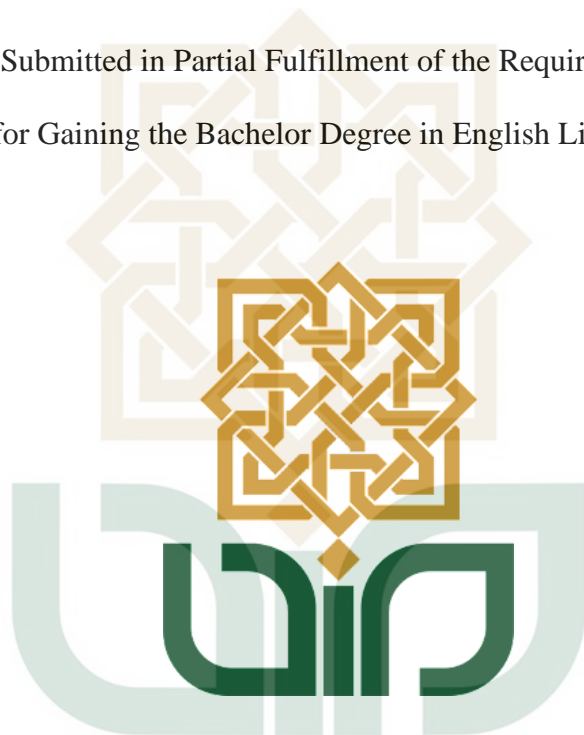


**THEMATIC STRUCTURE ANALYSIS IN THE TRANSLATION OF DR.
ZAKIR NAIK'S SPEECH TRANSCRIPTION**

A GRADUATING PAPER

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



By:

Raysa Salsabil

20101050073

STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
SUNAN KALIJAGA
YOGYAKARTA

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF ADAB AND CULTURAL SCIENCES

STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SUNAN KALIJAGA

YOGYAKARTA

2024

MOTTO

“Just keep swimming.”

- Dory, *Finding Nemo*



DEDICATION

I dedicate this final paper to:

My beloved self, who never stops fighting and trying.

My beloved family, Ayah and Ibu, who never stopped supporting me with my choices and being there for me through my hardships, and my older brothers always supported me.

All my beloved friends who go through the same hardship for years in college.

All my great lecturers from the English Department of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta.





**KEMENTERIAN AGAMA REPUBLIK INDONESIA
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN KALIJAGA
FAKULTAS ADAB DAN ILMU BUDAYA**

Jl. Marsda Adi Sucipto, Yogyakarta, 55281, Telp./Fax. (0274) 513949
Web: <http://adab.uin-suka.ac.id> Email: adab@uin-suka.ac.id

NOTA DINAS

Hal: Skripsi
a.n. Raysa Salsabil

Yth.
Dekan Fakultas Adab dan Ilmu Budaya
UIN Sunan Kalijaga
Di Yogyakarta

Assalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb

Setelah memeriksa, meneliti, dan memberikan arahan untuk perbaikan atas skripsi saudara:

Nama : Raysa Salsabil
NIM : 20101050073
Prodi : Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : Adab dan Ilmu Budaya
Judul : **Thematic Structure Analysis in the Translation of Dr. Zakir Naik's Speech Transcription**

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

Atas perhatiannya, kami mengucapkan terima kasih.

Wassalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb

Yogyakarta, 12 Agustus 2024
Pembimbing

**Fuad Arif Fudiyartanto, S.Pd.,
M.Hum., M.Ed., Ph.D.
NIP: 19720928 199903 1 002**



KEMENTERIAN AGAMA
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN KALIJAGA
FAKULTAS ADAB DAN ILMU BUDAYA
Jl. Marsda Adisucipto Telp. (0274) 513949 Fax. (0274) 552883 Yogyakarta 55281

PENGESAHAN TUGAS AKHIR

Nomor : B-1609/Un.02/DA/PP.00.9/08/2024

Tugas Akhir dengan judul : Thematic Structure Analysis in the Translation of Dr. Zakir Naik's Speech Transcription

yang dipersiapkan dan disusun oleh:

Nama : RAYSA SALSABIL
Nomor Induk Mahasiswa : 20101050073
Telah diujikan pada : Senin, 19 Agustus 2024
Nilai ujian Tugas Akhir : A

dinyatakan telah diterima oleh Fakultas Adab dan Ilmu Budaya UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta

