
The Analysis of Translation Quality of Indonesian Subtitle in the Forrest Gump Film

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Abstract: Film has beneficial effects for English learners especially audience from other country, therefore it is necessary to have high-quality translation in form of subtitle. This study aimed to find out the translation quality of Indonesia subtitle in the “Forrest Gump” film. The methods to assess this translation quality by applying Juliane House (1997) Translation Quality Assessment (TQA), the model focuses on the analysis between the relationship of the source text and the target text in order to identify mismatches, overtly or covertly erroneous errors and categorize the film into overt or covert translation approach. The findings revealed mismatches among Field and Tenor dimension, with the mismatches in Field mainly laid in the cultural reference and idiomatic expression, and in Tenor mainly laid in the style changes in Social Attitude from informal to formal, numerous overtly erroneous errors such as 1 breach of target language system error and 11 denotative meaning errors. The result of the research revealed that the translation quality of the Indonesian subtitle of the “Forrest Gump” film was faithful and fulfill the functional equivalent of its source text. The translator has seized almost every opportunity to enhance the language of the original.

Keywords: Film, Subtitle, Translation Quality

INTRODUCTION

Films have a significant presence in our today’s society. The dialogues in the film are combined with visual pictures, sound tracks, and music, and that what makes film have a positive impact on learners’ language performance in terms of speaking and listening. According to Hornby (1995) states film is essentially a narrative or storyline captured a sequence of moving pictures, creating a visual and auditory experience for the audience intended for presentation on television screens or in cinema settings

In present day, practically everyone is familiar with films. Famous and biggest home productions film are produced by Hollywood such as Walt Disney, Fox, Warner Bros, Paramount, and Pixar. We know that most popular film come from the west and it used English as source language, because English is an essential language that everyone should know and acquire because it is the most widely spoken and utilized language for worldwide communication (Hidayat, Baharuddin, & Isnaini, 2021), and translated into each of audiences’ target language. As a result, a language transfer

known as "translation" is required so that the audience can completely enjoy and understand the film in each targeted language.

Catford provides a succinct definition of translation, stating it as “the replacement of textual material in one language (source language,) by equivalent textual material in another language (target language)” (Catford, 1965). The translation equivalent is the closest meaning of text from SL to TL which is written by translator (Hadi, Wluyo, Baharuddin, 2021). The translator must integrate and combine the source utterances or material to produce an accurate replacement. The role of translation is very important because not only they need to convey the message but also has to render every element of culture of the source language into the target language to ensure it does not change any content messages which will be later conveyed to the audiences’ target language.

In films, the translator or subtitle maker must translate English in the source language into the target language, a process known as subtitling. Subtitling is a form of audiovisual translation that incorporates a mode change from spoken to written form, audiovisual translation (AVT) is a thriving specialization, particularly in

movies (Pramestya et al., 2024). In process of translating the material, the translator must be capable to establish whether the quality of translation is good or not for the audience. However, in translation practice, it's a common occurrence that audiences encounter the translation works which are different from its original. These translations appear to convey meanings that differ from the source text, which causes confusion among the audience.

Translation quality assessment is a relatively understudied area of translation studies. According to Schaffner (1998) translation quality assessment includes the process of comparing the source text to the translation text to see whether the translation text is an accurate, precise, faithful, and true reproduction of the source text. For Translation Quality Assessment (TQA) techniques, translation quality is a major concern. The major difficulty is determining how to quantify and convey this quality. Juliane House, a German scholar, has developed one of the promising models to assess this problem in 1997 in her revised model.

Based on the explanation above, translation quality is important because it determines the quality of a conveyed source language meaning to the target language in order for the audience to understand the whole story of the film, and to determine the translation quality, the Translation Quality Assessment (TQA) is needed. Therefore, the researcher intrigued to conduct research entitled "The Analysis of Translation Quality of Indonesian Subtitle in the Forrest Gump Film."

