

**TRANSLATION TECHNIQUES AND ITS READABILITY OF THE
TRANSLATION OF THE *AMERICAN SNIPER* MOVIE**

A Graduating Paper

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Gaining
the Bachelor Degree in English Literature**



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A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

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Saya menyatakan bahwa skripsi tersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang Munaqasyah untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.

Atas pertimbangannya, saya ucapkan terima kasih.

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MOTTO

“Everything not saved will be lost.”

-Nintendo ‘Quit Screen’ message-



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DEDICATION

The researcher dedicates this paper to:

The researcher's two loving parents and beloved little sister

All of researcher's friends in English Department of UIN Sunan Kalijaga



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TRANSLATION TECHNIQUES AND ITS READABILITY OF THE TRANSLATION OF THE *AMERICAN SNIPER* MOVIE

By: Adnan Nur Afwan

ABSTRACT

The aim of this research is to identify the translation techniques proposed by Molina and Albir and classify the readability of the translation proposed by Nababan in the English-Indonesian translation of the dialogues in *American Sniper* movie. This movie tells about Chris Kyle, a sniper in the Iraq war. This research is a qualitative research and use documentation as data collection techniques. The data used in this research is the transcription from the English-Indonesian subtitle of the *American Sniper* movie. The result of this research is there are 10 out of 18 translation techniques by Molina and Albir found in this movie. The highest number of the technique is reduction technique with the 39.5% of data, followed by literal translation technique with 29.1% of data, established equivalent technique with 10.4% of data, description technique with 5.2% of data, pure borrowing technique with 5.2% of data, transposition technique with 3.7% of data, linguistic compression technique with 2.2% of data, modulation technique with 2.2% of data, particularization technique with 1.4% of data, and generalization technique with 1.2% of data. The number of the readability in the translation is 110 of high, 10 of medium, and 4 of low. Therefore, the subtitle can be said as a readable subtitle.

Keywords: *Translation Technique, Readability, Subtitle, Movie*

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TEKNIK- TEKNIK PENERJEMAHAN DAN KETERBACAAN DALAM TERJEMAHAN FILM *AMERICAN SNIPER*

Oleh: Adnan Nur Afwan

ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi teknik-teknik penerjemahan menurut teori Molina dan Albir, dan tingkat keterbacaan menurut teori Nababan dalam terjemahan percakapan Inggris-Indonesia film *American Sniper*. Film ini berkisah tentang Chris Kyle, penembak jitu dalam perang Irak. Jenis penelitian ini adalah kualitatif dan menggunakan dokumentasi sebagai teknik pengumpulan data. Data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah transkrip takarir dari terjemahan Inggris-Indonesia film *American Sniper*. Dalam penelitian ini ditemukan 10 dari 18 teknik penerjemahan Molina dan Albir. Data paling tinggi adalah teknik reduksi dengan 39,5% data, diikuti teknik penerjemahan literal dengan 29,1% data, teknik membangun padanan dengan 10,4% data, teknik deskripsi dengan 5,2% data, teknik peminjaman murni dengan 5,2% data, teknik transposisi dengan 3,7% data, teknik kompresi linguistik dengan 2,2% data, teknik modulasi dengan 2,2% data, teknik partikularisasi dengan 1,4% data, dan teknik generalisasi dengan 1,2% data. Dalam tingkat keterbacaan dari terjemahan takarir film ini terdapat 110 data dari keterbacaan tinggi, 10 data keterbacaan sedang, dan 4 data keterbacaan rendah. Terjemahan film ini dapat dikatakan sebagai terjemahan dengan keterbacaan tinggi.

Kata Kunci: *Teknik Penerjemahan, Keterbacaan, Takarir, Film*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Language is an essential aspect of life, and it is widely used to communicate on a daily basis. It is not impossible that every language has its own literary works such as movies, novels, poems, etc. This will be difficult for people from other languages to understand if they want to study literary works with a language they are not familiar with. So, there is a technique called translation to help people to understand other languages.

