

LITERARY TRANSLATION OF CONDITIONAL SENTENCES IN *SPINNER OF THE DARKNESS & OTHER TALES* SHORT STORIES

PENERJEMAHAN SASTRA PADA KALIMAT PENGANDAIAAN DALAM CERITA PENDEK *SPINNER OF THE DARKNESS & OTHER TALES*

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Abstract

Nowadays, many Indonesian literary works are translated into English due to Indonesian authors Internationally acknowledged. One of them is Intan Paramaditha Book entitled Spinner of Darkness & Other Tales. The stories in this book have been translated into English and German. This article aims to show how Conditional Sentences in the stories are being translated into English and what literary translation strategies were used to translate them. This study used a descriptive qualitative method. The Literary translation of conditional sentences and the use of the literary translation strategies are analyzed and described qualitatively. The result of the study showed that conditional sentences are translated into three different types of English conditional sentences. 10% of the data are translated into Conditional sentences type 1, 80% of the data are translated into conditional sentences type 2, and 10% of the data are translated into Conditional sentences type 3. There are three literary translation strategies used to translate conditional sentences; 50% of the data used helper strategy, 30% of the data used adherent strategy and 20% of the data used observer strategy. Thus, the literary translation approach that is mostly used in this study is a biased approach since helper strategy belongs to Biased principal-strategies

Keywords: conditional sentences, literary work, translation strategies, short stories

Abstrak

Saat ini, banyak karya sastra Indonesia telah diterjemahkan ke dalam bahasa Inggris karena penulis Indonesia sudah dikenal secara Internasional. Salah satunya adalah Buku Intan Paramaditha berjudul Spinner of Darkness & Other Tales. Cerita-cerita dalam buku ini telah diterjemahkan ke dalam bahasa Inggris dan Jerman. Artikel ini bertujuan untuk menunjukkan bagaimana Kalimat Pengandaian dalam cerita tersebut diterjemahkan ke dalam bahasa Inggris dan strategi terjemahan sastra apa yang digunakan untuk menerjemahkannya. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Terjemahan sastra kalimat Pengandaian dan penggunaan strategi terjemahan sastra dianalisis dan dijelaskan secara kualitatif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Kalimat pengandaian diterjemahkan ke dalam tiga jenis English conditional sentences yang berbeda. 10% data diterjemahkan ke dalam conditional sentences tipe 1, 80% dari data diterjemahkan ke dalam conditional sentence tipe 2, dan 10% data diterjemahkan ke dalam conditional sentence tipe 3. Ada tiga strategi terjemahan sastra yang

digunakan untuk menerjemahkan kalimat pengandaian, 50% dari data menggunakan helper strategy, 30% dari data menggunakan adherent strategy dan 20% dari data menggunakan observer strategy. Dengan demikian, pendekatan terjemahan sastra yang banyak digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah pendekatan bias karena Helper strategy merupakan strategi dalam pendekatan Bias.

Kata kunci: *kalimat pengandaian, karya sastra, strategi penerjemahan, cerita pendek*

Introduction

Literary translation is the translation of literary works such as poems, novels, short prose etc., For years, many English literary works have been translated into Indonesian. It happened because many Indonesian readers are interested in English literary works. The translation of English literary works into Indonesian are done to make the Indonesian readers easier in understanding those literary works. Nowadays, not only English literary works are being translated, there are some Indonesian literary works that also have been translated into English and even other languages such as French and German. One example of it is the Book of tales written by Intan Paramaditha, an Indonesian writer, entitled *Spinner of the Darkness & other Tales*. This book has been translated into English and German. The translator of the English version is Professor Stephen Epstein, a Director of the Asian Studies Program at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand and served as the 2013-14 President of the New Zealand Asian Studies Society. His role as a translator is

especially significant considering that translating literary works is different from translating any other written texts. This is because the main principle of literary translation is the dominant poetic communicative function.

