

**THE TRANSLATION OF ENGLISH MODAL VERBS IN DAN
BROWN NOVEL *THE DA VINCI CODE* INTO INDONESIAN
KODE DA VINCI BY ISMA B. KOESALAMWARDI**



Research Paper

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by

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language is an important media in communication. By using it, man can express ideas, experiences, thoughts, wants, hopes, feelings and so on to each other. According to Wardaugh (1997: 3) language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication. Communication needs language. Moreover, communication itself is needed in human daily activities, because without communication human will not be able to interact each other well.

English is an international language that is used in many part of the world. It is widely used at any field, especially in science and technology are written in English. People should master English well, learn effectively, and understand it easily. By using English, people can get information about science and technology from the other countries. However, many people are not able to learn English. Based on the reason above, there are many efforts to translate them into Indonesian in order that Indonesian people know the information carried in English books. Related this case a translator is needed to make the communication easier.

Translation involves the process of transferring meaning from one text into another text, from the source language (SL) into the target language (TL). It is said that an appropriate translation is one which is able to produce language equivalence in the structure of the target language, in such away that the readers would not know that they are reading a translation. There are many

requirements that a translator should have in order to be able to produce a good and understandable translation.

Recently, translation works have developed increasingly. A translator is someone who transfers text. In making good translation, a translator must be able to transfer the writers thought or ideas from source language into target language, whether the language is in oral or written form. Nida states that a good translator should have the following criteria: (a) having complete knowledge of the source language (SL), (b) having complete knowledge of the target language (TL), (c) having an intimate acquaintance with the subject matter, and (d) having complete knowledge of the translation theory (1964: 145).

The Da Vinci Code novel is written in English. In order to help Indonesian people understand the story of the novel, Koesalamwardi has translated it into Indonesian entitled *Kode Da Vinci*. In this research the researcher is interested in analyzing the translation of English modal verbs that used in *The Da Vinci Code* novel. There are some ways to translate the English modal verbs found in the novel, for example:

- 1) SL: If Boston magazine **could** see me now.
TL: kalau saja Boston magazine **dapat** melihatku saat ini.
- 2) SL: And if I find which one of you provided that article, **I'll** have the consulate deport you.
TL: Dan jika saya tahu siapa diantara anda yang memberikan artikel ini, saya **akan** meminta konsulat untuk mendeportasinya.

From the examples above, it can be seen that there are many kinds of type English modal verb is translated into Indonesian based on each contexts. For example the English modal verb **could** has ability meaning. To translate English modal verb **could** the translator uses the word **dapat**. **Dapat** in target

language also explains the ability meaning as it is stated in the source language, and both represent equivalent meaning. While, English modal verb *will* the translator uses *akan*. This way of translation is appropriate since *will* in the source language has intentional meaning and *akan* in the above context also has intentional meaning.

Based on the phenomenon above, the writer is interested in analyzing the English-Indonesian translation of English modal verbs in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*. Thus, this research is entitled **“THE TRANSLATION OF ENGLISH MODAL VERBS IN DAN BROWN NOVEL “THE DA VINCI CODE” INTO INDONESIAN “KODE DA VINCI” BY ISMA B. KOESALAMWARDI.”**

B. Previous Study

The first previous study was conducted by Mustafia (2006), entitled “A Study on English-Indonesian Translation Variations of the Compound Nouns in Novel *Deck the Halls* and its Translation.” This research analyzes the variations of English compound nouns translated into Indonesian and determines whether the translation variations of English compound nouns are appropriate or not. The results of this research are; firstly, there are 10 translation variations of compound nouns in novel *Deck the Halls*. They are compound nouns that are translated into compound nouns, nouns, noun phrases, verbs, verb phrases, adjective, compound adjective prepositional phrases, acronyms and abbreviation, and the last variation is compound nouns are not translated. Secondly, there are the appropriateness and inappropriateness translation, from 199 data, there are 192 data belong to appropriate translations and 7 data belong to inappropriate translation.

The second previous study was done by Pramono (2006), entitled “The Translation of English Modal Verbs in Sandra Brown’s novel *Standoff* into Indonesian *Penyanderaan* by Kathleen Sw”. This research analyzed the translation strategies used by translator in translating English modal verbs into Indonesian. The results of this research are; first, there are five strategies used by the translator in translating the English modal verbs into Indonesian in *Standoff*, those are English modal verbs translated into modal verbs, adverbs, adjectives, verbs, and English modal verbs deleted or omitted. Secondly, there are differences of meaning of English modal verbs and its translation in the analyzed data. From the analysis, there are 8 meaning of English modal verbs in *Standoff* found in the data, they are; possibility meaning, ability meaning, permission meaning, certainty meaning, obligation meaning, prediction meaning, willingness meaning, and intention meaning.

While the writer has similar analyzing but the data and data source is different. In this research, the writer focuses on the translation strategies of English modal verbs and uses the novel as the data source.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the background of the study above, the writer formulates the problem of the study as follows:

1. What are the translation variations of English modal verbs in Dan Brown novel *The Da Vinci Code*?
2. What is the dominant translation variation of English modal verbs in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*?
3. What are the meanings of English modal verbs in *The Da Vinci Code*?

D. Limitation of the Problem

In the research, the writer analyzes the translation. The variations of translation English modal verb, the dominant translation variations of English modal verb and the meaning of English modal verbs in *The Da Vinci Code* novel and its translation.

This limitation is done in order to get the best result with sufficient energy time and finding. The term of English modal verbs refer to modal auxiliaries such as **can, could, may, might, must, should, will, would**, and **shall** in which these are as used by Pramono, 2006.

E. Objective of the Study

Based on the research problem, the writer has some the objective as follows.

1. To describe the translation variations used of English modal verb in Dan Brown novel *The Da Vinci Code*.
2. To know the dominant translation of English modal verbs in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*.
3. To describe the meaning of English modal verbs translated into Indonesian.

F. Benefits of the Study

From this research, the writer hopes that this study has benefit for the readers. Thus, the significance of this research may include the followings.

1. Theoretically

The writer hopes that this research can give the contribution in the development of knowledge, especially in translation study.

2. Practically

a. Teachers

The result of this research can be useful as additional information for teacher, especially in translation of English modal verbs.

b. Students

The result of this research can be used as additional knowledge to improve students' ability in translating English modal verbs.

G. Research Paper Organization

The writer organizes this paper into several chapters, namely:

CHAPTER I, introduction includes background of the study, previous study, problem of the study, limitation of the problem, objective of the study, benefit of the study, and research paper organization.

CHAPTER II, underlying theory it will discuss with the definition of translation, process of translation, types of translation, meaning in translation, modality, English modality, and Indonesian modality.

CHAPTER III discusses the research method. It consist of type of research, data and data source, object of the study, data collecting method, and technique collecting data.

CHAPTER IV discusses the result of the research. In this chapter, the writer will present the data analysis and discussion of the finding.

CHAPTER V is the last chapter. It consists of conclusion and suggestion.