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The Divergent Of Ideational Metafunction Realizations In Novel Graphic Translation

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Abstract

This article is a translation product oriented study designed to investigate a systemic way of analyzing the divergent of Ideational metafunction realizations in novel graphic translation using Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). The objectives of this study are to identify divergent of ideational realizations in the translation and what generate those divergences. The study is a descriptive qualitative with an embedded case study. The linguistics data of this study included all the lingual units of translation namely clauses, phrases and words in the monologue and dialogue of the main character in graphic novel V for Vendetta: Europe After Reign by Alan Moore and David Lloyd. The content analysis is used to determine the divergent of Ideational metafunction meanings in translation by comparing the source texts and target texts. The results show the divergent of Ideational realizations in the translation occur in (1) experiential meaning (transitivity structure and lexical items) (2) logical meaning. The divergences in transitivity structure and lexical items are induced by idiom phrases, politeness strategy, and intertextuality. The logical subtype divert in clauses interdependency which caused by two factors namely (1) the translation not maintaining the structure of the source language by downgrading in clause rank and (2) the limitations of the speech balloon format.

Keywords: Systemic functional linguistics, translation divergences, Ideational metafunction, graphic novel

Introduction

To translate text in graphic novels, translators will experience different challenges from translating ordinary texts, such as the limitation of panel boxes and speech balloons. Some studies demonstrate that translating graphic novels has difficulties similar to translating film subtitles or dubbing film that is the freedom of translators is determined by certain formats (Celotti, 2008; Dallacqua, 2012).

It is also prevalence to consider all the relevant unique facets of novel graphic such as the codependency of text and images, the interplay between text and previous texts, the characterization of utterances which aim for each character will convey their thoughts and personalities in the verbal expression through speech balloons (Serafini, 2011; Cohn, 2013; Greiffenhagen, 2013).



Thereupon, the application of the Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) approach in this study proposes to bring social semiotics to assist translators overcome the problem in translating graphic novels because one of the main purposes of Halliday developing SFL is to create a theory for solving a range of problems faced by potential 'consumers' of 'linguistics' (Coffin, 2001). Furthermore, graphic novels are manifestations of real life experience representations. For that reason, SFL approach is suitable because this approach discerns language and symbols as social realities which are the embodiment of the of physical, logical, the psychological phenomenon or philosophical experience of the speakers. Additionally, the Bottom-Up method can examine the problems in translation by identifying the meaning of social reality representation that is realized in lexico-grammatical (Ansari, 2004; Manfredi, 2008; Faroughi & Jahangiri, 2008; Kim, 2010).

The Ideational metafuction is concerned with 'ideation' which is about the content or proposition of message (Halliday, 2014). It can be further classified into experiential and the logical subtypes. The experiential function is mainly realized by transitivity and voice. Therefore, to understand the divergent Ideational realizations in translation, the meaning conveyed in the interplay of texts and images of graphic novels shall be analyzed first. This is called a content analysis. It is an analysis of narrative themes and language style by examining the process of transitivity used and the use of lexical items (Halliday, 2014).

Several studies had been conducted to understand and investigate the ideational meanings of texts in sequential arts such as comic, picture-books and graphic novels and in translation. Those studies showed that the ideational meaning usually realized by a participant, process, and circumstance. The processes predominantly found were material processes, behavioral, mental (cognition), relational and verbal processes. And primarily circumstance found was of location which comprises the circumstance of place and time (Bilal, 2012; Dalimunte, 2013; Yuhriyah, 2014, Alaei & Ahangari, 2016). In the studies where the investigation of Ideational metafunction realization texts in sequential arts showed that transitivity had been used to unravel the representation in the images (Borodo, 2015; Hermawan & Sukyadi, 2017). The issues in translating Ideational meaning usually occurred because of mistranslation, omission and word choice (Aghagolzadeh, 2012; Ningsih, et al 2014; Veroz, 2017; Fadhilia & Wulansari, 2019). Those studies did not show spesific divergences that occur in graphic novel translation which would be the reasons based on the studies above, the writer attempted to adress and identify those divergences for example the divergences in transitivity structure and lexical items or the divergences in rank of clauses, phrases or words.