The differentiation of translating literary works, means that in addition to rendering information to the reader, literary translation also has aesthetic functions. In other words, in translating literary works, the translator should be able to convey the idea of the writer as well as to keep the original style of the writer to make the literary works readable. Kazakova defined "Literary translation is a special type of bilingual revision of a literary text, which involves many kinds of processing, from comparative natural language processing to knowledge processing" (Kazakova, 2015). In literary translation, the translation not only transfers the meaning but also conveys the original style of the literary works to the readers.

The translation of literary works considers the linguistic features. Linguistic features refer to the use of sentence

construction, grammar and mechanical aspects of writing. One aspect of grammar that is used is conditional sentences which are called *Kalimat pengandaian* in Indonesian. Keraf stated *Kalimat pengandaian* has two types, they are supposition (*pengandaian*) and requirement (*persyaratan*) (Keraf, 2002). He further explained, conditional sentences for requirement meaning are marked by conjunction *jika, apabila, asal, asalkan, manakala dan jikalau*. The conjunction can be placed at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence. Meanwhile, based on the context of meaning, the conjunction asserts requirement. The thing conveyed in the main clause happens if the thing in the subordinate clause is fulfilled. If there is not any conjunction, a sentence may lose its identity as a compound sentence. The conjunction completes a sentence to convey the information.

Conditional sentences in *bahasa Indonesia* with supposition meaning happens when the subordinate clause states supposition; a requirement which cannot be accomplished for the main clause. The conjunctions that assert supposition are *andaikan, andaikata, seandainya* and *seumpama*. Subordinate clauses which have these conjunctions function as adverbs.

These conjunctions represent the meaning of supposition; the subordinate clause has a supposition expression for the main clause. In addition, Alwi stated if *kalimat pengandaian* relates to uncertainty, the expression which commonly used is *kalau-kalau* (Alwi, 2003). The word *kalau-kalau* is a conjunction that is used to mark uncertain supposition, *kalau-kalau* means *barangkali* (KBBI, 2008).

Differ from *bahasa Indonesia*, the English conditional sentences consist of an if clause named sub clause and the result named the main clause. Conditional sentence has two parts: the *if-Clause* and the main clause. Conditional Sentence has three kinds or types, in which each kind or type contains a different pair of tenses and some variations also. Those three types of Conditional Sentences named as type I is a probable or real condition, type II and III are improbable or unreal conditional sentence using *if*.

Several previous studies have investigated the use and translation of conditional sentences between English and Indonesian, particularly focusing on their structural and semantic differences. For instance, Siregar et.al analysed how conditional sentences in English are often misinterpreted when translated into Indonesian due to differences in expressing hypothetical

situations, especially in types II and III, which involve past and perfect tenses (Siregar et al., 2022).

In addition, a study by Harahap, et.al emphasized the importance of modality and verb forms in translating conditional sentences in narrative prose (Harahap & Puspita, 2023). The research pointed out that the accuracy of meaning transfer is highly dependent on the translator's ability to maintain the level of hypotheticality, which can shift when the grammatical structure is not mirrored precisely in the target language. This becomes more prominent in literary translation, where stylistic and cultural nuances must also be preserved alongside grammatical equivalence.

Moreover, Kusumawardhani explored students' difficulties in understanding English conditional sentences, particularly type III, and how these challenges often carry over into translation tasks. The study found that learners commonly confuse the time reference and conditional logic, leading to incorrect translations and misinterpretation of the original text (Kusumawardani, 2022).

These prior works collectively underscore the complexity of translating conditional sentences from English to Indonesian, especially within literary

contexts. They also highlight the need for a deeper understanding of both grammatical structures and cultural-linguistic norms, which this current research seeks to address by focusing specifically on the literary translation of conditional sentences in *Spinner of the Darkness & Other Tales* short stories. This study extends previous inquiries by not only identifying structural shifts but also examining the stylistic and narrative implications of these shifts in the target language.

