

SEMANTIC ERRORS IN THE TRANSLATION OF *THE HINDU'S* INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

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Abstract

This research is mainly aimed at analyzing the semantic error in lexis occurred in the translation done by Instagram machine translation. This research objective is to find out the types of semantic error in lexis done by the machine translation. Observation method used as method of collecting the data. The analysis applied descriptive qualitative method in analyzing the data which were taken from the posts in *The Hindu's* Instagram account. This account has been verified by Instagram as an official account that sharing news on India and it has more than 1.7 million followers currently. The theory from James (1998) was utilized to analyze the types of semantic error data source. In early stages of observation has found the phenomenon in the product of translation done by the Instagram machine translation. There was confusion of sense relation and collocation error in choosing a wrong synonym. Moreover, there was also several of translation procedures used in translating the Instagram captions of *The Hindu*.

Keywords - semantic error, translation, instagram machine translation

Introduction

Language plays important role in human life. It is not only for communicating, but also for learning. In learning one specific thing we need language as introduction and in order to understand the contents of the learning, we have to understand the language. That is why translation is provided to meet the need. Translation becomes important since it is the basic way to understand the translation product. Translation could be defined as converting one language (Source Language) to another (Target Language) so that the target language could convey the intended message in source language. As Larson (1998) stated that in translation the form of the source language (SL) is replaced by the form of the receptor language (RL).

Previously, translation process was done by a translator. The advancement of technology influenced translation process and people start to use machine translation to complete a translation process (Susanti, 2018). There are lot of machine translations such as Google Translate, Bing translator and many more offline or online

applications for translating some texts. In accelerating the process of knowing the meaning of texts in social media, social media provided a feature for translating texts. In the daily life, we use to have social media for communicating with others. There are lots of social media such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.

Instagram becomes a popular social media in the world. Nevertheless, the existence of Instagram not only for businessman because of most government institution, religion organization, social activities, education start to share their information to Instagram and all people all over the world can see those posts. Instagram is also equipped with machine translation for their caption. News from all around the world can be reached from Instagram account. People read the news from other countries via Instagram account and they need to translate to their own language using Instagram Machine Translation to understand the news was being shared. The accuracy of the result is still debatable and questionable because the result used wrong lexis, wrong grammar and even wrong context. Machine translation is a hard problem because

natural language is complex, many words has various meaning and different possible translations (Susanti, 2018). Therefore, it could be machine translation cannot fulfill the principal of good translation and it will influence the result of translation and also the meaning. In translation process, besides changing the form we have to transfer the meaning. In linguistics, there is study that focused on meaning, it is semantic. In semantic point of view, we could analyze the result of translation by Instagram Machine Translation. We would know, if there are errors happened when transferring the meaning by analyzing the lexis in the result of translation *The Hindu* caption on his Instagram by using Instagram Machine Translation. This study focused on semantic errors in lexis that divided into confusion of sense relations and collocational error.

Considering the possibility of the translation of the news caption, thus this research was attempted to; (1) investigate the types of semantic error in lexis done by the machine translation. As mentioned before the data on this research were taken from *The Hindu's* Instagram caption.

Methodology

To many proposal writers, the method section is the most concrete, specific part of proposal (Creswell, 2009). The methods in this study will cover four points of discussion, namely research approach, the data source, method and technique of collecting data, and method and technique of analyzing data.

The data in this study were taken from *The Hindu's* Instagram Caption. This account has been verified by Instagram as an official account that sharing news on India and it has more than 1.7 million followers currently. The captions used as

the data were the captions which are posted from September 2020 until February 2021. The source language in English was translated into target language in Indonesian. The translation was done by the Instagram machine translation. The method of collecting the data in this research is direct observation method. It is observed directly through the caption and the translation which is done by Instagram machine translation. There were two techniques used in collecting the data. They are:

6. Reading. All the authors read the English version and Indonesian version captions.
7. Choosing. All the authors discussed the sentences represented the semantic error in lexis.

After the data collected, they were analyzed. The data analyzed were the results of the research. The obstacles in translating were analyzed. The techniques of analyzing the data followed three steps.

3. Note taking. The data represented the semantic errors noted by all the authors.
4. Analyzing and Categorizing. The semantic errors were categorized based on the theories proposed by James (1998).

Finding and Discussion

Confusion of Sense Relations

In the confusion of sense relations, there are four types; 1) Using general term for specific term, 2) Using too specific term for general term, 3) Using the less apt for two co-hyponyms and 4) Using a wrong one from a set of near-synonyms.

