

THE EQUIVALENCE AND TRANSLATION STRATEGIES OF ENGLISH-INDONESIAN CIRCUMSTANCES IN A NOVEL *THE KITE RUNNER*

Gina Fitri Shabrina¹, Ni Luh Putu Setiarini²
Universitas Gunadarma, Jakarta, Indonesia^{1,2}

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Abstract

In the clause structure, circumstantial constituents are an important part because their role is to provide an explanation of the environment or circumstances that accompany a process in the clause. To translate this, it is required to determine the appropriate translation strategies. This research analysed translation strategies that are used to translate English circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel. The aims of this research is to clarify, define the translation strategies made used for the circumstances that are shown in the target text in conjunction with the source text, and to serve as answers to the questions regarding the types of translation strategies the translator employs and why they are used in the target text by using qualitative research by making use of Halliday and Matthiessen's (2013) Systemic Functional Linguistics circumstance classifications and Chesterman's (2016) translation strategies. The data for this research was taken from the circumstances found in the English version of *The Kite Runner* novel, which serve as the source language and the Indonesian version as the target language that shows the translated circumstances as the primary data. The findings of this research showed that there are eight types of circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel and nine translation strategies that the translator of the novel used to translate the circumstances found in the Indonesian version of this novel. The results also showed that the most prevalent translation strategy for translating the circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel is literal translation by translating them completely and accurately.

Keywords— Circumstances, Equivalence, Systemic Functional Linguistic, The Kite Runner, Translation Strategies

Introduction

Translation has been described in numerous ways by different authors in the field, depending on how they view language and translation. Nida and Taber (2021) define that translating consists in the reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, in terms of meaning and style. It denotes that translation encompasses two languages: the source language (SL) and the target language (TL). The act of translating is the act of conveying the meaning of the source text into that of the target text. Obtaining the intended language's equivalent of the source language's meaning is the primary objective of translation. A translated novel is a work of fiction that uses language that differs from the original text yet still preserves the original text's spirit. In both languages, it elicits the same impression from the readers.

Before translating a literary text, it can be advantageous to analyse its meaning employing the appropriate theoretical framework to ensure that what is likely to be perceived as being complicated to understand can become clear (Leech & Short, 2007). According to Halliday (2014), transitivity analysis is an aspect of the ideational metafunction of language (experiential meaning). By defining the event as a particular process that is connected to the participants as well as circumstances at the clause level, transitivity serves as a key to unlock the

text. Researchers in the field of translation have conducted a number of studies using transitivity analysis, a method that assists in clarifying the meaning of each clause in the text.

In Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), the adverb element in a sentence is called the circumstance. According to Halliday (2014), one of the three elements of transitivity, circumstances, is considered to arise flexibly inside the clause and are less central than the participant. An occurrence or process in a clause has circumstances, which are the surrounding physical or non-physical environments. With words or adverbial phrases, circumstantial is made actual. These are primarily adjuncts or prepositional phrases that describe the process in which it is being carried out. In their classification of circumstances, Halliday and Matthiessen (2013) distinguish nine types: extent, location, manner, cause, contingency, accompaniment, role, matter, and angle. Numerous scholars have their own theoretical framework regarding translation strategies. In the clause structure, circumstantial constituents are an important part because their role is to provide an explanation of the environment or circumstances that accompany a process in the clause. This research applies the translation strategy theory proposed by Chesterman (2016). He classifies translation strategies into three primary groups of strategy: syntactic strategies, semantic strategies, and pragmatic strategies.

There have been several previous studies that discussed transitivity processes. Tinambunan et al.(2019) found that material process is dominantly used in the texts of *Laskar Pelangi* novel. Isti'anah (2014) also found that most opinions about Jakarta governor election employed material processes to show what Jakarta people expect from the governor, reflected by Actor-Goal, Affected, and Goal-Recipient participants. These previous studies proceeded with the presentation of their findings in a broad manner, which is the whole transitivity process. The translation strategies of circumstances are where the researchers of the present research desire to concentrate. Tilusubya, Nababan, & Santosa (2018) have also conducted a study the translation of circumstances where they found that in the text of the Gospel Matthew, has a significant impact on how translation techniques are applied in the target text, rather than the contrary. However, compared to previous studies, this research adopts a different translation strategy framework. The use of different translation strategy theory, notably from *The Kite Runner* novel as the source text and its Indonesian version as the target text, is the gap and the focus of this research. The main objective of this current research is to clarify as well as define the translation strategies used for the circumstances that appear in the target text in conjunction with the source text. This research also aims to provide answers to the questions regarding the types of translation strategies the translator employs and why they are used in the target text.