Method

This study applied a descriptive qualitative method in analyzing the translation of *kalimat pengandaian* into English conditional sentences. This study described how *Kalimat pengandaian* have been translated. The translations were analyzed in terms of the literary translation strategies used by the translator in rendering the message. For the analysis, the data were collected from the book *Spinner of the Darkness & other Tales* (2015). The research used documentation technique, which involve identifying and classifying (Ali, 2018). The documentation technique is employed to systematically collect, record, and examine instances of source and target language

usage. This method involves identifying and categorizing various forms of conditional sentences found in the original Indonesian texts and their corresponding translations in English. Through documentation, researchers can trace patterns, compare structural shifts, and assess the accuracy and consistency of translation strategies. It also enables a observation of how tenses, modal verbs, and conditional markers are rendered across both languages. By documenting these linguistic data, the analysis becomes more transparent and verifiable, providing a solid foundation for drawing conclusions about the translator's approach, the challenges faced, and the overall fidelity to the meaning and function of the original conditional constructions.

The research focuses on *Kalimat Pengandaian* and how they were translated into English Conditional sentences. Not all of the data were analyzed, only part of the data collected as samples were analyzed. This

study took 10 data out of 35 data collected as the sample randomly. After collecting the data, the researcher was coding the data in order to make the data classification and the data analysis easy to understand. Moreover, the translation strategies were analyzed using the literary translation strategies proposed by Kazakova (2015).

Result and Discussion

Result

This article discusses only the translation of *Kalimat pengandaian* into English conditional sentences and the literary translation used to translate them. The data are in the form of sentences. From the data analysis, kalimat pengandaian that were found in the text were translated into three different types of English conditional sentences. There are conditional sentences type 1, conditional sentences type 2 and conditional sentences type 3.



Figure 1. Data collection procedure

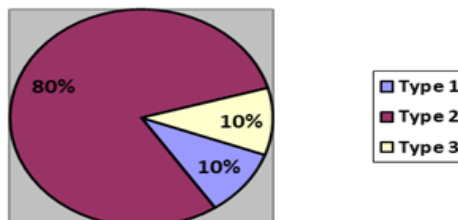


Figure 2. *Kalimat Pengandaian's* translation into English Conditional Sentences

There were 10% of data *kalimat pengandaian* translated into conditional sentences type 1. 80% of data *kalimat pengandaian* were translated into conditional sentences type 2. And 10% of data *kalimat pengandaian* were translated into conditional sentence type 3. These following are samples of data which translated into English conditional sentences:

ST : *Oma, Oma, berjanjilah untuk menahan nafasmu jika perempuan itu datang.*

TT : Oma, Oma, promise to hold your breath if she comes. (Conditional sentence type 1)

ST : *Lalu ia akan memberikan kartu nama berisi alamat dan nomor telepon jika orang yang didekatinya ingin mendengar saran-saran spiritual.*

TT : Then, if the person she approached were keen to hear suggestions spiritual, she would

bestow upon them a card with her address and phone number.

(Conditional sentence type 2)

ST : *Jika Oma diculik Si Merah Salju, ia tak akan sempat membeli tiket (di usia enam tahun ia tahu bahwa orang butuh uang untuk naik kereta).*

TT : If Oma had been kidnapped by Snow Red, she would not have had time to buy tickets (by age six Helga knew that you needed money to ride the train). (Conditional sentence type 3)

The translation of *kalimat pengandaian* was analyzed using the literary translation strategies proposed by Kazakova (2015). The result of the study showed that the translator used three out of four literary translation strategies that were proposed by Kazakova (2015) namely Helper-strategy, Adherent-strategy and Observer-strategy. 50% of the data used helper strategy, 30% of

the data used adherent strategy and 20% of the data used observer strategy. The result show in the following figure:

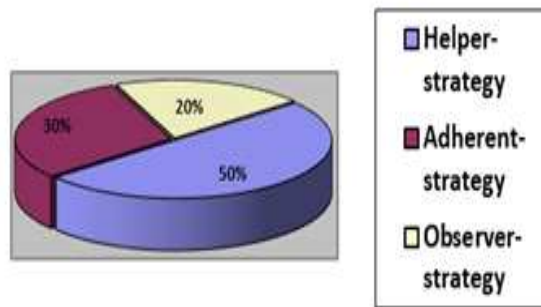


Figure 2. Literary Translation strategies used in Translating *Kalimat Pengandaian*

