



Newmark's Translation Techniques and Degree Semantic Equivalence of Figurative Language in *Five Feet Apart* novel

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Abstract

There are many English novels translated into Indonesian. One of them is *Five Feet Apart*. The novel not only amazes readers by using the story of a couple with cystic fibrosis but the language in the novel is also presented using figurative language. Sometimes, English novel is still difficult for Indonesian to understand, so it becomes the reason why translation technique is important. This research aims to explain Newmark's translation technique and to explain the achievement of full, partial, and no equivalence. This research is included in the type of qualitative descriptive research. To obtain data, the researchers collected the words, phrases, clauses, and sentences containing figurative language. Perrine's classification of figurative language (1997), Newmark's classification of translation technique (1988), and Bell's classification of degree semantic equivalence (1997) were used in the analysis of the texts. The analysis was done by identifying, classifying, interpreting, and analyzing the data. The research finding reveals 8 translation techniques used in 202 data. They are couplet, literal translation, modulation, paraphrase, transposition, expansion, cultural equivalence, and compensation. The dominant technique is couplet because the author makes various conditions so it is not enough to translate with only 1 technique. The dominant degree of semantic equivalence is fully equivalence. In conclusion, the large number of fully equivalence indicates that the translator keeps maintaining the meaning and minimizing non-equivalence

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INTRODUCTION

Translation is very challenging to do. Many people underestimate the importance of learning translation techniques before translating a text. Finally, many translation results are careless and the meaning in the target language cannot be translated according to the source language. Many experts have argued about translation techniques. The technique often used as a reference was initiated by Peter Newmark. According to him, the translation technique is a collection of several ways or guidelines to translate (Newmark, 1988). Translation techniques were developed by Newmark such as literal translation, modulation, transference, naturalization, calque, couplet, etc. The technique is very important to discuss because it can affect the level of degree of semantic equivalence.

Degree semantic equivalence is a level that measures the equivalence. It aims to determine the level of defense and word changes. The degree can be seen from the similarity of translation that emphasizes the quality. The degree of semantic equivalence classified by Bell (1991) contains fully equivalence, partial equivalent, and no equivalent.

A lot of research talked about translation techniques in novels done by the experts. Mashdady et al. (2015), Quynh (2020), Lu & Fang, (2012), and Shalimova (2020) did a study on Newmark's translation technique. The translation technique used is literal, modulation, expansion, transference, and naturalization. The findings showed that Newmark's translation techniques were able to put in all translations.

Several research about degree semantic equivalence were done by Fu (2017), Kononenko (2016), Pires et al. (2020), and Nanik et al. (2019). They focused on research objects such as novels, books, and magazines. The findings show that degree semantic was achieved in all translations and full equivalence was found to be the dominant technique. This is motivated by the ability of translators to use appropriate translation

techniques. On the other hand, Mujiyanto (2011), Hasyim et al. (2020), and Gao and Li (2017) analyzed no-equivalence. The biggest factor that makes non-equivalent occur is errors in interpreting grammar so that they make different meanings. The conclusion of the study shows that translation can be said to be equivalent if the style, culture, content, form, and function by the target language. While no-equivalence can occur because all of the above factors never come in the target language.

Currently, many literary works are translated by experts. One of them is a novel. In a novel, figurative language is often found. Figurative language is a crucial study in semantics because it almost exists in many types of literary works. Figurative language is a language style that is added to make interesting writing and imaginative to make readers get a more emotional effect (Perrine, 1997).

In 2019, Indonesia was impressed by the publication of the novel *Five Feet Apart*. It is a famous novel that focused on talking about the love story of a couple of patients who were diagnosed with cystic fibrosis (CF). Rachel Lippinhot is the author that makes inspirational love stories into a novel read by thousands of readers around the world. The researchers were very curious to analyze figurative language in this novel.

Based on the background above, the researchers intended to analyze the translation techniques by Peter Newmark, how fully equivalence can be achieved repeatedly, and how the translator maintains the meaning.

