

VERBAL HUMOR IN *GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL 2* AND ITS SUBTITLE STRATEGY

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Abstract

This research attempts to analyze how verbal humor in the *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2* movie is translated into Bahasa Indonesia. In doing so, two objectives are formulated: 1) to describe the types of verbal humor in the *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2* movie, 2) to describe the strategies used to translate the verbal humor into Bahasa Indonesia subtitle. This research applies descriptive qualitative method because it provides descriptions of translation features in *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2* movie. The data of this research were collected from *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2* movie subtitle. The data were collected manually from English text as source language and Bahasa Indonesia subtitle as target language. The researcher was the main instrument of the research. To gain trustworthiness, triangulation method was applied on this research. The research result shows two important findings. First, the types of verbal humor in the *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2* movie are Imitation, Sarcasm, Teasing, Key Frame Allusion, Proper Name Allusion, Hyperbolic Expression, and Intensifiers. Sarcasm appears more than other types. From the types of verbal humor found in the movie, it can be concluded that Sarcasm is the humor that target readers are able to comprehend easily. Second, the strategies used to translate verbal humor are Transfer, Imitation, Paraphrase, and Deletion. Imitation is the strategy used more frequently compare to other strategy because the humor in the movie frequently deals with names, and Imitation is used.

Keywords: translation, verbal humor, subtitle strategy, *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2*.

Abstrak

Riset ini bertujuan untuk menganalisa bagaimana humor verbal dalam film *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2* diterjemahkan dalam Bahasa Indonesia. Dalam pengerjaannya, dua objek dirumuskan: 1) untuk mendeskripsikan tipe tipe humor verbal dalam film *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2*, 2) untuk mendeskripsikan strategi penerjemahan yang digunakan untuk menerjemahkan verbal humor ke dalam Bahasa Indonesia. Riset ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif karena metode tersebut menyediakan deskripsi fitur penerjemahan yang terdapat dalam film *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2*. Data yang digunakan dalam riset ini dikumpulkan dari subtitel film *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2*. Data dikumpulkan secara manual dari subtitel Bahasa Inggris sebagai bahasa sumber dan subtitel bahasa Indonesia sebagai bahasa target. Pelaku riset adalah instrumen utama pada riset ini. Riset ini menggunakan metode triangulasi agar datanya dianggap sah. Hasil riset ini menunjukkan dua penemuan penting. Pertama, tipe tipe humor verbal yang terdapat pada film *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2* adalah Sarcasm, Teasing, Key Phrase Allusion, Proper Name Allusion, Hyperbolic Expression dan Intensifiers. Sarcasm muncul lebih banyak dibanding tipe yang lain. Dari tipe tipe humor verbal yang muncul dalam film tersebut, dapat disimpulkan bahwa Sarcasm adalah humor yang dapat lebih mudah untuk dipahami oleh penonton. Kedua, strategi penerjemahan subtitel yang digunakan untuk menerjemahkan humor verbal adalah Transfer, Imitation, Paraphrase, dan Deletion. Imitation adalah strategi yang paling sering digunakan dibandaing strategi yang lain karena dalam film banyak yang menggunakan nama sebagai unsur humornya, dan Imitation digunakan dalam penerjemahannya.

Kata kunci: penerjemahan, humor verbal, strategi penerjemahan subtitel, *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2*.

BACKGROUND

Humans are not a machine. What makes them different from machine is that they have feelings and soul that need entertainment. As a result people invent various kinds of entertainment to satisfy their souls and feelings.

Since entertainment is a primary needs. It cannot be denied that entertainment is what makes people keep being sane in this stressful world. It works as a medicine and could encourage people to pursue their career or education life. In this case, Japan can be taken as an example. Japanese government instructs their people to take vacation more to make them more productive when they come back to work because they could at least release their stress from their daily work.

One of the entertainments people can get is from watching movies, especially funny ones as they also offer a chance to people to laugh by providing good visual effect, good story and jokes in their content. In this age, there are a lot of movies, even superhero movies that contain a lot of jokes that could be considered as an aspect that can make people enjoy the film. The increasing number of funny movies nowadays shows us that people need entertainment even for more because pressure from real life is getting stronger and depressing. Funny movies could refresh our mind because when we are laughing it

indicates that people are happy and the happier people are, and the less mental issues they have.

Dialogues that contain humor give its own uniqueness in the film. Humor that appears in a movie can be as simple things sometimes, like a wink or an utterance appearing spontaneously and unexpectedly. Sometimes humorous meaning can be conveyed by the context of speech or gestures of the cast.

In short, verbal humor requires thoughts. Sometimes people cannot even see a simple joke in which other people might consider as funny joke. However, a very simple joke can sometimes be considered as a funny joke by all people.

One of the movies that contain a lot of verbal humor in its dialogue is *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol 2*. It is one of Marvel Cinematic Universe movies, which was already been released in a lot of countries including Indonesia since 2017. It was produced by Marvel and Disney as a sequel for *Guardians of the Galaxy* in 2014. It was included as one of box office movies in 2017 as it offered high quality visual effect and humor in the dialogue, an aspect that Marvel and Disney always try to sell in their product.

What makes the researcher interested in analyzing the movie is because there are many verbal humor that used in dialogues. Therefore, the verbal humor data in the movie will paved the way to the exploration of

verbal humor, English verbal humor and its subtitling strategy into Bahasa Indonesia. This research is expected to provide findings that have never been revealed in previous study on English verbal humor and its subtitling strategies into Bahasa Indonesia.

