

**Research article**

# Translation Shifts Found in the Translation of Merry Riana: Mimpi Sejuta Dolar Novel by Alberthiene Endah into Million Dollar Dream

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**Abstract.**

It has been considered that translation is the process of transferring a message or meaning from a language to the other. Thus, this research was proposed to analyze the translation shift in a Novel. The data of this paper were taken from an Indonesian novel entitled Merry Riana: Mimpi Sejuta Dolar by Alberthiene Endah (2011) and the English translation entitled Million Dollar Dream translated by Maggie Tiojakin (2016). The analysis was mainly aimed at finding out the types of translation shifts found in these two novels. The main theory used was taken from a book entitled A Linguistic Theory of Translation by Catford (1965). The other theories were also applied in this research. There were some steps done in collecting data observation. When the data were the method used in analyzing the data was a descriptive method with an informal technique of presentation. It was found that there were two major types of shifts. They were level shifts and category shifts. The category shifts involved structure shift, class shift, unit/ rank shift and intra-system shift. The result of this research showed that the translation shifts most commonly found is in the category shifts include structure shift, class shift, unit/ rank shift and intra-system shift. Commonly, shifts in the translation were caused by the different structure of the source language and the target language and every language has its own form to convey the meaning.

**Keywords:** translation shift, novel, translation

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language is one of the tools to communicate with other people, definitely in now era has varieties language, especially Nida and Taber said that “Translating consists of reproducing in the receptor language, the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message, firstly in terms of language and secondly in terms of style” (1982: 12). It means that a translator has to understand the context of communication and the cultural context of the source and target text. Translation in English plays an important role in communication between two different languages. Larson stated that translation is basically a change of form. When we speak of the form of a language, we are referring to the actual words, phrase, clause, sentences, paragraph, etc, which are spoken or

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written. These forms are referred to as the surface structure of a language (Larson, 1984: 3).

Publication media is the place of many various kinds of translation. Novel is one of the most popular publications. There are millions, novels publicized in the world and many best-seller novels are translated into some languages. An Indonesian language novel can be translated into some languages like English, French, Japanese, Spain, etc. Like common popular novels, *Merry Riana: Mimpi Sejuta Dolar* by Alberthiene Endah (Indonesian) is also translated into English.

Based on the background, there are several previous studies are used as references in this study. Suryani (2018) conducted a study entitled *The Analysis of Translation Shift in Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret Novel and its Translation*. The second is Herawati (2016) also conducted a study which entitle *An Analysis of Shifts in the Translation of English Participial Adjectives Into Indonesian in Novel "The Twilight Saga: New Moon*. the last is Lestari (2016) also doing similar study entitled *Translation Shift in the Translated Novel of to Kill a Mockingbird by Femmy Syahrianni*.

Moreover, based on previous study above, this research is different from those previous study that has been explained before. This reseach analyze What kinds of shifts are found in the translation of Indonesian novel *Mimpi Sejuta Dolar* by Merry Riana into English *Million Dollar Dream*. This research aim to explain clearly the translation shift occurring in the translation of Indonesian novel into English with *Mimpi Sejuta Dolar* as the source language text. Besides that it is also at exploring the two major types of shift, level shift and category shift, found in Indonesian-English translation.

## 2. METHOD

The data were taken from the novel *Merry Riana: Mimpi Sejuta Dolar* by Alberthiene Endah as the Source Language (SL) and its translation into English *Million Dollar Dream* translated by Maggie Tiojakin as the Target Language (TL). The researcher used the method of descriptive to analyze the data. According to Moleong (1995, p:2) states that descriptive qualitative research is defined as the qualitative research, a type of research which does not include of any calculation or enumerating, where descriptive qualitative research seeks to provide this picture or the sentence by using data in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers. The data of this study were collected by using some steps. First, both novels were read and then the data were collected by underlining the sentences in the novel that are related to the topic. By using note taking technique, the data were collected and classified based on the kinds of shifts.