TIM UJIAN TUGAS AKHIR



Ketua Sidang

Fuad Arif Fudiyartanto, S.Pd. M.Hum., M.Ed., Ph.D.
SIGNED

Valid ID: 66c836317c9f4



Penguji I

Dr. Arif Budiman, S.S., M.A.
SIGNED

Valid ID: 66c82246b7515



Penguji II

Aninda Aji Siwi, S.Pd., M.Pd.
SIGNED

Valid ID: 66c826740b540



Yogyakarta, 19 Agustus 2024
UIN Sunan Kalijaga
Dekan Fakultas Adab dan Ilmu Budaya

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Wildan, M.A.
SIGNED

Valid ID: 66c83d3cf1bcb

STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
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YOGYAKARTA

FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this graduate paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this graduating paper. Other researcher's opinion or finding included in this research is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

Yogyakarta, 12 Agustus 2024

The signature,



Raysa Salsabil
NIM: 20101050073

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THEMATIC STRUCTURE ANALYSIS IN THE TRANSLATION OF DR. ZAKIR NAIK'S SPEECH TRANSCRIPTION

Raysa Salsabil

20101050073

ABSTRACT

This research explores the impact of thematic structure on the translation process within the framework of Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) in the English-Indonesian transcription of Dr. Zakir Naik's speech in *islamakanmenang* Youtube channel. The study is motivated by the recognition that thematic structure, which organizes information in a clause into theme and rheme, plays a crucial role in maintaining the information flow between the source language (SL) and the target language (TL). The translation process often involves shifts that may lead to changes in thematic structure, potentially altering the focus and meaning of the text. Using a descriptive qualitative method, the research analyzes the themes used in both the SL and TL. The findings reveal that all types of themes, which are topical, interpersonal, and textual, are used in both languages. Within the total of 62 clauses in SL and 61 in TL, topical themes are the most frequently used, with 62 occurrences in the SL and 61 in the TL. Textual themes follow, with 19 instances in the SL and 15 in the TL, while interpersonal themes are the least common, with 7 occurrences in both the SL and TL. The study also identifies shifts during the translation process, the most significant of which is the transformation of a whole clause into a noun phrase. This shift not only alters the meaning of the clause but also affects the overall thematic structure of the text. However, the analysis indicates that other shifts do not significantly impact the meaning of the text.

Keywords: *systemic functional linguistics, thematic structure, translation*

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20101050073

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis struktur tematik pada transkrip terjemahan pidato Dr. Zakir Naik di Youtube channel *islamakanmenang* dengan menggunakan teori Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) oleh Halliday. Studi ini didasari oleh pengakuan bahwa struktur tematik, yang mengatur informasi dalam sebuah klausa menjadi tema dan rema, memainkan peran penting dalam menjaga tatanan informasi antara bahasa sumber (BS) dan bahasa sasaran (BT). Proses penerjemahan sering kali melibatkan pergeseran yang dapat menyebabkan perubahan dalam struktur tematik, yang berpotensi mengubah fokus dan makna teks. Dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif, penelitian ini menganalisis tema-tema yang digunakan dalam BS dan BT. Data yang ditemukan mengungkapkan bahwa semua jenis tema, yaitu tema topikal, interpersonal, dan tekstual, digunakan dalam kedua bahasa. Dari total 62 klausa dalam BS dan 61 dalam BT, tema topikal adalah yang paling sering digunakan, dengan 62 kemunculan dalam BS dan 61 dalam BT. Kemudian, disusul oleh tema tekstual dengan 19 kemunculan dalam BS dan 15 dalam BT, sementara tema interpersonal adalah yang paling sedikit, dengan 7 kemunculan dalam BS dan BT. Penelitian ini juga mengidentifikasi pergeseran selama proses penerjemahan, yang paling signifikan adalah transformasi dari sebuah klausa menjadi frasa nominal. Pergeseran ini tidak hanya mengubah makna klausa, tetapi juga memengaruhi keseluruhan struktur tematik dari teks. Namun, analisis menunjukkan bahwa pergeseran lainnya tidak berdampak signifikan terhadap makna teks.

Keywords: *systemic functional linguistics, thematic structure, translation*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Humans have language as a way of communicating with each other. As God created humans in diversity, there are also different kinds of languages used by people all around the world. Just like humans are created with large diversity, language is built similarly and divided into spoken and written language. Cholis and Barati mentioned that spoken language or direct communication occurs in face-to-face contact, while written or indirect communication occurs through textual or visual media like comic books, newspapers, and magazines (2022).

Since language is correlated with culture, society, or where one comes from (Bellos, 2011), it can differ in terms of its vocabulary, sounds, and structure, which are the properties that construct meaning in language. Unfortunately, these differences inevitably create a problem in communication between people who do not speak the same language. People may have difficulty gathering and understanding information because they cannot understand another language. This problem then brings up translation as one of the ways to help people with different languages communicate with each other which is in line with Septanto statement that translating closes the cultural gap between two worlds and enables communication across different linguistic communities (2020). Hence, translation will help people to understand the various spoken or written languages more easily.