Method

This study is a descriptive qualitative research with an embedded case study. A descriptive qualitative research is a study which the data collected in the form of words, pictures, and not numbers so that the data becomes the key in the research (Moleong, 2008). The data of this study is acquired from monologue and dialogue uttered by the main character of the first graphic novel V for Vendetta. The linguistics data of this study included all the lingual units of translation namely clauses, phrases and words in the monologue and dialogue of the main character in graphic novel V for

Vendetta: Europe After Reign by Alan Moore and David Lloyd. This study conducted the content analysis to answer the research questions. The content analysis was intended to determine the divergent of Ideational metafunction meanings in translation by comparing the source texts and target texts. The data were analyzed and interpreted according to the underlying theory. Therefore, the data in this study were classified by the method of The Developmental Research Sequence that includes four analytic processes: domain, taxonomic, componential, and thematic (Spradley, 2007 in Santosa 2017).

Result and Discussion

The analysis found 93 data divergences in translation. The results indicated that the divergent of ideational realizations in the translation occurred in (a) experiential meaning; transitivity structure (15,4%) and lexical items (79,5%) (b) logical meaning (5,4%). All these divergences were categorized by comparing lexico-grammatical of the source language and the forms of the lexico-grammatical of the target language. For example, in the Ideational metafunction, some cases of terminologies sometimes manifest different experiential forms when translated into the target language. The results are presented in Figure 1 below:

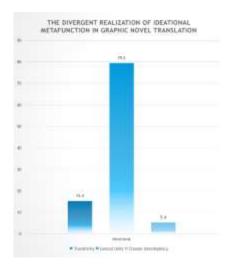


Figure 1. The Divergent of Ideational Metafunction Realizations in Novel Graphic Translation

The translation divergences that happened the structure of transitivity were different forms of processes, differences in functions of the participant, and different circumstance. The divergences in the lexical items were largely the manifestation of a more acceptable experimental form in the target language. The transitivity structure and the lexical items constituted the divergences in experiential sub type within the Ideational metafunction while the interdependency clause divergences were the embodiment of divergences in logical subtype. The following table is cumulative data of the divergences in transitivity structure, lexical items and interdependency clause translations.

Table 1. The Divergent of Ideational Metafunction Realizations in Novel Graphic Translation			
		Relational (Identifying) → Mental	2
Transitivity Structure	Process	Relational (Identifying) → Existential	1
		Relational (Attributive) → Mental	2
		Behavioral (Verbal) → Relational (Attributive)	2
		Behavioral (Material) → Mental	1
		Mental → Behavioral (Verbal)	1
		Mental → Comment Adjunct	1
	Participant	Recipient → Recipient	1
		Recipient → Phenomenon	1
		Phenomenon $\rightarrow \emptyset$	1
	Circumstance	Circumstance $\rightarrow \emptyset$	2
		Terminology $\rightarrow \emptyset$	8,6
Lexical Items		Terminology → Terminology	57
		Terminology \rightarrow Idiom	1
		$Idiom \rightarrow Idiom$	7,5
		$Idiom \rightarrow Terminology$	4,3
		Terminology → Collocation	1
Interdepency Clauses	Expansion	Hipotaxis → Nominal Group	2
		Hipotaxis → Adverbial Group	1
		$Hipotaxis \rightarrow Parataxis$	2
Total			100

The Divergent of Ideational Metafunction Realizations: Experiential Meaning

The divergent of Ideational meanings realizations subtype experiential of novel graphic V for Vendetta translation are in (1) transitivity structure and (2) lexical items. The results of the analysis suggested that the experiential meanings realizations of target language differed from the source language. The experiential representation that were realized by a transitivity structure had usually a main participant and processes as lexico-grammatical components. Additionally, the dominant divergent of experimental realizations in lexical items were in terminology \rightarrow terminology.

