



## An Annotated Translation of *Bicycle Shop Murder*

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** This research article is focusing on annotated translation to describe and give plausible reasons in solving the translation problems.

**Purpose:** The purposes of this study are: (1) to attain information concerning the difficulties faced by the researcher while translating the source text, and (2) to give plausible translation reasons to the difficulties.

**Design and methods:** Introspective and retrospective methods are employed to explore the plausible translation on *Bicycle Shop Murder* novel. Data findings are validated using translation strategies by Chesterman.

**Results:**

As the researcher tries to figure out problems during the process of translation by giving annotation for each data, it shows that from the 30 data chosen to be analyzed, there are: two (2) literal translation, two (2) loan, two (2) calque, two (2) transposition, two (2) clause structure change, two (2) phrase structure change, two (2) synonymy, two (2) antonymy, four (4) distribution change consisting of two (2) compression and two (2) expansion, two (2) paraphrase, two (2) naturalization, two (2) coherence change, two (2) explicitness change from implicit into explicit, and two (2) interpersonal change used to solve these problems.

**Keywords:** translation; strategy; principle; theory

### Introduction

The definition of translation is declared in various ways by different experts. Catford (1995:20) said that the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL) is called translation. Meanwhile, according to Nida (1975:33), "Translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style." Moreover, Larson (1998:3) stated that translation consists of transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor language. This means that the meaning in the source language must be maintained during the process of moving the source language to the target language. Therefore, translating is about delivering the most natural message from the source language into the target language both the meaning and style.

In this research, figuring out problems during the process of translation from English as the source text into Indonesian by giving annotation for each data (difficulties) is the main purpose. The difficulties mentioned can also be called problems. Related to the difficulties, the researcher wants to figure out how to solve these problems.

An annotated translation, from one language into another, has been chosen by the researcher to gain her experience in translation and to observe the problems encountered during the process of translation. The problems found will be analyzed and given plausible

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reasons for their translation. The English-Indonesian translation is elected due to the familiarity of the language, Indonesian, mostly shown by the researcher as the native language she had. It is important to conduct this research as annotated translation applies in practical sense of the principles of translation, and the translation strategies. The researcher considers that it is necessary to accomplish this research because it can help and be used for the next researchers focusing on annotated translation to describe and give plausible reasons in solving the problem.

There are three previous researches that become the inspiration for the researcher of this study. The first one is Wijarnako Agus Wibowo (2008). He conducted a research with the topic of *An Annotated Translation of Play to Your Strength* in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Magister Program in Literature, Gunadarma University. The researcher attempted to find the difficulties encountered during translating *Play to Your Strength* and how those difficulties were solved in the translation. The purposes of his research were to reach the information concerning the problems and to facilitate plausible solutions. The methods used by the researcher were introspective and retrospective method. The result of the research revealed that there were 9 words, 7 phrases, 2 sentences, 5 idioms, and 2 proverbs from the 25 aspects of languages that were difficult for the translator/researcher. The findings were (1) “all the collected data or the difficulties of the research amount to 100 items”, and (2) “of these 100 data 25 of them are very difficult for the researcher/translator”.

The second previous research is conducted by Paul Jacobus du Plessis (1999), and entitled *An Annotated Translation of Bartolus' Tractatus De Fluminibus Seu Tyberiadis (Book I)* Jacobus stated that by using contemporary legal vocabulary, this book had been translated into English with purpose to establish an authoritative dynamic equivalent translation, arranged by the rules of textual criticism considering the Medieval Latin texts. He mentioned, “a historical annotation has been incorporated into the text adding all textual references to the *corpus Juris Civilis* and other known legal texts to indicate the extent to which the Roman law basis of alluvion was used in this monograph. The findings and the results of this research are also not explicitly stated. Meanwhile, Plessis stated “there is still much work to be done on the *Tyberiadis* of Bartolus of Saxoferrato. The archetype of the text still has to be researched conclusively by comparing all existing hand-written manuscripts according to the rules of textual criticism.” To provide valuable insight into the true meaning of the text, researcher should translate and analyze the remaining books.

