

## The Mapping of English Action Verbs to their Indonesian Translation with Special Reference to *Divergent* Novel

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### ABSTRACT

In translation, meanings and messages remain the main priorities that must be maintained and delivered in order to make communication go smoothly. In fact, translating a particular text is somewhat complicated, especially in translating a verb that has several different meanings. This study discusses the procedure of verbs' translation in English (source language) into the Indonesian language (target language), and how the verbs are mapped into the Indonesian language. This research uses qualitative method, employing English novel *Divergent* as its data source and its Indonesian translation. The theory used in this research is the theory of Vinay and Darbelnet (in Venuti, 2000) about translation procedures that include borrowing, calque, literal translation, transposition, modulation, equivalence, and adaptation. The theory of Wierzbicka (1996) is used to discuss the mapping of English action verbs. The research found out the translation procedures which were applied in the translation of English action verbs and analyzed how the action verbs are mapped in the translation of English action verbs in the novel of *Divergent* descriptively.

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### INTRODUCTION

In the era of technology nowadays, information is needed very much. No matter where the information comes from. It may come from books, articles, magazines or newspapers, which mostly are written in foreign languages like English, German, French or others. Translation is not an easy thing to do. It has often been defined as a reference to the meaning. A translation is said to have the same meaning as the source language. It means when the translator translates a word of the source language into another language, firstly he must discover the meaning or the message in the source language and then use the receptor language form in a natural way in order to reproduce or express the same meaning as intended by the source language. But sometimes discovering the meaning with a natural way in the target language is a problem because one word

of the source language can be used to represent several alternative meanings in the target language. The Introduction should provide relevant historical context and bring in any theory considered relevant to the issue being raised in the study. To this end, the author should summarize and reference a number of past studies and/or opinions to lead the reader to the study being reported on in the article. The Introduction should not exceed 15% of the total length of the entire article.

As a user, we should know how to use sentences grammatically. In learning English grammar, a lot of things should be understood at the first step because of its complex characteristic features. It becomes a reason that the learning process of English is started from the primary level. If we want to know English more deeply, we must continue to the highest level as collages and it has become one of the main subjects in the teaching process.

Dealing with the complexity of translation, many problems come up in translating a text. One big problem that occurs in translating an English text into Indonesian is concerned with skill in choosing the most appropriate meaning in Indonesian. Most people (especially students) who are studying verbs for the first time should ignore these and concentrate on the basic forms, and also they find difficulties in translating of keywords which have more than one meaning when they want to express their intention. As we know that one English word can have several meanings.

Meaning is the basic concept in translation studies because translations convey meaning or meanings of a given linguistic discourse from one language to another. Translation can be defined in terms of sameness of meaning across languages. According to some researchers, there can be no absolute correspondence between languages and hence not fully exact translations. Translation at some level is always possible. However, there are times when interlocutors are aware that they do not mean the same by particular phrases. Meaning is formed on each occasion of linguistic interaction and is therefore unique and not replicable. Therefore, a translation can never ‘mean’ the same as the source text in the target language.

## **METHODS**

The main approach used in this study is descriptive analysis, and English action verbs itself was explained in paraphrases. Some theories also supported the descriptive qualitative research. Jatmika (2015) said that qualitative research is the work with texts, the methods for collecting information or observe data, which were collected by reading and note-taking. Exploring a problem and developing detailed understanding of a central phenomenon, having the literature review plays a minor role but justify the problem, stating the purpose and research questions in a general, collecting data based on words from a small number of individuals so that the participant views are obtained, analyzing the data for description and themes using text analysis and interpreting the larger meaning of the findings, and writing the report using flexible, emerging structures and evaluative criteria, and including the researchers subjective reflexivity and bias. (a) research design – did the study employ quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-method?

The data were taken from the original novel entitled “*Divergent*” written by Roth (2011) and its Indonesian translation by Prameswari (2012). English is as the source language of the original

novel, published by Katherine Tegen Book, An Imprint of Harper Collins Publisher in 2011, it has 487 pages. The translation has 543 pages, published by Mizan Pustaka.

The method applied to collect the data in this study is the observation method. Data were observed closely; in this case, the data were read attentively with the main focus on translation procedure and the mapping of action verbs and their Indonesian translations. Observation method is typically library research conducted by reading written sources (books).

