun Mas," "Rara Jonggrang," and "Batu Menangis" in terms of unity show that only one of these does not contain the same idea in a paragraph, i.e. "Batu Menangis." The following example illustrates the ineffectiveness of sentences in terms of unity.

3. *Ayah si gadis sudah meninggal dunia*
 Sadly, the father he passed away
Semenjak si gadis masih bayi
 When sweet daughter was still just a baby
Ibu tua amat menyayangi putrinya
 The old mother she loves her stronger each day
Semua permintaan si gadis dituruti

All requests granted no matter how weighty

The above paragraph indicates the existence of two expressed ideas. The first idea is that of the deceased girl's father. Then the second idea is about a mother who loves her daughter very much. If the paragraph is made into a proposition so that it contains one idea, it must use a connector. The intended linking is a causal link, as revealed in the sentences "Ayah si gadis sudah meninggal dunia semenjak si gadis masih bayi. Oleh sebab itu, Ibu tua amat menyayangi putrinya, sehingga semua permintaan si gadis dituruti." By using the liaison terms *for that* and *so*, the sentence in the paragraph meets the element of unity.

3.4. The ineffectiveness of sentences in terms of the "Coherent" element

The results regarding the ineffectiveness of sentences in the stories "Timun Mas," "Rara Jonggrang," and "Batu Menangis" in terms of coherence indicate that this is due to the lack of use of connecting words. Gee says that various sorts of grammatical devices "colocate" with each other [13]. The patterns are "co-relations" among different grammatical units. However, in the stories "Timun Mas," "Rara Jonggrang," and "Batu Menangis" the use of a liaison word in a sentence makes the sentence stand alone, so there is no unification between one sentence and another even though they are discussing the same idea. Consider the following example:

4. *Berjalanlah mereka menuju kampung seberang*

Together they cross the neighboring village

Ke tempat yang menjual perlengkapan

To a place that sells tools and equipment

Si gadis merasa malu dilihat orang

The girl embarrassed by her lineage

Jalan bersama ibunya yang berantakan

Seen with peasant mother she feels indignant

The above paragraph indicates a lack of effectiveness in terms of coherence because the sentence does not use conjunctions. Renkema who argues that a conjunction is a relationship that indicates how the following sentence or clause should be linked to the preceding or the following sentence [14]. This is evidenced in the sentences on the

third and fourth lines. The paragraph when the sentence one with the other sentence together into a unified, such as in "*Berjalanlah mereka menuju kampung seberang, ke tempat yang menjual perlengkapan. Namun, si gadis merasa malu dilihat orang karena jalan bersama ibunya yang berantakan.*" Through the use of the conjunctive disconnection but the causal link *because*, the sentences contain full meaning.

4. Conclusion

Fairy tales are the best way to introduce children to a language to be learned, such as English. Therefore, bilingual books are needed as media to show actualization. The role of translation is very important. This is because the success of a translation will depend on the extent to which a translator understands and works a text that will be translated. Local culture needs to be considered when translating bilingual children's stories into the target language. Similarly the effectiveness of the sentences of the written story text with a view to enabling children to easily understand the text they are reading.

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Conflict of Interest

Author declare that there is no conflict of interest in this research.

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