A TRANSLATION ANALYSIS ON IDIOMATIC IN BOAT SONG BY ED SHEERAN BASED ON LARSON'S THEORY

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to find idiomatic and determine the idiomatic translation used in the lyrics of boat song by Ed Sheeran based on Larson's theory. A qualitative descriptive method was used in this study to collect and analyze data from song lyrics. The data source is the song of boat song by Ed Sheeran which released in 2023. Larson's (1984) theory of idiomatic translation and fairness in translation is used to analyze the data. From the analysis, it was found that idiomatic expressions were found and each has a different level of naturalness, based on Larson's theory. There are very natural levels, natural levels, and less natural levels found from data. In this research, the data that has been found and collected is five verses of the lyrics of the song Boat by Ed Sheeran. From the five stanzas, five idiomatic translation were found and each has a different level of naturalness, based on Larson's theory. There are very natural levels, natural levels, and less natural levels that are found from the data. Two idioms which are classified as very natural, namely the verses "I'll keep my eyes peeled" and "Of what we could've been", two idioms which are classified as natural, namely the verses "Stones crashed on the boardwalk" and "The wind rushed through the trees", and there is one idiom that is classified as unnatural, namely the verse "The memories always fall short".

Keywords: Translation, Idiomatic, Naturalness, Unnaturalness

1. Introduction

Larson (1998:179-190) himself proposed various alternative strategies for matching unknown or new source language concepts to the target language, namely

(1) by explicitly stating the form (form) and function (function) of a concept,

(2) using generic words as equivalent lexical items accompanied by modifications,

(3) modifying loan words, and

(4) through cultural substitution.

Loan words can be corrected by classifying them or by describing their form and function. The assignment of concepts by cultural displacement is the transfer of the meaning of words associated with things or events that are not the same but belong to the target language. References to the real world and target culture replace unknown references from the source culture. While this strategy will always result in some degree of semantic distortion, we must also recognize that cultural substitutions may dynamically have the same effect.

(Larson, 1984: 3) "Idiomatic translation is a meaning-based translation that seeks to communicate the meaning of the source language text in the natural form of the recipient language" (Larson, 1984: 17). Based on Larson's statement, idiomatic translation uses meaning-based in the translation process. That is, a translator basically needs to know the meaning of the source language before the translator translates that meaning into another language. Idiomatic translation uses the natural form of the recipient's language. An idiomatic translation doesn't sound like a translation, it looks like it was written originally in the receiving language.

2. Reserch Method

2.1 Data Source

The data is the lyrics of the song Boat by Ed Sheeran. his own research focuses on translating idiomatically and determining whether such translation includes natural or naturalness in Ed Sheeran's boat song. So this research focuses on boat song lyrics and the object of research is translating idiomatically and determining the naturalness of the translation

2.2 Method and Technique of Collecting Data

Researchers conducted a qualitative descriptive study. by using a qualitative descriptive method the researcher will explain idiomatic translation and determine the naturalness of the translation of the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's boat song. The research data was collected by analyzing the lyrics of the Boat song.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher uses a qualitative descriptive method in conducting this research because it is in accordance with this type of research. So the researcher will carry out several stages to find out idiomatic translations and also determine the naturalness of the translation with several stages. These stages will be able to help researchers translate idiomatically and determine the naturalness of the translation.

In collecting the data the researcher did some techniques such as
1. Listen to the song boat
2. Look at the lyrics in writing
3. Understand and examine the lyrics
4. Analyzing lirics
5. Translate idiomatically
6. Determine the naturalness of the translation

2.3 Method and Technique of Analzing Data

Data will be collected qualitatively. researchers used a qualitative approach to lead this study. researchers as human instruments will collect data by listening to and also reading the lyrics of the Boat song. what researchers need is listening to songs, reading song lyrics, translating idiomatically and also determining the naturalness of the translation of Ed Sheeran's Agu Boat lyrics.

