



Translation Techniques Used in Indonesian Subtitle Text of the Main Character from *Avengers: Endgame* Movie Script

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A B S T R A C T

This study aims to analyze the types of translation techniques and find the most technique used by the translator in translating the utterances of Tony Stark as Iron Man to Steve Rogers as Captain America with the theory of Molina and Albir. Following a qualitative approach, this research employs a descriptive qualitative method to describe the translation techniques used. The research object in this study is the utterances of Tony Stark to Steve Rogers in *Avengers: Endgame* (2019) movie script. There are 56 translation techniques used with 12 types of translation techniques. They are, Linguistic compression used in 23 data (54%), Reduction used in 7 data (16,6%), Established Equivalent used in 5 data (11,9%), Variation used in 9 data (11,9%), Adaptation used in 5 data (11,9%), Calque used in 3 data (7,1%), Borrowing used in 3 data (7,1%), Compensation used in 2 data (4,7%), Literal translation used in 1 datum (2,3%), Modulation used in 1 datum (2,3%), Particularization used in 1 datum (2,3%), and Linguistic Amplification used in 1 datum(2,3%). Based on that, the study concludes that the most technique used is linguistic compression.

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INTRODUCTION

English becomes one of the important aspects for international communication(Sutopo & Prayitno, 2020). So, English should be well mastered to transfer a message. Transferring a message from Source Language (SL) to Target Language (TL) is called translation(Bin Tamuri & Binti Othman, 2021). Some might believe that translation is a simple thing, simply a matter of conveying the same message from one language to another. On the other hand, linguistic learners can see that the translation is something complicated.

Translation is a process to divert messages from one language to another. Hence, we cannot judge the translation only by attempting to replace the text from one language into another language. Translators not only have to translate from one language into another language, but translators also translate the culture. According to Koentjaningrat, language is a cultural product and translation of a text is actually the activity of translating culture (Fadhillah et al., 2020). There are many other things that have to be the translator's concern, for example between sound and sense, emphasis (word order), naturalness, grammar, the figurative and the literal, neatness and comprehensiveness, concision and accuracy. It means

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that the translator has to find the source text's equivalence in the target language that is suitable to the source language.

The researchers decided to use a movie script from a film as a medium because it is a widely accessible and popular form of entertainment. With its growing popularity and ease of access, many films are written in English and require translation into other languages, such as Indonesian. The specific movie script being studied in this research is from *Avengers: Endgame*. The movie script of this film has many terms that occur in the subtitles which are interesting to discuss based on the view of translation techniques. A translation technique used to make the audiences easier to understand the meaning of the subtitle. The main focus of the research is Robert Downey Jr as Tony Stark, the main character in the movie.

METHOD

The methods section describes actions to investigate a research problem and the rationale for applying specific procedures or techniques used to identify, select, process, and analyze information applied to understand the problem, thereby allowing the reader to evaluate a study's overall validity and reliability critically. The methodology section of a research paper answers two main questions: How was the data collected or generated? And, how was it analysed?

Data Collection Technique

In the process of gathering the data for the purpose of this research. There are two main types of data collection, which are primary and secondary data collection. Primary data collection is also referred to as raw data, which is the data that I collect directly from the source (Leadquizzes, 2023). In this case is the subtitle text the Source Language (SL) and the Target Language (TL), and the secondary data represents information that has already been collected, structured, and analysed by another researcher, such as books, research paper, statistics, and survey results. The data collection techniques are as follow:

1. The first is choosing a data source for the primary data collection. The primary data collection used is a subtitle from *Avengers: End Game* that is retrieved from Script Slug, October 11th 2022, supported by other references related to this research, such as several journals, books, and other research papers.
2. Next is matching the transcript of the primary data with the shown subtitle text in the film and matching the timing of the transcript subtitle with the shown subtitle text in the film to make it easier to understand the context of the subtitle as well as sorting the data according to limitation of the problem.
3. Then the sorted data are put into the table.

Data Analysis Technique

Several steps below are taken to analyze the data:

1. reading and analysing the SL and the TL of the subtitle to find out the translation characteristics related to translation techniques developed by Molina and Albir (2002),
2. gathering the additional references to support the analysis,
3. classifying the data to which technique is used according to the translation techniques defined by Molina and Albir (2002), putting the classification results into the table, and finally concluding the reason why the translator used that particular translation technique.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The researchers analyzed and classified the data taken from the subtitle of Tony Stark's utterances to Steve Rogers based on the theory of Molina and Albir. They found 12 types of translation techniques used by the translator within the 42 data. They also found that there were more than one technique used in one datum.

