

AN ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS IN TRANSFORMERS III-DARK OF THE MOON, THE TRANSLATION STRATEGIES AND THEIR DEGREES OF MEANING EQUIVALENCE

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Abstract

This research aimed at describing (1) the types of English idiomatic expressions found in the movie *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon*; (2) explain the translation strategies used to translate movie’s idioms into Bahasa Indonesia; and (3) evaluating the degree of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms. This research used a descriptive–qualitative method with complementary quantitative data. The quantitative analysis was used to measure the occurrence of idiomatic expressions based on their types, translation strategies used, and the degree of meaning equivalence. The qualitative analysis was used to explain the quantitative analysis results and to discuss how an idiomatic expression belonged to a certain type of idiom, to explain the translation strategies used to translate the idiomatic expressions, and to evaluate the degrees of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms. The results were as follows. The English idiomatic expressions found in the *Transformers III –Dark of The Moon* were divided into the following five categories based on theories proposed by Fernando and Hocket. Phrasal compound was the most common type of idiomatic expressions. There were 123 idioms or 53,2% of the data that belonged to this type. Related to the translation strategies applied in translating idioms, it was found that translation by paraphrasing was most frequently used. More than three fourths of the data units or 170 (77.5%) used this strategy. Related to the degrees of meaning equivalence of the translated idiomatic expressions, 185 units of data were considered to be equivalent.

Keywords: idiomatic expressions, translation strategies, meaning equivalence.

ANALISIS UNGKAPAN IDIOM BAHASA INGGRIS, STRATEGI PENERJEMAHAN, DAN KESEPADANAN MAKNA DALAM FILM *TRANSFORMERS III-DARK OF THE MOON*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk: menganalisa (1) jenis-jenis ungkapan idiom Bahasa Inggris yang terdapat dalam film *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon*; (2) strategi-strategi penerjemahan yang digunakan dalam menerjemahkan ungkapan-ungkapan idiom bahasa Inggris ke dalam bahasa Indonesia; dan (3) tingkat kesepadanan idiom-idiom yang sudah diterjemahkan tersebut. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif–kualitatif yang didukung oleh data kuantitatif. Analisis kuantitatif digunakan untuk mengukur jumlah ungkapan idiomatik berdasarkan jenisnya, strategi penerjemahan yang digunakan, dan tingkat kesepadanan makna dari ungkapan idiom yang diterjemahkan ke dalam bahasa Indonesia. Analisis kualitatif digunakan untuk menjelaskan hasil penelitian dan membahas bagaimana suatu ungkapan idiom digolongkan ke dalam jenis tertentu, strategi penerjemahan yang digunakan untuk menerjemahkan ungkapan idiomatik, dan tingkat kesepadanan makna dari ungkapan idiom yang sudah diterjemahkan. Hasil dari penelitian adalah sebagai berikut: ada lima jenis idiom bahasa Inggris yang terdapat dalam film *Transformers III – Dark of The Moon*. Idiom dengan jenis *phrasal compound* merupakan idiom terbanyak yang ada pada film ini, yaitu sebanyak 123 atau 53,2%. Sehubungan dengan strategi penerjemahan idiom yang digunakan, penerjemahan dengan parafrasa paling dominan yaitu 170 atau 77,5% data. Berkaitan dengan tingkat kesepadanan makna idiom yang telah diterjemahkan dalam Bahasa Indonesia, terdapat 185 data yang sepadan.

Kata kunci: ungkapan idiom, strategi penerjemahan, kesepadanan makna

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Research

Humans cannot live alone because they are social creatures who always communicate and share thoughts, ideas, opinions, and all kinds of other information with each other, both physically and verbally. To be able to communicate verbally humans need a “tool”, which is called language. For them, language is a tool for self-expression and a means of showing identity, nationality, and education. Joseph in Liams & Watt (2010, p.9) argues that searchers have shown that language and the way people speak do not simply reflect who they are, but make them who they are, or more precisely, allow them to make themselves.

Sharing information and ideas in the same language is an easy matter. However, there will be difficulties when the activity of sharing information occurs between people of different language backgrounds, especially when they are using languages which developed in completely different places. Often a word or a group of words in a certain language may not have an exactly equivalent form nor meaning in other languages. To overcome this communication problem, translation is required.

Translation has become an enormously important activity in recent decades. Human live in an increasingly internationalized world where ever-growing numbers of individuals are in continuous contact with foreign cultures and languages, both in their professional lives and in more informal contexts. This continuous contact with foreign cultures and languages usually happens via mass media. The more internationalized the world becomes, the greater the importance of translation and the more qualified translators will be needed. Translation allows us to overcome cultural and linguistic boundaries and enables communication between different cultures. Translation is thus an extremely topical issue in today's multicultural and multilingual world.

The process of translation involves the first language (source language) and the second language (target language). The source language (hereinafter shortened to SL) can be referred to as the original or native language used by an author to express an idea, to convey a message or to give an explanation. This later becomes the source material which will be translated. The target language (hereinafter shortened to TL) is

the language which the material is translated into.

Danan in Szarkowska (2005, p.5) explains that in the past, translation was mainly used in the realm of religion, literature, science and technology. In terms of technology, particularly, since the 20th century, it has shown rapid development. One of the developments can be observed through audio visual translation which, of course, has been inherent to movie development. Movie translation, which is an example of audio visual translation, is essentially needed by the audience who do not belong to the original language of the movie. In this way, movies can be a tremendously influential and extremely powerful vehicle for transferring values, ideas and information. Different cultures are presented not only verbally but also visually and aurally. To make them marketable in different nations, movies should be presented in the languages of each different national audiences. This is why the demand for movie translation has been continuing to rise in many parts of the world, including in Indonesia.

