

# TRANSLATION STRATEGY OF ANALYZING THE SONG "MINE" IN ENGLISH AND INDONESIAN VERSION

Nadila Eniya Putri<sup>1</sup>, Raden Arief Nugroho<sup>1</sup>

**Universitas Dian Nuswantoro** 

## Semarang

# (311202002182@mhs.dinus.ac.id)

**Abstract:** This study aims to examine the translation strategy used in the song "Mine". Song lyrics are arranged in rows as the data. A framework created by Kerström (2009) and Chesterman (2016) was used for the analysis of translation strategies. A qualitative descriptive analysis was used to examine the study's data. According to the research findings, there are seven translation strategies that were utilized when the translator decided to analyze the song lyrics line by line.

Keywords: song lyrics, translation strategies, "Mine"

# **RESEARCH BACKGROUND**

Many people and many cultures have valued music for a very long time. Song lyrics are a group of words that include many stanzas and a chorus or choruses from a song. A song's lyrics are an essential component. According to Awe (2003), the text in song lyrics is a monologue, which means there is only one subject of the lyrics (the author) and rarely or even never involves another part to speak. Someone's expression of anything they've seen, heard, or experienced is captured in song lyrics. The songwriter manipulates language and words to communicate someone else's experience in a way that draws the listener's attention and makes the lyrics stand out. In general, writing song lyrics is similar to writing poetry in that the lines don't extend to the page's edge. Each verse of the song has a lyric that is supplemented by musical elements, sometimes word for word. The lyrics are a literary form, and it's conceivable that it's one of the earliest forms of expression known to mankind. The lyric can also be seen as a modification of a poem, especially if the lyrics represent the author's original ideas or feelings. An author's imaginative vision is expressed through a lyric, which is accompanied by musical instruments that give the rhythm of the lyrics.

George (2004) explains that in a song, song lyrics can influence the listener because the lyrics also contain a moral message. Songs can be a description of human emotions or stories that have happened in everyday life. Translating song lyrics is a very complicated thing because it requires translators to make word choices, such as matching the number of notes, rhythm, music, and knowing the length of song phrases. Stephenson (2014) explains that process of translating a song is the most challenging because the task of translators is to translate the



meaning of the original lyrics by paying attention to the rhythm of the music.

Mine is a song from Indonesia composed and sung by Petra Sihombing with Ben Sihombing. This song was released in December 2013 through YouTube HITS Records and watched by more than 3 million viewers, this song was famous at the end of 2013-2014. This song tells the struggle of a man to claim and make the woman of his dreams, who is special from other women, his for all time. In this song, there are two language versions, namely Indonesian and English.

His songs are popular because they are simple to understand and can help listeners experience the same emotions as the vocalist. Some listeners have attempted to get the song lyrics online. Additionally, for searchers for a better understanding of the song's message, there is a second language version available online The translator aids the reader in understanding the singer's message. Because translators need to understand the singer's sentiments regarding the song, translating song lyrics is difficult. so that the public would accept the translation more.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested in analyzing what translation strategies are used in the song 'mine' which has English and Indonesian translations. This study has several examples of the strategies that are used in song translation and describe the processes of song translation.

# **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

In this chapter, the researcher will discuss the theories used in analyzing the data. Besides that, a review of prior research, a review of theoretical research, and a theoretical framework are all presented.

## A. Review of the previous studies

The process of music translation has been examined and analyzed by earlier researchers from a range of perspectives. The first research is Tri Andika (Institut Agama Islam Negeri Salatiga, 2022) entitled "AN ANALYSIS STRATEGIES OF TRANSLATING SONG 'LEAD THE WAY' INTO INDONESIAN VERSION KITA BISA". This study aims to find translation strategies used in the translation of the song "Lead The Way" into Indonesia's version of "We can" which uses the theory of Akerstrom (2009) and Chestermam (2016). The results of this data analysis show that of the ten translation strategies, only eight translation strategies consist of number of words, syllables vs words, word addiction, borrowing, omission, rhyme, metaphor, and paraphraserhyme. Because they may translate lines by adopting or modifying the main idea of the source lines, translators tend to translate the lyrical lines in fewer words. Researchers used a qualitative descriptive method.