Translation is the process of translating words from one language into another language. We can find this process in our daily life, such as in movies, novels, even in a newspaper. Newmark (1988:5) defines translation as “*Rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text.*”.

The fact that not everyone is fluent in every language, a new problem occurs. For example, in Indonesia, people use the Indonesian language to communicate things on daily basis because not all of them are familiar with other languages, English for example. So, in order to understand English well, they need someone to translate the content from English into Indonesian.

Translation itself has been applied to written and spoken language, such as translation of novel, comic, and movie subtitle. Many literary works such as novels, short stories, poems, and movies that use English or other foreign languages published in Indonesia have been translated into Indonesian.

The most common translation that can be found in daily life is movie translation. According to Szarkowska (2005), there are two kinds of translation that can be found in the movie: dubbing and subtitling. Dubbing can be defined as replacing the spoken language from the source language to the target language. While subtitling is a conversion process from spoken language into text form in movie, video, or television dialogue, with the aim that the viewer can inspect the original source language from the movie to understand the story.

As technology advances, so does the tool for making the translation process easier. For example, the subtitle translator may use Google Translate to help in the translation of subtitles from the source language into the target language. Apart from the advantages, the output of this translation usually ignores the context of the subtitle's meaning from the source language, so the final output of the translation sometimes not readable in the target language. For example, the *American Sniper* movie. This might be a problem since some military terms in this movie require the reader to understand the context to comprehend the translation fully.

In analyzing the translation, the researcher uses the transcribed subtitle that has been translated into Indonesian by the account name of *Lovebird* that has 'green' verified and also translates several movies subtitle that can be downloaded on subscene.com. This translator is also the one who translates the Indonesian version of the *American Sniper* movie.

In this research, the researcher is interested in analyzing movie subtitles using translation technique proposed by Molina and Albir. The researcher chooses this theory because it is suitable to analyze the translation of the subtitle. In addition,

the researcher also applied the readability assessment proposed by Nababan to determine the readability of the translation.

Below is one example of data that was collected from both English and Indonesian subtitle transcriptions of *American Sniper* movie.

SL: “I got a military-age male...”

TL: “Ada pria usia militer...”

From the selected data above, the translator uses the literal translation technique to translate the phrase in the target language. The phrase ‘any military-age male who is still here...’ in the source language is translated as ‘setiap pria usia militer yang masih disini’ in the target language. In the data above, the translator uses word-for-word translation in order to translate the subtitle in the source language into the target language. According to the readability assessment proposed by Nababan, the translation of the subtitle above can be classified as medium readability translation.

From the sample of analysis above, it is proven that the translation technique proposed by Molina and Albir and the readability assessment by Nababan is suitable to analyze the English-Indonesian subtitle translation of *American Sniper* movie.

1.2. Research Question

Based on the explanation in the background of study, the researcher formulates the question as follows:

1. What are the translation techniques by Molina and Albir used in the subtitle of the *American Sniper* movie?
2. How is the readability of the translation of the *American Sniper* movie?

1.3. Objective of Study

The main objects of this research are listed as follows:

1. To find out the translation techniques proposed by Molina and Albir used in the English-Indonesian translation of the *American Sniper* movie
2. To find out the readability of the translation of the dialogues in the *American Sniper* movie.

1.4. Significance of Study

Theoretically, this paper aims to study the translation techniques theory proposed by Molina and Albir used in the *American Sniper* movie. The translation technique that is proposed by Molina and Albir, which is used to analyze the translation of the English-Indonesian subtitle of the movie, is a suitable theory to analyze the translation. This research also explains the translation quality assessment proposed by Nababan to determine the readability of the English-Indonesian subtitle of the *American Sniper* movie.

Practically, this paper can help readers or researchers learn translation techniques, particularly translation technique proposed by Molina and Albir used in the English-Indonesian translation of the movie subtitle. This paper can also help the readers or the researchers understand the readability translation assessment

proposed by Nababan in the English-Indonesian subtitle of the *American Sniper* movie.