According to Newmark, translation is “rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text.” (1988, p. 5). On the

other hand, Hatim and Munday define translation as “the process of transferring a written text from SL to TL.” (2004, p. 6). Based on these definitions, translation can be defined as translating a written text from one language into another. Although so, Saha explained that translation is more than just translating a text into another language without any purpose. A translated text should always have proper meaning (2020).

Furthermore, it is essential to know that such a perfect translation does not exist because the difference in each language’s components cannot always be translated precisely. This is in line with Farida’s statement that there is no perfect translation because aesthetic factors and the tastes of each translator can influence the translation process (cited in Septanto, 2020, p. 18). There will always be a part of the text that will be unable to be translated into another language or will undergo a shift of translation due to differences in culture or social context. Due to these shifts in translation, obtaining a good translation can sometimes be challenging. In addition, Nida and Taber defined that “translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style.” (2003, p. 12). It is necessary to have equivalency between the source language (SL) and target language (TL) when translating a text to another language.

The shift in translation can be how the text will come out later in the target language, whether equivalent or inequivalent. Besides the equivalency, shifts in translation can cause a change in the way the focus of the information in the text is delivered, as Rosa argued that altering the position of the same word within a clause

can change how readers interpret the message conveyed by the clause (cited in Rosa, 2019). So, when translating a text, it is not just about reconstructing the structure of SL to TL, but also the message conveyed, or the information that is being delivered is essential.

The message or the information is one of the aspects of linguistics study that is being discussed specifically in textual metafunction in Systemic Functional Linguistics. The textual metafunction helps to organize messages in a text as Baker said, “the linear arrangement of linguistics elements plays a role in organizing messages at text level.” (2017, p. 134). In Baker’s opinion, the structure of a text is also constructing the meaning of the text itself. In addition, the linear arrangement, which can be explained as the sequential order of words or elements that appear in a sentence in linguistics, plays a role in processing information and organizing messages at the text level, as proposed by Halliday in thematic structure as textual equivalence because it carries the meaning at the text level. This is related to the textual metafunction, in which one of its focuses consists of a theme and rheme segment.

As the translation of a text is constructed in structures of the SL and TL, theme and rheme also play an important role in the shift that was bound to happen because it is also a part of the structure in a textual function. The thematic structure can also shift when translating a text for various reasons. The shift in thematic structure may cause a change in how the text is translated. It can also shift the focus of the text. Based on this issue, it can be concluded that the thematic structure shift in translation has become one of the interesting issues concerning how to produce a

good translation. Because of this, the researcher wants to conduct further research on the topic to acknowledge that thematic structure in translation is important to analyze to help translate a text.

In addition, in this modern era, where everything can be easily accessed, text can be easily obtained or delivered through subtitles or transcription via online platforms. One of the most notorious platforms used by many people nowadays is YouTube. Julianto and Qamariah mentioned that YouTube is one of the fastest-growing social media platforms among young people. It is readily accessible on tablets, smartphones, laptops, and desktop computers (2023). YouTube has been a platform for education and entertainment since its launch. Mostafa stated that millions of videos have been posted to this platform every day (2023). One type of content widely posted on YouTube is speeches delivered by various famous speakers around the world.

One of the notable speakers on YouTube is Zakir Abdul Karim Naik, better known as Dr. Zakir Naik. He is a prominent Indian Muslim scholar famous for his Islamic English preaching, which attracts the attention of even non-Muslims. His YouTube channel, under the name Drzakirchannel, has gained 3.89 million total subscribers.

Many Dr. Zakir Naik's speeches have been translated into other languages, such as Indonesian. One of the Indonesian channels that frequently translated his speeches is the *islamakanmenang* YouTube channel, which has approximately 239,000 subscribers, and one of his speeches that the channel has translated is about the recent Israel-Palestine war conflict. The video, titled *Dr. Zakir; Terkait Israel*

yang Menjajah Palestina!! Dr. Zakir Naik 2023 Nigeria, uploaded by the channel on November 15th, 2023, has gained around 30,000 views and still counting. The researcher marked this video important because it discusses the recent global issue from the point of view of one of the most notorious Muslim preachers. In the video, Dr. Zakir Naik clearly stated that Israeli attacks on Palestine are condemned as inhuman acts.