The Divergent Realization of Transitivity Structure: Processes

There were 7 divergent realizations of Processes in Transitivity Structure. The three of them were the divergent of relational processes. The source language had relational processes which underwent shifts when translated into the target language. Those shifts were (1) Relational (Identifying) \rightarrow Mental, (2) Relational (Identifying) \rightarrow Existential, and (3) Relational (Attributive) \rightarrow Mental.

a. Relational Process

Relational Process is a process refers to the general notions of being, becoming and having (Halliday and Matthiessen 2014:259). There are two relational processes: (1) Relational attributive; clauses ascribed a quality or attribute and (2) relational identifying, clauses identify one entity in terms of another. English has three principles

of relational process, they are (1) intensive, (2) possessive, (3) circumstantial. Intensive establishes a relationship of sameness between two entities. Circumstantial defines the entity in terms of location, time, manner). Possessive indicates that one entity owns another. However Indonesian language does not have these principles. The verb form of relational process in English and Indonesia is rather different. Relational Attributive process in Indonesia uses the prefix **ber**- followed by the root word which functions as attributive such as **ber**-fungsi, **ber**-status, **ber**-sifat, **ber**-asal, **ber**-ada, and **ber**-hasil (Wachidah, 2010: 211). Whereas in English, relational attributive process uses be; is, was, were, or verbs such as become, turn, get, remain, and seem (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014: 269). Below are the example of the divergent of relational process in graphic novel translation;

Data 1 Source Text

Tonight is a celebration. (Token) (Relational Identifying Process) (Value)

Data 1 Target Text

Malam ini **ada** perayaan. (Circumstance; Time) (Existential Process) (Existent)

The data 1 above shows that there is a divergent of relational identifying process realizations. The translation alters the process to existential process. If the translator was faithful to the target text, the translation should be;

Data 1

Malam ini adalah malam perayaan.

(Token) (Relational Identifying Process) (Value)

Here is the other example, in Data 2 the word 'familiar' is an attribute, when it got translated the process shifted to Mental Cognitive Process. The shift occurs because The Attribute is able to become a metaphorical expression of the Process of a 'mental' clause (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014:276).

Data 2

Source Text

the term Tamla Motown **is** familiar to you? (Carrier) (Relational Attributive Process) (Attribute)

Data 2 Target Text

Kau tahu istilah Tamla Motown?

[Senser] [Mental Cognitive Process] [Phenomenon]

b. Mental Process

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The divergent also took place in mental processes, namely (1) mental processes → verbal behavior and (2) mental processes → comment adjunct. A 'mental' clause construes a quantum of change in the flow of events taking place in consciousness (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014:245). Data 3 below is the example of the divergent realization of mental process in translation;

Data 3

Source Text

There, now we **know** each other.

[Senser] [Mental Process] [Phenomenon]

Data 3

Target Text

Nah, sekarang kita sudah berkenalan.

[Behaver] [Behavioral Verbal Process]

Mental processes are experiences that from within' and the behavioral process is a manifestation of those experiences 'outward' in the form of psychological and psychological behavior. Behavioral processes can sometimes be external manifestations of mental processes, verbal processes, and material processes.

Data 4 below, for example, the phrase 'I'm afraid', although syntactically it has a form of mental processing, but this phrase expresses politeness strategy called scope-staters. Scope-staters function to express subjective opinions of things indirectly without tarnish one's 'face' (Watts, 2003).

Data 4

Source Text

I'm afraid there 'someone else now ...

[Senser] [Mental Process]

Data 4

Target Language

Sayangnya, sekarang sudah ada orang lain.

[Comment Adjunct]

This shift in translation took place because of the established equivalence technique. This indicates that Indonesian has a common collocation in the form of comment adjunct or capital adjunct received to translate the phrase 'i afraid' Is used to express the attitude of the speaker towards the message being expressed. The word 'sayangnya' or 'unfortunately' expresses how high the degree of one's desire for something (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014: 109).

c. Behavioral Process

The process of material behavior is usually the process of manifesting generalizations or habits. Such as 'singing, dancing, sitting (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014:302). Data 5 below shows the process of material behavior (habits) used to work



which then get translated into a mental process. The changes **used to work** (material processes) to '*suka mengoperasikan*' - like to operate (mental processes) are caused by the assumption that if a job is done continuously, it can mean that the person likes what he is doing.