Literature Review

Circumstances

According to Martin (2017) in Sihura (2019) The configuration of experience in transitivity is determined by two main systems namely, process type and circumstantiation According to Halliday (2014, p. 221), circumstances are one of the three elements of transitivity which is said to occur freely within the clause and more peripheral than the participant. Circumstantial elements as described by Halliday and Matthiessen (2014, p. 175) are “almost always optional augmentations of the clause rather than obligatory components”. Circumstances complement Processes and they are realized by Adverbial groups or Prepositional phrases.

In addition to that, according to Halliday & Matthiessen (2014), in the clause structure, circumstance appears freely in all types of processes and produces the same meaning wherever they are. Santosa (2003) added his opinion on circumstances is that circumstance is the physical or non-physical environment that surrounds the process. While Gerot and Wignell (1995) argue that circumstantial clauses function to answer questions such as when, where, why, how, how much, and as what. Circumstance in English is divided into nine types, they are extent, location, manner, cause, contingency, accompaniment, role, matter, and angle.

Translation Strategies

Andrew Chesterman (2016) classified translation strategies into three primary groups of strategy: syntactic strategies, semantic strategies, and pragmatic strategies. Syntactic strategies include pure syntactic variations; they are literal translation, loan and calque, transposition, unit shift, phrase structure change, clause structure change, sentence structure change, cohesion change, level shift, and scheme change. Semantic strategy manipulates meaning. This change is mainly related to lexical semantics and sometimes aspects of clause meaning such as emphasis. The strategies are divided into ten main categories: synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, converses, abstraction change, distribution change, emphasis change, paraphrase, trope change, and other semantic changes. Pragmatic strategies include cultural filtering, explicitness change, information change, interpersonal change, illocutionary change, coherence change, partial translation, visibility change, transediting, and other pragmatic changes.

Research Method

To carry out this research, the researchers employed a method of qualitative research. Sutopo (2006, p. 35) stated that in qualitative research, the data collected were in the forms of words, sentences, pictures, or videos which more significant than amount of frequency. The researchers employed *The Kite Runner* novel written by Khaled Hosseini and its translation translated by Berliani M. Nugrahani. *The Kite Runner* was published by Riverhead Books, New York in 2003. It was published by Qonita, Bandung in 2006. The data for this research was taken from circumstances found in the English version of *The Kite Runner* novel, which will serve as the source language and the Indonesian version as the target language that shows circumstances as the primary data.

The data were collected in a number of steps by the researchers. The first step was reading *The Kite Runner* novel as the source book and its translation thoroughly to understand the content of the text. Afterwards was identifying and highlighting the English circumstances and its translation as the data. Furthermore, the researchers classified the English circumstances and its translation to make sure all the data is valid and randomly chose the most difficult data, namely 75 data, to be analysed. Lastly, the researchers analysed the data and made a conclusion.

Results and Discussion

Out of 75 data, they were eight types of circumstances. The frequency and the distribution of the circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel are shown in the following table:

Table 1: Frequency and Distribution of Circumstances

No	Circumstances	Data	
		ST	TT
1	Extent	6	6
2	Location	45	43
3	Manner	12	13
4	Cause	5	4
5	Contingency	1	0
6	Accompaniment	2	2
7	Role	1	0
8	Matter	3	0
Total		75	68

Table 1 shows that circumstances found in on the 75 data included extent with six data in the source text (ST) and six data as well in the target text (TT), location with 45 data in the ST and 43 data in the TT, manner with 12 data in the ST and 13 data in the TT, cause with five data in the ST and 4 data in the TT, contingency with one datum in the ST only, accompaniment with two data in the ST and two data as well in the TT, role with one datum in the ST only, and

matter with three data in the ST only.

