



**MODULATION IN ENGLISH INDONESIAN TRANSLATION  
OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS IN MOBILE LEGEND:  
BANG-BANG**

A final project  
submitted in partial fulfillment of requirements  
for the degree of *Sarjana Pendidikan*  
in English

by  
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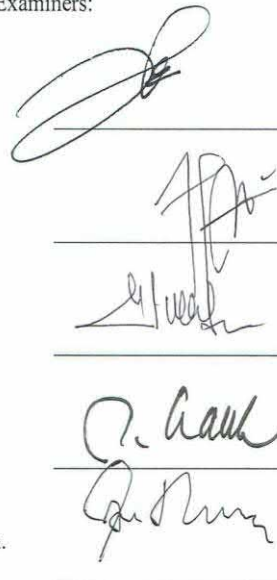
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Yang membuat pernyataan



Wahyu Junianto

**YOU DON'T NEED TO DO YOUR BEST JUST DO IT BETTER THAN  
THE OTHERS**

TO:

MY BELOVED PARENTS

MY BELOVED FRIENDS

MY BELOVED TEACHERS

## ABSTRACT

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Translation is a complicated issue that needs comprehensive skill to transfer other culture which is a written form, modulation sometimes occurs in translating a text from the source text to target text. The main purpose of the study was to analyze the variations of modulation occurred in Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang; they were abstract for concrete, negation of opposite, part another part, reversal of term, active for passive, space for time, explicative modulation, interval and limit, and change of symbols. The game was a written document I used to be my data. This final project belongs to qualitative descriptive research. The data are analyzed descriptively without involving numbers for counting or measuring. The data would be analyzed to find the variations of modulation and I classified them into groups; abstract for concrete, explicative modulation, reversal of term, active for passive, negation of opposite, space for time, interval of limits, and change of symbol. The data could be words, phrases, and sentences. As conclusion, the translator tries to find the closest natural meaning in target language but not swerve too far from the original text. I realize that this study is far from perfect. Nevertheless, hopefully, the results of this study will give a contribution to the translation study. Besides, it can also help the students who are interested in learning English especially about translation that needs carefulness.

**Keywords: translation, modulation, Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang**

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I realize that nothing is perfect, so I would be very glad to have your corrections if you find mistakes or omissions.

Semarang, August 2019

The writer

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter tells about the introduction. It involves general background of the study, reason for choosing the topic, statements of the problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study and outline of the study.

#### **1.1 General Background of the Study**

Translation is a process of transferring meaning from source language to target language (Newmark, 1981). A challenging effort for the translator is not only transferring the meaning or message from the source language into the target language, but they also must be able to produce readable text from the source language into the target language. The translator should also understand some aspects which are related to the translation process because the process of translation is more than translating sentence after sentence, but the meaning must be accurate. Therefore, the translator plays an important role in transferring information.

Nowadays, there are a lot of translation products that are translated from various languages. One of them is a game. Translating a game is different from translating any written form such as article, novel, magazine, considering the timing of the text itself appeared on the screen and some problematic factors that will be faced by the translator while translating an English text such as style, meaning, proverbs and idioms. (Seidl & McMordie, 1980) say that idioms are used in formal and informal situations. Idiomatic expressions in the formal situations can be found in lectures, academic essays, and business reports.

Informal idiomatic expressions can be found in the works of literature, movies, and music. Idiomatic expressions are often found in every translation because idiomatic expressions are used in a wide variety of contexts and situations. The translators have to be careful in translating idiomatic expressions because they need to use some different strategies to translate those expressions.

Modulation, one of those problematic factors stated above are also found in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game. A good translated game should be able to transfer the idiomatic expressions equivalently to maintain the style and naturalness of the original text. Therefore, a translator should determine what kind of translation strategy should be used to translate idiomatic expressions. Modulation entails a change in lexical elements, a shift in the point of view. Modulation occurs when the translator reproduces the message of the original text in the TL text in conformity with the current norms of the TL, since the SL and the TL may appear dissimilar in terms of perspective.

Here, the writer is interested in analyzing the game *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* by Moonton into its translated version because this game is interesting to the writer due to the various types of modulation technique applied. These are the things that have motivated the writer to examine deeper about modulation in this game.

## **1.2 Reasons for Choosing the Topic**

From the elaboration above I have several reasons why I would like to analyze the idiomatic translation of *Mobile Legends: Bang-Bang*. The reasons are:

- (1) Translation is an important tool to understand other languages.

- (2) The game application of Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang is available and easy to get on the Google Play store.
- (3) Modulation in the translation of *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* can be a beneficial reference for the translator to make sure that it is conducted well.
- (4) *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang*, as has been known to everyone, is one of the top best sellers-game. The game has been published in many countries which have been translated in many languages, including Indonesian.
- (5) I simply like the game.

### **1.3 Research Problems**

In order not to discuss something irrelevant, I limit the discussion by presenting and focusing my attention to the following problem:

How are the modulations applied in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legends: Bang-Bang*?

This question is then elaborated into nine sub-questions, namely:

- (1) How is the realization of *negation of opposite* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game?
- (2) How is the realization of *abstract for concrete* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game?
- (3) How is the realization of *explicative modulation* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game?
- (4) How is the realization of *part another part* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game?

- (5) How is the realization of *reversal of term* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game?
- (6) How is the realization of *active for passive* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game?
- (7) How is the realization of *space for time* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game?
- (8) How is the realization of *interval and limits* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game?
- (9) How is the realization of *change of symbols* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game?