Table 1. Translation Data

No.	Translation Technique	Data	Percentage
1.	Linguistic Compression	22	52%
2.	Reduction	7	16,6%
3.	Established Equivalent	6	14.2%
4.	Variation	5	11.9%
5.	Compensation	4	9.5%
6.	Discursive Creation	3	7.1%
7.	Borrowing	3	7.1%
8.	Calque	3	7.1%
9.	Linguistic Amplification	1	2.38%
10.	Literal Translation	1	2.38%
11.	Modulation	1	2.38%
12.	Particularization	1	2.38%
Total		57	100%

It is evident from the table that the translation technique employed in the subtitle text of *Avengers: Endgame* is predominantly linguistic compression which occurs in 22 data. There are 57 translation techniques found in the subtitle of Tony Stark, with 12 types of translation. These techniques are a crucial aspect of the translation process, as they help to preserve the meaning, tone, and context of the original text while adapting it to the target language and audience. The use of Linguistic Compression in the subtitles of *Avengers: Endgame* highlights the importance of conciseness and efficiency in the translation process, as it helps to condense the original text without sacrificing its essential meaning.

Adaptation

Datum 1

SL: Who told you that? I didn't fight him, he **wiped** my face with a planet while a Bleecker Street magician gave away the store.

TL: *Kata siapa? Aku tidak melawannya, Dia menghajarku dengan planet dan pesulap itu menyerahkan batunya.*

The sentence "he **wiped** my face with a planet" is translated into "dia menghajarku dengan planet". If we refer to the context of the film, Tony Stark is talking about a moment in the previous movie (*Avengers: Infinity War*), when Thanos fought Tony Stark outside the earth. Using a literal translation without considering the context of the film, the word "Wiped" will be translated as "menyeka". The word "menyeka/seka" means *menyapu (menggosok dan sebagainya) dengan kain dan sebagainya supaya bersih (kering dan sebagainya): sesudah ~ meja, ia membenahi kursi-kursi; gadis itu ~ keringat di wajahnya dengan saputangan* (KBBI, :2023). This may cause a mistranslation, because it does not match with the context of the film. The translator used adaptation translation technique to adjust the term from the SL into the TL based on the context of the film. Adaptation is a technique used to find the cultural equivalency that are typical in SL with cultural elements in the TL (Molina and Albir, 2002, p. 511).

Borrowing

Datum 2

SL: I got it! There's another way to **retake** the *Tesseract*, and acquire **new particles**.

TL: *Aku tahu. Ada cara lain ambil Tesseract dan mendapatkan partikel baru.*

In this scene, Tony got an idea to improvise the mission to retake the Tesseract (Space Stone). Retaining the word "Tesseract" in its translation is considered as borrowing translation technique to translate this word, i.e. pure borrowing to be precise. The translator borrowed the term from the SL because there is no equivalent term in the TL. Borrowing is a

technique of taking a word or expression from the SL. This borrowing translation technique can be in the form of pure borrowing (Pure Borrowing) and naturalized borrowing (adjusted to the phonetic system and morphology of the target language) (Molina and Albir, 2002, p. 510).

Calque

Datum 3

SL: It's **EPR Paradox**. Instead of pushing Lang through time, you might've wound up pushing time through Lang.

TL: *Itu **Paradoks EPR**. Bukannya mendorong Lang menembus waktu, malah mendorong waktu menembus Lang.*

In this scene, Tony was showing a device called EPR Paradox to Steve. The term "EPR Paradox" was translated into "*Paradoks EPR*". The translator used a technique to translate a foreign word and keep the lexical meaning of the SL but with the structure of the TL. Calque translation technique is a technique used to translate a foreign word or phrase literally, i.e. it can be lexical or structural. This technique is similar to literal translation, but the difference is in the structure of the SL that still exists in the TL or the lexical of the SL that still exists in the TL but in the structure of the TL (Molina & Albir, 2002).

Compensation

Datum 4

SL : **Bunch of tired old mules**. I got nothing for you, Cap.

TL : *Sekelompok orang tua. Aku tak punya apa-apa untukmu, Kapten.*

In this scene, the phrase "Bunch of tired old mules" here is translated to "*Sekelompok orang tua*" in target language. If we refer to the scene of the film, the "Bunch of tired old mules" refers to the original six of the Avengers. The word "Mules" means a hybrid between a horse and a donkey (Merriam Webster Dictionary, :2003). If the translator translated this text literally without considering the context of the text, it will be "*Sekelompok bagal tua yang lelah*". The word "*Bagal*" in Indonesian language is a "Mule" in English language. Here, the compensation technique is used to transfer the message from SL to TL by changing the language style of the SL and replacing it with another term in the TL without changing the meaning. Compensation translation technique is a technique that aims to introduce an element of information or stylistic effect from SL into the TL, and the terms cannot be reflected in as in the SL (Kinasih, 2016).

