

AN ANALYSIS OF SYNTACTIC STRATEGIES IN THE TRANSLATION OF THE FOUNTAIN OF FAIR FORTUNE TALE

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Abstract: *This is translation research that aims to identify the syntactic strategies implemented in the translation of The Fountain of Fair Fortune tale, as well as to analyze how the translators apply them. The syntactic strategies used are those proposed by Andrew Chesterman that fall into ten sub-categories. This qualitative research gathered the data with a purposive sampling method and analyzed the data descriptively. The result of the research shows that there are seventy-seven data found. They consist of 12 literal translations, 3 loans, 6 transpositions, 16 unit shifts, 8 phrase structure changes, 12 clause structure changes, 7 sentence structure changes, 7 cohesion changes, 1 level shift, and 4 scheme changes.*

Keywords: *syntactic strategies, translation strategies, Chesterman, translation techniques.*

INTRODUCTION

Literature has a significant impact on human lives because they are replete with morals that are applicable to daily life. Literary works can be employed as life lessons in addition to being entertainment or time filler. There are several ways to define literature in general. Minderop [1] defined literature as imaginative writing that expresses ideas, thoughts, experiences, hopes, and feelings in beautiful language. She also describes literature as important reading that draws readers because it offers moral instruction and criticism. Therefore, it is not surprising that readers believe the characters in literary works resemble them or have comparable experiences to their own.

Literature is divided into two types, namely imaginative and non-imaginative. Imaginative literature includes poetry and prose, while non-imaginative literature includes essays, criticism, biographies, autobiographies, histories, memoirs, diaries, and letters [1]. Based on these categories, the objects studied in this study are classified as imaginative literary works because the story of The Fountain of Fair Fortune is a fairy tale or prose.

The Fountain of Fair Fortune, written by J.K. Rowling, is strongly tied to the fantastic Harry Potter sequels by the same author. This tale is one of the most well-known fairy tales in the wizarding world and is frequently read to young wizards and witches before they go to sleep, just like Snow White or Cinderella in the lives of non-magical people. Due to Harry Potter's enormous success, readers all around the world also adore this tale. Consequently, the translator's job is necessary in order to convey the moral of the story. Translation work spans numerous disciplines, including linguistics, literature, history, anthropology, psychology, and economics, as indicated by Lefevere [3].

Naturally, not just anyone may serve as a translator. Professional translators must be able to allocate their time and meticulously examine a tricky term, phrase, syntactic construction, or cultural supposition while maintaining a fully analytical comprehension of the issue and any potential solutions [4]. Anderman and Rogers [5] remarked that translation is both an artistic endeavor and an expression of style. It is simultaneously a science and an art. It is evident from these multiple descriptions that translating is a difficult task. To deliver quality work, translators must grasp several translation methods and strategies.

Many translation experts share their useful ideas regarding these strategies, one of which is Andrew Chesterman, in his book entitled *Memes of Translation* [6]. He divided these techniques into three categories: syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic. This research specifically only uses the first strategy, namely syntactic. Therefore, this study aims to 1) identify the syntactic strategies used in the Indonesian translation of *The Fountain of Fair Fortune*, and 2) examine how the translators used it.

There are some previous researches that conducted a similar topic. Mizher [7] also used Chesterman's syntactic strategies in his research. However, his object of the research was different from the current research. He analyzed the translation of English passive voice construction into Arabic by EFL learners, while the current research used the tale of *The Fountain of Fair Fortune* by J.K. Rowling. Latief et al. [8] also implemented the analysis using Chesterman's strategies. However, they covered all of the three strategies, while the current research focused only on the syntactic strategies. The objects of the research are also different. They analyzed the translation of an academic institution's website, while the current research studied the translation of a fiction tale.

THEORETICAL REVIEW

Chesterman [6] stated that syntactic strategies are the manipulation in the grammatical form. He elaborated it into ten categories: literal translation; loan, calque; transposition; unit shift; phrase structure change; clause structure change; sentence structure change; cohesion change; level shift; and scheme change.

Literal Translation

This strategy is the grammatical word-to-word translation while still maintaining the message. Example:

ST: "MARGE!" yelled Uncle Vernon and Aunt Petunia together...

TT: "MARGE!" teriak Paman Vernon dan Bibi Petunia bersamaan...

(Taken from Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* [9] and its translation, *Harry Potter dan Tawanan Azkaban* by Listiana Srisanti [10])

Loan, Calque

Durkin [11] stated that "Loan translations (or calques) show replication of the structure of a foreign language word or expression". Example:

ST: Aunt Marge lived in the country, in a house with a large garden, where she bred bulldogs.