#### **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problem stated, the purposes of the study are:

To find out the modulations applied in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang*

This purpose is then elaborated into nine purposes, namely:

- (1) To explain the ways in what *negation of opposite* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game is realized
- (2) To explain the ways in what *abstract for concrete* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game is realized

- (3) To explain the ways in what *explicative modulation* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game is realized
- (4) To explain the ways in what *part another part* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game is realized
- (5) To explain the ways in what *reversal of term* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game is realized
- (6) To explain the ways in what *active for passive* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game is realized
- (7) To explain the ways in what *space for time* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game is realized
- (8) To explain the ways in what *interval and limits* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game is realized
- (9) To explain the ways in what *change of symbols* in translating the English idiomatic expressions into Indonesian in *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* game is realized

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

Related to the objectives of the study, this analysis is made to give knowledge about modulation in translation studies, especially in the game translation. By understanding the theory of modulation variation, readers can understand more about modulation which occurred in the game. In addition, this research is also expected to improve the reader's knowledge about kinds of modulation found in this game.

### **1.6 Outline of the Report**

To arrange the written report I divided my study into some chapters and sub-chapters. Each chapter discusses certain related issues.

Chapter I is the introduction. It involves general background of the study, reason for choosing the topic, statements of the problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study and outline of the study.

Chapter II is review of the related literature. It consists of review of previous study, definition of translation, kinds of translation, translation method, translation techniques, modulation, equivalence in translation, degree of meaning equivalence, meaning and theoretical framework.

Chapter III is about method of investigation which tells about research design, research instrument, object of study, procedure of collecting data, and procedure of analyzing data.

Chapter IV presents the results of the data analysis.

And Chapter V tells about the conclusion and suggestion.



## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In chapter II it discusses about review of the related literature. It consists of review of previous studies, definition of translation, kinds of translation, translation method, translation techniques, modulation, equivalence in translation, degree of meaning equivalence, meaning and theoretical framework.

#### 2.1 Review of Previous Studies

When translators transfer the meaning of SL to TL, they will try to deliver the meaning in TL naturally. It means the form of the words is not so important. The aim is to convey the message of SL so that the readers can understand it easily. It means that there is modulation occurred in translating a text. Nida (1969) claimed that translation consists of reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalence of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style (p.12). From this point, it can be assumed that to obtain equivalence between Source Text (ST) and Target Text (TT), a translator should reproduce the message by considering the meaning first rather than the style. The meaning is mentioned first since it is to emphasize that meaning is above anything. Thus, it is supposed to be preserved as natural as possible. After that, the translator can deal with the style or the form of the ST.

Aini (2002) in her final project: *Modulation in Translating English Idiomatic expression into Indonesian: An Analysis of Sydney Sheldon's Bloodline*, she tries to analyze kinds of modulation that occurred in the novel in which language used is literary full of metaphor, more specifically she analyzes the

idiomatic expression. According to the Oxford Dictionary idiom is a group of words with a meaning that is different from the meaning of all the individual words. Idiomatic expression can be nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. Here Noer Aini in her studies found that the kinds of modulation occurred in idiomatic expression.

She found that there is a problem in translating a text on it that is achieving word equivalence in TL. She is hard to describe a word she knows in other languages, she says there are many ways in saying something of different language but the matters are how we try to do a translation in the understandable language and as close as possible the equivalence word. Moreover, she is trying to find suitable word choices or diction.

Types of modulation she found; generalization, specification, reversal, and deviation. In her study she groups types of modulation based on the percent level. The biggest-rank types of modulation are reversal, specification, generalization, and deviation.

In conclusion, translation is an activity that requires replacing, reproducing or rendering the closest natural equivalent and similar message, meaning, structure and style from SL into TL or receptor language in two texts within one language (intralingual translation), two or more languages (interlingual), or two or more signs (intersemiotics). Thus, before translating a text, a translator needs to have skills related to conveying the messages in the source text, so that he or she can transfer them into the target text with their closest equivalent.

## 2.2 Definition of Translation

There are many definitions of translation given by linguists. Here are several examples of translation: according to Bell (1991), translation is the process of the result converting information from one language variety into another. The aim is to reproduce as accurately as possible all grammatical and lexical features or source language original by finding equivalence in TL. At the same time, all factual information contained in the original text must be retained in the translation.

According to Larson (1984), he claimed that translation is transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor one. This is done by going from the form of the first language to the form of second language by way of semantic structure. It is meaning which is being transferred and must be held constant. Seemingly Larson's statement above focuses to transfer form of the word that is delivered to the reader, For instance, '*penggaris*' translated into '*ruler*', '*wanita tua*' translated into '*old lady*'.

Another definition proposed by Nida and Tabor (1969) explained 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 (p.12). From that definition, it can be concluded that the translators may translate other languages freely without considering the form of the words (free translation). In this case, the most important thing from the definition is the messages from the source text (ST) can be delivered into target text (TT) full of meaning. In addition, translation is written communication in the

second language having the same meaning as the written communication in a first language. It means that translation is the change formed as written materials from certain language into another.

Catford (1965) defined translation as the replacement of textual material in one language source language by equivalent textual material in another language target language (p.20). From the last two definitions above we know that in accordance with a psycholinguist, Catford, the central problem of translation practice is that of finding target language translation equivalence. According to Hawkes in Basnett-McGuire (1991) said that translation involves the transfer of 'meaning' contained in one set of language signs into another set of language through competence use of the dictionary and grammar, the process involves a whole set of extralinguistic criteria also (p.13). In this definition, it is very complicated because we have to describe a whole set of extralinguistic that is hardly ever known.

### **2.3 Kinds of Translation**

According to Jacobson as cited in Munday and Hatim (2004), there are three categories in translation commonly used in everyday actions, which are *intralingual*, *interlingual*, and *intersemiotic*. Each category has its own characteristic which differs one with the others. To be a good translator, a person has to understand the characteristics as well as the differences of those categories, so that he or she can apply the right strategy when running his or her duty.

