

Strategies for Translating the Idioms in Black Panther Movie

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Abstract—This research aimed to explore the types and strategies used in translating idiom subtitle from English into Indonesian in *Black Panther* movie. To achieve this aim, the researcher used descriptive qualitative method. In classifying the types of the idiom, the researcher used Jodi Hamed's (2012) theory, where divided the types into 8 main categories. As for knowing the strategies used in translating the idiom, the researcher followed Nida and Taber's (1974) theory, where divided into 3 strategies. The researcher could conclude that, there were 242 idioms found on *Black Panther* subtitle. There were eight main form of idiom used in the subtitle of "Black Panther subtitle" movie. There were 38 data formed by noun phrase, 6 data formed by transitive verb, 166 data formed by verbal phrase, 11 data formed by alliterative comparison, no data formed by prepositional phrase, 1 data formed by be+prepositional, 7 data formed by pairs of words, and 11 data formed by sentences. As for the strategy used, the most used is idiom to non-idiom then, idiom to idiom the last less used is non-idiom to idiom.

Keywords—translation, idiom, type of idiom, strategies, english, indonesia, subtitle, movie

I. INTRODUCTION

Translation is one of the most unsolved issue in linguistics. This subject is offered people around the world to exchange information, news, culture, literature, science, and entertainment. As stated by House, J. in [1] that translation can be defined as the result of a linguistic-textual operation in which a text in one language is recontextualized in another language

Idioms are crucial components of people speech, because they are fixed expressions that have meanings which cover all aspect of life. As stated by Glasier in [2], idiom is a lexicalised, reproducible word group in common use, which has syntactic and semantic stability, and could contain connotation, but whose meaning cannot be acquired from the meanings of its constituents.

Translating idioms requires knowledge in both languages, their cultures and knowledge in strategies that are suitable for rendering the intended meaning as well. Strategies are necessary because they usually enable translators to overcome difficulties that they might encounter in the process of translation.

Nowadays, western movie is popular and famous in this worldwide. in addition, most of people in this world watch western movies everyday in TV station, cinema, internet and so on. It is supported by increasing of western movies

production from home production. As a world consumption, western movies always care at the content of movies it self such as : idea, background, actors, and languages which is important to engage people attention. They always bring an intreresting language in their movie as it is an important aspect for the viewer. It can be seen on some of movie trying to used a lot of form of idioms in every movies which is produced.

Black Panther is an American superhero movie which is produced by Marvel Studios and distributed in worldwide by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures. This movie told about T'Challa, crowned king of Wakanda who following his father's death, but his sovereignty is challenged by an adversary who plans to abandon the country's isolationist policies and begin a global revolution. This 134 minutes durated movie is directed by Ryan Coogler. It grossed over \$1.3 billion worldwide, breaking numerous box office records including the highest- grossing movie by a black director. It is the second-highest- grossing movie of 2018 behind *Avengers: Infinity War*, and received numerous awards and nominations [3]

There are many character who talk in different ways of communication among them. This fictional movie, *Black Panther* provide a lot of unique idioms which is used by the character on this movie. This movie also provide unique matters in learning English language. Such as british vocabularies, idioms, proverbs, and cultural aspect which is interesting and useful in learning English language. Those matters can be seen on movies' subtitle, actors' manners and background of the movie.

It can be said that many idiom in the dialogues can not understandly without using an translation strategies and there is no doubt that the strategies must be employed to make the idioms readable by the movie audience. This is the reason why the researcher chose the proposed title.

The rest of this paper is organized as follow: Section II presents the notion of idiom. Section III describes the methodology of this research. Section IV presents the obtained results. Finally, Section V concludes this work.

II. IDIOM

A. Idioms Theories

Idiom is an expression made by two or more word which has one meaning. Curry in [4] states that idiom is a group of words that means something different from the individual words it contains. It is mostly different with the common

word or phrase that have meaning on the whole words it contains; in addition, idioms can not be translated word to word as usual because all the words that build the idioms have one meaning. Moreover, people need to learn about the whole word which is contained in idiom itself in order to get full understanding the idioms. Not only to learn about the words of idioms but people also need to know about where and why idiom is made.

