ADDITIONS, SUBTRACTIONS, AND ALTERATIONS IN INDONESIAN SUBTITLES OF *THE RUNDOWN*

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Abstract

This research aims to analyze the kinds of additions, subtractions, and alterations found in the Indonesian subtitles of *The Rundown*. In addition, this research also analyzes the degree of meaning equivalence of the translation of English utterances which are translated using additions, subtractions, and alterations in *The Rundown*. The findings of this research show that there are 12 kinds of additions, subtractions, and alterations found. There are 3 kinds of additions, 4 kinds of subtractions, and 5 kinds of alterations. Additions occurs 21 times (7.50%), subtractions occurs 108 times (38.57%), and alterations occurs 151 times (53.93%). In terms of meaning equivalence, the translation of English utterances which are translated using additions, subtractions, and alterations in the movie *The Rundown* has a higher degree of equivalent meaning (98.93%) compared to non-equivalent one (1.07%).

Keywords: additions, subtractions, alterations, meaning equivalence, utterances, subtitles, *The Rundown*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis jenis-jenis penambahan, pengurangan, dan perubahan yang ditemukan dalam sub-judul bahasa Indonesia film The Rundown. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga menganalisis tingkat kesetaraan makna terjemahan ucapan bahasa Inggris yang diterjemakan dengan penambahan, pengurangan, dan perubahan dalam film The Rundown. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa ada 12 jenis penambahan, pengurangan, dan perubahan yang ditemukan. Ada 3 jenis penambahan, 4 jenis pengurangan, dan 5 jenis perubahan. Penambahan ditemukan 21 kali (7.50%), pengurangan ditemukan 108 kali (38.57%), dan perubahan ditemukan 151 kali (53.93%). Dalam hal tingkat kesetaraan makna, terjemahan dengan strategi penambahan, pengurangan, dan perubahan dalam film The Rundown memiliki tingkat makna setara yang lebih tinggi (98.93%) dibandingkan dengan makna yang tidak setara (1.07%).

Kata kunci: penambahan, pengurangan, perubahan, tingkat kesetaraan makna, ucapan, sub-judul, The Rundown

BACKGROUND

People all around the world use language to communicate to each other to share their feelings, thoughts, and ideas. Language is the system of communication used by people of a particular country or profession. There are thousands of languages in the world which belong to different countries. In order to make communication among people using those languages possible, a process of translation is needed.

Translation is an activity of transferring meaning or message of a text from source language (SL) to target language (TL). The activity of translation is getting more and more popular considering the increase of society demand. It can be seen from the number of printed media such as books, articles, magazines, and many others which are translated into different languages. One of the highly required translations is the translation of movies' subtitles. The activity of translation in audio-visual media such as movies is essentially needed to transfer information and knowledge through both spoken languages and motion pictures on screen.

Translating subtitles is not an easy job. Subtitles are limited by space and time. There is only a limited room for a limited number of characters across the bottom of the film. Moreover, subtitles only have very limited times to be displayed, that is, two to six seconds to enable the audience to read it. It means that the translator must translate the subtitles from the source language (SL) to target language (TL) in a very short form without changing the meaning or message of the story. Thus, in translating subtitles, the translator may need to use some different strategies to achieve the goal of translating. The strategies include additions, subtractions, and alterations.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research used the descriptive qualitative method. However, this research also employed some numbers (quantitative analysis) to support the analysis of the data. The data of this research were in the forms of utterances uttered by the characters in *The Rundown* which were translated using additions, subtractions, and alterations. The context of the data was dialogues. Meanwhile, the sources of data used in this research were the English utterances and Indonesian subtitles of *The Rundown* the movie. The research instruments were the researcher (main instrument), data sheet, and computer (secondary instrument).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. Description of Additions, Subtractions, and Alterations Found in the Indonesian Subtitles of *The Rundown*

Table 1. The Occurrence of Additions, Subtractions, and Alterations Found in the Indonesian Subtitles of *The Rundown*

Translation Strategies		Frequency	Percentage
Additions	Filling out elliptical expression	4	1.43%
	Obligatory specifications	4	1.43%
	Additions required by grammatical restructuring	-	-
	Amplification from implicit to explicit status	13	4.64%
Total of Additions		21	7.50%
Subtractions	Repetition	32	11.43%
	Specification of reference	19	6.79%
	Conjunctions	13	4.64%
	Vocatives	44	15.71%
Total of Subtractions		108	38.57%
Alterations	Categories	36	12.86%
	Word classes	9	3.21%
	Order	3	1.07%
	Semantic problems involving single words	20	7.14%
	Semantic problems involving exocentric expressions	83	29.65%
Total of Alterations		151	53.93%
Total		280	100%