Besides the topic being discussed in the video, the researcher found the English-Indonesian translated speech video interesting to analyze using the theme and rheme theory from Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) to find out the theme and rheme used in both languages. After finding out the theme and rheme used in both languages, the researcher wanted to compare the results between the two to find out whether there are any thematic shifts that happened and, if there are any, whether they significantly change the meaning or message delivered in the speech.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the topic of this research, the researcher will focus on the research questions as follows:

1. What types of thematic structure are used in the SL and TL of the speech?
2. What types of thematic shifts occurred between the translation process from the SL to the TL?
3. Does the shift significantly affect the meaning of the SL and the TL?

1.3 Objectives of Study

As explained in the background of the study and the formulated research questions, the researcher aims for two purposes from this research. The first one is to analyze what are the types of thematic structures used in SL and TL. After analyzing the type of thematic structure used in SL and TL, the second purpose is to analyze the shift in the thematic structure between the translation from the SL and the TL. The third purpose is to find out does the shift changes the meaning or the message that was being delivered or not.

1.4 Scope of Study

This research focuses on analyzing the theme and rheme of one of the English-Indonesian speech videos from Dr. Zakir Naik on the *Islamakanmenang* YouTube channel. The researcher will use the Halliday Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) of theme and rheme theory to identify the theme and rheme found in the text.

1.5 Significances of Study

For the significance of the study, this research can contribute to the theoretical appliance of linguistics and translation studies, especially an appliance of thematic structure shift theory. This research can also be additional information for anyone interested in translation study research that uses Systemic Functional Linguistics for its analysis. Furthermore, this research can also be an additional literary reference for research purposes for another researcher interested in conducting research on thematic structure shifts in the translation study.

1.6 Literature Review

The researcher found some previous research that was related to this topic. The first is titled “The Shift of Themes and Rhemes in the Translation of English Political Texts into Indonesian” (Astuti et al., 2019). This study used a descriptive qualitative approach to analyze the shifts in themes and rhemes in the translation of English-Indonesian political texts. The data analyzed were sourced from political news texts in both English and Indonesian versions of Waspada, revealing that the translation introduces variations in the thematic structures. The analysis uncovered several key findings: (1) a structural shift occurs, where the theme in the source language (SL) becomes the rheme in the target language (TL), and vice versa; (2) there are differences in the information presented between the SL and TL; and (3) maintaining the same theme and rheme structure in both SL and TL can lead to the TL being considered unacceptable.

Although the research that the researcher will conduct uses the same method, which is the qualitative method, the object, the aims, and the data analysis technique of the research differ from the one that the researcher will conduct.

The second research is titled “Using Theme and Rheme Analysis in Indonesian-English Translation” (Sofyan & Rosa, 2020). This paper discussed Halliday's theory's use of theme and rheme analysis as a criterion for judging good translation. Using the theme and rheme analysis, they suggest improvising the translated version from Indonesian as the SL to English as the TL of the Act of the Republic of Indonesia Number 20 Year 2003 text. This research's object differs from the one that the researcher will conduct. Besides, although using the same

theory, the aim of the research differs as the researcher does not focus on using theme and rheme as criteria to judge a good translation.

The third research is “The Analysis of Theme and Rheme in Short Story of Sleeping Beauty with a Systemic Functional Approach” (Dashela, 2021). The paper is about the theme and rheme in the text of a short story that is being analyzed using a Functional Grammar theory. Using the qualitative method, the researcher found two types of themes (Textual and Topical) that will be further classified into some categorical components of theme and rheme to know the correlation between the theme and the text's development. The research's outcome is how a theme and rheme are necessary for the students to produce good writing. Although using the same qualitative method and approach, the research that will be conducted in this paper will use a different object and have different aims that will produce a different outcome for the research.

The last research is a thesis titled “A Shift Analysis of Thematic Structure Found in Indonesian Translation of Muhammad Novel” (Munir, 2019). Using the descriptive-qualitative and contrastive methods, the research aimed in finding the type of theme, the dominant theme, and the thematic structure shift of three types of themes: topical, textual, and interpersonal. The difference between this research and the one that will be conducted is the object, in which the former uses a novel and the latter uses a speech transcription. In addition, although the theory and the data analysis method are the same, the research aims will be different.

To sum up, although the topic of the previous research and the one that the researcher of this paper will conduct is similar, which is the usage of theme and

rheme theory by Halliday in analyzing the data, this research will provide a different analysis because it has different data and discussion. The data of this research uses Dr. Zakir Naik's English-Indonesian speech transcription that was translated and uploaded by *islamakanmenang* YouTube channel and will focus more on the types of thematic structures used in the object of analysis and on discovering whether the shifts in the thematic structure of the object to be analyzed affect the meaning or not.

