



**STRATEGIES USED IN TRANSLATING IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS IN  
THE SUBTITLE TRANSLATION OF *THE TRANSPORTER 2* MOVIE**

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# STRATEGIES USED IN TRANSLATING IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS IN THE SUBTITLE TRANSLATION OF *THE TRANSPORTER 2* MOVIE

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## ABSTRACT

*The thesis entitled strategies used in translating idiomatic expression in the subtitle translation of The Transporter 2 movie, is aimed at describing the strategies used by translator in the subtitle translation of The Transporter 2 movie. The strategies here is that the translator deals with idioms. The study is qualitative analysis. The data of this study were analyzed by using two steps. First, analyzing the translation work and the reason why the translators did it. Second, writing them down and comparing the source text and the target text. The strategies used in the subtitle translation according to Baker's theory consists of four strategies of translation, those are: translation by using an idiom of similar meaning and form, translation by using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by paraphrasing and translation by omission. There are 70 idiomatic expressions in the subtitle translation of The Transporter 2 movie which are divided into four part as the strategies used by the translator and, the dominant strategy used by Qoryati as the translator is translation by paraphrase which appears in 62 cases. 3 of them were translated by omission. Meanwhile, 3 of them were translated by the strategy of translation using idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, and the last, 2 of them were translated by the strategy of translation using idiom of similar meaning and form. These strategies will help the translator to deal with the problems in translating idiomatics expressions in subtitle translation, these strategies are used in to make the result of translation not only enjoyable but also meaningful for the readers.*

**Keyword:** *idiom, translation, translation strategy*

*Penelitian berjudul strategi yang digunakan untuk menterjemahkan ungkapan idiomatis dalam menterjemahkan subjudul film The Transporter 2, bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan strategi yang digunakan oleh penerjemah dalam menterjemahkan subjudul film The Transporter 2. Strategi yang dimaksud adalah strategi penerjemahan yang digunakan ketika penerjemah berhadapan dengan idiom. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode analisis kualitatif. Data penelitian dianalisis dengan menggunakan dua langkah. Pertama, menganalisis hasil terjemahan disertai alasan mengapa penerjemah melakukannya. Kedua, menuliskannya dan membandingkan teks sumber dan teks sasaran. Strategi yang digunakan dalam menterjemahkan subjudul dengan menggunakan teori Baker terdiri dari empat*

*strategi penerjemahan, yaitu: terjemahan dengan menggunakan idiom makna dan bentuk yang sama, terjemahan dengan menggunakan idiom makna serupa tetapi bentuk yang berbeda, terjemahan dengan menafsirkan dan terjemahan dengan penghapusan. Ada 70 ungkapan idiomatis dalam penerjemahan subjudul film The Transporter 2 yang terbagi menjadi empat bagian strategi yang digunakan oleh penerjemah. strategi yang dominan digunakan oleh Qoryati sang penerjemah adalah terjemahan dengan menafsirkan yang muncul dalam 62 kasus. 3 diterjemahkan dengan penghapusan. Sebagaimana, 3 lainnya diterjemahkan dengan menggunakan strategi penerjemahan menggunakan idiom makna serupa tetapi bentuk yang berbeda, dan yang terakhir, 2 dari mereka diterjemahkan dengan strategi penerjemahan menggunakan idiom makna dan bentuk serupa. Strategi ini akan membantu penerjemah untuk menangani masalah-masalah dalam menerjemahkan ungkapan idiomatis dalam menterjemahkan subjudul, strategi ini digunakan untuk membuat hasil terjemahan tidak hanya menyenangkan, tetapi juga berarti bagi pembaca.*

**Kata kunci:** *Nominal Group, Komponen Fungsional, Pergeseran Fungsional, Terjemahan.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Communication cannot be limited only in a certain area or community but people in all over the world need to communicate each others. It is because the needs of life are more complex and various. Not only the needs of food, clothing and housing but nowadays the needs of information, education, science and technology, fashion and many more become very important.

The issue above cannot be separated from language as a mean of communication. Language is the device by which we express what we think, the typical vehicle of communication that humans use of dealing with one another. On the other hand, the presence of various languages that people speak in different nations all over the world, has more or less caused obstacles in the process of communicating among speakers of different language. Not every human can speak in all languages. In this case translation plays important role to understand information from others country with different languages, and also to share the experiences, sciences and technology and many things to the people in all over the world.