Presently the production of movies is dominated by the United States. Paquin (2011, p.1) states “*Film production has been dominated by the United States since its early days and Hollywood has nearly become synonymous with the movie industry*”. Since American movies are made in English; a large numbers of globally popular movies are subsequently in English. Although the movies are produced in a foreign language, Indonesians really enjoy English movie it has been evident that their enjoyment continues to increase. This is shown by their positive response toward English language movies which are popular in movies theaters, television broadcasts, and as recordings for home viewing circulated through various media in Indonesia. At this point subtitles are produced for essentially all major Hollywood releases. One of the most successful recent Hollywood movie franchises has been the science-fiction action *Transformers* series, which has grossed billions of dollars globally. This thesis focuses on the subtitle translation produced for the most recent installment of the series, *Transformers III – Dark of The Moon*.

There are two types of movie translation namely dubbing and subtitling. Each type of translation has its own characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages. Dubbing or voiceover is a process of replacing a movie's original soundtrack with a translated soundtrack in the

target language. The advantage of dubbing is that moviegoers can fully concentrate on the stories and images in the movie as if the cast members are speaking in the TL. Subtitles, on the other hand, are a translation of movie dialogue into the form of written text at the bottom of the movie screen. The aim of subtitles, as is the case with voiceovers, is to help the audience enjoy a movie produced in a foreign language. Subtitles always play an important role for foreign audiences of movies. Without the textual dialog, such audiences will fail to enjoy even the highest quality movies. Most foreign movies nowadays indeed come with subtitles for the audience's convenience. Yet, subtitles also have disadvantages. They can lessen the audience concentration because the audience is busy watching and reading the subtitles at the bottom of the screen at the same time they are watching the movie. Besides that, subtitles are constrained by space and time. Reduction and simplification of language are necessary to provide a smooth connection with the actions that are shown on the screen. However, it can be claimed that subtitles are more authentic because they do not hide the movie's original dialogue. Therefore, the quality of subtitles are important in ensuring that viewers get a clear and informed understanding of the movie.

Subtitle translators face the same struggles to create equivalence between the SL and TL faced by all translators. Each language, of course, has its own system and syntactic structure which are different from each other. Therefore, it takes special skills to be a translator. In producing a good quality translation, translators are frequently confronted with many difficulties. Among them are structure, lexical unit, culture, figurative expression, and idiom. Regarding idiom, English is a language which is rich in idioms, and this is particularly apparent in popular movies which often incorporate many recently popular idiomatic expressions. This is why subtitle translators must be specially aware of the natures, types and uses when translating movie.

Idiomatic expressions pose special challenges for translators because they are forms of deviation either lexically, grammatically or logically. Idioms can be either colloquial or formal which allow little or no variation. In addition, idiomatic expressions are also tied to the culture where the language is spoken. Given the properties mentioned above it is not

surprising that idiomatic expressions may be difficult to understand and translate.

Translation of idiomatic expressions can cause a change of both form and meaning. Thus, there are always difficulties in translating idiomatic expressions. As idiomatic expressions consist of groups of words communicating ideas indirectly, the translator from the very beginning needs to identify which expressions are idioms and which ones are not. Another consideration in translating idiomatic expressions is that they have many types. Besides that, there are also difficulties in finding the equivalent of the SL's idiomatic expressions in the TL. Ideally, an idiom is translated into an idiom. The way in which idiomatic expressions can be translated depends on many factors, such as the availability of an idiom with equivalent meaning in the TL. The use of certain strategies will depend on the context in which a given idiom is translated. Since it is difficult to translate the SL idioms into the TL idioms, a translator may apply non-idiomatic translation in order to maintain the meaning of the original expression in the TL. Moreover, the translator has a choice not to realize an idiom in the translation since it has no close equivalent in the TL or its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased.

To give an example, one of the idiomatic expressions contained in *Transformers III - Dark of The Moon* is "Well, then you tell NASA **to move heaven and earth**". The idiom **to move heaven and earth** in that sentence is translated into the TL "*Segera beritahu NASA untuk menuju bumi dan surga*". The definition of the idiom according to *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* is 'to do everything you can to achieve something'. Seeing the result of the translation, it is apparent that the translator has made an incorrect translation of the true meaning of that idiom. This is because the translator translated the SL's idiom literally into the TL. Therefore, the sense of the idiomatic expression is lost.

Thus, in order to produce a good translation of idiomatic expressions, the translator needs to be aware of these issues. The translator should find a suitable method for translating a text which contains idiomatic expressions. Each text requires certain kinds of strategies because in translation theory a text has its own style and degree of difficulty. A translator should pay attention to the equivalence of meaning in the translation he or she produces. He or she must transfer the information, from the SL to the TL

as much as possible and as naturally as possible so that it will not be too apparent that the final product is a translation.

There were some theories becoming the source references of the research among them are Nida and Taber (1982, p.12) states that ‘... translators are permanently faced with the problem of how to treat the cultural aspects implicit in source text (ST) and finding the most appropriate technique of successfully conveying these aspects in the target language (TL)...’. Larson (1984, p.3) adds that the form represents the grammatical surface structure of a language. It is the structural part of a language which is heard in speech or seen in print. In the case of idioms, an important aspect of form is the unit which comprises the idiom, which can be either a single word, phrase, clause, or a sentence. Larson (1989, p.8) then distinguishes meaning into two kinds; primary and secondary meanings. Primary meaning is the first meaning which appears in the mind and tends to have a reference towards a physical situation. Secondary meaning is the meaning depending on the context. The equivalence concept in translation that texts in different languages can be equivalent in different degrees by specifying equivalence as follows (Bell, 1991, p.6). Meanwhile, Hockett (1979, pp.310-318) also proposes six types of idiom. Fernando (1996, p.35) distinguishing three sub classes of idioms. Baker (1992, pp.72-78) suggests four strategies in translating idioms depending on the context of idiomatic translation. Newmark (1988, p.48) adds and proposes another strategy. He states that an idiom may be translated literally to the TL. This is done to maintain the SL idiom form.