Identification is an important part in order to collect the data which was appropriate for analysis in this study. During the identification process, the note-taking procedure was also applied. The note-taking procedure was also included to record all of the data. The process of note-taking was done by underlining all of the action verbs which were considered appropriate in this study. It is not merely to note down the action verbs in isolation. However, it was also necessary to include some sentences in which the action verbs occur. Furthermore, the English action verbs in the source language (SL) text were compared with their translation in the target language (TL) text.

Then the data were classified in accordance with the English action verbs and their translations pointed out and were inserted in the point of the topic being discussed and analyzed descriptively. The descriptive method used informal technique to explain the characteristic of the data and to find out the factor that stands behind it. As each action verbs has several exponents which were in the same field of meaning, all of the meanings of each exponent were mapped by adopting exponential mapping technique. Then, the action verbs and all meanings of their exponents were explicated using the Natural Semantic Metalanguage approach by breaking concepts/words down into combinations of simpler concepts using a small collection of semantic primes.

The first step was analyzing the translation procedures. The data of action verbs were put side by side between the SL text data and the TL text data. Second, the meanings of each action verbs in both SL and TL text were configured in the forms of paraphrases. Third, the translation procedures were applied in the translation based on the theory of translation procedures by Vinay and Darbelnet in Venuti (2000).

Data was presented in the form of tables with determined categories followed by descriptive explanations. All collected data in appendices were determined to each action verbs and the procedure of translation and the same listed data based on each type were gathered and chosen as needed to be explained representing each type.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The analysis of the translation procedures was done for action verbs in English-Indonesian text. This section offers several illustrations of the translation procedures by figuring out all of the data in a systematic way. However, the procedures of translation were divided into two parts as what has been proposed by Vinay and Darbelnet (in Venuti (ed.), p. 84-93), they are direct/literal procedures of translation and oblique procedure of translation.

The analysis of the mapping of English action verbs might be producing several exponents which have distinctive semantic features to each other, and finally, all meanings of English action verbs

are explicated by using the small collection of semantic primes. Meanwhile, explication is based on a reductive paraphrase (that is, breaking concept/words down into a combination of simpler concepts) using a small collection of semantic primes. Wierzbicka (1996) proposes some principles of paraphrases, such as;

1. Paraphrase can be performed by using the combination of semantic primes in order to limit the meaning. The combinations of some semantic primes are needed because the meaning of something cannot be carved out with one semantic prime.
2. Paraphrase should use several elements of which are considered as the characteristics of a language, in order to explain the meanings.
3. Paraphrasing sentence should follow the syntactical system of the language.
4. Paraphrase can be conducted by applying simple language.
5. The sentence of paraphrase needs a special indentation and spacing line.

This kind of paraphrasing model is specially proposed by Wierzbicka (1996) in order to paraphrase all meanings including the meanings that exist in a tiny rate of differentiation, with the formulation as; ‘X does something to Y’. Because of that, something happens to Y. Something happens because X does something to Y. Meanwhile, the mapping Indonesian verb meanings in this section can be performed in three different typical classifications, such as; the action verb type of movement and type of doing.

#### **Cuts - Memotong**

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
There is one mirror in my house. It is behind a sliding panel in the hallway upstairs. Our faction allows me to stand in front of it on the second day of every third month, the day my mother <b>cuts</b> my hair.	Ada sebuah cermin di rumahku. Letaknya di belakang panel geser di koridor tangga. Fraksi kami memberiku izin untuk berdiri di hadapan cermin itu pada hari kedua setiap tiga bulan. Hari ketika ibu <b>memotong</b> rambutku.

Table 1: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (*cuts-memotong*)

Referring to the example in Table 1 above, it can be clearly understood that the action verb *cuts* (cut) is literally translated into ‘memotong’ in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the literal procedure of translation. The message of the SL text is directly transferred which is grammatically and idiomatically appropriate to the TL text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, that the characteristics of the action verb cut are pointed in the method of performing the action. People who cut (memotong) usually intend to do something to the objects. This action is done only to an object such as; hair. This process uses only a pair of scissors.

The explication of *cut* ‘memotong’.

- At that time, X did something to Y
- Because of this, something happened to Y.
- X did this to the small thing (hair only).
- X did this with something (a pair of scissors).

Y became part of the thing (head).  
X wanted this happen to Y.  
X did something like this.

#### Pulls - Menarik

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
When she finishes, she <b>pulls my hair</b> away from my face and twists it into a knot.	Setelah selesai, ibu <b>menarik rambutku</b> ke belakang dan membentuk sebuah gulungan kecil.