Moreover, the data analysis was done by analyzing the data based on the theoretical basis. Each analysis of data was viewed from the scope of discussion and theoretical basis. The result was classified according to the topic of discussion and was analyzed descriptively and supported by giving some examples. The final step is presenting the result of analysis. The data that have been analyzed based on types of shift in translation found in the data source were presented by using informal method. The method was applied by using sentences in order to express the types of shift in translation found in the novel of *Merry Riana: Mimpi Sejuta Dolar* and its translation *Million Dollar Dream*.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This research described about the analysis of translation shifts that were found in the data source and how they occurred in sentences. The shifts that were found in the data source are level shifts and category shifts. The analysis of translation shifts that were found in the novels are described one by one in the following sub chapters.

#### 3.1. Level Shift

After the data were analyzed, it was found that there were some data that showed level shifts in the translation. Level shift happens when the target text has different level to that of source text. Two types of level shifts were found in the data source, they were Past Continuous marker (*was/ were + -ing*) shifted into *sedang* and Past Perfect marker (*had + Past Participle marker*) shifted into *sudah/ telah*.

#### 3.2. Sudah/Telah Shifted into Past Perfect Marker (*had + Past Participle marker*)

Based on the data source of this paper, level shifts that occurred in the Past Perfect marker shifted into *sudah/ telah* in the translation were found. See the examples below.

SL: Aku pulang dengan perasaan damai. Benakku **telah memikirkan** keasyikan kuliah di Trisakti. Itu kampus yang baik, kata Papa. (Endah, 2011: 23)

TL: I went home in peace. I **had started** to imagine my life as a college student at Trisakti University. It was an excellent school, so Papa told me. (Tiojakin, 2016: 23)

It can be stated that level shift occurs in example above. The word *telah* in the *telah memikirkan* in the source language was translated into structure of *had started to imagine* in the target language. In this translation phenomenon we could see that the

word *telah* was likely translated into grammatical level, namely *past perfect tense*. The level shift that occurs in this translation is from lexis into grammar. It happens because to express the Indonesian adverb *telah* that expresses an activity already happened in the past is mostly by using *Past Perfect Tense* in English. It is known that the two constructions (Indonesian and English) implies the same meaning. So in this translation it can be seen that there is shift from source language into target language.

### 3.3. Sedang Shifted into Past Continuous Marker (was/ were + -ing)

Based on the data source of this paper, level shifts that occur and shown in the Past Continuous marker shifted into *sedang* in the translation were found. See the examples below.

SL: Kedai masakan Cina. Beberapa mahasiswa **sedang** mengantre di kedai itu. (Endah, 2011: 5)

TL: It was a Chinese food stall. Several students **were lining up** at the counter. (Tiojakin, 2016: 5)

It can be stated that level shift occurs in example of number (1). The word *sedang* in the source language is lexis that is translated into structure of *were + -ing* in the target language as grammar. In this case, the level shift happens from lexis into grammar. The shift happens because in English, to express a progress or ongoing activity in the past (*Past Continuous Tense*) is expressed by *was/ were + -ing*. *Several students were lining up at the counter* means the activity of *lining up* by the subject *several students* was in progress or ongoing. Meanwhile in Indonesian there is no specific form to express such activity. In Indonesian, such activity is expressed by word such as *sedang*. So, it is true that between the source language and target language there is level shift. In this example, the quality of the translation is good because both the source language and the target language carry the same meaning.

### 3.4. Structure Shift

A structure shift involves a change in grammatical structure between Source Language (SL) and Target Language (TL). Structure shift also involve a grammatical structure between the structure MH (Modifier + Head) into HM (Head + Modifier). These shifts usually occur in the level of phrases, clause and sentence. For a clearer discussion, let us see the following analysis.