Several factors, including structural shift, may have contributed to the shifts shown in Table 1. As stated by Sharokhi and Lotfi (2012), the shifts could be brought about by differences in the two languages' forms. According to Catford (1965), different language structure systems in different languages can cause a structural shift, which can result in either the addition or deletion of linguistic components and overall shifts to a sentence (Sut, 2023). These are two examples of the shift of the circumstance:

Datum 1

ST: The early-afternoon sun sparkled **on the water** where dozens of miniature boats sailed, propelled by a crisp breeze.

TT: *Cahaya matahari awal senja berkilauan menyiram permukaan air, tempat lusinan kapal miniatur berlayar dengan dorongan angin yang semilir.*

The phrase “on the water” in the ST is a circumstance of location place. It answers the question where the process “sparkled” happen. On the other hand, the circumstance of location place in the ST is translated into a participant “*permukaan air*”. Participants in the process are actor, goal, range, beneficiary: recipient or client. Participants or actors are those who carry out the process, goals are participants who are subject to or are affected by the (Santoso, 2003). Therefore, the phrase “*permukaan air*” in the TT is a participant which is affected by the process “sparkled”.

Datum 2

ST: Hassan never talked **about his mother**, as if she'd never existed.

TT: *Hassan tak pernah membicarakan ibunya, seolah-olah wanita itu tak pernah ada.*

The phrase “about his mother” in the ST is a circumstance of matter. It refers to the matter that the participant in the clause is thinking or speaking of (Tilsubya et al., 2018). However, the circumstance of matter in the ST is translated into a participant “*ibunya*”, which is affected by the process “never talked”.

The researchers found nine translation strategies that the translator used in translating the circumstances in *The Kite Runner* movie. The frequency and the distribution of the translation strategies that are applied in the circumstances in *The Kite Runner* movie are shown in the following table:

Table 2: Frequency and Distribution of Translation Strategies

No	Translation Strategies	Total Number
1	Literal Translation	24
2	Unit shift	18
3	Cohesion Change	2
4	Distribution Change: Expansion	9
5	Distribution Change: Compression	10
6	Paraphrase	5
7	Trope change	1
8	Explicitness Change: Explicit	3
9	Explicitness Change: Implicit	3
Total		75

Table 2 reveals that the translation strategies that are applied in translating the circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel included literal translation with 24 data, 18 data of unit shift, two data of cohesion change, nine data of distribution change: expansion, 10 data of distribution change: compression, five data of paraphrase, one datum of trope change, three data of explicitness change: explicit, and three data of explicitness change: implicit. For example:

Literal Translation

ST: After I hung up, I went for a walk **along Spreckels Lake on the northern edge of Golden Gate Park.**

TT: *Setelah menutup sambungan itu, aku berjalan-jalan di sepanjang Spreckles Lake di pinggir utara Golden Gate Park*

The circumstance of location place “along Spreckels Lake on the northern edge of Golden Gate Park” in the ST is translated literally into the circumstance of location place as well, namely “*sepanjang Spreckles Lake di pinggir utara Golden Gate Park*” in the TT for the reason that both the source and target text are grammatically equivalent. According to *An English-Indonesia Dictionary by Echols and Shadily* (2014) “along” means ‘*Sepanjang*’ (p. 31), ...Spreckels Lake... is the name of a place it is remains the same in the TT. “on the northern edge” is translated into “*di pinggir utara*” (Echols et al., 2014, pp. 505, 495, 259), “Golden Gate Park” is the name of a place, it remains the same in the target text. Thus, the translation strategy used by the translator is literal translation.