METHODS

This research is qualitative descriptive because the researchers interpret, explain, and describe all the processes to identify the problem. The research aims to describe the kind of data gathered and analyzed about translation technique and semantic equivalence. This research is analyzed as descriptive and it does not describe the numerical analysis.

The role of the researchers is the data collector, data analyst, and data reporter. In

addition, the unit of analysis are words, phrases, clauses, or sentences including figurative language. The research instrument is an observation checklist in the form of table containing translation technique and semantic equivalence aspects.

In collecting data, the researchers collect various information from many sources. The information is related to the objectives of the research. After enriching the knowledge, the researchers download *Five Feet Apart*. Reading repeatedly was done to collect various kinds of words, phrases, clauses and sentences belonging to figurative language.

Five Feet Apart is a famous novel related to the healthy world that was published in 2019 by Rachel Lippincott. Many factors make this novel looks phenomenal: firstly, it is written based on a true story. Secondly, it provides insight into cystic fibrosis. Thirdly, it won many awards, and lastly it was produced as a film. In the western world, this film is well known for its language because of the figurative languages.

After collecting the data, the researchers did some steps for further analysis. The first step is classifying. The researchers classified the data into translation techniques according to Newmarks (1988), and equivalence according to Bell (1991). The classification was put into the tables.

The second step is analyzing. The process of analysis relied heavily on the data found in several previous processes.

The third process is interpreting. It means the researchers interpreted the findings explained in the previous part. In addition, the researchers also explained the context to add the information. The last process was drawing conclusions. In this process, the researchers used triangulation to strengthen the results. This was done by the researchers to convey validators' perceptions so that they have the same conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This section explains the findings covering types of translation techniques, achievement of fully equivalence, increased meaning, decreased meaning, different meaning, and no-meaning. The

results of his research will present a discussion including tables and examples of data.

Figurative Language

Figurative language was analysed by following Perrine (1997). Table 1 shows the result.

Table 1. Figurative Language in *Five Feet Apart*

No.	Figurative language	Frequency
1.	Hyperbole	73
2.	Personification	47
3.	Simile	46
4.	Idiom	14
5.	Repetition	9
6.	Metaphor	6
7.	Rhetoric	4
8.	Paradox	2
9.	Symbol	1
Total		202

Table 1 presents the finding of 9 figurative languages. The dominant figurative language used is hyperbole. This is a sign that this novel has a lot of exaggeration. In addition, the analysis of translation techniques is presented below.

Newmark's Translation Techniques

Newmark has mentioned 19 techniques. The researchers found 8 techniques used in the novel. Table 2 presents the research result of Newmark's translation techniques.

Table 2. Translation technique found in *Five Feet Apart*.

No.	Translation Technique	Frequency
1.	Couplet	85
2.	Literal Translation	71
3.	Modulation	33
4.	Paraphrase	6
5.	Transposition	4
6.	Cultural Equivalence	1
7.	Expansion and reduction	1

8. Compensation	1
Total	202

Table 2 presents the first dominant technique is a couplet. It occurs 84 times in 202 data. The following is the example.

Couplet

The couplet is the first dominant technique. It occurs because there are two different techniques combined in one translation. Newmark divides couplets into triplets and quadruplets which combine 3 or 4 techniques. This finding is in line with Yadav et al. (2020). The example clarifies below.

SL: **My heart like dancing** inside my chest.

TL: *Jantungku seolah menari*. (Data 1)

The bold clause is translated literally because it has similarities in structure and grammar. The underlined phrase is used for reduction because it removes unnecessary statements. So, the couplet is used because it combines literal and reduction.

Literal translation

Based on table 2, the literal translation is the second place of dominant technique. The literal translation is a technique that prioritizes the lexical meaning. Furthermore, there is a similarity between structure and grammar in the source language (SL) and target language (TL). So it can translate word for word (Newmark, 1988). The researchers found that 71 data were translated literally. The example is as follows.