In addition, Wyatt in [5] states that idioms is an expression where the meaning is different from the meaning of individual words. It can not be understood literally as even if people know the meaning of the word in phrase and grammar. One idiom might have different concept in different language and also have different function in different discourse in a text or interaction. Thus, people need to be careful in understanding of idiom in order to fully understanding of the whole meaning and the idea of the idiom. people do not have to worry about the grammar of idioms because the one that people have to know is learning the idioms separately from where the idioms come from is very important in knowing why and how the idiom create by the people or communicators.

Nunberg, *et al.* in [6] says that idiom is conventionalized: their meaning or use can not be predicted, or at least entirely predicted, based on knowledge of the independent conventions that determine the use of their constituents when they appear in isolation from one to another. Whereas some of idiom having both meaning that can be found in various languages, there are also idiom from the same semantic field which resist developing a secondary meaning and they can not be easily predictable as they used to be used in independent way based on the communicators. Sometimes, idioms can not be able to translate into another language because it has special meaning from where it is taken and the context can not be interpreted in some languages.

So that, even the idiom is a beautiful phrase or expression to use in conversation, but people need to consider what idiom can be used and appropriate with our own language. Some of idioms have been used in any aspects of communication. People use idiom as communication tools in daily life because they have special interest to idiom as it has beautification value. idiom is one of important aspect of english which should be mastered as english can not be separated with idioms itself. It is also useful to make a colorful of conversation and make it different from common conversation. Idiom is often used in literature text as the idioms build a beautiful phrase or expression.

Idiom is a unique word in english. It has different form from another words of english. According to Majed in [7] on his journal states that another form of idiom can be formed as follow :

1. Noun Phrase

- a. article + adjective + noun

The last straw = the final circumstances that makes a situation unendurable. The allusion is to the proverb It is the last straw that breaks the camel's back.

In this research, the researcher take an example, "*the war dogs in London*". It translated into "*mata-mata di London*". Here, "*the war dogs*" is not actually a war between some

dogs. This group of words do not mean what they appear to mean.

- b. Article + present participle +noun

A parting shot = a cruel or severe remark that you make just as you are leaving, especially at the end of an argument: As he walked out the door, Lee took a parting shot at his wife.

- c. Article + past participle + noun

If something is a foregone conclusion it is certain to have a particular result, even though it has not yet happened: The last three elections were all foregone conclusion (=people knew what the result would be).

- d. Article + noun + prepositional phrase

A sub type of idiom noun phrase consists of an article + noun + complementation by a prepositional phrase. The salt of the earth is someone who ordinary, but good and honest: Journalists are the salt of the earth, in my opinion. Such idiomatic noun phrases may function like parts of speech. For example, it will often function in a sentence in the same way a noun would, as subject, direct object, or, perhaps most frequently, as complement. Thus, the salt of the earth above will normally be used as subject complement in He is the salt of the earth.

2. Transitive Verb Phrase

- a. Verb + Noun Phrase

Some idiomatic expressions adverb phrases consisting of transitive verb plus a noun phrase as direct object, e.g. break the bank= used to say that you can afford to buy something: Well, I don't think it'll break the bank if we only go away for a week end.

- b. Verb +It

Several idiomatic verb phrases have the pronoun it as fixed part of idiom. The pronoun does not refer to a word or phrase used earlier in a text or conversation as it normally does. (Tom likes ice cream, but Bill can't eat it). The following it phrase are idioms in their own right: snuff it= to die: His son succeeded in making him sign paper giving all his money to him just before the old man snuffed it.

In this research, the researcher take an example, "*I made it rain!*". It translated into "*Kubuat hujan uang!*". Here, "*I made it rain!*" do not mean what they appear to mean.

3. Verbal Phrases

An idiomatic verb phrase may consist of the following:

- a. A lexical verb plus an adverb particle (= a phrasal verb).

When I turn around, I saw Ann behind me.

