TRANSLATION STRATEGIES OF PURE IDIOMS
IN VERONICA ROTH'S *DIVERGENT*

JOURNAL ARTICLE
Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of Sarjana Sastra (SS.)

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SEMARANG
2015

PAGE OF APPROVAL

This journal has been approved by the Advisor, English Study Program, Faculty of Humanities, Dian Nuswantoro University on March 5, 2015.

Advisor,

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ABSTRACT

This thesis is entitled Translation Strategies of Pure Idioms in Veronica Roth's Divergent. The objective of this study is to know the dominant translation strategy applied by the translator in translating Pure idioms. This thesis was a qualitative data research. The data were collected through two steps, the first step was to search the data in the bookstore, and the second step was to decide the Divergent novel as the data of this study. In analyzing the data, the researcher read the bilingual novel and found the classified data to be analyzed. There are 38 pure idioms which were then analyzed and classified according to the translation strategies composed by Mona Baker. The result shows that there are 3 translation strategies applied by the translator in order to solve the idiom. The 1st translation strategy is translation using the idiom with similar meaning but dissimilar form, it is applied 8 times (21,05%). The 2nd translation strategy is translation by Paraphrase which is applied 29 times (76,32%). The 3rd translation strategy is translation by omission. This translation strategy was applied only on 1 case (2,63%) idiom translation. In conclusion, it can be said that the dominant translation strategy applied by the translator is the translation by paraphrase.

Keywords: *Translation Strategies, Idioms, Pure idioms, Divergent Novel*.

Skripsi ini berjudul Translation Strategies of Pure Idioms in Veronica Roth's Divergent. Skripsi ini bertujuan untuk mencari tahu strategi penerjemahaan yang paling sering diterapkan oleh penerjemah dalam menerjemahkan Pure idiom. Skripsi ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Dalam mengumpulkan data, peneliti melakukan dua tahapan, tahap yang pertama ialah mencari data yang akan digunakan di toko buku, tahap ke dua peneliti memutuskan untuk memilih novel dua bahasa yang berjudul Divergent untuk diteliti. Dalam menganalisa data, peneliti membaca serta menemukan Pure idioms dalam novel dua bahasa Divergent. Terdapat 38 Pure idioms yang kemudian dianalisis serta diklasifikasikan menurut strategi penerjemahaan yang dibuat oleh Mona Baker. Hasil analisis menunjukan bahwa terdapat 3 strategi penerjemahaan yang diterapkan oleh penerjemah dalam mengalihbahasakan Pure idioms. Strategi penerjemahaan yang pertama adalah strategi penerjemahan menggunakan idiom dengan makna yang mirip namun berbeda dalam bentuk susunan kata yang diterapkan sebanyak 8 kali (21,05%). Strategi penerjemahaan yang kedua ialah penerjemahaan menggunakan parafrase, strategi ini diterapkan sebanyak 29 kali (76,32%). Strategi penerjemahaan ketiga ialah penerjemahaan dengan penghapusan yang diterapkan 1 kali (2,63%). Dari hasil tersebut, dapat disimpulkan bahwa strategi penerjemahaan yang paling sering diterapkan oleh penerjemah adalah strategi penerjemahaan menggunakan parafrase.

Kata kunci: *Strategi Penerjemahan, Idioms, Pure idioms, Divergent Novel.*

INTRODUCTION

The spread of mass media product is rapidly massive through all around the world. Since English is an International language, many of mass media in the form of printed, broadcast, and web based mass media are presented in English language. Therefore the audience of those mass media should master or at least have a good comprehension of English language. However, there are many people who do not master English language well.

To make a bridge for the gap, the translator job is playing an important role in the information exchange. According Cartford (1965:20), Translation is about replacement of textual material in SL by equivalent of the textual material in the TL. Besides, Nida and Taber (1982:12) say that translating consists in the reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, firstly in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style. Both definitions above imply that the translator job is to transfer the information into the TL as closely as possible from its SL intended information, and then followed with how the style of writing in the SL is well transferred to TL.

In the process of translation there are units that cause a problem of transferring to its full meaning in the TL. One of the units is idioms; this unit has been an interesting issue in translation. According to Hornby (1995;589) , an idiom is a phrase or sentence whose meaning is not clear from the meaning of its individual words and which must be learnt as a whole unit, for instance, the idiom *spill the beans* means to reveal secret information, especially without intending to do so. His statement is also supported by J.C Carter. According to Carter (1993; 65) idioms are a special combinations with restricted forms and meanings that cannot be deduced from the literal meanings of the words which make them up. Accordingly, an idiom is learned and used as a single unit. It should not be analyzed into its constituents; it is unchangeable and always carries figurative meaning. Both definitions above indicate that an idiom cannot be translated literally. Therefore, a special treatment should be applied in the process of translating Idioms.