SL: I swallow the guilt.

TL: *Aku menelan rasa bersalah*. (Data 2)

The sentence above used literal translation because the pattern in the two languages is similar. In addition, it does not change in structure and meaning. The technique above makes the meaning of hyperbole readable. This confirms the research conducted by Halverson (2015) and Riecher (2019) that literal translation can help if the two languages have similarities in structure.

Modulation

Modulation is a translation technique that is carried out by changing using different styles

(Newmark, 1988). The modulation is in third place. This is line with Multazim (2019) and Sofyansyah et al. (2015). The example is as follows.

SL: **Pulling all the air** from the room.

TL: *Menghabiskan semua udara di ruangan itu*. (Data 3)

The bold clause means *menyedot semua udara*, but it changed the style of language into *menghabiskan udara*. Modulation used to change the style to make hyperbole natural.

Paraphrase

Paraphrasing is used to restate a concept in another way in the same language without changing its meaning. From 202 data, it occurs 6 times. So, it is in fourth place. This finding is in line with Nduru (2017) and Rahmawati (2016). Paraphrasing gives the author the possibility to emphasize something different from the language in SL. Here is an example.

SL: Annoyance that **comes bubbling up**.

TL: *Sebal yang mulai meledak*. (Data 4)

If translated literally, the italic phrase above means *datang menggelegak*. However, the result is not suitable. In *Oxford Dictionary Online*, comes bubbling up means *explode* or *meledak*. Although it is translated into a different structure, it does not change the meaning because they have the same meaning in lexical. The paraphrase helps the phrase to maintain the quality of translation.

Transposition

According to the finding of this research, transposition takes fifth place as the most dominant translation technique. It occurs 4 times. Furthermore, transposition is a change of grammar and position of translation from SL to TL text. This is in line with Tommy (2015) and Poyungi et al. (2021). Transposition changes from singular into the plural, change the position of the structure, change part of speech, etc. Here is an example.

SL: Rage overflowing for every feature on her face.

TL: *Setiap bagian dari wajahnya memancarkan kemurkaan*. (Data 5)

Literally, the italic sentence in TL should translate *pancaran kemurkaan ada di setiap bagian wajahnya*. However, the translator changes the

position. The transposition can maintain the form and meaning of hyperbole. Even though there is a location change, it does not change meaning.

Cultural Equivalence

The cultural equivalent is putting elements of words that contain cultural terms and using typical words. This is line Simanjuntak et al. (2021) and Deng (2016). The researchers found 1 data translated as cultural equivalence. The example is the following.

SL: They are the only ones in my life who don't treat me like a **lab rat**.

TL: Mereka orang dalam kehidupanku yang tidak memperlakukanku seperti *kelinci percobaan*. (Data 6)

If translated literally, the bold phrase means *tikus percobaan*, however, it is not suitable with the TL. In *Oxford Dictionary Online*, it phrase translates into the first person used as an experiment. In TL, to describe what is meant above, it does not use *tikus percobaan* but *kelinci percobaan*. The technique used is cultural equivalence because **lab rats** contain cultural elements. According to Larson (1988), many figurative languages use cultural equivalence to make the meaning of an idiom readable and understandable because *kelinci percobaan* is more familiar.

Expansion and Reduction

The expansion occurs because there is additional meaning to avoid misunderstanding. This is in line with Sumartini et al. (2016) and Hartono (2011). The example is the following.

SL: My heart leaps.

TL: *Hatiku melonjak gembira*. (Data 7)

The translation technique used is expansion because of the expanse of the information. The sentence is literal into *hatiku melonjak*. However, the translator added *gembira*. Furthermore, the sentence only uses expansion, no reduction. According to Bell (1991), expansion is very important used to expand the meaning and make meaning more natural.

Compensation

This technique can be used when the translator faced several problems. They replace lost

translations in the source language by using the same effect in the target language (Newmark, 1988). Compensation is also used to combine or separate words to abbreviate SL by adjusting the meaning in TL. The last is to adjust the place in SL and TL. This is line with Li et al. (2021). The researchers found 1 data translated as compensation. Here is an example.