1.5. Literature Reviews

The analysis used by the researcher in this research is a translation technique that the translator uses in the subtitle of *American Sniper* movie. There are several studies related to this research. The previous research focused on analyzing translation techniques and the accuracy of the translation.

The first journal is entitled *Translation Technique Analysis of English-Indonesian Manual Book of Smartfren Andromax* by Yosef Lumen Christy SS from English Department, Semarang State University, 2016. This research investigates and explains what types of translation techniques are applied in the Manual Book of Smartfren Andromax. This research uses a qualitative method. The researcher finds 2 data or 1.42% of Adaptation, 4 data or 2.84% of Amplification, 84 data or 59.57% of Pure Borrowing, 9 data or 6.38% of Naturalization Borrowing, 4 data or 2.83% of Calque, 1 data or 0.71% of Generalization, 18 data or 12.77% of Literal Translation, 4 data or 2.84 of Description, and 10 data or 7.09 % of invalid data.

The second journal is entitled *The Use of Molina And Albir Translation Techniques and Its Effect on Quality Translation of Idhafi Matan Hadits Arba'in An-Nawawi* by Muhammad Irfan Faturrahman from Arabic Language and Literature, Ahmad Dahlan University, 2020. The researcher uses qualitative methods that are presented descriptively in the form of written or oral words. The researcher finds there are 64 Literal data translation, 25 data Amplification, 21 data

Amplification technique, 12 data Adaptation technique, 6 data Compensation technique, 2 data Discursive Creation technique, 2 data Reduction technique, 1 data Generalization technique, 1 data Modulation technique, 1 data Transposition technique. The researcher uses questionnaires as the assessment of the quality of translation. From 37 respondents, the researcher concluded that readers could better understand the quality of translation using compensation technique in the target language with an assessment of 81% very accurate, 73% acceptable, and 77% rated high legibility.

Next, the third journal entitled *Translation techniques in and Accuracy of The Indonesian Subtitles of the Movie Philomena* proposed by Muhammad Abdul Latif from English Department, Faculty of Language and Arts, State University of Semarang, 2018. The researcher uses descriptive qualitative to describe the translation techniques and the accuracy of the dialogue found in the *Philomena* movie. This study aims to find out the translation techniques in the movie and the accuracy of the Indonesian subtitle in the dialogue. The researcher finds that there are eighteen translation technique used in the Indonesian subtitle. They are Literal Translation, Reduction, Amplification, Established Equivalent, Linguistic Compression, Borrowing, Transposition, Calque, Compensation, Modulation, Particularization, Discursive Creation, Linguistic Amplification, Generalization, Adaptation, Substitution, Description, and Variation. And the accuracy level is 97.89%.

The fourth journal is entitled *Translation Techniques and Equivalence in the Indonesian Translation of Humor in Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*,

proposed by Issy Yuliasari and Rudi Hartono from State University of Semarang. The researcher uses descriptive qualitative. The purpose of this research is to reveal the translation techniques used by Indonesian translators in translating the novel and how they result in the equivalence of the humor. The researcher found that the dominant translation techniques used in translation humor were Literal Translation (35.5%), Linguistic Amplification (10.7%), Modulation (9.9%), Generalization (9.1%), and Amplification (8.3%). The researcher also found that some of the humor was successfully rendered but some was reduced and/or even gone.

And the last is a thesis entitled *An Analysis of Translation Technique Used in Journey to Mecca Movie* by Diah Prima Fajarwati from the English Department, State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga, 2019. This research aims to identify and classify the translation techniques by Molina and Albir and the accuracy of the translation proposed by Nababan in the English-Indonesian translation of Journey to Mecca movie. The researcher used qualitative methods and documentation as a data collection technique. The researcher finds that 11 of 18 translation techniques by Molina and Albir were used in this movie translation. The highest frequency of translation techniques is the Established Equivalent with 41.8% data, followed by Literal Translation with 18.8% data, Reduction with 10.26% data, Naturalized Borrowing with 7.7% data, Transposition with 6.6% data, Particularization and Description with 4.4% data in each technique, Amplification with 2.2% data, and the lowest frequency is Pure Borrowing, Generalization, and Modulation with 1.1% data in each technique.

