# TRANSLATION METHODS AND ITS QUALITY IN MUNIBA MAZARI'S "WE ALL ARE PERFECTLY IMPERFECT" SPEECH TRANSLATION

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## ABSTRACT

This research examined the classification of translation method of Newmark (1988) used by the translator in translating "We All Are Perfectly Imperfect" speech by Muniba Mazari (2018) and the translation quality assessment by referring to Nababan's theory. This research used descriptive qualitative word. The data were collected through documentation, because the data were taken from Muniba Mazari's "We All Are Perfectly Imperfect" speech translation by Paja Tapuih (in form of article). The result of this research indicate that six out of eight translation methods were applied in this research with Literal Translation as the most dominant method used. There are 277 data with Literal Translation method, 48 data with Communicative Translation method, 31 data with Faithful Translation method, 29 data with Word for Word Translation method, 10 data with Semantic Translation method, and 6 data with Free Translation method. Besides, the researcher also assess the quality of its translation with the methods used by the translator which refers to this three aspects, namely aspects of accuracy, aspects of acceptability and aspects of readability.

**Keywords**: translation, methods, quality assessment

## 1. INTRODUCTION

People use language to communicate with other people, to express their feelings, and to accomplish their daily needs. By using a given language, people may be able to understand each other, but language or linguistic diversity can make the process of communication difficult. Therefore, translation is needed to overcome the difficulties of communication.

Translation activities certainly require translation methods. Translation method is used for analyzing and classifying equivalent translation from the source language to the target language. In translating a text, translators are expected

to produce translation results as equal as possible. According to Larson (1984), translation is transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor language. This is done by going from the form of the first language to the form of a second language by way of semantic structure. Based upon Nida & Taber's point of view (1969), anything which can be said in one language can be said in another. It is possible to translate as long as the goal is to keep the meaning constant. It is often necessary to change the form when translating in order that the source language meaning not be destroyed.

Essentially, speech is something important for everyone to deliver their thinking or even their opinion formally. Speech is a technique of using words or language effectively which requires skills in choosing words that can affect the communicant. And to make the audience understand the context of the speech, especially for non-natives, they usually use it, the translation methods.

As Nida & Taber (1969) pointed out, the form of the original text is often changed, but as long as the changes follows the rules of in the source language, the message is preserved and the translation will be faithful. So, to achieve good quality translation of text, the translator needs to pay attention to the context and content of the source text. It is not easy to achieve good translation quality accurately, but it can be pointed out that good translation can be achieved if the translation contains meaning that are similar to or as similar as possible to the original text. When it is done well, meaning of the source text can be conveyed into the target text as natural as possible without compromising the authenticity of the source text.

For example, if the source language; "Many people came to rescue. They drag me out of the car." and it is translated into "Banyak orang datang untuk menyelamatkan. Mereka menyeret saya keluar dari mobil.". Hence, it is categorized as Word-for-Word Translation method. Word-for-Word translation tend to transfer message from target language by its common meaning without changing any grammatical structure, the target language exactly placed under the source language (based on Peter Newmark's classification of translation methods).

Therefore, the translator requires a translation method in translating a spoken or written language. Basically, method is a plan and a systematic way of doing translation. When translating a spoken or written language, the translator have to plan whether to eliminate difficult terms that might cause difficulties for the target reader or not.

Here, the researcher chooses Muniba Mazari's speech because as we all know, Muniba Mazari's words never fail to impress and inspire people in the way she intends to. She is not only an artist, first wheel chair model, an activist, a writer but also a motivational speaker, plays her role very efficiently. Muniba has also been selected as a U.N. goodwill ambassador in Pakistan and she is working for women empowerment across the country. Lots of people see inspiration in her life story. Based on the previous explanation, the researcher is interested in how the translator conveys the messages contained in Muniba Mazari's We All Are Perfectly Imperfect speech in translating it, and pays attention to the translation method used by the translator (referring to Newmark's classification of translation method) and then sees the quality of the translation based on Nababan's quality assessment.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 Newmark's Translation Methods