Established Equivalent

Datum 5

SL: And I believe I remember telling all **youse**, alive and otherwise, that what we needed was a suit of armor around the world, remember that?

TL: *Aku sudah mengatakan kepada **kalian semua**, Yang hidup dan mati, kita butuh baju perang di seluruh dunia. Ingat?*

The word "youse" is translated into "*kalian semua*". The word "youse" means a non-standard/dialect word meaning 'you', used when talking to more than one person (Oxford Learner's Dictionary, :2023). According to this definition, the translation "*kalian semua*" is considered as the best option to deliver the message of the SL. This technique is known as established equivalent, using terms or expressions of the SL that are common/recognized in the TL dictionary (Molina and Albir, 2002, p. 510).

Particularization

Datum 6

SL: **Will you keep that a little quiet?** Didn't bring **one** for the whole team. We are getting the whole team, yeah?

TL : **Tolong rahasiakan. Aku tak bawa oleh-oleh untuk yang lain. Semua ada di**

sini, bukan?

The word “one” from the sentence “Didn't bring **one**” is translated into “*tak bawa oleh-oleh*”. The word “one” (noun) means a single person or thing (Merriam Webster Dictionary, :2023). The word “one” in this scene refers to the shield that Tony gave to Steve. If it is translated literally, the TL would be “*sesuatu*”. But the translator changed it into “*Oleh-oleh*”. The term “*oleh-oleh*” means /oléh-oléh/ *sesuatu yang dibawa dari bepergian; buah tangan* (KBBI, :2023). Applying the particularization technique, the word “one” is translated into “*oleh-oleh*”, because it is too general, and thus needs to put into a more specific word, so it will be easier to understand. Particularization is a translation technique by using a more precise or concrete term (Molina and Albir, 2002, p. 510).

Linguistic Amplification

Datum 7

SL : Will you keep that a little quiet? Didn't bring one for the whole team. We are getting the whole team, yeah?

TL: *Tolong rahasiakan. Aku tak bawa oleh-oleh untuk yang lain. Semua ada di sini, bukan?*

The word “aku” in the TL has no equivalent “I” in the SL. In other words, there is no any pronoun “I” mentioned in the SL. So, the word “aku” is added in the TL to best deliver the message to the audience. If a linguistic element, the word “aku”, is not added, the TL “*Tak bawa oleh-oleh untuk yang lain*” would sound unnatural. This technique is called linguistic amplification, i.e. adding linguistic elements to TL (Molina and Albir, 2002, p. 510).

Linguistic Compression

Datum 8

SL: Who told you **that?** I didn't fight him, he wiped my face with a planet while a BleeckerStreet magician gave away the store.

TL: *Kata siapa? Aku tidak melawannya, Dia menghajarku dengan planet dan pesulap itu menyerahkan batunya.*

In this scene, Steve earlier said “Tony, you fought him.” and it is translated as “*Tony, kau melawannya*”. The word “him” refers to Thanos. Steve was about to ask Tony a clue about Thanos. Then, the sentence “Who told you that?” is translated into “*Kata siapa?*”. A linguistic element, “that”, in SL is omitted to make the TL sound simpler, so the audience can understand the subtitle message easier. This translation technique is known as linguistic compression, i.e. synthesizing linguistic elements in the SL (Hani Nur Amalia, 2019).

Literal Translation

Datum 9

SL : I couldn't stop **him**. Hang on. I lost **the kid**.

TL : *Aku tak bisa menghentikannya. Tunggu. Aku kehilangan anak itu.*

In this scene, Tony has just arrived from outer space after being defeated by Thanos in the previous movie, *Avengers: Infinity War*. Referring to the scene, when Tony Stark says “I couldn't stop **him**” in this situation, the word “him” is translated into “*-nya*” in target language, while the word “him” refers to Thanos who is the villain in the previous movie. The word “him” used as the object of a verb, refers to male person or animal that has already been mentioned or is easily identified (Oxford Learner's Dictionary, :2023). Then, the word “*-nya*” in Bahasa Indonesia is also used as the object of the verb. Based on that, the word “him” in English that is used as the object of the verb matches with the word “*-nya*” in Bahasa that is used as the object of the verb as well. It is, then, a literal translation technique, which is to translate a word or an expression word for word (Molina and Albir, 2002, p. 510).

