

From ‘Persahabatan’ to ‘Friendship’: Exploring Translating Equivalence in Ika Ayu Rahmawati’s Whattpad Short Story

Shafara Dhuha ‘Afanirazahra¹, Indriyati Hadiningrum^{2*}, Rosdiana Puspita Sari³

^{1,2,3} Jenderal Soedirman University, Indonesia

KEYWORDS

ABSTRACT

Article History: This article is entitled From ‘Persahabatan’ to ‘Friendship’: Exploring Translating Equivalence in Ika Ayu Rahmawati’s Whattpad Short Story. This story is a teen fiction story published on the Wattpad app in 2020. This short story has been read by more than 24,000 users and voted about 301 times. The purposes of translating “Persahabatan” short story into English are to translate it from Indonesian into English, explain the process and the technique in the translation, and describe the difficulties and giving the solutions in the translation. This Wattpad short story is interesting to be translated in order to be found by Wattpad users from other countries and increase readers globally.

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Introduction

Before technology comes to our life, short stories were found in printed media like magazines, newspapers, and books. People could only read short stories after they bought novels, magazines, books, or borrow them from a library. (Rohman, 2020:3). After technology, there is a far different situation where people can read and publish short stories from the internet. This situation makes some people move from printed media to digital media, because there are platforms that are easy to access just by using technology like the internet. Everyone can read and write anywhere and anytime. Short stories can be read and written in various electronic media such as smartphones or personal computers through websites or applications such as Fizzo Novel, Noveltoon, and Wattpad. (Al Falaq, et. al., 2021).

* Corresponding author name: Indriyati Hadiningrum
E-mail address: indriyati.hadiningrum@unsoed.ac.id

Fizzo Novel, Noveltoon, and Wattpad are the modern digital applications for reading and writing. There are the differences between the applications. Fizzo Novel only provides stories that are written in Indonesia; whereas, Noveltoon and Wattpad have short stories from overseas authors (written in the English). Among those three, Wattpad is the most user-friendly application because Wattpad has 23 browse tags that can be used to find genres and also provides short stories from overseas authors written in other foreign languages, including English. Besides, Wattpad is an application with many readers worldwide, reaching over 100 million downloads on Playstore.

Therefore, Wattpad is chosen to find one short story to be translated. After reading four stories from the same author, one short story entitled "Persahabatan" by Ika Ayu Rahmawati was chosen. This story has reached over 24.000 readers and 301 votes in her Wattpad account @bhineka_chan with teen fiction genre. It delivers a message about not forgetting a memory of friendship in high school because that was the time when kids grow up becoming adults. The short story is about four friends who think friendship is the most important thing because they will feel happiness and sadness together when they have friends, just like the "Persahabatan bagai Kepompong" song that is what the story tells. They face joys and sorrows together until an incident takes all the laughter, but it is not long until they find a new light.

This short story had not yet to be translated into English, so it was intriguing to translate this short story from Indonesian (as a Source Language) into English (as a Target Language). The short story was just available in Indonesian and it only appeared in the country, not worldwide. It was proven when the language setting changed into English, the short story would not appear. Therefore, it is important to translate this short story because after the short story that was translated into English was uploaded in the Wattpad and the language setting was changed into English, it made the short story be found in the application by Wattpad users from other countries and increased readers globally.

Translation is the process of transferring the message of a text from Source Language (SL) into Target Language (TL) appropriately in the way the writer intended the text (Newmark:1988 in Anwar, et al., 2020:304).

Hatim and Munday (2019:3) define translation as having a massive effect on everyday life and becoming a phenomenon. Fitria (2018:148) stated that the activity of making a translation product is called Translation Process. During the process, a translation method need to apply to explain the translation outputs and categorize the varieties of translation solutions called translation techniques (Volf, 2020:2). There are 18 that clarified as translation techniques based on Molina and Albir (2002:509-511): Adaptation, Borrowing, Amplification, Description, Generalization, Linguistic Amplification, Linguistic Compression, Calque, Compensation, Discursive Creation, Established Equivalence, Particularization, Reduction, Substitution, Transposition, Variation, Literal translation, and Modulation.

According to Bathgate (in Muam, et al., 2021:9-13), "translation consists of 7 stages. First is Tuning; this is when the translator scans the text and puts it into a specific field, whether economic, political, social, entertainment or vice versa. Second is Analysis; in this step, the translator analyzes the message in the text by meaning and grammatical. Third is understanding; in this step, the translator must understand the

Source language text. Fourth is Terminology; the translator fits the meaning of translation text into the context of target language. Fifth is Restructuring; in this stage, the translator restructuring the translation from the first stage to the fourth and suits it to target language. Sixth is Checking; in this step, the translator must re-check the work to reduce mistakes. Last is discussion step; in this stage, the translator has a small discussion with the master of translation to check the work.