There are some reasons why the researcher is interested to research on this movie subtitles from *Transformers III-Dark of The Moon*. First, *Transformers* itself is an extremely successful movie that it is known all over the world by fans all of ages. Second, the movie contains significant numbers of idiomatic expressions which are used as the data for this research. Therefore, this research aims at analyzing the English idiomatic expressions in *Transformers III - Dark of The Moon* and their translations in Bahasa Indonesia subtitles. Considering that idiomatic expressions are known to have a high level of difficulty to translate, the researcher decides to study the phenomenon in this research. Specific areas studied are the types of English idioms found in the original movies, the translation strategies used in translating

idioms, and the degrees of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms from the SL into the TL.

Based on the descriptions, the objectives of this research are aimed at describing the types of English idiomatic expressions found in *Transformers III - Dark of The Moon*, the translation strategies used to translate English idiomatic expressions into Bahasa Indonesia in *Transformers III - Dark of the Moon*, and evaluate the degrees of meaning equivalence of English idiomatic expressions translated into Bahasa Indonesia in *Transformers III - Dark of the Moon*. The results of this research are expected to give both theoretical and practical benefit. Theoretically, The results of the research are expected to provide an overview of the types of idiomatic expressions found in the movie as well as the translation strategies used in producing subtitles, and the equivalence of translated meaning of movie’s idiomatic expressions from English as the SL into Indonesian as the TL. This research is also expected to enrich the theory in the field of translation, especially translation of idiomatic expressions and practically, the result of this research can enrich the researcher’s understanding of the types of idiom, translation strategies used, and the equivalence of translated meaning of idiomatic expression from the SL to the TL. In addition, the result of the research can also be used as an additional reference for translators in translating the idiomatic expressions contained in movies’ subtitles, especially from English into Indonesian.

METHOD

Design of the Research

This research used a descriptive qualitative method. Creswell (2009, p.173) states that descriptive qualitative research is

A means for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem. The process of research involves emerging questions and procedures; collecting data in the participants’ setting; analyzing the data inductively, building from particulars to general themes; and making interpretations of the meaning of the data. The final written report has a flexible writing structure.

This definition implies that descriptive qualitative research is used to explore and understand better a social phenomenon, why and

how is something happened. This is in line with what Sharan and Merriam (in Sugiyono, 2013, p.228) add that qualitative research is *an inquiry approach useful for a exploring and understanding a central phenomenon*. In this research the phenomenon itself was the idioms found in *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon*. This research would describe what had been stated in research questions, the types of English idioms, translation strategies used in translating them, and the degrees of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms into Bahasa Indonesia.

To support this research, the quantitative analysis was also applied. The qualitative method basically provided in-depth and interpreted understanding of the data which may produce detailed description and classification, identity patterns of association, or developed typologies and explanations. The supportive quantitative analysis would help the researcher to measure the occurrence of idiomatic expressions based on their types, translation strategies used, and the degrees of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms.

This research is also embedded case research. This means that the research questions were formulated before the research was conducted. Meanwhile content analysis is also applied for analyzing data related to the context in the movie. Since this is a descriptive-qualitative research, the data and the analysis are provided in the forms of explanations and descriptions. This research was accomplished by watching the movie; collecting, rewriting, classifying, analyzing the data; and making some conclusion.

Still, this study is also called a part of developing research project because research on idioms has been conducted by other researchers. From the point of orientation, this is a product-oriented research. What the researcher studied was all the English idiomatic expressions in *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon* and their translations in Bahasa Indonesia subtitles.

Place and Time of the Research

This research was not bound into any particular place since this was library research. This research was conducted from September 2012 to December 2013. This research consisted of watching the movie, reading, studying, classifying, analyzing the data, examination of the data by the inter-raters, revision and making conclusions.

Data and Source of the Data

The data of this research were all English idiomatic expressions and their translations in Bahasa Indonesia. Source of the data was *Transformers III–Dark of the Moon* movie and their translations in Bahasa Indonesia subtitles. There were 231 idiomatic expressions or data analyzed. In this research, English was as the source language and Bahasa Indonesia was as the target language. The unit of analysis in this study was all types of English idiomatic expressions and their translations in Bahasa Indonesia.

Techniques and Instrument of the Data Collection

The researcher applied the sampling technique, listening technique, note-taking technique and content analysis in this research.

Sampling Technique

In this case, the samples of the data were not randomly taken. They were chosen because of some considerations based on the objectives of the research themselves. This was what was later called by purposive sampling. The selected samples would represent the information, not the population or the number of the data.

Listening Technique

The researcher watched and listened to the *Transformer III–Dark of The Moon*, the source of the data of this research. Before analyzing the gained data, the researcher should be sure that they were the correct data, especially the idioms found in English. As well as making sure that the data source was correct, the researcher also asked the help of those who understood the topics studied by the researcher.

Note-Taking Technique

As the source data of the objectives of this research was an event or particular activity, so note-taking technique would be essential to help the researcher to collect the data. In addition, this technique was also applied to avoid the missing information when collecting the data. This technique was the complement of the listening technique. This technique was selected because the data in this research were in oral and written forms. This technique might be applied with listening technique at the same time and conducted since watching and listening the movie. The researcher also involved others to gain the better understanding toward the data the

researcher was working on. They were considered to have enough background knowledge on objectives the researcher was studying. They are a native speaker of English and a student of Linguistics of Translation.

Content Analysis

In content analysis the researcher did not only record the data written in a certain document, but also analyzed their implied meanings (Sutopo, 2002, pp.69-70). Since the source data of this research was a movie, it was important to pay attention toward the whole utterances, contexts or situations and audio-visual aspects. The process of analysis began by watching and listening to the movie, reading the subtitles, recording and interpreting the types of idiom, translation strategies used, and the degrees of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms.

Instrument

This is human instrument research. The researcher has some ability and knowledge about the problems studied. In this research, the researcher plans and conducts the research; collects, analyses, and interprets the data; draws a conclusion and reports the results of the research. The researcher is a graduate of English Literature and also a native speaker of Bahasa Indonesia. The researcher also used additional instruments such as; monolingual dictionaries (*Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, *Online Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, *Longman English Contemporary Dictionary*, *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia*, bilingual dictionaries (Indonesia – English and English – Indonesian), and a specific term dictionary (Idiom dictionary). There are also some non-printed or online sources the researcher used to understand the data he was working with.

