

## Research Article

Received: 20/02/2022; Accepted: 28/02/2022; Published: 16/05/2022

# An Analysis of Translation Shift in Novel Shine by Jessica Jung and Its Translation

Nita Wardatul Latifah<sup>a</sup>, Baharuddin<sup>b\*</sup>, Udin<sup>c</sup>

<sup>abc</sup>*English Education Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education  
University of Mataram, Indonesia*

*bahar@unram.ac.id*

## Abstract

The purpose of this study is to analyze the translation shift and translation quality of novel shine. The objectives of this research are to (1) classify and describe types of level shifts in novel Shine, and (2) determine which type of level shift has the highest level of translation quality. The instrument used in this study is an indicator of translation quality which consists of indicators of accuracy, acceptability, and readability. This research employs both quantitative and qualitative methods. The data are collected through documentation and analyzed using comparative techniques. The researcher revealed that there are 18 cases of level shift found in novel Shine, with 11 cases of case shift and 7 cases of aspect shift. Based on the result of the calculation, it was found that case shift received 99% score of translation quality consisting 31 (100%) scores of accuracy, 30 (97%) scores of acceptability, and 31 (100%) scores of readability. Meanwhile, aspect shift received 97% scores of translation quality, consisting 19 (90%) scores of accuracy, 21 (100%) scores of acceptability, and 21 (100%) scores of readability. From the result of the calculation above it can be concluded that case shift received the highest score of translation quality.

**Keywords:** level shift, translation quality, novel

---

## 1. Introduction

Translation is a process of replacing the meaning or message between two or more different languages. Translation has an important role in the maintenance of global relationships among citizens from various countries because translation allows everyone to connect with foreigners who speak different languages. Additionally, translation also has big influence in literature. In Indonesia, there are many literary works such as novels, have been translated. The amount is even more than the original literary work from Indonesia. But ironically, the great number of translated novel in Indonesia is not accompanied by good translation quality. The translated novel is still difficult to understand because the language that the translator used to convey the meaning is not

suitable for some readers. Thus, this makes the readers need to read the original text to understand what the text means. Without underestimating the quality of translators, translation actually should be understood as not neutral. Some tend to maintain the source text either in form and content [1].

Translating literary work is different from translating non-literary works. Translating literary works is not just about transferring message in the source language to the most equivalent one, but it is more like translating the ideas of the author so that the original message and the purpose can be get by the reader [2]. A translator must have linguistic knowledge and understand the culture of the source language and the target language. As states by Suryawinata in Hartono in translating literary work, translator must have skills in the fields of language, literature and aesthetics, and social culture [3]. Newmark said novels are one of the literary works that very difficult to translate after poetry [3]. The reason novel is claimed as very difficult to translate because novel contains literary device such as figurative language and idioms that are difficult to translate. Additionally, Newmark also state novels contain idiomatic expressions that are not possessed by the literal translation [3]. Thus, it can be said that translating literary work, especially novel is more complicated than translating other literary works. Therefore, a translator was expected to have the high literally sensibility to explore the depth of language conveyed by the author in order to find the most equivalent expression that in accordance with social cultural context in target language that can convey the meaning of those idiomatic expression correctly.

Based on the problem of translating novel stated above, it can be said that a translator has big responsibility in creating high quality translation product. Therefore, a novel translator must apply appropriate translation methods or techniques in the translation process, so that the translator can produce a high-quality translation product. The method that can be used is translation shift. Translation shift is a translation theory by Catford. In a book of *A Linguistic Theory of Translation*, Catford defined translation shift as the departure of formal correspondence in the process of going from SL to TL [4]. Formal correspondence means any grammatical class in source language that can fulfill the same position in the grammatical class in target language. Moreover, Catford divides translation shift into two types; category shift and level shift. In this study the researcher interest in analyzed the translation shift especially level shift in translated novel entitled *Shine*. Besides, the researcher also analyzed the translation quality of the novel using three indicators of translation quality assessment including accuracy, acceptability, and readability [5] in order to prove whether the level shift plays a role in producing the high quality of literary translation. This study aims to (1) find the type of translation shift, especially level shift in novel *shine* (2) analyze which type of level shift has the highest level of translation quality.