The samples of the literary translation that used by the translator are as follows:

Table 1. Literary translation strategies

SOURCE TEXT	TARGET TEXT	STRATEGY
<i>Jika anak itu kutemukan, ia akan menunjukkan padaku rahasia harta karun terbesar abad ini</i>	If I came upon her, she'd show me the secret of the greatest treasure of the age.	Helper-strategy
<i>Jika Oma diculik Si Merah Salju, ia tak akan sempat membeli tiket (di usia enam tahun ia tahu bahwa orang butuh uang untuk naik kereta).</i>	If Oma had been kidnapped by Snow Red, she would not have had time to buy tickets (by age six Helga knew that you needed money to ride the train).	Observer-strategy
<i>Jika Oma pergi ke sana, tentu ia bahagia.</i>	If Oma went there, she must be happy.	Adherent-strategy

The table showed that the translator used three different literary translation strategies in translating *kalimat pengandaian* into English conditional sentences. In the short story collection *Spinner of the Darkness & Other Tales*, the use of conditional sentences plays a crucial role in constructing hypothetical, psychological, and sometimes philosophical reflections of the characters. These sentences often embody both real and unreal situations, contributing to the

narrative depth and the emotional nuance of the stories. Translating such conditional constructions into Indonesian requires not only syntactic but also stylistic and cultural attention. In analysing these translations, Kazakova's categorization of literary translation strategies offers a useful framework (Kazakova, 2015).

Several conditional sentences in the English version are translated using the helper-strategy, where the translator

simplifies or adjusts the syntax to match the target language's conventions. For instance, a type II conditional sentence like: "*If he knew the truth, he would never return*" may be rendered in Indonesian as: *Kalau dia tahu kebenarannya, dia pasti tidak akan kembali*. The structure remains largely equivalent, but lexical and emotional tone might be adjusted to ensure clarity and readability (Robingah & Ali, 2021). In this case, the translator may opt to omit certain metaphorical or culturally loaded phrases that would otherwise confuse the Indonesian reader. This strategy reflects an effort to protect the reader from interlingual complexity while maintaining the hypothetical nuance of the original.

Some conditional sentences are translated using the observer-strategy, where the translator maintains structural neutrality and refrains from intervention. For example: "*If darkness fell early, the villagers would light their torches*", translated directly as: *Jika malam tiba lebih cepat, para penduduk desa akan menyalakan obor mereka*. This literal and impersonal approach preserves the original sentence structure and tone, without stylistic adaptation or cultural localization (Pratiwi & Khatib, 2021). While this can retain textual dependability, it risks alienating

readers unfamiliar with certain literary conventions in the source text.

Conclusion

The conditional sentences in *Spinner of the Darkness & Other Tales* are not only structural elements but also narrative devices that express uncertainty, regret, possibility, and metaphysical reflection. The translator's strategy, whether biased or unbiased, helper or adherent—not only determines the grammatical fidelity but also affects how readers perceive the mood, character depth, and thematic elements of the text. Through Kazakova's framework, it becomes evident that literary translation of conditional sentences involves dynamic decision-making that balances linguistic accuracy, cultural accessibility, and literary integrity.

The result of the study shows that the translator translated *Kalimat pengandaian* into three different types of English conditional sentences. From the three types of English conditional sentences, conditional sentence type 2 is mostly used in the translation. In translating *Kalimat pengandaian*, the translator used three literary translation strategies proposed by Kazakova (2015). The strategies are helper strategy, observer strategy and

adherent strategy. From those three strategy the helper strategy is mostly used by the translator to translate *kalimat pengandaian* into English conditional sentences. This strategy is used by the translator to help the readers in understanding the message of the story. The approach used in this study and its findings is expected to give contribution to a better understanding of the literary translation study. Hopefully, this study will inspire other researchers to do further research on how literary translation strategies contribute in translating literary works.

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