The activity of translation is really needed for enormous importance in the modern world and it is a subject of interest not only to linguist, professional and amateur translators and languages teachers, but also to electronic engineers and mathematicians it can be said that the activity of translation is very useful for enhancing the people's knowledge, and the professional translators who take interest in this subject.

people are not often aware that translation gives much contribution to the growth of the world. Translation is needed in the fields of life for example commerce, industry and science. Especially in the fields of industry, science and technology, it is said undoubtedly that translation brings much ease to their progress. because nowadays there are so many movies have been launched, for instance, box office movies. Of course the distributions of those products are not limited in a certain country. The companies compete to enhance their distribution to the international market. Of course in order to make the consumers understand about the story made in the movie, the companies have to provide the subtitle. Besides it facilitates the users, the subtitle is useful for them in avoiding the misunderstanding which causes the moviegoers miss the messages from the movie they watch.

Automatically, the movie companies have to provide the subtitle in languages where the companies distribute their products. Here, the translation takes an important role to give much understanding of how to know the messages in movie properly by conveying the message of the Source Language. Translation is not as simple as most people think. It is more than just an ability in speaking the target language and understanding it. A translator has to know and understand the language not just semantically and grammatically, but also the culturally where the language is used.

Watching movie is mostly everyone's favorites, it is always fun to watch movie which is used English as the movie script, at least does anyone not only enjoy the story but also able to learn about the language used in the movie through the subtitle. For the language used the movie are slightly different from those we often hear on daily conversation, the writer has chosen the subtitle of The Transporter 2 movie as an exchange to show the possible problem in translating English idiomatic expression.

The reasons for choosing the topic "strategies used for idiom translation in the movie subtitle entitled The Transporter 2" is because in watching movie, moviegoers tend to be confused to get the meanings when they find idiomatic. The moviegoers need time to understand the word which quite unfamiliar or totally new for them. In this case at least a good translation in the subtitle can help them to get the meaning meanwhile, English idiom has meanings which depart from the English normal pattern. The idioms are unpredictable which must be learn in context in addition, By analyzing the English idiomatic expression, the researcher wants to give the form and meaning of the idiomatic expression found in the movie subtitle. In short, this topic is very important to help Indonesian learners in studying English as a foreign language especially its idioms expressions.

## **METHOD**

### **Research Design**

Based on the problem analyzed, this research uses descriptive qualitative research. As Nawawi (1993:63) states that descriptive method is a research method to describe of the subject or object of the research based on the fact or the reality. The data of this research were collected from the subtitle of *The Transporter 2* movie. In collecting data, documentation method was used to collect the data of this research.

### **Data**

The researcher took data and information from the movie entitled *The Transporter2* presented by Twentieth Century Fox, which contains subtitle written by Qoryati, and broadcasted by RCTI on 16<sup>th</sup> may 2012.

### **Unit of Analysis**

The unit of analysis in this research is the utterances containing the idiomatic expression which is found in the movie entitled *The Transporter 2*. presented by Twentieth Century Fox, and broadcasted by RCTI on 16<sup>th</sup> may 2012. Utterances here are what the researcher found in the movie script written by Robert Mark Keman and Luc Besson.

### **Techniques of Data Collection**

The subjects of the study were the subtitle of movie entitled *The Transporter 2* presented by Twentieth Century Fox. The technique of data collection is as follows:

1. Recording the movie entitled *The Transporter 2*. When RCTI was broadcasting it on 16<sup>th</sup> may 2012 which contains the subtitle presented by Qoryati using TV tuner which is integrated with the computer storage device where the data is saved.
2. Downloading the movie script (English) written by its movie script writers, Robert Mark Keman and Luc Besson as the source language.
3. Writing subtitle (Indonesian) based on the movie as the target language.
4. Watching the movie from the beginning to take a good comprehension between the script and the subtitle.
5. Doing an independent study on the movie script (English) as the source language, and the video subtitle (Bahasa Indonesia) as the target language.
6. Using several dictionary of idiom to know the meaning idiomatic expression found in the movie script.
7. Taking the data from the source of the data in the form of all of idiomatic expression and its translation in the table, then give the codes. Bellow The researcher gives the example in a table and the information of codes.

Code. 09/01:06:00-01:06:03	
SL	Ah! <i>Speak of the devil</i> , it's my mother.
TL	Baru dibicarakan. Ini ibuku

SL : Source Language (English).  
 TL : Target Language (Bahasa Indonesia).  
 09 : The sequence number of data.  
 01:06:00-01:06:03 : The duration, the duration in this case is the period of time the subtitle appears in the movie.

