AN ANALYSIS ON IDIOM TRANSLATION STRATEGIES IN JANE AUSTEN’S EMMA

Liony Fatma Marthafian/1611403128
Fakultas Sastra/ Sastra Inggris
Universitas 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya

ABSTRACT: This study is aimed (1) at describing the types of idiom found in source language; and (2) at analyzing translation strategies used in the idiom translation strategies in Jane Austen's Emma from English into Indonesian. The method of the study is descriptive qualitative research with content analysis in which the data of this study are idioms found in “Emma” and the translation in Indonesian version of “Emma”. In here, the researcher herself serves as a research instrument. In addition, data were collected by reading the novel both English and Indonesian version and listing all the idioms found in the source text and their translation in the target text; identifying the idioms by classifying the idioms found using Palmer's theory (1976) about the types of idioms and displaying each types into tables. The data obtained were analyzed by using idiom translation strategies proposed by Baker's theory (2011). In conclusion, there are fifty idioms are found and have been analyzed. The result of the analysis stated that the most frequent types of idioms appeared in the novel is partial idiom which are consists of twenty-nine idioms. Other types appeared are phrasal verb which are consists of fifteen idioms and prepositional verb which are consists of six idioms. Another result of the analysis is stated that the most frequent translation strategies used in translating the English idioms is translation by using similar meaning and similar form. Other strategies applied are translation by using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by paraphrase and translation by omission.

Keywords: Idiom, Types of Idiom, Translation, Strategies, Emma

dianalisis. Hasil analisis menyatakan bahwa jenis idiom yang paling sering muncul dalam novel adalah idiom parsial yang terdiri dari dua puluh sembilan idiom. Jenis lain yang muncul adalah kata kerja phrasal yang terdiri dari lima belas idiom dan kata kerja preposisional yang terdiri dari enam idiom. Hasil lain dari analisis ini menyatakan bahwa strategi penerjemahan yang paling sering digunakan dalam menerjemahkan idiom bahasa Inggris adalah terjemahan dengan menggunakan makna yang sama dan bentuk serupa. Strategi lain yang diterapkan adalah penerjemahan dengan menggunakan idiom dengan makna yang sama tetapi bentuk yang berbeda, terjemahan oleh parafrase dan terjemahan dengan menghilangkan.

Kata kunci: Idiom, Jenis Idiom, Terjemahan, Strategi, Emma

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The need for translation plays an important role which cannot be separated from human life. It is because translation is one of solutions to assist people who want to understand many sources of reading which are written in different language. In addition, Newmark (1998:5) explains that translation means rendering the text into another language in the way the author intended to the text. It means that translation involves transferring words from SL (source language) to TL words (target language) which in this case is transferring English into Indonesian.

In other hand, there is also a problem about non-equivalence which happens in the translation specifically in translating idiom. The existence of the problem in translation is caused by the fact that we must put forward the meaning of the word rather than the grammatically since idiom have their own meaning which cannot be translate word by word. So, there are some translation strategies that used by the translator to solve the problem of translation. According to Baker (2011:75), there are some strategies used by professional translators such as using an idiom of similar meaning and form, using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by paraphrase, translation by omission.

This study is interested in analyzing the strategy of idiom translation because even though research on translation has been widely but the one which focuses on translating idiom is still limited, consequently the researcher is challenged to know more about idiom translation and analyze the strategies used when translating it. The data are collected from Jane Austen’s Emma novel both in
English and Indonesian versions. Then, the reason of choosing the *Emma* novel because it is available in both English and Indonesian with many idioms found in the novel and it have been reprinted many times and been adapted into movie in three versions.

There are some previous studies which are related in English idiom translation, one of the research is from Frennandy (2013) about “analysis on idiom translation strategies in the rainbow troops” which focuses in examining the translation strategies in the novel Laskar Pelangi from Indonesian into English. According to those studies, the differences is in the present study, the researcher wants to find out the types of the English idioms using Palmer’s theory which explains three types of idiom; phrasal verb, prepositional verb, and partial idiom. This study also aims to analyze the strategies that are used in that translation from English idiom into Indonesian.