In order to produce a high quality translation product, methods are needed to be applied. Methods will help translators in doing the translation. Newmark (1988) introduced two different emphasis of the translation method. The first one is SL (source language) emphasis means that when the translator translate the text she or he follow what is common in the source language, such as the structure, the lexis, and the culture of the source language. There are 1) **Word-for-word Translation**, transfer message from target language by its common meaning without changing any grammatical structure, the target language exactly placed under the source language. 2) **Literal Translation**, the source language grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest target language equivalents, but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context. 3) **Faithful Translation**, attempts to produce contextual meaning of text of source language although it contempt the grammatical structure of target language. 4) **Semantic Translation**, focuses on looking for the equivalent of word with the bound of language of source language culture and attempts to divert contextual meaning of source language as close as possible with syntactic and semantic structure of target language. While the second one is TL (target language) emphasis means the translator follows the target language such as the structure, the lexis, and the culture to make the readers comprehend the translation text more. There are 5) **Adaptation Translation**, attempts to change the culture of source language to the culture of target language. The product of this translation does not considered as translation but as product of rewriting message from source language to target language. It is usually used to translate drama script and poem. 6) **Free Translation**, produces target text that does not have style, content or form of source text. Also, this method is not bound on rule to find the equivalent of words or sentences. 7) **Idiomatic Translation**, attempts to reproduce the message of source text but breaks the meaning because of the usage of colloquial or idiom although both of them do not exist in the source language. 8) **Communicative Translation**, attempts to render the exact contextual meaning of the original in such a way that both content and language are readily acceptable and comprehensible to the readers.

### 2.2 Translation Quality Assessment

Translation quality assessment is focused on three main things: the accuracy of transferring message, the accuracy of expressing message into the target language, and the language naturalness of the translation. In order word, it can be said quality of a translation is the degree of accuracy, acceptability, and readability.

**Accuracy**. Accurate scores 3, the word meanings, phrases, clauses, sentences or source language are transferred accurately to the target text; there are no meaning distortions. Less Accurate scores 2, the word meanings, any technical terms, phrases, clauses, or sentences in the soure text are transferred accurately to the target language but there are still meaning distortions or double meaning translation (ambiguous) or deleted meaning which interfere the integrity of the text. Inaccurate scores 1, the word meanings, technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or source language are not conveyed accurately in the target text.

**Acceptability.** Acceptable scores 3, the translations are natural; technical terms used are common and familiar to the reader; phrases, clauses, and sentences in the source text are associated with the principles of Indonesian language. Less Acceptable scores 2, the translation already natural; however there are few problems in the use of the technical terms or grammatical errors. Unacceptable scores 1, the translation sounds unnatural; the words, phrases, clauses, and sentences used are inappropriate and not familiar to the readers, not associated with the rules of target language.

**Readability.** High Level Readability scores 3, the readers can easily understand the words, the technical terms, phrases, clauses, sentences or the whole translated texts. Medium Level Readability scores 2, the readers can understand the translation; but there are certain parts that require the readers to read the translated texts more than once to acknowledge the translation. Low Level Readability scores 1, the translated texts are difficult to understand by the readers; hard to comprehend.

## 2.3 PREVIOUS STUDIES

In order to support the analysis of this research, the researcher used some previous journals or studies which are similar with this research. The first previous study is by Puspita (2020), needed as a reference to describe the translation methods by Newmark. Secondly is written by Herlambang (2017), needed as a reference to assess the translation whether it was equivalent and acceptable. Third study is by Nafisah, Hartono, Yuliastri (2019), needed as a reference to find the relation between the translation methods and the degrees of equivalence. Fourth study is written by

Trisyianti (2018), needed as a reference to find out and describe the translation process in translating a text.

## 3. RESEARCH METHOD

This research used the descriptive qualitative method. The data presented in descriptive form. The researcher attempted to observe translation methods and its quality in Muniba Mazari's "We All Are Perfectly Imperfect" speech translation by Paja Tapuih. The researcher classifies the step-by-step in collecting the data, there are : 1) Watch Muniba Mazari's (We All Are Perfectly Imperfect) speech on youtube. 2) Read the translation by Paja Tapuih from English to Indonesian. 3) Search and scan the utterances. 4) Sort out all utterances or sentences that contain Newmark's translation methods. Besides, the researcher did the analysis based on the three current flows of activity by (Miles and Huberman, 1994). There are **Data Reduction**. Here, the researcher watch and listen to the speech carefully, then select and categorize the methods and the quality of the translation. **Data Display**, the researcher display which utterances used Newmark's translation methods, what categories of translation methods, why is it categorized as its category of translation methods, and how is the quality of the translation. **Conclusion Drawing and Verification**, the researcher conclude the result of the research based on Newmark's methods of translation and the quality of translation theories that are applied.