### **2.3.1 Interlingual Translation**

Interlingual translation is the interpretation of verbal signs by means of signs of some other language. This kind of translation refers to different languages, whether bilingual or multilingual. Since this translation transfers the message of a language into a different languages, it is called a bilingual translation. This kind of translation is most often done because many books and movies use a foreign language.

### **2.3.2 Intralingual Translation**

Intralingual translation is the interpretation of verbal signs by means of other signs of the same language. It is also called a monolingual translation since this translation only involves one language. This is a kind of translation is where the verbal signs are interpreted by means of other signs of the same language, which can involve rewording and paraphrasing. Paraphrasing of a poem in the same language and simplifying a text are examples of intralingual translation activities.

### **2.3.3 Intersemiotic Translation**

Intersemiotic translation is the interpretation of verbal signs by means of signs of nonverbal sign systems. This kind of translation transfers the message from the shapes of symbol and sign into the language or other shapes. This phenomenon often occurs in our daily activity. Looking at the sign of traffic light and trying to understand the meaning of a picture are the examples of intersemiotic translation activities.

## 2.4 Translation Method

Translation method is an option that has been chosen by the translator to carry out the translation project (Molina and Albir, 2002). Translation method is divided into two categories. The first category is a form-based or literal translation. The second category is a meaning-based or idiomatic translation. The methods spread in the continuum from very literal to unduly free (Larson, 1984, as cited in Kozanecka, 1998). Further, Larson adds that unduly free translations are not considered acceptable translations and suggests idiomatic translations as the best way since it reproduces the meaning of the SL in the natural form of the receptor language.

Moreover, Nida and Taber (2003) suggest that a translation should be a dynamic equivalent one. Dynamic equivalence is, therefore, to be defined in terms of the degree to which the receptor or the message in the receptor language responds to it in substantially the same manner as the receptors in the source language. According to Venuti (2000), it aims at complete naturalness of expression, and tries to relate the receptor to modes of behavior relevant within the context of his own culture; it does not insist that he understands the cultural patterns of the source-language context in order to comprehend the message (p.129).

Translation method is divided into two types, which are the method closest to the source language and the method closest to the target language. In this case, each type is defined based on the ideology that is applied in the texts, whether it is foreignization (closest to the source language), or domestication (closest to the

target language). If it is foreignization, the methods will be word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, and semantic translation. However, if it is domestication, the methods will be free translation, adaptation, idiomatic translation, and communicative translation.

#### **2.4.1 Source-language-oriented Method**

Source-language-oriented method is divided into 4 categories. Those are word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, and semantic translation. The explanation of each category is described below.

##### 1) Word-for-word translation

The source language is translated word for word.

##### 2) Literal translation

The SL grammatical forms are converted to their nearest target language equivalent. However, the lexical words are translated out of context.

##### 3) Faithful translation

This method tries to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the differences in TL grammatical structures. It transfers cultural words and follows the SL grammatical forms faithfully.

##### 4) Semantic translation

This method concerns o the aesthetic value or the beautiful and natural sound of the SL text. In addition, the method tries to seek appropriate meaning.

### **2.4.2 Target-language-oriented Method**

Target-language-oriented method is divided into 4 categories. Those are free translation, adaptation, idiomatic translation, and communicative translation. The explanation of each category is described below.

#### 1) Free translation

It is a translation that is not bounded to structure and manner.

#### 2) Adaptation

This method is the freest form of translation. It is frequently used for plays (comedies) and poetry.

#### 3) Idiomatic translation

It reproduces the message of the source text but tends to shift or change the nuances of meaning by preferring idioms.

#### 4) Communicative translation

This method attempts to render the exact contextual meaning of the original so that both content and language are acceptable to the readers and can be understood comprehensively.

Newmark (1988) adds that there are two best methods of translations. They are (1) communicative translation, in which the attempts are to produce the same effect on the target language readers, and (2) semantic translation, in which the translation attempts are within the bare syntactic and semantic constraints of the target language, to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the author (p.22). From the methods above, both Newmark and Larson explain that the selection of



the appropriate translation methods plays an important role in making a good translation. It means that the TL readers read the translation text with confidence that the text they read sounds like the original text.

## **2.5 Idiomatic Expressions**

One of the most important aspects of language is idioms. They are frequently used in a wide variety of situations, from friendly conversations to more formal conversations and written contexts. Hornby (1995) mentions that an idiom is a phrase or sentence whose meaning is not clear from the meaning of its individual words and which must be learnt as a whole unit, for instance, the idiom *spill the beans* means to reveal secret information, especially without intending to do so (p.589). Carter (1993) defines idioms as special combinations with restricted forms and meanings that cannot be deduced from the literal meanings of the words which make them up (p.65). Accordingly, an idiom is learned and used as a single unit. It should not be analyzed into its constituents; it is unchangeable and always carries figurative meaning.

In addition, Ball (1968) finds that an adequate definition of an idiom is the use of familiar words in an unfamiliar sense (p.1). Palmer (1996) states that an idiom is semantically like a single word, it does not function like one. A large number of an idioms contain a verb and a noun, but although the verb may be placed in the past tense, the number of the noun can never be changed, for instance, the expressions 'kick the bucket' and 'kicked the bucke t' (someone who dies) are largely used in English, in contrast to 'kick the buckets' which never occurs (p60).

An idiom allows no variation in form under normal circumstances. Unless the speaker is consciously making a joke or attempting a play on words. Baker (1992) identifies the grammatical and syntactic restrictions of idioms. A speaker or writer cannot normally do any of the following with an idiom (p.63).

