

# TRANSLATION EQUIVALENCE OF SONG LYRICS *FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE AND REFLECTION* (A Content Analysis Study)

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## ABSTRACT

*This research focuses are to analyze the translation equivalence and types of equivalence which occur in the song lyrics For the Rest of My Life and Reflection from English into Indonesian language. The writer uses documentation as the data of the research and uses content analysis as the research design. The result of research, as follows (1) For the song lyrics For The Rest of My Life, the meaning of equivalence with the different meaning category (FM) which is as much as 17 or 68%, there is no result value for rising meaning (RM) category, and for down meaning category (DM) as much as 6 or 24% appearances. Meanwhile, for non-equivalent, the missing meaning (MM) category as much as 1 or 4%; and for different meaning category (DM) as much as 17 or 68% appearances. Therefore, it can be concluded that the most appearance occurs on the different meaning (DM) category. (2) For the song lyrics Reflection, meaning of equivalence with the down meaning category (FM) which is as much as 15 or 51,7%, meanwhile there is no result value for full and rising meaning (RM) category. Meanwhile For non-equivalent, the missing meaning (MM) category as much as 1 or 3,4%, and for different meaning category (DM) as much as 13 or 44,8% appearances. Therefore, it can be concluded that the most appearance occurs on the down meaning (DM) category. In short, based on the data of analysis, either from the song lyrics For The Rest of my Life and Reflection then types of equivalence that occurs on the translation result on two the song are Dynamic Equivalence.*

**Keyword:** *Content Analysis, Equivalence, Lyrics, Translation.*

## INTRODUCTION

Songs are the oldest culture that humans have. In the past, the song itself could be the way of a cultured person. Because song has a high value and culture, for people who understand the use of the song itself. Even now, songs are still used as sacred things or a way to express someone's feelings. In Another hand, songs

are messages, poems, words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and expressions of a person written in the form of lyrics and conveyed through a song. In the translation theory, Song is cannot be translated into another language easily because lyrics that contains in a song have to has a meaning that appropriate to the songwriter's hoped way conveyed by a singer. In this

background of the research, the writer analyzes translation equivalence on two song lyrics title *For the Rest of My Life* and *Reflection* from English into Indonesian language, where there exists equivalence and non-equivalence on two of the song lyrics. In this research, English use as source language and Indonesian language as target language.

### **Equivalence and Type of Equivalence**

Equivalence can be defined as the level of equivalence between the meaning and style of the translated text (SL) and the source text (TL), this statement is stated again by Pym, that Equivalence can be seen as a concept in translation where the translation result (TL), namely the target language, has the same value as the source text (SL), namely the source language (Pym, 2014). In Addition, Reiss (1983) defines that “equivalence as achieving the same functionality of the target text (TT) compared to the source text (ST), and later in terms of the relation of linguistic signs in two different linguistic communities.”

Suchanova defines that equivalence as “a translation that reproducing in the target language (TL) and produces a closest natural equivalent of the source language (SL) message which conveyed in the target language,” and in the Target language also a transferring a message from ST to TT

which assumes an equal understanding of content and style (Suchanova, 2013, p. 156)

From some of the opinions above, it can be stated that equivalence is a process in translation in finding equivalent the source language into the target language that closest and natural and keep notice style and culture from the source language. It means that meaning of the message from the source language which is conveyed in the target language is not different or misunderstood. In the other hand, not all languages can be translated and said commensurate.

In correlation of the type of equivalence, Nida argued that there are two different types of equivalence, namely formal equivalence which is in the second edition by Nida and Taber is referred to as formal correspondence or formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence. (Nida and Taber, 1982)

#### **1. Formal Equivalence**

Formal equivalence refers to the maximum equivalence that exists in a word or phrase in the source language. This is reiterated by Nida and Taber, there is always a formal equivalence between two languages, namely the source language and the target language. Therefore, Nida and Taber suggest that formal equivalents are used when translation aims to get a truly formal equivalent rather than a dynamic

equivalent. This has a serious impact on the target language (TL) because the translation will not be easily understood by the reader. Nida and Taber themselves stated that formal equivalence generally forms the grammatical patterns and styles of the target language, therefore it can change the message or meaning conveyed to the reader because the reader will experience very difficulties to understand the message conveyed into the target text/language. (Nida 1982: 200-2001)

## 2. Dynamic Equivalence

Dynamic equivalence translation is an activity in translation to find the closest natural equivalence in the target language (TL). The equivalent must have the closest meaning to the meaning of the source language (SL), especially in the context of SL language and culture. To maintain meaning, the translator must make adjustments both in the fields of phonology, morphology, syntax, and language style that are in TL. This method of translation is called dynamic equivalent. This is supported by Nida that in order to achieve dynamic equivalence, the translator must pay attention to who is the prospective reader of the translation. The target language reader (TL) has an important role, because a translation is said to be equivalent if the response from the target reader is satisfactory and understands what

the source language is conveying (SL) (Nida, 1974: 494). In this case, the response of the target language reader (TL) should be the same when the reader is reading in the source language (SL).