Table 2: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (pull-menarik)

From the example in Table 2, it can be clearly understood that the action verb pulls (pull) is literally translated into 'menarik' in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the literal procedure of translation. The message of the SL text is directly transferred which is grammatically and idiomatically appropriate to the TL text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, that the characteristics of the action verb pull is pointed in the method of performing the action. People who pull (menarik) usually intend to do something to the object. This action is done only to an object such as; hair. This process uses only a bare hand.

The explication of pulls 'menarik'.

At that time, X did something to Y  
Because of this, something happened to Y.  
X did this to the small thing (hair only).  
X did this with something (a bare hand).  
Y became part of the thing (head).  
X wanted this happen to Y.  
X did something like this.

#### Kisses - Mencium

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
She <b>kisses</b> my cheek and slides the panel over the mirror. I think my mother could be beautiful, in a different world.	Ibu <b>mencium</b> pipiku dan menggeser panel menutupi cermin. Menurutku, ibu bisa saja menjadi wanita cantik, di kehidupan yang lain.

Table 3: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (kiss-mencium)

From the example in Table 3, it can be clearly understood that the action verb kisses (kiss) is literally translated into 'mencium' in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the literal procedure of translation. The message of the SL text is directly transferred which is grammatically and idiomatically appropriate to the TL text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, that the characteristics of the action verb kisses (kiss) are pointed in the method of performing the action. This action is done only to an object such as; cheek. This process uses only

a nose/lips.

The explication of *kiss* 'mencium'.

- At that time, X did something to Y
- Because of this, something happened to Y
- X did this to the thing (cheek only).
- X did this with something (a nose/lips).
- X wanted to do this to Y.
- X did something like this.

#### Slides - *Menggeser*

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
She kisses my cheek and <b>slides</b> the panel over the mirror. I think my mother could be beautiful, in a different world.	Ibu mencium pipiku dan <b>menggeser</b> panel menutupi cermin. Menurutku, ibu bisa saja menjadi wanita cantik, di kehidupan yang lain.

Table 4: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (*slides-menggeser*)

From the example in Table 4 above, it can be understood that the action verb *slides* (*slide*) is literally translated into 'menggeser' in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the literal procedure of translation. The message of the SL text is directly transferred which is grammatically and idiomatically appropriate to the TL text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, that the characteristics of the action verb *slides* are pointed in the method of performing the action. People who *slide* (*menggeser*) usually intend to remove an object away from the place where it is supposed to be. This action is done only to an object such as; panel.

The explication of *slide* 'menggeser'. At that time, X did something to Y

- Because of this, something happened to Y.
- X did this to the thing (panel only).
- X did this with something (a bare hand).
- Y became part of the thing (removed).
- X wanted this happen to Y.
- X did something like this.

#### Walk - *Berjalan*

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
We <b>walk</b> together to the kitchen.	Kami <b>berjalan</b> bersama- sama menuju dapur.

Table 5: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (*walk-berjalan*)

Referring to the above example in Table 6, it can be understood that the action verb *walk* is literally translated into 'berjalan' in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the literal procedure of translation. The message of the SL text is directly transferred which is grammatically and idiomatically appropriate to the TL text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, that the characteristics of the action verb *walk* is pointed in the method of performing the action. People who *walk* (berjalan) usually intends to remove to another place where it is supposed to be. This action uses only foot.

The explication of *walk* ‘berjalan’.

At that time, X did something  
Because of this, something happened to Y.  
X did this with something (a barefoot).  
Y became part of the thing (removed).  
X did something like this.

#### **Skims - Membelai**

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
On these mornings when my brother makes breakfast, and my father’s hand <b>skims</b> my hair as he reads the newspaper. leave them.	Pada pagi-pagi seperti inilah, saat ibu menyiapkan sarapan, dan tangan ayah <b>membelai</b> rambutku sembari membaca koran.

Table 6: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (skims-membelai)

From the above example in Table 6, it can be clearly understood that the action verb *skims* (skim) is literally translated into ‘membelai’ in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the literal procedure of translation. The message of the SL text is directly transferred which is grammatically and idiomatically appropriate to the TL text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, that the characteristics of the action verb *skim* is pointed in the method of performing the action. This action is done only to an object such as hair. This process uses only a hand.

The explication of *skim* ‘membelai’.

At that time, X did something to Y  
Because of this, something happened to Y.  
X did this to the thing (hair only)  
X did this with something (a hand).  
X wanted to do this to Y.  
X did something like this.

