

AN ANNOTATED TRANSLATION OF FRANCES CHA'S IF I HAD YOUR FACE

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ABSTRACT

The writer translated 6,933 words from the novel. There are 81 problems that were grouped into 3 categories namely problems in understanding, transferring, and understanding and transferring. There are 27 problems in understanding, 37 problems in transferring, and 17 problems in understanding and transferring.

There are 25 sentences containing problems analyzed. The writer used Baker's translation strategies to solve those problems. The result revealed that not all of the translation strategies were used for analysis. From 8 strategies, there are 7 translation strategies used namely translation by a more general word (4 problems), translation by a more neutral/less expressive word (1 problem), translation by cultural substitution (1 problems), translation using a loan word or loan word plus explanation (3 problems), translation by paraphrase using related words (11 problems), translation by paraphrase using unrelated words (6 data), and translation by omission (1 data). The strategy of translation by illustration was not used in the analysis.

This research is expected to be beneficial for the future researchers and English Department students of State Polytechnic of Malang, especially those who will conduct similar research. This also research can be a reference in conducting an annotated translation research.

Keywords — annotated translation, translation strategy, retrospective, introspective

INTRODUCTION

A good translation result is the one that is equivalent to the source language. However, difficulties may occur in the translating process. Translators often face difficulties such as choosing the appropriate words, phrases and sentences structure or lacking knowledge about cultural values in the source text. Thus, the writer wanted to observe problems like the ones mentioned before and find the solutions for them.

An annotated translation was chosen by the writer to gain experience and widen her knowledge in facing translation problems as well as solving them. The problems found were analyzed and given plausible reasons for the translation results. The writer considered it is important to conduct this research as

annotated translation applies in the practical sense of theories that the writer has studied in class. Although several studies related to annotated translation have been done before, the source texts and the findings differed from the current study.

In this research, the writer chose the novel *If I Had Your Face* by Frances Cha. The novel is a debut novel published on 21 April 2020 and comprises 288 pages. It tells the stories of four young women making their way in a world defined by impossible standards of beauty and ruthless social hierarchies in modern day Seoul, South Korea. The story involves some issues like plastic surgery and K-Pop. There are also some issues mentioned in this novel that might be the triggers for some people and need to be taken as a warning, such as child abuse, violence, misogynistic language/ attitude, adult content and suicide.

This novel is brought by the author with graceful precision and unflinching honesty, despite the novel being the author's first novel. The translation into Indonesian was based on the consideration of the novel's popularity. The novel *If I Had Your Face* won the Swansea University Dylan Thomas Prize 2021, one of the United Kingdom's most prestigious literary prizes and one of the world's largest literary prizes for young writers. It was included in the 100 Must-Read Books of 2020 by Time and named one of the Best Books of the Year by NPR, Esquire, Bustle, BBC, New York Post, and InStyle.

The novel *If I Had Your Face* was also listed in 25 Must-Read Books by Asian and Asian American Authors according to Harper's Bazaar. On top of that, according to the author, Frances Cha, this novel is in development of being a television series. Therefore, the writer thought it needed to have more Indonesian readers and became as popular as it was among English readers.

Statement of Research Problem

The problems of the research were:

1. What translation problems were encountered while translating the novel *If I Had Your Face* by Frances Cha?
2. How did the writer solve the problems encountered while translating the novel *If I Had Your Face* by Frances Cha?

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Translation can be simply defined as a process of translating text from one language to another. Catford (1965), as cited by Al-Sulaiman & Khoshiba

(2018), defined translation as the replacement of textual material in one language (Source Language) by equivalent textual material in another language (Target Language). Then, Nida and Taber (1969) stated that translation consists of reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style. In other words, translation is a

transfer of meaning and message from one source language to the target language.

Both definitions above emphasize the importance of an equivalent idea in translation results. It means that translation is not merely about translating a text from one language to another language, but translators should also consider the naturalness when translating the words or phrases or sentences that are not familiar with source text readers.

Cultures can hold important roles in translation. Astuti and Djohan (2014) cited Larson (1984) stated that translation, then, consists of studying the lexicon, grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural context of the source language text, analyzing it in order to determine its meaning, and then reconstructing this same meaning using the lexicon and grammatical structure which are appropriate in the receptor language and its structure context. From that statement, it can be concluded that a translator must understand both cultures of the source language and target language. Cultural differences can produce different meanings in translation. Thus, translators have to be thorough when conveying equivalent meaning from the source text to the target text.

There are 5 research studies discussed in this section and all of them were conducted by Indonesians within the last 5 years.

The first research titled *An Annotated Translation of Daughter* was conducted by Ardhinie (2017). The researcher applied 11 strategies of translation namely, loan/calque, transposition, illocutionary, cohesion change, distribution change, paraphrase, trope change, cultural filtering, explicitness change/implicitness change, interpersonal change, coherence change. Although this research has the same number of annotation items as the current research, the way it presents the findings are different. Instead of presenting each annotation item along with the explanations one by one, the researcher presented all the annotation items in one table and then put the explanations for it.

