



**FOREIGNIZATION AND DOMESTICATION IN THE  
NOVEL *THE RAINBOW TROOPS***

**JOURNAL ARTICLE**

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.) in English Language

By:

Christian Tommy Alexander

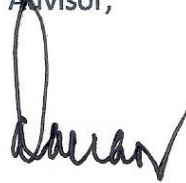
C11.2012.01316

**ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
DIAN NUSWANTORO UNIVERSITY  
SEMARANG  
2016**

**PAGE OF APPROVAL**

This journal has been approved by the advisor on 5 August 2016 to be examined by the board of examiners.

Advisor,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Achmad Basari', written in a cursive style.

Achmad Basari, S.S., M.Pd.

## FOREIGNIZATION AND DOMESTICATION IN THE NOVEL THE RAINBOW TROOPS

Christian Tommy Alexander, Achmad Basari

Dian Nuswantoro University

### ABSTRACT

The thesis is entitled *domestication and foreignization in the novel The Rainbow Troops*. The data were collected by using descriptive qualitative method to analyze the domestication and foreignization found in the novel. Based on the novel, the researcher found 38 data for domestication and 96 data for foreignization. The percentage of domestication is 28,35% and 71,64% for foreignization. Hence, it indicates that foreignization is mostly employed in this research. The result shows that the ideology of translation found in the novel *The Rainbow Troops* named after the original novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata is foreignization. Here, the category of organization, customs, activities, procedures, and concepts (political and administrative, religious, artistic) is mostly employed in foreignization, followed by Ecology, social culture, and material culture. In domestication, the category of organization, customs, activities, procedures, and concepts is mostly found, and followed by ecology, material culture, social culture, and habits.

**Keywords:** bilingual, domestication, foreignization, novel.

### INTRODUCTION

Language is used by humans to communicate. People used language to communicate when they come or meet together. In their communication and interaction, they use language to express their ideas, feelings, and thoughts. There are many languages in this world, one of them is English.

English is dominant in every aspect such as in technology, politics, economics, and education systems. Nowadays, learning or speaking English is really important because English is the International language to communicate with other people from every country. Since English is the international language, many activities are done in English by listening to English music, watching English movies, reading English novels or short stories.

Listening to English music, watching English movies, reading English novels, or short stories can be fun and relaxing to many people. They can spend their free time reading novels or short stories. Reading some novels or short stories can be fun because there are various genres people can enjoy such as horror, mystery or thriller, romance, fantasy, science fiction, etc.

One of the best-selling novels is *Laskar Pelangi*. It had been published in over 100 countries. Some of them are in France, Italy, Germany, Japan, India, China, and USA. Besides that, the novel succeeded to get BuchAwards 2013 in Germany and general fiction in New York Book Festival 2013. The other achievement is that this novel has

been translated into 30 languages. One of them is in English version. Whereas, this novel contains a lot of Malayan culture in which several terms are difficult to be translated in English.

However, translating an English novel is not an easy task because there are many cultural words that must be translated. In translating, the translator transfers the messages from SL into TL. Larson (1984: 3) said that translation as a change form from SL into TL that refers to the actual words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and paragraph. It means that the translator purposes to make the audience acquire the same intended meaning when delivering messages. The translators are not only turning or transferring the words but also considering the culture of SL so that the translation can be understood in TL.

In translating a novel that contains cultural word, there are some techniques and strategies to overcome the problems. Domestication and foreignization in translation ideology were proposed by Venuti (1995) as a cultural guidance to translate novels. The first is domestication. Domestication is a translation ideology that makes the text more easily understood by the culture of the target readers. It means that domestication is easy to understand, acceptable, and readable for the target readers by changing the original words or cultural words into the familiar ones. The example of domestication from the novel is *Depdikbud* in SL translated into *Department of Education and Culture* in TL. The second is foreignization. Foreignization is a translation ideology that maintains a foreign language or the native language of the text. It means that foreignization informs to the readers without changing the original words or keeps the culture of SL by involving cultural aspects in SL to TL. The example of foreignization from the novel is *jilbab* in SL and still translated into *jilbab* in TL with the same spelling and writing.