The translation strategies used in this research are based on Nida's techniques of adjustments: additions, subtractions, and alterations (2003: 226). There are four kinds of additions: filling out elliptical expression, obligatory specifications, additions required by grammatical restructuring, and amplification from implicit to explicit status. Meanwhile, there are four kinds of subtractions: repetition, specification of reference, conjunctions, and vocatives. In addition, there are five kinds of alterations: categories, word classes, order, semantic problems involving single words, and semantic problems involving exocentric expressions.

From table 1, it can be seen that alterations are used more than the others. The kind of alterations that often used by the translator is alteration due to semantic problems involving exocentric expressions, which occurs 83 times or 29.65%.

Alteration due to semantic problems involving exocentric expressions is applied to translate expressions or idioms. The example can be seen below.

Source Language

Beck : I need you to **make a choice** for me.

Travis: A choice?

Beck : Option "A" or option "B".

Target Language

Beck : *Kau harus* ***memilih***.

Travis: *Memilih?*

Beck : *Pilihan A dan B.*

The idiom ***'make a choice'*** is translated into ***'memilih'***. According to *Kamus Idiom Lengkap* (1988: 146), ***'make***

a choice' means *'memilih'*. Thus, this English idiom and its translation in the target language are fully equivalent and refer to the same meaning.

In terms of additions, the most often used strategy is amplification from implicit to explicit status. In this strategy, the translator gives explicit identification in the target language. Amplification from implicit to explicit status is required to produce an explicit meaning for target readers. The example is presented below.

Source Language

Brian: Bets? You come embarrass me in front of my friends about some bets?

Beck: Don't mean to embarrass you. This is embarrassing to me. I'm a big fan. But $ 50.000 you might have remembered.

Brian: I know what it is, man. Listen. **There's a "G" to get me started**. Now you do me a favor. You tell your man I'm gonna see him on Monday with the rest. And not to send anybody else to see me. All right?

Target Language

Brian: *Taruhan? Kau mempermalukanku di depan teman-temanku karena taruhan?*

Beck: *Tak bermaksud mempermalukanmu. Ini juga memalukan bagiku. Aku penggemar beratmu. Tapi kau pasti ingat 50.000 dolar.*

Brian: *Ya. Aku tahu. Dengar. **Ini uang mukanya 1.000 dolar**. Katakan pada temanmu aku akan melunasinya hari Senin. Dan jangan menyuruh orang lagi untuk menemuiku.*

The translator gives explicit identification of *'G'* in the target language. *'G'* is the abbreviation for *'Grand'*. *'Grand'* itself is a slang term for *'a thousand dollar'*. Thus, *'G'* is translated into *'1.000 dolar'*.

Meanwhile, in terms of subtractions, the most often used strategy is subtraction of vocatives. Vocative is a word or phrase used to address a reader or listener directly, usually in the form of a personal name, title, or term of endearment. In certain situation, vocatives can be omitted, if the total impact does not distort the meaning. The example is presented as follows.

Source Language

Man : Come on.

Beck: It's about time. Hour and a half I've been waiting.

Man : **Man**, you're lucky to be getting in. It's an extremely private party tonight. Let's go.

Target Language

Man : *Ayo!*

Beck: *Akhirnya. Hampir 1,5 jam aku menunggu di sini.*

Man : *Kau beruntung bisa masuk. Ini pesta yang amat pribadi. Ayo.*

The translator subtracts the vocative **'Man'** in the target language. This subtraction does not distort the meaning of the sentence.

2. Meaning Equivalence of the Translation of English Utterances which are Translated Using Additions, Subtractions, and Alterations in *The Rundown*

Transferring the message of the source text into the target text in order to be understood by the target readers is the purpose of translation. The meaning of the message transferred from the source text into the target text should be equivalent. This research uses Bell's theory of degree of meaning equivalence (1991: 6).