Data Trustworthiness

To gain trustworthiness in this research, the researcher applied triangulation techniques. According to Wierswa in Sugiyono (2010, p.125) the triangulation techniques were used to check the data from different sources by using different ways in different times. This technique was applied by researchers or observed for rechecking or confirming the degree of data validity.

In addition, the reliability of data could also be supported and confirmed by intra-rater and inter-raters. In this research the researcher

was also the intra-rater who observed the data diligently and precisely. This was done by repetitively reading and studying the data and all relevant aspects. This would result in accurate and detailed data. Meanwhile, there were two inter-raters appointed in this research. The first one was Don Brown. He is a native speaker of English. He was an English teacher and an English education counselor at a foreign language school in Sydney. The second one was Nahoras Bona Simarmata. He is a native speaker of Bahasa Indonesia. He was a student of English Literature in the Undergraduate Program. Currently he is in the 2nd semester of his graduate study, majoring Linguistics of Translation. The two inter-raters checked the data that had been interpreted by the researcher as a whole. So the data would be more valid.

Data Analysis Technique

The data analysis is the process of searching and arranging the data systematically. The techniques of analyzing the data were: (1) Searching for the English idiomatic expressions and their translations in Indonesian; (2) Classifying the English idiomatic expressions into types of idiom; (3) Analyzing and finding the strategies used in translating the English idioms into Indonesian; (4) Analyzing and finding the degree of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms; (5) Numbering or encoding each of idioms to ease the classification of the data; (6) Making conclusion from the data analyzed.

The classification of the data and their codes are presented as following: (1) In terms of the types of idioms the researcher combined all three of Fernando's types of idiom and two of Hockett's six types of idiom. The resulting categories are pure idiom (PI), semi idiom (SI), literal idiom (LI), phrasal compound (PC) and slang (SL). The researcher only used two of Hockett's six types of idiom because the other four are already considered to have been represented by Fernando's categories. So there will be five types of idioms; (2) In terms of the translation strategies used in translating idioms, from English into Indonesian, the researcher applied Baker's theory. Baker considers that there are four strategies used in this case; by using an idiom of similar meaning and form (ISMF); by using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form (IDF); translation by paraphrasing (TP); leaving the idioms untranslated or translation by omission (TO). These four

strategies were completed by another strategy suggested by Newmark's that is translating the idioms literally (TL).; (3) In terms of the degrees of the meaning equivalence, Bell's theory was applied. Bell proposes that meaning equivalence is categorized into two: equivalent and non-equivalent. Equivalent is categorized into fully or completely (FULL) equivalent and partly-equivalent. When the meaning or message of the idioms are fully translated and conveyed in the TL (Indonesian), the idioms are considered to be fully or completely equivalent. The partial equivalence is categorized into two different ways. If there is an additional meaning in the translated idioms not found in the originals, it is considered increased (INC). When one or more message or meaning from the original idioms do not show up in the translated idioms, it is considered decreased meaning (DEC). Non-equivalent is also divided into two categories. If the translated idiom refers to a different meaning than the original, it is considered different (DIF). While, if the idiomatic expressions are not translated at all, they are considered not to have any significant meaning in the target text or Indonesian subtitles (NO).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study is conducted to describe; the types of English idiomatic expressions found in *Transformers III-Dark of The Moon* movie; translation strategies used by the translator to translate idiomatic expressions in *Transformers III-Dark of The Moon*; and the degrees of meaning equivalence of English idiomatic expressions which have been translated into Bahasa Indonesia.

Results

The data in this research are *Transformers III-Dark of The Moon*'s English idiomatic expressions and their translations into Bahasa Indonesia subtitles. These data are used to analyze the types of English idioms, translation strategies used, and the degrees of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms.

Description of the Types of English Idiomatic Expressions Found in Transformer III–Dark of The Moon.

To analyze the types of English idiomatic expressions found in *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon*, it is important to understand the classifications of idioms. This help to categorize the idioms found in the movie. The research

combines all three of Fernando's types of idioms and two of Hockett's six types. The researcher only applies two of Hockett's because the other four are already considered to be covered by the Fernando's three types of idioms.

Below is the description of the occurrence of the types of idioms found in *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon*.

Table 1. The Occurrence of Types of English Idiomatic Expressions

No	Idiom Types	Number	Percentage (%)
1	Pure Idiom (PI)	20	8.70
2	Semi Idiom (SI)	31	13.4
3	Literal Idiom (LI)	30	13.0
4	Phrasal Compound (PC)	123	53.2
5	Slang (SL)	27	11.7
	Total	231	100

From the above table, it can be concluded that most of the idiomatic expressions in the movie were in phrasal compound forms. There were 123 idioms or more than half of all the data units analysed (53.2%). In the second place was semi idiom with a total number of 31 or 13.4 %. In the next position were literal idioms a total number of 30 or 13.0%.

There were 27 idioms considered as slang. The last, with the least number was pure idioms. There were only 20 such idioms found in this movie.

Description of the Translation Strategies as Used in Translating the English Idiomatic Expressions into Bahasa Indonesia

Baker explains that there are four strategies used to translate idioms. They are (1) by using an idiom of similar meaning and form, (2) by using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, (3) by paraphrasing, and (4) by omitting the idiom. In this research the researcher adds one more strategy proposed by Newmark, that is (5) translating the idiom literally. This strategy is different from Baker's translating by paraphrasing. In translating literally, the SL's idiom form is maintained, while translating by paraphrasing the idiom is explained by using TL's stylistic preference.

Below is the table that shows the occurrence of strategies used in translating English idioms into Bahasa Indonesia.

