Translation Methods Used in Translating *Harry’s House* Album Songs Lyrics

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**ABSTRACT**

This study aimed at determining the methods used in translating song lyrics on Harry’s house album on Indolirik YouTube channel. The theory used in analyzing the data is Newmark theory (1988) which explained that there were two approaches in translating text namely SL Emphasis (Domestication) in which the emphasis was on the source language and the other one was TL Emphasis (Foreignization) in which the emphasis was on the target language. Newmark (1988) also explained there were eight methods of translations, namely, word for word, literal, faithful, semantic, adaptation, free, idiomatic, and communicative translation. The researcher conducted a descriptive qualitative method in analyzing the data. The data were taken from the translation of song lyrics on Harry’s house album on Indolirik YouTube channel, which consisted of 5 songs and 111 song lyrics. The findings of this research showed that there were 6 types of translation methods used by Indolirik YouTube channel in translating the lyrics. From the analyzed data, Indolirik YouTube channel used Literal translation (43.25%), Word-for-Word translation (5.41%), Free translation (10.81%), Idiomatic Translation (17.11%), and Communicative translation (23.42%). It was also found that the translator mostly used the literal translation process, it means that the translation products focused on the source language in translating the song lyrics rather than the target one.

**Keywords:** Translation Method, Lyrics, Harry Styles, YouTube

**INTRODUCTION**

Many people nowadays enjoy listening to popular songs. Popular songs are songs that come from various genres, such as Pop, R&B, hip-hop, and other types of songs. However, we need to know that music trends will always change depending on the time...
and place, and the popularity of a song can change according to the listener's interests. Not only local songs, but international songs also attract a lot of attention. Some examples of popular songs are songs from famous artists such as Justin Bieber, One Direction, BTS, Blackpink, and songs from other artists. Foreign popular songs will certainly use foreign languages for the lyrics, one of the most widely used languages is English.

Listeners can enjoy a song just by listening to the rhythm and music, but they can also enjoy the songs a more when they can understand the meanings. Understanding the message that the vocalist is attempting to express through the song is crucial to understanding the lyrics of a song. We can easily comprehend the meaning of each song's lyrics by translating the entire song.

Nida and Taber (1991) state that Translation is the process of revealing the message's contents from the source language to the target language in terms of both meaning and linguistic style. Even though the grammar is altered, the meaning of the statement remains the same. According to Newmark (1988), the purpose of translation is to maintain the functional meanings that are most important while transferring the meaning from the source language to the target language. The most important aspect of translating is to ensure the target text accurately and appropriately conveys the meaning of the source language. As a result, it can be said that a translator in the translation process uses more than just their language skills to convey the meaning of a text into the target language; instead, they also use their intelligence, intuition, knowledge, and imagination to express an idea of the source language (Kubaszczyk, 2016).

One kind of translation is song lyrics, which are more difficult to translate because they share a form with poetry (Nida, 1969; Raffel, 1988; Newmark, 1991; Bassnett, 2002). In order for the reader to get the meaning of the song lyrics and learn them by heart, the translator must employ a certain method while changing the form from the source language to the target language.

Due to the prevalence of song lyrics translation in daily life, the researcher decided to examine the translation method in song lyrics. And the songs that would be looked at in this study are those performed by a well-known international singer named Harry Styles, a former member of the boy band One Direction who is well-known in a
variety of social circles. His 48.8 million Instagram followers provide as evidence for this. ([https://instagram.com/harrystyles?igshid=MmJiY2I4NDBKZg](https://instagram.com/harrystyles?igshid=MmJiY2I4NDBKZg))

Harry Styles is a singer and songwriter from England. Harry's House is his third album, and it was officially released on May 20, 2022. There are 13 different types of songs on this album, which managed to become the best-selling vinyl in 2022 or at the start of the album's release. This album was also the winner of the 2023 Grammy Awards for album of the year. The lyrics and instruments in each song on Harry's House album, are primarily his own contributions to the story of Harry's own experiences during the last pandemic. Many listeners, including researchers, claim that this album's song lyrics are about the purpose of life, loving oneself, how we regard others, the emotions we frequently feel in daily life, and love for others. Basically this song explains a lot about feelings in life. As an illustration, listen to the line from the song As it was that says: "Answer the phone, Harry you’re not good alone. why are you sitting at the house on the floor? what kind of pills are you on? This piece of lyrics is about the opinions and concerns regarding the feelings that the songwriter is having.