In this research, most of the meanings of English utterances of *The Rundown* are successfully and completely transferred into Indonesian subtitles. It is indicated by the high frequency of equivalent meaning (277 out of 280 data or 98.93%) whether fully or partially equivalent in the translation than the non-equivalent meaning (3 out of 280 data or 1.07%). The details can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2. Degree of Meaning Equivalence of the Translation of English Utterances which are Translated Using Additions, Subtractions, and Alterations in *The Rundown*

Degree of Meaning Equivalence		Frequency	Percentage
Equivalent	Fully Equivalent	212	75.71%
	Partly Equivalent — Increased Meaning	24	8.58%
	Partly Equivalent — Decreased Meaning	41	14.64%
Non-Equivalent	Different Meaning	3	1.07%
	No Meaning	-	-
TOTAL		280	100%

Fully equivalent occurs when the meaning in the source language text are completely transferred into the target language text. Therefore, the messages of the source language text are completely delivered to target readers. This equivalence occurs 277 times out of 280 data. For example:

Source Language

Jimmy: **What's up**, Knappy?

Brian : Nothing. It's good. Enjoy your drink.

Target Language

Jimmy: *Ada apa?*

Brian : *Tak apa. Semua beres. Nikmatilah minumanmu.*

The idiom **'what's up'** is translated into **'ada apa?'**. According to *Cambridge of American Idioms*, *'what's up'* means *'what is happening'* (http://idioms.thefreedictionary.com/what%

27s+up). While according to *Kamus Idiom Lengkap* (1988: 250), *'what's up'* means *'ada apa?'*. Thus, this English idiom and its translation in the target language are fully equivalent and refer to the same meaning.

However, the equivalent meaning does not always have a fully equivalent meaning. There are 65 data out of 280, which meanings are partly equivalent either increased or decreased. There are 41 data out of 280 or 14.64% which have decreased meaning. It is higher than the data which have increased meaning (24 out of 280 data or 8.58%).

Decreased meaning occurs when a part of the meaning in the source expression is omitted in the target language. The example is as follows.

Source Language

Beck   : You know, back in **the States**, Brazil nuts like these go for $15 a pound.

Mariana: Well, those fell off the tree out back. And around here we don't call them Brazil nuts.

Target Language

Beck   : *Di **Amerika**, kacang Brazil seperti ini harganya 15 dolar per pon.*

Mariana: *Itu jatuh dari pohon di belakang. Di sini namanya bukan kacang Brazil.*

'The States' here should be translated into *'Amerika Serikat'*.

However, the translator just translates *'The States'* into *'Amerika'*. The omission of the word *'Serikat'* has decreased the meaning of the sentence.

As for the non-equivalent meaning, there are three occurrences out of 280 data or 1.07%. The translation is not equivalent when the source language and the target language text have different or no meaning. In this research, different meaning occur three times. Different meaning occurs when the translator changes the information contained in the source language text by using words which have different meaning in the target language text. The example is presented below.

Source Language

Mariana: Manito wants to know who you think would win a fight between Mike Tyson and Muhammad Ali.

Beck   : Ali. **Hands down.**

Target Language

Mariana: *Manito mau tahu, menurutmu siapa yang akan menang bila Mike Tyson dan Muhammad Ali bertarung.*

Beck   : *Ali. **Tangan ke bawah.***

According to *Cambridge Dictionaries Online*, the idiom *'hands down'* means *'to win something/beat someone very easily'* (http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/win-sth-hands-down). The translator translated 'hands down' literally

as *'tangan ke bawah'*. Thus, these two expressions have different meanings. *'Hands down'* is better translated into *'menang mudah'*.

CONCLUSION

The translation strategies used by the translator in translating the English utterances of the movie *The Rundown* are categorized into three strategies. They are additions, subtractions, and alterations. There are 12 kinds of additions, subtractions, and alterations found in this research. There are 3 kinds of additions: filling out elliptical expression, obligatory specifications, and amplification from implicit to explicit status. Meanwhile, there are 4 kinds of subtractions: repetition, specification of reference, conjunctions, and vocatives. In addition, there are 5 kinds of alterations: categories, word classes, order, semantic problems involving single words, and semantic problems involving exocentric expressions. There is no occurrence of additions required by grammatical restructuring. Additions occurs 21 times (7.50%), subtractions occurs 108 times (38.57%) and alterations occurs 151 times (53.93%). It can be said that alterations is the translation strategy which most often used by the translator to translate English subtitles into Indonesian subtitles. In terms of meaning equivalence, the translations of additions, subtractions, and alterations in the movie *The Rundown* are mostly transferred equivalently. It can be said that the translator is successful in translating the subtitles because of frequency of the equivalent meaning (277 out of 280 data or 98.93%) is much higher than the non-equivalent meaning (3 out of 280 data or 1.07%).

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