

TRANSLATION EQUIVALENCE OF NOUN IN *NEGERI 5*

***MENARA* MOVIE SUBTITLES**

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for Gaining the Bachelor

Degree in English Department



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MOTTO

*Nothing good ever comes easy,
but winners don't quit, so don't you give up.*



DEDICATION

This graduating paper is dedicated to:

My Self

My Parents

My Grandparents

My Life



NOTA DINAS



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Atas perhatiannya, kami mengucapkan terima kasih.

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A 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.

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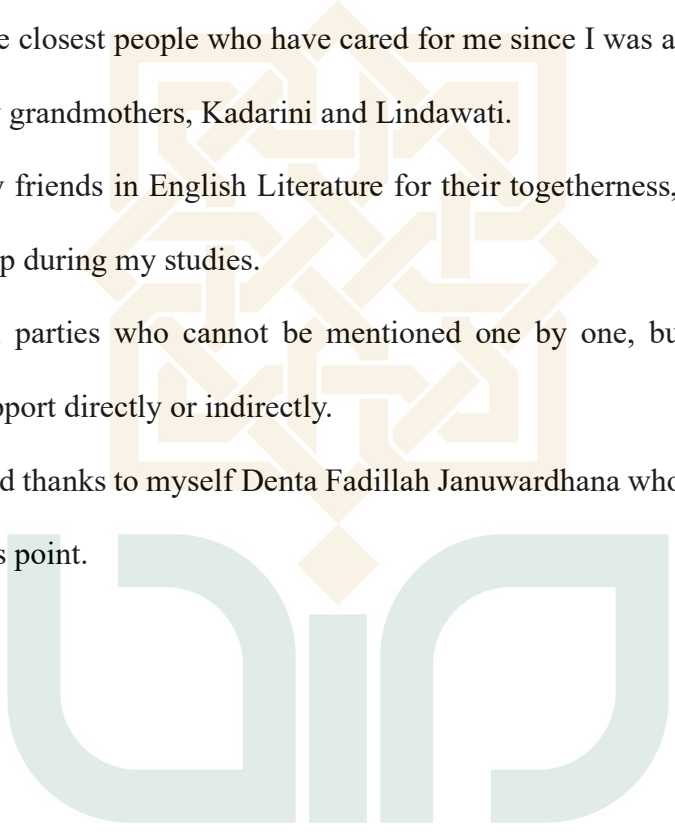
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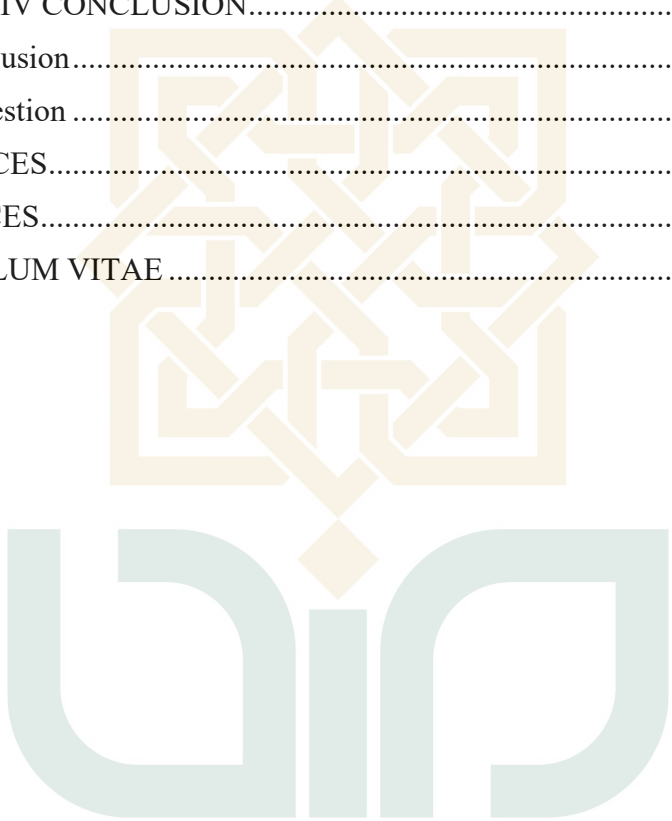
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