- 1) Using general term for specific term

Data 1



25.625 suka

the_hindu A goal scored in football is the highest form of sporting high. The crowd is on its feet, the striker is in his slice of heaven, team-mates are delirious and soul-numbing grief is the shroud that chokes the rivals. Football – the calisthenics between fast legs and a ball, the art that fuses the dodge and the sprint while a sphere beats the goalkeeper – lost its heart-beat when news broke that #DiegoMaradona passed away at 60, back home in Argentina.



25.625 suka

the_hindu Gol yang dicetak dalam sepak bola adalah bentuk tertinggi dari olahraga tinggi. Kerumunan ada di kaki, penyerang ada di irisan surga, rekan-rekan tim mengigau dan kesedihan mati rasa jiwa adalah kain kafan yang tersedak saingan. Sepak bola - kalistenika antara kaki cepat dan bola, seni yang menyatukan dodge dan sprint sementara lingkup mengalahkan penjaga gawang - kehilangan detak jantung ketika berita pecah bahwa #DiegoMaradona meninggal pada pukul 60, kembali ke rumah di Argentina Atlet hebat memaksakan kehendak mereka pada pertandingan dan Maradona berada di sana. Dia

Figure 1. The Hindu's post on 26th of November 2020

SL : The **crowd** is on its feet, the striker is in his slice of heaven, team-mates are delirious and soul-numbing grief is the shroud that chokes the rivals.

TL : **Kerumunan** ada di kaki, penyerang ada di irisan surge,

rekan-rekan tim mengigau dan kesedihan mati rasa jiwa adalah kain kafan yang tersedak saingan.

(https://www.instagram.com/p/CICu8sZB6I/?utm_medium=copy_link on 26th of November 2020)

This translation has semantic errors in lexis and can be categorized as the confusion of sense relations in choosing the general term for specific term. The target language used a general term for the result of translating the source language which has specific meaning. Based on Oxford learners dictionary, “*crowd*” in the source language means a large number of people gathered together in a public place, for example in the streets or at a sports game. Unfortunately, the Instagram machine translation failed to deliver the specific meaning of this type of people. In the target

language, according to KBBI Daring “*kerumunan*” means an irregular and temporary group of people. Thus, the meaning between “*crowd*” and “*kerumunan*” is not connected. In this context of Instagram caption “*Crowd*” means the large number of football fans (who watch the match in the stadium), but “*kerumunan*” means irregular people who gather together temporarily. This word is better replaced by the word of “*penonton*” which means the people watching the show, match, performance, entertainment, etc.

2) Using too specific term for general term

Data 2

the_hindu People in the Kashmir valley are finding unique ways to celebrate the start of 'chillai kalan', a local term for the 40-day period of harshest winter that begins annually from December 21. The 40-day chillai kalan is followed by the 'chillai khurd' and 'chillai bacha', which sees a rise in day temperatures.

Dozens of local tourists were seen thronging Baramulla's Drang tourist spot, around 40 km away from Srinagar, to witness the formation of very long icicles from water dripping from a hillock. Scores were seen taking selfies against the backdrop of the icicles, which are taller than humans.

The Kashmir valley is reeling under a cold wave as minimum temperatures hover around minus 6 degrees Celsius, freezing water taps and creating sheets of ice around the edges of most water bodies. According to the Meteorological Department, tourist hotspot Gulmarg is witnessing minimum temperature of around minus 10.6 degrees Celsius and Pahalgam is about minus 9.2 degrees Celsius. The department has predicted a further dip in the night temperature.

Click the link in bio to read more. 📍 Nissar Ahmad

Lihat semua 23 komentar

22 Desember 2020 • Lihat Terjemahan

the_hindu Orang-orang di lembah Kashmir menemukan cara-cara unik untuk merayakan awal 'chillai kalan', istilah lokal untuk periode 40 hari musim dingin paling keras yang dimulai setiap tahun dari Desember 21.. Chillai kalan 40 hari adalah diikuti oleh 'chillai khurd' dan 'chillai bacha', yang melihat

kenaikan suhu hari. Puluhan wisatawan lokal terlihat menembus tempat wisata Drang Baramulla, sekitar 40 km dari Srinagar, untuk menyaksikan pembentukan es yang sangat panjang dari air yang menetes dari bukit. Skor terlihat berfoto selfie

melawan latar belakang es, yang lebih tinggi dari manusia. Lembah Kashmir sedang mengguncang di bawah gelombang dingin karena suhu minimal melayang-layang sekitar minus 6 derajat Celcius, membekukan air PDAM dan membuat lembaran es di sekitar pinggiran sebagian besar tubuh air. Menurut Departemen Meteorologi, turis hotspot Gulmarg menyaksikan suhu minimal sekitar minus 10.6 derajat Celcius dan Pahalgam sekitar minus 9.2 derajat Celcius. Departemen telah memprediksi cocol lebih lanjut pada suhu malam. Klik link di bio untuk membaca selengkapnya. 📍 Nissar Ahmad