Data 5

Source Text

The oven commander, you used to work

the ovens.

[Behavioral Process]

Data 5

Target Text

Oven, Komandan. Dulu kau suka mengoperasikan oven.

[Mental Affect Process]

The Divergent Realization of Transitivity Structure: Participant

There are 3 divergent realization of Participant in Transitivity Structure. They are (1) recipient \rightarrow recipient, (2) recipient \rightarrow phenomenon and (3) phenomenon \rightarrow \emptyset . a.Recipient

Recipient represents a participant that is benefitting from performing the process, In terms of either goods or services, the one that goods are given to (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014:237). Data 6 below shows, the use of modulation techniques of translation replaces the semantic property of the target language's recipient. The translator used 'mereka' - them to refer to the idiom 'bring the house down' which is a theatrical phrase meaning 'If someone or something brings the house down during a play or show, they make the people watching it laugh or clap very loudly (Cambridge, 2019). The Indonesian translation alters the idiom phrase into 'menguncang mereka semua,' means shake their worlds. This change affects differences in recipient language of target text.

Data 6

Target Text

...And I'm going to bring the house down.

Data 6

Source Text

...Dan aku akan menguncang mereka semua.

b.Phenomenon

The data 7 below "I believe they are used to call **them**." Is translated as 'kalau aku tidak salah ingat' - "if I remember correctly." The phenomenon **them** is omitted and added with supposition 'kalau'

Data 7

Target Text

[[This is where you kept the ones who'd taken part in your scientist...experiments, I believe they used to call **them**.

Data 7

Source Text

Lorong ini tempat kau menahan mereka yg ikut serta dlm... eksperimen sains, kalau aku tidak salah ingat ø.

However, there is no specific pattern that explains when a case like this occurs unless the word translation has been omitted / implied due to a different source and target language system.

The Divergent Realization of Transitivity Structure: Circumstance

The omission occurs not only in phenomena, data 8 below shows the omission of circumstance time **even now** with reduction technique, which causes inaccurate translation. This omission happened not because of problems with the structure of the language system or the meaning of language that is not conveyed but because of the inaccuracy of the translator.

Data 8

Target Text

1a.[[I would be saddened by our parting even now,

Data 8

Source Text

Aku bersedih atas perpisahan kita Ø

From the discussion it can be concluded that; (1) transitivity translation divergence factors are (a) idiom phrases and (b) politeness strategies, (2) process translation divergences usually occur due to the use of modulation techniques, (3) if participants are implied or omitted, it could be because of modulation or inaccuracy technique of translation, (4) shifting process translation needs to be further investigated to get patterns with a frequency of occurrence more frequently to obtain valid conclusions.

The Divergent Lexical Items Realization

In this article found divergences in translation of the lexical items; terminology and idiom. This terminology refers to terms or words used in the source language.

a.Terminology

As the text develops, the pattern of terminology selection of words will be recognized. In this article, there were 4 types of divergence in terminology translation, namely (1) terminology $\rightarrow \emptyset$, (2) terminology \rightarrow terminology, (3) terminology \rightarrow idiom, and (4) terminology \rightarrow collocation. The first type is the omission of terminology in the target language. Here Data 9 an example;

1) Terminologi $\rightarrow \emptyset$

Data 9



Source Text

Everybody has their story to tell. Even Evey Hammond.

Data 9

Target Text

Semua orang punya kisah masing-masing **Ø**, bahkan Evey Hammond.

Implication technique is used to omit the translation of data 9 above. Researcher did not found a pattern of omitting this translation in the target language, except the assumption that the translator is not careful in translating lexical item which is considered to not affect the overall meaning of the text.