In translating process, the supporting data were needed to be taken and relevant to the previous work, including the discussion of the work practice. In this work practice, there are two previous studies that had been identified as a consideration. The first is the job practice report entitled "Translating Sarah Pinker's Short Story, "Two Truths and a Lie," written by Nabilah (2022). She encountered a few challenges during the work training activity, including a limited command of English and the use of foreign words, proverbs, and concepts that were difficult to understand owing to cultural differences. To solve the problems, Farah used dictionaries and the internet to study and search. The second is a report from Arasyi (2022) entitled "Menerjemahan cerpen berjudul 'Premium Harmony' Karya Stephen King". During the process of translating the short story, she found difficulty finding the right equivalent of words from source language to target language. By conducting literature research on the terms observed, she could solve the problem.

The similarity between this work with two previous studies is that translation techniques from Molina & Albir were used as a direct practice method. The difference with previous studies is that "Translating Sarah Pinker's Short Story, "Two Truths and A Lie" used literature review as a method and a report from Arasyi (2022) only used literature study as a method whereas this work was using two methods, observation and direct practice. In addition, the two previous studies was translating short stories from English into Indonesian whereas this work was translating short story from Indonesian into English.

Methods

According to Hudson (2015), Observation is an act or instance of noticing or perceiving, an act or instance of paying attention or watching. Observation aims to answer research studies inquiries and solve an issue. Observation is one of the methods of collecting data for the job training that helped the arrangement of data collection for Translating the "Persahabatan" Short story.

The first step was observing platforms to read short stories, such as Fizzo Novel, Noveltoon, Wattpad, until it was decided to choose Wattpad. Next, Wattpad was chosen to find short stories, and it was observed by reading four short stories from the same author entitled "Teman?", "Persahabatan", "Darkness and Light", and "Aku Masih Merindukanmu" until deciding to choose "Persahabatan" to be translated because the short story has the most readers and votes compared to the others. Last, the translator observed via the author of the short story to do a retrospective interview to check whether the short story had already been translated or not.

Djauhar (2021:84) stated that direct practice is a form of instruction that emphasizes speaking and listening in order to carry out direct communication in the target language. Direct practice is used by using supporting data as instruction and reference, such as a theory of translation, translation technique, and translation process through translating. During direct practice of translating the short story's source language text "Persahabatan" into English, the short story has directly been translated based on the theory of Molina and Albir by using translation techniques. The use of this method aims to make the translation understandable, and the readers can get the messages from the short story.

Results and Discussion

In translating "Persahabatan" short story, translation processes were carried out, including the tuning, analysis, understanding, terminology, restructuring, checking, and discussion stages.

1. Tuning; this stage was done by transcribing the short story text and putting them into a specific genre namely teen fiction. The genre is to determine the language style of the translation.
2. Analysis; this stage was reading the short story from Chapter 1 into Chapter 6. While reading the short story it was also analyzing the message in the short story text by the meaning and the grammatical of each sentences.
3. Understanding; this stage was done by understanding the context of the short story after reading it. During reading, the translator paid attention to the characters and the plots to make it easier to understand.
4. Terminology; this stage fits the message of the short story text into a context that have similar message in target language. This step was done by applying the 14 translation techniques and it was found that the techniques all are used.
5. Restructuring; this stage is done by restructuring the translation of the short story from the tuning stage into terminology stage. Then, it was also restructuring translation result that had been checked every weeks by supervisors into a complete text.
6. Checking; this stage translation result was submitted to the supervisors that are proven have ability and experience in the field of translation. Then, there was a feedback that can be used to improve the translation result.
7. Discussion; after submitting the translation result to the supervisors, then have a small discussion with them to check the work and given a valuable solution. Then, clarifying the translation result to make sure it really suits the standard that has been determined during the discussion.

The Use of Translation Techniques

There were fourteen translation techniques (out of eighteen) based on the theory of Molina and Albir (2002:509-511) in translating the short story “Persahabatan”, as follows:

1. Adaptation

Adaptation is a technique to change the text in source language by suiting the text into a target language culture.

Table 1. Adaptation examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. “Hoam... jam berapa sekarang?”	“Yawn... what time is it?”
2. Drett Drett Getar ponsel Valtra yang berada di atas meja kafe.	Brztt Brztt Valtra's cell phone vibrated on the table.