Structure Shifts in Phrases Level

Examples:

SL: Pemandangan di kiri kanan yang cantik, **padang rumput mungil**

H M

dengan kontur bukit yang mendamaikan. (Endah, 2011: 2)

TL: It is encapsulated by the gorgeous view of a **small meadow** perched

M H

on a peaceful hill. (Tiojakin, 2016: 2)

From the data above, the translation of SL to the TL has different phrase structure. The phrase that occurs in this data is a noun phrase. In data number (1), the noun phrase structure in the SL is **padang rumput mungil** which is formed by head **padang rumput** and post-modifier **mungil**. It is translated into a different structure in the TL become **small meadow**. It consists of pre-modifier **small** and head **meadow**. It can be stated that there is a structure shift in phrase level, because the basic structure between SL and TL are different. The structure of Indonesian noun phrase in SL is head – post-modifier and the structure of English noun phrase in TL is pre-modifier – head. In this data, shift occurs because of the difference between grammatical system and rules of both languages from SL to the TL. So, if there is no shift, the realization in the TL will be ‘meadow small’. This expression is unnatural and not appropriate with grammatical system in English.

Structure Shifts in Sentence Level

Generally, the sentence in Indonesian must consists of at least two elements S-P and English at least consists of S-V, but shift that occurs in this data are different. The element P (Predicate) in the SL as Indonesian become C (Complement) in the TL as English. It is because P as action in the SL actually does not exist in this data. So based on the data source, the elements of sentence in the SL here consists of S-C and the TL consists of S-V-C. Here are the data below.

Examples:

SL: Sedan kami terus bergulir. (Endah, 2011: 4)

S C

TL: Our sedan continued to meander down the road. (Tiojakin, 2016: 3)

S V C

From the data above, structure shift in sentence level occurs in data number (1). The sentence structure in the SL is S+C and the sentence structure in the TL is SVC. The sentence of the SL consists of **sedan kami** as subject, and **terus bergulir** as a complement. In the TL, the sentence consists of **Our sedan** as subject, **continued**

as verb and **to meander down the road** as a complement. The Indonesian sentence structure in the SL is S+C can be translated into SVC in English because a subject must be directly followed by verb before complement in English. **Sedan kami terus bergulir** becomes **Our sedan continued to meander down the road** with the structure of **Our sedan** as subject, **continued** as verb and **to meander down the road** as a complement. In this case, the English sentence structure in the TL is added by verb **continued**. In this data, shift happens because the difference between grammatical system and rules of both languages from SL to the TL. Well, if there is no shift, the realization in the TL will be not appropriate with grammatical system in English.

### 3.5. Class Shift

Class shift means a shift of class from SL into TL, but does not change the original meaning. Here are the data of class shifts that were found in the data source.

#### Noun to Adjective

A class shift from noun to adjective in the translation of SL into TL is found in the data source. Here is the data below.

SL: Sama sekali tidak tercium tanda-tanda bahwa sore harinya sebuah tragedi terjadi di halaman kampus dan memicu peristiwa **kekerasan** yang sangat mencekam seluruh hati negeri ini. (Endah, 2011: 23)

TL: No one had foreseen what was about to happen later in the afternoon, right there at the campus, a tragedy that ignited a **violent** incident the country would later recognize as a dark moment in history. (Tiojakin, 2016: 23)

In the data above, it is a class shift. The word **kekerasan** in the SL belongs to noun in Indonesian. It is translated into **violent** which is an adjective in English as a TL. In this case, the class shift occurs from noun in the SL becomes adjective in the TL. And the shift of class from SL to the TL here does not change the original meaning. Shift occurs in this data because there is reasonable expression of situation in the sentence

#### Verb to Adjective

A class shift from noun to adjective in the translation of SL into TL is found in the data source. Here is the data below.

Example:

SL: Tidak pernah ada kata **terlambat!** (Endah, 2011: 14)

TL: It's never too **late!** (Tiojakin, 2016: 13)

In the data above, it is a class shift. The word **terlambat** in the SL belongs to verb in Indonesian. It is translated into **late** which is an adjective in English as a TL. In this case, the class shift occurs from verb in the SL becomes adjective in the TL. And the shift of class from SL to the TL here does not change the original meaning. Shift occurs in this data because there is reasonable expression of situation in the sentence.