Lihat semua 23 komentar

22 Desember 2020 • Lihat Versi Asli

Figure 2. The Hindu's post on 22nd of December 2020

SL : Dozens of local tourists were seen **thronging** Baramulla's Drang tourist spot, around 40 km away from Srinagar, to witness the formation of very long icicles from water dripping from a hillock.

TL : Puluhan wisatawan lokal terlihat **menembus** tempat wisata Drang

Semantic error in lexis was shown in this data 2. It categorized as the confusion of sense relations in choosing too specific term for the general term. The target language used too specific meaning for translating the source language which has general meaning. Based on Oxford learners dictionary "thronging" in the source language means to go somewhere or be present somewhere in large numbers. Unfortunately, the Instagram machine translation failed to deliver the meaning of to be present in large numbers and

Baramulla, sekitar 40 km dari Sriagar, untuk menyaksikan pembentukan es yang sangat panjang dari air yang menetes dari bukit.

(https://www.instagram.com/p/CJGvVfgr7t/?utm_medium=copy_link on 22nd of December 2020)

translating it into "menembus". In the target language, according to KBBI Daring "menembus" means breakthrough (about ranks, defenses, and so on). Therefore, the meaning between "thronging" and "menembus" is different. "thronging" means the large number of tourists presents in the tourist spot in this post but "menembus" has specific meaning that tends to the way of how the local tourists be resent on the tourist spot, which is breaking through the cold area to witness the formation of icicles.

3) Using the less apt for two co-hyponyms

Data 3



7.174 suka

the_hindu Women block Rewari-Hisar railway track in Haryana's Charkhi Dadri as part of "rail roko" protest against the Centre's new agri laws called by the farmer unions.

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), an umbrella body of farmer unions which is spearheading the protest, last week had announced the nationwide rail blockade to press for its demand to repeal the legislations and had said that the agitation will be from 12 pm to 4 p.m.

#railroko #farmersprotests

Lihat semua 61 komentar

18 Februari · Lihat Terjemahan



7.174 suka

the_hindu Wanita memblokir rel kereta api Rewari-Hisar di Haryana Charkhi Dadri sebagai bagian dari "rail roko" protes terhadap undang-undang agri baru Centre yang disebut oleh serikat buruh tani. Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), badan payung serikat buruh tani yang sedang menombak protes, minggu lalu mengumumkan blokade rel nasional untuk menekan permintaan untuk mencabut legislasi dan mengatakan bahwa agitasi akan mulai pukul 12 pm ke 4 malam #railroko #farmersprotests

Lihat semua 61 komentar

18 Februari · Lihat Versi Asli

Figure 3. The Hindu's post on 18th of February 2021

SL : **Women** block Rewari-Hisar railway track in Haryana's Charkhi Dadri as part of "rail roko" protest against the Centre's new agri laws calls by the farmer unions.

TL : **Wanita** memblokir rel kereta api Rewari-Hisar di Haryana Charkhi

Data 3 in this research presented the example of semantic errors in lexis and categorized as the confusion of sense relations in choosing the less appropriate between two co-hyponyms. The target language used the less appropriate hyponyms for translating the source language which has better hyponym to deliver the right meaning of the source language. "Women" in the source language means a group of local women did the protest and blocked the railway track.

Dadri sebagai bagian dari "rail rook" protes terhadap undang-undang agri baru Centre yang disebut oleh serikat buruh tani.

(https://www.instagram.com/p/CLbWUkKL9cB/?utm_medium=copy_link on 18th od February 2021)

Unfortunately, the Instagram machine translation failed to deliver the meaning of "women" and choose the less appropriate co-hyponyms. In the target language, "wanita" means a single woman. The used of wanita" could not represent the "women" and could replace with "para perempuan lokal" because based on the context, "women" is plural and "para perempuan lokal" is the best phrase choice in order to point the local women.

4) Using a wrong one from a set of near-synonyms.

Data 4