In this research, the researcher take an example, "*The world's gonna start over*". It translated into "*Dunia akan dimulai kembali*". Here, "*The world's gonna start over!*" do not mean what they appear to mean.

- b. A lexical verb plus a preposition (= a prepositional verb)

Where the preposition goes very closely with the verb and changes the meaning of the verb Marry really takes after (=resembles) her mother; she has the same eyes, nose and hair.

In this research, the researcher take an example, “*You have three seconds to lay down your weapon!*”. It translated into “*Siaga. Ada orang Amerika!*”. Here, “*You have three seconds to lay down your weapon!*” do not mean what they appear to mean, or “*lay down*” cannot be separated.

- c. A lexical verb plus two particles: the first particle is adverbial and the second prepositional (=phrasal – prepositional verb).

She refused to put up with his rudeness any longer (=tolerate or endure).

In this research, the researcher take an example, “*Snap out of it, T'Challa!*”. It translated into “*Bangun., T'Challa!*”. Here, “*Snap out of it, T'Challa!*” do not mean what they appear to mean, or “*Snap out of*” cannot be separated.

4. All literature Comparisons

There are, in English a large of number alliterative idiomatic expressions which compare a quality, condition, action etc. With a noun, for example: (as) dead as a doornail = truly dead: The rat was dead as doornail. These idiomatic phrases have meaning which are not literal and which therefore may be difficult to understand. They emphasize the meaning of the first word and can often be equivalent to a modified adjective, i.e. an adjective modified by the intensifier very, as in (as) easy as pie = very easy.

So, too, expression which start with like tend to suggest that they are idiomatic and, therefore, should not be interfered literally. Someone who like a fish out of water is uncomfortable because of the situations surroundings they are in: Mary felt like a fish aout of water in her school.

In this research, the researcher take an example, “*Makes my arm cannon look like a leaf blower*”. It translated into “*Meriam Tanganku lebih mirip penering rambut.*”. Here, “*look like a leaf blower*” compare a condition.

5. Prepositional phrases

A subtype of idiom phrase is the prepositional phrase consisting of preposition plus its object (or complement): by hook or by crook = by whatever methods prove necessary: I know it look difficult, but I'll finish this work by hook or by crook.

6. Be + Prepositional Phrase

Some idiom consists of the verb BE followed by a prepositional phrase: be at sixes and sevens = be in confusion or in disagreement. I am at sixes and sevens about what to do.

In this research, the researcher take an example, “*Take him. He'll be dead in seconds.*”. It translated into “*Kau bawa dia, Dia langsung mati.*”. Here, “*be dead in seconds*” consist of the verb BE followed by a prepositional phrase.

7. Pairs of words

A good number of idioms consist of pairs of words joined by and or, for example: hue and cry = a noisy expression of public anger or disapproval: There has been a great hue and cry about the council's plans to close the school.

Many of these pairs of words function as particular parts of speech. For example, the noun phrase cats and dogs in It was raining cats and dogs (=it was raining heavily) function as adverb.

In this research, the researcher take an example, “*Or your little Bonnie and Clyde routine ends today*”. It translated into “*Atau pacarmu ini akan mati hari ini!*”. Here, “*Bonnie and Clyde*” consist of words function as particular parts of speech.

8. Sentences

Idiomatic expressions also span sentences of various structural types. They are, in English, several saying which is usually complete sentences. These include both:

- a. The informal sayings

You can't take it with you = one cannot take one's possessions, especially one's money to the grave: He knew he couldn't take it with him, so he spent it all.

In this research, the researcher take an example, “*And I'm gonna put they ass in the dirt*”. It translated into “*Dan akan ku-kubur mereka....*”. It cannot be translated into literal meaning, or separated word by word.

- b. The older and more metaphorical proverbs

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush (often shortened to A bird in the hand) = something which one has really got it is better than a lot of nice thing which one has not got.

In this research, the researcher take examples, “*I've seen too many in need just to turn a blind eye*” and “*I can kill two birds with one stone*”. It cannot be translated into literal meaning, or separated word by word.