SL: Source Language

TL: Target Language

CA: Componential Analysis

KBBI: Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia



TRANSLATION EQUIVALENCE OF NOUNS IN *NEGERI 5 MENARA* MOVIE SUBTITLES

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ABSTRACT

This study discusses equivalence in the translation of nouns in the subtitles of the film *Negeri 5 Menara* from Indonesian to English. The focus of the study is to determine whether the translation of nouns in the film is equivalent and to identify the factors causing non-equivalence. The method used is qualitative with an inductive approach. The researcher used Peter Newmark's component analysis (1988) theory to analyze the semantic features of words and Mona Baker's translation equivalence (1992) theory to classify types of non-equivalence at the word level. The results showed that out of 297 noun translations, 213 were equivalent and 84 were not equivalent. The analysis used Peter Newmark's component analysis theory. After identifying the 84 non-equivalent translations, the researcher analyzed the factors causing noun translation non-equivalence using Mona Baker's translation equivalence theory at the word level. It is discovered that there are noun translations that are not equivalent because there are 40 due to differences in meaning in the SL and the TL, 17 due to specific cultural concepts, 5 due to the use of hyponym terms in the TL, 5 due to differences in expressive meaning between the SL and the TL, 6 due to differences in form between the SL and the TL, 6 because the word in the SL is not lexicalized in the TL, 4 because the word in the SL has semantic complexity, 1 due to the use of borrowed language in the SL.

Keywords: Component analysis, Translation equivalence, Noun, *Negeri 5 Menara* movie.

TRANSLATION EQUIVALENCE OF NOUNS IN *NEGERI 5 MENARA* MOVIE SUBTITLES

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini membahas kekuivalenan dalam penerjemahan kata benda pada subtitle film *Negeri 5 Menara* dari Bahasa Indonesia ke Bahasa Inggris. Fokus penelitian adalah untuk mengetahui apakah terjemahan kata benda dalam film tersebut ekuivalen, dan mengidentifikasi faktor penyebab ketidakekuivalenan. Metode yang digunakan adalah kualitatif dengan pendekatan induktif. Peneliti menggunakan teori analisis komponen dari Peter Newmark untuk menganalisis fitur semantik kata dan teori kesepadanan terjemahan oleh Mona Baker untuk mengklasifikasikan tipe ketidakekuivalenan pada tingkat kata. Hasilnya dari 297 terjemahan noun, 213 terjemahan noun ekuivalen dan 84 terjemahan noun tidak ekuivalen. Analisis menggunakan teori Peter Newmark yaitu analisis komponen. Setelah mengetahui 84 terjemahan yang tidak sepadan, peneliti menganalisis faktor penyebab ketidaksepadanan terjemahan noun dapat terjadi menggunakan teori kesepadanan terjemahan di tingkat kata yang digagas Mona Baker. Diketahui bahwa ada terjemahan noun yang tidak sepadan karena ada 40 karena perbedaan makna dalam Bsu dan Bsa, 17 karena konsep budaya yang spesifik, 5 karena penggunaan istilah hiponim dalam Bsa, 5 karena perbedaan makna ekspresif antara Bsu dan Bsa, 6 karena perbedaan bentuk antara Bsu dan Bsa, 6 karena kata dalam Bsa tidak terleksikal dalam Bsu, 4 karena kata dalam Bsa memiliki kompleksitas secara semantis, 1 karena penggunaan bahasa pinjaman di Bsa.

