



**THE STRATEGIES USED IN TRANSLATING IDIOMS IN HARPER LEE'S  
*TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD* NOVEL**



**A THESIS**

*Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences of Hasanuddin University  
in Partial Fulfillment of Requirement to Obtain a Bachelor's Degree  
in English Literature*

**WA ODE DIAN GETANDY**

**F041201080**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM  
FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES  
HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY  
2024**



## LEGITIMATION

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#### THESIS

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*TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD* NOVEL**

**BY**

**WA ODE DIAN GETANDY**

Student ID Number: F041201080

It has been examined before the Board of Thesis Examination on Monday, 12 August 2024  
and is declare to have fulfilled the requirements.

Approved By

Board of Supervisors

Chairman

Dr. Karmila Mokoginta, S.S., M.Hum., M.Arts.  
NIP. 197702052000032001

Secretary

Ainun Fatimah, S.S., M.Hum.  
NIP. 198612012019044001

Dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences  
of Hasanuddin University

Prof. Dr. Akin Duli, M.A.  
NIP. 196407161991031010

Head of English Literature Study Program

Prof. Dra. Nasmilah, M.Hum, Ph.D  
NIP. 196311031988112001



## AGREEMENT

**ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM  
FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES  
HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY**

**AGREEMENT**

On August 20, 2024, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by Wa Ode Dian Getandy (F041201080) entitled *The Strategies Used in Translating Idioms in Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird Novel* submitted in fulfillment of one of the requirements to obtain Sarjana Degree in English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.

Makassar, August 20, 2024

**BOARD OF THESIS EXAMINATION**

1. Dr. Karmila Mokoginta, S.S., M.Hum., M.Arts.	Chairman	1.
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3. Dr. Sukmawaty, M.Hum.	First Examiner	3.
4. Drs. Simon Sitoto, M.A.	Second Examiner	4.
5. Dr. Karmila Mokoginta, S.S., M.Hum., M.Arts.	First Supervisor	5.
6. Ainun Fatimah, S.S., M.Hum.	Second Supervisor	6.



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HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY**

**DECLARATION**

The thesis by Wa Ode Dian Getandy (F041201080) entitled *The Strategies Used in Translating Idioms in Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird Novel* has been revised as advised during the examination on Monday, 12 August 2024 and is approved by the Board of Undergraduate Thesis Examiners:

1. Dr. Sukmawaty, M.Hum.

First Examiner

1. ....

2. Drs. Simon Sitoto, M.A.

Second Examiner

2. ....



## STATEMENT LETTER

### STATEMENT LETTER

The undersigned,

Name : Wa Ode Dian Getandy  
Student ID : F041201080  
Title of Thesis : The Strategies Used in Translating Idioms in Harper Lee's  
*To Kill A Mockingbird* Novel  
Department/Faculty : English Literature Study Program/Cultural Sciences

Hereby, the researcher declares that this thesis is written by herself. This thesis does not contain any materials which have been published by other people, and it does not cite other people's ideas except quotations and references.

Makassar, August 20<sup>th</sup> 2024



*Wa Ode Dian Getandy*

Wa Ode Dian Getandy



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With reference to the letter of the Dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University No.1344/UN4.9.1/KEP/2023 regarding supervision, we hereby confirm to approve the undergraduate thesis draft by **Wa Ode Dian Getandy** (F041201080) to be examined at the English Literature Study Program of Faculty of Cultural Sciences.


Makassar, 17 Juli 2024

Approved by

First Supervisor

Second Supervisor

  
**Dr. Karmila Mokoginta, S.S., M.Hum., M.Arts.**  
NIP. 197702052000032001

  
**Annun Fatimah, S.S., M.Hum.**  
NIP. 198612012019044001

Approved by the Execution of Thesis Examination by  
The Thesis Organizing Committees

On Behalf of Dean  
Head of English Literature Study Program

  
**Prof. Dra. Nasmilah, M.Hum, Ph.D**  
NIP. 196311031988112001



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Makassar, 15 July 2024

Wa Ode Dian Getandy





## ABSTRACT

**WA ODE DIAN GETANDY.** *Strategies Used in Translating Idioms in Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird Novel* (supervised by **Karmila Mokoginta** and **Ainun Fatimah**).