In the following, second section contains with the review of related literature, third section explains the research method, fourth section is the analysis of the translation strategies of English idiom into Indonesia that are found in Jane Austen’s *Emma*, and the last, fifth section is the conclusion.

### 1.2 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

**Previous Study**

There have been many studies on translation. One of them is in the Frennandy (2013) about “analysis on idiom translation strategies in the rainbow troops” which focuses in examining the translation strategies in the novel Laskar Pelangi from Indonesian into English using idiom translation strategies proposed by Baker (2007). The result of her research shows that the most common translation strategy used by the translator in translating Indonesian idiom into English is translation by using similar meaning and form, translation by using similar meaning and dissimilar form, and translation by paraphrasing. The difference between this research and her research is the data of source language(SL) & target language(TL), and focus of the research.

**Translation**

As a matter of fact, translation have becomes frequent activity in our daily life in order to communicate
meanings from another language. There are some definitions of translation from several famous researchers, firstly is from Hatim and Munday (2004:3) who state that the term of translation encompasses very distinct perspectives. The first sense focuses on the role of the translator in taking the original or source text (ST) and turning it into a text in another language (the target text, TT). The second sense centres on the concrete translation product produced by the translator. So in other words, translation is the term for the process of transferring a written text from SL to TL, conducted by a translator.

Secondly, is from Catford (1965:1) who states that translation is an operation performed on languages: a process of substituting a text in one language for a text in another. He emphasizes more that translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL).

**Idiom**

Seidl and Mordie (1988:13) defines an idiom as a number of words which, when taken together, have a different meaning from the individual meaning each word. They also explain that idiom take many different forms or structures. An idiom can have a regular structure, an irregular or even a grammatically incorrect structure. The clarity of meaning is not dependent on the ‘grammatical correctness’.

On the other hand, Palmer (1976) defines an idiom involves collocation of special kind, not just inform meaning. Consider, for instance *kick the bucket* in here we not only have the collocation of kick and the bucket but also the fact that the meaning of the resultant combination is opaque. it is not related to the meaning of the individual words, but is sometimes nearer to the meaning of a single word(thus, *kick the bucket* equals die). He also makes three classifications of the idiom:

1. **Phrasal verb**
   Phrasal verb is a combination of a verb plus an adverb. The phrasal verb is a fixed collocation idiom, in effect of fully fixed expressions that become establish through repeated context-dependent use.
2. **Prepositional verb**
   Prepositional verb is a combination of a verb plus a preposition, such as
look after, and go for. Beside that, there is also the sequences of verb, adverb and preposition such as put up with which means ‘tolerate’ or do away with which means ‘kill’. Those words are not fixed collocation idioms so that they cannot stand alone, they need to be followed by a complete sentences.

3. Partial idiom

Partial idiom is where one of the words has its usual meaning, the other has a meaning that is peculiar to the particular sequence. We could, perhaps, define idioms in term of non-equivalence in other languages, so that kick the bucket, red herring, etc are idioms since they cannot be directly translated into French or German.

Translation of Idiom

Regardless the explanation above, Baker(2011:75-84) also gives some strategies to help translators face that problem, the strategies include:

a. Using an idiom of similar meaning and form, this strategy involves using an idiom in a way that the TL idiom conveys exactly the same meaning by the use of the same equivalent lexical items to the SL ones. The point to be mentioned here is that the more two cultures are identical to each other the more cases of such equivalents are possible.

b. Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, this strategy using an idiom in a way that an idiom or fixed expression in the target language has a meaning similar to that of the source idiom or expression, but consists of different lexical items. This means that the lexical items of the SL idioms are not kept in the TL; instead a semantic equivalent is given in the TL.

c. Translation by paraphrase, this is by far the most common way of translating idioms when a match cannot be found in the TL or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the TL because of differences in stylistic preferences of the SL and TL.
d. Translation by omission, as with single words, an idiom may sometimes be omitted altogether in the TL. This may be because it has no close match in the TL, its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased, or for stylistic.