The third writer is Mira Trissan Hapsari (2013). She conducted a research on an annotated translation with the topic of *Terjemahan Beranotasi ke Bahasa Indonesia Novel Anak Gulliver's Travels oleh Martin Woodside Hasil Penceritaan Kembali dari Novel Karya Jonathan Swift* for her Magister Degree on Linguistics at the University of Indonesia, Jakarta in 2013. The problem and purpose of the research are not explicitly stated. Meanwhile she stated the problems of the research in her thesis as *dalam bab ini dibahas berbagai masalah yang saya temukan Ketika menerjemahkan teks sumber. Selain itu diuraikan alasan serta pertanggungjawaban pemilihan padanan sebagai solusi atas permasalahan ini. Berbagai masalah tersebut dikelompokkan menurut jenisnya, yaitu nama diri, istilah yang mengalami pergeseran makna, idiom, kata budaya, jarak, gelar kehormatan, dan ungkapan.* The method of the research is not explicitly stated meanwhile she stated the methods of the translation, namely *komunikatif* and *semantis*. The result of this research is *segala kesulitan dan permasalahan yang dihadapi dalam proses penerjemahan ternyata dapat dicari jalan keluarnya. Solusi itu didapat dengan bantuan teori penerjemahan, alat bantu, serta berbagai sumber lain, seperti narasumber dan laman Internet.*

There are a similarity and a difference with the previous researchers. The similarity is

the present and the previous researchers observe the problems encountered during the process of translation. But the present researcher has a different source of data with the previous researchers. In this research, the researcher is translating an English source text into Indonesian, namely *Bicycle Shop Murder* by Robert Burton Robinson, and investigating the problems that is present during the process of translation. Problems found during the process of the translation become the precious learning process for the researcher/translator, because by solving those problems, it may broaden the researcher's/translator's understanding of principles of translation, translation strategies, and translation theories about how to apply them during the process of translation.

According to Chesterman (2000), there are three translation strategies, namely syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic strategies. The first category of translation theory initiated by Chesterman is syntactic strategy (discussing the structure); the second category is semantic strategy (discussing the meaning of sentences related to lexical choices, based on the syntactic term that is most appropriate in a particular context); and the last one is the pragmatic strategy (discussing the meaning). Those three strategies are the researchers' reference to attain information concerning the difficulties faced by the researcher while translating the source text, and to give plausible translation reasons to the difficulties. Beside the theory of translation strategy, the researcher also uses the principle of translation theory, introduced by Alan Duff (1990), which consist of six principles, in his book entitled *Translation*.

## Methods

The data used in this research is a novel by Robert Burton Robinson entitled *Bicycle Shop Murder (Greg Tenorly Suspense Series #1)* published by Createspace Independent Publishing Platform; 3rd edition (July 7, 2009). This novel has 248 pages that consists of 56887 words approximately, but the researcher only takes the first 15.000 words to translate as the source of data which it is begun from chapter 1. The 15,000 words chosen were based on purposive sampling, namely the beginning of the source text for 15 chapters of 44 chapters. The researcher has chosen this novel because it used light language which is easy to understand while the story is quite complex. There is praise for this novel from Goodreads Review: “*This was a quick story, but compelling. Loved it! Could definitely be an Alfred Hitchcock episode.*”

The methods used in this study are introspective and retrospective method. According to Nunan (1992), introspective method is “the process of observing and reflecting on one's thoughts, feelings, motives, reasoning processes, and mental states with a view to determining the ways in which these processes and stated determine our behavior.” It means that when the researcher faced a problem in translating certain word/phrase/idiomatic expression, she writes the problems and the solutions in her annotations.

The researcher uses the theory of translation strategies developed by Chesterman (2000) that divided the classification of translation strategies into three types, namely syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic strategies. While translating the 15,000 words chosen from the novel, the researcher questioned herself: (1) In which part did she find difficulties in translating? (2) What were the best outputs as the translation for this word/phrase/idiomatic expression in the context? (3) Were the difficulties syntactically, semantically, or pragmatically? (4) Why did the researcher translate a particular item as such?