This research aims to describe the translation strategies used in translating idioms in Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* novel using Baker's (1992) theory and to evaluate the accuracy of the translation using Larson's (1998) theory. The data of this research were obtained from Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* novel Part 1 Chapters 1-11. As many as 46 idioms were found and they were analyzed using a descriptive qualitative method. The results showed that of the 46 idioms translated, translation by paraphrase was the most widely used strategy consisting of 45 data, followed by using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form consisting of one datum. In addition, the translator did not use the strategies of translation by using an idiom of similar meaning and form, and translation by omission. In terms of the accuracy of idiom translation, the results are quite satisfactory. The translation by paraphrase strategy produced 44 accurate translations and one inaccurate translation. The strategy of using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form produced one accurate translation. Thus, in general, the translation results were considered acceptable.

**Keywords:** idiom, translation strategy, translation accuracy



## ABSTRAK

**WA ODE DIAN GETANDY.** *Strategies Used in Translating Idioms in Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird Novel* (dibimbing oleh **Karmila Mokoginta** dan **Ainun Fatimah**).

Penelitian ini bertujuan mendeskripsikan strategi penerjemahan yang digunakan dalam menerjemahkan idiom dalam novel *To Kill A Mockingbird* karya Harper Lee menggunakan teori Baker (1992) dan untuk mengevaluasi keakuratan hasil terjemahan menggunakan teori Larson (1998). Data penelitian ini diperoleh dari novel *To Kill A Mockingbird* karya Harper Lee Bagian 1 Bab 1-11. Sebanyak 46 idiom ditemukan dan dianalisis menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa dari 46 idiom yang diterjemahkan, strategi penerjemahan dengan parafrase adalah yang paling banyak digunakan sebanyak 45 data, diikuti dengan penggunaan idiom yang memiliki makna yang sama namun bentuk yang berbeda sebanyak satu data. Sementara itu, penerjemah tidak menggunakan strategi penerjemahan dengan idiom yang memiliki makna dan bentuk yang sama serta strategi penerjemahan dengan penghilangan. Dalam hal tingkat keakuratan terjemahan idiom, menunjukkan hasil yang cukup memuaskan. Strategi penerjemahan dengan parafrase menghasilkan 44 terjemahan yang akurat dan satu terjemahan yang tidak akurat. Strategi penggunaan idiom yang memiliki makna yang sama namun bentuk yang berbeda menghasilkan satu terjemahan yang akurat. Dengan demikian, secara umum, hasil terjemahan dianggap dapat diterima.

**Kata kunci:** idiom, strategi penerjemahan, keakuratan terjemahan



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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background

Language, as an effective means of communication, has helped nations work together to find solutions to specific or general human issues. In this discourse, language plays a significant role. Besides, one of the most important connections between nations is translation. Lots of ideas, values, and information from different cultures can be disseminated and accessed by the global community through translation. The translation process also opens up opportunities for the exchange of ideas across language boundaries, enriching cross-cultural understanding, and fostering solidarity among communities. As Pym's (2010 :143) states that translation can be understood as a broad means of communication between cultural groups. Translation involves not only the transfer of words but also implies a deep understanding of the cultural context, thus enabling better communication amidst linguistic and cultural diversity despite different languages.

Considering the idea of translation, it becomes clear that the main goal of translation is to transpose different types of texts into another language, making the original text more comprehensible to a larger audience. As Newmark (1988 : 7) states that translation is not merely about transferring words from one language to another but about conveying the meaning and intent of the original text. Furthermore, competent translators who can effectively translate a message from the Source Language (SL) into the Target Language (TL) without any misunderstandings in



meaning are important in today's fast-paced communication world. As a result, it is crucial not to only train competent translators to ensure that the translations they provide are acceptable but also to minimize the difficulties they face when translating a message from the source language into the target language.