METHODS

This research will use descriptive qualitative method to identify the translation quality of Indonesian subtitle in Forrest Gump film. The data will be obtained from the film, script, and subtitle of the movie entitled Forrest Gump in Netflix with Indonesian subtitle. Forrest

Gump is an American epic historical drama film with a touch of comedy, directed by Robert Zemeckis and written by Eric Roth. The data will be analyzed using Juliane House Translation Quality Assessment (1997). The steps for collecting data are as follows: Download the film from Netflix website and the source text scripts from online sources. Watch Forrest Gump and take notes on possible translation errors or mismatches. Collect the register to identify the source text and target text profiles in separate tables. Verify the text profiles with potential translation errors or mismatches before comparing and assessing to identify overt and covert errors. In data analysis using Translation Quality Assessment by House (1997), identify source text and target text profiles and create statements of functions, then compare the profiles. Collect mismatches and errors, which are overt and covert, and analyze their effects on the functions. Categorize the translation results into overt or covert translation. Present a statement of quality description based on the translation results. Draw conclusions and suggestions regarding the translation quality of Indonesian subtitles in Forrest Gump

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section contains the research findings which consist analysis of the source text profile, analysis of the target text profile, comparison of the source text and target text profile, overt and covert erroneous errors. The discussion discusses the comparison of the source text and target text mismatches, analysis of overt and covert erroneous errors.

Findings

In assessing the translation quality of the Indonesian subtitle of the Forrest Gump film in Netflix official website, the researcher obtains the source text and target text profile of the film with numerous findings of mismatches and errors.

Table 1. Source Text Profile

Register	Field	Subject matter	Personal growth and history film
		Social action	General and popular
Tenor		Author's provenance and stance	Director and screenwriter
		Social role relationship	Symmetrical
		Social attitude	Informal
Mode		Medium	Complex
		Participation	Complex
Genre	Historical drama film		
Function	Interpersonal-Ideational		

a. Field

The subject matter of the source text is personal growth and history film as the story follow Forrest Gump's life through the America history. Director addresses the main themes around the main character growth and history with some spices of comedy and drama. The social action of the text is general and popular.

b. Tenor

Author's provenance and stance of the Forrest Gump is a 1994 film by director Robert Zemeckis and screenwriter Eric Roth, an adaptation of a 1986 novel by Winston Grove. The film geographically and socially marked in South American, portrays significant history and cultural events. The addresser of the movie "Forrest Gump" perceives American history and human nature from a nostalgic, innocence and optimistic point of view. The script has projected innocence, resilience, and unpredictability of life. **The social role relationship** between addresser and addressee is symmetrical with the dialogue used simple and general word that can be directly understood by the audience. **The social attitude** of the film story addresses on social issues and historical events, with the narrative, character interactions, humor, and universal themes leaning to a more informal style.

c. Mode

The source text is written to be spoke by the characters and to be heard by audience, as it can be seen from the script of the Forrest Gump live story. Therefore, the medium of the source text is complex. According to House's definition, the participation of the source text is complex because of the mixture of monologue and dialogue addresses to various participation.

d. Genre

Forrest Gump is a film with multiple genres. In general, it acts as a historical drama film, since the narration of Forrest's life is incorporated into events in American history. It portrays America from the 1950s to the 1980s. The film allows the audience to witness the journey of America, with drama for every character, and especially for Forrest.

e. Function of the text

The function of the film is interpersonal and ideational, as the film seeks to create a strong emotional bond with the audience through its heartfelt storytelling not only from the perspective of its main character but also other characters experience. The film also invited the audience to witness a portrayal of American history from the 1950s to 1980s through Forrest's life with historical and cultural events. The film also addresses social issues, such as the treatment of people with color, the effects of war, and commentary on societal norms.