## **2. Methods**

This study used qualitative and quantitative methods. The qualitative method used to identify and describe type of level shift. Meanwhile, the quantitative method used to

calculate the percentage of the translation quality. The object of the research is translated novel entitled Shine. The researcher used both English and Indonesian versions of the novel, including all the chapters from 1 until 27. Moreover, the instrument of this research is indicators of translation quality consist of indicators of accuracy, acceptability, and readability. The researcher used the indicators as a reference in determine the level of translation quality of the collected data, whether it is classified as low, medium, or high quality. Here below are the instruments to assess the translation quality:

**Table 1** Instrument of Accuracy Assessment

Scale	Indicator	Conclusion
3	The meaning of clause, pharses, and sentences in source language should be transferred accurately into the target language without any distortion in meaning.	Accurate
2	Most sentences, as well as the word and phrases in source language are rendered accurately into the target language. However, distortion may be tollerated as long as the integrity of the source message is maintained.	Less accurate
1	The meaning of clause, pharses, and sentences in source language should be transferred inaccurately into the target language or some massages are removed.	Inaccurate

**Table 2** Instrument of Acceptability Assessment

Scale	Acceptability indicators	Conclusion
3	The translation feels natural; the term used is common and normal to the readership as sentences used are in appropriate to the language rules of Indonesian.	Acceptable
2	The translation commonly feels natural, however there still are few problems related with the term used; there was a slight problem grammatical error.	Less acceptable
1	Translation is unnatural or the traslation feels like a translation work and the term used is not common and unfamiliar to readership as sentences used are not appropriate with the langauge rules of Indonesian.	Unacceptable

**Table 3** Instrument of Readability Assessment

Scale	Readability indicators	Conclusion
3	Words, phrases, clauses and translation sentences can be comprehended easily by most reader.	Readable
2	The translation can generally be understood. However there are parts that should be read repeatedly to better understand the work of translation.	Less readable

1	Translation is not easy to understand since the the readers should read the source to better get the impression.	Unreadable
---	--	------------

The data was collected through several steps. The first step is reading close to both versions of English and Indonesian of the novel. Then, finding and marking the words, phrases, clauses, and sentences that occurs level shift. The last step is re-typing all the marked words, phrases, clauses, and sentences into table including their chapter and page.

The collected data is analyzed through several steps. First, re-check all the collected data to find out which part of the data that undergo level shifting. Next, identify and classify the data to the type of level shift that they are belonging. Then, the researcher analyzed the translation quality of the data by analyzing its accuracy, acceptability, and readability. After that, the researcher calculating the total scale obtained in each indicators of translation quality. Here below are the formulas to calculate the level of translation quality:

- Formula to calculate the percentage of translation quality in each indicators  

$$\text{Total score in each indicators} = \frac{\text{Total scale obtained}}{\text{Total case} \times 3} \times 100 \% =$$
- Formula to calculate the level of translation quality  

$$\text{Translation quality} = \frac{\text{Total score in each indicators}}{\text{Maximal scale} (3) \times 100} \times 100 \% =$$

The final step is drawn conclusion according to the result of the calculation to answer the research questions.

### 3. Findings and Discussion

In this study, the researcher found 18 data of level shifting consisting 11 data of case shift and 7 data of aspect shift. The researcher identified and classified the types of level shift using theory of translation shift by Catford. Meanwhile, the translation quality was determined by analyzing the three indicator of translation quality (accuracy, acceptability and readability) according to Nababan's theory. The findings illustrated by the table below.

**Table.4** Translation quality of level shift

Level shift	Total case	Accuracy	Acceptability	Readability	Translation Quality
Shift Case	11	31(100%)	30 (100%)	31 (100%)	99%
Aspect Shift	7	19 (90%)	21 (100%)	21 (100%)	97%

#### 3.1 Kind of Level Shift Found in Novel Shine

### 3.1.1 Case Shift

Case shift is a kind of level shift that occurs when the meaning of some languages translated differently from the literal meaning or translated non literal. The researcher found 11 data that indicates case shift case. The analysis of the data described as follow:

#### 3.1.1.1 Example 1

SL: When he looks at me, his face is open. (C7/P74)

TL: Ketika ia menatapku, ekspresinya terlihat jelas. (C7/P111)

In the sentence, expression “his face is open” categorized as idiomatic expression because the expression is symbolizes something other than its literal meaning. In target language, the expression “his face is open” translated into “ekspresinya terlihat jelas” which is the normal expression in the target language. The translator translates the expression with its real meaning instead of replacing it with another idiomatic expression in the target language. Therefore, it can be concluded that the example 1 contains case shift because the idiomatic expression in source language translated into normal expression in the target language without adding idiomatic expression elements.