One of the challenges faced by translators is translating idioms, which are often difficult to translate literally between different languages. Idiom is a string of words whose meaning is different from the meaning conveyed by the individual words (Larson, 1998: 23). Lacking knowledge of translating idioms will lead to mistranslation. This is due to the fact that every language contains everyday expressions that are culturally specific and have their own distinct idioms. Before translating an idiom, a translator must first analyze what the author wants to say. Other than that, translators must not only be bilingual or multilingual but also bicultural or multicultural as idioms are commonly used in multiple languages, including Indonesian and English.

Idioms can be found in various forms of literature, one of which is novels. Therefore, this research focuses on the novel *To Kill A Mockingbird*, a classic English novel written by Harper Lee that was published in 1960. Set in South America during the 1930s, it explores themes of racial injustice, morality, compassion, and the loss of innocence. The story follows Scout Finch, a young girl who, along with her brother Jem and their friend Dill, witnesses the events unfolding in their small town of Maycomb, Alabama. The novel features a wealth of idioms that add depth to the



characters' conversations and interactions, reflecting the language and cultural norms of the setting while also providing readers with familiar and relatable expressions.

The translation of these idioms into Indonesian presents a unique challenge due to linguistic and cultural differences. Analyzing translation strategies offers valuable insights into the challenges of translating idioms and provides a crucial understanding of cross-cultural communication complexities. It sheds light on how linguistic nuances and cultural connotations are preserved, adapted, or transformed during the translation process. Moreover, it not only enriches the understanding of linguistic diversity but also empowers language learners and educators alike in their pursuit of effective language acquisition and cultural understanding. Many studies (Cieślicka, 2015; Qadr & Madhat, 2020; Yunus & Hmaidan, 2021) have shown that the use of idioms in language teaching can enhance language proficiency, as they help learners understand the cultural and social context of the language. That is why the researcher is interested in analyzing the translation strategies that the translator used in translating idioms and also examining the accuracy of those strategies.

## **B. Identification of the Problems**

According to the background of the study above, there are four problems that can be identified as follows:

1. The translator often ignores the importance of strategy in translating the idioms.
2. The translator often faces difficulties in determining the strategy of translating the idioms.



3. The translator sometimes translates the idioms inaccurately and makes the audience not understand the meaning of the idioms.
4. The translator often ignores the importance of the accuracy of the translation.

### **C. Scope of the Problems**

Based on the identification of the problems, this research focuses on the strategies that one of the Indonesian translators, Femmy Syahrani, used in translating English idioms into Indonesian in the novel *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (Part 1, Chapters 1-11) using Baker's (1992) theory and also examining the accuracy of these translation strategies in maintaining the meaning of idioms using Larson's (1998) theory.

### **D. Research Questions**

The researcher identifies two questions, as follows:

1. What are translation strategies used in translating English idioms into Indonesian in Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* novel?
2. How accurate do the chosen translation strategies maintain the meaning of the idioms in Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* novel?

### **E. Objectives of the Research**

According to the research questions, the objectives of the research are as follows:

1. To describe the translation strategies used in translating English idioms into Indonesian in Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* novel.





2. To examine the accuracy of these translation strategies in maintaining the meaning of idioms in Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* novel.

## **F. Significance of the Research**

### **1. Theoretical Benefits**

The results of this research are expected to contribute to further research in analyzing translation strategies for English idioms in novels or other sources. It may make a useful contribution to the field of translation by exploring the complexities of more effective and culturally appropriate translation of idiomatic languages.

### **2. Practical Benefits**

The researcher hopes that this research can provide additional insights for translators and also for readers regarding strategies that can be used in translating English idioms into Indonesian while still maintaining the nuances and cultural relevance of these expressions.



## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

This research includes several works that are connected to the discussion. Additionally, there are also theoretical background relevant to the researcher's research, aimed at enhancing the understanding of both the researcher and the reader.