1.3 RESEARCH METHOD

Research Design

The design of the study used descriptive qualitative research since qualitative research involves studies that do not attempt to quantify their results through statistical summary or analysis (Marczyk & DeMatteo, 2005:17) and descriptive analyses are frequently used to summarize a study sample prior to analyzing a study’s primary hypotheses. This provides information about the overall representativeness of the sample, as well as the information necessary for other researchers to replicate the study, if they so desire (Marczyk & DeMatteo, 2005:209). So here the researcher tries to analyze written material in a way which will produce reliable evidence about translation strategy of idioms by taking the data in the form of translation of idioms with various types which are identified entirely as systematically and presented in the form of word.

Data Source

The sources of the data were the English version of *Emma* written by Jane Austen (1994, Wordsworth Edition Limited), and its Indonesian version with the same title *Emma* translated by Istiani Prajoko (2015, Qanita publisher). The data were idioms found in “*Emma*” and the translation in Indonesian version of “*Emma*”. The English version of “*Emma*” consist of 390 pages and the Indonesian version consist of 737 pages. The whole of pages in *Emma* novel were used as the source of data.

Research Instrument

Based on the statement from Tayie (2005:87) in qualitative research the investigator is the instrument; no other individual could fill in for the qualitative researcher. It means that the researcher is the key of instrument in which without the active of participation of the researcher, no data exist. Therefore the instrument of this research is the researcher herself.

Data Collection Procedure

Data collection procedures are how the researcher collected and got the data.
In this study researcher collect the data by using the following steps:

Firstly, reading the *Emma* novel both in English and Indonesian version to find the idioms that are appeared in the novel and use them as the data. Secondly, searching many references about idioms translation in other books and also internet which provide much information about idioms translation.

Thirdly, classifying all data into their category or classification based on Palmer's theory. In here the researcher identify idiom and then classify them into each type.

Fourthly, displaying the data which were collected. In here the researcher display the idioms into 2 columns English and Indonesian which are ready to be analyzed.

**Data Analysis Procedure**

Data Analysis Procedure is how the researcher solved the problems by analyzing existing data. In this study, the researcher analyzes the data by using some steps:

Firstly, understanding the collected data of idioms found in *Emma* Novel both in English and Indonesian version.

Secondly, analyzing the types of English idioms found in *Emma* novel based on Palmer's theory.

Thirdly, analyzing the translation strategies of idiom in *Emma* novel from English (SL) into its Indonesian translation (TL) based on Baker’s theory.

Fourthly, making the conclusion of this research. In this study, the researcher concluded what types of idioms found in *Emma* novel and what the translation strategies used.

1.4 RESULT & DISCUSSION

**Phrasal Verb**

For phrasal verb, the data found are 15 idioms which using two translation strategies. The strategies are using similar meaning but dissimilar form and translation by paraphrase.

**Using Similar Meaning but Dissimilar Form**

In this translation strategies, the data found are 12 idioms. One of the analysis is explained below:

Data PV2:

SL : “We had better move on, Mr. Weston.”
English idiom “move on” is constructed by the verb “move” and the adverb “on” which can not be understood by the individual word. Based on the *Idioms & Phrases Dictionary* the idiom means to start dealing with something else. This idiom is translated into non-idiomatic Indonesian translation “melanjutkan perjalanan” which are constructed by the verb “melanjutkan and the noun “perjalanan”. Based on the *KBBI V* the translation means to continue (about words, negotiations, stories, etc.). In addition, the translator deliberately added the word “perjalanan” because the word “melanjutkan” requires the object after it while the word “perjalanan” itself is chosen based on the co-text of the story which indicates that Mr. Weston is making a journey with someone (*Emma*). However, both SL and TL are meaningful to start a step to continue the journey. In other side, both SL and TL have dissimilar form since the structure of the SL which are (verb+adverb) is different with TL which are (verb+noun). Thus, this idiom uses similar meaning but dissimilar form as a translation strategy.