Table 2. The Occurrence of Translation Strategies

No	Translation Strategy	Number	Percentage (%)
1	Using an idiom of similar meaning and form	5	2.1
2	Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form	8	3.5
3	Translation by Paraphrase	179	77.5
4	Translation by Omission	6	2.6
5	Translating idiom literally	33	14.3
	Total	231	100

From the above table, it can be seen that translating by paraphrasing was the most used strategy. There were 179 data units of such paraphrasing, or more than three quarter (77.5%) of all the idioms. Translating by paraphrasing was followed by translating literally. There were 33 data units (14.3%) in which this strategy was applied. Translating by using similar meaning but dissimilar form and translating by omission were found only eight and six times respectively. Translating by using the similar meaning and form occurred in the case of only five idioms or 2.1% of the data units.

Description of the Degrees of Meaning Equivalence of English Idiomatic Expressions Translated into Bahasa Indonesia

The meaning equivalence of the translated idioms can be divided into two categories; they are equivalent and non-equivalent. Equivalent is divided into fully and partly equivalent. Fully equivalent means that the translated idioms fully convey the message contained in the original or source idiom. Partly equivalent involves increased and decreased meanings. When new ideas or messages appear in the translated idioms, this is called increased meaning. The translated idioms that only contain some of the ideas or messages present, which are examples of decreased meaning. The non-equivalent category is applied when the source idioms are translated whose meaning is totally different in target language. This is called different meaning. When the idioms are entirely omitted from the target text called no meaning.

The following table presents the degree of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms.

Table 3. The Degrees of Meaning Equivalence

No	Meaning Equivalence	Number	Percentage (%)
1	Equivalent	185	80.1
a	Fully or Completely Equivalent (FULL)	152	65.8
b	Partly- Equivalent		
	1) Increased meaning (INC)	16	6.9
	2) Decreased meaning (DEC)	17	7.4
2	Non-Equivalent	46.6	19.9
a	Different Meaning (DIFF)	40	17.3
b	No Meaning (NO)	6	2.6
	Total	231	100

The table shows that most of the translated idioms convey the complete or full messages contained in the source idioms. There were 152 idioms which were completely equivalent. This was 65.8% of all the data units. There were 46 idioms that had non-equivalent translations. There were 40 (17.3%) of the total idioms had different meanings and 6 (2.6%) idioms had no meanings or were left untranslated. Meanwhile, the other 33 data units were considered partly-equivalent; 16 (6.9%) translated idioms had new meanings or message which were called increased meanings, the remaining 17 idioms did not fully convey the messages due to a loss of some pieces of information contained in the source idioms. This was called decreased meanings.

Discussion

This research tries to analyze the types of idioms, the strategies used to translate them, and the degrees of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms.

Types of English Idiomatic Expressions

Understanding the idioms contained in *Transformers III-Dark of The Moon* is very helpful to classify them. It is important not only to know which words and phrases are idioms and what are their meanings, but also which category of idiom each one belongs. There are various classifications of idioms used by scholars, the researcher considers the pre-existing classifications and combines them into five types namely; pure idioms, semi idioms, literal idioms, phrasal-compound, and slang. Since this part only discusses the types of idioms, there is

no any discussion of the equivalence of the translated idioms. This part only focuses on the types of English idioms found in the movie. Translation strategies and meaning equivalence will be discussed in the next parts.

Pure Idioms

Pure idioms are idioms in which the meaning of the idiom is totally different from the words forming it. This type of idiom allows little or even no variation. In the movie, there are 20 units of data of pure idioms. One of the examples of them is :

SL: I give you one thing to do. One thing to do and you drop the ball.

TL: Aku memberi kau satu hal. Satu hal dan kau menggagalkannya.

The idiom ‘drop the ball’ which is translated into ‘*kau menggagalkannya*’. This idiom means ‘to commit a faux pas or a fault or to make a serious mistake’. Online Cambridge Advance Learners Dictionary also shares the similar idea that is ‘to make a mistake, especially by doing something stupid in careless way.’ The meaning of this idiom has no relation to the words forming it, ‘drop’ and ‘the ball’. This is why this idiom belongs to the category of pure idioms.

Semi Idioms

One (or more) word forming a semi idiom has a literal meaning while parts of the semi idiom do not. This implies that the meaning can partly be guessed. One of the examples of semi idioms is:

SL: If you breathe a word of what you’ve seen here.

TL: Jika kamu cerita satu kata apa yang sudah kau lihat di sini.

Idiom ‘*breathe a word*’ means ‘to tell’ or ‘to let somebody know’. The meaning of this idiom is implied by one of the words forming the idiom, which is ‘word’. ‘Breathe’ on the other hand may not have a relation to ‘to tell’ nor ‘to let somebody know’.

Literal Idioms

The basic meaning of a literal idiom is formed by its individual words. That is why this kind of idiom is considered to have a clear meaning or is easily predicted.

SL: As a tax payer I can lodge a complaint.

As a matter of fact.

TL: sebagai pembayar pajak aku bisa mengajukan komplain. Pada kenyataannya.

This idiom is translated into ‘*pada kenyataannya*’. Its meaning can be predicted by its individual words. This idiom is used to emphasize what someone is saying or to show that it is the opposite of or different from what happened or went on before.

Phrasal Compound

A phrasal compound is a combination of two or more words which result in a new meaning. The combination may consist of a verb and a verb, a verb and a noun, a verb and an adjective, and so on. Some examples are:

SL: Come on, get up.

TL: Ayo bangun.

This idiom is translated as ‘*bangun*’. This idiom consists of the verb ‘get’ and the preposition ‘up’. Individually, ‘get’ means ‘to move to a different place or position’ and ‘up’ means ‘to a higher position’. Idiom ‘get up’ means ‘to wake up and get out of bed’. This may also be used when asking someone to wake up. So, the words ‘get’ and ‘up’ create a new meaning when they are put into a phrasal compound ‘get up’.

Slang

This kind of idiom is used as an informal expression by certain communities or groups. Many slang expressions are mainly used by teenagers. Slang is also used as a term of something or someone with certain characteristics or conditions. One of the examples of slang is:

SL: Yo, you’re being a smart ass!