B. Translating Idioms

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In translating idioms, the translator requires a special treatment to translate the idioms, it can be solved using translation strategies. In translating idiomatic expression, Nida and Taber [8] divided it into three strategies, namely:

- 1) Idiom to Non-idiom

Frequently idioms are shifted to non-idiom in the process of transfer. For example, *to gird up the loins of the mind* may be transferred as *to get ready in one's thinking*, and an idiom such as *help coals of fire on his head* becomes *make him ashamed*.

2) Idiom to Idiom

In certain instances, it is possible to match one idiom by another. For example, in Shipibo, *to have a hard heart* (a phrase which if translated literally would mean *to be brave*), is transferred into an idiomatic equivalent, *his ears have no hole*. In one African language, the epitome of human wisdom is not *flesh and blood*, (in the phrase *flesh and blood have not revealed it unto you*), but *an old man with a single hair*. In certain cases, some translators have felt that it is essential to indicate in the margin the exact form of the Biblical idiom. This is entirely all right, but in most instances, it is not necessary.

3) Non-idiom to Idiom

Whereas one inevitably loses many idioms in the process of translation, one also stands to gain several idioms. For instance, *faith* may be rendered –as in Tzeltal- as *to hang on to God with the heart*, and *peace* as in number of African languages is *to sit down in the heart*. Such idiomatic renderings do much to make the translation come alive, for it is by means of such distinctive expressions that the message can speak meaningfully to people in terms of their own lives and behavior.

III. METHODOLOGY

In this research, the researcher used qualitative method to analyze this research. The researcher chose qualitative research to find forms of idioms in Black Panther subtitle.

A. Data and Subject

The sources of the data used in this research were all of the conversations and words taken from English script of movie which titled “Black Panther” produced by Marvel Studios and distributed by Walt Disney Pictures on February 2018, both in two versions, English version and Indonesian version as the subject of the study. The data were all of idioms found on this movie.

B. Units

In this research, the researcher discussed about an idiom found in this movie script of Black Panther by Marvel Studios. Then the researcher analyzed the idioms found.

C. Technique of Data Collection and Anaysis

Thus, after collecting the data from source of data, researcher analyzed the data. The steps that the researcher took in analyzing the data were as follows: Some Common Mistakes

- Reading and watching The researcher read English script while watching the movie that used in this research and analyzed all conversations to found idioms that were used by actors.
- Transcribing The researcher transcribed all of idioms found in movies’ English script into a column to be analyze. It helped the researcher to analyze form idioms on the movie.
- Classifying Data The reseacher classified the idiom based on form of idiom that were used on Black Panther subtitle.

- Analyzing Data The researcher analyzed the form of idiom found on Black Panther subtitle.
- Drawing Conclusion The researcher drew the conclusion and sugestion based on finding which have been analyzed and discussed on this research.

IV. RESULT

This chapter presents the data analysis of idioms’ forms which were found on Black Panther subtitle. The researcher analyzed the data to find out what were forms of idioms shown on movie sript entitled Black Panther subtitle. Tables bellow are the finding of the forms of idiom found in the subtitle “Black Panther” movie:

TABLE I. TYPES OF IDIOMS

No.	Types of the idiom	Number of the idiom	Percentage
1	Noun Phrase	37	15,2%
1.a	Article + adjective + noun	1	0,4%
1.b	Article + present participle + noun		
1.c	Article + past participle + noun		
1.d	Article + noun + prepositional phrase		
2	Transitive Verb Phrase	6	2,4%
3	Verbal Phrases		
3.a	A lexical verb plus an adverb particle	113	46,6%
3.b	A lexical verb plus a preposition	36	14,8%
3.c	A lexical verb plus two particles: the first particle is adverbial and the second prepositional	19	7,8%
4	Alliteration Comparisons	11	4,5%
5	Prepositional phrases		
6	Be + Prepositional Phrase	1	0,4%
7	Pairs of words	7	2,8%
8	Sentences		
8.a	The informal sayings	11	4,5%
8.b	The older and more metaphorical proverbs		
Total		242	100%

TABLE II. TABLE OF STRATEGIES OF TRANSLATING THE IDIOM

No	Strategies used	Number of idioms	Percentage
1	Idiom to Non-idiom	223	92,1%
2	Idiom to Idiom	11	4,5%
3	Non-idiom to Idiom	8	3,3%
Total		242	100%

According to the finding, the discussion shows the translation strategies of idioms found.

