

## TRANSLATION STRATEGY ON "LET IT GO" SONGS THAT WAS SUNG BY IDINA MENZEL WITH INDONESIAN VERSION

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to analyze the translation strategy at the word level used in the translation of the song in the animated movie "Let it go" from English into Bahasa Indonesia. The frequency with which each translation strategy is measured. The translation strategy for addressing disparate words at Word level proposed by Baker (1992) is applied as a framework for data analysis. The data for this study is the lyrics of the original song "Let it go" sung by Idina Menzel in the original movie produced by Walt Disney "Frozen" with a translation version of Indonesian. The result shows that the seven strategies proposed by Baker (1992), identified as used in this study. Translation strategies are translated by disappearances, translated by paraphrasing using unrelated words, and translations by cultural substitution.

Keywords: Translation lyrics, Translation strategies, "Let it go"

### INTRODUCTION

The most difficult translation is to translate a song either from source language into the target language or vice versa. This happens because an interpreter should pay attention to many factors such as syllables, conformity and so forth. Thus, the reproduction process will be more appropriate than the source language (SL) to be the target language (TL). And in reproducing, it must be based on the existing equality (Nida and Taber, 1982). The process of reproducing in the

nearest natural equivalence language of a source language message, first in meaning and second in terms of style is one of the things that must be done in translating a song. The song is part of the literature because the lyrics of the lyrics are also a form of poetry that will be more difficult to translate (Nida, 1964; Bassnett, 2002; Raffel, 1988; Newmark, 1991).

The song is a type of text written in the same pattern as

poetry, which by Nida (1964) is "poetry set to music". The translation of the song lyrics is very complicated because it requires translators to make a choice of words that match the number of tones, rhythms, music, and to find out the length of the song phrase (George, 2004). Song lyrics are written in a manner similar to poetry and the principles relating to poetry and translations can be considered as useful references for translation of a song. Poetry is written primarily to reveal the state of mind or reaction of a poet to the situation encountered by the poet rather than informing or telling a situation. To translate poetry, some scientists have proposed a strategy derived from several different perspectives. For example, seven strategies of Lefevere (1975) are considered as theories specifically proposed for the translation of poetry (Baker & Saldanha, 2011). Seven strategies proposed by Lefevere (1975, as quoted Bassnett, 2002) include: phonemic translation, literal translation, metric

translation, poetry into prose, rhythmic translation, empty version translation, and interpretation. For Raffel (1988), poetical translations are grouped into four broad types based on different target audiences, namely formal translations, interpretive translations, expansive translations, and imitative translations. Understanding the nature and theories relating to poetry might pave the way for the translation of song lyrics.

A great example of translation of song lyrics can usually be found in songs used in animated movies. Walt Disney Company is a leading production company, which has produced many remarkable animated movies, for decades, with songs specially composed for the movies. In these movies, the song is the central idea and the popularity of the movie has resulted in the popularity and success of his own songs (Hischak & Robinson, 2009). These songs play an important role in storytelling because it helps the audience to understand the

emotions and feelings of the character (Edmondson, 2013). The most popular version of Walt Disney's song is "Let It Go" sung by Idina Menzel who is also the voice of Elsa, one of the characters in the movie "Frozen." In fact, the song is also popularized as "Theme Song" for The movie is sung by Demi Lovatto.

The appeal and success of the dubbed version of the song, as in Walt Disney songs, is due to an effective translation process. The translated version of the song that can attract the attention of audiences should be as beautiful and inspiring as the original. To make the translated version sound as if it were originally written in the target language is the key point of the translation. This can only be done through the use of grammatical construction and appropriate words in the target language (Larson, 1998).

Researchers put an emphasis on exploring song lyrics at the word level that should give more insight

into how an interpreter uses words in the translated version. A word is a small but complicated unit in a language that can be a major step in understanding the nature of a particular language and it is necessary to understand the meaning of a word or a set of words in translation To achieve natural language in the target text, it is necessary to follow certain steps; Given the potential meaning of words, finding the meaning of words in context, finding the potential equivalent in the target language and selecting the optimal equation. For the translation of song lyrics, therefore, translation equivalence becomes an important approach to accomplishing the task.