TL: Hei, kau semakin menjengalkan saja!

This idiom is an example of slang. The slang ‘smart ass’ means ‘a person who, by means of purpose or not, uses sarcasm to have a laugh. A person, who on the regular bases annoys the hell out of people with his or her sarcastic attitude’ So, ‘being a smart ass’ means being that kind of person.

Idiom Translation Strategies

Idiom translation strategies are very important for every translator. Strategies are very useful to help them to produce the accurate

idioms. Translation strategies are also useful for the researcher in analyzing translation, strategies applied into idioms she or he is researching. There are five translation strategies used to analyze the translated idioms in this research, they are: using idioms of similar meaning and form, using idioms of similar meaning but dissimilar form, by paraphrasing, by omission, and literal translation.

Using an Idiom of Similar Meaning and Form

When translating SL's idioms, a translator maintains an idiomatic form in translation too. The idioms they produce consist of equivalent lexical items. Still, the meaning of the translated idioms shares a similarity with the SL's idioms.

SL: I'm still stewing about that binder incident, Jerry.

TL: Aku masih bersusah hati dengan kecelakaan itu, Jerry.

'*Still stewing*' is an idiom which means '*becoming or feeling anxious or upset about something*'. This idiom is translated into '*susah hati*' which is also an idiom in Bahasa Indonesia. This idiom means '*bersedih*' (Tim Penerbit Bintang, 2008, p.178). The idioms in both languages also share the equivalent lexical units in terms of forms. In English '*still stewing*' is a phrasal verb. In Bahasa Indonesia '*bersusah hati*' is also a phrasal verb. One of the function of the prefix '*ber*' is to state someone's emotions.

Using an Idiom of Similar Meaning but Dissimilar Form

There are idioms which share the similar meaning in the TL but using different lexical items. One of the examples is:

TL: But son, this is the job that's standing in your way.

SL: Tapi nak, pekerjaan ini sesuai dengan jalanmu.

'Standing in someone's way' means 'to take someone's place'. This meaning is similarly shared by its translation 'sesuai dengan jalanmu'. 'sesuai dengan jalanmu' means 'according to the way or place you take'. These two expressions using share the similar meaning but they have different lexical items in terms forms. The English idiom uses verbal phrase '...standing in your way' while its Bahasa Indonesia uses adjective phrase '...sesuai dengan jalanmu'.

Translation by Paraphrasing

Frequently, it is hard to find an equivalent idiom to replace a SL idiom in the TL. To deal with this, paraphrasing the idiom is the best way to convey the message contained in an idiom using different words and grammatical structures in terms of form. This is why this strategy is commonly used. This is not only to ease translating the idiom but also to ease people's understanding of translations. One example of this strategy is:

SL: I give you one thing to do. One thing to do and you drop the ball.

TL: Aku memberi kau satu hal yang harus dilakukan. Satu hal yang harus dilakukan dan kau menggagalkannya.

'*Drop the ball*' is an English idiom. The meaning of this idiom has no relation to the words forming it. This idiom's meaning is '*to commit a serious mistake*'. The translator may not have been able to find the idiom with an equivalent meaning in Indonesia, and so simply paraphrased the meaning directly with '*menggagalkannya*'. Its translation may not be an idiom, but it effectively conveys the message contained in the SL.

Literal Translation

In literal translation, the translator adopts the SL's grammatical construction into the nearest construction available in the TL and translates the words of an idiom one by one. This may result in a translation without context. While there are some idioms that can be translated literally, literal translation may often result in a translation that fails to preserve meaning equivalence. This strategy may often be used when a translator does not realize that he is working with idiomatic expressions. The example of this strategy is:

SL: You're peasant people throwing rocks at a giant.

TL: Kalian para petani melemparkan batu pada raksasa.

The English idiom above is expressed by someone to deride others. This is usually used by someone with a higher power or social status. This is according to the context in the movie. Simmons said this idiom '*You're peasant people throwing rocks at a giant*' because he felt annoyed when being interviewed by a TV broadcaster. This idiom is later translated into

'*Kalian para petani melemparkan batu pada raksasa*'. This translation shows that the translator seems not to know that this is an idiom. He translates this idiom literally, by using the equivalent words. As a result, the TL's idiom does not share the same meaning.

Translation by Omission

There are idioms that cannot be translated using the literal or paraphrasing strategy into a certain language. This is because of the different stylistic or grammatical matters. To deal with this kind of idiom, a translator may not translate or omit them in their works. This is frequently conducted by the translator when they find that the translated idiom is not essential to the whole meaning. Another consideration is that the translated idiom in the SL can be understood implicitly in the TL.

SL: We were in the dark on this also. It was director only clearance at Sector 7, until now.

TL: Ini hanya diijinkan oleh direktur di sector 7, sampai sekarang.

The idiom '*in the dark*' means '*to know nothing about something*'. In the TL's text, there is no translation of this idiom. The translator may consider that omitting this idiom will not influence the whole meaning or message conveyed by the text.

The Degrees of Meaning Equivalence of the Translated Idiomatic Expressions

After analyzing the types of idioms and strategies used in translating them, the next step in the project was to evaluate the meaning equivalence of the translated idioms. The equivalence of meaning of the translated idioms can be divided into two degrees; equivalent meaning and non-equivalent. Fully equivalent and partly-equivalent belongs to equivalent meaning. When a translated idiom fully conveys the meaning of the original idiom, it is called fully equivalent. When a translated idiom only conveys some or a part of its meanings, it is called partly-equivalent. In this case, the translated idioms may add new meanings or lose some original meanings. In the case of non-equivalent, the translated idioms have different meanings with the SL's. The other idioms with no meaning or which are not translated are also considered non-equivalent.

To comprehend better, some of the discussions will include the context of the movie's plots.

Equivalent Idioms

1) Fully-equivalent idioms

A translated idiom is considered to be fully equivalent if it completely expresses or conveys all the meanings or messages that are contained an idiom from the SL.

SL: Games are tight.

