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An Analysis Of Idiom Translation Techniques In *Zootopia* (2016) Movie Subtitle

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ABSTRACT

Subtitling or text dubbing is a form of language switching which is usually done in films or television shows which is displayed in written form and placed at the bottom of the screen. Subtitling is provided by film makers with the aim of providing an understanding of the foreign language used by foreign speakers in a film or television show. An idiom is a construction whose meaning is not the same as the combined meaning of its members. Idioms are commonly used by foreign speakers in their dialogues. Subtitling of idioms itself has its own challenges, especially in translating and adapting the words conveyed from the source language to the target language. The translator must be able to transfer the context conveyed in the film properly. This research begins by watching the *Zootopia* (2016) film first. Then, researchers made several lists containing of all the idioms that we would use and at the same time we will see how the idioms were being translated by the translator and how the translator made those into subtitles. Besides that, we also classify the translation with Molina and Albir's theory, in which we will examine all of the idioms that we have found with Molina and Albir's theory.

Keywords: idiom, subtitle, translation technique.

ABSTRAK

Subtitling atau sulih teks merupakan suatu bentuk pengalihan bahasa yang biasa dilakukan dalam film atau acara televisi yang ditampilkan dalam bentuk tulisan dan ditempatkan di bagian bawah layar. Subtitling ini disediakan oleh pembuat film dengan tujuan untuk memberikan pemahaman bahasa asing yang digunakan oleh penutur asing di dalam suatu film atau acara televisi. Idiom merupakan konstruksi yang maknanya tidak sama dengan gabungan makna daripada anggota-anggotanya. Idiom biasa digunakan oleh para penutur asing di dalam dialognya. Subtitling dari idiom itu sendiri memiliki tantangannya tersendiri terutama dalam menerjemahkan dan menyesuaikan kata-kata yang disampaikan dari bahasa sumber ke bahasa target. Penerjemah harus mampu untuk mentransfer konteks yang disampaikan di dalam film tersebut dengan baik. Penelitian ini dimulai dengan cara menonton film *Zootopia* (2016) terlebih dahulu. Kemudian, researchers membuat beberapa list yang berisi kata idiom yang akan kami pakai dan juga sembari kita melihat bagaimana idiom tersebut ditranslate oleh penerjemah dan dijadikan subtitle. Selain itu, kami mengklasifikasikan terjemahan tersebut juga dengan menggunakan teori milik Molina dan Albir yang akan kami teliti dengan teori Molina dan Albir tersebut.

Kata kunci: idiom, subtitle, teknik penerjemahan

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INTRODUCTION

In the modern and globalized world of the 21st century, people can easily access any information from around the world. Only with a single click of a mouse, can we share and receive any kind of information that we want to

get. People from around the world can also get in touch with people from different countries more easily. Although with all of the convenience, there are still some challenges for those who want to get in touch with people from different countries. One of them is the language

barrier challenge. This problem not only occurs to those who are socializing with people from other different countries. But, we can also get this issue through foreign films and television programs from other countries. Therefore, translations are used through subtitles in order to deliver meanings from the source speaker to the target speaker.

According to Newmark (1981), translation is a craft consisting in the attempt to replace a written message and/or statement in one language by the same message and/or statement in another language. Catford (1965), suggests that translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (source language/SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (target language/TL). Translation is not an easy thing since it might be difficult to establish equivalence due to differences in systems and structures between the source language and the target language. A translator should be able to transfer the message of the source language and translate it into the target language.

Subtitles are essential in a movie or TV series because they serve as a connection between language and cultural barriers. In order to deliver meanings of sequences and dialogues in a movie or TV series, translators should be able to deliver meanings from the source language to the target language as accurately as possible. Subtitles are required to easily understand the film and to enjoy it without ambiguous thinking.

In this research, we chose the movie *Zootopia* (2016) as the object to be investigated. From the movie *Zootopia* (2016), we decided to examine the translation of idioms from English to Indonesian in the subtitle of the movie. Idioms are expressions that are quite difficult to translate since the translator or the subtitler must understand the appropriate counterpart to express the meaning of the context. Therefore, this study will discuss what translation techniques that are often used to translate the idioms from the movie. According to scholars, idioms are a type of figurative language consisting of a short series of words, the meaning of which is the product of an arbitrary convention; this means that their meaning is independent of the semantics of the single words composing it. Nida and Taber (1974: 202) define idioms as an expression consisting of several words and whose meaning cannot be derived from the meaning of individual words, also called exocentric expressions.