In this research, the researcher is interested in analyzing a translated novel in English version *The Rainbow Troops* named after the original novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata. The researcher is interested in analyzing the data, because there are many cultural words found in SL which are difficult to be translated into TL. Furthermore, the Malayan cultures are totally different from the culture of the target readers. Besides that, the terms of Malayan language have been influenced by Chinese people or Tionghoa. The researcher wants to compare the Indonesian version and English version especially, in the translation method.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

### **Data and Subject**

This research used descriptive qualitative method to analyze the foreignization and domestication in the novel *The Rainbow Troops* as a data.

### **Unit of Analysis**

The unit of analysis in this research is focused on cultural word and phrase containing foreignization and domestication found in the novel "The Rainbow Troops" named after the original novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata. The SL of the novel is Bahasa Indonesia and the TL is English.

### Technique of Data Collection and Analysis

Before analyzing the data, the researcher collected the data as the media of doing this research. The first, the researcher Finding Bahasa Indonesia versions that were available in a book store. The second, finding the English version in internet. The third, downloading the English version in <https://abudira.wordpress.com/2012/12/14>. The fourth, reading the both version to find the domestication and foreignization. The fifth, Finding the words containing domestication and foreignization. The last is Identifying the cultural word in the novel *The Rainbow Troops*.

After the data were collected, they were analyzed into four steps. First is Classifying. The researcher classified the words containing domestication and foreignization into type of cultural word. Second is Categorizing. The researcher categorized the cultural words found in the novel. Third is Analyzing. The researcher analyzed the domestication and foreignization applied in the novel *The Rainbow Troops*. Fourth is making conclusion. The researcher made the conclusions of data analysis.

### FINDING AND DISCUSSION

#### Finding

Table 4.1 is the finding of translation method found in the novel *The Rainbow Troops* named after the original novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata.

Table 4.1 method of translation found in the novel *The Rainbow Troops*.

NO	Translation Method	Data	Percentage
<b>1</b>	<b>Foreignization</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>71,64%</b>
	a. Organization, Customs, Activities, Procedures, Concepts	29	21,64%
	b. Ecology	27	20,14%
	c. Social Culture	21	15,68%
	d. Material Culture	19	14,17%
	e. Gestures and Habits.	0	0%
<b>2</b>	<b>Domestication</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>28,35%</b>
	a. Organization, Customs, Activities, Procedures, Concepts.	13	9,70%
	b. Ecology.	9	6,71%
	c. Material Culture.	8	5,98%
	d. Social Culture.	7	5,22%
	e. Gestures and Habits.	1	074%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>	<b>100%</b>

From the table above, it can be seen that the researcher found 96 data for foreignization and 38 data for domestication. The percentage of foreignization is 71,64% and 28,35% for domestication. Hence, it indicates that foreignization ideology is mostly employed in this research. The result shows that the ideology of translation found in the novel *The Rainbow Troops* named after the original novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata is foreignization. Here, the category of organization, customs, activities, procedures, and concepts (political and administrative, religious, artistic) is mostly employed in foreignization, followed by Ecology, social culture, and material culture. In

domestication, the category of organization, customs, activities, procedures, and concepts is mostly found, and followed by ecology, material culture, social culture, and habits.

In the data, foreignization is the method that the translator used to translate the novel. In translating *The Rainbow Troops*, the translator tends to introduce the culture from SL into TL and to make the novel look natural from the original one.

## Discussion

### 4.2.1 Foreignization

Foreignization is a source-culture-oriented translation which strives to preserve the foreign flavor as much as possible in order to transfer the source language and culture into the target one.

In the novel *The Rainbow Troops* as data, there are four categories of foreignization found in the novel, namely: organization, customs, activities, procedures (political and administrative, religious, artistic); Ecology; social culture; and material culture.

#### 4.2.1.1 Organization, Customs, Activities, Procedures (Political and Administrative, Religious, Artistic).

In the foreignization, there are 29 data found denoting the category of cultural words Organization, Customs, Activities, Procedures (Political and Administrative, Religious, Artistic) categories.