TL: Pekerjaan yang sulit.

'*Games are tight*' means '*a very difficult or dangerous situation or games*'. Witwicky says this idiom when he visits his girlfriend, Carly, in her workplace, a car showroom. He finds that Carly and her boss, Dylan, have become close. This kind of relation should not exist between employee and employer. Witwicky later envies them but he finds himself jobless. This makes Witwick grumble, saying that he is having a difficulty dealing with his girlfriend's job. Its translation, '*pekerjaan yang sulit*', has clearly conveyed the original message. This is why this idiom is considered fully equivalent.

2) Partly-equivalent Idioms

Every translator, of course, tries to make their translation as equivalent as possible. However, not every word can be translated equivalently to another language. Every language has a rich vocabulary. However, other languages may not be able to fully accommodate the meaning of an SL's words. So, when a translator translates a word, the TL's word may lose some of the SL word's meaning and may gain a new meaning. This is called a partly equivalent meaning.

Increased Meaning

When a TL's idiom contains an additional or new meaning which is not found in SL's idiom, it is called an increased meaning. One example is:

SL: You are being a smart ass.

TL: Kau semakin menjengkelkan saja.

'*Smart ass*' as a person, by means of purpose or not, uses sarcasm to have a laugh; a person who, on regular bases, annoys the hell out of people with their sarcastic-attitude. This definition is conveyed with the TL translation '*menjengkelkan*'. Kamus Besar Bahasa Indone-

sia defines ‘*menjengkelkan*’ as ‘*menyebabkan orang merasa kesal; membuat jadi kesal; menimbulkan rasa jengkel*’. When ‘*a smart ass*’ is translated into ‘*semakin menjengkelkan*’, this means that the translator adds information with the word ‘*semakin*’ in the TL. ‘*Semakin*’, which corresponds to the word ‘*more*’ in English, is not found in the SL idiom.

Decreased Meaning

When a TL idiom has a different meaning or the meaning of the idiom in the source text is not realized in target language it is called a decreased meaning. One example is:

SL: *Shorten the kill chain.*

TL: *Bersiap untuk serangan.*

The idiom ‘*the kill chain*’ is an example of slang. This is a military concept which refers to the process that happens before a target is attacked, which consists of target identification, a decision made by leaders to order an attack on the target, and finally the actual destruction of the target. This slang is translated only as ‘*serangan*.’ The meaning of this translation is decreased because other meanings in the SL’s idiom are not translated. ‘*Serangan*’ only conveys a part of the meaning of ‘*kill chain*’ which is the attack that results from the rest of the “*kill chain*” process. *Serangan* does not represent target identification, or the order to attack the target. The translator may not be aware of the full meaning of this idiomatic military jargon or may have simply decided that there was not enough space to fully paraphrase its meaning.

Non-equivalent Idioms

A translation of an idiom is considered non-equivalent if in the TL the translated idiom has a totally different meaning from the SL idiom. The idioms which are left untranslated are also categorized non-equivalent.

1) Different Meaning

A different meaning occurs when the translator translates using words which have a different meaning. His or her translation does not share the idea, message, or meaning contained in the SL idioms. This could happen when the translator possibly does not know it is an idiomatic expression he is dealing with.

SL: *Get this straight, you want to survive you listen to me.*

TL: *Lakukan ini, kau ingin bertahan hidup, kau dengarkan aku.*

Idiom ‘*get this straight*’ belongs to semi idiom. This is usually used when someone wants ‘*to make a situation clear; to make sure that others understand the situation*’. This conversation happens between Carly and his boss Dylan. Carly realizes that there is something behind her closeness with her boss. She really shocked and surprised when she finds that Dylan is an ally of the Decepticons, the evil robots, who fight the Autobots and try to enslave humans. Dylan also uses his closeness with Carly to trap Witwicky, who is also a good friend of the Autobots. Dylan says that he does this because he wants to survive.

In this context, when Dylan says ‘*get this straight*’ he wants to convince Carly that what he has done is the right thing and asks Carly to listen and understand him. The translation of ‘*get this straight*’ into ‘*lakukan ini*’ has a different meaning. ‘*lakukan ini*’ does not represent what Dylan says. Dylan intends to convince and gets Carly to understand what he has done, he does not mean Carly to do what he has done. ‘*Get this straight*’ should be translated into ‘*biar ku jelaskan*’ or ‘*biar ku luruskan*’.

2) No Meaning

No meaning occurs as the translator chooses not to translate an idiom. This is in line with translation by omission strategy. As a result, the information or meanings or ideas contained in the SL will not be found in the TL. A translator chooses this strategy if he or she thinks that the omission will not affect the whole meaning of what is translated. Additionally, this strategy may be used to deal with the limitations of space and time in the subtitles.

SL: *You’re the only thing I need in this world and I’ll do anything to **make it up** to you, I promise.*

TL: *Kau satu-satunya yang ku butuhkan di dunia ini dan aku akan melakukan apa saja, aku janji.*

The idiom ‘*make something up*’ means ‘*to replace something that has been lost*’. Witwicky says this to his girlfriend at the end of the movie, after the battle against the Decepticons is finished. He promises that he will try to live together with her as in the past, and will not let her go to others. This was the life he promised to Carly. In the TL, the idiom is left untranslated. It

can be understood that *'melakukan apa saja'* has replaced the idea of *'replacing something has been lost'*. Therefore, the idiom *'make it up'* is not necessarily translated in the TL.

Research Limitation

This research has some limitations. The idiomatic expressions discussed here are only the idiomatic expressions contained in *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon*. The source language of this research is English, while the target language is Bahasa Indonesia. Some of the idiomatic expressions in this research really depend on the context of the movie. Though idiomatic expressions are closely related to the cultural aspect of its language users, the idiomatic expressions here are only discussed based on their linguistic aspects.

CONCLUSION AND SUGESTIONS

This is the last chapter of this study. This chapter will present some of the important points related to the findings and discussions in the previous chapter. These points are divided into conclusions, implication, and suggestion.