#### **Hugs me - Memelukku**

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
My mother <b>hugs</b> me, and what little resolve I have left almost breaks.	Ibu <b>memelukku</b> dan pertahananku yang tak seberapa hampir saja runtuh.

Table 7: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (hugs me-memelukku)

The example presented in Table 7 can be clearly understood that the action verb *hugs* (hug) *me* is

transposition translated into ‘memelukku’ in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the unit shift of transposition procedure of translation. Basically, the action verb *press* is referring to the meaning of something else, and it was literally translated. Therefore, the message of the source language (SL) text was unsuccessfully transferred into the target language (TL) text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, that the characteristics of the action verb *hug* are pointed in the method of performing the action. People who *hug* (mendorong) usually intend to do something to the objects. This action is done only to an object such as a person.

The explication of *hugs me* ‘memelukku’

- At that time, X did something to Y
- Because of this, something happened to Y
- X did this to the small thing (person)
- Y became part of the thing (body)
- X wanted this happen to Y
- X did something like this

**Presses me - Mendorongku**

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
I would wait for him, but the crowd <b>presses me</b> forward, out of the stairwell and into the room where I will decide the rest of my life.	Aku ingin menunggunya, tapi kerumunan orang di belakang <b>mendorongku</b> ke depan keluar dari jalur tangga dan memasuki ruangan dimana aku akan memutuskan masa depanku.

Table 8: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (*presses me-mendorongku*)

The example in Table 8 can be clearly understood that the action verb *presses* (press) *me* is transposition translated into ‘mendorongku’ in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the unit shift of transposition procedure of translation. Basically, the action verb *press* refers to the meaning of something else, and it was literally translated. Therefore, the message of the source language (SL) text was unsuccessfully transferred into the target language (TL) text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, that the characteristics of the action verb *press* are pointed in the method of performing the action. People who *press* (mendorong) usually intend to do something to the objects. This action is done only to an object such as; person.

The explication of *press* ‘mendorong’.

- At that time, X did something to Y
- Because of this, something happened to Y
- X did this to the small thing (person)
- Y became part of the thing (body)
- X wanted this happen to Y

X did something like this

#### Jump over - *Melompati*

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
I am too short to <b>jump over</b> the tables, and not strong enough to tip one over.	Aku terlalu pendek untuk <b>melompati</b> meja dan tak terlalu kuat untuk mengangkatnya.

Table 9: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (jump over-*melompati*)

The example in Table 9 is clearly understood that the action verb *jump over* is transposition translated into '*melompati*' in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the unit shift of transposition translation procedure. The message of the SL text is directly transferred which is grammatically and idiomatically appropriate to the TL text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, which the characteristics of the action verb *jump over* is pointed in the method of performing the action. People who *jump over* (*melompati*) usually intends to remove to another place where it is supposed to be. This action uses only feet.

The explication of *jump over* '*melompati*'

- At that time, X did something Y
- X did this because of something
- X did this to the thing (tables only)
- X did this with a kind of thing (bare feet)
- X wanted to do this to Y
- X did something like this

#### Tell me - *Memberitahuku*

Source Language Text (SL)	Target Language Text (TL)
I am not allowed to ask him about his results, and he is not allowed to <b>tell me</b> .	Aku tak diizinkan untuk menanyakan hasil tesnya, dan ia dilarang untuk <b>memberitahuku</b> .

Table 10: Example of English-Indonesian Translation Comparison (tell me-*memberitahuku*)

The example in Table 10 is clearly understood that the action verb *tell me* is transposition translated into '*memberitahuku*' in the TL text. The action verb in the above example is translated by adopting the unit shift of transposition translation procedure. The message of the SL text is directly transferred which is grammatically and idiomatically appropriate to the TL text.

The meanings of the action verb in the above example can be mapped into the following meaning configuration, which the characteristics of the action verb *tell* is pointed in the method of performing the action. People who *tell me* (*memberitahuku*) intend to do something.

The explication of *tell* 'memberitahu'.

At that time, X did something  
Because of this, something happened to Y  
X did this to the small thing (person)  
Y became part of the thing (body)  
X wanted this happen to Y  
X did something like this

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the discussion, it can be concluded that from seven translation procedures proposed by Vinay and Darbelnet, there are two procedures which are used in translating English action verbs into Indonesian in the data source. They are literal translation and transposition translation procedure.

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