## 4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION
### 4.1 Result

There are six classifications out of eight translation methods used in the speech translation, with a total of 401 data, including word-for-word translation

method, literal translation method, semantic translation method, communicative translation method, free translation method, faithful translation method. The assessment of the translation quality shows that 9 out of 29 data of them are not translated accurately into Indonesian Language also not acceptable. The rest of the data are accurately translated. While in terms of readability, 5 out of 29 data are in low level readability.

## 4.2 Discussion
### Word-for-word Translation
**Data 01:**

| Source Language | Target Language |
| --- | --- |
| **And I stayed quiet.** | *Dan saya tetap diam.* |

The translation method used here is Word for Word Translation since in this method, sentences will be translated one word after another in sequence regardless of the context. According to Newmark (1988), word for word translation method often demonstrated as interlinear translation with the target language immediately below the source language words (p45).

According to *KII*, "interlinear" means *'diantara baris. i. translation terjemahan diantara baris-baris.\n'* (p355). The source language construction of words "And I stayed quiet." is translated similarly to the target language text "Dan saya tetap diam.". The word "**And**" in *KII* means '*dan*' (p34), "**I**" means '**saya**' (p328), "**stayed**" means '*tinggal*'. The word '*tinggal*' has a synonym '*menetap*' in *Kamus Lengkap Bahasa Indonesia* (p384). The word "*menetap*" has the root of '*tetap*'. As stated in *Kamus Lengkap Bahasa Indonesia*. The word "*tetap*" also has the same meaning with '*tinggal*' (p382).

Whereas in *KII*, the word "**quiet**" means '2 *diam'* (p514).

According to Nababan's Translation Quality Assessments Parameters (2012) the score of this translation quality in terms of accuracy is 3 (three) because the word meanings transferred accurately into the target language, there is no distortion of meaning. The score of translation quality in terms of acceptability is 3 (three), the translated texts are familiar to the reader so it is acceptable. The score of translation quality in terms of readability is 3 (three) because every word can be understood easily by the readers.

### Literal Translation
**Data 02:**

| Source Language | Target Language |
| --- | --- |
| **They call me to disable, I call myself differently able.** | *Mereka memanggil saya cacat, saya menyebut diri saya berbeda* |

The translation of a phrase in a source language "**…differently able**" into target language "**…berbeda**" uses Literal Translation. According to KII, "differently" means '*berlainan, berbeda*' "able" means '1 *dapat, bisa, sanggup, mampu. 2 cakap, trampil. 3 berwewenang.4 yang menunjukkan kecakapan.\n'.* (p77, p195)

The translator omit the translation of the word *able* in the target language, because if it is applied, then the translation of the phrase will be "*dapat berbeda*". According to Newmark (1988), in literal translation the grammatical constructions of source language are converted into their nearest target language equivalents (p46).

The data above is translated using Literal Translation method because the

translator tries to make it sound natural in the target language. preserves the grammatical structures of the SL where they are translated into nearest TL equivalents. The translator translate the phrase "differently able" into "berbeda". It is translated into one word only rather converted the word order in the source language to the two which seems more acceptable in the target language construction.

The accuracy of its translation, the word meanings are translated accurately into the target language and no distortion in meaning so it is scored 3 (three). The score of translation quality in terms of acceptability is also 3 (three) because the source language is translated naturally. And for the readability, the quality of translation method used is identified as high level readability because the terms applied are easy to understand by the readers (Nababan, 2012).

**Data 03:**

| Source Language | Target Language |
| --- | --- |
| **And I still remember that bumpy ride.** | *Dan saya masih ingat perjalanan bergelombang itu.* |

The translation of a phrase in a source language **"…that bumpy ride…"** into target language **"…*perjalanan bergelombang itu…*"** uses Literal Translation. According to Newmark (1988), the grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest target language equivalents (p46). Furthermore, Catford (1965) stated that literal translation may start, as it were, from a word for word translation, but make changes in conformity with target language grammar (e.g. inserting additional words, changing structures at any rank, etc) (p25).