TT : Bibi Marge tinggal di daerah pedesaan, dalam rumah dengan halaman luas, tempat dia membiakkan bulldog.

(Taken from Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*[9] and its translation, *Harry Potter dan Tawanan Azkaban* by Listiana Srisanti [10])

Transposition

This strategy covers the changes in parts of speech, such as from noun to verb, adjective to adverb, etc. Example:

ST: "Haven't you noticed yet, Bella, that Edward is just the teeniest bit prone to overreaction?"

TT: "Kau belum sadar juga ya, Bella, Edward memang cenderung bereaksi berlebihan."

(Taken from Meyer's *Eclipse* [12] and its translation, *Gerhana* by Monica D.C. [13])

In the example above, the noun overreaction is translated into the verb bereaksi berlebihan.

Unit Shift

This strategy is clearly the changes of the unit. The unit here means morpheme, word, phrase, clause, sentence, and paragraph. The unit shift occurs when a unit in an ST is translated into a different unit in the TT, such as from morpheme to word. Example:

ST: "Is it naptime already, Alice?" Edward teased.

TT: “Memangnya sekarang sudah waktunya tidur siang, Alice?” goda Edward.
(Taken from Meyer’s *Eclipse* [12] and its translation, *Gerhana* by Monica D.C. [13])
In the example above, the word naptime is translated into the phrase tidur siang.

Phrase Structure Change

This strategy shows the changes in the phrase level, such as plural and singular, or the tense and mood in the verb phrase. Example:

ST: “Why don’t you sit with me today?” he asked, smiling.

TT: “Duduklah bersamaku hari ini,” pintanya sambil tersenyum.

(Taken from Meyer’s *Twilight* [14] and its translation, *Twilight* by Lily Devita Sari [15])

In the ST, the italicized sentence shows an indicative mood, while in the TT, it is changed into an imperative mood.

Clause Structure Change

This strategy occurs when there is a change in the structure of the clause. Such as the ordering of sentence elements, active and passive voice, etc. Example:

ST: I hope it’s not too long—it’s two rolls of parchment more than Professor Binns asked for.

TT: Kuharap karanganku tidak kepanjangan, sudah dua gulung perkamen lebih panjang daripada yang diminta Profesor Binns.

(Taken from Rowling’s *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* [9] and its translation, *Harry Potter dan Tawanan Azkaban* by Listiana Srisanti [10])

Sentence Structure Change

This strategy is the changes that affect the structure of the sentence unit, such as the changes between main clauses and subclauses. Example:

ST: “The imprinting compulsion is one of the strongest things I’ve ever witnessed in my life, and I’ve seen some strange things.”

TT: “Keharusan imprint adalah satu hal teraneh yang pernah kusaksikan seumur hidupku, padahal aku sudah melihat hal-hal yang benar-benar aneh.”

(Taken from Meyer’s *Eclipse* [12] and its translation, *Gerhana* by Monica D.C. [13])

The sentence in the ST is a compound sentence consisting of two clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction *and*, while the translation is a complex sentence consisting of a main clause and a sub-clause combined by a subordinating conjunction *padahal*.

Cohesion Change

This strategy is the changes that affect intratextual references, such as substitution, pronominalization, and repetition. Example:

ST: ...I yanked the door open and pulled it out.

TT” ...aku menyentakkan pintunya hingga terbuka dan mengeluarkan stoples itu.

(Taken from Meyer’s *Eclipse* [12] and its translation, *Gerhana* by Monica D.C. [13])

In the example, the pronoun *it* refers to the jar being talked about, and it is translated into *stoples* to make it clear what ‘it’ refers to.

Level Shift

This strategy is the changes in the level of phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexis. Example:

ST: “You’d be surprised, Bella, at how often my kind are the source behind the horrors in your human news.

TT: “Kau akan terkejut, Bella, kalau tahu betapa seringnya kaumku menjadi penyebab berbagai peristiwa mengerikan di surat kabar manusiamu.

(Taken from Meyer’s *Eclipse* [12] and its translation, *Gerhana* by Monica D.C. [13])

The morpheme *-s* in the word *horrors* is translated into a lexis *berbagai* in the TT.

Scheme Change

This strategy refers to the changes in rhetorical schemes. There are four alternatives that the translator can apply.