### Techniques of Data Analysis

After the data were collected, they were analyzed. The researcher used the following steps to analyze the strategies of translation. The steps are as follow:

1. Identifying and analysing the translation strategies by using Baker's theory of translation strategy of idioms. There are four translation strategies used, first, translation by using idiom of similar meaning and form. Second, translation by using idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, third, translation by paraphrasing, and the last translation by omission.
2. Calculating the data in order to get the number and the percentage of each translation strategy employed by the translator.
3. Presenting and discussing the data findings of translation strategies of idioms to give more detail information of translation strategy frequently found in the movie used by translator.
4. Drawing conclusion after the data being analyzed.

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The analysis on the translation strategy to translate the idiomatic expression in the subtitle translation of *The Transporter 2* movie shows that there are four strategies used by the translator, they are translation using idiom of similar meaning and form, translation using idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by paraphrase, and omission. To know it in more detail about those strategies, the frequency of the use of the strategies is shown in the table on the next page:

#### 4.1 Table of the Percentage of Idiomatic Translation strategies used in the movie subtitle

No	Strategies	Frequency	Percentage
1	Using idiom of similar meaning and form	2	2,85%
2	Using idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form	3	4,28%
3	By Pharapruse	62	88,57%
4	By Omission	3	4,28%
5	Total	70	100%

Based on the table above, it can be seen that the dominant strategy in the subtitle translation of the *transporter 2* movie used by Qoryati as the translator is translation by paraphrase which appears in (62) cases or 88,57%, and 4,28% of them were translated by omission. Meanwhile, 4,28% of them were translated by the strategy of translation using idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, and the last, 2,85% of them were translated by the strategy of translation using idiom of similar meaning and form.

#### Translation Using Idiom of Similar Meaning and Form

This strategy involves using idiom in the target language which convey the same meaning as that of the source language idiom and consist of equivalent lexical items. This kind of match can occasionally be achieved. There some examples of this strategy by showing the idiom in the source language and their translation in the target language. The use of this strategy only appears in two cases, and it can be shown below:

Excerpt 1.

Code. 01/00:11:02-00:11:06	
SL	<i>Hands up!</i> Stop moving or I will shout you.
TL	<i>Angkat tangan!</i> Berhenti bergerak atau ku tembak kau.

The citation above is found in the part of the movie which shows a car robbery. In this scene Frank was fighting against a fold of robberer until one of them threatened him by pointing the gun against his head and asked frank to give the car over to them easily. It was uttered by the robberer.

The idiomatic expression *hands up* is used to express a direction or order to hold one's hands high, as in *Hands up or I'll shoot!* This imperative is usually used by police officers or criminals so that they can see if someone is holding a weapon, or a command for someone to surrender. The idiom *hands up!* is translated into *angkat tangan!* in the target language which belongs to idiom in Indonesian language. It

means *menaikkan kedua belah tangan tanda tak akan melawan atau tanda menyerah*. They have equivalent lexical items, or in the other word, both of the idiom above not only have the same form but also the same meaning. The reseacher classifies this idiomatic expression in this strategy since both English and Indonesian expressions are idioms.

### **Translation Using Idiom of Similar Meaning but Dissimilar Form**

It is often possible to find idiom in the target language which has a meaning similar to that of the source idiom or expression, but which consist of defferent lexical items. The use of this strategy only appears in two cases. There are some example that the researcher would like to show some of them:

Excerpt 3.

Code. 03/01:03:05-01:03:06	
SL	It's our way of <i>breaking the ice</i> .
TL	Ini cara kami <i>memecah kebekuan</i> .

The citation above is found in the part of the movie which shows that Tarconi was being interogated by the police officer. The police officer wanted to know how close the relationship between Tarconi and Frank. Tarconi explained that Frank was not really a close friend. The police forces found that Tarconi was cocking when the police forces surrounded Tarconi in Frank's house before arresting, that was why police officer assumed that they were both close as Tarconi attempted to clarify that they are both French, and French don't need to know someone for a long time in order to cook for. It was uttered by Tacroni.

As seen, there is an idiom of *breaking the ice* in above citation. The idiomatic expression *to break the ice* means to make people who have not met before feel more relaxed with each other or to get to know a person or people by avoiding awkwardness. The idiom in the source text is translated into *memecah kebekuan* in target language which belongs to Indonesian idiom which has the same meaning with *memecah kebekuan*, but both of them has different lexical item, *to break the ice* will be *memecah es* if it is translated with equivalent lexical item, but it will make the translation result loss the meaning. In this case they belong to translation by using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form.

Excerpt 8.

Code. 09/01:06:02-01:06:03	
SL	Ah! <i>Speak of the devil</i> , it's my mother.
TL	<i>Baru dibicarakan</i> . Ini ibuku

The citation above is found in the part of the movie which shows that tarconi was demonstrating how to cook a certain France food in the US Marshall office,

while he cooked in front of the police officers, Frank called him, then he pretended that someone who called him is his mother whom had been talked about before, it was uttered by Tarconi.