2) Terminology → Terminology

Divergence in translation terminology \rightarrow terminology is the most commonly found in this research. The divergent lexical items in terminology changes meaning when it is translated into the target language. One factor of this change is intertextuality. Intertextuality is the shaping of a text's meaning by another text. It is the interconnection between similar or related works of literature that reflects and influences an audience's interpretation of the text. There are 7 types of intertextuality, namely (1) revision, (2) translation, (3) citations, (4) sources, (5) conventions and configurations, (6) genres, and (7) paralogues (Miola, 2004:13-25).

Intertextuality of types of citations and sources are the cause of the divergence in translation in this research. Data 10 below is an example of a type of intertextuality in the form of a citation. The main character V pronounces 'The Multiplying villainies of nature do swarm upon him ...' this quote is from Shakespeare MacBeth spoken by Sargent Act I, Scene II. The sentence is translated into the 'Power of evil which multiplies attacking it ...' the word **nature** is not translated with reduction technique therefore this translation is inaccurate but still acceptable.

Data 10

Source Text

[[The multiplying villainies of **nature** do swarm upon him...]]

Data 10

Target Text

[[Kekuatan kejahatan yg berlipat ganda Ø menyerangnya...]]

In addition to citation intertextuality, the graphic novel V for Vendetta also has many source intertextuality. Data 11 below is an example of source intertextuality. The word **gunpowder treason** is translated to '**pengkhianatan**' means betrayal by using reduction technique. This produces less accurate translation. The Gun Powder Treason was an attempted assassination of British King James I in November 1605 by blowing up the parliament building. Therefore, The Gunpowder Treason is a significant event for the people of England (House of Commons, 2010).

Data 11 Source Text

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Remember remember the fifth of November, **the gunpowder treason** and plot.

Data 11

Target Text

Ingat, ingat Lima November, **pengkhianatan** dan perencanaan.

3)Terminologi → Idiom

If intertextuality changes the meaning of the source language's terminology the source language, data 12 below is an example of data changing terminology to an idiom however it does not change meaning. This change uses adaptation technique. Indonesian language has idiom to translate "An adolescent infatuation' that is 'cinta monyet' which literary 'monkey's love'.

Data 12

Source Text

The poor boy has a crush on me... [An adolescent infatuation.]

Data12

Target Text

"Bocah malang itu naksir padaku... cinta monyet."

4) Terminology → Collocation

Aside from the terminology alters into idiom, data 13 below is an anomaly case when the terminology turns into collocation. This divergence in terminology to collocation results from several translation techniques, namely established equivalent and explicitation. Using established equivalent can be interpreted that the target language has the term of collocation to express the meaning of the words 'deserve that name.'

Data 13

Source Text

But all's too weak, for brave Macbeth...

Well he deserves that name...

Data 13

Target Text

Tapi segalanya terlalu lemah, bagi Macbeth Si pemberani...

Yah dia pantas menyandang nama itu...

b. Idiom

If divergences in terminology \rightarrow terminology affect meaning, divergences in idioms only affect word structure. The data 14 below, the divergence in idiom using the established equivalent technique means that the target language has idiom to express the meaning of the words 'Well! Cat got your tongue?'

Data 14 Source Text



Well! Cat got your tongue?

Data 14

Target Text

Kenapa lidahmu kelu?

However, there are some cases where the target language does not have the idiom equivalent, therefore, it gets translated into terminology, exactly like data 15 below:

Data 15

Source Text

You thought I didn't know about your little fling,

Data 15

Target Text

Kaupikir aku tidak tahu tentang **perselingkuhan kecilmu**.

From the discussion, it can be concluded that; (1) divergences in translation terminology \rightarrow terminology changes in meaning caused by intertextuality, (2) the intertextuality that alters terminology are the quotation intertextuality and source intertextuality, (3) divergences in idiom translation and collocation due to target languages have the conventional terms to express the terminology of language source.

The Divergent of Ideational Metafunction Realizations: Logical Meaning

Besides the experimental meaning, the Ideational metafunction also has a logical meaning. Logico-sematic relations are relations between clauses, and these relations are divided into expansion and projection (Thompson, 2014:193).