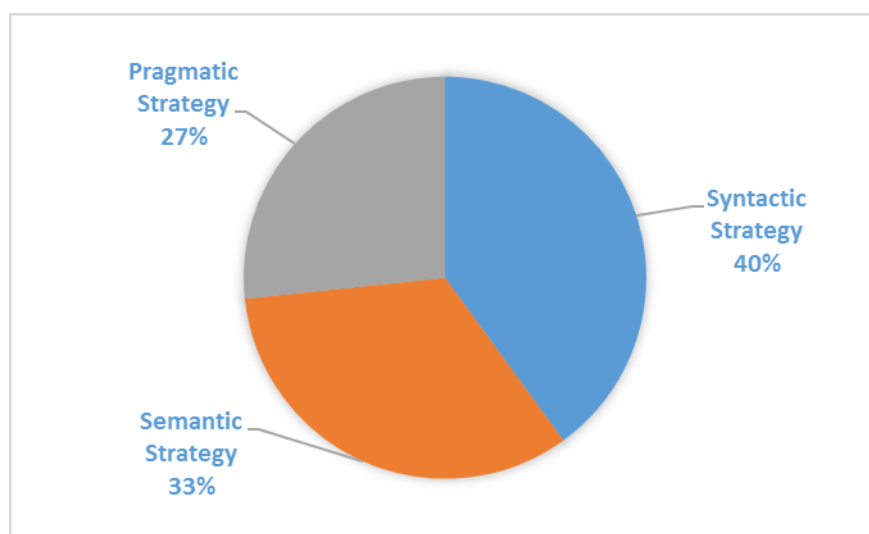
The process of this study will be, first, the sources text is read thoroughly to give a full understanding of the content. Second, independently the researcher translates the source text into Indonesian (the source is in English). Third, at the same time, she marks down the

words/phrases/clauses/sentences or any other language component that become a problem in the translation process. Fourth, during the translating process, the researcher regularly consults her advisor to discuss problems she encounters. Fifth, the researcher takes only the most significant problems to be analyzed due to the limited time. Last, the researcher gives plausible reasons to the solving of the problems. The choice of the problematic items is based on purposive random sampling. It means that the data are chosen with a purpose to analyze or annotate them because they are crucial in a meaning, they are the most difficult problems and the chosen data are taken at random based on the difficulty.

## Findings & Discussion

### Findings

The result of this research is synthesized as follows. From 80 data found, the researcher has analyzed them which are become the 30 most difficult problems. The translation strategies used for analyzing these 30 data are syntactic strategies, semantic strategies, and pragmatic strategies as shown on figure 1. Each strategy consists of some units, as shown in figure 2, figure 3, and figure 4.