#### Excerpt 1.

Source language (Bahasa Indonesia)	Target Language (English)	Translation Method	Type of cultural words
...membuat wajahnya coreng-moreng seperti pemeran emban bagi permaisuri dalam <i>Dul Muluk</i> . (p.2)	...streaking her face and making her look like the queen's servant in <i>Dul Muluk</i> . (p.2)	Foreignization	Customs

In the excerpt 1 above, the phrase *Dul Muluk* in the novel is categorized into customs. The phrase *Dul Muluk* in the SL was maintained in the TL. Here, Angie Kilbane as the translator of the novel did not render the phrase *Dul Muluk* into any equivalent words in the TL since it is a traditional theater or an old theater in Palembang city- South Sumatera. Besides that, the translator tends to introduce the arts and culture of Indonesia especially the Malayan one. However, the Malayan culture is totally different from the TL.

Therefore, the phrase *Dul Muluk* is not translated into the TL because there is no equivalent word in the TL. The phrase *Dul Muluk* in TL is categorized into Customs and Foreignization ideology. Moreover, the method of translation used is exotic method.

#### 4.2.1.2 Ecology (flora, fauna, winds, etc.)

In the foreignization ideology, there are 27 data using ecology as the type of cultural word. The explanation of the data can be seen below:

### Excerpt 2

Source language (Bahasa Indonesia)	Target Language (English)	Translation method	Type of cultural words
Sebatang pohon <i>filicium</i> tua yang rindang meneduhiku. (p.1)	The branch of an old <i>filicium</i> tree shaded me. (p.1)	Foreignization	Ecology

In the excerpt 9, the researcher found the word pohon *filicium*. The word *filicium* in SL was maintained in the TL. Therefore, the word *filicium* is included as Ecology in a type of cultural word and foreignization ideology and the method used is exotic method because the translator does not render the word *filicium*. *Filicium* is a kind of tree that can only live in tropical area such as Indonesia, Ethiopia, Kenya, India, and Sri Lanka. One of the old *filicium* trees grows in Belitung, Indonesia.

#### 4.2.1.3 Social Culture (work and leisure).

In the foreignization, there are 21 data found denoting the category of cultural words social culture (work and leisure). The explanation of the data can be seen below:

### Excerpt 3

Source language (Bahasa Indonesia)	Target Language (English)	Translation method	Type of cultural words
Mereka adalah seorang bapak tua berwajah sabar, <i>Bapak</i> K.A. Harfan Efendy Noor. (p.2)	There was an old man with a patient face, <i>Bapak</i> K.A. Harfan Efendy Noor. (p.1)	Foreignization	Social Culture

In the data number 14 above, the researcher found the word bapak in the novel. The translator preserved the word *bapak* in the TL. In this case, the word *bapak* can be replaced by *sir* in the TL, but the translator maintained the word *bapak* in the TL.

In Indonesia, the word *bapak* means the old person. Some people said that the word *bapak* means elderly men, father, or who is seen as the elderly or people who are respected. The word *bapak* is included in type of cultural word as a Social Culture and the translation method used is exotic method.

#### 4.2.1.4 Material Culture (artefacts; foods, clothes, houses and towns, transports).

In the foreignization ideology, there are 19 data found denoting the category of cultural words material culture (artefacts; foods, clothes, houses and towns, transports). The explanation of the data can be seen below:

### Excerpt 4

Source language (Bahasa Indonesia)	Target Language (English)	Translation method	Type of cultural words
Seorang wanita muda ber <i>jilbab</i> . . . (p.2)	A young woman wearing a <i>jilbab</i> , or headscarf . . . (p.1)	Foreignization	Material Culture

In the excerpt 18 above, the researcher found the word *jilbab*. The word *jilbab* is included in material culture (clothes) and foreignization. The word *jilbab* in SL was preserved in the TL and the method of translation used is exotic method. In this case,

the translator can be replaced the word *jilbab* with headscarf but the translator keep adding the word *jilbab* in the TL because the translator tends to introduce that the daily life of Muslim woman in Belitung is commonly wearing *jilbab*. *Jilbab* means, traditionally covering the head by Muslim woman.

#### 4.2.2 Domestication

Domestication refers to the target-culture-oriented translation in which unusual expressions to the target culture are exploited and turned into some familiar ones so as to make the translated text intelligible and easy for the target readers. A domestication translation reads as if the original text was written in the local language.