The methods utilized to translate English song lyrics into Indonesian were also studied by Hendra (2019). He examined the word-level translation approach using the translation of the song from the animated film "Let it go" into Bahasa Indonesia and calculated how frequently



each translation technique was used. The paradigm put out by Baker (1992) was used to translate different terms at the Word level for data analysis. The text of the original song "Let it go," sung by Idina Menzel in the Walt Disney Company production "Frozen," together with an Indonesian translation, serves as the study's data.

Then "Analyzing translation strategies utilized in the translation of the song 'Do you want to build a snowman?' " from Leni and Pattiwael's journal article. The song "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?" from the Disney film Frozen was translated into the Indonesian song "Yuk Buat Boneka Salju." Leni and Pattiwael integrate Lefevere's notion of translation in works of literature with Åkerström's theory of song translation. Non-strategic (2) and strategic (9) translation strategies are separated by Leni and Pattiwael (2019). (p. 56). Lefevere's theory adds to two tactical translation approaches.

# **B.** Review of Theoretical Study

## Translation

Language is crucial to daily existence. With language, we can express emotions, feelings, and ideas. Languages all around the world serve the same purpose of communicating people's intentions. Meanwhile, the process of converting a text's meaning, concepts, or messages from one language to another is called translation. As we know that all countries in this hemisphere have different languages and cultures from one another. According to Newmark (1988: 5), the most well-known definition of translation is "transferring the meaning of a text into another language according to the intent of the author of the text". From this definition, it can be said that there is a transfer of meaning from the source text to the target text.

There are many conflicts in translations, such as the figurative and the literal, emphasis and naturalness, netness and comprehensiveness, sound and sense. According to Bell (1991), the goal of translation theory is to gain knowledge of the processes involved in translating, not to offer a set of standards for producing the ideal translation, as is so frequently believed. As a result, the goal of translation is to facilitate and bridge linguistic gaps. In many different industries, including medicine, law, education, and entertainment, translation work is necessary. Song translation is one type of translation.

## **Translation Strategies**

Åkerström (2009) suggests ten translation strategies, which are further separated into two categories.

Non-strategies translation strategies there are:



1. Word count: the process of comparing the amount of words in the source line and the target line of a song's lyrics (Åkerström, 2009).

2. Syllables vs Words: the process of compares the amount of syllables and words in the source lines and target lines of the song (Åkerström, 2009).

Strategic translation strategies there are:

1. Word for word translation: The word order of the original language is maintained, and each word is translated separately according to its most usual meaning taken out of context.

2. Literal Translation: While the grammatical structures are translated into their closest target language equivalents, the lexical words are translated singly and out of context.

3. Use of Paraphrases: When a translator chooses to preserve and transmit the source line's primary idea to the target line's closest interpretation, they are using the paraphrase strategy (Åkerström, 2009). The following presentation and discussion of a particular example serves to explain how a line translated using the paraphrase technique should be analyzed. The Target text is produced using the paraphrase approach in a free, loose, and, in certain situations, less translated version (Chesterman, 2016)

4. Use of Rhymes: Lefevere (1975) defined rhyme as the repetition of the same last sound from one line to the next inside a stanza.

5. Interpretation Strategy: The translator may replace the message in the source line with an alternative message that could be delivered in the target line depending on the context of the source line (Lefevere, 1975).

6. Omission of Words: If it is a rephrasing, which involves eliminating a line from the source text, or not, an omitted (Åkerström, 2009).

7. Addition of words: The target lyrics line contains additional information provided by the translator that is absent from the source line (Åkerström, 2009).

8. Metaphor: According to Kerström, any expression that takes the form of a picture is a metaphor (2009). The researcher discovered that the translator used a metaphor in the text in the example below to create the target text.



9. Borrowing: When there isn't an equivalent when the source content is rewritten in the target text. Using the approach of borrowing, one can take a phrase or term straight from another language. According to Chesterman (2016), this strategy involves both syntagma lending and borrowing specific items. The borrowing approach is used to translate the line analysis in the example that follows.

# **RESEARCH METHOD**

The qualitative method was chosen for this study, which began with the collection of all the data via documentation. Bogdan and Biklen (2007) argue that qualitative research is descriptive, meaning that the information gained is expressed in words as opposed to figures. It is suitable for this research since the data were carefully arranged to give a comprehensive and clear analysis of the outcomes.

The song "Mine," which was written and performed by Petra Sihombing, contains the data used in this study. Researchers use Åkerström's (2009) and Chesterman's (2016) theories to find translation strategies when translating music lyrics.