3. Discussion

3.1 Translation by Larson
I. Translation Theory

Larson in his theory explains the types of translation. According to Larson (1984), there are two main kinds of translation, one is form-based and the other is meaning-based translation. They are called as the literal translation and idiomatic translation. In literal translation, the form of the source language is transferred into the form of the target language. Although this literal translation is useful for the

purposes that related to the study of the source language, it has little help to the speakers of the receptor language who are interested in the meaning of the source language text (Larson, 1984). Literal translation often eliminates the meaning in the source text because it maintains grammar and does not adapt to context.
For example:

SL	TL
I came in for the embers	Saya datang di dalam bara

The translations above sound *unnatural*. The word **I** is simply translated into **saya**. **came** is translated into **datang**, **in** is translated into **di dalam**, **the embers** is translated into **bara**. The result is translated by word – for – word translation and it causes the combination of the target language sentence sounds unnatural and it usually makes the readers confused (Margono, 1999:4).

Meaning-based translation, known as idiomatic translation makes every effort to communicate the meaning of the source language text in the natural forms of the target language. What Larson means by idiomatic translation is translation that is based on meaning or that emphasizes the meaning in the source language, and expresses it using the structure and vocabulary of the target language.
For example:

SL	TL
And stayed out for the breeze	Dan menetap di luar untuk menikmati angin sepoi-sepoi

Idiomatic translation above is acceptable for the target readers because it sounds *natural*. The phrase **and stayed out for the breeze** as SL is not simply translated into **tetap keluar untuk angin sepoi-sepoi** as TL but idiomatically translated into **dan menetap di luar untuk menikmati angin sepoi-sepoi** because the translator understands the original meaning and knows both languages well. (Margono, 1999:4)
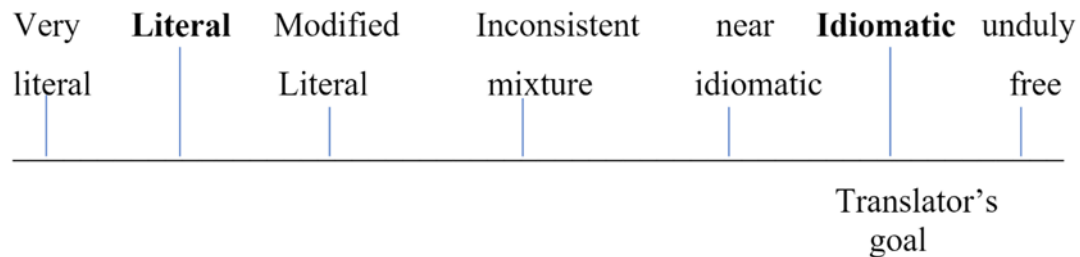
II. Translation Strategy

In translation, the translators must pay attention to the meaning equivalence and context between the source language (SL) and the translation or target language (TL). Therefore, translators must have good language proficiency, syntactic knowledge, semantic and pragmatic understanding, as well as technology skills to produce good and accurate translations (Larson, 1984). The translation strategies based on Larson (1984):

1. Language proficiency strategy, means translators must have good language proficiency in the source language and target language to be able to capture the meaning of the source text and express it well in the target language.
2. Syntax strategy, means translators must pay attention to sentence structure, grammar, and syntax rules in the source language and target language to ensure the meaning equivalence between the source text and the translated text.
3. Semantic strategy, means translators must understand the meaning of words and phrases in the source language and target language. This includes understanding vocabulary, connotative meanings, and cultural contexts.
4. Pragmatic strategy, means translators must understand the social and cultural context of the source text and target language to produce accurate translations that are appropriate for the communication purpose.
5. Technology strategy, means translators can use translation technologies such as software and machine translation to assist in the translation process. However, translators must still pay attention to the meaning equivalence and context of the source text and the translator.

According to the list above, semantic strategy is the most suitable strategy in the discussion of the study.