The data above classified as Literal Translation method. In *KII*, the word "***that***" means '*itu*' (p648), "**bumpy**" means '***bergelombang'*** (p95), and "**ride**" means '***perjalanan*** dengan mobil' (p544).

This method usually applied if the structure of source language sentence is different from the structure of the target language. It shows that the phrase "…**that bumpy ride…**" was translated into the closest equivalent, that is "…***perjalanan bergelombang itu…***" so the readers get the context of the text easily.

The accuracy of its translation scores 3 (three) because the meaning of the sentences are transferred accurately into the target language. The score for acceptability is also 3 (three) because the terms are in commonly used and familiar to the readers. In terms of readability scores 3 (three) because the result of the translation is easy to understand by the readers (Nababan, 2012).

**Communicative Translation**
**Data 04:**

| Source Language | Target Language |
| --- | --- |
| **You make money.** | *Anda menghasilkan uang.* |

The translation of a word in a source language **"…make…"** into target language **"…*menghasilkan…*"** uses Communicative Translation. Newmark (1988) stated that communicative translation attempts to render the exact contextual meaning of the original in such a way that both content and language are readily acceptable and comprehensible to the readership (p41).

According to *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (*2008), the word "**make**" means '*construct, **produce** or prepare something; bring something into*

existence; cause something to exist, happen or be done' (p.266) The word "produce" in KII means 'menghasilkan' (p.449) and works as transitive verb; verb that needs to transfer its action to something – used with a direct object (Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary, 2008) (p. 473). Here, **money** is the object.

Datum above was identified using Communicative Translation as the method. Here, the target language becoming the main concern because it supposed to be easily understood by the readers. So that the translator translated the word "**make**" into "**menghasilkan**" not "*membuat*" to be easily accepted by the readers.

The accuracy of the translation method used was categorized as very accurate or scored 3 (three) because there is no distortion of meaning here. For the acceptability, the quality of translation is also scored 3 (three) or categorized as acceptable because the translation sounds natural. While in terms of readability, the quality of translation is readable because the readers can easily get the meaning of the translation without reading it more than once (Nababan, 2012).

**Semantic Translation**
**Data 05:**

| Source Language | Target Language |
|---|---|
| That day I decided, I am going to fight my fears. | *Hari itu aku memutuskan, aku akan melawan ketakutanku.* |

On the data above, the phrase "…**fight my fears…**" was translated into "…**melawan ketakutanku…**" using Semantic Translation method which is rendered closely from source to target language. Acording to Newmark (1988) in his book *A Textbook of Translation,*

semantic translation take more account of the aesthetic value, compromising on 'meaning' where appropriate so that no assonance, word-play or repetition jars in the target text (p46). The translator preserves the aesthetic value of the text dealing with the method used in this phrase.

According to KII, the word "**fight**" has a meaning '**melawan**' (p. 259). As mentioned in *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary* (2008), "**fight**" means '*act of fighting against somebody/something, desire or ability to keep fighting for something*' (p. 165). And '*something*' here refers to "*my fears*". In KII, "**fear**" means '1 **ketakutan**' (p. 254)

The score of translation in terms of accuracy is 3 (three) because the source language, specifically the phrase are accurately transferred into the target language, there is absolutely no meaning distortions. The score of translation in terms of acceptability is also 3 (three) and considered acceptable because the translation sounds very natural. And the score of translation in terms of readability is also 3 (three), considered as high level readability because the readers can understand the phrase and the translated text easily (Nababan, 2012).

**Faithful Translation**
**Data 06:**

| Source Language | Target Language |
|---|---|
| I was on the verge of dis-pare. | *Saya berada di ambang dis-pare.* |

The method applied on this data is Faithful Translation. According to Newmark in his book *A Textbook of Translation* (1988), faithful translation attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constrains of the target language

grammatical structures. It also attempts to be completely faithful to the intentions and the text-realisation of the source language writer (p46).