The main theory that will be used in this research will be the translation technique theory from Molina and Albir (2002). The theory mentioned that there are eighteen types of translation techniques that a translator can use when translating meanings from the source language to the target language. The eighteen strategies are adaptation, amplification, borrowing, calque, compensation, description, discursive creation, established equivalent, generalization, linguistic amplification, linguistic compression, literal translation, modulation, particularization, reduction, substitution, transposition, and variation. The object of this research will be the idiom translation in the subtitle of the movie *Zootopia* (2016). The movie will be in English as the source language and the subtitle will be in Indonesian as the target language.

There have been several previous studies which are talking about the translation of idiomatic expressions in subtitles of a TV program or a movie. One of the previous studies is the study made by Hashemian and Arezi (2017) where they investigate the applied strategies in the translation of idiomatic expression in two American subtitled movies, namely *Mean Girls* (2004) and *Bring It On!* (2009) by using Baker's (1992) procedures in translating idiomatic expressions in translation studies. Another study is the study made by Ismail (2014) where he analyzes the subtitling strategies of idiomatic expressions in the movie *The Avengers* (2012). The researcher employs Hockett's (1958) theory of idiomatic expressions to classify the idioms found in the movie and Gottlieb's theory of subtitle strategies (1994) to analyze the subtitle strategies used in subtitling the idioms. In his research, he found that the most frequent type of idiom found is substitute with 47,5 %, whereas the figure of speech and abbreviation is the least common type with only 2,82% of each type.

This research aims to classify the use of translation strategies on the idioms in the subtitle of *Zootopia* (2016) movie based on Molina and Albir's (2002) theory regarding translation strategies. The research also aims to show which translation technique from Molina and Albir's (2002) theory is most commonly used by the translator in the subtitle.

METHOD

This research employs qualitative research, which is defined as a study in which data is collected in the form of written or spoken words and then descriptively examined and

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presented. This research is expected to be able to find out, identify, define, and explain the translation strategies and accuracy in *Zootopia* movies by using this method.

The data source is the source where the data is found and is also the subject of the study. There are two pieces of data from this research, the movie and also scripts from subtitles. The script of this study is both source and target text downloaded from the website. This study's data includes both original and translated utterances from *Zootopia* movie subtitles. The focus will be on the translation of idioms from English into Indonesian. The sample of this research is only the idioms conveyed by the characters. And the sample of this study used a total sampling technique. This means that researchers must apply all speeches that use translation techniques in the subtitles of the *Zootopia* film.

In this study, there are some steps to collect data. The first step is the researcher downloading the *Zootopia* movie and script to make data analysis easier and faster. Researchers use these two sets of data to simplify analysis and eliminate errors when only one data set is used. The following step is to watch *Zootopia* in its entirety with subtitles. The study only analyzes the idiom, therefore the researcher should focus only on the idiomatic expression. Furthermore, data from the script is being collected in order to comprehend the story of the film. The final step is to identify the translation technique used in the data. The theory that is being used is the translation technique theory from Molina Albir (2002). To be clear, the following are the steps to collect the data:

1. Download the *Zootopia* movie and subtitle script.
2. The researcher watched *Zootopia* and discovered the idioms in the script.
3. The researcher investigated the meanings of English idiomatic terms used in *Zootopia*.
4. The researcher looked for the proper translations of *Zootopia*'s idiomatic idioms into Bahasa Indonesia.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Before we discuss about the findings of our research, we will first discuss about Molina and Albir's (2002) theory itself regarding translation technique. There are 18 translation techniques according to Molina and Albir (2002), the eighteen strategies are adaptation,

amplification, borrowing, calque, compensation, description, discursive creation, established equivalent, generalization, linguistic amplification, linguistic compression, literal translation, modulation, particularization, reduction, substitution, transposition, and variation.