The second research was conducted by Adha (2018). The research was titled *An*

English-Indonesian Annotated Translation in Lucy Diamond's Novel *Me and Mr. Jones*. The result showed that there were 42 translation problems annotated by the researcher. Based on the result, there were three methods used by the researcher, namely communicative method, semantic method, and idiomatic method. Then, there were five procedures of translation used by the researcher. They were contextual conditioning, borrowing, cultural equivalence, paraphrase, and couplet. This research has a similar way in presenting the findings with the current research. However, the differences are the number of the annotations, and the strategies used to solve the translation problems.

The third research was conducted by Wibowo (2019). The research was titled *An Annotated Translation of Any Minute*. In this research, the data were classified into words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and idioms. In the annotation of the data collected, the researcher applied translation strategies that were suitable for the problems/difficulties arising from the data. This research has a similar way of presenting the results of the current research. The researcher presented 25 annotation items, and they were grouped into 5 categories, namely words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and idioms.

RESEARCH METHOD

Design of the Research

The design of this research is an annotated translation. It means that the writer translated a text and at the same time took notes when a difficulty or problem occurred. The writer also solved the problems using several strategies. Then, all of those processes were written down in the form of a report.

Object of the Research

The object of this research was the novel *If I Had Your Face* by Frances Cha published in 2020. Although this is a debut novel, it has become very popular and loved by many people. This novel has 288 pages and 14 chapters. The writer translated pages 3 to 17 from chapter 1 and pages 23 until 31 from chapter 2 with a total of 6,933 words. The

writer chose the first two chapters because they are the introduction to the whole novel. This is where the author introduces the characters and their background story to the readers.

Moreover, the writer chose chapter 2 because it contains the catchphrase of the novel. The catchphrase can be taken as the moral story and the whole point of the novel.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The writer, who was also the translator, found 81 problematic parts while translating a novel entitled *If I Had Your Face* by Frances Cha from pages 3 to 17 from chapter 1 up to pages 23 until 31 from chapter 2. Those 81 parts are the data for this annotated translation. They were considered problematic by the writer; thus, the writer annotated those problems. Those problems were classified into 3 categories, namely problems in understanding, transferring, and understanding and transferring. The number and percentage of each category can be seen in Table 1 below.

Table 1 Categories of annotated items

No.	Categories of Problem	Number of Items	Percentage
1.	Understanding	27	33.33%
2.	Transferring	37	45.68%
3.	Understanding and transferring	17	20.99%
	Total	81	100%

Based on the table above, it can be seen that the most found category of problem is the problem in transferring. Of 81 data, 33.33% of data belong to understanding. The percentage of transferring problems are 45.68%. Then, the remaining 20.99% are the problems in understanding and transferring.

Next up, the problems were grouped into 4 classifications namely problem in the form of words, phrases, clauses, and sentences. The number and percentage of classification for each category of problems are presented in Table 2, 3, and 4 as follows.

Table 2 Classification of problem in understanding

No.	Classification of Problem in Understanding	Number of Items	Percentage
1.	Word	22	81.48%
2.	Phrase	5	18.52%
3.	Clause	-	-
4.	Sentence	-	-
Total		27	100%

The total of annotation problems in understanding is 27 items. There are 22 items in the form of words, with the percentage of 81.48%. The understanding problem in the form of phrases are 5 items with the percentage of 18.52%. There is no understanding problem in the form of clauses and sentences.

Below are some examples of the problem in understanding word and solution.

Source text (AT): Earlier, she was waxing on about the benefits of lotus leaf masks and ceramide supplements for budding neck lines.

Target text (TT): Sebelumnya, dia berbicara tentang manfaat masker daun bunga lotus dan suplemen ceramide untuk menghilangkan garis kerutan di leher.

The researcher noted that it was a bit confusing of how masks and supplements have anything to do with neck lines. It took time for her to read and read again to finally realize the intended meaning. Thus, it was translated into "menghilangkan".

Below is another example.

ST: The girl who works at the chair next to mine uses far too much hairspray and I've written her many notes asking her to please cut down on the products because the cloying smell and fog from the spray make my head ache, but she just blinks at me placidly and does not change her ways.

TT: Perempuan yang bekerja di sebelahku menggunakan terlalu banyak hairspray dan aku sering menegurnya agar mengurangi penggunaan produk salon, karena bau dan asap dari spray membuatku mual dan pusing. Namun, dia hanya mengerjapkan mata pelan dan mengabaikanku.

Below is the quote from the annotation.