There are several viable strategies for achieving equality in translation at the word level. Among these strategies, a proven valuable framework was proposed by Baker (1992). According to Baker (1992), eight translation strategies would be useful in dealing with non-equivalents at the

word level, ie translations with more general words (superordinate), translated in more neutral / less expressive, translations by cultural substitution, Loan word or loan word plus explanation, translation with paraphrase using related words, paraphrased translations using unrelated words, translation with disappearances, and translations with illustrations. The framework under Baker (1992) appears to be the most appropriate framework for proposing incompatibility in text that has limited space as in the expression of the song. When it comes to specific hsl culture or newly introduced concepts in song lyrics, a translation using the loan word or loan word plus annotations can be applied. The use of translations by paraphrasing using related words, or paraphrasing using unrelated words gives a reasonable way to choose the right words. In short, Baker (1992) equality at the word level can be applied to find possible equations to make choice of words that match the number of tones,

rhythms, music, and length of song phrases.

The purpose of this study, therefore, is to analyze the application of translation strategies to address unity at the word level, based on the Baker framework (1992), in the translation of the song "Let it Go" in the movie "Frozen" into Bahasa Indonesia. What the researcher wants to analyse is the song in the movie only and not the song sung by Anggun because they have different translations. This research is expected to provide valuable information regarding the study of translation of song lyrics. Research Objectives The study was conducted to analyze translation strategies to address inequality at the word level based on the Baker (1992) framework in the translation of the song in the Walt Disney animated movie from English into Bahasa Indonesia. It is claimed by Baker (1992) that professional translators handle several types of non-equality by implementing the

following strategies. Eight translation strategies, according to Baker (1992), include translations with more general words (superordinate), translated with more neutral / less expressive words, translations by cultural

### **METHOD**

The method used in analyzing the enforcement strategy on the song "Let it go" is the content analysis method. The content analysis method will analyze the contents of both "Let it go" songs both in English and in Indonesian (Krippendorf, 2004: 25). Thus, the authors will use a qualitative approach (Kothari, 2004: 5, Cresswell, 2003: 14). Therefore, in analyzing translation strategies on the song "Let it go", the researchers did not use statistical data.

The translation strategy used by translators in the Indonesian version of the lyrics of the Walt Disney animated movie was analyzed using a framework based on Baker's (1992) translation strategy.

substitution, translations using loan or loan words plus annotations, translations By paraphrase Using related words, translated by paraphrase by using unrelated words, translated by negligence, and translation by illustration.

### **RESULTS**

#### **Translation with Disappearance**

Translation with disappearance is a translation strategy whereby words that are not in Indonesian or not in accordance with Bahasa Indonesia will be omitted. In this case, the translator will analyze one verse in another verse both in English and in Bahasa Indonesia. In the first verse, it appears that the translator of the song eliminates the adjective "white" because it will instead make an additions to the notations. Therefore, the notations will be longer. When added with "putih" for "white" there will be two syllables added in Indonesian which will also make the lyrics longer. In English the word "White" has a syllable to support the song. And, in the Indonesian lyrics there is also the disappearance of the word "mountain."

In addition, there is the disappearance of the word "heaven" which can also mean

heaven or "heaven" which can mean "God." However, in the next lyrics there is the omission of the word. This is due to the existing syllogic syllification. There is also a disappearance in the next lyrics of the word "slam the door" or when translated into Indonesian is "membanting pintu." However, the phrase is also omitted and there is only translation in the previous sentence, ie "turn away" or "menjauh."

The disappearance still occurs after the chorus, where there is the word "can not get to me at all" (can not approach me). It is omitted because it will also add to the tribal syllables when translated "can not approach me" will have 9 syllables that will make the song very unsuitable. Then in the next refrain where the lyrics are also different, there is the omission of the word "sky". Thus, there is only the word "air" in the existing song lyrics. The disappearance also occurs still in the second chorus where the translator removes the form of the two single persons on "you'll never" replaced only on "Ku takkan menangis. Then, still on the chorus there is also a sentence "here I stay" is omitted.