The idiom *speak of the devil* is usually used when someone appears whom you have just been talking about. Here the translator translated the idiom *speak of the devil* into *baru dibicarakan* in the target language which have the same meaning with the idiom in the citation above, but the words *baru dibicarakan* is not considered as idiom in Indonesia it means that the translator uses the strategy of translation by paraphrasing.

Actually the translator can translate the idiom from the source language into the idiom in the target language because the english idiom *speak of the devil* has equivalence *pucuk dicinta ulam pun tiba* in Indonesian idiom, in addition the translator can use the strategy of translation by using idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form as the equivalence of idiom in the target language is found in the same meaning but different lexical item, but the translator choosed to paraphrase it to make the subtitle shorter, so that the moviegours can get the information faster through the subtitle then they can enjoy the movie without being bussy to read a long subtitle.

Excerpt 12.

Code.10/01:29:25-01:29:28	
SL	I'd like to <i>come by</i> after the conference,
TL	Aku ingin <i>mampir</i> setelah konferensi.

From the citation above, it tells that Mr. Billings was about to go to attend a conference, before his left, he said to Mrs. Billings that he would come to see her and Jack whom was being sick after the conference.

The idiom *to come by* means to make a visit or to stop some place for a visit. from the citation above the translator translated the idiom *come by* into *mampir*, it means that the translator paraphrase that idiom into the target language because *mampir* is not idiom in the target language.

From the idiom above, the reseacher think that the idiom *come by* is more appropriate if it is translated into *kembali* not *mampir*. Because the word *mampir* means a brief stay in the course of a journey or visit informally and spontaneously, in this case the word *mampir* is less appropriate to the context of the situation in the movie because Mr. Billings will stay together with Jack and Mrs Billings after the conference not only stop by for a while and leave again.

### Translation by Omission

Sometimes an idiom must be omitted in the target language. This may be because it has no match in the target language, its meaning is hard to be paraphrased

or for stylistic reasons. Under this condition the translator does omission. Some of them will be shown in the following discussion.

Excerpt 25.

Code. 67/00:44:58-00:45:02	
SL	He's one man in one car! He's a chauffeur, for <i>Christ's sake!</i>
TL	Dia hanya seorang dan satu mobil. Dia hanya supir

The context of that citation above is that Mr. Billings got annoyed after the police forces was not able to find Frank. It is uttered by Mr. Billings

The idiom *Christ's sake!* is usually used to express kind of feeling surprised or annoyed by something in a bad situation. Here the translator did not translate the idiom *Christ's sake!* into Indonesian language. There is a reason of why the translator used this strategy. According to the researcher, the translator used this strategy for stylistic reason, or just made the translation work in the subtitle more simple, so that the moviegoers will be able to get the meaning faster, otherwise if the translator didn't translate the idiom *Christ's sake!* in Indonesian language the message will not fade. By omitting that idiom, the translator just made the translation work at the subtitle less expressive, but it did not lose the meaning of the source language in the target language by omitting the idiom *Christ's sake!*

In the other side, it is considered that the idiom *Christ sake!* contains cultural content that the translator is not able to find the most equivalent of it. Actually, the idiom above is still able to be translated in the target language by paraphrasing it into *astaga!* or *ya ampun!* In the target language but the translator did not do that. In this case, the subtitle becomes lack of expressive meaning as the idiom *Christ sake!* is also a kind of exclamation saying idiom which contains expressive meaning. It is acceptable as the most important, the meaning of the source language is transformed in the target language while the more or less expression of the context still can be seen in the way the actor expresses it through body language in the movie.

## CONCLUSION

As a bridge of communication who deals with two languages that are quite different from each other, a translator needs more skill to choose the most equivalent or the best words of target language in translating the source language, especially in subtitle translation the translator has to deal on how to make the translation result easier to catch so that the message or information from what the source language tells can be understood fast as the subtitle often appears in a short time follows the change of movie scene, beside that when the translator translate the source language text into the target language text s/he will find some problems arising from non-equivalence, such as differences in expressive meaning. Dealing with such problem, the translator

uses the translation by more natural/less expressive words and translation by more expressive word.

Based on the analysis in chapter four, the strategies that are used for translating idiomatic expression found in subtitle translation in the movie of *the transporte 2* movie, and its translation is used the strategies suggested by Mona Baker. Those strategies are, translation using idiom of similar meaning and form, translation using idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by pharaprse, and omission.

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