1.7 Theoretical Approach

A message structure in English consists of a theme plus a rheme. As this research mainly focuses on the thematic structure shift in translation, the theory that will be used is the theme and rheme from Systemic Functional Linguistics proposed by Halliday. Within the textual metafunction, the two choices theme and rheme form the major system. The theme, for Halliday, is the "point of departure; it is that with which the clause is concerned". Halliday explained that there is an order to the structure: theme comes first, followed by rheme, and whatever is placed in the initial position is a theme (Halliday, 1994, p. 37).

The theme is considered a universal feature in the language, as every language has a way of indicating what a clause is about. Halliday defines theme as a function where a "special status [is] assigned to one part of it [the clause]" (1994, p. 37). In English, theme is realized by what is placed in the initial position within the clause. Meanwhile, rheme is everything that is not theme. It is part of the clause where the theme is developed (1994, p. 37).

In addition, according to Baker,

“The theme is what the clause is about. It has two functions: (a) it acts as a point of orientation by connecting back to previous stretches of discourse and thereby maintaining a coherent point of view, and (b) it acts as a point of departure by connecting forward and contributing to the development of later stretches.” Meanwhile, for Baker, the rheme is what the speaker says about the theme. It is the goal of discourse (2017, p. 136).

1.8 Methods of Research

1.8.1 Type of Research

This research uses qualitative methods. According to Creswell, different from quantitative research methods, qualitative methods take a different approach to academic study. While the procedures are similar, qualitative approaches use different designs, have distinct data processing steps, and rely on text and image data (2009, p. 474). This research is conducted using qualitative methods because it relies on text data from speech transcriptions about the thematic structure in translation, which the researcher will analyze further.

1.8.2 Data Source

The data for this research is obtained from Dr. Zakir Naik’s speech about the Israel-Palestine conflict on the *islamakanmenang* YouTube channel uploaded on November 15th, 2023, which is 3:55 minutes long with the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJJCALHwb4U>.

1.8.3 Data Collection Technique

According to Creswell, data collection procedures in qualitative research involve four basic types: observations, interviews, documentation, and audio-visual materials (2009, pp. 179–181). The data collection technique applied in this research is the documentation technique. According to Zaim, the documentation technique uses written texts to get source data (2014, p. 95). As the data for this research is speech that will be converted into transcripts, it is compatible with the documentation technique in collecting the data. To specify it, the researcher first read the data. After reading the data, the researcher will identify the source and target language of the data. Then, the researcher will analyze the theme and rheme in the SL and the TL.

1.8.4 Data Analysis Technique

This research used descriptive analysis to analyze the data. For the first step, the researcher will analyze the thematic structure of both languages. After that, the researcher will classify the type of thematic shift that occurred from the data that has been collected to know the type of thematic structure used in the two texts. Then, the research will continue to analyze and compare the data to know whether there are any shifts between the SL and the TL and explain whether the shifts significantly affect the meaning of the speech.

1.9 Paper Organization

This paper is divided into four chapters. The first chapter consists of the background of the study, research questions, objectives of the study, significance of the study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper

organization. The second chapter consists of the theory that will be used in analyzing the data which is the thematic structure theory by Halliday. The third chapter consists of research findings and data analysis. The last chapter consists of conclusions that will be drawn from the research.



CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

4.1 Conclusion

Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) by Halliday has introduced three metafunctions to help create meaningful communication. One of the metafunctions, the textual metafunction, has brought up the thematic structure which provides the organization of information in a clause into theme and rheme. This thematic structure plays a quite important role in the translation process. It is important in translation because it helps ensure that the information flow in the SL is preserved equally in the TL.

Besides, because the translation process shifts, the thematic structure can also inevitably shift. The shifts can result in changes in the focus of the clause, potentially changing the meaning of the text. Thus, this research was conducted following the concern above.

Using the descriptive qualitative method, the researcher found that all types of themes are used in the SL and the TL, with the topical theme dominating the use with 62 in total in the SL and 61 in the TL, the textual theme coming next with 19 in total in the SL and 15 in the TL, and the interpersonal theme being the least used theme with 7 in total both in the SL and the TL.

The researcher also found shifts in the translation process. The first shift is the changing of a whole clause into a noun phrase. This shift significantly changes the meaning of the clause, in addition to changing the text's structure. However,

through the analysis conducted, the other shifts did not significantly affect the meaning of the text.

4.2 Suggestion

The researcher of this study specifically decided to analyze the text with only one of the aspects in the textual metafunction in SFL, which is the theme and rheme in a translation process. Future researchers interested in translation using SFL theory could explore a broader framework, such as the development of information flow within thematic structure, which is specifically addressed in the theory as part of the textual metafunction in SFL.



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