	Expanding	Projecting
Paratactic	They are not hairdressers, // they are funeral directors.	I said: //'No, I can't do it.'
Hypotactic	If you start trouble, we'll finish it.	A top official denied / that the meeting took place.
Embedded	It depicts a little boat [[sailing through stormy seas]]	I told him about Koornhof's offer [[to sponsor the trip]]

(The basic logico-semantic relations, Thompson, 2014:194.)

In the results, the divergence in the translation of the logical meaning occurs in the interdependency clause; expansion. There are in the relationship between hypotaxis and parataxis. Some cases of logical meaning are the level shifts of clauses into groups, which are hypotaxis sentences shifted into nominal groups and adverbial groups. Data below 16 is the example;

Data 16 Source Text

It was your infidelity that drove me to her arms!

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Data 16

Target Text

Ketidaksetiaanmulah yg mendorongku ke pelukannya!

The data 16 above is an example of a divergence in a hypotactic clause; extending clause shifted to nominal groups by using transposition translation technique therefore that translation becomes more accurate and more acceptable in the target language.

In contrast to data 17 below, this is a hypotactic enhancing shift. Hypotactic; enhancing is often called the adverbial clause because this clause is closely similar to adjuncts. This clause also specifies aspects of the dominant clause such as when and why something happened (Thompson, 2014:198). In data below, hypotactic enhancing shifted into a nominal group, because the clause I 'when I was a child' has a similar structure to Adjuncts. However, this translation shift does not reduce accuracy. This is a clause \rightarrow clause divergence. The divergence is perhaps the impact of the balloon format limitation.

Data 17

Source Text

I used to stare at you from the streets below when I was a child.

Data 17

Target Text

Ketika kecil, aku suka memandangimu dari jalanan.

From the introduction, it has been elucidated that this research ventures to fill the gap in order to analyze the specific divergences that occur in graphic novel translation and from the discussion, it can be concluded that; (1) translation divergences in the interdependency clause are the result of the translator's effort not to maintain the structure of the source language, (2) there is no specific pattern that shows the reason the clause is translated into the group level (downgrading) and (3) the emergence of the dominance of the simplex clause is caused by limitations of the balloon format. In parallel with another study, translating graphic novel or comic is only a translating restriction within different medium (language to semiotic code or graphic narrative form (Mitchell, 2014). This restriction is similar with the restriction to translate film subtitles or dubbing film. The two main constraints for translating subtitles 1) spatial, a constraint that determined by the amount of space available on screen for the text and 2) temporal, a constraint that dictated by the time that a given subtitle remains on screen.

Other studies that also discussed translating graphic novel V for Vendetta mentioned the relationship between the text and the image and their implications in the process of translation. According to Yablonsky (2016), V for Vendetta graphic novel has great amount of intertextual and cultural references.

Conclusion



The translation of Ideational metafunction realizations in novel graphic occurred in experiential and logical meanings subtypes. In experiential meanings, divergent translations are in transitivity structures and lexical items. Divergence in the structure of process transitivity are usually caused by the modulation translation technique. If participants are implied or omitted, it could be because of the modulation translation technique or the translator's inaccuracy. Therefore, translation divergences are needed to be further investigated to obtain patterns to have valid conclusions. The factors causing the divergences in experiential meaning; lexical items, namely (1) idiom phrases (2) politeness strategies and (3) intertextuality.

The translation divergences in terminology \rightarrow terminology influenced by intertextuality of quotations and source intertextuality. Whereas the changes in terminology translation into idioms and collocations are due to the conventional terms of the target language. Omitting in translations usually occur because the translator is not careful enough to translate words or she considers the omissions did not affect the overall meaning of the text. The translation divergences in interdependency clauses are the results of the translator's effort not maintaining the structure of the source language. The emergence of the dominance of the simplex clause is caused by limitations of the balloon format.

Suggestion

The challenge of translating a graphic novel is keeping the meaning with the limitations of speech balloon. Translators must also pay attention to idiom phrases and politeness strategies used by the characters. Additionally, the translation must consider intertextuality because most graphic novels are products of intertextuality discourse.

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