**Translation by Paraphrase**

In this translation strategies, the data found are 3 idioms. One of the analysis is explained below:

**Data PV13:**

SL : Woman who had **Fallen little short** of a mother in affection.

TL : Wanita yang **memberinya** kasih sayang.

English idiom “fallen little short” is constructed by the verb+adverb+adverb (fallen+little+short) in which the aim of the word “little” is to modify by adding a degree of intensity to the word “short”. This idiom can not be understood by the individual word. Based on the context of the story the idiom used to show that the compassion of the woman (Mrs Weston) can not be compared to a mother. According to the *Merriam-Webster Dictionary* the meaning of the idiom is to fail to attain something(such as a goal or target). Therefore, the idiom uses translation by paraphrase as a translation strategy of the idiom because the form and the word in TL text is different with the SL text. In TL, this idiom is translated into non-idiomatic indonesian translation “memberinya” which based on the *KBBI*.
ONLINE means providing (doing and so on) something to. In addition, the translator uses the word “memberinya” because based on the context of the story it also refers to Mrs. Weston who had failed to be a real mother even she has provided everything as good as a biological mother.

**Prepositional Verb**

For prepositional verb, the data found are 6 idioms which using two translation strategies. The strategies are using similar meaning and similar form and using similar meaning but dissimilar form.

**Using Similar Meaning and Similar Form**

In this translation strategies, the data found is 1 idiom. The example of the analysis is explained below:

Data PrV1
SL: “A young woman, if she fall into bad hands, may be teased.”
TL: “Seorang gadis, jika terpaksa berada dibawah kekuasaan yang buruk dapat disindir-sindir.”

English idiom “fall into” is constructed by the verb “fall” and the preposition “into” which can not be understood by the individual word. Based on the *Idioms & Phrases Dictionary* the idiom means to be classified as; to fall under. In the TL, this idiom is translated into non-idiomatic Indonesian translation “berada dibawah” which are constructed by the verb “berada” and the preposition “dibawah”. Based on the *KBBI V* the translation means to be in a place or environment. In here, both SL and TL texts are equally referring to someone who have been in a wrong care. Therefore, this idiom uses similar meaning and form as a translation strategy.

**Using Similar Meaning but dissimilar Form**

In this translation strategies, the data found are 5 idioms. One of the analysis is explained below:

Data PrV2
SL: “I wanted them to put off the wedding.”
TL: “Aku ingin mereka menunda pernikahan.”

English idiom “put off” is constructed by the verb “put” and the preposition “off” which can not be understood from the individual word. In the context of the story the idiom used to show that Emma wants them to postpone the wedding. This context is appropriate with the meaning of the Idiom in which according to *Merriam-Webster Dictionary* means to
hold back to a later time. This idiom is translated with the same meaning in Indonesian version becomes “menunda” in which based on the *KBBI V* the meaning of the translation is stop and will be held another time(next time). Therefore, this idiom uses similar meaning but dissimilar form as a translation strategy since the structure of the SL text which are (verb+preposition) is different with the TL text which is only verb.

**Partial Idiom**

For partial idiom, the data found are 19 idioms which using three translation strategies. The strategies are using similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by paraphrase, and translation by omission.

**Using Similar Meaning but dissimilar Form**

In this translation strategies, the data found are 10 idioms. One of the analysis is explained below:

Data PI1

SL : “I suppose they will not *take the liberty* with you; they know you do not dine out.”

TL : “Kurasa mereka tidak ingin menyinggung perasaanmu; mereka tahu bahwa kau tidak pernah makan diluar.”