Kata kunci: Analisis komponen, Kesepadanan terjemahan, Kata benda, Film *Negeri 5 Menara*.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Nowadays, there are many movies produced that can be watched from all over the world, which of course have different languages. If these films are to be enjoyed by audiences across languages, subtitles in different languages are needed. Thus, translation plays an important role in breaking language barriers and connecting with diverse audiences. In a movie, translation has a role in transferring the message to different languages. By adapting dialogue and context, translation allows films to be understood by audiences who do not speak the original language. (Delabastita, 1989).

The translation process is not an easy process. It needs some techniques to transfer messages to different languages, especially in achieving equivalence between SL and TL in translation (Catford, 1965). Equivalence in translation means that the functions of the SL and TL should be similar (House 1997). The problem of equivalence in translation is one of the major challenges that translators face. It occurs because there is no perfect equivalence between different languages and cultures (Pym, 2010). It is not always possible to find an equivalent word or phrase in the TL that is fully equivalent in meaning to the SL (Jakobson, 2000). Languages and cultures have their own ways of conveying concepts and ideas (Karmusch, 2000). The cultural concept of "gotong royong" in Indonesian for example that has no perfect equivalent in English, or the medical term "shunt" in English that has no equivalent in Indonesian (Jalil, 2020). The impact of this non-

equivalence can result in a change of meaning or misunderstanding by the reader, so that the purpose of the translation itself cannot be achieved.

The focus of this research is the equivalence of noun word class translation in the movie *Negeri 5 Menara*, all types of nouns will be analyzed, and for noun phrases, the head, which is a noun, will be analyzed. Noun is a term that designates or names any member of a class of objects, persons, locations, or concepts, or a specific member of these (Hornby, 2000). The role of nouns in a sentence is very important, nouns act as subjects or objects in a sentence, nouns within a sentence take on different roles or jobs, such as subjects, subject complements, possessive nouns, or objects (Stobbe, 2008). Translating nouns from Bahasa Indonesia to English can be difficult because of the many features of Indonesian words, which can cause problems with equivalence (Baker 1992). Source language might refer to concepts specific to the source language culture; this is why some Indonesian nouns in the source language don't have a direct translation in English (Baker 1992). An example is "becak," which is a three-wheeled passenger vehicle common in Indonesia. It might need a descriptive phrase like "rickshaw taxi" which has quite a different signifier than "becak".

To reduce the subjectivity in determining whether a noun translation in the movie *Negeri 5 Menara* is equivalent or not, the researcher uses the theory of componential analysis in determining this. Componential Analysis (CA) is a method that analyzes the meaning of words based on their structural part of the referential meaning of a word, or commonly known as semantic components (Nida, 1965). This approach aims to break down the meaning of a word into the smallest

semantic features, a feature that distinguishes it from other words in the same semantic domain or a group of words or lexemes that share a common core meaning (Widyastuti, 2010). These features are expressed in binary form, i.e., present (+), absent (-). Newmark (1988) explains that componential analysis (CA) decomposes the meaning of a word into its semantic elements, and in the context of translation, CA is used to compare words in the SL (SL) with words in the TL (TL) that are similar in meaning, although not completely equivalent. Based on the theory of componential analysis in translation initiated by Newmark (1988), the researcher will be able to determine whether a noun translation in *Negeri 5 Menara* movie is equivalent or not, so that when non-equivalence noun translation is found, the researcher can examine the translation with the theory of equivalence at word level initiated by Mona Beker (1992). Mona Baker introduces 11 problems of non-equivalence translation at the word level, which will be discussed further in Chapter 2.

The focus of this research is the equivalence of noun word class translation in the “Negeri 5 Menara” movie. The movie “*Negeri 5 Menara*” tells the inspiring story of Alif, a teenager who is forced to enter a boarding school but then discovers friendship and the spirit of pursuing dreams with his five friends, with strong cultural and religious, especially Islamic values (Maristasari, 2013). The film was chosen as a subject of research because it is rich in specific cultural and religious Islamic terms, authentic dialogues, and universal themes, all of which are challenging to find the right equivalents. The focus on nouns is crucial as they are often the main carriers of cultural content and essential concepts, and present

significant translation challenges as there are not always direct equivalents, requiring various strategies to maintain accuracy and comprehension for the target audience.