Idioms or idiomatic expressions are often used in both formal or casual situation and written or verbal communication. Idioms are colorful and fascinating unit of a language use; it shows the style in how a message is delivered. In matter of style, there are various ways and options to deliver a message. There is also various form of idioms, the Linguistic expert has classified them into idioms classification. Fernando (1996:35-36) on her book *Idioms and Idiomaticity* states that Idioms can be classified into three classifications. There are Pure Idioms, Semi Idioms, and Literal Idioms. This study aims to observe the first classification of idioms, the pure idioms.

According to Fernando (1996:35) Pure Idioms are described as a type of conventionalized, non literal multiword expression. Unlike Pure idioms, Semi idioms have one unit constituent from the phrase composition which has literal meaning. As for Literal idioms, it is an idiom that consists of more than one unit which has literal meaning in its phrase composition. The non literal meaning of Pure idioms cause a problem to the translation process. The translator requires a good linguistic knowledge on both SL and TL in order to transfer its whole idea.

The failure of translating pure idioms to the TL might cause misleading information to the reader. To overcome the failure, an appropriate translation strategy must be considered to translate the idioms. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the translation

strategy used by the translator to solve the problem of translating pure idioms in to TL. Mona Baker's translation strategy on translating idioms is considered as the suitable theory to analyze how the translator translated pure idioms on this study. According to Baker (1992:72), idioms can be translated using of an idiom of similar meaning and form, using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by paraphrasing, and translation by omission.

This research observed the first book of the *Divergent* trilogy. This book has been sold over 6, 7 million copies in 2013. It also praised for being New York Time Bestseller, Indie bound Indie Next List, ABC New Voices Pick, Amazon.com Best YA Books of the Year, Chapters/Indigo Top teen Summer Read, Publisher Weekly Best Book, School Library Journal Best Book, Goodreads choice Awards Favorite Book of The Year, and Goodreads Choice Awards Best YA Fantasy & Science fiction Book of The Year. In addition, *Divergent* was also adapted into a movie by Lionsgate and Summit Entertainment with the same title *Divergent* in the year of 2014. By the production of the Film, the *Divergent* novel becomes more popular. It can be said that *Divergent* is well-known and its novel has been read by many people.

This novel is worth taking as the data for this study because of its bestseller and controversial issue in Christianity. The idea of Post apocalyptic life written by Veronica Roth has a different point of view to Christianity, though Veronica herself is a Christian. The big picture of Christian's point of view about the post apocalyptic life is far from the story which she wrote. However, some of Christian communities accept the concept of post apocalyptic life presented in the novel as a fiction story point of view.

In the novel of *Divergent*, there are many of idioms found at word to phrase level. From the data finding, this study scope to analyze pure idioms. This study uses Chitra Fernando's idiom classification, because it is considered to cover all the various forms of idioms stated by the other Linguistic expert and present them in a simple way of classification.

The reason of limiting the data to Pure idioms is because many of idioms presented in the novel, but the Pure idioms is considered to be more complex unit to translate. It is shown in the following example: the idiom "Plus Edward and Myra are dating, and I would rather not be **the third wheel."** is translated into "*Ditambah lagi Edward dan Myra itu pacaran dan aku lebih baik tidak menjadi **orang ke tiga."*** This example shows that the translator used Mona Baker's translation strategies by translating pure idioms in the SL using an idiom with similar meaning but dissimilar form in the TL. The translator transferred the message of the idiom by reproducing the word *the third wheel* into *orang ketiga* which is an idiom with similar meaning but consist of different lexemic items in the TL .The idiom meaning of the *third wheel* has nothing to do with *wheels*, it is referred to the person who is being involved in between of someone's relationship. If it is translated literally into *roda ketiga* in Bahasa Indonesia, the meaning would be misleading to the reader.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

According to Creswell (1998;14), he states that qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry that explore a social or human problem. The research builds complex, holistic pictures, analyzes words, reports detailed views of informants, and conducted the study in natural setting. This Study is analyzing words which are in the type of idioms, and developing it in depth analysis of a case on what are the translation strategies applied by the translator. Therefore this study is simply using the descriptive qualitative method.

Unit of Analysis

The unit of analysis of this study is the pure idioms found in the novel, they are in the form of word to phrase level.