1. Addition: adding any word to an idiomatic expressions would alter its meaning, or remove its idiomatic sense. Thus, adding the adverb 'very' to the adjective 'red' in 'red herring' (very red herring) affects the figurativeness of its meaning completely.
2. Deletion: deleting the adjective 'sweet' and the article 'the' from the expressions 'have a sweet tooth' and 'spill the beans' would totally change their meanings. Hence, (have a tooth) and (spill beans) have no idiomatic sense.
3. Substitution: idioms accept no replacement of words even if those words are synonyms. For example, 'the long and short of it' means the basic facts of a situation. The adjective 'long' cannot be substituted by another adjective, like tall, despite they have nearly the same meaning.
4. Changing the words order: any changing in the order of the words of an idiom leads to the destruction of the idiom's meaning. For instance, the order of the words in the expression 'the long and the short of it' cannot be changed into 'the short and the long of it'.
5. Changing the grammatical structure: the passive form 'some beans were spilled' has different meaning from its active form 'they spilled the beans' meaning 'they reveal a secret'.

Translating idioms is one of the most difficult tasks for translators. It involves far more than the replacement of lexical and grammatical items between languages, and it may involve discarding the basic linguistic elements of the SL text. According to Baker (1992), the first difficulty that a translator comes across, while translating idioms, is the ability to recognize and distinguish idiomatic from non-idiomatic usage (p.65). Recognition is difficult, and sometimes impossible, since many idioms can be slightly modified, while others can be discontinuously spread over a clause. As a rule, the more difficult an expression is to understand and the less sense it makes in a given context, the more likely a translator will recognize it as an idiom (Baker,1992, pp. 65-66).

From the definitions above it can be concluded that an idiomatic expression or an idiom is an expression (i.e. term or phrase) whose meaning cannot be deduced from the literal definition and the arrangement of its parts. An idiom can be in the form of phrase, clause or sentence. In addition, the source and the target cultures have a great influence on the comprehensibility as well as the translatability of idioms. Hence, better understanding and using idioms needs both knowing their historical background and familiarity with both the source and the target cultures, and having a clear idea about their different situational context.

It should be quite clear by now, the concept of idiom has been interpreted differently by different people. The scope of idiomaticity and the view of different types of idioms are quite extensive. Since idioms differ greatly both in their character and composition, it is indeed important to provide categorizations for

different types of idioms. In this research, some classifications of English idioms from some experts will be introduced by the researcher.

Lim (2004) says that generally speaking, English idioms consist of the following six types:

- a. phrasal verb, as in *call on, put off, do away with,*
- b. prepositional phrases, as in *in a nutshell, from time to time, with a view to,*
- c. idioms with verbs as keywords, as in *come in handy, fight shy of, leave much to be desired,*
- d. idioms with nouns as keywords, as in *a blessing disguise, child's play, food for thought,*
- e. idioms with adjectives as keywords, as in *cold comfort, wishful thinking, plan sailing,* and
- f. idiomatic pairs, as in *safe and sound, aches and pains, sink or swim.*

Moreover, Seidl and McMordie (1980) also classify idioms into the following groups.

- a. Key words with idiomatic uses
  - 1) Adjective and adverb, e.g. *bad news, a big mouth, in short, it is high time*
  - 2) Noun, e.g. *by the way, in the end, the bottom line*
  - 3) Miscellaneous, e.g. *after all, how in the world, it is too bad*
- b. Idioms with nouns and adjectives
  - 1) Noun phrases, e.g. *a blessing in disguise, a breath of fresh air*
  - 2) Adjectives + noun, e.g. *a blind date, a close call, a narrow escape*

c. Idiomatic pairs

This kind of idiom consists of some combination. Five different types are given as follows:

- 1) pairs of adjectives, e.g. *safe and sound*,
- 2) pairs of nouns, e.g. *flesh and blood*,
- 3) pairs of adverbs, e.g. *in and out*,
- 4) pairs of verbs, e.g. *sink or swim*,
- 5) identical pairs, e.g. *all in all*.

d. Idioms with prepositions, e.g. *at ease, behind the scenes, in a flash*

e. Phrasal verbs, e.g. *break up, go on, get out, settle down, get up*

f. Verbal idiom

- 1) Verb + noun, e.g. *throw a party*
- 2) Verb + prepositional phrase, e.g. *keep in touch*

g. Idioms of comparison , e.g. *as black as coal, as dumb as a statue, to eat like a horse, to go like the wind*

## 2.6 Translation Techniques

Translation techniques are the micro-units of translation method aimed at analyzing how the result of the translation functions in relation to the corresponding unit in the source text (Molina and Albir, 2002, p.499). Vinay and Darbelnet are two scholars who classified translation techniques that had a clear methodological purpose in 1958 in the book entitled *Stylistique Comparée du Français et de L'anglais*. The term they use is 'procédés techniques de la traduction.' In other words, the term 'translation procedure' is actually the same

as ‘translation technique’. They define seven basic procedures that are classified as direct (or literal) or oblique, to coincide with their distinction between direct (or literal) and oblique translation.

### **2.6.1 Direct translation**

It occurs when there is an exact structural, lexical, even morphological equivalence between two languages. According to the authors, this is only possible when the two languages are very close to each other. The direct translation procedures are borrowing, calque, and literal translation.

#### **1) Borrowing**

It is a word taken directly from another language. This is a new rising situation in translation studies, due to the development of education in the country of the target culture and economic globalization as the prerequisite. For keeping the unanimous genre in some kinds of texts, the translator should adopt this “original translation” method to translate words for the achievement of textual equivalence rather than translate these words into TL. The advantage of borrowing strategy is that it brings an original connotation to the word in TL. e.g., the English word *bulldozer* has been incorporated directly into other languages.