## Translation Equivalence

According to Hoed (in Machali 2000: 11) "Equivalence is a shape of conformity of the content of the source text message with the target text". Because, equivalence is a core part of translation theory and practice because the purpose of translation process namely is finding equivalents of source language, so that the meaning of that could be conveyed in target language based that expected of the reader of target text.

Therefore, according (Hildayani, Emzir, Ekowati 2019) in Eugene A. Nida (1982: 13) stated that "A careful translator will want the equivalent that is closest to as natural as possible". In addition, there are several theory about equivalence include formal and dynamic equivalents, lexical and grammatical equivalents, and pragmatic equivalents (Baker, 2018).

In addition to the types of equivalence that have been put forward by him, namely formal equivalence, dynamic equivalent, lexical equivalent, grammatical equivalent, and pragmatic equivalent. Others which divide the different types of equivalents in each level, words or syllable,

phrases, grammar, text and pragmatics. (Mona Baker, 1992).

According to Vinay and Darbelnet in Yasin Aslan (2016) view equivalence-oriented in the translation as a procedure which “replicates the same things as in the original, whilst using completely different wording” (quoted in Kenny, 1998, p. 342). They also suggest that, if this procedure is applied during the translation process, it can maintain the stylistic impact of the SL text in the TL text, which one according to them namely equivalent.

It can be concluded that equivalence or equivalence is very crucial and must be considered in translation. Because, without exists an equivalent, the message from the source language will not be delivered as expected well in the translation result through the translation process namely from English into the Indonesian language. Because a good translation is a translation result in the target language or at least is close to the meaning that is meant by the source language delivered into the target text through the translation process, As a result, the message of the target text could understand by the reader

### **Definition of Song**

In general, a song is a form of someone's expression that is poured out through writing or poetry and conveyed

accompanied by tones, rhythms, so as to form beautiful singing.

Who is does not know about music or usually called song, it could give feeling quiet to the listener and make the listener become happy and keep listening even till the listener feeling free and sleeps. Therefore, mostly the people in the world certainly like with song even almost all of the people in the world like it.

Music is the feeling of the heart human expressed in form a regular sound in a melody or rhythm and has a beautiful element or harmony (Sunarko, 1985: 5).

Musical term known from the Greek that is *musike* (Hardjana, 1983: 5-6). *Musike* comes from said *muse-muse*, namely the nine Greek gods under the god Apollo who protected the arts and science. In methodology Old Greek has a meaning the life that occurs comes from the generosity of the gods manifested as talent.

Campbell (2002: 80) says "Music" is called miraculous because of his ability to make connections the taste between every human heart through the rhythm, voice and tone ".

Music or song is a manifestation of one's feelings. Music is a science or compose tones or sounds in sequences, combinations, and temporal relationships to produce a composition (sound) that has unity and continuity, besides that, music

can also be interpreted as a composed tone or sound in such a way that it contains rhythm, song, and harmony (especially which uses tools that can produce these sounds) (Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan, 1995: 602).

According to Hornby (2000: 873), Music is sounds that are arranged in a way that is pleasant or exciting to listen to. So the art of music is the expression of feelings or thoughts spark which issued regularly in the form of sound. Sound is the most basic element of music. The sound of good music is the result of the interaction of three elements: rhythm, melody, and harmony. Rhythm is sound settings in a time, long, short, and tempo, and this gives each its own character in music. A combination of pitch and rhythm will produce a certain melody. Furthermore, a good combination of rhythm and melody and harmony produces a beautiful sound when heard. According to Hornby (2000: 1281) said that "Song could be saying as short piece of music with words that you sing".

Song is a composition made up of lyrics and music, with the intent of the lyrics being sung, for the purpose of producing which is accordance feeling or emotion in relation to a particular matter". It means song is a composition of lyrics that is contained in music which one the

purpose to produce a proportionate feeling or emotion (Guerra, 2015).

From some of the opinions above, it can be stated that the song is a literary work. In other words, a song is a result of a person's feelings or emotions conveyed in a lyric, rhythm, rhyme, poem, or the like.