Source of the Data

The data were taken from Veronica Roth's novel entitled *Divergent*. The English novel was published by Katherine Tegen Books an Imprint of Harper Collins Publisher New York, and for the Bahasa Indonesia novel which has the same title was published by Mizan Pustaka, Bandung. The Bahasa Indonesia novel was translated by Anggun Prameswari. Mizan Publisher also includes Budi Habsari as the editor of the translated novel, and Emi Kusmiati as the proofreader of the translated novel.

The English novel is presented in 607 pages, consisting of 487 pages of the main story and of 120 pages as bonus of the novel. The translated novel is presented in 543 pages. Both English and Bahasa Indonesia novel are in the cover of movie tie-in, the ISBN of the English novel is 978-979-43-809-4 and the ISBN of the Bahasa Indonesia novel is 978-0-06-228985-8.

Technique of Data Collection

The data of this study were collected by doing the following steps:
1. Searching
   The researcher went to a bookstore to find the preferable data for his study.
2. Choosing the data
   The researcher decided to buy the bilingual Novel entitled Divergent which is written by Veronica Roth.

Technique of Data Analysis

After the data were collected, they were analyzed. It was analyzed through the following steps:

1. Reading the bilingual Novel.
2. Identifying the idiom in the Novel and put them into a table.
3. Analyzing the translation strategies applied to the translated pure idioms based on Mona Baker's translation strategy.
4. Categorizing them into translation strategies table.

5. Calculating the data in order to get the number and the percentage of each translation strategy applied by the translator.
6. Presenting and discussing the data finding of translation strategy to give more detail information about the finding.
7. Drawing conclusion and writing report after the data were analyzed.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

According to Mona Baker, there are 4 translation strategies which can be applied in order to translate pure idioms. Those are Translation Strategy Using the Idioms with Similar meaning and Similar Form (TSMF), Translation Strategy Using the Idioms with Similar Meaning but Dissimilar Form (TSMDF), Translation by Paraphrase (TBP), and Translation by Omission (TBO). The following Table 4.1 presents the amount and percentage of each translation strategy applied by the translator in translating idiom.

Table.4.1 The Translation Strategies Applied on Pure Idioms

No	Translation Strategies	Amount	Percentage
1	Translation by Using Idiom with Similar Meaning and Form	0	0%
2	Translation by Using Idiom with Similar Meaning but Dissimilar Form	8	21,05%
3	Translation by Paraphrase	29	76,32%
4	Translation by Omission	1	2,63%
	Total	38	100%

The table above shows the amount and percentage of 4 translation strategies applied by the translator in order to translate the pure idioms. Those are TSMF which was applied 0 times (0%), TSMDF which was applied 8 times (21,05%), TBP which was applied 29 times (76,32%), and TBO which was applied 1 time (2,63%). It can be seen that the dominant translation strategy applied by the translator is the TBP which take 76,32% or applied 29 times.

Discussion

According to the findings, the discussion about the applied translation strategies on pure idioms can be given as follows:

From the 38 pure idioms found in the novel, there were 3 translation strategies applied by the translator to translate the pure idioms into TL. Those translation strategies are, TSMDF, TBP, and TBO.

Translation Using Idioms with Similar Meaning but Dissimilar Form (TSMDF)

Based on the data finding, the translator applied the TSMDF to translate 8 cases of pure idioms translation in the novel of *Divergent* by Veronica Roth. This translation strategy involves the use of idiom in the TL which conveys the similar meaning but has a different in

lexemic items equivalence. Those pure idiom cases are going to be delivered to this following excerpts and discussions.

> Excerpt 1
> SL: Plus Edward and Myra are dating, and I would rather not be **the third wheel."** (Ch8/P81/ L17)
> TL: Ditambah lagi Edward dan Myra itu pacaran dan aku lebih baik tidak menjadi **orang ke tiga."** (Ch8/ P99/ L8)

The idiom presented in excerpt 1 is found in the chapter 8 of the novel *Divergent* by Veronica Roth. The idiom found at the following situation in the story. Will is asking for a place to Tris, Christina, and Al because his acquaintance from the previous faction Edward is dating with Myra. He prefers not to bother them and keep a distance to give Edward and Myra space. Will said that he would rather not be *the third wheel* between Edward and Myra.