In the novel *The Rainbow Troops* as a data, there are five categories of domestication found in the novel that are: organization, customs, activities, procedures (political and administrative, religious, artistic); Ecology; social culture; material culture; gestures and habits.

##### 4.2.2.1 Organization, Customs, Activities, Procedures (Political and Administrative, Religious, Artistic).

In the domestication, there are 13 data found denoting the category of cultural words Organization, Customs, Activities, Procedures (Political and Administrative, Religious, Artistic) as the type of cultural word. The explanation of the data can be seen below:

###### Excerpt 5

Source language (Bahasa Indonesia)	Target Language (English)	Translation method	Type of cultural words
Pengawas Sekolah dari <i>Depdikbud</i> Sumsel telah memperingatkan . . . (p.4)	A warning issued by the School Superintendent from the South Sumatra <i>Department of Education and Culture</i> . . . (p.4)	Domestication	Organizations

In the excerpt 22, the researcher found the word *Depdikbud* in SL and it was translated into *Department of Education and Culture* in TL. This cultural word is included as Organizations and the method used is adaptation method, it is related to the government. The translator rendered the word because the translator tends to make the text or the translation look natural and readable.

##### 4.2.2.2 Ecology (flora, fauna, winds, etc.).

In the domestication, there are 9 data found denoting the category of cultural words Ecology (flora, fauna, winds, etc). The explanation of the data can be seen below:

###### Excerpt 6

Source language (Bahasa Indonesia)	Target Language (English)	Translation method	Type of cultural words
. . . merendamnya lama-lama di dalam bejana yang berisi air	She had probably soaked it in an antique ceramic bowl	Domestication	Ecology



hangat dan pucuk-pucuk daun <i>kenanga</i>	filled with warm water and young <i>ylang-ylang</i> leaves. (p.166)		
--	--	--	--

In the excerpt 26, the researcher found the word *kenanga* in the novel. The word *kenanga* was translated to be *ylang-ylang* in TL. *Kenanga* is a kind of flowers that has a latin name *Cananga Odorata*. Many benefits of *cananga* or *ylang*, some of them are treating malaria, treating asthma, as aromatherapy, and etc. The translator rendered the word *kenanga* in SL to be *ylang* because the word *ylang* is a familiar English name. The researcher categorized the cultural word found in the novel into Ecology (flora) and the method used is adaptation method.

#### 4.2.2.3 Material Culture (artefacts; food, clothes, houses and towns, transport)

In the domestication ideology, there are 8 data found denoting the category of cultural words Material Culture (artefacts; food, clothes, houses and towns, transport). The explanation of the data can be seen below:

##### Excerpt 7

Source language (Bahasa Indonesia)	Target Language (English)	Translation method	Type of cultural words
Satu atau dua orang duduk di atas pelepah selebar <i>sajadah</i> . (p.171)	One or two people sat on a leaf as wide as a <i>prayer mat</i> . (p.140)	Domestication	Material Culture

In the excerpt 29, the researcher found the cultural word in the novel. The cultural word found is *sajadah* in SL and translated into prayer mat in TL. The word *sajadah* is translated into prayer mat because the translator tends to make the text is understandable and readable. *Sajadah* is small carpet that uses for Muslim to pray. The word *sajadah* categorized into material culture and domestication because the word *sajadah* had been translated to be prayer mat and the method used is adaptation method.

#### 4.2.2.4 Social Culture (work and leisure).

In the domestication ideology, there are 7 data found denoting the category of cultural words social culture (work, leisure). The explanation of the data can be seen below:

##### Excerpt 8

Source language (Bahasa Indonesia)	Target Language (English)	Translation method	Type of cultural words
. . . untuk menjadi <i>kuli kopra</i> agar dapat membantu ekonomi keluarga. (p.2)	. . . to work as a <i>coolie</i> to help ease the family's financial burdens. (p.2)	Domestication	Social Culture

In the excerpt 32, the researcher found the cultural word in the novel. The phrase *kuli kopra* in SL translated to be *coolie* in TL. *kuli kopra* in SL means worker or porter. Therefore, the translator just translated literally the word *kuli kopra* to be *coolie*

(worker). The word *kuli kopra* and coolie is included in social culture and domestication ideology but also the method used is adaptation method.