Table 1. Target Text Profile

Register	Field	Subject matter	Personal growth and history film
		Social action	General and popular
Tenor		Author's provenance and stance	Translator and subtitle maker
		Social role relationship	Symmetrical
		Social attitude	Formal
Mode		Medium	Complex
		Participation	Complex
Genre	Historical drama film		
Function	Interpersonal – Ideational		

a. Field

Similar to the source text, the social action is general and popular which is obvious because film is one of the most general and popular pieces of modern art, with the film main theme personal growth and history by telling the life story of its main character Forrest Gump and American history through Forrest's perspective from 1950s to 1980s with the spice of comedy along with drama and tragedy.

b. Tenor

Author's provenance and stance, the target text addresser is the translator and subtitle maker from Netflix website, the film target text still maintains the geographically and socially marked in South American. The target text seeks to match and reproduce the source text emotional stance. The translators use their knowledge of the local culture to transfer the intended meaning from the source text to the target text. **Social role relationship**, the translator aims to deliver the message that lies in the source text to the audiences in the target text in the simplest, faithful as possible that can be easily understood. The dialogue mostly used words that can be easily understood and known by the audience. It can be concluded that the social role relationship is indeed symmetrical. **Social attitude**, the source text is leaning to a more informal tone because the film contains comedy theme with humorous tone, but the target text can be leaning

into more formal tone with some of the dialogue lost its tone, humors, the slur and strong word as well as some idiom.

c. Mode

The medium of the target text is the same as the source text which is written to be spoken by the characters and to be heard by audience the same as the source text. Therefore, the researcher concludes that the medium is complex. The participation for the target text is complex.

d. Genre

The genre for target text is the same as the source text, which is a historical-drama film. The film mainly deals with Forrest Gump personal journey through his life from childhood to adulthood against ongoing significant events in American history.

e. Function of the text

The target text function includes ideational and interpersonal function, as the dialogue, monologue, scene, and storyline exactly the same as source text. The interpersonal function seeks to create emotional bond with the audience through the characters and the ideational function seeks to create a world that portray American history. After the data of source text and target text profile, and statement of function are made, they are compared to see if there are mismatches, any mismatches will be analysis further in the discussion. The comparison between source text and target text profiles can be seen below:

Table 2. Comparison of The Source Text and Target Text Profile

Source Text Profile		Target Text Profile	
Field	Subject matter: Personal growth and history film	Field	Subject matter: Personal growth and history film
	Social action: General and popular		Social action: General and popular
Tenor	Author' provenance and stance: Director and screenwriter	Tenor	Author' provenance and stance: Translator and subtitle maker
	Social role relationship: Symmetrical		Social role relationship: Symmetrical
	Social attitude: Informal		Social attitude: Formal
Mode	Medium: Complex	Mode	Medium: Complex
	Participation: Complex		Participation: Complex

After the comparison between the source text and target text has been made, the next step of collecting the mismatches and errors. After analyze the source text and target text, the

researcher found out that there are mismatches and overt errors regarding in cases of breach of target language system and denotative meaning. The list of overt erroneous errors listed below:

Table 3. Overt and Covert Erroneous Errors

Level of Error	Time	Source Text Example	Target Text Example	Total Items
Breaches of Target Langue System	2:13:06	“Where Daddy went?”	“Tempat tujuan Ayah”	1
Denotative Meaning	2:11:57	“I told you not to bother this nice young man”	“Sudah kubilang’ jangan ganggu pria”	11

Discussion

The comparison between the source text and the target text is based on House's Translation Quality Assessment model, equivalent play important role in translation. Equivalence is the similarity in conveying the message or content of a text between the source text and the target text (Baharuddin, 2021). After the researcher analyze both source text and target text, mismatches have been found in the dimensions of Field and Tenor and some errors.

a. Field

After analyzing the source text and the target text, lexical and syntactic mismatches have been identified. In translating "Forrest Gump" into Indonesian, several mismatches in the Field dimension emerge, impacting the conveyance of cultural references, socio-cultural concepts, and idiomatic expressions.

The example for cultural reference in Forrest Gump film can be seen from the phrase “You must be my F.N.G.'s.” translated to “Kalian pasti orang baruku.” The slang “F.N.G.s” stands for F New Guy, this term is a military slang term used in America as a way to called a new recruit, while the translation is correct but there is more accurate word for the target text to use to translate the cultural references so the audience understand fully what the character (Lieutenant Dan) implies. Another cultural reference in the phrase

“It was like just before the sun goes to bed down on the bayou...” translated to “Seperti saat matahari mau terbenam di rawa.” The word “bayou” refers to a very slow-moving river, marshy lake, or creek. However, the translation text conveyed it to “rawa” which mean “swamp” and these two are different, one is a slow-moving stream and the other is just a still water, it may look right but it is not an adequate translation.