Unit Shift

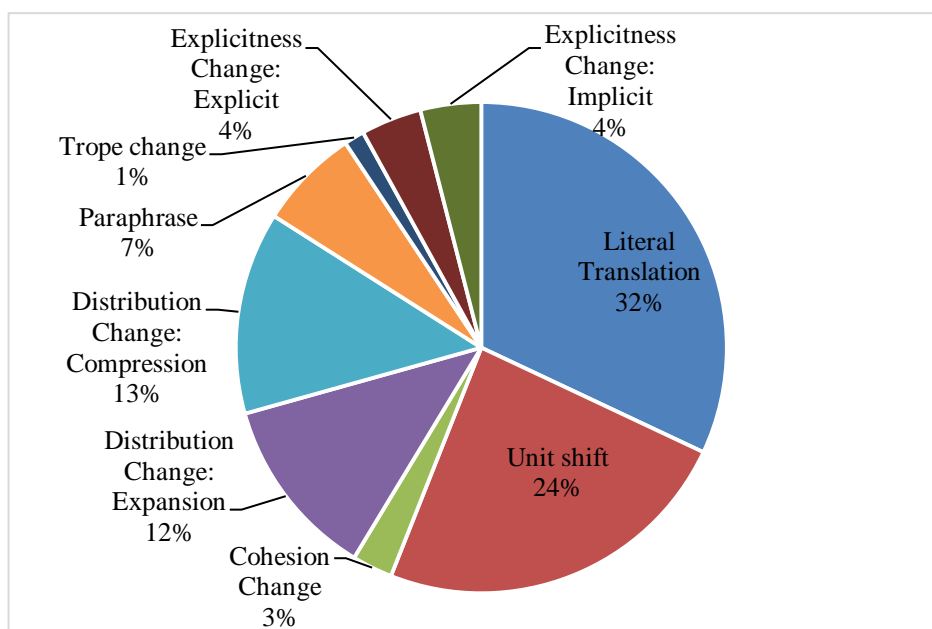
ST: We would sit **across from each other** on a pair of high branches, our naked feet dangling, our trouser pockets filled with dried mulberries and walnuts.

TT: *Kami duduk berhadapan di cabang-cabang pohon yang tinggi, kaki kami yang telanjang bergelantungan, saku celana kami dipenuhi buah murbei kering dan biji-biji kenari.*

There is a shift between circumstance of location place “across from each other” that is translated into the circumstance of manner quality “*berhadapan*” in the TT. The prepositional phrase word “across from each other” in the ST is translated into quality “*berhadapan*” which is a word in TT. There is a change from a word into a phrase. This translation strategy is called unit shift. Therefore, the translation strategy used by the translator is unit shift.

The analysis revealed that literal translation is the most prevalent translation strategy for translating circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel. Each translation strategy is displayed in Figure 1:

Figure 1: Translation Strategies of Circumstances



Based on Figure 1, it is stated that subtitling strategy literal translation is valued 32% or 24 of 75 data, unit shift is valued 24% or 18 of 75 data, cohesion change is valued 3% or two of 75 data, distribution change: expansion is valued 12% or nine of 75 data, distribution change: compression is valued 13% or 10 of 75 data, paraphrase is valued 7% or five of 75 data, trope change is valued 1% or one of 75 data, explicitness change: explicit is valued 4% or four of 75 data, and explicitness change: implicit is valued 4% or four of 75 data as well. Hence, the most dominant translation strategy is literal translation with the value 32%. This result is in line with

Tilusubya, Nababan, & Santosa (2018)'s research where they found that established equivalent is the most prevalent translation technique used in translating circumstances in the Gospel Matthew. The established equivalent technique is related to the literal translation strategy as stated by Molina and Albir (2002), established equivalent is employed to use a term or expression recognized (by dictionaries or language in use) as an equivalent in the TL and this corresponds to SCFA's equivalence and literal translation.

It is proved that the translated version of the circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel is completely and accurately. Literal strategy is mostly used in translating the circumstances for the reason that translator shows a propensity to translate precisely to the most significant meaning or word order.

Conclusion

Taking into consideration the previously mentioned discussion, based on the 75 chosen data, the researchers found eight types of circumstances and nine translation strategies that are applied in translating the circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel, there are 24 literal translations, 18 unit shifts, two cohesion changes, nine distribution changes: expansion, 10 distribution changes: compression, five paraphrases, one trope change, three explicitness changes: explicit, and three explicitness changes: implicit. It is stated that the translation strategy literal translation is valued 32%, unit shift is valued 24%, cohesion change is valued 3%, distribution change: expansion is valued 9%, distribution change: compression is valued 13%, paraphrase is valued 7%, trope change is valued 1%, explicitness change: explicit is valued 4%, and explicitness change: implicit is valued 4%. Consequently, literal translation is the most dominant translation strategy used in translating the circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel. It is shown that the translated version of the circumstances in *The Kite Runner* novel is completely and accurately with the structure of translation.

The researchers are anticipating applying these findings as a frame of reference for future studies on translation strategy. The researchers encourage more scholars to conduct research on the translation strategy used for different types of transitivity.

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