#### 4.2.2.5 Gestures and habits.

In the domestication ideology, only 1 datum is found denoting the category of cultural word gesture and habits. The explanation of the data can be seen below:

##### Excerpt 9

Source language (Bahasa Indonesia)	Target Language (English)	Translation method	Type of cultural words
Sebagian mereka ke sekolah hanya <i>memakai sandal</i> , . . . (p.83)	Most of us came to school berkaki ayam— <i>chicken footed</i> , literally, but in other words barefooted. (p.70)	Domestication	Habits

In the excerpt 35, the researcher found the cultural word that has a relation with habits in Belitung and the method of translation used is adaptation method. The phrase *memakai sandal* in SL was translated into chicken footed in TL. Here, the translator just translated literally the phrase *memakai sandal* into chicken footed and she tends to make the text look natural. *Chicken footed* in the context of the text is *wearing slipper*. Most of them are wearing a slipper to go to school because the price of the shoes is too expensive for them.

## CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the aims of this research are describing foreignization and domestication and showing the method employed the most in the novel *The Rainbow Troops*. Here, the conclusion is made based on chapter 4. From the data analysis in chapter 4, there are 134 data found in the novel. The researcher found 38 data for domestication ideology and 96 data for foreignization ideology.

The percentage of domestication is 28,35% and 71,64% for foreignization. Hence, it indicates that foreignization is mostly employed in this research. The result shows that the method of translation found in the novel *The Rainbow Troops* named after the original novel *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata is foreignization ideology. Here, the category of organization, customs, activities, procedures, and concepts (political and administrative, religious, artistic) is mostly employed in foreignization, followed by Ecology, social culture, and material culture. In domestication ideology, the category of organization, customs, activities, procedures, and concepts is mostly found, and followed by ecology, material culture, social culture, and habits.

From the data found, foreignization is the method that the translator employed the most to translate the novel because the translator tends to introduce the culture from SL into TL. In domestication ideology, domestication is not mostly employed because the translator tends to render the cultural word found in the novel, so that the translation sounds natural and readable from the original one.

## REFERENCES

- Agustiniingsih, Putri Ani. 2015. *Domestication and Foreignization in Mrs. Ani Yudhoyono's Instagram*. English Study Program, Dian Nuswantoro University: unpublished thesis
- Baker, Mona. (2006). *In Other Words: a course on translation*. London: Routledge.
- Basnet, Susan. (2002). *Translation Studies*. New York: Routledge.
- Chasanah, Umi Uswatun (2012). *A Translation Analysis on Ideology of Translation of The Chronicles of Narnia "The Magician Nephew" Written by C.S. Lewis*. Semarang: Dian Nuswantoro University: Unpublished Thesis.
- Hirata, Andrea. 2016. *Laskar Pelangi*. Yogyakarta: Bentang.
- Hoed, B.H. 2006 *"Penerjemah dan Kebudayaan"*. Jakarta: PT. Dunia Pustaka Jaya.
- Isaac, Steven and William B. Michael. (1981). *Handbook in Research and Evaluation*. California: EDIT Publisher.
- Newmark, Peter. (1981). *A Textbook of Translation*. London: Prentice Hall.
- Newmark, Peter. (1988). *A Textbook of Translation*. London: prentice Hall.
- Nida, E. (1964). *Toward a Science of Translating: With Special Reference to Principles and Procedures involved in Bible Translation*. Leiden: E.J. Brill.
- Nida, E.A. and Charles. R Taber. (1974). *The Theory and Practice of Translation*. Leiden: J.E.Brili
- Simanjuntak, Naomi Ventria Naully (2013). *Subtitling Strategies in "Real Steel" movie*. Semarang: Dian Nuswantoro University: Unpublished Thesis
- Venuti, L. 1995. *The Translator Invisibility. A History of Translation*. London/New York: Routledge.
- <https://abudira.wordpress.com/2012/12/14>
- <http://transvanilla.blogspot.co.id/2010/04/orientation-domestication-or.html>
- <http://www.britannica.com/art/novel>