### 3.6. Unit Shift

Based on the data source, the unit/ rank shifts that were found in the data source are from word to phrase and phrase to word.

#### Word to Phrase

A unit/rank shift occurs in the translation from a word in the SL into phrase in the TL. Here are the data below.

#### Examples:

SL: Untuk liburan saja, kami belum sampai mencapai lima jari berpergian ke **man-canegara**. (Endah, 2011: 18)

TL: Under normal circumstances, the idea itself would have been considered quite bogus, since we did not have the means to send anyone in our family to study in a **foreign country**. (Tiojakin, 2016: 18)

From the data above, there is a kind of unit shift. The unit shift is from word to phrase. The word **mancanegara** is a noun and the phrase **foreign country** as a noun phrase. From this data, the word **mancanegara** in the SL has a different rank with its translation in the TL. It is translated into **foreign country**, which is ranked as a noun phrase in the TL. The shifts occurs from a word to a phrase. The closest meaning of the word **mancanegara** is translated into a noun phrase **foreign country**. And shift occurs because both source language and target language have different forms. However, in this data they have the same meaning. So, the source language is well translated into the target language

#### Phrase to Word

Besides the shift of word to phrase, a unit/ rank shift also occurs in the translation from phrase in SL into word in the TL. Here are the data below.

#### Examples:

SL: Sedangkan Mama, adalah perempuan energik yang tahu bagaimana menggelar kehidupan **rumah tangga** yang terjaga dan sejahtera. (Endah, 2011: 29)

TL: While Mama is an energetic lady who is so skillful in running the **household** and keeping it steady no matter what the circumstances are. (Tiojakin, 2016: 30).

In the data above, there is a kind of unit shift. The unit shift is from phrase to word. The phrase **rumah tangga** as a noun phrase and the word **household** as a compound word. In this data, the noun phrase **rumah tangga** in the SL has a different rank with its translation in the TL. It is translated into **household** in the TL which is ranked as a compound word. The shift occurs from noun phrase to compound word. It happens because the noun phrase **rumah tangga** in the SL can be represented by using a single word **household** in the TL. From the data above, shift occurs because of to get a natural meaning with grammatical system in the TL as English and it does not change the original meaning from SL to the TL

### 3.7. Intra-System Shift

Based on the data source of this paper, the intra-system shifts that occur from singular noun in the SL into plural nouns in the TL were found. Let see the data below.

Examples:

SL: Akan tetapi Tuhan begitu baik, karena jalanan itu seperti diciptakan untuk mereka yang membutuhkan penghiburan sepanjang **kaki** melangkah. (Endah, 2011: 2)

TL: The road seems to be built for those who are willing to walk as far as their **legs** can carry them. (Tiojakin, 2016: 2)

In the data above, it is intra-system shift. The word **kaki** in the SL is categorized as singular noun, but it is translated into word **legs** as plural noun in the TL. It happens because singular noun in Indonesian is generally used to refer something in general. The plural noun in English is used to refer something plural or more than one. In this case, the word **legs** in the TL are meant more than leg. In this data, shift happens because the difference between grammatical system and rules of both languages from SL to the TL. If there is no shift, the realization in the TL will be ungrammatical in English.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Translation shifts found in the data source are two major types of shifts, they are level shifts and category shifts. The level shifts are found in the *Sedang* Shifted into Past Continuous marker (*was/ were + -ing*) and *Sudah/Telah* Shifted into Past Perfect marker (*had + Past Participle marker*) in the data source. Category shifts can be divided into four; they are structure shift, class shift, unit/ rank shift and intra-system shift. The structure



shift found in the phrase level and sentence level. Class shift of the data source are found in forms noun to adjective and verb to adjective. Shifts from word to phrase and phrase to word are found as unit/ rank shift in the data source and shift also found as intra-system shift in the data source.

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