Modulation

Datum 10

SL: Mr. Rogers, I almost forgot that that suit **did nothing for your ass**, it's ridiculous

TL: *Tuan rogers, aku hampir lupa kostum itu, tidak membuat bokongmu lebih bagus, menggelikan,*

In this scene, Tony is talking about the other version of Steve Rogers's ass. The phrase "did nothing for your ass" is translated into "*tidak membuat bokongmu lebih bagus*". The translator changed the point of view in the TL, instead of translating into "*tidak melakukan apa-apa untuk bokongmu*", the translator changed it into "*tidak membuat bokongmu lebih bagus*". The translator used modulation to change the point of view in the TL in order to make the TL easier to understand for the audiences. Modulation translation technique is a technique used to change the point of view, it can be lexical or structural (Molina and Albir, 2002, p. 510).

Reduction

Datum 11

SL: Who told you that? I didn't fight him, he wiped my face with a planet while a **Bleecker Street magician** gave away the store.

TL: *Kata siapa? Aku tidak melawannya, Dia menghajarku dengan planet dan pesulap itu menyerahkan batunya.*

The phrase "Bleecker street magician" is translated into "*Pesulap*". Considering the context of the film, the phrase "Bleecker Street magician" refers to Dr. Strange who is a magician/sorcerer, and the word "Bleecker street" refers to Dr. Strange who lives in Bleecker street, New York. The translator omitted information from the SL "Bleecker Street magician". The word "Bleecker Street" is omitted by the translator to reduce the amount of the words of the TL. If a particular item or expression is not vital enough for the text or just to justify disturbing the reader with lengthy explanations, translators can simply omit it (Baker, 1992, p. 40). Using a literal translation without omitted information, the TL will be "*Pesulap jalanan Bleecker*", which might confuse the audience. Omitting an SL information item in the TL is called as reduction technique (Molina and Albir, 2002, p. 510).

Variation

Datum 12

SL : **Will you keep that a little quiet?** Didn't bring one for the whole team. We are getting the whole team, yeah?

TL : *Tolong rahasiakan. Aku tak bawa oleh-oleh untuk yang lain. Semua ada di sini, bukan?*

In this scene, after receiving the shield from Tony, Steve said "Thank you, Tony." Then, the sentence "Will you keep that a little quiet?" is translated as "*Tolong rahasiakan*". The context of this sentence is Tony did not want Steve to say anything about the shield to the other members of the Avengers. With a literal translation, the TL would be "*Apakah kau akan tetap diam sedikit?*" which would sound a bit weird to the audience and might cause confusion. So, using variation technique, it is then translated as "*Tolong rahasiakan*" by changing the language style of the TL to deliver the message to the audience properly based on the context of the subtitle. Variation is a technique to change linguistic or paralinguistic elements (intonation, gestures) that affect aspects of linguistic variation, i.e. changing textual tone, style, social dialect, geographic dialect, etc. (Molina and Albir, 2002, p. 511).

The dominant technique used is linguistic compression. The translator mostly used linguistic compression because there were many terms which were not crucial to be translated. As a result, the translator discarded the unnecessary linguistic elements in order to convey the message of the SL to the audience.

Concerning how the translation techniques were implemented, the translator initially perceived the meaning of the SL sentence and then compressed linguistic elements of the TL which are unnecessary as an application of linguistic compression technique. The translator used reduction translation technique by translating the sentence from the SL into the TL by reducing a little information of the SL. The translator used established equivalent translation technique by translating the term with suitable or recognized or common term in the TL dictionary. The translator used variation translation technique by translating words or expression suitable with textual tone, language style, social dialect, geographic dialect, in the TL. The translator used compensation translation technique by putting an SL element of information or stylistic effect in another place or with another term in the TL because it cannot be reflected in the same place as in the SL. The translator used adaptation translation technique by watching the movie and conceiving the context of the movie, then finding any related information related to the context of the subtitle. The translator used calque by retaining the lexicon or structure of the SL. The translator used borrowing by loaning a word in the TL. The translator used literal translation technique by translating word for word. The translator used modulation by changing the point of view of the TL. The translator used particularization by using concrete term in the TL. Finally, the translator used linguistic amplification by adding linguistic elements in the TL.

CONCLUSIONS

Having analyzed and described the translation techniques used in Indonesian subtitle text of the main character from the *Avengers: End Game* movie script, the researchers found 56 translation techniques used with 12 types of techniques from 42 data of the utterances of Tony Stark to Steve Roger. They are, linguistic compression used in 23 data (54%), reduction used in 7 data (16,6%), established equivalent used in 5 data (11.9%), variation used in 9 data (11,9%), adaptation used in 5 data (11,9%), calque used in 3 data (7,1%), borrowing used in 3 data (7.1%), compensation used in 2 data (4.7%), literal translation used in 1 datum (2.3%), modulation used in 1 datum (2.3%), particularization used in 1 datum (2.3%), and linguistic amplification used in 1 datum(2.3%).

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