This research has some similarities with previous studies. The similarities between this research and the previous research are this research uses translation technique proposed by Molina and Albir. In contrast, the difference between this research and the previous research is that this research uses the translation quality assessment proposed by Nababan to assess the readability of the translation in the *American Sniper* movie.

1.6. Theoretical Approach

According to the Cambridge dictionary, translation is the process of translating something from one language to another language. Translation can be used in any aspect, such as movie subtitles, novels, and newspapers. In this research, the researcher used translation techniques proposed by Molina and Albir to analyze the subtitle of the *American Sniper* movie. There are 18 translation techniques that are proposed by Molina Albir (2002:510-511). Those are:

- a) Adaptation is a technique that changes the cultural elements used in the source language with the one that exist in the target language.
- b) Amplification is a technique that adds detail of information that is not available in the source language, as long as it does not change the meaning.
- c) Borrowing is divided into naturalized borrowing and pure borrowing; Naturalized borrowing is a technique that adjust the word from the source language to make the meaning of the word fit the target language. In contrast, pure borrowing is a technique that purely borrows the word from the source language without any changes in the target language.

- d) Calque is a technique that uses a literal translation of a foreign word or phrase in the target language.
- e) Compensation is a technique that introduces the elements or information in the source language into the target language.
- f) Description is a technique that changes the term in the source language with the description in the target language.
- g) Discursive creation is a technique that displays equivalence that is unexpected or out of context.
- h) Established equivalence is a technique that recognizes the word from the source language equivalence in the target language.
- i) Generalization is a technique that uses more common words or phrases of the source language in the target language.
- j) Linguistic Amplification is a technique that adds linguistic elements in the target language.
- k) Linguistic Compression is a technique that compress the meaning of phrase from the source language into the target language.
- l) Literal translation is a technique that translates a word or an expression in the source language word for word, but the structure follows the rule of the target language.
- m) Modulation is a technique that changes the point of view of the phrases in the source language in the target language.
- n) Particularization is a technique that uses a more precise or concrete translation in the target language.

- o) Reduction is a technique that suppresses the information from the source language in the target language.
- p) Substitution is a technique that changes linguistic elements for paralinguistic elements (intonation or gestures).
- q) Transposition is a technique that changes the grammar of the source language into the grammar in the target language.
- r) Variation is a technique that changes linguistic or paralinguistic (intonation and gestures) that affect the variation of the linguist.

In addition, the researcher will categorize the translation of the subtitle into low readability translation, medium readability translation, and high readability translation using the translation quality assessment proposed by Nababan. Nababan classified the readability translation into three categories: low, medium, and high.

1.7. Methods of Research

A. Type of Research

The type of research is qualitative research. Qualitative research focuses on the description, analysis, and interpretation of a given phenomenon rather than the testing of hypotheses and correlations between variables (Creswell, 2013; Tavallaei & Talib, 2010). In this research, the researcher will analyze the English-Indonesian translation of subtitle transcription of the *American Sniper* movie. But in addition, this research displays quantitative data in order to

support the analysis of the qualitative data that the researcher found in the English-Indonesian subtitle of the *American Sniper* movie.

B. Data Sources

In qualitative research, there are two kinds of data, primary data, and secondary data. The primary data of this research was collected from the English-Indonesian subtitle transcription of the *American Sniper* movie. The researcher also collects data from some sources as secondary data such as books, journals, articles, the internet, and other studies that consider being relevant to this research.