## **METHOD**

The writer determines to use qualitative approaches, and focuses on content analysis as a method with descriptive statistics to explain the results of data processing based on the frequency of occurrence of the meaning of equivalence (equivalent & non-equivalent), then the last conclude the results of the research

The writer uses documentation to collect the data will analysis. The object of this research is in the form of lyric as documentation and also as object in this research.

The method of collecting data namely by heed and note method with the process of reading and re-reading of both song from English into Indonesian then note or copying the data by re-writing the text or both song lyrics according to their respective languages, and group data in the form of target text according to the source text in the column provided, and then re-

check so that each text already accordance with their column.

## DISCUSSION

### 1. Result of Translation Equivalence in the Lyric *For The Rest of My Life*

Below is the table of result of translation equivalence in the lyric *The Rest of My Life*

Table 3.1 result of translation equivalence in the lyric *The Rest of My Life*

No	Equivalence	Frequency	Percent age
	Equivalent		
1	Full meaning	1	4%
2	-	-	-
3	Down meaning	6	24%
	<b>Non-equivalent</b>		
1	Missing meaning	1	4%
2	Different meaning	17	68%
	Total	25	100%

From the data above, it could be seen that occurs of the meaning of equivalence with the full meaning category (FM) which is as much as 1 or 4% meanwhile for rising meaning category there is no value on the data analysis result on the table, and for down meaning category (DM) which is 6 or 24% time appearances. Meanwhile for non-equivalent of the meaning consists of missing meaning category (MM) and different meaning (DM) category. For the category of missing

meaning (MM) namely as much as 1 or 4%, and for different meaning category (DM) it has the same value with different meaning category as much as 17 or 68% appearances. Therefore, from several of the data above, it can be concluded that the most appearance occurs on the different meaning category (DM).

### 2. Result of Translation Equivalence in the Lyric *Reflection*

Below is the table of result of translation equivalence in the lyric *Reflection*

Table 3.2 result of translation equivalence in the lyric *Reflection*

No	Equivalence	Frequency	Percent age
	Equivalent		
1	Full meaning	-	-
2	-	-	-
3	Down meaning	15	51,7%
	<b>Non-equivalent</b>		
1	Missing meaning	1	3,4%
2	Different meaning	13	44,8%
	Total	29	99%

From the data above, it could be seen that there is no occur an appearing on the full meaning and rising meaning category. Therefore, there is no value for full meaning and rising meaning category. For the down meaning category (DM)

which is as much as **15 or 51,7%** meanwhile for non-equivalent consists of missing meaning category (MM) and different meaning (MB) category. For the missing meaning (MM) which is as much as **1 or 3,4%**, and for different meaning (DM), **13 or 44,8%**. Therefore, from several of the data above, it can be concluded that the most appearance occurs on the down meaning category (DM).

Based on the data analysis result in the discussion of this research, it could be concluded that most texts on the song lyrics *For the Rest of My Life* and *Reflection* is not appropriate on the translation result of the Indonesian language, and also there is no equivalence between the source language and target language. In another hand, the translator many changes, adding, and, reduce either from words, phrases, syllables, meaning, and its equivalence of the translation that transferred from English that roles as the source text/language and Indonesia language that roles as the target text/language either viewed from the grammatical and syllable.

Therefore, based on the data of analysis result on the table, either from the song lyrics *For The Rest of my Life* and *Reflection* then types of equivalence that occurs on the translation result on two the song are *Dynamic Equivalence*.

## CONCLUSION

1. Based on the first data analysis on the table for the song lyrics *For The Rest of My Life*. It could be concluded that mostly appearing and occurs on different meaning categories. It could be seen that the appearance of meaning of equivalence with the different meaning category (FM) which is as much as **17 or 68%**, meanwhile there is no result value for rising meaning (RM) category, and for down meaning category (DM) as much as **6 or 24%** appearances.

Meanwhile For non-equivalent of the meaning are consists of missing meaning category (MM) and different meaning (DM) category. For missing meaning (MM) category as much as **1 or 4%**, and for different meaning category (DM) as much as **17 or 68%** appearances. Therefore, from several of the data above, it can be concluded that the most appearance occurs on the different meaning (DM) category.

2. Based on the first data analysis on the table for the song lyrics "*Reflection*". It could be concluded that mostly appearing and occurs on down meaning categories. It could be seen that the appearance of meaning of equivalence with the down meaning category (FM) which is as much as **15 or 51,7%**, meanwhile there is no result value for

full and rising meaning (RM) category. Meanwhile For non-equivalent of the meaning are consists of missing meaning category (MM) and different meaning (DM) category. For missing meaning (MM) category as much as **1** or **3,4%**, and for different meaning category (DM) as much as **13** or **44,8%** appearances.

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