#### **2) Calque**

Calque is a foreign word or phrase translated and incorporated into another language. Calque is ‘a special kind of borrowing’, so, as the borrowing strategy mentioned above, it has the same influence on the enhancement of cultural integration. However, sometimes this translation

strategy will cause difficulties in conveying messages in the TL. e.g., the word '*komputer*' in *Bahasa Indonesia* is from the English word 'computer'.

### 3) **Literal translation**

It can be said as word for word translation, e.g., "The pen is on the table" translated into "*Pulpennya ada di atas meja*".

#### 2.6.2 **Oblique translation**

It occurs when word for word translation is impossible. The oblique translation procedures are described as follows.

##### 1) **Transposition**

It is a shift of word class, i.e., verb for noun, noun for preposition. This strategy can also be found within a language, 'I give him a kiss' is semantically no difference from 'I kiss him' though the word 'kiss' is changed from a noun into a verb, e.g. "The neighbors were hostile to the family" into "*Para tetangga memusuhi keluarga tersebut.*" (adjective – verb)

##### 2) **Modulation**

It is a shift in point of view. Whereas transposition is a shift between grammatical categories, modulation is a shift in cognitive categories. Modulation can be adopted when, though literal or transposition translation results grammatically correct utterance, the patterns of TL in the TT are considered as abnormal or awkward. The application of this skill demands very much the translator's capacity in mastering bilingual languages. e.g. 'She is very poor so that she can only eat fish and chips every day' into '*Wanita itu sangat miskin dan ia hanya mampu makan tahu dan tempe setiap*

*hari*'. The expression "eat fish and chips" symbolizes simple and plain living which poor people have since fish and chips are the cheapest food that western people can buy. Thus, those who are eating fish and chips every day must be poor people, so that they cannot buy any other food. In the Indonesian context, in order to symbolize the same situation, the expression '*makan tahu dan tempe*' is more appropriate, since '*tahu*' and '*tempe*' are some ordinary food that most people can buy cheaply. In the modulation perspective, this kind of change (from 'fish and chips' into '*tahu dan tempe*') is regarded as change in symbol.

### **3) Reformulation**

Reformulation applies for two expressions (source and target expressions) in the same situation using a completely different phrase. It refers to a strategy to describe the same situation by using completely different stylistic or structural methods for producing 'equivalent texts'. e.g., the translation of proverbs or idiomatic expressions like, "Killing two birds in one shot" into "*Sekali merengkuh dayung, dua tiga pulau terlampaui*".

### **4) Adaptation**

It is a shift in the cultural environment. It refers to a method used in cases where the type of situation being referred to by the SL message is unknown in the TL culture. i.e., to express the message using a different situation, e.g. *cycling* for the French, *cricket* for the English and *baseball* for the Americans



## 2.7 Modulation

Vinay and Dalbarnet quoted by Newmark coined the term of modulation to define *a variation through a change of viewpoint, of perspective and very often a category of thought*. Machali (2000) categorized the modulation into free and mandatory (p. 692). The former occurs when TL rejects literal translation and the last happens when a word, phrase, or sentence does not have the translation equivalence in TL.

Modulation technique employed in this study follows the definition from Vinay and Darbelnet, in which modulation occurs because there is a shift in perspective because of a different point of view in Source Language to Target Language. Vinay and Darbelnet propose nine types of modulation, based on three planes of expression: *lexicon or lexis, syntactic structure, and message*. The types are abstract for concrete, explicative modulation (cause for effect or means for result), part for another part, reversal of terms, negation of opposite (positive for double negative) , active for passive (and vice versa), space for time, interval and limits, and change of symbols (Newmark, 1988, p. 89).

### 2.7.1 Types of Modulation

The classification of modulation proposed by Vinay & Darbelnet (1995) is based on the nature of mental operations underlying each type of modulation. Those types are abstract for concrete, explicative modulation, part to another part, reversal of term, negation of opposite, active for passive, space for time, interval for limit, and change of symbol.

### 1) Abstract for Concrete

Concrete words are recognized more quickly and remembered better than abstract words. Salkie (2001) provides a different perspective on modulation, which he describes as a type of transposition at the global level, applying to categories of thought, not grammatical categories (p.3). With modulation, there will be different viewpoints on the same situation. And Abstract for concrete is the change of perspective to be clearer.

For example:

ST : She sleeps in the open.

TT : *Ia tidur di bawah langit beratapkan bintang – bintang.* (The words ‘the open’ which is abstract is translated into ‘*di bawah langit beratapkan bintang – bintang*’ which is more concrete and easily defined.)

### 2) Explicative Modulation

It tends to make clear the implicit meaning, or, make something explicit into implicit. The explicative modulation type includes the cause for effect, the means for the result, the substance for the object, or vice versa. Explicative Modulation tends to make something explicit into implicit, or make clear the implicit meaning.

For example:

ST : These conflicts, which more often than not have regional causes....

TT : *Konflik – konflik ini, yang lebih sering disebabkan oleh sebab – sebab regional...* (The phrase ‘than not’ is not translated into Target Text)

### 3) **Part another part**

It happens when there is certain part of thing is translated into another part. This kind of modulation that occurs when the SL only state a part, but the translator translated into other parts in the TL. According to Venuti (2000), it aims at complete naturalness of expression, and tries to relate the receptor to modes of behavior relevant within the context of his own culture; it does not insist that he understands the cultural patterns of the source-language context in order to comprehend the message (p.129). It happens when there is a certain part of the thing is translated into another part.