#### A. Previous Studies

The first research was done by Simarmata (2016) entitled *Analysis on Strategies Applied to Translate Idioms Found in Fury's Bahasa Indonesia Subtitle and Their Relations to the Degrees of Meaning Equivalence*. In this research, Simarmata focused to analyze the the strategies used to translate idioms based on the theories of Baker (1992) and Newmark (1988) and their impact on the degree of meaning equivalence were analyzed using Bell's theory (1991). From his research, he found that paraphrasing is the most commonly employed strategy, followed by literal translation and the use of idioms with similar meaning and form. Translation by omission and using similar meaning but different form were the least utilized strategies. Only the strategy of using idiom of similar meaning and form resulted in fully equivalent idioms. Translation by paraphrasing and literal translation resulted in various degrees of meaning equivalence, while translation by omission resulted in either fully equivalent or no meaning. The use of similar idiom but different form resulted in different meaning.



The second research was done by Fitri et al., (2019) entitled *Baker's Strategies Used in Translating English Idioms Into Indonesian in Crazy Rich Asians By Kevin Kwan*. In this research, they identifying 325 idioms with opaque phrases being the most common. The research also highlighted the importance of considering cultural aspects when translating idioms and recommended using strategies proposed by Baker (1992), such as using idioms of similar meaning and form, using idioms of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by paraphrase, and translation by omission. It found that translation by paraphrase was the most frequent strategy used.

The third is a research done by Syafitri (2018) entitled *A Translation Analysis on Idiomatic Expressions in "The Internship" Movie Based on Larson's Theory (Subtitled By Jack And The Wilee)*. In this research, she focused on analysing whether the translation of idiomatic expressions is acceptable or not by using Larson's (1984) theory. In Larson's theory, there are 3 criteria for a translation to be considered ideal which are Accurate (A), Clear (C), and Natural (N). Based on the findings, she discovered that 80% were ideal-acceptable translations (I-Acc). Overall, Jack and The Wilee's translations of idiomatic expressions are satisfactory.

The fourth research was done by Pratama & Damara (2018) entitled *An Analysis of Idiomatic Expression Translation in School Of Rock Movie*. In this research, the researchers focused to analyze the accuracy of the idiomatic expression translation based on Larson's (1984) theory Ideal Translation. They discovered that the idiomatic expressions translation in Indonesia subtitle was acceptable. Based on Larson's theory



of ideal translation, the idiomatic expressions translations passed two out of these three criteria; accurate, clear and natural.

The fifth research was done by Ninsih (2020) entitled *Translation Accuracy of English Idiomatic Expression into Indonesian in "Inside Out" Film Subtitle*. In her research, Ninsih focused to classifying the type of idiomatic expression based on McCarthy and O'Dell's (2002) theory of idiom types, followed by an analysis of translation strategies by referencing Baker's theory and assessing translation accuracy using Nababan's accuracy-rating assessment. The findings reveal that the idiomatic expressions in the film predominantly fall into categories such as compound, verb+object, simile/simili, and binomial. The translator's preferred strategies for translation involve omitting entire idioms, paraphrasing, and using an idiom of similar meaning and form. While most translations are deemed acceptable, there are instances where three idioms were inaccurately translated. However, overall, the translation quality of idiomatic expressions remains satisfactory.

The sixth is a research done by Destaria & Rini (2019) entitled *Analysis of Translation Strategy in Transferring meaning of English Idiom into Bahasa Indonesia in the subtitle of Pitch Perfect 3 Movie*. In this research, they examined the translation strategies employed by the translator to translate the meaning of idioms using Baker's (1992) theory. After identifying the types of translation strategies employed, the researchers used Nababan's (2011) theory to determine whether the meanings of the English idioms are accurately translated into Indonesian. The method used in this research is the descriptive-qualitative method. The results of the research show that



translation by paraphrase is the most widely used strategy, while using an idiom of similar meaning and form is not used by the translator. From a total of 51 idioms identified, 36 idiom translations are considered accurate, 4 are considered inaccurate, and 11 idiom translations are considered inaccurate.

