

Theory and Practice of Translation

Lecture 12:

Translation of Literary Work and Idioms

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After learning this chapter, the students will be able to:

Identify the use of literary work in a sentence and able to translate them.

Translate idiomatic construction.



A. Translation of Literary Work

B. Translation of Idioms

**C. Strategies in Translating
Idioms**



A. Translation of Literary Works

book

poetry

novel

song lyrics

drama

etc.



A. Translation of Literary Works

Bell Tones

Bell has been ringing and marking time in my life.
Bell to come for and bell to go by. Bell to ring and
bell to hear. Easy bell tones turto clattering bell
ringing, finally becoming muted into many soft
death knells.



A. Translation of Literary Works

Bunyi Lonceng

Lonceng telah berdentang dan menandai waktu dalam hidupku. Lonceng untuk datang dan lonceng untuk pergi. Lonceng yang hanya untuk berbunyi dan lonceng untuk didengar. Bunyi lonceng yang lembut berubah menjadi denting lonceng yang ribut, akhirnya meredup menjadi banyak dentingan kematian yang samar-samar.



A. Translation of Literary Works

Act V, Scene V:

Give me your hand first: fare you well, my lord.

MARCUS BRUTUS:

Farewell, good Strato—Caesar, now be still

I kill'd not thee with half so good a will

(he runs on his sword, and dies)



A. Translation of Literary Works

Aksi V, Adegan V:

Ulurkan tanganmu: selamat tinggal, tuanku.

MARCUS BRUTUS:

Selamat tinggal, Strato yang baik—Caesar, sekarang
beristirahatlah dengan tenang

Aku tidak membunuhmu dengan kemauan sekuat ini
(dia menusukkan pedangnya, dan mati)



A. Translation of Literary Works

Time is too slow for those who wait, too swift for those who fear, too long for those who grieve, too short for those who rejoice. But for those who love, time is not.

~ Henry Van Dyke ~



A. Translation of Literary Works

Waktu terlalu lambat bagi mereka yang menunggu,
terlalu cepat bagi mereka yang takut, terlalu
panjang bagi mereka yang berduka, terlalu singkat
bagi mereka yang bersuka cita. Tetapi bagi mereka
yang mencintai, waktu tidak terasa.

~ Henry Van Dyke ~



B. Translation of Idioms

According to the Webster Dictionary, an idiom is **an expression established in the usage of a language that is peculiar to itself either in grammatical construction or in having a meaning that cannot be derived as a whole from the conjoined meanings of its elements.**



B. Translation of Idioms

Seidl and McMordie (1980) classify idioms into the following groups:

1. Key words with idiomatic uses
2. Idioms with nouns and adjectives
3. Idiomatic pairs
4. Idioms with prepositions
5. Idioms with phrasal verbs
6. Verbal idioms
7. Idioms with special subjects
8. Idioms with key words from special categories
9. Idioms with comparisons



B. Translation of Idioms

Khak (2006) states that there are three types of idiom in Bahasa Indonesia, they are as follows:

1. Complex idiom
 - a. Affixation
 - b. Reduplication
2. Phrasal Idiom
 - a. Verba Idiom
 - b. Nomina Idiom
3. Proverb (peribahasa)



C. Strategies in Translating Idioms

Baker (1992) proposes some strategies to translate an idiom:

1. Using an idiom of similar meaning and form
2. Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form
3. Translation by paraphrase
4. Translation by omission



Using an idiom of similar meaning and form

This strategy involves using an idiom in the target language which conveys roughly the same meaning as that of the source-language idiom and, in addition, consists of equivalent lexical items. This kind of match can only occasionally be achieved.



Using an idiom of similar meaning and form

Example:

Source text: "Hit the nail on the head."

Target text : "Memukul paku tepat di kepalanya."



Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form

It is often possible to find an idiom or fixed expression in the target language which has a meaning similar to that of the source idiom or expression, but which consists of different lexical items.



Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form

Example:

Source text: "Bite the bullet."

Target text : "Menelan pahitnya pil."



Translation by paraphrase

This is by far the most common way of translating idioms when a match cannot be found in the target language or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the target text because of differences in stylistic preferences of the source and target languages.



Translation by paraphrase

Example:

Source text: "Cry over spilled milk."

Target text : "Menangis karena hal yang sudah terjadi dan tidak bisa diubah."



Translation by omission

It is often possible to find an idiom or fixed expression in the target language which has a meaning similar to that of the source idiom or expression, but which consists of different lexical items.



Translation by omission

Example:

Source text: "He decided to let the cat out of the bag during the meeting."

Target text : "Dia memutuskan untuk mengungkapkan rahasia itu saat rapat."



Exercise

What strategies are used in the following idioms?

SL: They crouched behind a wall across the street and picked off the enemy one by one.

TL: Mereka berjongkok di balik dinding di seberang jalan dan menembaki musuh satu per satu.



Exercise

What strategies are used in the following idioms?

SL: "He really did. It wasn't puppy love or anything" she added, as if I didn't know that.

TL: "Sungguh. Itu bukan—cinta monyet atau apa," imbuhnya, seakan aku tidak tahu itu.



Exercise

What strategies are used in the following idioms?

SL: "The doors closed, and I roared off, driving for several hundred feet before I realized I was headed down a dead end street."

TL: "Pintu-pintu mobil menutup, dan aku meraung pergi, menyetir selama beberapa ratus meter sebelum menyadari bahwa mobilku mengarah ke jalan buntu."



Exercise

What strategies are used in the following idioms?

SL: "And I think after Anna dies, Anna's mom goes to Holland with him and thinks they will live there forever, but it doesn't work out, because she wants to be near where her daughter was."

TL: "Dan kurasa, setelah Anna meninggal, ibu Anna pergi ke Belanda bersama si lelaki dan mengira mereka akan hidup di sana untuk selamanya, tapi itu tidak berhasil, karena ibu Anna ingin berada dekat putrinya dulu berada."



Exercise

What strategies are used in the following idioms?

SL: "He broke out into that goofy smile."

TL: "Augustus tersenyum konyol."

Thank you!

References

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