Firstly, we have adaptation, which is a technique where the translator replaces a cultural element from the source text with one from the target language which has the same condition and situation. For example, the word "Baseball" in English is translated into Indonesian as "Kasti". Then, we have the amplification translation technique. It is when a translator adds details that are not formulated in the source text. An example of this technique is when we translate the sentence "Write to Bagas" into Indonesian form "Tulislah surat kepada Bagas." The borrowing technique is when the translator takes a word or expression from another language. This particular technique has two types, pure borrowing and naturalized borrowing. An example of pure borrowing is the translation of the word "melodrama" into "melodrama". An example of naturalized borrowing is translating the word "February" into Indonesian as "Februari". The calque technique is a literal translation of a foreign word or phrase. An example of the calque technique is translating the term "President director" into "Presiden Direktur".

The next technique is the compensation technique. The compensation technique is used by introducing a source text element of information in another place in the target text because it cannot be reflected in the same place as in the source text. For example, "I was so moved that I could stop crying" is translated into Indonesian as "Aku sangat terharu oleh tangisan itu." Description technique is replacing the term with a description of its form or function. An example of the use of this technique is in the translation of the word "Gado-gado" from Indonesian, translated into English into "Mixed vegetables with peanut sauce." The discursive creation technique is where a translator establishes a temporary equivalence that if taken out of context, is very unpredictable. For example, translating the movie title "*Stand By Me Doraemon*" into "*Tetaplah Bersamaku Doraemon*". The established equivalent technique is the use of a term or expression that is known as an equivalent in the target language. For example, translating the sentence from English "Thank you, Sir. I owe everything to you", into

Indonesian “Terima kasih, Pak. Aku berhutang besar padamu.”

Then, we have the generalization technique. It is the translation technique that uses a more general term to transform the source language into the target language. For example, translating the word “beras”, “padi”, and “nasi” from Indonesian, into English as “rice”. Linguistic amplification technique is a technique of adding linguistic elements towards the translation. For example, translating the term “See you tomorrow” into “Sampai jumpa lagi besok.” Linguistic compression technique is by synthesizing the linguistic elements in the target language. For example, translating the expression “Yes, so what?” into “Iya, lalu?”. The literal translation technique is where the word or expression is being translated word for word literally. For example, when translating a simple sentence like “You can play ball with us today.” translate it into “Kamu bisa bermain bola bersama kami hari ini”.

Modulation translation technique is a change in either point of view, focus, or cognitive theory compared to the source language initially. For example, translating the sentence “Hey, John. You’re early again.” into “Halo, John. Kau tak terlambat lagi”. The particularization translation technique is where the translator uses a more precise concrete term. For example, the term “White House” is translated to Indonesian into “Tempat kediaman dan bekerja Presiden Amerika.” The reduction translation technique is where translators suppress the information from the source language when translating it into the

target language. For example, the sentence “Rudi, why didn’t you wake me?” is translated into “Kenapa kamu tidak membangunkanku?” The substitution technique is when there is a change in the linguistic elements for paralinguistic elements such as intonation and gesture. For example, is an Indonesian gesture of slightly bowing your body and putting your right hand in front as you were walking before someone, it can be translated into the expression “excuse me.”

The last two techniques we have are the transposition technique and the variation translation technique. The transposition technique is a technique that is used to bring changes in the grammatical categories during the translation process. For example, the sentence “Wash out your mouth” is translated into “Cuci mulut mulutmu.” Variation translation technique is changing the linguistic or paralinguistic elements that affect aspects of linguistic variation. For example, the term “For your information” is translated into “Asal kalian tahu nih.”

As mentioned in the introduction of this essay, this research aims to determine the translation techniques that are used to translate the idiomatic expressions in the subtitle of *Zootopia* (2016) movie. We have gathered some idioms used in the movie itself and matched the Indonesian subtitle used by the translator to translate the idiomatic expressions. The idiomatic expressions and its Indonesian translation are as follows :

No.	Idiomatic expressions	Translation in Bahasa Indonesia
1.	Before you hit the streets.	Sebelum berangkat kerja (adaptation)
2.	Don't lose your key!	Jangan sampai hilang arah (adaptation)
3.	You little dickens!	Anak nakal (adaptation)
4.	So hit the road!	Menggelar tikar (adaptation)
5.	Whoopsie	Tergelincir lidah (adaptation)
6.	Shut your tiny mouth now!	Tutup mulutmu (reduction)
7.	And time is money.	Waktu adalah uang (literal translation)
8.	So beat it.	Hadapi masalah (adaptasi)

9.	On the hook	Di ujung tanduk (adaptation)
10.	For old times sake?	mengulangi (adaptation)
11.	Bunny pumpkins	Otak udang (adaptation)

The first sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "Before you hit the streets." If we translate this idiom using only normal way to translate, we will end up with the translation of "sebelum kamu memukul jalanan." That would make no sense to the context of the scene in the movie. When using adaptation translation technique, we can adapt the idiom and translate it to Indonesian into "sebelum berangkat kerja."