The seventh research was done by Marthafian (2018) entitled *An Analysis on Idiom Translation Strategies in Jane Austen's Emma*. In her research, Marthafian explained the types of idioms found in the source language using Palmer's (1976) theory and analyzed the translation strategy proposed by Baker's (2011) theory. The research method used is descriptive qualitative and content analysis where the data is the idiom found in the movie Emma and its Indonesian translation. In her research, she found that the most common type of idiom is a partial idiom, while the most common translation strategy applied is using idiom with similar meaning but dissimilar form.

The eight is the research done by Ardhiani (2018) entitled *Translation Strategies of Idiomatic Expressions in Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House on The Prairie in Djokolelono's Translation of Rumah Kecil di Padang Rumput*. In this research, she focused on analysing the translation strategies used by the translator using Baker's (1992) theory and describing the degree of meaning equivalence using Bell's (1991) theory. This research used descriptive qualitative research. The results show that paraphrase strategy is the most widely used strategy and using an idiom of similar meaning and form and omission strategies are the least used. In terms of the degrees of meaning equivalence, from a total of 141 idiomatic expressions, there are 110 that produce equivalent meanings and there are 31 that produce non-equivalent meanings.



it can be concluded that most idiomatic expressions are translated with equivalent meanings.

The ninth research was done by Aji & Basari (2023) entitled *Translation Strategies in Translating Idiomatic Expressions into Indonesian in the Enola Holmes Movie*. In their research, they used Jennifer Seidl and McMordie's (1978) theory to categorise the types of idiomatic expressions in the Enola Holmes movie. After that, the meaning of the idiomatic expressions is explained by using references from various online dictionaries. The researchers also analysed the translation strategies applied by using Baker's (1992) theory. There were 142 idiom data that were analysed using a qualitative method. In their research, they found that the most dominating idioms are idioms with adjectives and nouns. In terms of translation strategy, the most preferred used strategy is translation by paraphrase, followed by using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by omission, and the last using an idiom of similar meaning and form.

The tenth research was done by Fadwati (2021) entitled *Baker's Strategy in Translating Idiomatic Expressions in Fast & Furious: Hobbs and Shaw's Movie Subtitles*. In Fadwati research, she used Mona Baker's (1992) theory to analyse the strategy used by the translator. In collecting the data, the researcher used a qualitative descriptive design formed by document analysis. Based on the findings of this research, translation by paraphrase is the most common strategy used, followed by using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, using an idiom of similar meaning and form, and then translation by omission.



These researches indicate that there are still many novels or movies that contain several or many idioms that need to be studied in order to know their real meanings. Although there are some similarities in these researches, the researcher choose Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* novel as an object of the research. Larson (1984) theory is also selected to analyze the accuracy of the translation used by the translator.

## **B. Theoretical Background**

### **1. Definitions of Idioms**

One of the most important parts of language is idioms. They are commonly employed in a variety of settings, such as formal discussions, textual contexts, and friendly conversations. Idioms can be colorful, metaphorical, or symbolic, and they are used to convey ideas or messages more vividly or effectively than straightforward language. The definitions of idioms found in different sources are combined in the literature.

According to Larson, an idiom is a string of words that convey a different meaning than the individual words itself (Larson, 1998: 23). Idioms cannot be interpreted literally, as their meaning transcends the individual words composing them (Baker, 1992:63). This implies that understanding an idiom requires consideration of its figurative sense rather than relying solely on the definitions of its constituent parts.

It is also seen as fixed and collocationally limited. Idioms, especially those with connotations related to social, historical, or political contexts, are



incomprehensible because their meanings are unpredictable from the usual interpretation of the parts that make them up (Al-Kadi, 2015 : 513). This requires a deep dive into shared cultural and historical contexts to unlock their true significance, which is often hidden beneath seemingly simple surfaces.