### **Translating by paraphrasing using unrelated words**

In addition to the disappearance of existing words, there is also a replacement of words that are not related to its true meaning. This is done to weigh the nit and also the syllables in the song. In the Iirik there is also a paraphrase that is not related to the actual song lyrics. In the song, should the person who sings the song feel strange with himself where all the distance is very small. However, in the Indonesian language lyrics, it is made as if the characters are making trouble away. It is very different from the intent that is in the song where the distance makes the character can stay away from problems that exist. It can be seen in the lyrics: "It's funny how some distance makes everything seem small" to "Kubuat jarak menjauh." Thus, it can be concluded that the lyrics are not related to the intent of the song.

### **Translation by cultural substitution**

Translation by means of cultural substitution is the most widely used in the translation of the song "Let It Go" sung by Idina Menzel translated into Bahasa Indonesia. This happens because there are cultural differences even natural conditions that occur between the original song and the

translation. For example, in the form of snow. In the realm of Indonesia, there is no snow but, the translator really wanted the song to have a taste for the listener. In addition, there are some weighing because it is still related to the existing notation on the song.

It is seen in the early lyrics of the song "The snow glows of white on the mountain tonight" which translates to " Salju berkilau merenda malam." In the original lyrics it appears that what should be translated is how the snowy image became white on the mountain that night. This happens because of the moonlight that illuminates the snow so it will become whiter. However, in the lyrics of the translation there is the word "crochet night" so that the meaning will be far from expected. And in the picture of the son of an Indonesian princess who never experiences snow will think of the night crochet picture.

## DISCUSSION

Based on these finding, translations with substantial reductions or adjustments are the easiest translation strategies for which the translation can be appreciated by Indonesian children. In this research. There is the removal of subject pronouns, object pronouns, conjunctional coordinates, fillers,

adjectives and adjectives, noun or noun phrases, prepositional phrasing, and recurrent words or phrases. The pronouns of the subject and the object of the sentence are omitted at most in every phrase of the song. It is understandable that the disappearance of a noun and an object's pronoun usually occurs within the context of the target language.

Other words that appear in the lyrics of the song are also often omitted. This is because the filler words do not contain any special meaning to the target text; Therefore, the text is not translated to the target text. For coordinate conjunctions, these words are often ignored because they may not be sufficiently important for the development of the target text. The application of translation by omission by content words such as adverbs, adjectives, nouns, noun phrases, or prepositional phrases is that these words have no special meaning for the development of the target text. The application of translation by paraphrasing using unrelated words was found several times in this study. The song is intended to entertain the audience, the lyrics are meant to please the ears of the listeners, and therefore, paraphrasing strategies can not be avoided to create the right words. It is the

intent of the translator to use words that are different from the original lyrics but they can still transfer the same message as the original text to be conveyed. When it comes to cultural matters, translations using words appropriate to Indonesian conditions are also used, such as the use of the word snow.

Translation by paraphrase using related words is also used several times in this study. The change of form or function of a word is meant to make the translation version sound like a language used in real life. The nature of the language in the text of translation is the central concept of translation. As Larson (1998) points out, the use of natural grammatical construction and appropriate words in the target language is crucial in translating each text. For translation with more general words (super ordinate), the strategy is not often found in research because there are not many specific terms that require the application of translation with more general words. According to Baker (1992), the use of common words helps overcome the lack of certain words in the target language.

For cultural substitution, the strategy is used according to the different socio-cultural context between the source text and the target text. This substitution of culture will

greatly help the target audience to understand the original notion and text message. The application of cultural substitution is not widely found in this study.

## CONCLUSION

Discussion The findings of this study reveal that subject and object pronouns are often ignored in song lyrics. This finding is supported by the study of Wisedsook (2002) as subject pronouns and objects that can be ignored in translation of song lyrics. One of the few factors that causes the removal of a noun and an object's pronoun is limited space in the expression of a song. It also states that this negligence can be done if it does not cause confusion for the target audience. In a study of the translation of song lyrics by Akerstrom (2009), it was found that paraphrasing strategy is the most commonly used translation strategy. The use of excellent translations with Akerstrom paraphrase (2009) is rather consistent with the findings of this study. This is because, the paraphrasing of translations using unrelated words and paraphrased translations using related words was found at high frequencies in this study. As the lyrics, the song is written in the same pattern as poetry.

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