1.2 Research Question

Drawing from the background previously discussed, the researcher proposes the following research question:

1. Are the translations in the noun word class in the *Negeri 5 Menara* movie equivalent?
2. What factors influence equivalency in the translation of noun word classes in the translation of the *Negeri 5 Menara* movie?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the background and research question above, the objectives of this study are:

1. To examine are the translations of the noun word class in the *Negeri 5 Menara* movie are equivalent or not
2. To find the factors that influence equivalency in the translation of noun word classes in the translation of the *Negeri 5 Menara* Movie.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This research has important significance in audiovisual translation studies, especially regarding the accuracy of noun translation from the SL to the TL. This study contributes to ensuring proper translation to preserve the original meaning

and make it easier for international audiences to understand the local cultural context presented in the movie. In addition, this study also benefits the development of translation theory and subtitle quality, which has a direct impact on the creative industry, especially film, and supports the dissemination and preservation of culture through accurate translation.

1.5 Literature Review

Since many research on translation have been done before, a literature review of previous studies aims to evaluate these studies so that they can serve as a foundation for future studies. There are several studies that review the issue of non-equivalence in translation and emphasize that non-equivalence of meaning between the SL and the TL is a natural possibility and is often encountered in translation practice, such as a study conducted by Aryana (2018) that analyze translation equivalence in *I Tuung Kuning Tale*. In his research, he refers to the theory of non-equivalence in translation proposed by Mona Baker. The findings show that there are three non-equivalent translation problems arising in the fairy tale. In addition, there are also three translation strategies applied to overcome the problems. It has similarities with this research, where the research conducted by Aryana (2018) and this research both discuss equivalence in translation and use the same theoretical basis, namely Mona Baker's equivalence theory. The difference is that this research will focus on the noun word class, and this research will also use Newmark's componential analysis theory in its analysis.

Another research on equivalence at word level conducted by Sari (2013), In her study, the researcher analyzes the non-equivalent translation at lexical level in *The Lost Symbol* from English to Indonesian. This study is based on the theory of non-equivalence in translation proposed by Mona Baker. The results found that there were eight types of non-equivalence problems, with loan words being the most frequent issue, while strategies such as paraphrasing, cultural substitution, and loan word retention were used to address them. It has similarities with this research, where the research conducted by Sari (2013) and this research both discuss equivalence in translation and use the same theoretical basis, namely Mona Baker's equivalence theory. The difference is that this research will focus on the noun word class, and this research will also use Newmark's componential analysis theory in its analysis.

However, in research conducted by Aryana (2018) and Sari, et al (2013), they did not use any additional theory to corroborate that a translation is not equivalent. In light of this, the researcher is interested in using Newmark's (1988) componential analysis theory to determine whether the translation is equivalent or not. Through componential analysis, researchers will look at the semantic features in words and determine whether the translation is equivalent or not. Several studies focus on componential analysis, Hilman (2015) uses componential analysis to determine whether the translation of cultural terms in a novel is appropriate or not, the researcher investigates the translation of cultural terms from Indonesian to English using Newmark's categories: loan words, cultural equivalents, functional equivalents, and addition. It examines how cultural lexicons in *Saman*, a novel

deeply rooted in Indonesian culture, are rendered in English, focusing on minimizing semantic shifts caused by cultural and linguistic differences. Drawing on theories by Newmark, Nida, and Catford, the study highlights challenges in translating culturally specific terms, where linguistic and cultural untranslatability often arise due to the absence of direct equivalents or shared cultural context. Methods include qualitative analysis, comparing Indonesian and English texts use componential analysis theory in translation. Results show that addition, involving explanatory notes, best preserves meaning with minimal semantic shift, while functional equivalents tend to result in generalized meanings, potentially obscuring cultural specificity. The research underscores the importance of cultural understanding and careful method selection in translating culturally dense texts, advocating for translators to possess deep familiarity with both source and TLs and cultures, supported by external references like dictionaries and encyclopedias. This study contributes to translation studies by emphasizing the nuanced balance required between fidelity to the source text and accessibility for target audiences.