- a. ST scheme X □ TT scheme X
- b. ST scheme X □ TT scheme Y

- c. ST scheme X □ TT scheme Ø
- d. ST scheme Ø □ TT scheme X

METHODOLOGY

This research used a descriptive qualitative method because the aim of this analysis is to explore, describe, and explain (Leavy). Purposive sampling is used because the researcher selected the data according to the focus of the study, i.e., the translation that implements syntactic strategies. The data are analyzed by applying the stratified sampling method since the researcher included the representation of each syntactic strategy found.

The data of this research are taken from *The Fountain of Fair Fortune* written by J.K. Rowling which is published in a book entitled *The Tales of Beedle the Bard* [2] and its Indonesian translation *Air Mancur Mujur Melimpah* by Nina Andiana and Listiana Srisanti in *Kisah-Kisah Beedle Si Juru Cerita* [16].

The procedure of the research is as follows:

1. The researcher read both the original and the translation of the tale to understand the story and the message.
2. The researcher re-read them again from the beginning while noting the translation that uses syntactic strategies.
3. The researcher categorized the data that had been taken down into the 10 sub-classifications of the syntactic strategies.
4. The researcher did check them again to make sure no mistake was made.
5. The researcher analyzed the data by referring to Chesterman's syntactic strategies.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the data that have been categorized, the researcher found 77 data that consist of 12 literal translations, 3 loans, 6 transpositions, 16 unit shifts, 8 phrase structure changes, 13 clause structure changes, 7 sentence structure changes, 7 cohesion changes, 1 level shift, and 4 scheme changes.

For the discussion, the researcher will analyze one datum of each category as their representation. The ST data are from *The Fountain of Fair Fortune* tale and the TT data are from its translation, *Air Mancur Mujur Melimpah*. All of the analyses used the theory of Chesterman's syntactic strategies.

Datum 1. Literal Translation

ST : On the appointed day, hundreds of people travelled from all over the kingdom to reach the garden walls before dawn (p. 22)

TT : Pada hari yang telah ditentukan, ratusan orang datang dari seluruh penjuru kerajaan agar mereka dapat sampai di dinding-dinding taman sebelum fajar tiba (p. 46).

The translation of the datum above implemented word-to-word translation, or in other words, literally. Thus, this datum implemented the literal translation strategy.

Datum 2. Loan, Calque

ST : Now, Sir Luckless, as the knight was known in the land outside the walls ... (p. 25).

TT : Sir Luckless, begitulah nama yang diberikan orang-orang di negeri di luar taman ajaib kepada sang kesatria ... (p. 49).

The translators kept the original name Sir Luckless because it is a title or nickname that does not need to be translated. This strategy of retaining words without any changes is called a loan. Larson [17] stated that loan words usually cover the names of people, places, or geographical areas.

Datum 3. Transposition

ST : The first, by name Asha, was sick of a malady no Healer could cure (p. 22).

TT : Penyihir pertama, bernama Asha, menderita penyakit yang tak bisa disembuhkan tabib mana pun (p. 46).

In the source text, the word sick is an adjective. However, when it is translated into the target text, the part of speech is changed into a verb, menderita. This shows that the translation implemented the transposition technique from adjective to verb.

Datum 4. Unit Shift

ST : Three witches, each with her burden of woe, met on the outskirts of the crowd ... (p.22).

TT : Tiga penyihir perempuan, dengan masalahnya masing-masing, bertemu di antara kerumunan orang banyak itu (p. 46).

In the source text, witches is a word. However, in the Indonesian translation, it becomes penyihir perempuan which is a phrase. Thus, this datum implemented the unit shift strategy because there is a change from word to phrase.

Datum 5. Phrase Structure Change

ST : Then Altheda cats rocks at the Worm ... (p. 27).

TT : Lalu Altheda melempari cacing itu dengan batu ... (p. 51).

The word rocks in the source text is clearly stated as plural nouns with the suffix -s. However, in the Indonesian language, the equivalent of rock, i.e., batu, does not have any plural markers around it. Thus, there occurs a change from plural to singular in the translation. In other words, this datum applied the phrase structure change strategy.

Datum 6. Clause Structure Change

ST : ... a single unfortunate was given the chance to fight their way to the Fountain ... (pp. 21-22).

TT : ... satu orang yang tak mujur mendapat kesempatan untuk berjuang mencari jalan ke Air Mancur ... (pp. 45-46).

The clause in the source text uses a passive form was given. Meanwhile, in the Indonesian target text, the clause is changed into an active verb mendapat. Therefore, this datum used the clause structure change strategy from passive to active.

Datum 7. Sentence Structure Change

ST : The third, by name Amata, had been deserted by a man whom she loved dearly, and she thought her heart would never mend (p. 23).