Conclusion

This section will explain the conclusions of what have been discussed in findings. They are according to the research questions in this research; describing the types of English idioms found, translation strategies applied in translating idioms, and meaning equivalence of the translated idioms found in *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon's* Bahasa Indonesia subtitles.

The Type of English Idiomatic Expressions Found in *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon*

Analyzing and finding the idiom types is the first aim of this research. There are 231 English idiomatic expressions found in *Transformers III–Dark of The Moon*. With 123 data, phrasal compound idiom comprised the greatest number or more than half of the data units. The second highest number is semi idiom. The total number was 31 which are almost the same as literal idioms which represented 30 data units. The fourth type was slang, with 27 data units. The least common types in the data units were pure idioms.

The result of finding the types of idiom implies that the movie tends to use the phrasal compound type. The small number of pure idioms and slang indicates that the movie avoids using the idioms that may be totally different in

terms of meaning. This will assist the audience in understanding the movie.

The Translation Strategies Used to Translate English Idiomatic Expressions into Bahasa Indonesia

The second problem formulation aims to analyze the strategies applied by the translator to translate the English idiomatic expressions into Bahasa Indonesia. From the total of 231 idioms, there were 179 translated using paraphrasing, 33 translated literally, eight using idioms of similar meaning but dissimilar form, six left untranslated or omitted, and five using idioms of similar meaning and form.

The number of idioms of similar meaning and form, and idioms of similar meaning but dissimilar form indicates that idioms are difficult to translate. In some cases, the translator even left idioms untranslated. Rather than attempting to reproduce idioms the translator instead mostly paraphrased the meaning of the idioms in Bahasa Indonesia. On one hand, it is possible that this choice reflects the limited knowledge of the translator of the TL idiomatic expressions and on the other hand, this choice may have been made in order to convey the meaning of the dialogue as clearly as possible to Indonesian audiences.

The Meaning Equivalence of the English Idiomatic Expressions Translated into Bahasa Indonesia

The third problem formulation directs the writer to analyze the meaning equivalence of the translated idioms based on the degrees of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms; equivalent and non-equivalent. In terms of equivalent, fully/completely equivalent means that the translated idioms accurately convey and contain the message, idea, or meaning of the SL's idiomatic expressions. There were 152 (65.8%) translated idioms identified in the data units to be fully equivalent.

The term partly-equivalent is used when some pieces of information are either lost or added in the translated idioms. When there is additional information, it is called increased meaning. In this research, there were 16 translated idioms found of increased meaning. On the other hand, if there is a loss of some pieces of information, it is called decreased meaning. There were 17 translated idioms found to be have decreased meaning.

The translated idioms are considered to be non-equivalent when their meanings are different from the source idioms meanings. There are 40 data units belong to this degree. While the idioms left untranslated also belong to non-equivalent. In this research there are only six data units without meaning.

The result of the analysis of the third research question indicates that the translator is often not very careful translating the idioms. 14.3% of the translated idioms were considered partly-equivalent and 19.9 % of the data units were found to be non-equivalent. Though the number of fully equivalent translations was 152 or 65.8%, for an internationally marketed movie, the percentage of non-equivalent (19.9%) is still quite high and this should be avoided for the sake of audience's understanding. While subtitle translators will always have to deal with the limitations of space and time inherent in the subtitle medium, and at times will even need to strategically reduce or omit meanings present in the original, there is still no excuse for incorrect translations in commercially produced subtitles. It is advised that any translation should be as equivalent as possible.

Implications

The findings show that most English idioms are phrasal-compounds. The translated idioms show that most of the idioms or 179 of 231 (77.5%) were translated by paraphrasing. This may indicate two things; first, Bahasa Indonesia may not have the equivalent idioms and second, the translator may have simply failed to equip himself or herself with a sufficient number of Indonesian idioms. In terms of equivalence, the number of non-equivalent idiom is 46 or 19.9%. Though the number of completely equivalent and partly-equivalent translations was 185 or 80.1%, 19.9% is exorbitant for an internationally marketed movie. According to the principle of translation, any translation should be as accurate or equivalent as possible.

Still, the findings of this research raise some implications, both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the researcher combines Hockett's and Fernando's classifications of idiomatic expressions. Regarding the strategies, the translation strategies of Baker and Newmark are combined. Lastly, to assess the degree of meaning equivalence of the translated idioms, Bell's equivalence concept is applied. Practically this research may be used as a reference

for other researchers who are interested in translation, especially in translation of idiomatic expressions found in the movie. This research may also provide an additional reference for any translator who wants to produce better translations, especially in terms of idiomatic expressions.

Suggestion

According to the previous conclusion, the researcher makes the following suggestions:

For Translators

Idiomatic expressions are frequently found in English. Many of them seem to be non-idiomatic to non-native English speakers. This leads to the idioms being translated literally and losing their original meanings. This is why the translators must carefully pay attention. Firstly, they must recognize whether it is an idiom or not. Their understanding of English idioms is essential to help them in deciding the appropriate translation strategies. This also should be supported by their understanding of idioms in Bahasa Indonesia. The translators' understanding of the SL's and the TL's idioms will help them to produce as many of the equivalent translation as possible.

For the Field of Applied Linguistics

Idiomatic expressions exist in every language. They are widely used both in oral and written forms. So it is important for students to have a good knowledge of idiom. Therefore, making a special study of idioms is necessary for students of applied linguistics. The students will get used to the idioms of whatever language they are working with and will become accustomed to translate them appropriately.

For Other Researchers

Every language has its own idiomatic expressions. They are unique and potentially specific to a certain language. This does not only imply that idioms are important to know, but are also an interesting subject to discuss and study. As an Applied Linguistics student concentrating on translation and as a non-native speaker of English, the researcher finds that it is a challenge for every translator. The researcher believes that there are still many things which can be discussed and studied concerning idioms. It is expected that this research can be a support for other researchers when they are planning to conduct research on idioms, especially in terms

of types of idioms, translation strategies and meaning equivalence.

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