For example:

ST: From cover to cover

TT: *Dari halaman pertama sampai halaman terakhir*

### 4) **Reversal of terms**

This type is usually optional for making degree to which the receptor or the message in the receptor language responds to it in substantially the same manner as the receptors in the source language. It is also a distinct technique, usually optional for making language sounds natural.

For example:

ST : Money laundry

TT : *Pencucian uang* (not '*uang pencucian*')

### 5) **Negation of opposite**

It is positive for double negative (or 'double negative for positive') and it is a concrete translation procedure which can be applied in principle to any action (verb) or quality (adjective or adverb). The translations are free, and in theory, the double negative is not as forceful as the positive; in fact, the force of the double negative depends on the tone of voice, and therefore the appropriateness of this modulation must depend on its formulation and the context. This type of modulation is similar to litotes.

For example:

ST : Conflicts are bound to occur.

TT : *Konflik militer tak urung terjadi juga.*

### 6) **Active for passive**

This type is a common transposition, mandatory when no passive exists and it can also be advisable where a reflexive is normally preferred to a passive, as in Bahasa Indonesia.

For example:

ST : I cut my finger. (active)

TT : *Jariku teriris.* (passive)

### 7) **Space for time**

It is usually called as metalepsis. It happens when a word or a phrase indicating space (it is usually preceded by the preposition of place, e.g. on, in, at) is translated into a word or a phrase representing time.

For example :

ST : I'm in a difficulty.

TT : *ketika saya sedang bersedih...*

### 8) Interval and limits

It is a type of modulation where there is a change when an interval phrase is translated into the limit symbol. Therefore, the content and the style of the original text should be preserved as far as possible in the translated text.

For example:

ST : In the period between 1900 and 2000, industries were growing up.

TT : *Di era modern ini, industri terus berkembang.*

### 9) Change of symbols

The comparison of fixed metaphor reveals that the symbolism employed in different languages is based on quite different images. It includes fixed and new metaphors.

For example:

ST : She is a bookworm.

TT : *Ia seorang kutu buku* (not 'cacing buku').

## 2.8 Equivalence in Translation

In his definition of translation equivalence, Bassnett (1991), classified it into four translations (p.21):

*Linguistic equivalence*, where there is homogeneity of the linguistic level of both SL and SL text, i.e. word for word translation.

*Paradigmatic equivalence*, where there is the equivalence of the element of the paradigmatic expressive axis, i.e. elements of grammar.

*Stylistic (translation) equivalence*, where there is the functional equivalence of elements in both original in translation aiming at an expressive identity with invariant of identical meaning.

*Textual equivalence*, where there is the equivalence of the syntagmatic structuring of a text. i.e. equivalence of form shape.

In accordance with Baker (1992), there are five types of equivalence; equivalence at word, equivalence above word level, grammatical equivalence, textual equivalence, and pragmatic equivalence (p.5).

Based on the principle aim of translation that is an activity of seeking to the closest possible equivalence, Nida (1964) divided the activity of translation into two types namely translation oriented on dynamic and formal equivalence and as well Bassnet (1991) did.

### **1. Formal equivalence**

It focuses attention on the message itself in both form and content; the message should match as closely as possible with different elements in the SL. This means that the message in receptor culture is constantly compared with the message in the source culture to determine the standard of accuracy and correctness.

For example; They decide to see an exhibition

*Mereka memutuskan untuk melihat pameran*

## 2. Dynamic equivalence

It is based on the principle of equivalence effect. It is defined as the closest natural equivalence to the source language. This type of definition contains three essential terms (1). Equivalence, which points toward the source language message, (2). Natural, which points toward the receptor language, and (3). Closest, which binds the two orientation together on the basis of the highest degree of approximation.

For example: It's no use crying over the split milk

*Sesal kemudian tak ada gunanya*

### 2.9 Degree of Meaning Equivalence

Translation equivalence is associated not only with its form but also with various degrees of meaning equivalence; equivalents are analyzed on the basis of how the units of equivalence in translations correspond to the units in source texts. Bayar (2007) suggests seven types of meaning equivalence degrees: Optimum translation, Partial Translation (Near-optimum Translation & Weak Translation) Zero Equivalence, and Non Translation (p.213).

#### 2.9.1 Types of Equivalence Degree

Equivalence degree is divided into six types. The types are Optimum translation, Partial Translation (Near-optimum Translation & Weak Translation) Zero Equivalence, and Non Translation.

##### 1. Optimum translation

It is characterized by equivalence at all the levels, However, optimum or absolute equivalence is claimed to be impossible to reach as structures

of languages differ. Since optimum translation appears as soon as equivalence is maintained at all the levels mentioned above and no variations or uncertainties are possible in this case.

## **2. Partial Translation**

Partial Translation (partial equivalence) is divided into two subtypes: near-optimum translation and weak translation.

Near-optimum translation

It is exhibited when expressions:

- (a) do not correspond stylistically,
- (b) the form is rendered in a different way,
- (c) the semantic equivalence is conveyed (but very insignificant or nonessential inaccuracy might appear at semantic level), and
- (d) the same information is maintained.

Near-optimum translation is quite similar to optimum translation as only some insignificant uncertainties are exhibited in the translated expressions of this degree, while the main idea and the information (especially at the semantic level which is very important in maintaining the meaning and the same effect of the whole expression) is conveyed.

It refers to weak degree of equivalence maintained in the expression translation. The translation is considered weak when there is:



- (a) not enough equivalence or even there is no equivalence at semantic level,
- (b) the form and the style is maintained,
- (c) the information is conveyed, and
- (d) additional information is added or some information is omitted.