RESEARCH METHOD

Descriptive qualitative method was applied in this research. The researcher collected the data about verbal humor from *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol 2* the movie and its translation subtitle. Then the researcher examined kind of verbal humor they use and classification of the data.

The data on this research are all words, phrases and sentences containing verbal humor in the *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2* English subtitle and Indonesia subtitle. The researcher takes place as the main instrument for his role as being the collector, describer and explainer of the data. The other instrument of the research is the data sheets were employed to record and classify the data.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A. Findings

The findings of this research show that two types of verbal humor by Spanakaki (2007) , one type of humor by Berger (1998) and one type by Martin (2007). The findings of this research also show four types of subtitle strategies by Gottlieb (2011), and all of the findings are employed and appeared in

the text. They are allusion, verbal irony, sarcasm and teasing. Besides, there are subtypes of allusion and verbal irony.

Table 1. Types of Verbal Humor in Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2.

No	Verbal Humor	Frequency
1	Sarcasm	12
2	Teasing	4
3	Hyperbolic expression	2
4	Proper Name Allusion	4
5	Key Phrase Allusion	2
6	Intensifiers	1
	TOTAL	25

According to table 1, Sarcasm appears most in the frequent number, 12 times from 25 total data. Teasing and Proper Name Allusion are the second strategy that appears most with each appear 4 times of 25 total data. Proper Name Allusion is the allusion that appears most because there are lot of dialogues containing reference of names of things or popular person.

Table 2. Subtitle Strategies of Verbal Humor Translation in Guardians of the Galaxy Vol 2

No	Verbal Humor	Frequency
1	Transfer	6
2	Imitation	10
3	Paraphrase	7
4	Deletion	2
	TOTAL	25

According to Table 2, the result of the analysis shows that Imitation becomes the most frequent subtitling strategy used by the

translator in translating verbal humor dialogue. The second strategy used the most is Paraphrase, and the third is Transfer.

B. Discussion

1. Sarcasm

Source text:

Yondu: You like a professional asshole or what?

Rocket: Pretty much a pro.

Target Text:

Yondu: Kau bajingan professional atau bagaimana ?

Rocket: Lebih ke professional

The expression “professional asshole” uttered by Yondu belongs to sarcasm because it contain sharp expression in “asshole”. The word “professional”, despite contradict “asshole” word, emphasize the expression, and thus created the funny moment that triggers humorous effect.

2. Teasing

Source text:

Drax: Out of the way, dumber, smaller Groot!

Target text:

Drax: Minggir, Groot kecil, dan lebih bodoh !

The word “smaller Groot” shows Teasing expression, because Teasing expression deals with physical appearance. There are 2 version of Groot, adult Groot that appears in *Guardians of the Galaxy* and Baby Groot that appears in *Guardian of the Galaxy vol 2*, and Drax refers to Baby Groot. The dialogue occurred when Drax rushing himself into the plane and Baby Groot

standing on his way.

3. Proper Name Allusion

Source Text:

Gamora: What was that story you told me about Zardu Hasselfrau?

Peter : Who?

Gamora: He owned a magic boat?

Peter : David Hasselhoff?

Gamora: Right.

Peter : Not a magic boat. A talking car.

Target text:

Gamora: Bagaimana ceritamu tentang Zardu Hasselfrau?

Peter : Siapa?

Gamora: Dia punya kapal ajaib?

Peter : David Hasselhoff ?

Gamora: Benar.

Peter : Bukan kapal ajaib. Mobil yang bisa bicara

The datum above belongs to Proper Name Allusion because it refers to particular person name that altered into different name. David Hasselhoff is a real life actor, and the dialogue context refers to “*Knight Rider*” television series starring by David Hasselhoff.

4. Key Phrase Allusion

Source text:

Drax : I bet it's the one-inch man.

Target text:

Drax : Kuyakin itu si pria satu inci

The datum above belongs to Key Phrase Allusion because it makes us think about particular person in the movie that the name has not revealed yet. The character, yet introduced himself Ego, is mentioned by Rocket after Rocket saw a man saves them from Sovereign Army ambush, but because he saw him from far away thus he

looks so tiny, he called him “the one-inch man”. Drax, unable to understand the basic concept of metaphor, accepted the metaphor uttered by Rocket literally.

5. Hyperbolic Expression

Source text:

Peter: if what’s between my leg had a hand of it, I guarantee I could have landed this ship with it

Target text:

Peter: Jika selangkanganku punya tangan.. kujamin bisa mendaratkan pesawat ini dengan benar.

The datum above belongs to Hyperbolic expression because Peter emphasize his argument with an exaggerated expression and impossible to believe, as Hyperbolic expression is an expression of irony to create strong feeling but it is not meant to be taken seriously.

6. Intensifiers

Source text:

Peter : How long until the bomb goes off?

Rocket: In the unlikely event that Groot doesn't kill us all...about six minutes.

Target text:

Peter : Berapa lama sampai bom meledak?

Rocket: Jika Groot tidak membunuh kita semua...sekitar enam menit

The datum above belongs to intensifiers because the word “in” indicates the irony of Rocket’s response.

CONCLUSION

From the research findings, the source text contains 25 data of verbal humor in 6 category. They are Proper Name Allusion, key Phrase Allusion, Hyperbolic Expression, Intensifiers, Sarcasm and Teasing. Sarcasm is the most frequently appeared as the kind of verbal humor in *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2*.

There are 4 strategies used in the translation of verbal humor in *Guardians of the Galaxy vol 2*. They are Paraphrase, Imitation, Transfer and Deletion. Imitation appears more than others because there are lot of data deals with names thus Imitation strategy is used.

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