The idiomatic expression mismatches can be found in the phrase “But I can run like the wind blows” translated to “Tetapi aku bisa lari seperti ditiup angin.” The target text failed to capture the idiomatic expression of the original. The idiomatic “run like the wind blows” means “lari secepat angin” which the target text failed to capture the meaning of the idiomatic that may derive the audiences' understanding of the intended meaning.

After analyzing lexical mismatches in the Field dimension, the target text highlights mismatches where the subject matter and content diverge between the English source text and the Indonesian target text. These mismatches impact the audience's understanding of cultural references, socio-cultural concepts, geographical contexts, and idiomatic expressions.

And for syntactic mismatches, there are several mismatches emerge that may slightly impact the Field dimension mainly on the absent

of pronouns and adjective, which pertains to the subject matter and content. House's model emphasizes the importance of maintaining the functional equivalence between source text and target text.

For example, in the sentence "All right, Forrest, you can open your eyes now," the target text translates this as "Baiklah, Forrest, silahkan buka mata," the target text didn't translate the possessive pronoun "your." that apply to Forrest. The intended meaning still clear but this minor loss of information could spark some confusion on younger audience. Another example is the sentence "I told you not to bother this nice young man," which is translated as "Sudah kubilang jangan ganggu pria ini." in the target text, the adjectives "nice" and "young" have been omitted that leads to a loss of descriptive detail and reduces specificity of the character that being talked about (Young Elvis Presley). Another example in the sentence "I'm going to bed" translated to "Aku tidur." the source text indicates a future intention by Forrest to Jenny (going to bed), while the target text suggests the action is currently happening (sleeping), this a mismatch because the target text literally failed to convey what the source text are meant to say.

b. Tenor

In Tenor, the lexical mismatches have been identified. In translating "Forrest Gump" into Indonesian, several mismatches in the Tenor dimension emerge from omission and choice of word in the target text that impacting the overall informality of the film. When it comes to Tenor, there are several mismatches found alongside the dimensions of social attitude which caused the loss of informal style from the source text in some translation that reduces the informal style from the film.

The dialogue "There are goddamned snipers all around this area who would love to grease an officer" translated to "Ada banyak penembak jitu di sini yang ingin memperlakukan tentara" The source text contains informal and strong language, with "goddamned" adding an intense, casual, and vulgar tone. The phrase "grease an officer" is also informal, implying violence in a casual way. In contrast, the target text, "Ada banyak penembak jitu di sini yang

ingin memperlakukan tentara," is more formal and lacks the intensity and informality of the original. Another dialogue "Boy, I've heard some whoppers in my time, but that tops them all" translated to "Aku sudah pernah dengar banyak kisah dalam hidupku, tetapi ini paling menarik" the style shifted from informal in the source text to more formal in the target text. The word "Boy" and "whoppers" in the source text are very casual, conversational expressions. "Whoppers" refers to big, exaggerated stories or lies, adding an informal and humorous tone. In the target text, "banyak kisah" (many stories) and "ini paling menarik" (this is the most interesting) are more neutral and don't fully capture the informal style of the source text. Another example, in the sentences "Shoot, it even rained at night." translated to "Bahkan hujan turun pada malam hari." the target text lost the informal and conversational style due to the omission of the exclamation "Shoot," which here indicate that the main character was baffled because it kept raining in Vietnam. This was not translated in target text and could add word like "wah" to keep it equivalent with the source text.