SL: Is she a freaking sailor?

TL: *Simpulnya kuat sekali seperti ikatan pelaut*. (Data 8)

The sentence above is interrogative, but changes to declarative. This technique adopts the same meaning even if it changes the type of sentence. However, this technique makes the meaning seem clearer.

Degree Semantic Equivalence in Five Feet Apart

The degree of semantic equivalence refers to how the message in the SL translated fully, partially, or non-equivalence. This is used as a reference to determine the quality. Three kinds of equivalences is explained below.

Table 3. Degree Semantic Equivalence in *Five Feet Apart*.

1.	Equivalence	Frequency	Percentage
	Fully	142	71%
2.	Partial Equi	Frequency	Percentage
	Increased	29	14%
	Decreased	17	8%
3.	No-Equi	Frequency	Percentage
	Different meaning	14	7
	No meaning	-	-
Total		202	100

Table 3 presents the findings regarding degree semantic equivalence. The dominant semantic equivalence used is fully equivalence. From 202 data, fully equivalence occurs 142 times. It means, the translator can maintain the meaning of the figurative language of SL and TL. The second equivalence used is increased meaning. Increased meaning occurs when only one aspect of the meaning or form is satisfied while other aspects are not contextualized. The third, equivalence used

is decreased meaning. The fourth, different meaning usually occurs because both aspects of meaning and form of figurative language are not fulfilled and not compatible. The last is no meaning. The following explains the achievement of the degree of semantic equivalence:

The Achievement of Fully Equivalence in the Translation of Figurative Language in *Five Feet Apart*

Fully equivalence is a translation result that is translated completely the same as the TL.

Translation with a literal translation

Fully equivalence can be produced by using literal translation. In this research, literal translation occurs because the grammar and structure are similar in the SL and TL, so it can translate word for word. The finding is in line with Fu (2017). For instance, the phrase "My eyes travel" translated into "Mataku berjelajah." The phrase above includes personification. The translator can maintain the same meaning in TL. Newmark (1988) asked that grammar rules must have the same meaning between SL and TL to maintain the translation.

Translation with the couplet

Fully equivalence can be produced by technique couplet. In this research, the couplet technique occurred because it was influenced by the novel's author creating many conditions so that the translator needed more than 1 technique. The sentence "This place is still like a *freaking* maze." translate into "Tempat ini seperti labirin." The underlined clause is a literal translation, while the italic phrase is reduction. Even though the researchers deleted *freaking* but the deletion did not affect the meaning. In society, a maze is a place that is already confusing, so anyone who enters it will be angry. The figurative language in the sentence above is a simile. The translator can maintain the meaning even if it removes the word *freaking*.

Translation with modulation

Fully equivalence can be produced by using modulation. Many causes of text are categorized as modulation. In this research, modulation occurs because the translator changes the point of view of the translation. The sentence "Seeing Camila's and

Mya's pictures, and Mason's by followed by pictures of a half dozen others from **my school**." The sentence translate fully into "Melihat foto Camila, Mya dan Mason yang diikuti setengah lusin dari **temanku**." The bold word is synecdoche. Even though it changes the point of view, the translation result is appropriate to the context. The synecdoche always uses the whole (Sekolah) to be part of something (Teman). So, it can translate in full.

Translation with paraphrase using related structure.

Fully equivalence was produced by paraphrasing techniques. Paraphrasing is a technique translated using the same meaning even though the diction is different. The finding is the same as Kononenko (2016). For instance, the idiom phrase "Comes into view." If translated literal, it means "Datang ke permukaan." However, the translator used a paraphrase of "Muncul." In the case above, the paraphrase can maintain the quality although using different diction. Bell (1991) asked that the paraphrase technique can maintain the meaning if the translator masters the basic concepts of the translation.