Another study on componential analysis (CA), Dewiyanti et al (2017) used componential analysis to evaluate translation results, researchers explore how componential analysis (CA) can assess and improve the accuracy of translating Indonesian dish names into English on food packaging, focusing on cultural nuances often lost in translation. Drawing on theories by Nida (1975) and Newmark (1988), the study demonstrates how CA identifies shared and distinct semantic features between source and TLs to minimize semantic shifts. Analyzing dishes like Nasi Kuning and Rawon, the research highlights how literal translations, such as

"Yellow Rice" or "East Java Meat Soup," fail to convey cultural and culinary contexts, proposing culturally enriched alternatives like "Indonesian Yellow Rice" or "Indonesian Diced Beef in Black Soup." The findings affirm CA's precision in identifying translation gaps and enhancing fidelity by incorporating culturally significant details. The study underscores the importance of thoughtful translation strategies and suggests further validation through target audience feedback, contributing significantly to the translation of culturally loaded terms in commercial contexts.

The last literature review on componential analysis for this research was conducted by Arnita et al (2016). The researchers explore the application of componential analysis (CA) to Balinese cultural terms translated into English. Using Newmark's (1988) framework, the research identifies semantic features shared and differentiated between source and TL terms, such as "Ngaben" versus "Cremation" and "Balai Banjar" versus "Community Pavilion." The study highlights how cultural context influences meaning, as no term achieves a one-to-one equivalence due to cultural differences. Componential analysis effectively compares object and event elements, uncovering features unique to Balinese culture, such as ceremonial offerings and traditional uses, which are often absent in English translations. The research emphasizes that translation extends beyond linguistic transfer to include cultural understanding, underscoring CA's utility in preserving cultural nuances and enhancing translation accuracy in cross-cultural texts.

Based on the literature review, previous studies have extensively examined translation equivalence and non-equivalence at the word level using Mona Baker's (1992) framework, such as Aryana (2018), who analyzed equivalence in *I Tuung Kuning Tale*, and Sari (2013), who identified various non-equivalence problems in *The Lost Symbol*; however, neither focused specifically on the noun word class nor employed an additional theoretical framework to verify equivalence. Meanwhile, studies applying Newmark's (1988) componential analysis, including Hilman (2015), Dewiyanti et al. (2017), and Arnita et al. (2016), have concentrated on cultural terms, food names, or local concepts, highlighting semantic and cultural nuances but without integrating Baker's equivalence theory or analyzing film translations. Furthermore, from the previous 5 studies, this research will combine Mona Baker's theory of translation equivalence and Newmark's theory of componential analysis to determine whether a translation is equivalent or not, and to analyze why translation equivalence may occur. Different from the previous 5 studies, this research focuses on the translation of noun word classes in the translated text of *Negeri 5 Menara* movie.

1.6 Theoretical Framework

1.6.1 Translation Equivalence

In simple terms, equivalence is described as “the closest possible approximation to the meaning of the source text” (Hatim & Mason, 1990, p. 08). It is regarded as a fundamental concept and a central concern in translation. According to As-Safi 1997), “Equivalence can be understood as synonymy in two languages

based on lexical universality as well as cultural intersection or overlap between the SL and the TL.” Many scholars argue that translation cannot exist independently without equivalence. Therefore, equivalence serves as a cornerstone, and translation must rely on some form of equivalence, whether at the level of words, sentences, or entire texts. Mona Baker (1992) emphasizes that equivalence at the word level is the primary consideration when translating between languages. Before translating, the translator examines the source text words individually to identify their corresponding equivalents in the target text. Baker (1992) describes the word as the smallest unit of language, which can carry various meanings. This highlights the need for translators to exercise caution when handling individual words.