Idioms are a feature of language that cannot be taken literally. An idiom is a set of words that function as a unit and is semantically and often syntactically constrained. From a semantic point of view, the meaning of individual words cannot be reduced to the meaning of the entire idiomatic expression. From a syntactic point of view, the terms frequently do not allow for the typical variety they exhibit in other contexts (Crystal, 1980 : 179). This definition holds the same belief that the meaning of an idiom cannot be deduced from its parts.

## 2. Types of Idioms

Fernando (1996: 35-36) states that idioms can be categorized into three sub classes, namely pure idioms, semi idioms and literal idioms.

- a. Pure idiom is a type of idiom where the literal meanings of the constituent words cannot be used to determine their meaning. They have a completely metaphorical and nonliteral sense. For example, the phrase *spill the beans* doesn't literally involve spilling beans but rather signifies revealing a secret.
- b. Semi-idiom have at least one literal and one figurative component. Their constituent words frequently hold a hint to their meaning. For





example, *foot the bill*, which means 'pay'. The literal element is the *bill*, and the figurative element is the word *foot*.

- c. Literal idiom is semantically less complex than a pure or semi-idiom, making it easier to understand if one is unfamiliar with idioms. For example, *the bottom of my heart, on the contrary, in any case*.

Palmer (1976: 79-82) also divides idioms into five categories, as follows:

- a. Idiom with grammatical restriction.

While the nouns in this category have fixed forms, some of the verbs can be converted to past tense forms. (e.g. *spill the beans*, which implies 'to reveal a secret').

- b. Idiom with syntax restriction.

Certain idioms cannot have their construction changed since doing so would make them meaningless. (e.g. the phrase *kick the bucket*, which means 'dead of suicide', cannot be changed into passive, *the bucket was kicked*).

- c. Frozen idiom.

Frozen idiom is an idiom with irreversible structure. (e.g. *little ones* and *by the way*).

- d. Partial idiom.



A partial idiom is one in which all of the words are idiomatic but one has a literal meaning. (e.g. *White coffee*, means that coffee that has been mixed with milk).

e. Phrasal compound.

Phrasal compounds come in four different varieties, that are:

- 1) Phrasal compound without object, (e.g. *give in* and *break up*).
- 2) Phrasal compound with object, (e.g. *put about*, *make up*, and *put over*).
- 3) Prepositional compound, (e.g. *look for*, *take to*, and *take after*).
- 4) Prepositional phrasal compound (verb, adverb, and preposition combined), (e.g. *put up with* and *do away with*).

### 3. Translation

Translation is the process of restating concepts from one language to another. This process involves two languages: the Source Language (SL) and the Target Language (TL). The SL refers to the language of the original text, while the TL is the language of the translated text. For instance, when translating an English text into Indonesian, Indonesian is the TL while English is the SL.

Translation has been defined differently by different scholars. Catford (1965:20) defines translation as “the replacement of textual material in one language (source language) by equivalent textual material in another language



(target language)”. This definition emphasises the importance of ensuring equivalence between the source and target texts in the translation process.

Translation includes examining the vocabulary, grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural background of the original language text (Larson, 1998:3). She placed a strong emphasis on analyzing these components to determine the intended meaning of the text and then reconstructing it with the receptor language's appropriate vocabulary and grammatical structure while taking the text's cultural context into account. By this definition, translating means going over the vocabulary, grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural background from the SL to the TL.

The last, Nida (1982: 12) states that “translation consists in reproducing the receptor language the closest natural equivalence of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style”. Nida’s definition can be said to confirm all the translation definitions stated before. Nida’s definition does not only emphasize equivalence in translation, but also its style.

It is clear from the several definitions given above that translation requires the use of two different languages, SL and TL. Its primary goal is to translate and communicate the original message, in written and spoken form, into other languages. It takes style and meaning equivalency into account. Naturally, the translation process should be as natural as possible in TL.