Translation by cultural equivalence

Fully equivalence can be produced by cultural equivalence. The differences in the cultural elements in this thesis are indeed translated with different meanings. But as long as it has the same meaning and there are no additions or subtractions, then it includes fully equivalent. This research is the same as Nanik et al. (2019) that cultural equivalence concerns adapting the term because it tries to maintain the culture that exists in SL. For instance, the word "lab rat" is translated into "Kelinci Percobaan" because the term is used according to the language in TL. The phrase above is an idiom. In *Oxford Dictionary Online*, it translates into the first person who used as experimented. To describe the meaning, Indonesian does not use *tikus percobaan*, but *kelinci percobaan*. The technique used is cultural equivalence because **lab rats** contains a cultural element of SL translated in TL with the same meaning but translated in a different style.

Translation with Transposition

Fully equivalence can be produced by transposition technique. Transposition is a technique that changes grammatical categories, for example, changing a phrase into a clause, plural into singular in SL to TL. According to Catford (1965), this technique is applied by changing the type of word in SL into the equivalent type of word in TL. There is a translation shift but without changing the meaning. For instance, the sentence "The cold air hitting me right in the face." Translate full into "Angin dingin langsung menampar wajahku." The transposition technique changes the position of the translation in the personification sentence above. However, the change in location does not change the meaning. This research is similar to Nafisah (2018) the change in the location of a sentence is done so that the translation looks natural. It will make the readers not aware that the text they read is the result of the translation process.

The Achievement of Partial Equivalence with Increased Meaning in the Translation of Figurative Language in *Five Feet Apart*.

Partly equivalence is an incomplete equivalence that occurs when the message contained is not fully translated. One kind of equivalence is increased meaning. The researchers explain several factors to achieve increased meaning. The explanation is below.

Translating using additional information

Increased meaning can be produced since there is additional information used. It tried to give a new perspective and avoid miss understanding. The dominant technique which achieves increased meaning is modulation. This is in line with Pasangka (2016) that the new perceptive may not change the meaning but affect the quality. For instance, the clause "Bits of color and life" in TL literally translate "Potongan-potongan warna dan hidup" but, in TL into "Potongan-potongan warna dan semangat dari gambarnya." The technique used is modulation and makes the clause slightly lose its quality because it used additional information to make a different point of view. According to Bell (1997), although the translation

is not translated completely in TL, the result is still readable.

The Achievement of Partly Equivalence with Decrease Meaning in the Translation of Figurative Language in *Five Feet Apart*.

The other kind of partly equivalence is a decreased meaning that occurs when the message is not fully translated because there is a reduction. The researchers explain several factors to produce decreased meaning. Below is the explanation:

The translation used the reduction technique and then decreased the quality, but the result is accepted

Decrease meaning occurs when the translator decides to omit some information to simplify the message or eliminate it. However the way of deletion is not appropriate, the effect is reducing the information. Nevertheless, the reader can still catch the contents. The finding is in line with the study of Leung (2016). For instance, the sentence "Brightly colored ants." Literally in SL means "Semut berkilau yang berwarna-warni." However, TL translates as "Semut berwarna-warni." In the case above, the deletion of "berkilau" changes the meaning and the quality. So, the sentence above includes a decrease.

The Achievement of No Equivalence with Different Meaning in the Translation of Figurative Language in *Five Feet Apart*.

Different meaning is a part of no equivalence. Its achievement cannot be accepted by the readers because of context and difference in the arrangement. The researchers explain several factors that produced different meanings. The explanations are below.

Different in translating of idiom

Error in translating idiom in TL occurs because using the wrong technique can make translation results different. This is in line with Suchanova (2013) that the idiom was translated by ignoring the original meaning in the SL. In *Oxford Dictionary*, the phrase "Take a chill pill" means *relax*, but in TL translates into "Minum obat penenang." That phrase has a different meaning that greatly affects the quality. According to Baker (1992), translators should be more observant in

observing an idiom. The simple way is linking a topic of conversation.