III. Translation Range
Larson (1884: 17-20) provides a chart of the types of translation. This range starts from *very literal* to *unduly free translation*:

Very	**Literal**	Modified	Inconsistent	near	**Idiomatic**	unduly
literal		Literal	mixture	idiomatic		free

Translator's goal

Larson did not explain one by one the types of translation he mentioned. The information given only emphasizes the two types of translation that have been explained previously, namely literal translation and idiomatic translation. Larson's range of translations is as follows:

1. Very literal translation
   Larson calls as interlinear translation, is the translation is done word for word and the arrangement and sequence are strictly maintained.
2. Modified Literal
   According to Larson, in modified literal, what is adjusted is the grammar when it is really needed. This means that if the grammatical form is very much different from the grammar of the target language, then it is adjusted. But the words chosen by the translator will follow the form of the source language. Therefore, this modified literal translation results in an unnatural translation, even Larson mentions it with the wrong translation.
3. Inconsistent mixture
   This type of translation means that in certain parts the form and meaning are in accordance with TL, but in parts that are not fully understood by the translator, they will simply be left out or just follow the SL form to avoid unclear or unreasonable translations, but in parts that are difficult to understand the translator translates literally.
4. Near idiomatic
   In this type of translation, it can be seen that many adjustments have been made, such as grammar and vocabulary adjustments, so that this translation is getting closer to meaning-based translation or idiomatic translation.
5. Unduly free
   According to Larson, translation must not add things or meanings that do not exist in the source text. This type of translation is said to be a very free translation because this translation adds things that are not found or mentioned in the SL. Therefore, Larson does not categorize it as a translation.

According to Larson's range translation, meaning-based translation or idiomatic translation will be the focus of this study.

IV. Naturalness
According to Larson (1998: 529), the aim of assessing translation is to ensure that it is accurate, clear, and natural. Larson (1998: 533) in Aisyah and Harjanti (2020) explains ways of assessing translation such as:
1. Comparison with the source, to check whether or not the information content in TL equivalence with the SL,

2. Back-translation into the source language, done by asking someone else who masters the source and the target language well to read the translation and write the meaning he gets from it back into the source language again,
3. Comprehension checks to know whether or not the speakers of the TL understand it correctly although they do not read it before,
4. Naturalness and readability testing is to know if the form of the translation is natural and the style appropriate,
5. Consistency checks to check the consistency of the use of lexical equivalent for some key terms.

From the aim of assessing translation, to know that the translation is natural and the style appropriate by naturalness test can be done by asking the reviewer who is bilinguals in source language and target language to read it, making comments, and give suggestions (Aisyah and Harjanti, 2020). According to Larson (1988: 533-544), the reviewer marks any place where it is hard to read or it looks unnatural or unclear while reading the text. If he feels hesitated and has to go back, and reread to understand, this should be marked. After finishing reading the translation, then he should go back and study carefully to the marker he makes. Then he can write some additional suggestions on it. So that the reviewer can make some criteria to assess the naturalness of the translation.

Criteria in assessing naturalness according to Larson (1988: 531-532):

Scale	Level	Criteria
4	Highly natural	Make sense and read naturally (written in ordinary language, common grammar, proper idioms and words)
3	Natural	Correct meaning, using appropriate idioms and words, but there are some error structures.
2	Less natural	Make sense with minimum unnatural words, grammar, phrase, or idioms.
1	Unnatural	Unnatural form, with awkward language, ungrammatical structure, and inappropriate words.

As a stated by Larson, translation is categorized as natural if it is easy to read and not hard to understand, and unnatural from if it is consist ungrammatical structure, awkward language, and inappropriate words.

3.2 Idiomatic Translation in lyrics of boat song by Ed Sheeran

The researcher used 5 sentences or 5 stanzas from the boat song by Ed Sheeran

SL	TL
Stones crashed on the boardwalk	Batu-batu jatuh di trotoar

The data was found from the lyrics of a boat song by Ed Sheeran. The phrase **Stones crashed on the boardwalk** as a SL is not simply translated into **batu menabrak trotoar** as a TL, but idiomatically translated into **batu batu jatuh di trotoar**.

SL	TL
The wind rushed through the trees	Angin bertiup menerpa pohon

The data was found from the lyrics of a boat song by Ed Sheeran. The phrase **the wind rushed through the trees** as SL is not simply translated into **angin bertiup melalui pepohonan** as TL but idiomatically translated into **angin bertiup menerpa pohon**.