#### 4. Types of Translation

According to Newmark (1988), there are eight types of translation, as follows:

- a. Word for Word Translation. This is frequently illustrated as interlinear translation. The word order in the original language is maintained, and each word is translated separately, out of context, according to its most prevalent meaning. Example:

(SL) *I can run.*

(TL) *Saya bisa lari.*

- b. Literal Translation. Literal translation converts the grammatical structures of the SL into the TL's closest equivalents. This approach suggests that words be translated literally from the SL into the TL during the translation process. Example:

(SL) *Don't bring my heart.*

(TL) *Jangan bawa hatiku.*

- c. Faithful Translation. When translating, faithful translation aims to accurately capture the original's meaning or context while following the grammatical rules of the TL. Example:

(SL) *Raden Ajeng Kartini is a Javanese.*

(TL) *Raden Ajeng Kartini adalah orang Jawa.*

- d. Semantic Translation. Semantic translation has become a concern in SL culture. This is because it has more aesthetic value because of the beautiful,



natural voice of the original text, and as a result, its meaning is compromised. Example:

(SL) *She is a shopaholic.*

(TL) *Dia adalah orang yang gemar belanja.*

- e. Adaptation translation is the freest translation. It is used mainly for plays (comedy, poetry). The SL culture is transformed into the TL culture and the text is rewritten. Example:

(SL) *The rising sun is found not to be rising sun. It is the world which goes around.*

(TL) *Matahari terbit ternyata bukan matahari terbit. Dunialah yang sebenarnya mengorbit.*

- f. Free translation replicates the subject matter but not the style, or the meaning but not the structure of the source. Typically, it's a much longer paraphrase than the source text, referred to as "intralingual translation," which is frequently pretentious and verbous and isn't even translation at all.

Example:

(SL) *Killing two birds with one stones.*

(TL) *Sambil menyelam minum air.*

- g. Idiomatic translation reproduce the original message and tend to favor idioms and colloquial expressions that are not present in the original text, distorting the subtleties of meaning. Example:

(SL) *It's a piece of cake.*



(TL) *Ini sangat mudah.*

- h. Communicative translation aims to accurately capture the context of the source material while maintaining a level of linguistic and content acceptability and comprehension for the target audience. Example:

(SL) *Beware of dog!*

(TL) *Awas ada anjing!*

## 5. Strategies in Translating Idiom

It was explained earlier that the meaning of an idiom is often different from the words that make it up. Therefore, when translating an idiom, the focus should be on the meaning rather than the form. This will facilitate the idiom's translation from SL to TL.

Translating the meaning of these idioms requires strategy. One must take into account certain factors, such as whether a comparable idiom exists in the TL, to what extent does the lexical item that makes up the idiom have meaning, the context will dictate whether an idiom is acceptable or not and what approach to take when translating it. Specifically, Baker (1992:72–78) offers four methods for translating idioms, depending on the idiomatic translation context:

- a. Using an idiom of similar meaning and form



The strategy makes use of target language idioms, which are composed of identical lexical units that communicate the same meaning as the source text. For example:

SL: *Autobots have taken the bait. They discovered the Ark, and returned with its cargo.*

TL: *Autobots telah termakan umpan. Mereka menemukan Ark dan mengembalikan muatannya.*

The translator has translated *taken the bait* as *telah termakan umpan*. *Taken the bait* means to fully accept an offer, especially one that is deceptive or intended to obtain something. The word *taken* here is comparable to *memakan*, and the word *bait* is comparable to *umpan*. The meaning and form are the same in both the TL and SL.

b. Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form

Frequently, one find an idiom or exact statement in the TL that uses different lexical elements but has a similar meaning to the idiom in the SL. For example:

SL: *If you breath a word of what you've seen here.*

TL: *Jika kamu cerita satu kata apa yang sudah kau lihat disini.*

In literal terms, *breath* refers to the act of inhaling and exhaling air during breathing. However, *breath a word* in this case refers to 'to tell' or 'to let somebody know.' In Indonesian, the translator conveys the meaning of the idiom with the phrase *cerita satu kata*.



#### c. Translation by paraphrase

When there is no accurate equivalent of the idiom in the TL, this is the most frequently used method of translating idioms. Since the SL and the TL text are stylistically different, it is not appropriate to use the phrase in the TL.