**Literature**

According to Ade and Okunoye (2008:3), Literature is thus summed up as permanent expressions in words (written or spoken), specially arranged in pleasing accepted patterns or forms. Literature expresses thoughts, feelings, ideas or other special aspects of human experiences.

Additionally, literature provides its readers with information and insight, allowing them to learn more about a variety of topics. Readers can also feel life when enjoying literary works. There are several literary works that we often encounter in daily life, namely, poetry, short stories, drama, novels, biographies, prose, rhymes and romances.

Song lyrics can be included in the genre of poetry in literary works. According to Rendidkk (2013) lyrics are very short poems that appreciate emotion. In the lyrics of the song there are also elements in common with poetry. In poetry there is a higher level of density and concentration when compared to prose (Pradopo, 1995:11). Song lyrics have the same thing about high levels of density and concentration. In essence, a song lyric is the same as a poem, because both of them have the same structural characteristics of form and structure of meaning.
Translation Method

Based on Newmark (1988:45) there are eight translation methods. They are word-for-word, literal, faithful, semantic, communicative, idiomatic, free, and adaptation.

**Word-for-word translation**

Words are translated individually by their most common meanings, but the word order of the original language is retained.

For example:
SL: Lauren bought me a cardigan yesterday.
TL: Lauren membelikan sebuah cardigan untuk saya kemarin.

**Literal translation**

Between word-for-word translation and free translation is literal translation, commonly referred to as linear translation. The translator searches the source text for grammatical structures that are equivalent to or nearly so in the target language. This literal translation is detached from the context. Word-for-word translation is originally performed, but the translator then modifies the phrase to reflect the grammatical structure.

For example:
SL: Taehyung is a handsome boy.
TL: Taehyung adalah pria yang tampan.

**Faithful translation**

In a faithful translation, the translator makes an effort to accurately capture the context of the original text while staying within the bounds of the target language’s grammatical structure. Here, culturally sensitive words are translated, but grammatical irregularities and word choice are either left alone or permitted. Since this translation follows the text’s meaning and objectives, the end result occasionally nevertheless sounds strange and stilted.

For example:
SL: Suga is too well aware that he is naughty.
TL: Suga menyadari terlalu baik bahwa ia nakal.

**Semantic translation**

Semantic translation is more adaptable than faithful translation. While semantic translation is more adaptable with the original, faithful translation is more rigid and uncompromising with the original’s rules. In contrast to faithful
translation, semantic translation must take the text’s aesthetic components into account by compromising the meaning as long as it is permissible to do so. For example:

SL: My sister is a book-worm.

TL: Kakakku adalah seorang kutu buku.

**Adaption**

Adaptation is said to as the most flexible and authentic type of translation. The majority of the time, drama and poetry are translated using adaptation translation. The original text is modified and translated into the TL in this instance, marking a cultural change. When a poet transforms a play for the stage, he must maintain all the characters and the plot from the original text, but the dialogue has been modified to fit the text’s culture.

For example:

SL: I love you to the moon and back.

TL: Aku sangat mencintaimu.

**Free Translation**

Free translation is a translation that puts the text's content before its format. In order for the user to understand the material or message more clearly, it typically takes the form of an extended paraphrase. The translation is so wordy and drawn out that it almost doesn’t seem to be a translation.

For example:

SL: The flowers in the garden.

TL: Bunga-bunga yang tumbuh di kebun.

**Idiomatic Translation**

It replicates the original’s "message," but it often distorts the subtleties of meaning by favoring idioms and colloquialisms where they are absent in the original. A translation that is truly idiomatic does not appear to be one. The translation reads exactly as if it were written by the original language's speaker. A professional translator will therefore make an effort to translate the content in colloquial terms. Idiomatic translation uses expressions that are more common and natural than SLA language to replicate the meaning of the TLA text.

For example:

SL: You’re cheery mood.
Communicative Translation

It makes an effort to accurately capture the original's context while yet using language and substance that the readership will find acceptable and understandable.

For example:

SL: Beware of dog!

TL: *Awas anjing galak!*

Overall, then Newmark (1988) classify those 8 methods into two, namely:

**SL Emphasis**: a translation method which based on source language, they are word for-word, literal, faithful, and semantic translation. (Domestication)

**TL Emphasis**: a translation method which based on target language, they are communicative, idiomatic, free translation, and adaptation. (Foreignization).