“Hoam” and “Drett Drett are the letter sounds combined into words describe the natural sounds of objects and actions (Onomatopoeia) (Literary Devices Editors, 2013). The technique was used because in the Source Language “Hoam” is describe the sound of people yawning and “Drett Drett” is describing a phone vibrating. Equivalent words commonly used in the target language culture are explored through the internet so that the two words from source language could be translated into “Yawn” and “Brztt Brztt” in the target language culture.

2. Borrowing

Borrowing is a technique when the target language steals the word or expression from the source language.

Table 2. Borrowing examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. Semua murid langsung berhamburan ke luar kelas menuju kantin .	All students immediately scattered outside the classroom to the canteen . (Naturalize Borrowing)
2. “ Hm. ”	“ Hm! ” (Pure Borrowing)

In the first example translation, it was using naturalize borrowing technique because the word “canteen” in English is the result of naturalization word of “Kantin” in Indonesian. Whereas, the second example was using Pure Borrowing techniques because the word “hm” was borrowed into the target language without changing the writing.

3. Amplification

Amplification is the technique when the translator adds information in the target language.

Table 3. Amplification Examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. "Engga ah bu, males. "	"No mom, I'm too lazy. "
2. Yang melihatnya hanya menunjuk kan wajah datar.	Those who saw it only showed a flat face.

From the first sentence, it was shown that the sentence must adding the subject from "males" become "I'm too lazy" because if it was just "lazy" the context was not conveyed. From the second sentence it was also adding the subject "Those" to clarify the adverb refers to whom, so that can be a complete sentence.

4. Description

Description replaces the Source language with a description in the target language.

Table 4. Description Examples

Source Language	Target Language
"Aria kenapa? Kenapa? Cepet sekali hisk.	"Why Aria? Why is it so soon? waah.. waah...[crying]

In this translation, "crying" is describing the situation in text because if there was not such description, then the reader is feared to make other interpretations.

5. Calque

Calque is a literal translation of a word or phrase from source language into target language.

Table 5. Calque Examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. Keluarga kecil itu sekarang sudah duduk manis di meja makan.	Now, the little family sat nicely at the dining table.
2. Setelah kepergian Fanny dan Valtra, tinggallah Aria dan Victor di meja kantin.	After Fanny and Valtra left, Aria and Victor were alone at the canteen table.

From the first example, it was used a literal translation of "keluarga kecil" phrase in the source language and translate into "little family" phrase in the target language. The second example, calque was also used a literal translation of "meja kantin" phrase in the source language and translate into "canteen table" phrase in the target language.

6. Compensation

Compensation technique changes the information of the source language to suit in the target language because it cannot be actualized in the same word in the source language.

Table 6. Compensation Examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. Mereka pun makan bakso dengan canda tawa menghias di meja mereka.	They ate meatballs happily .
2. Aku merasa sangat pusing dan sangat lelah untuk berjalan.	I felt very dizzy and too weak to walk.

From the first sentence, it was shown that the words “canda tawa menghias di meja mereka” cannot be actualized in the same words in the target language, therefore the information from the source language is changed to "happily" in the target language. From the second sentence, the words “lelah” also cannot be actualized in the same words in the target language, therefore the information from the source language is changed to "weak" adjusting the context in the target language.

7. Discursive Creation

Discursive Creation is a technique that use an equivalent technique while being unpredictable and out of context.

Table 7. Discursive Creation

Source Language	Target Language
Sama seperti lagu ‘Persahabatan bagai Kepompong’ seperti itu lah isi dari cerita ini.	Just like the song “Persahabatan bagai Kepompong” that is what the story tells.

In this translation the words “Persahabatan bagai Kepompong” was translated into the exact same words because the words is temporary equivalent that out of context and is the title of a song.

8. Established Equivalence

Established Equivalence uses an expression that is known in the daily activity of the target language.

Table 8. Established Equivalence Examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. Aria namanya seorang gadis remaja, berumur 15 tahun yang masih duduk di bangku SMP .	Aria is her name, a fifteen-year-old junior high school girl.
2. Sedangkan Valtra hanya tersenyum tipis, tapi dalam hati ia ikut tertawa.	Valtra, on the other hand , only smiled slightly, but inside he was laughing.

In the first sentence, the word “SMP” in the source language replaced with the words “junior high school” because is more commonly used term in the target language. In addition, the word “sedangkan” in the source language was also replaced with the expression what is commonly known “on the other hand” in the daily activities of target language.