1.6.2 Componential Analysis

This study also uses Newmark's componential analysis theory to corroborate that a translation is not equivalent. Componential analysis in linguistics means breaking down content words into multiple sense components which may or may not be universals (Newmark, 1988). For instance, the word “nephew” can be explained as:

Nephew: [+ person] [+ male] [+ descend] [- lineal]

In translation, the basic process of componential analysis is to compare a SL word with a TL word which has a similar meaning, but is not an obvious one-to-one equivalent, by demonstrating first their common and then their differing sense components (Newmark 1988). For example, in analyzing meaning between the word “nephew” and its translation in bahasa “keponakan”

Nephew: [+ person] [+ male] [+ descend] [- lineal]

Keponakan: [+ person] [+/- male] [+ descend] [- lineal]

1.7 Research Method

1.7.1 Type of Research

This research analyzes the translation equivalence of noun word class in the *Negeri 5 Menara* movie from Indonesian to English, analyzes the factors that influence why the translation of nouns are not equivalent. This research uses a qualitative method. Qualitative research is an approach that is systematic and focuses on understanding the experiences, perspectives, and meanings constructed by individuals (Creswell and Creswell 2018). In this study, an inductive approach is used, starting from data collection which is then analyzed to find patterns or theories generated from the data. This method was chosen because the study's goal was to investigate the equivalence of movie translations by comparing noun usage between Indonesian and English. Data description, the data analyzed in this research is the translation of noun word class in *Negeri 5 Menara* movie from Indonesian to English.

1.7.2 Data Source

The subject of this research is the *Negeri 5 Menara* movie, with the object is noun translation of the film. Noun was chosen because of its important role in a sentence, that is as a subject or object, the role of noun is the foundation of meaning in the film, noun also has a complex cultural and linguistic context. The translation of *Negeri 5 Menara* was obtained from an official website, Netflix, a website that

provides hundreds of movies with various subtitles. The researcher chose this website because it is one of the most widely used by people.

1.7.3 Data Collection Technique

Data was collected through qualitative observation technique. Qualitative observations are those in which the researcher takes field notes on the behaviour and activities of individuals at the research site (Cresswell, 2007). Data collection is carried out on a specific population selected by the researcher. In the circumstance of a large population, and the researcher has limitations perhaps on time, funds, and manpower, it is possible for the researcher to take samples from the population (Sugiyono, 2013). In data collection, the researcher applied the purposive sampling method. Purposive sampling is a process in which the researcher selects participants and locations to find or understand the main phenomenon (Creswell, 2012). The sampling in this study employed purposive sampling, selecting only noun words found in the source language subtitles of the Negeri 5 Menara movie and their corresponding translations in the target language, with the selection based on their relevance to the research focus on translation equivalence, covering various types of nouns to ensure data diversity, and continued until data saturation was reached, where no new patterns of equivalence emerged.

The researchers took several steps in collecting data. First, the researcher watched the film Negeri 5 Menara with English subtitles in its entirety while collecting data, specifically all nouns in the film. All types of nouns will be analyzed, and if there are any noun phrases in the film, the head noun will be analyzed. Second, the noun data obtained will be compared with the English

translation of the nouns. The third step involved selecting samples for analysis using the purposive sampling method, which involved depth content analysis to obtain data that represented the purpose of the research and to find criteria for providing information. The final step involved dividing all the sample data into two categories, equivalence and non-equivalence, for further analysis.