*Figure 1. The Translation Strategies Used*

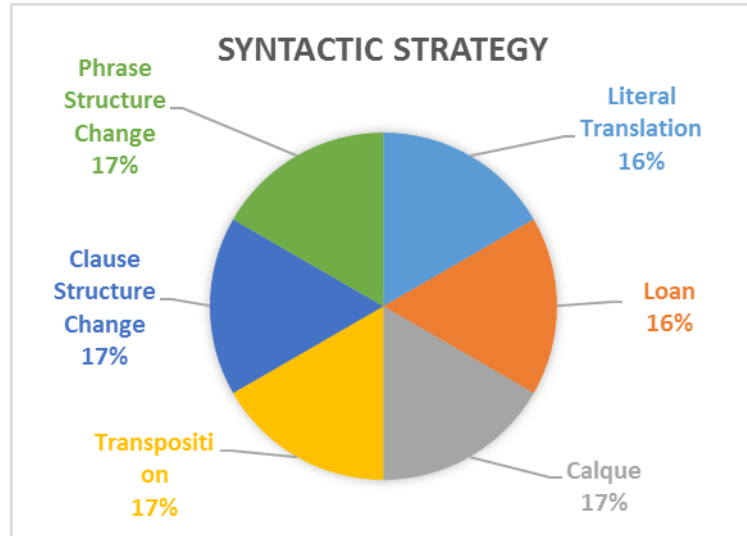


Figure 2. Syntactic Strategy

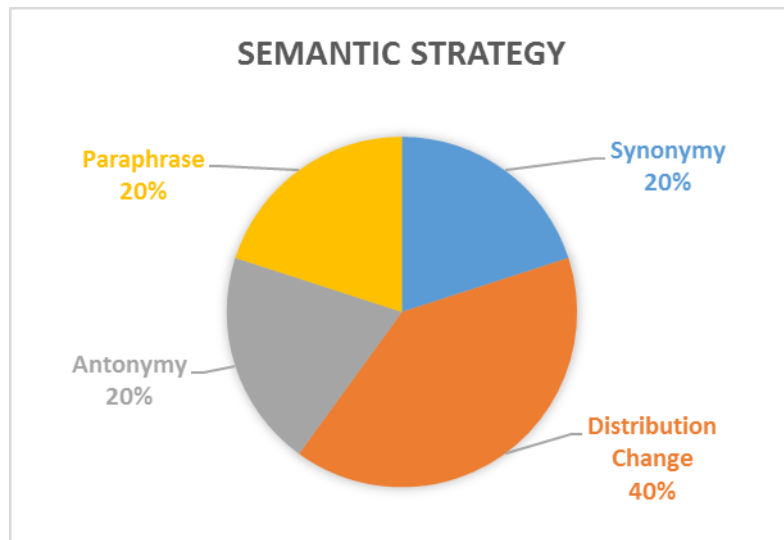


Figure 3. Semantic Strategy

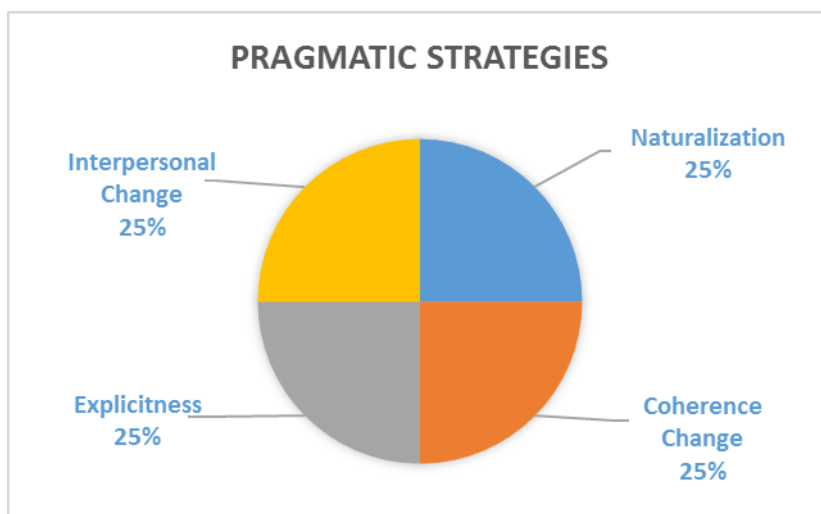


Figure 4. Pragmatic Strategies

## Discussion

Tabel 1. Annotation

Source Text	Target Text
The slightest hint of impropriety would spark a blaze of rumors.	Sedikit saja ketidakpantasan akan memicu gunjingan yang ramai.

Tabel 2. Analysis

Comment	<b>...spark a blaze of rumors...</b> is translated into <b>...memicu gunjingan yang ramai</b> . This is done because if it is translated literally it becomes <i>...mencetuskan lautan api gunjingan...</i> sounds unnatural in Indonesian. Therefore, the translator makes it more natural by translating into <b>...memicu gunjingan yang ramai</b> . So, the translation has naturalization.
Principle of Translation	“Source language influence. One of the most criticisms of translation is that ‘it doesn’t sound natural’” (Duff, 1990, pp. 10-11)
Translation Strategy	Pragmatic strategy: Cultural filtering: Naturalization “This strategy is referred to as naturalization..., it describes the way in which the source language items, especially cultural-specific items, are translated as the target language cultural or functional equivalents, so that they conform to the target language norms” (Chesterman, 2000, p. 108).
Theory of Translation	Venuti (2000) “A truly natural translation can in some respects be described more easily in terms of what it avoids than in what it actually states; for it is the presence of serious anomalies, avoided in a successful translation, which immediately strike the reader as being out of place in the context.” (p. 138)

The main purpose of this research is to figure out problems during the process of translation from English as the source text into Indonesian by giving annotation for each data (difficulties). By translating words, phrases; idiomatic expressions, clauses; expansion, compression from English into Indonesian, the researcher can list those problems. Those difficulties are analyzed and annotated by using principles of translation, translation strategies, and theories of translation. It turns out that of the 30 data chosen that has been analyzed and annotated, not all translation strategies are used. So is the case with theories of translation, only the relevant ones have been used by the researcher.

## Conclusion

This annotated translation study focuses on analyzing and annotating the difficulties found during the translation process. Those difficulties are the problems of the research. The solution of this problem is found by recording the relevant theories, the relevant translation

studies, and the relevant principles of translation. The principles of translation and the translation studies are part of the theories of translation as both former items are the application of the theories.

The researcher is quite sure that there are more theories of translation can be employed but not all of them accessible for the researcher. That fact is one of the weaknesses of this research. Other weaknesses are: (1) of the whole book, only 15.000 words of the whole novel have been translated; (2) of the 15.000 words, 138 data are found; (3) of the 138 data, only 30 of them are analyzed and annotated because of the limited time. Supposed the whole novel has been translated, and then the researcher will find more data and analyze more than 30 data.

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