SL	TL
I'll keep my eyes peeled	Aku akan menjaga mataku tetap terbuka

The data was found from the lyrics of a boat song by Ed Sheeran. The phrase **I'll keep my eyes peeled** as SL is not simply translated into **aku menjaga mataku terkelupas** as TL but idiomatically translated into **aku akan menjaga mataku tetap terbuka**

SL	TL
The memories always fall short	Kenangan- kenangan itu selalu kurang

The data was found from the lyrics of a boat song by Ed Sheeran. The phrase **the memories always fall short** is not simply translated into **kenangan selalu gagal** but idiomatically translated into **kenangan- kenangan itu selalu kurang.**

SL	TL
Of what we could've been	Dari apa yang seharusnya bisa kita lakukan

The data was found from the lyrics of a boat song by Ed Sheeran. The phrase **of what we could've been** as SL is not simply translated into **dari apa yang kita bisa** as TL, but idiomatically translated **dari apa yang seharusnya bisa kita lakukan**.

3.3 Natural and Unnatural Findings in Boat song by Ed Sheeran

Based on the idiomatic translation data found in 5 stanzas of Ed Sheeran's song Boat lyrics, the data can be classified into very natural, natural, less natural, and unnatural translations according to Larson's theory. The findings of reasonableness based on the 5 verses of the lyrics above can be discussed as follows:

Source Language (SL) (English Version)	Target Language (TL) (Indonesian Version)	Scale			
		1	2	3	4
Stones crashed on the boardwalk	Batu-batu jatuh di trotoar			√	

Natural data may be caused by the presence of several words that are not appropriate used by the translator in translating the verses in the lyrics of the song Boat by Ed Sheeran. stanzas are considered to have fallen to a natural level. The translator uses the natural grammatical and lexical choices of the target language. However, there are some mistakes made by the translator that make the sentence sound a little unnatural. This can be seen from the use of the word ''jatuh''. Instead of ''jatuh'' it will be more natural in the target language if the translator uses ''berjatuhan''

Source Language (SL) (English Version)	Target Language (TL) (Indonesian Version)	Scale			
		1	2	3	4
The wind rushed through the trees	Angin bertiup menerpa pohon			√	

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natural grammatical and lexical choice of the target language. However, there were several mistakes that were made by the translator that makes the sentence sounds a little bit unnatural. It could be seen from the use of word ''bertiup''. Instead of ''bertiup'' it will be more natural in target language if the translator use ''berhembus''

Source Language (SL) (English Version)	Target Language (TL) (Indonesian Version)	Scale			
		1	2	3	4
I'll keep my eyes peeled	Aku akan menjaga mataku tetap terbuka				√

This stanza is thought into fall into **highly natural level.** The structure that was used by the translator to translate the TL were appropriate, and the message of the SL did not sound awkward because delivered clearly into the TL. The meaning between TL and SL on this stanza is closest and also sounds natural when it is read.

Source Language (SL) (English Version)	Target Language (TL) (Indonesian Version)	Scale			
		1	2	3	4
The memories always fall short	Kenangan- kenangan itu selalu kurang		√		

Based on the Larson's criteria of the naturalness of translation, this verse is considered to be on **less natural level**. Even the meaning of the TL was already closest with the SL, the translator did not use the appropriate word in translating the SL into the TL. It could be seen from the use of word ''selalu kurang''. Instead of it, it will be more natural in target language if the translator use ''terlalu singkat'' as the common idiom in target language since its sounds more natural.

Source Language (SL) (English Version)	Target Language (TL) (Indonesian Version)	Scale			
		1	2	3	4
Of what we could've been	Dari apa yang seharusnya bisa kita lakukan				√

This stanza is thought to fall into **highly natural level.** The structure that was used by the translator to translate the TL were appropriate, and the message of the SL did not sound awkward because delivered clearly into the TL. The meaning between TL and SL on this stanza is closest and also sounds natural when it is read.

4. Conclusion

In this research, the data that has been found and collected is five verses of the lyrics of the song Boat by Ed Sheeran. From the five stanzas, five idiomatic translation were found and each has a different level of naturalness, based on Larson's theory. There are very natural levels, natural levels, and less natural levels that are found from the data. two idioms which are classified as very natural, namely the verses "I'll keep my eyes peeled" and "Of what we could've been", two idioms which are classified as natural, namely the verses "Stones crashed on the boardwalk" and "The wind rushed through the trees", and there is one idiom that is classified as unnatural, namely the verse "The memories always fall short".

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