1.7.4 Data Analysis Technique

Data analysis in this qualitative research uses descriptive interpretation. As stated by Creswell (2012), descriptive interpretation involved preparing and organizing the data, reducing it into categories through a process of identification and coding, and finally presenting the results in tables and discussion. Data preparation and organization were conducted by collecting all noun words from the source language subtitles of the *Negeri 5 Menara* movie along with their corresponding target language translations. In this study, the unit analyzed is all types of nouns. If there is a noun phrase in the movie, the head, which is a noun, will be analyzed. The data obtained is compared with the definitions in the source language and target language using monolingual dictionaries for each language, KBBI for noun definitions in the source language and Oxford dictionary for noun definitions in the target language. The next stage was data identification, which involved identifying and classifying each, whether the translation is equivalent or not, based on the definitions that have been compared. In the next analysis, to see whether a translation has the same effect or function or not, Newmark's (1988) component analysis will be used to compare semantic features between the source

language and target language and to see directly the effects and functions of both languages. Component analysis will be presented with a matrix diagram. This study will also analyze the factors causing a noun translation in this film to be non-equivalent using Mona Baker's (1992) theory of non-equivalence at the word level.

1.8 Paper Organization

This study consists of four main chapters. The first chapter discusses a number of subtopics, including the research background, formulation of research questions, objectives and benefits of the research, theoretical framework, literature review, research methods, and systematic writing. Chapter 2 delves into the theoretical framework, focusing on translation equivalence as outlined by Mona Baker and componential analysis outlined by Peter Nerwmark. Chapter 3 presents the analysis and discussion of the study's findings. Finally, Chapter 4 draw conclusions, summarize the research findings, and make recommendations for further studies on equivalence in translation.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

4.1 Conclusion

In this study, the researcher examines the equivalence of translation of noun word class in the Negeri 5 Menara subtitle from Indonesian into English. To identify these equivalencies in translations, the researcher uses the theory of componential analysis initiated by Peter Newmark. The analysis was conducted by breaking down the semantic features of both the SL (SL) and TL (TL) words to determine whether their meanings aligned. The results show that of 297 translations of noun, 213 data are equivalent and 84 data are not equivalent. These 84 data of noun translations are not equivalent because they have different semantic features or components of words and not equivalent between the SL and TL. This non-equivalence occurs due to differences in semantic components, where the TL fails to fully capture or shifts the original meaning of the SL nouns.

After identifying these 84 non-equivalent noun translations, the researcher classified them into problems of non-equivalence at the word level based on Mona Baker's (1992) framework. From the 11 types of non-equivalence proposed by Baker, 8 types were found in this study. The analysis revealed that the most dominant type problem of non-equivalence was the SL and TL make different distinctions in meaning, which occurred in 40 cases. This indicates that a significant challenge in the translation process lay in the way the source language and target language categorize and interpret meaning differently. Other types of non-

equivalence were found but in smaller numbers, such as culture-specific concepts occurred in 17 cases, the SL word is not lexicalized in TL occurred in 6 cases, the SL word is semantically complex occurred in 4 cases, the TL lack of superordinate occurred in 5 cases, differences in expressive meaning occurred in 5 cases, difference in form occurred in 6 cases, and the use of loan words in source text 1 case. These less frequent types still posed challenges for the translator, though their overall impact was less significant compared to the dominant category.

4.2 Suggestion

This research focuses more on analyzing the non-equivalence of noun translation at the word level. However, to broaden the scope of future research, other word classes, such as verbs, adjectives or adverbs, could be explored to provide a more comprehensive picture of the challenges in translation. In addition, this study mainly identifies the problems of non-equivalence that arise in noun translation, so future research can investigate the translation strategies used to overcome such non-equivalence translation, such as cultural substitution, word borrowing, or translation by omission. Finally, future research can also extend the analysis to higher levels than the word level, such as the textual level, or even the pragmatic level, to understand how translation inequalities arise in a wider and more complex context. Thus, a deeper understanding of translation dynamics and workable solutions to produce more accurate and natural translations will be gained.

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