1. Yeah, I know that feeling. Hairspray smells so good but hurting my nose at the same time.
2. I like to try imitating the character's expression once I know the meaning. (I-12-10-UT-W)

From the annotation above, it was known that the researcher did not know the meaning of the word "cloying", but her experience told her about hairspray smell. This becomes the basis for her solution. Here she guess the meaning from the experience.

For the second word, the "placidly", she looked the word up on the dictionary and then to translate it she try to imagine the character's behavior and express the result.

Below is an example of a problem in understanding a phrase.

ST: You should see her mooning around the apartment after the show ends every week."

TT: Kau harus melihat dia bermalas-malasan di apartemen setelah acara itu berakhir setiap pekan.

The researcher annotated that for a second, she thought "mooning around" was "crying over the show". Because that would be relatable for her. However, as she was not sure, she checked it with a dictionary and found out that the phrase meant "to move around slowly because one is unhappy." (Merriem-Webster dictionary).

The next type of problem is transferring problem, i.e. a problem in finding the suitable word in the target language.

Table 3 Classification of problem in transferring

No.	Classification of Problem in Transferring	Number of Items	Percentage
1.	Word	11	29.73%
2.	Phrase	20	54.05%
3.	Clause	1	2.70%
4.	Sentence	5	13.51%
	Total	37	100%

The total of annotation problems in transferring is 37 items. There are 11 items in the form of words with the percentage of 29.73% and 20 items in the form of phrases with the percentage of 54.05%. For the problems in the form of clauses, there is only 1 item with the percentage of 2.70%. Then, the annotation problems in the form of sentences are 5 items with the percentage of 13.51%. Below is an example of the problem in transferring a noun phrase.

ST: "Taerin? I think he's so cute too!" Kyuri is talking loudly again, and Sujin gives her a **pained look** before glancing back at me.

TT: "Taerin? Dia memang imut!" Kyuri berbicara keras lagi. Sujin menunjukkan **wajah tidak senang** sebelum melirik ke arahku.

On this problem, the researcher wrote that she could actually imagine the expression, but she could not put it in Indonesian words. Describing the expression would be too mouthful. Finally, she chose the shorter expression although it did not perfectly explain the meaning.

The following example is the problem of transferring a sentence meaning.

ST: "Dr. Shim Hyuk Sang," says Kyuri. "**The waiting list to see him is months long.** He really understands beauty trends before they even happen, and what girls want to look like. That's so important, you know?"

TT: "Dr. Shim Hyuk Sang," kata Kyuri. "**Daftar tunggu untuk menemuinya memakan waktu berbulan-bulan.** Dia benar-benar tahu tren kecantikan bahkan sebelum trennya muncul, begitu pula dengan

penampilan idaman para wanita. Itu sangat penting, kau tahu?"

The problem here is to translate "the waiting list to see him is months long." The researcher annotated that the length of a list is not logical as it is mentioned in "months" not centimeters or meters. However, she used her logic. She guessed that the doctor needs to take a long break after each surgery or there were too many patients waiting for his service. Then, the researcher took the second logic and finally decided the translation.

The last type of problem is understanding and transfer at the same time. See the following table for the findings.

Table 4 Classification of problem in understanding and transferring

No.	Classification of Problem in Understanding and Transferring	Number of Items	Percentage
1.	Word	8	47.06%
2.	Phrase	7	41.18%
3.	Clause	1	5.88%
4.	Sentence	1	5.88%
	Total	17	100%

There are 17 annotation problems in understanding and transferring. The annotation problems in the form of words are 8 items with the percentage of 47.06%. The problems in the form of phrases are 7 items with the percentage of 41.18%. For the problems in the form of clauses and sentences, there is only 1 item for each of them with the same percentage of 5.88%. Below is an example of this problem.

ST: *It was the **price of surviving**, I write. Things are a little different outside of Seoul.*

TT: *Inilah konsekuensi dari bertahan hidup, tulisku. Kehidupan di luar Seoul sedikit berbeda.*

The researcher annotated that she was not sure whether the character talked about "surviving" an accident or "surviving" which means she could live until now despite being

poor. Therefore, it was translated as "bertahan hidup." After rereading many times, she was sure it was about living. Then, about the "price". Surviving could not be sold, so there was no price. Therefore, it was translated as "konsekuensi". The next sentence problem is the words "things". After rereading and rethinking, the researcher paraphrases the whole sentence into "Kehidupan di luar Seoul sedikit berbeda."

Discussion

In translating the novel *If I Had Your Face* by Frances Cha, the writer encountered 81 parts that were difficult to translate. All of the difficult parts were classified into the categories of problems in understanding, transferring, and understanding and transferring. There are 27 problems in understanding, 37 problems in transferring, and 17 problems in understanding and transferring.