Examining social attitude mismatches in the Tenor dimension of "Forrest Gump" film, the target text revealed few mismatches of the informal approach of the film diverge between the source text and target text. These mismatches can impact the understanding of the overall style of the film. The comparison between the source text and the target text is based on House's Translation Quality Assessment model. After the researcher analyze both source text and target text, overtly erroneous errors have been found. According to House (1997) that overtly erroneous errors were caused either by an error between the denotative meanings of source and translation text, or by a breach of the target language system.

a. Breach of Target Language System

A breach of the target language system is subdivided into cases of ungrammaticality, which is a clear breach of the language system, and cases of dubious acceptability, which is a breach of the norm of usage. One unacceptable error of this case can be seen below:

Table 5. Breach of Target Language System

Time	Source Text	Target Text
2:13:06	Forrest: "Where Daddy went?"	Forrest: "Tempat tujuan Ayah"

The source text dialogue “Where Daddy went?” is clearly a question, but the target text translated to “Tempat tujuan Ayah,” which is a statement. The translation changed from an inquiry about location to a statement about destination. This violated the grammatical and syntactical norms of the target text because the original interrogative is lost, and the translation

failed to convey the communicative purpose and function of the source text.

b. Denotative Meaning

The denotative meaning subdivided into omission, addition, and substitutions which either wrong selections or combinations of elements. There have been found cases of omission which is cases of loss element in the target text and cases of substitutions. These errors can be seen below.

Table 6. Omission

Time	Source Text	Target Text
2:04:25	Jenny’s Father: “Jenny, where'd you run to? You'd better come back here, girl!”	Ayah Jenny: “Jenny, kau kabur ke mana? Kembali ke sini!”

The source text phrase "You'd better," adds an element of urgency or warning. The target text lacks this urgency by not translated it. This omission diminishes the intended urgency and

tone of the message. This change in tone may affect how the target audience perceives the speaker’s attitude.

Table 7. Substitutions

Time	Source Text	Target Text
1:19:16	Isabel: “Hilary, all right, I've got the vets”	Isabel: “Hilary, ini para dokter hewannya”
14:43	Earl: “Coons are tryin' to get into school”	Earl: “Hewan berusaha masuk ke sekolah ini”
1:36:40	“Fire in the hole!”	“Ledakan di lubang!”

In the first example, the source text, "vets" refers to "veterans," definitely implying that the speaker has gathered or has access to military veterans. However, the translation "dokter hewannya" translates to "veterinarians," which changes the intended meaning entirely. In the second example, the word “coons” in the source text which carried racial implication failed to be convey in the target text. The target text mistranslates the original meaning of ‘coons’ to ‘hewan’, failed to retain specificity and racial implications of the cultural and social concept of the source text. The third example, the target text “ledakan di lubang” primarily conveys a denotative meaning because it presents a literal translation of the idiomatic expression that fails to capture the original idiomatic expression's intended warning and urgency.

translation. This study attempts to provide insight into the theoretical and practical features or aspects of the model through analyzing the Forrest Gump (1994) film by Robert Zemeckis. The source text register and genre were analyzed, and then the target text was treated in the same manner. After that, the translation was analyzed with the purpose of finding any mismatches or errors by comparing the source text and target text. From the mismatches, the researcher concluded whether the film is overt or covert in nature. According to House (1997: 75), non-culture specific texts, anonymously produced, with the general function of entertaining and educating the audience, would suggest a covert translation. Even though the Forrest Gump film is a historical drama, the main purpose of the film is to tell the story of the main character, Forrest, in his journey through American history; thus, the researcher concludes that Forrest Gump is a covert translation.

Finally, to answer the research question of this study, after analyzing both the source text and the Indonesian subtitle or target text, the researcher concludes that the translation quality of the Indonesian subtitle of the Forrest Gump film was faithful and fulfilled the functional equivalent of its source text. The translator has seized almost every opportunity to enhance the language of the original, but mismatches have obviously been found in the Field and Tenor, with a few overt erroneous errors that may affect how audiences understand certain words in the story. The audience of the target translation should be provided with a more accurate adaptation to the

CONCLUSION

The main concept in Julian House’s Translation Quality Assessment (TQA) is the relationship between the original text and its

film's original voice so they can fully understand the story and style of the film, but the overall translation of the Indonesian subtitle was faithful. For further research, the suggestion would be to include audience reception. To find out the impact of translation errors on difference audiences by collecting audience's reception survey. Including feedback from other Indonesian viewer would provide insights into how these errors influence each of their own understanding and enjoyment of the film. The researcher could ask participants questions about the clarity, cultural understanding, and naturalness of the subtitles.

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