The translator retain the original terms of the source language to the target language. The phrase "…**verge of dis-pare…**" was translated into "…***ambang dis-pare…***". According to *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary* (2008), the phrase "**on the verge of (doing) something**" categorized as idiom which means '*very near to the moment when somebody does something or something happens*' (p. 492). In *KII*, the word "**verge**" means '*1 pinggir (of a cliff). 2 **amban**g*' (p. 703). However in this case, it is classifies as Faithful Translation method because the translator did not translate the word "**dis-pare**" correctly. The translator did not change the meaning in the target language. The word "**dis-pare**" remains the same so the meaning of the text was confusing.

The translation quality in terms of accuracy is inaccurate or scored 1, the technical terms in the source language are not accurately transferred into the target language. The translation quality in terms of acceptability is also scored 1, it is unaccepptable because the translations are not natural at all. And for the translation quality in terms of readability categorized in low level readability because the readers can not understand the context of the translation (Nababan, 2012)

**Free Translation**
**Data 07:**

| Source Language | Target Language |
| --- | --- |
| I was in the middle of nowhere. | *Aku berada di antah berantah.* |

The data above included as Free Translation method because the structure of the source text is different from the target text. The message in the source text can be delivered in the target text, although the grammatical structure between the source and target text are different. According to Newmark in his book *A Textbook of Translation* (1988), free translation reproduces the matter without the manner, or the content without the form of the original (p40).

According to *Cambridge Dictionary Online*, the phrase "**in the middle of nowhere**" means '*far away from any towns and cities and where few people live*'. As mentioned in *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary* (2008). "**nowhere**" means '*not in or to any place*' (p. 298). Referring to KBBI Web, the phrase '***antah berantah***' means '*negeri yang tidak disebut (diketahui) nama dan tempatnya*'. In *KII*, "**nowhere**" means '*tidak dimanapun juga*' (p. 436). Here, the translator deliberately translates it freely, but the meaning of the context is conveyed.

The accuracy of the translation method used was categorized as accurate because there is absolutely no meaning distortions, the word meanings and the technical terms in source text are accurately transferred into the target language. For the acceptability, the quality of translation also categorized as acceptable because the translation sounds natural. And in terms of readability, the quality of translation is readable because the readers can get the meaning of the translated text easily (Nababan, 2012).

**Data 08:**

| Source Language | Target Language |
| --- | --- |
| What's the point? | *Apa gunanya?* |

As mentioned by Newmark in his book *A Textbook of Translation* (1988), free translation reproduces the matter without the manner, or the content without the form of the original (p40). Here, the translator wants to deliver the message as clearly as possible, so the reader could catch the meaning of the utterance itself. That is why data number 76 was identified using Free Translation as the method. The sentence "What's the point?" was translated into "Apa gunanya?". The translator decided to translate the word "the point" into "gunanya", which clearly it has no similar meaning from the source language to the target language.

According to *Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary* (2008), the word "**point**" means 'purpose or aim of something' (p.339). While in *KKI*, "point" has much meanings, but in this context, "point" means '11 perlunya, **gunanya**.' (p. 483).

The accuracy of the translation method used was categorized as accurate because the word meanings in source text are accurately transferred into the target language. For the acceptability, the quality of translation also categorized as acceptable because the translation sounds natural by using common words. And in terms of readability, the quality of translation is readable because the readers can easily get the meaning of the translated text (Nababan, 2012).

## 5. CONCLUSION

This research analyzes the translation method and its quality in Muniba Mazari's "We All Are Perfectly Imperfect" Speech Translation by Paja Tapuih. Out of 401 data, 29 data were taken from Paja Tapuih's speech translation and have been analyzed by using the main theories to answer the questions of this research; Newmark's method is used to identified the methods of translation and Nababan's quality assessment to assess the quality of the translation. Six classifications out of eight translation methods are found in this research with the most dominant methods applied by the translator is Literal Translation with 277 data. Afterwards, the raters indicate the result of the translation quality assessment shows that it is contained at an accurate level, acceptable level, and high readable level. Most of the data shows that it is contained at an accurate level, an acceptable level, and have high-level readability. In conclusion, the method of translation is very important to be used as a reference in translating literary works. If the method used to translate is equitable, then the quality of the translation will be acceptable and well received by the readers. From what has been explained in this research, the researcher highly recommend to other researchers who are interested in analyzing similar topic for using another object such as movie script, songs, also novel to collect another type of translation methods.

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