The writer used translation strategies introduced by Baker (1992) as cited by Owji (2013). The strategy that was most frequently used by the writer is translation by paraphrase using related words with the total of 11 data. The other translation strategies are translation by a more general word. This strategy was used for 4 problems. Translation by a more neutral/less expressive word strategy was used for 1 problem. The translation by cultural substitution strategy was used for 1 problem. Translation using a loan word or loan word plus explanation strategy was used for 3 problems. The translation by paraphrase using unrelated words strategy was used for 6 problems. The translation by omission strategy was used for 1 problem. There was also 1 strategy that was not used for solving the difficulties which was translation by illustration. It was because the writer did not receive a permit to put an illustration in the translation result.

The writer chose the translation strategies by Baker (1992) as cited by Owji (2013) because it was suitable to solve the difficulties that the writer encountered in the translating process. The writer found it hard to understand the Baker's strategies at first. But,

as time went by, the writer looked up and read more journals, theses, and articles about Baker's strategies and eventually understood how to apply the strategies.

The translation strategies used in this research were different from the previous research reviewed above. This research used Baker's strategies while the previous research studies used strategies by Newmark (1988) and Chesterman (2000). One of the research studies that used Chesterman's strategies was the research by Adnyana (2019). The current research and the research by Adnyana (2019) both presented the problems in the form of words and phrases.

In this research, the writer presented more than 1 problem for each category, meanwhile Adnyana (2019) presented only 1 problem for each category. The writer mostly used strategy translation by paraphrasing unrelated words to solve the problems in the form of words. It was different with Adnyana (2019) who used pragmatic strategy to solve the problem in the form of word. Adnyana (2019) also used pragmatic strategy to solve the problem in the form of phrase. Meanwhile, the writer mostly used the strategy translation by paraphrase using related words. The strategy of translation by paraphrase using unrelated and related words was mostly used because the problems in the source text would sound unnatural and confusing if they were translated literally. Thus, the writer had to find other alternatives.

Another research study that has a similar way in presenting the findings is the research by Wibowo (2019). In this research, the writer presented more than 1 problem for the clause and sentence categories, while Wibowo presented only 1 problem for each category. The writer mostly used the strategy translation by paraphrase using related words to solve the problems in the form of clauses and sentence. That strategy was mostly used because the problems in the source text would sound unnatural if they were translated literally. Thus, the writer had to find other terms that has equivalent meanings with the source text and are still capable to deliver the messages. Meanwhile, Wibowo used prag-

matic strategy to solve the problem in the form of clause and naturalizing to solve the problem in the form of sentence.

However, those two things are actually not comparable. It is due to the differences in the level of the strategies. Both Adnyana (Adnyana, 2019) and Wibowo (Wibowo, 2019) are using the main categories of translation strategies stated by Chesterman (2000), which the categories still have some specific strategies under them. Meanwhile, the strategies used by the writer in the current research are the specific strategies stated by Baker (1992) that do not have translation strategy's main categories like what Chesterman classified.

Conclusion

This annotated translation of Frances Cha's *If I Had Your Face* has 2 problems, namely (1) what translation problems were encountered while translating the novel and (2) how the writer solved the problems encountered while translating the novel. Based on those problems, the purposes of this research are to gain information regarding the difficulties in translating the novel and the solution to overcome the difficulties.

In this research, the writer encountered 81 problems consisting of 27 problems in understanding, 37 problems in transferring, and 17 problems in understanding and transferring. The problematic items were in the forms of words, phrases, clauses, and sentences. From the problematic items collected, the writer chose 25 items to be analyzed in the findings. The writer applied translation strategies that were considered suitable to solve the difficulties. The translation strategies are translation by a more general word (4 problems), translation by a more neutral/less expressive word (1 problem), translation by cultural substitution (1 problem), translation using a loan word or loan word plus explanation (3 problems), translation by paraphrase using related words (11 problems), translation by paraphrase using unrelated words (6 problems), and translation by omission (1 problem). As stated in the findings, not all translation strategies are used

during the translation analysis process. The translation strategy that was not used in analyzing was translation by illustration.

Suggestions

Translating a novel is not an easy task. The product of translation must be able to deliver the messages accurately and clearly to the target readers. Thus, a translator must make a good and natural translation. The findings of this research show that there were some problems in translating the equivalence meaning of the source language. The analysis of the problems shows that there are various strategies used to deal with the translation problems. It is crucial for the writer, who also had a role as the translator, to know the strategies used. Therefore, the messages of the source text can be transferred appropriately into the target text.

Regarding the points above, it is suggested that to produce a good and natural translation, the future researchers should make choices to decide the most suitable strategies that can overcome the difficulties in translation.

It also offered suggestions for the students, translating needs accuracy and attentiveness. Reading many sources in both source language and target language will enrich vocabulary and understanding about the culture in both languages. Studying the translation strategies intensively will help students to find suitable translation strategies to solve the problems in translation.

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