9. Particularization

Particularization is translating to a more specific meaning. This technique is the opposite of the generalization technique.

Table 9. Particularization Examples

Source Language	Target Language
“ Anakmu ini sudah dewasa sayang, dia sudah mandiri.”	“ Your daughter has grown up honey, she is already independent.”

In this translation, the word “anakmu” was replaced into a more specific term in the target language which is “your daughter” means *anak perempuan* in the source language to be able to refer to the subject for clarity.

10. Reduction

Reduction removes the information contained in the source language into target language without causing distortion of meaning.

Table 10. Reduction Examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. Ucap ayah Aria seraya bangkit dari kursinya.	Said dad as he got up from the chair.
2. Karena ucapan Fanny reflek membuat Victor langsung cemberut.	Fanny's statements reflexively made Victor immediately frown.

From the first sentence, it was shown that the words “ayah aria” was removing the word aria and translated into “dad” because “dad” is already refers to “Aria’s dad” in previous sentence. From the second sentence, the word “karena” was removed and not be translated because is unnecessary. The sentence already explained the context.

11. Transposition

Transposition technique is used to replace the grammatical categories from SL to TL because of the different grammar between source language and the target language.

Table 11. Transposition Examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. "Kalian mau beli apa nanti?"	"What are you going to buy?"
2. Rumah Fanny masih lurus lagi sedangkan Valtra dia belok ke kiri.	Valtra took a left turn while Fanny still went straight to her house.

From the first finding, transposition technique was used to change the grammatical structure in the target language by changing the position of the question mark to the front of sentence in target language. The second finding, transposition technique was also used to change the grammatical structure in the target language, because if it was translated with the same grammatical structure from source language, the context will be unclear.

12. Variation

Variation technique replaces linguistic elements or paralinguistic that affect the variation of linguistics.

Table 12. Variation Examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. Yang diajak mengangguk lalu berjalan menuju kelas mereka.	They nodded and walked to their classroom. "By the way, this is my girlfriend."
2. "Oh ya, kenalkan ini pacarku."	

In the first example, the word "yang diajak" replaced into "they" because "they" is the variation of the words "yang diajak" and is refers to the words. In addition, the words "Oh ya" in the second example replaced into "By the way" because "By the way" is the variation of the words "Oh ya" in the target language.

13. Literal Translation

Literal translation technique, or as we know it, is a word of word translation from expression in the source language into the target language.

Table 13. Literal Translation Examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. Aria membalas dengan gelengan kepala.	Aria replied with a headshake.
2. "Seperti biasa." Balas Victor.	"As usual." Victor replied.

In this translation, the two sentence above were translated with a word of word translation in the target language because it suits the sentence from the source language.

14. Modulation

In modulation translation technique, either linguistic or structural, it replaces the cognitive aspect or the point of view that is available in the source language.

Table 14. Modulation Examples

Source Language	Target Language
1. "Seperti biasa, kamu tidak telat bangun. "	"As usual, you wake up early ".
2. Di sepanjang jalan menuju kelas aku dan Fanny saling mengobrol dan tidak jarang di sapa oleh beberapa teman dari kelas sebelah.	Along the way to class, Fanny and I were chatting and were often accosted by some friends from the nextdoor class.

From the first sentence, it was shown that the words "kamu tidak telat bangun" change into a different point of view and translate into "you wake up early" because they have the same message. From the second sentence, it was also shown that the words "tidak jarang" was change into a different point of view and translate into the word "often" because they have the same message.

Conclusions

From the translation of "Persahabatan" short story, it can be concluded that it was trough several stages. Before translating, there were observations for selecting a platform to read short stories, choosing the short story, genre determination, and understanding the context of the short story. Then, direct practice was done using the translation process and techniques. During the translation, it was found several obstacles, but it could be overcome with effective solutions.

From the "Persahabatan" short story, the theory from Bathgate about the translation process was applied. In addition, the 14 translation techniques of Molina and Albir in translating the short story were also found. Among the translation techniques that were used, the Compensation was the most dominant technique because there were many words that could not be actualized in the exact words in the target language. The technique was used to clarify the context of the short story so that the readers could get the message from the short story.

The obstacles in the process of translating the short story were generally about finding the right Interjections, Onomatopoeias, and writing mistakes from the source language. However, the obstacles could be overcome with several solutions. The internet was used to find varieties of Interjections, adaptation technique was used to find Onomatopoeias so that the sound could be described rightly, and last the KBBI website was used to revise the typographical errors or writing mistakes.

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