TT : Penyihir ketiga, bernama Amata, telah ditinggalkan oleh pria yang sangat dicintainya hingga Amata berpikir hatinya takkan pernah sembuh lagi (p. 47).

The sentence in the source text is a compound noun that consists of two main clauses connected by a coordinating conjunction and. However, in the target text, the type of sentence is changed. The sentence is a complex sentence that consists of a main clause and a sub-clause with a subordinating conjunction hingga. Thus, this datum used the strategy of sentence structure change.

Datum 8. Cohesion Change

ST : Flushed with success, he begged for her hand and her heart ... (p. 34).

TT : Dengan gembira dan bangga karena keberhasilannya, sang kesatria memohon agar Amata sudi membuka hati untuknya dan menikah dengannya ... (p. 59)

In the source text, the writer used the pronoun he to refer to Sir Luckless. However, the translators chose to substitute the pronoun with the words sang kesatria to make it clear who 'he' refers to. This type of strategy is called cohesion change of substitution.

Datum 9. Level Shift

ST : ... where rare herbs, fruit and flowers grew in abundance on either side of the sunlit paths (p. 25).

TT : Tanaman-tanaman obat langka dan berbagai jenis buah serta bunga tumbuh melimpah mengapit jalan setapak yang diterangi Cahaya (p. 51).

In this datum, there occurs a level shift from morpheme to lexis. The morpheme -s in the word flowers is translated into a lexis, berbagai, in the Indonesian translation.

Datum 10. Scheme Change

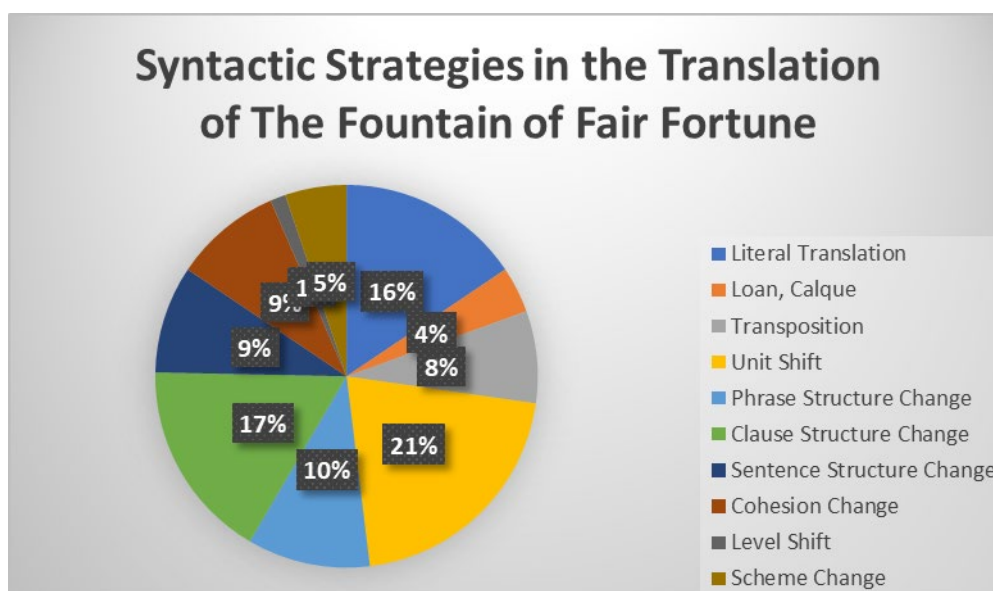
ST : The Fountain of Fair Fortune (p. 21).

TT : Air Mancur Mujur Melimpah (p. 45).

The title of the tale, The Fountain of Fair Fortune, applies the alliteration of the initial sound f-f-f. The translators successfully retained the alliteration scheme by translating it into Air Mancur Mujur Melimpah that has the alliteration of the initial sound m-m-m. This means, the translation implemented the first alternative of the scheme change strategy, i.e. ST scheme X → TT scheme X.

CONCLUSION

From all the processes of gathering the data and analyzing them, the researcher can conclude that *Air Mancur Mujur Melimpah*, the Indonesian translation of *The Fountain of Fair Fortune*, applied all the syntactic strategies proposed by Chesterman. It can also be seen that the most used category is unit shift with 21% or 16 data. This could happen because the Indonesian language tends to use compound words to refer to English words.



Supposed there are researchers who are eager to conduct research on a similar topic, the researcher suggests using syntactic strategies proposed by another expert so that the treasury of research related to translation is much more diverse and can be more useful for readers—both for fellow researchers and for translation practitioners.

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