**METHOD**

This research is conducted by using descriptive qualitative method in order to analyze and identify the method used in song lyrics, to describes the ways they are used and to find out the reasons why the methods are used. According to Sugiyono (2016:9), the qualitative research approach involves triangulating (combining) data collection, inductive/qualitative data processing, and results that place a greater emphasis on meaning than generalization.

The methods of translation used in translating the lyric of songs in *Harry's House* album to describe them and to find the reasons. The data are analyzed by classifying the translation method according to Newmark's theory (1988).

**RESULTS**

After identifying the translation methods in Harry's House song album in Indolirik YouTube channel, the researcher analyzes the translation methods used by the translator according to Newmark's theory (1988). There are five types of methods used in translating Harry's House album songs lyrics on Indolirik YouTube channel, namely
literal, word-for-word, idiomatic, free, and communicative translation. The translation methods found in the song lyrics are identified with the following analysis:

Table 4.1 Word-for-word Translation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Language</th>
<th>Target Language</th>
<th>The Translation Method</th>
<th>Reasons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matilda, line 15</td>
<td>You can see the world, following the season anywhere you go, you don’t need a reason</td>
<td>Kau bias melihat dunia, mengikuti musim kemanapun kau pergi, kau tidak perlu alasan.</td>
<td>Word for word translation (Domestication)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The translation method used in the table above is word-for-word translation. This can be seen from the arrangement of the target language text, which is the same as in the source language text.

Table 4.2 Literal Translation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Language</th>
<th>Target Language</th>
<th>The Translation Method</th>
<th>Reasons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matilda, line 4</td>
<td>So you tie up your hair and you smile like it’s no big deal</td>
<td>Jadi kau mengikat rambutmu dan tersenyum seolah itu bukan masal ah besar</td>
<td>Literal translation (Domestication)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The translation method used in the table above is Literal translation. The target text has already considered its structure and grammar according to the definition of literal translation method. However, the words and language styles in the source text are still maintained in the target text.

Table 4.3 Free Translation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Language</th>
<th>Target Language</th>
<th>The Translation Method</th>
<th>Reasons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Late night talking, line 1</td>
<td>Things haven't been quite the same There's a haze on the horizon, babe</td>
<td>Hal-hal belum sepenuhnya sama, Yang terlihat belum tentu yang sebenarnya, sayang</td>
<td>Free translation (Foreignization)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The translation method used in the sentence above is free translation. This can be seen from the translation "There's a haze on the horizon, babe" which is translated into "Yang terlihat belum tentu yang sebenarnya, sayang". In this sentence, it is clear that the translator makes the meaning from SL into TL unrelated. In the translation process, the sentence experiences freedom in expressing the message, but it does not change the content of the message that the SL wants to convey to the TL.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Language</th>
<th>Target Language</th>
<th>The Translation Method</th>
<th>Reasons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We share the last line Then we drink the wall till we wanna talk</td>
<td>Kita telah ucapkan selamat tinggal Namun aku masih menghayalkan kita saling berbicara</td>
<td>Idiomatic Translation (Foreignization)</td>
<td>It is translated as the way it is communicated in as colloqualisms as possible the target language (not in the form of idiom anymore)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The sentence uses idiomatic translation as its method of translation. The table above shows that the phrase "we share the last line" is a term that is translated into regular words "kita telah mengucapkan selamat tinggal," making the meaning in the text similar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Language</th>
<th>Target Language</th>
<th>The Translation Method</th>
<th>Reasons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You can let it go</td>
<td>Kau bisa melepaskannya</td>
<td>Communicative translation (foreignization)</td>
<td>It is translated by attempting to communicate the meaning without presenting the source language’s cultural elements. (The element of source language are no longer bound, but are still related)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Communicative translation is the technique utilized in the aforementioned sentence. Translations such as "let it go" into "melepaskannya" are done so that the reader will comprehend the context and meaning of the text and be better able to understand and appreciate it.