The second sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "Don't lose your key!" If we translate this idiom using the normal way to translate, we might end up with the translation as "jangan sampai kehilangan kuncimu!" That would make no sense to the context of the scene in the movie. Instead, when we use the adaptation translation technique, we can adapt the idiom and translate it to Indonesian into "Jangan sampai hilang arah."

The third sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "you little dickens!" If we translate this idiom only using the normal way to translate, we might end up with the translation as "kalian iblis kecil!" That might make sense a bit to the context of the scene in the movie. But, it is not quite accurate. The proper translation of the idiom is "Anak nakal!" which it is translated using the adaptation translation technique.

The fourth sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "So hit the road!" If we use a normal way in translating this particular idiom, we might end up by translating it into "maka, pukullah jalanan itu!" This would not be appropriate with the scene of the movie. Instead of translating it that way, it is better to translate it using the adaptation translation technique. The translation will be "menggelar tikar." This translation makes better sense for the scene in the movie.

The fifth sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "whoopsie." If we use a normal way in translating this particular idiom, this would be quite hard to translate. Therefore, it is better to use adaptation translation technique by translating it into "tergelincir lidah." which it is more suitable for the context of the scene in the movie.

The sixth sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "Shut your tiny mouth now!" If we use a normal way of translating this particular idiom, it could still make sense as it will be translated as "tutup mulut kecilmu sekarang!" However, it is better to translate it in a shorter way to fit the limit of words in the subtitling rule. Therefore, it is better to translate it using the reduction translation technique which will be translated to Indonesian in a more simple way as "Tutup mulutmu."

The seventh sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "and time is money!" This sample is translated in the subtitle using the literal translation technique. The translation of this idiom by using the literal translation technique will be "dan waktu adalah uang!"

The eighth sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "so beat it." If we use a normal way of translating this particular idiom, it would be translated as "maka kalahkanlah." This would not make sense with the scene in the movie. Therefore, the translator used the adaptation translation technique to translate this idiom, where the translator translated the idiom as "hadapi masalah."

The ninth sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "on the hook." If we use a normal way of translating this particular idiom, it would be translated as "di kait." This would not make any sense with the scene in the movie. Therefore, the translator used the adaptation translation technique to translate this idiom, where the translator translated the idiom as "di ujung tanduk."

The tenth sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "For old times sake?" If we use a normal way of translating this particular idiom, it would be translated as "demi masa lalu." This would not make any sense with the scene in the movie. Therefore, the translator used the adaptation translation technique to translate this idiom, where the translator translated the idiom as "mengulangi."

The eleventh sample that we have is the translation of the idiom "Bunny pumpkins." If we use a normal way of translating this particular idiom, it would be translated as "labu kelinci."

This would not make any sense with the scene in the movie. Therefore, the translator used the adaptation translation technique to translate this idiom, where the translator translated the idiom as "otak udang."

From the eleventh sample that we get, we found out that most of the translation technique used by the translator to translate idiom expressions in the subtitle of the movie *Zootopia* (2016) is the adaptation translation technique. The main goal of a translator who is making a subtitle of a movie is to be able to deliver all of the message from the source language to the target language. This fits well with the definition of the adaptation translation technique in the previous paragraph where adaptation is a technique where the translator replaces a cultural element from the source text with one from the target language which has the same condition and situation.

CONCLUSION

This research identified the 3 out of 18 theories of Molina and Albir's (2002) translation techniques used in the movie *Zootopia* (2016) subtitles. Adaptation, reduction translation, literal translation techniques are ones we have found. We have also listed some of the idioms that we could find in *Zootopia* (2016) and even divided those idioms to each of the theories of Molina and Albir. We can say that we have found so many adaption techniques being used these idioms in *Zootopia* (2016) but we have found some other techniques too such as reduction translation and literal translation.

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