The idiom *third wheel* has meaning someone who is in a situation where they are not needed or are ignored by most people (Cambridge Dictionary Online). The translator translates the idiom into *orang ke tiga* in the TL, which has meaning a person who is in between of someone's relationship. Based on the context of the story, the intended meaning of the idiom is Will do not wanting to disturb Peter and Myra by sticking around with them. Both on the TL and SL has the similar meaning but consists of different lexemic items. Therefore, it can be said that the translator applied the TSMDF in order to solve this case.

Translation by Paraphrase (TBP)

Based on the data finding, the translator applied the TBP solve 29 cases of pure idioms translation in the novel of *Divergent* by Veronica Roth. This translation strategy takes a huge percentage of the 3 translation strategies applied in this novel. This is the most common translation strategy applied by the translator to solve the idiom translation. The main reason of using this translation strategy is that the message of the idiom is well delivered and the reader will not be misleading by the given information. Those pure idiom cases are going to be delivered to this following excerpts and discussions.

> Excerpt 9
> SL: **"Have it your way"** she says. (Ch2/ P14/ L5)
> TL: **"Terserah Kau"** ujarnya. (Ch2/ P23/ L17)

The idiom presented in excerpt 9 is found in the chapter 2 of the novel *Divergent* by Veronica Roth. The idiom found at the following situation in the story. The Aptitude test was set to default which means every child are in the same simulation. In the simulation there was a girl's voice which leads from one situation to another. The first test was about choosing between a hunk of cheese and a knife, but Tris didn't pick any of them. Then the girl's voice said *have it your way*. Then the simulation changed there was a vicious dog run toward her.

The idiom *have it your way* means to indicate angrily that although one disagrees with something said or proposed, one is not going to argue further (Oxford Dictionary Online). The translator translates the idiom into *terserah kau* in the TL which usually used for letting someone do their own intention instead of doing what they supposed to do. Based on the context of the story, instead of doing what is ordered by the girl's voice in the simulation Tris keep asking the reason to why she should do it. The girl's voice then continue to the next simulation scene and said the idiom. Both SL and TL idiom has the same intended meaning but the idiom is not translated to an idiom in the TL. The idiom was paraphrased to convey the intended meaning of the SL idiom. Therefore, it can be said that the translator applied the TBP in order to solve this case.

Translation by Omission (TBO)

Based on the data finding in this study, there is only 1 case solved using TBO. This TBO strategy involves the omission of SL untranslatable unit (in this case idiom), because there is no preferable equivalence which represent the same intended meaning to TL. The other reason why the translator decides to omit the idiom is the existence of difficulties in order to paraphrase the idiom into the TL. However, some translator decides to omit the unit because they try to maintain their writing style in translation. This translation strategy is the last strategy might be applied by the translator if they can't use the other translation strategy; it is possible to be applied if the intended meaning is well transferred in the TL.

Excerpt 38
SL: *As if* Peter *didn't have enough ammunition already*. (Ch11/ P121/ L13)
TL: (Ch11/ P142)

The idiom presented in excerpt 38 is found in the chapter 11 of the novel *Divergent* by Veronica Roth. The idiom found at the following situation in the story. The Dauntless initiation members were scheduled to go on a field trip to Amity. Tris supposedly lying in bed because of her wounds to Peter's punches. She forces herself to go on the train with the other initiate member. There she saw Al who helped her to get on the train. Tris saw Peter *as if he didn't have enough ammunition already*. Then Peter insults her by asking if she's fine with the wounds caused by him.

Based on the context of the story, the idiom *as if he didn't have enough ammunition already* refers to the expression that someone wear as if they has no longer willing to threat or cause to harm toward somebody, but in contrast they do. In the previous situation Tris ever state that how could she hate Peter who looks like a naturally kind person. The translator didn't translate the SL idiom into the TL. The idiom of the SL is omitted because the context of the translated story already represents the idiom without including it into the story. Therefore, it can be said that the translator applied the TBO in order to solve this translation case

Conclusion

The objective of this analysis is to know which is the dominant translation strategy applied by the translator.

Based on the objective, some conclusions can be given bellow.

Based on the data finding, there are 3 translation strategies composed by Mona Baker which are applied by the translator to translate the pure idioms in the novel. Those translation strategies are TSMDF, TBP, and TBO. The TSMDF was applied by the translator to translate 8 (21,05%) cases of pure idioms. The TBP applied by the translator to translate 29 (76,32%) cases of pure idioms. The TBO applied by the translator to translate 1(2,63%) case of pure idioms.

From the amount and the percentage of the translation strategy applied by the translator to translate the pure idioms, it can be concluded that TBP is the dominant translation strategy applied by the translator.

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