For example:

SL: *Someplace, hold on I can triangulate this.*

TL: *Di suatu tempat, tunggu aku dapat triangulasi ini.*

The translation of *hold on* into *tunggu* is done because the TL does not have an exact idiom equivalent. *Hold on* refers to 'wait', and *tunggu* is the Indonesian word for 'wait'. This expression becomes more understandable and acceptable when translated according to its context.

#### d. Translation by omission

Sometimes the translation of an idiom into the TL is incomplete. This could be due to the idiom's lack of an equivalent in the TL; the idiom is difficult to rephrase or has stylistic implications. For example:

TL: *She comes first, there's some killer... shit in here.*

SL: *Dia datang duluan, disana ada beberapa pembunuh....ini dia.*

From this example, the translator does not translate the expression *shit* into the TL. The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines *shit* as a word that many people find insulting. The translator decided not to translate the term *shit* in this example because the idiom does not relate to the overall meaning of the word.





## 6. Translation Accuracy

Larson (1998) proposes three criteria for a good translation: accuracy, clarity and naturalness. Accuracy refers to the degree of conformity with the source text. The translation is considered accurate when the information conveyed from the SL to the TL maintains the same meaning or intention. To translate a text accurately, one must first analyse its meaning by looking at the lexicon, grammatical structure, context of communication, and other relevant factors.

Furthermore, Larson (1998) explained that the accuracy test can be done by four methods, i.e.:

- a. At various stages in the translation process, compare the translated text with the original text;
- b. Do one more detailed comparison after the last one is finished;
- c. Ensure that all information is included when determining whether the context of the information is equivalent—nothing omitted, nothing added, and nothing different;
- d. Compare the text in the source and target languages once more after making sure all the information is there.

Larson (1998:526) also determines four indicators of inaccuracy in translating as presented below:



- a. Omission (decreased meaning). Omission is to omit or delete the information which exists in the SL text.
- b. Addition (increased meaning). Addition is to add some additional information which does not exists in the SL text.
- c. Different meaning. It refers to the meaning of the SL is different from the meaning of translated text in the TL.
- d. Zero meaning. The meaning of the SL is not realized into the TL by simply not translated at all.

### C. Theoretical Framework

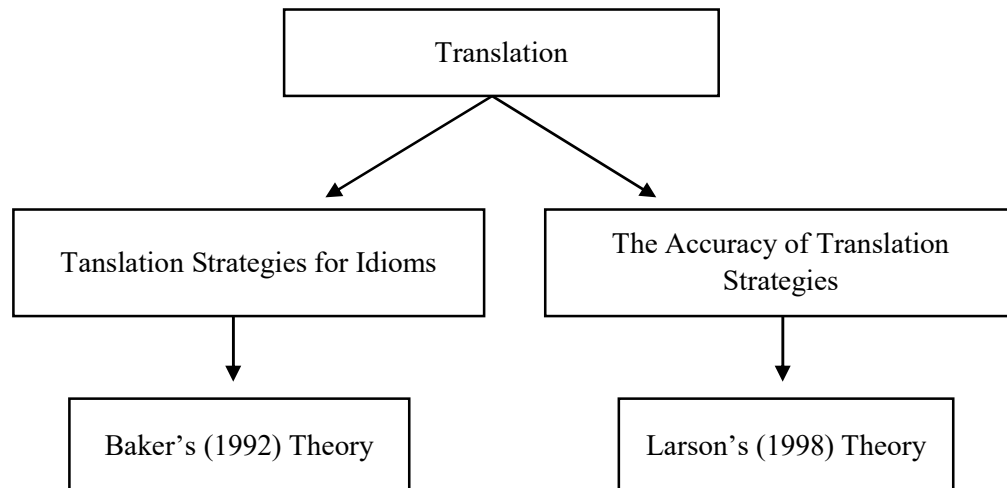


Figure 1. Theoretical Framework