### **3. Zero Equivalence**

It is characterized by:

- (1) absolutely different wording,
- (2) a reference to the main idea of the original (the information is different as the semantics of the translated expression as a whole is not maintained),
- (3) different style,
- (4) different form.

In other words, the translated expressions with zero equivalence do not exhibit any equivalence at any level. In other words, there are some common and unifying idea which are expressed differently.

### **4. Non Translation**

Non translation means that the expression in *ST* is not translated into *TT* so that it results in nothing to analyze. In this research, this type of equivalence degree is not involved.

## 2.10 Meaning

Meaning is one of the significant elements in translation taken into account in the translation process. Baker (1969) claimed meaning as the total network of relationships entered into by any linguistic form-text, item-in-text, structure, element, of structure, class, and term in the system – whatever it may be (p.35).

According to Suryawinata (1989), meaning is divided into four categories: they are lexical, grammatical, contextual, and sociocultural meaning (p.21).

### 1. Lexical meaning

Lexical meaning is the meaning given in the dictionary definition for words. Such as earth, tree, human. Etc.

### 2. Grammatical meaning

Grammatical meaning is the meaning which is determined by word order (syntax) and word form (morphology). Here is the example of general meaning;

- a. He *goes* to school everyday
- b. He *went* to school yesterday

The first sentence uses the verb ‘goes’ indicating simple present tense and it has meaning that the activity is habitual, and the second one uses the verb ‘went’ indicating simple past tense meaning the activity happens in the past.

### 3. Contextual meaning

Contextual meaning is the meaning of word determined by its relation with other words in a sentence, for example;

Give me your ear      (*dengarkan*)

Pay attention          (*perhatikan*)

Contextual meaning arises in a context or situation where a word, phrase, sentence or saying is used. For example, the greeting *good morning* normally is used in the morning. However, it may have another meaning if it is used in different situation where in a superintendent in angry to find his employee coming late, he would say '*that's enough good morning*'

#### 4. Sociocultural meaning

Sociocultural meaning is the meaning determined by sociocultural factors.

In Sundanese culture, one who meets his friends coming home from a trip would ask friends

"*Menang naon?*"      (*dapat apa*)

The statement doesn't mean that he really wants something but he just expresses his greeting. The greeted friend will not give anything, however, he says "*capek*" (tired). If we don't know the English, it is difficult to translate.

While C.K. Ogden and I.A. Richard (Leech 1981) gives a list of as many as twenty two definitions of the word meaning, taking different non-theoretical or theoretical starting points, the followings are some of them (p.1);

An intrinsic property, The other words annexed to a word in the dictionary, The connotation of a word, The place of anything in a system, The practical consequences of a thing in our future experience, That to

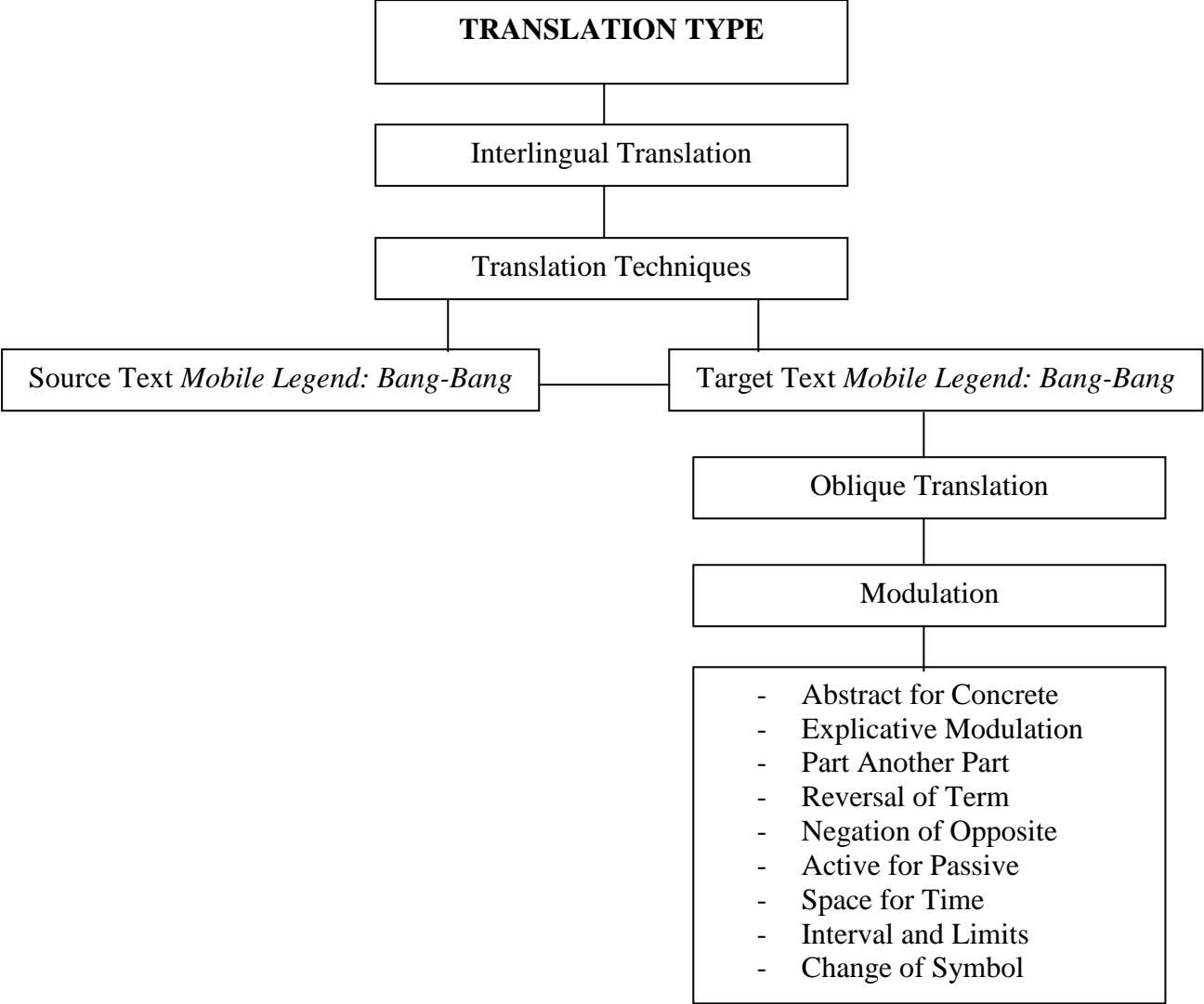
which the user of a symbol actually refers, That to which the user of a symbol ought to be referring, That to which the user of a symbol believes himself to be referring, That to which the interpreter of a symbol