#### 3.1.1.2 Example 2

SL: I can hear music pouring through from the other side. (C5/P67)

TL: Aku bisa mendengar music mengalun dari balik tirai. (C5/P102)

In the example above, the researcher would like to underline the phrase “pouring through” which is an idiom in source language but translated into non- idiomatic in the target language become “mengalun”. Basically, the phrase “pouring through” used to describe how a liquid or fluid flows through some place or thing. Meanwhile, in this case, the phrase “pouring through” used to describe the sound of music that is being played. In the source language in this case is Indonesian, the word pouring is replaced into “mengalun” instead of being translated to the literal meaning because in target language, the word “mengalun” is commonly used to describe the sound of music that is being played. From the previous explanation, it could know that there is a process of shifting especially shift case in the example, when the idiomatic expression in the source text is translated non-idiomatic in the target text.

### 3.1.2 Aspect Shift

Aspect shift is the sub category of grammar that indicates the complete or incomplete actions or events. Aspect shift classified into two categories; perfective aspect and imperfective aspect. The result of the analysis shows that there are 7 data of aspect shift in this research consisting 2 cases of shifting the perfective aspect in SL into imperfective aspect in TL and 5 cases of shifting imperfective aspect in SL into perfect aspect in TL. The analysis of the data described as follow:

### 3.1.2.1 Example 1

Shifting perfective aspect in the source language into imperfective aspect in the target language.

SL: It feels like we've stepped into a box of Crayola markers. (C13/P133)

TL: Rasanya seolah-olah kami sedang melangkah masuk ke kotak pensil warna.  
(C13/P198)

The sentence above indicates the shifting process of perfective aspect into imperfect aspect. The sentence in source text illustrates the complete situation when the characters entered the room, it feels like they have stepped into a crayon box. Therefore, in target language, the sentence illustrates the incomplete situation when the characters feel they are stepping into the crayon box. Therefore, it can be known that the example above contains aspect shift because it shifts the perfect form in the source text into imperfect form in the target text.

### 3.1.2.2 Example 2

Shifting imperfect aspect in the source language into perfective aspect in the target language.

SL: I look over Leah, who's sleeping in her seat next to me. (C13/P138)

TL: Aku menoleh kearah Leah yang sudah tertidur. (C13/P206)

The sentence above indicates the shifting process of imperfective aspect into perfective aspect. In the source text, the sentence illustrates the incomplete situation when Leah is sleeping next to her sister and not wakes up yet. Meanwhile, in target language, the sentence translated into the complete action when Leah has fallen asleep next to her sister, it indicates by the use of lexical "sudah" in the target language. Based on the explanation, it can be known there is a shifting process from the imperfect situation in the source text translated into the perfect action in target text. Although the sentence illustrated the different situation, both sentences have the same meaning that Leah is already sleep and not finish her sleep yet.

## 3.2 Kind of Level Shift Obtained the Highest Level of Translation Quality

The translation quality is determined by analyzing the accuracy, acceptability, and readability of the collected data. In each indicator there are scales from 1 to 3 which can be used to determine their level of translation quality, whether it is high, medium, or low. After determining the scale, the researcher then calculated the total score of translation quality. According to table 3 it can be known that shift case obtained the highest level of translation quality with 99% consisting 31 (100%) scores of accuracy, 30 (100%) scores of acceptability, and 31 (100%) scores of readability. Meanwhile aspect shift obtained 97%

level of translation quality consisting 19 (90%) scores of accuracy, 21 (100%) scores of acceptability, and 21 (100%) scores of readability.

#### **4. Conclusion**

After analyzed and described the data, the researcher drew the conclusion of this research. There are two main points of this research that can answer the research question. First, there are two kinds of level shift in novel *Shine* they are case shift and aspect shift. Then, after analyzed and calculating the data, it was found that shift case obtained the highest level of translation quality, with 99% average score of translation quality consisting 31 (100%) total scales of accuracy, 30 (97%) total scales of acceptability, and 31 (100%) total scales of readability. On the other hand, aspect shift obtained 97% average score of translation quality consisting 9 (90%) total scales of accuracy, 21 (100%) total scales of acceptability, and 21 (100%) total scales of readability.

#### **References**

- [1] Baharuddin. (2022). Translation Neutrality Questioned: Politic and Diplomacy A Case of Text of Timor Leste (Dis)integration to Indonesia. *THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL STUDIES*, 31–34
- [2] Nord, C. (1997). *Translating as a Purposeful Activity: Fuctionalist Approaches Explained*. Machester, UK: St. Jerome Publishing .
- [3] Hartono, R. (2011). *Teori Penerjemahan (A Handbook for Translators )*. Semarang: Cipta Prima Nusantara Semarang.
- [4] Newmark, P. (1988). *A Textbook of Translation*. United Kingdom: Prentice Hall International (UK) Ltd.
- [5] Catford, J. (1965). *A Linguistic Theory of Translation*. London: Oxford University Press.