English idiom “take the liberty” is constructed by the word verb+article+noun (take+the+liberty) which are based on the composition of the idiom, it can not be directly translated into Indonesian. According to *Idioms & Phrases Dictionary* the meaning of the idiom is to act on one’s own authority, without asking for permission. In Indonesian translation, this idiom is translated into one word “menyinggung” in which according to *KBBI V* means hurt (wound) the heart (feeling). In here, the meaning of the TL is related to the SL because the TL text “menyinggung” shows that this activity is done by a person’s authority without asking for permission. In other hand, both SL and TL texts have dissimilar form since the structure of those two texts is different. Therefore, it is clear that this idiom uses similar meaning but dissimilar form as a translation strategy.

**Translation by Paraphrase**

In this translation strategies, the data found are 4 idioms. One of the analysis is explained below:

Data PI11
SL: Where girl might be sent to be out of the way and scramble.

TL: Tempat dimana para orangtuanya dapat melepaskan anak perempuannya untuk mendapat pendidikan.

English idiom “out of the way” is constructed by the preposition+article+noun(outof+the+way) which are based on the composition of the idiom, it can not be directly translated into Indonesian. From the context of the story the idiom is used to describe what the parent do to their daughter. According to Idioms & Phrases Dictionary the idiom means taken care of. In the Indonesian translation, this idiom is translated into one word as “melepaskan” which according to KBBI V means make it free (unbound, out of confinement, etc.). Therefore, the idiom uses translation by paraphrase as a translation strategy because the form and the word of the TL text is different with SL text. In addition, the translator uses the TL text “melepaskan” because it is appropriate with the meaning of the SL text in which refers to the way parents take care of their daughters by letting them go in order to get education.

Translation by Omission

In this translation strategies, the data found are 5 idioms. One of the analysis is explained below:

Data PI18

SL: Is not, by any means, to be compared with Miss Fairfax

TL: Dia tidak bisa, x dibandingkan dengan Miss Fairfax

English idiom “by any means” is constructed by the adverb+pronoun+noun (by+any+means) which are based on the composition of the idiom, it can not be directly translated into Indonesian. From the context of the story the idiom is used to emphasize and clarify the sentence afterwards in which it refers to Mr. Dixon who in any case can not be compared to Miss. Fairfax. Based on the Idioms & Phrases Dictionary the idiom means in any manner whatsoever. In Indonesian translation, the idiom “by any means” is omitted. It is because there is no close match in the TL or it is difficult to paraphrase without change the stylistic
meaning, however even though the meaning is omitted, the message still delivered beautifully and make the reader understand what the context of the story is about. Therefore, the idiom uses translation by omission as a translation strategy.

1.5 CONCLUSION

Based on the thirty-five chapters of the "Emma" which have been examined by the writer, there are forty data successfully analyzed. So that, the result of this study are as follows:

1. Three types of English idiom are found, phrasal verb idiom which consists of 15 idioms, prepositional verb which consists of 6 idioms, and partial idiom which consists of 19 idioms.

2. There are two strategies of translating phrasal verb idiom: using similar meaning but dissimilar form which consists of 12 idioms, and translation by paraphrase which consists of 3 idioms.

3. There are two strategies of translating prepositional verb idiom: using similar meaning and form which consists of 1 idiom, and using similar meaning but dissimilar form which consists of 5 idioms.

4. There are three strategies of translating partial idiom: using similar meaning but dissimilar form which consists of 10 idioms, translation by paraphrase which consists of 4 idioms, and translation by omission which consists of 5 idioms.

From the result above, it is discovered that using similar meaning but dissimilar form is the most commonly applied strategy for translating English idioms with the total of 29 data. On the other hand, all types of idioms as proposed by Palmer are present in the novel with the most commonly occurs idiom is partial idiom which appears nineteen in the novel.

Furthermore, the strategy is needed in translation especially in translating idiom in order to obtain a target language (TL) which is acceptable and appropriate with the concept of source language (SL).

BIBLIOGRAPHY


Engineering Sciences. Faculty of Engineering-Cairo University.