- a. Refers
- b. Believes himself to be referring
- c. Believes the user to be referring

## **2.10 Theoretical Framework**

From the theory above it can be said that:

- (1) Translation is an important process and complicated issue that obliges someone to have comprehensive skills. The aim is to reproduce a text from the SL to TL involving the pursuit of a dynamic equivalence-effect of the SL message that is in accordance with TL
- (2) Translation from Indonesian to English is not easy because both English and Indonesian have a different structures, words, grammar, and meaning.
- (3) Newmark (1988) analyzed shift in perspective because of different point of view in Source Language to Target Language in translation; he classified modulation into: 1) negation of opposite, 2) abstract for concrete, 3) cause for effect, 4) one part for another, 5) reversal of term, 6) active for passive, 7) space for time, 8) interval and limits, and 9) change of symbol.



## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

#### 5.1 Conclusions

The title of this research is Modulation as a Result of English Indonesian Translation of Idiomatic Expression in Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang. The object of this research is focused on sentences containing modulation found in the game. The sentences are classified and analyzed based on Vinay and Darbelnet's theories.

Translation has an important role in the development of science and technology at this time, because we know many various scientific articles, books, journals, novels, and songs written in English. The existence of language system differences between the source language and target language causes the increasing of difficulty level in translating, especially in modulation.

After analyzing the game of Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang based on modulation, I found that modulation did occur in the book. The modulation occurred in the variation of abstract for concrete, negation of opposite, part another part, reversal of term, active for passive, space for time, explicative modulation, interval and limit, and change of symbols.

First, negation of opposite could happen when the translators transfer double negative of the source language into positive in the target language. In this game, I found 5 data. *Second*, abstract for concrete could happen when the translators transfer the abstract source language into a specific one in the target

language. It is caused a lack of general words in the target language. Here there are 46 data found in the case. *Third*, part another part occurs when the source language only states a part, but the translator translated into another part in target language. I found 38 data of part another part. *Forth*, reversal of term is usually optional for making language sound natural. Here there are 18 data found in the case. *Fifth*, active for passive is an exchange of position, function, and else between two languages. It could occur in several ways; the changes from active to passive and vice versa and the changes from positive to negative and vice versa. In this case, I just found 19 data. *Sixth*, space for time occur when source language described “space” but in target language change into “time”. In this case, it is found 12 data. *Seventh*, explicative modulation tends to make something explicit into implicit. I found 35 data in this case. *Eighth*, interval and limit is when a word indicates interval is translated into a word which shows limitation. In this case, it is found 13 data. *Ninth*, change of symbol is the comparison of fixed metaphor revealing that the symbolism employed in different languages is based on quite different images. I found 12 data of change of symbol. And from the nine variations above abstract for concrete is the greatest variation occurred in the game and then it is followed by part another part, explicative modulation, active for passive, reversal of term, interval and limit, space for time, change of symbol, and negation of opposite.

The modulation variations which were found in the game mostly occurred by adding or omitting words which were considered not necessary and in order that the message can be delivered and it happened by changing the meaning,

point of view, and perspective. The purpose is to convey the message of the source language to the target language easy to understand. When translators transfer a text of source language to target language, they try to use normal language (familiar words) often used in target language. Sometimes in translating a text, translators may change words if the word equivalence in target language doesn't have, the main purpose is that the message can be delivered exactly. Modulation can occur in all translation texts such as; conversational text, short story, idiomatic expression, written documents, etc. it is supported by previous research which was observed by Noer Aini. Modulation is a phenomenon that will be faced not only by students of English because it is a part of material or lesson but also by translators when transferring a text from source language to target language. it is used as one of the strategies as well to minimize a big risk in translating.

Because of the different social, culture, sometimes it is hard to describe a word that we know in other language and how we try to do a translation in the understandable language.

## **5.2 Suggestions**

After the research has been done, some suggestions are given to some parties. They are students of English Literature study program, other translators, other researchers, and lecturers of English Literature study program.

### **1. Other Translators**

In this game, the translator has done a good job in terms of translating certain expressions using the modulation techniques. However, the accuracy is



still possible to increase if the translator does not lack to understand expressions in the form of idiom. Therefore, the other translators can learn from this to make a better translation using the modulation technique. They have to pay more attention to the idiom. In addition, the technique cannot be applied to all types of expression. It is possible there are some expressions that are more properly translated using another technique of translation.

## 2. Future Researchers

This research only focuses on the variation of the translation *Mobile Legend: Bang-Bang* through finding in each expression translated using the modulation technique. Using other approaches, it is better for the other researchers to extend the research scope by finding clarity or naturalness of the translation.

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