After analyzing the data, we found 111 song lyrics from 5 Harry’s House albums that have been translated on the indolirik You Tube channel. The researcher found the types of translation methods used by the translator system in translating 5 songs of
Harry's House album. There are five methods applied to the translation which are word by word, literal, free, communicative, and adaptation translation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Translation Method</th>
<th>Number of occurrences in the song</th>
<th>The total number of occurrences</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Matilda</td>
<td>Daydreaming</td>
<td>Late night talking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Word-for-word translation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Literal translation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Faithful translation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Semantic translation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Adaptation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Free translation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Idiomatic translation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Communicative translation</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DISCUSSIONS**

According to Peter Newmark (1988), there are eight different types of translation: literal, faithful, semantic, adaptation, free, idiomatic, and communicative translation. The eight approaches are further divided into two types of categories: SL Emphasis (Domestication), which places more emphasis on the source language, and includes translations that are word-for-word, literal, faithful, and semantic, and TL Emphasis (Foreignization), which places more emphasis on the target language and includes translations that are idiomatic, free, adaptation, and communicative. This study examines how song lyrics from the Harry’s House album on Indolirik's YouTube channel were translated using methods based on Peter Newmark’s theory (1988).

According to the research, the translator system primarily employs the literal translation method while translating the song lyrics from the Harry's House album on the Indolirik YouTube channel. This is due to the fact that the song lyrics album has many structures that are similar to the structure of the target language, and the text in the source language only contains single words. However, the translator system tried to
change the structure of the source language into the target language during the translation process in order to make the translation results easier to understand by the reader.

The significant differences between this research and previous researchers are that the data source of this research is from YouTube channel application and the data analyzed are songs lyrics, while the data source of previous research comes from Facebook applications and the data analyzed are the terms used in the English version of the Facebook social networking site and its Indonesian version. The next data source is a novel and the data analyzed is the figurative language contained in the novel. And the next data source comes from a folk song in the Toba Batak language and the data analyzed are the lyrics of the song. Then the next data source is from a song and the data analyzed are the lyrics in the song which is sung by Shawn mendes.

In this study, the translator dominantly uses the literal translation method, this is because the translator system prioritizes the most accurate and acceptable expression in the target language so that the message and nuances conveyed are the same as the source language. This is in accordance with the fact that the translator is an Indonesian who prioritizes the Domestication method.

For future researchers who want to conduct related or further research on translation methods, it is recommended to utilize other translation theories and have more literary references. It would be even better if the next researcher tries to analyze other objects. For example, literary translation of books, plays, stories, prose, drama articles, translation of advertising materials and translation of other texts that require a creative and flexible approach.

CONCLUSIONS

On the Indolirik YouTube channel, the lyrics for the Harry's House album were translated using five different techniques, including (1) Word for Word, (2) Literal, (3) Free (4) Idiomatic, and (5) Communicative translation. The most dominant method used is Literal Translation (43,25%), followed by Communicative translation (23,42%), Idiomatic translation (17,11%), Free translation (10,81%), and Word for Word translation (5,41%).
The results show that the translator system employs three different translation methods from TL Emphasis (Foreignization) namely, communicative translation (23.42%), Idiomatic translation (17.11%), free translation (10.81%). And the translator system also uses 2 types of translation methods from SL Emphasis (Domestication) namely, Word-for-Word translation (5.41%), Literal translation (43.25%). From the explanation above, it can be seen that the translator system mostly uses Literal Translation in the translation process, it means that the translator system is more based on or focused on the Source Language in translating the lyrics.

From the explanation above we know that the reason why the translator system used each methods to translate the lyrics are: the translator system uses more literal translation method is because the lyrics of the song have a lot of the same structure as the structure of the target language, and the text in the source language only contains single words, but in the translation process, the translator system has tried to change the structure of the source language into the target language, so that the translation result is easier to be understood by the reader.

Idiomatic method is also used by the translator system in the process of translating song lyrics because there are idiomatic expressions in the song lyrics and they are translated like daily life expressions or ordinary expressions or aim to reproduce the message in the source language text.

Communicative method pays attention to the principles of communication, namely the audience and the purpose of translation. In translating the songs on Harry's House album, the translator system tried to convey the same message as the source language, but in a more communicative way.

Word-for-Word method also used because the lyrics in Harry's House album have the same as the source language structure as the target language, and the words used in the song have equivalence with the target language, so it does not require other methods to make the meaning easier to understand.

And free translation method which is also used in the translation process because this method emphasizes more on the message to be conveyed, not replacing the source language culture with the target language culture.

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