Table I reveals that there are 242 idioms data found in the movie, it is consisting of 37 Noun Phrase which take 15,2% of the whole data finding, 1 Article + adjective + noun which take 0,4% of the whole data finding, 6 Transitive Verb Phrase which take 2,4% of the whole data finding, 113 A lexical verb plus an adverb particle which take 46,6% of the whole data finding, 36 A lexical verb plus a preposition which take 14,8% of the whole data finding, 19 A lexical

verb plus two particles: the first particle is adverbial and the second prepositional which take 7,8% of the whole data finding, 11 Alliteration Comparisons which take 4,5% of the whole data finding, 1 Be + Prepositional Phrase which take 0,4% of the whole data finding, 7 Pairs of words which take 2,8% of the whole data finding, and 11 The informal sayings words which take 4,5% of the whole data finding. It can be seen that the largest amount of the data finding is A lexical verb plus an adverb particle.

The Table II shows that the amount and percentage of 3 translation strategies applied by the translator in order to translate the idioms. There are translation Idiom to Non-idiom that was applied 223 times (92,1%), translation idiom to idiom was applied 11 times (4,5%), and translation Non-idiom to Idiom was applied 8 times (3,3%). It can be seen that the dominant translation strategy applied by the translator is the translation Idiom to Non-idiom which reaches 92,1% or applied 223 times in order to translate the idioms data found. In the analysis, researcher gives some examples of the idioms found in the translation work of Black Panther movie script and belongs to certain the idioms found.

V. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

From the data, the researcher could conclude that, there were 242 idioms found on Black Panther subtitle. There were eight main form of idiom used in the subtitle of "Black Panther subtitle" movie. There were 38 data formed by noun phrase, 6 data formed by transitive verb, 166 data formed by verbal phrase, 11 data formed by alliterative comparison, no data formed by prepositional phrase, 1 data formed by be+prepositional, 7 data formed by pairs of words, and 11 data formed by sentences. As for the strategy used, the most used is idiom to non-idiom then, idiom to idiom the last less used is non-idiom to idiom. Most of idioms found in "Black Panther's subtitle" were quite easy to recognize as they are an unique phrases or sentences. The applicants of idioms in the conversation made the dialogues more fun and interesting in "Black Panther subtitle" movies. In addition, those idioms support an ancient background of the movies and it touched the viewers of this movies.

From the amount and the percentage of the translation strategy applied by the translator to solve the idioms found cases, it can be concluded that the translation strategy of translation Idiom to Non-idiom is the most dominantly applied translation strategy. This translation strategy is the most common and dominantly applied by the translator to solve the idiom translation in this analysis. The translator applied the translation strategy of translation Idiom to Non-idiom because it advantages both the translator and the reader. The advantage of the translation strategy Idiom to Non-idiom is the intended meaning of the source language (SL) is well transferred so the readers in the target language (TL) are saved from misleading information and it is easier for the translator to paraphrase the idiom than finding the exact equivalent idiom in the the target language (TL). The translation Non-idiom to Idiom is the least translation strategy applied by the translator in this analysis. This translation strategy usually applied because the translator wanted to preserve their writing style in their translation, or it is considered that the idiom will not damage the intended meaning on the the target language (TL) if it is omitted. The

translation strategy using the idiom with similar meaning and form has the same frequency with the translation strategy using the idiom with similar meaning but dissimilar form in this analysis. To transfer an idiom from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL), the translator requires a good knowledge of idiom from both source language (SL) and target language (TL). Since the equivalent idiom in the source language (SL) and target language (TL) cannot be easily matched because of cultural differences, both translation strategy with similar meaning and similar or different form can only be applied in special cases. It can only be applied when there is matched idiom equivalence on the target language (TL) and source language (SL) which has the same or similar intended meaning.

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