C. Data Collection Technique

The data collection technique of this research is the documentation technique. Sugiono (2013:240), states that documentation technique “*Bisa berbentuk tulisan, gambar, atau karya-karya monumental dari seseorang*”. In qualitative research, documentation technique is used as a complement of observation method. The steps are: first, the researcher watches the *American Sniper* movie with English subtitles. After that, the researcher looks for the English subtitle script of the movie. The last is the researcher looks for the Indonesian subtitle script of the movie.

D. Data Analysis Technique

The data analysis technique used in this research is a distributional method. According to Sudaryanto (1993:15), the distributional method is a data analyzing method where the key factors of the data are defined by the language itself. The steps are: first, the researcher identifies the subtitle in both English and Indonesian version of the *American Sniper* movie. Second, the researcher classifies the translation technique from the English version and the Indonesian version used in the subtitle of the *American Sniper* movie. The researcher also uses translation assessment by Nababan to define the readability of the translation. And the last is the researcher analyzes the finding data from the English and Indonesian subtitles of the movie.

1.8.Paper Organization

This research has four chapters. The first chapter is the introduction. It consists of the background of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, significance of the study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization. The second chapter is theoretical background. In this chapter, the researcher will describe the theory that will be used in this research. In the third chapter are research findings and discussion. In this chapter, the researcher will describe all the data found in the *American Sniper* movie and describe the data analysis. And the fourth chapter is the conclusion and suggestion that consist of the conclusion of this research and the researcher's suggestion for the next research that will use the same theory as this research.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

4.1. Conclusion

From the analysis of the previous chapter, the researcher draws some points as conclusion of this research;

The researcher found 10 of 18 translation techniques proposed by Molina and Albir used in the English-Indonesian translation of the subtitle in *American Sniper* movie. The researcher finds 53 data or 39.5% of reduction technique, 39 data or 29.1% of literal translation, 14 data or 10.4% of established equivalent technique, 7 data or 5.2% of description technique, 7 data or 5.2% of pure borrowing technique, 5 data or 3.7% of transposition technique, 3 data or 2.2% of linguistic compression technique, 3 data or 2.2% of modulation technique, 2 data or 1.4% of particularization technique and 1 data or 1.2% of generalization technique.

The highest number of readabilities in the translation is high readability with 110 data, followed by medium readability with 10 data, and low readability with only 4 data. Therefore, almost all the data found by the researcher is categorized as high readability data, or in other words, the subtitle is mostly readable. So, it can be concluded that the translation in the *American Sniper* movie is readable.

So, it can be concluded that the highest frequency of translation techniques proposed by Molina and Albir in the English-Indonesian translation of the *American Sniper* movie is reduction technique. With the majority of the data in the

English-Indonesian translation in the *American Sniper* movie is high readability translation. Therefore, the translation of the English-Indonesian subtitle of *American Sniper* movie can be classified as readable translation.

4.2 Suggestion

For the readers of this research or for further researchers who are interested in the research on translation techniques by Molina and Albir and the readability by Nababan, the researchers would like to give some suggestions. First, the translation technique that is proposed by Molina and Albir can be applied with other theories of translation, for example, the translation method that is proposed by Newmark. Furthermore, the theory proposed by Nababan can be applied to judge the quality aspect of the translation, whether the translation is qualified or not.

The next researchers who are interested in this research can also use the translation techniques proposed by Molina and Albir with the other translation theories and use the quality aspects of Nababan to analyze other objects such as novels, comics, or even books. Moreover, the translation techniques proposed by Molina and Albir provides more specific and complete techniques of the translation compared to the previous translation techniques, so the researcher hopes that next researchers can explore more techniques of the translation compared to this research that only found 10 out of 18 translation techniques. The researcher is aware that this research still needs a lot of improvement, but the researcher hopes that this research can be useful for the reader and help the next researchers to understand the translation technique that is proposed by Molina and Albir and the readability

proposed by Nababan in the English-Indonesian translation of the *American Sniper* movie subtitles.



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