# **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

This study uses the theory of J. Åkerström's and Chesterman's. The following data were found by researchers during the analysis:

1. Word Count

No	Text	Word	Number
1	Source Text	Mine	224 Words
2	Target Text	Mine	145 Words

From the example demonstrates that the source text has more words than the target text. The translator retains the main message of the source line even though it uses shorter words in the target line.

2. Syllabels vs Words Analysis

Line Source Line

Target Line



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	Syllables	Words	Syllables	Words
1	15	12	6	2
2	11	9	7	3
3	9	7	8	3
4	8	6	9	3
5	13	10	13	5
6	7	7	7	7
7	9	8	9	8
8	6	4	6	4
9	9	7	9	5
10	14	7	14	5
11	3	3	3	1
12	6	6	6	2
13	9	7	8	3



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14	10	8	12	6
15	7	7	7	3
16	9	8	9	8
17	6	4	6	4
18	9	7	9	5
19	14	10	14	5
20	3	3	3	1
21	7	7	7	7
22	7	7	7	7
23	9	8	9	8
24	6	4	6	4
25	9	7	9	5
26	14	10	14	5
27	3	3	3	1



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28	9	8	9	5
29	6	4	14	5
30	9	7	3	1
31	14	10	3	3
32	3	3	9	5
33	3	3	14	5
34	3	3	3	1
Total	279 syllables	224 words	272 syllables	145 words

Based on the table above, indicates that there are a few less syllables in the target lines than in the source lines. On the other hand, the target lines have a substantially smaller word count. The following one particular example is shown and discussed to show the comparison of syllables and words:

	TL: Dan kita kan slalu bersama (5 words)
And/we'll/be/to-ge- ther/till/we/die (9 syllables)	Dan/ki-ta/kan/sla-lu/ber- sa-ma (9 syllables)

Target line 9 seems to have shorter words than the source line. The words utilized in the target line have a comparable number of syllables to those in the source line, the target line's smaller word count has no impact on the number of syllables. The number of syllables instead of the word count can therefore be assumed to have been maintained by the translation. The practice of keeping the syllable count may be connected to the translator's choice to modify the lyric to the musical arrangement so that it has the same beat.

# 3. Use of Rhymes



Line 3	Ketika kau disampingku
Line 4	Berdebar rasa dihatiku
Line 5	Diriku tersipu malu karna dirimu

On target line 3,4,5 there is the use of rhyme in the translator's strategy because that line it shows that there is a triplet rhyme where the target lines were presented u-u-u. The word 'disampingku', 'dihatiku', dan 'dirimu' all appear in the target lines, indicating the recurrence of the Indonesian vowel 'u'. It can be assumed that the translator paid attention to the target lines' sound patterns because the target lines have comparable sound endings.

4. Interpretation Strategy

Line 4 SL: My blood rushes through my veins TL: Berdebar rasa dihatiku

Line 4 Source shows that a person's blood is rushing in their veins, while in the target line it translates to 'berdebar rasa dihatiku' which means that someone meets someone they like makes someone feel nervous when dealing with someone they like.

#### 5. Addition of Words

Line 5 SL: And my geeky face, blushed so silly Line 5 TL: Diriku tersipu malu karna dirimu

Line 5 demonstrates that the source line's intent is to convey the meaning of a wrinkled face without identifying the intended subject. The translator then has more information when translating to the target line, specifically to express someone blushing in front of someone, but does not specify who is given the additional information or where.

6. Metaphor in Text

Line 5 SL: And my geeky face, blushed so silly Line 5 TL: Diriku tersipu malu karna dirimu

The example above shows that there is a metaphor from source text. 'my geeky face' represents myself in the song.

#### 7. Borrowing

Line 7: Oh baby I'll take you to the sky Line 8: Forever you and I, you and I

Based on the song, the songwriter still maintains English in the target text of the song lyrics.



# CONCLUSION

From the data that has been found by researchers, there are seven translation strategies used by translators. The translator typically uses fewer words to translate the lyrical lines because he or she may adopt or modify the main meaning of the source lines. There are exactly the same number of syllables in the source and target lines. In translating a song, the translator will use words with the number of words or like words that are the same or comparable to the source line. With the similarity of the number of words or syllables from the source line to the target line, forms a singable song. Keeping the same or similar amount of words or syllables is not the only requirement., the translator also maintains the rhythm of a song as much as possible.

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