Different in translating grammar

The different meanings can be produced when the translator arranges incorrect grammar. This has been stated by Pires et al. (2020) that the grammar error can change the meaning because of the translator's lack of vigilance in dealing with the problem. For instance, the clause "This healthy and this life." In SL, literally translate "Sesehat ini dan sehidup ini". However, the TL translates "Sesehat itu dan sehidup itu." It makes a difference in meaning. According to Catford (1965), the rules of grammar and tenses cannot be ignored because they contain standard rules in the preparation of language.

Different in frequency and purpose

The difference in meaning was produced when the translator ignored frequency and purpose. This is in line with research conducted by Hasyim (2020). For instance, the phrase "*Is it all of this? All of the hospital staff?*" literally translate as "*Apakah ini semua? Semua staf Rumah Sakit?*" however, it is translated with a different meaning. According to Newmark (1988), the translator is like a bridge that connects various information. Leaving the purpose from the SL is fatal.

Contrasting the form of figurative language in SL and TL

The different meanings can be produced when the translator used different forms of translation. This is in line with Kacmarova et al. (2016) For instance, the sentence "My entire body screaming." literally translates as "Seluruh tubuhku berteriak." However, it translated into "Seluruh tubuhku seolah ikut berteriak." The sentence above changes the type of figurative language from hyperbole to simile. According to Bells (1991), if the novel is translated differently, it will reduce the level of beauty and imagination in literary work.

Translating in a different style of language

Different meanings can be produced by modulation. Modulation in this case is translating with another language style, but it is not by the form and meaning. For instance, "*A bright-yellow balloon almost smacks me in the face.*" translate into "*Balon kuning cerah langsung menghajar wajahku.*"

From these sentences, the difference in word choice greatly affects the meaning. The balloon should almost hit him in the face, but it translates to hitting him right in the face. This is in line with Wulandari (2014). This is also reinforced by Newmark (1988) that the choice of words that are not the same in the context and form will make the content of the reading different. Important messages will be captured differently and fatally in shaping the whole story.

The Achievement of No Equivalence with No Meaning the Translation of Figurative Language in *Five Feet Apart*.

No meaning is a completely different translation because it is not translated according to the target language. In this research, no meaningful results were not found because the translator is very serious about using the right technique to minimize inappropriate figurative language.

CONCLUSIONS

This part presents 6 conclusions based on the research questions mentioned previously. The first conclusion is there were 202 data containing figurative language *five feet apart*. They were translated and used 8 types of translation techniques. They are literal translation, modulation, couplet, compensation, transposition, expansion, naturalization, transference, and cultural equivalence. The dominant translation technique is couplet because the author makes various conditions that make the information that must be translated varied. So, the translation should translate with more than one technique.

The second conclusion relates to the achievement of full equivalence in figurative language translation. In this case, figurative language can be translated with the same meaning in SL and TL. Translation techniques help to achieve full equivalence. They are first, the use of literal translation if the language structure in both languages is the same. The second is a couplet with the right technique so that it can convey the same meaning. The third is when the translator uses a good modulation without changing the word into a different form so that it is acceptable. The third is when the translator uses a good paraphrasing

technique. The last one is the use of the transposition technique which even though there is a difference in the location of the translation, the result is still the same.

The third conclusion relates to the achievement of increased meaning in figurative language translation. In this case, figurative language can be translated using additional meaning. The dominant increased is using couplets.

The fourth conclusion relates to the achievement of decreased meaning in figurative language translation. In this case, figurative language can be translated using reduction meaning. The dominant decreased is using couplet.

The fifth conclusion relates to the achievement of different meaning in figurative language translation. Several factors have been achieved because it differences in translating idioms, differences in incorrect grammar rules, differences in different forms of figurative language, and differences in translating cultural elements.

The sixth conclusion is no meaning is not found in the translation. This is will be evidence that many translations have been successfully translated even though the quality of the similarities varies.

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