The Translation of Metaphors in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll

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Abstract

This research analyzed the metaphors in the original English text of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, which had been translated into Indonesian despite the cultural differences, and uses a descriptive qualitative approach. The data was collected through document examination, focusing on the original English text of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and its Indonesian translation. Furthermore, the data were arranged in the table with descriptive explanations for each of them. The researcher found 19 linguistic expressions that contain metaphorical cases such as structural type, orientational type, and ontological type. 19 linguistic expressions contain, such as 4 linguistic expressions that are classified as structural metaphors, 4 linguistic expressions that are classified as orientational metaphors, and the last one is 11 linguistic expressions that are classified as ontological metaphors.

Keywords: Literature; Linguistic; Metaphor; Translation

1. INTRODUCTION

Metaphors are frequently used in conversations to add vividness and depth to expressions, especially in written or visual literary works where they convey messages or ideas. However, some people may not fully understand the meaning of a metaphor when it is used in literary works. Metaphors are a key feature of communication and present challenges in translation, both for translators as a practical task and as an area of study in translation studies. Several studies have focused on translating metaphors from English to Indonesian in different mediums. Febrian and Fediyanto (2023) analyzed metaphorical translation in *Dead Poets Society*, finding that semantic translation was most common, with techniques like word-for-word and literal translation frequently used.

Analyzing the metaphors of a translated novel is important because metaphors carry deeper meanings and can greatly affect how the story will be understood by its readers. Based on the explanation above, the research aims to know how the metaphors

in the original English text of "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" have been translated into Indonesian despite the dynamic equivalence.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

This research necessitates a more theoretical and detailed framework that tackles the translation and metaphor dimensions; therefore, the researcher opted to adopt these three theories: Larson's translation theory, Nida & Taber's dynamic equivalence, and George Lakoff's metaphor theory.

2.1. Translation

Translation theory is concerned with the appropriate translation method to use for a particular type of text and is, therefore, based on the functional theory of language. However, in a broader sense, translation theory is the body of knowledge we have about translation, from general principles to guidelines, advice, and guidance. According to Larson (1984), translation is fundamentally a transformation of form. When we refer to linguistic forms, we talk about words, phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and more in spoken and written contexts.

2.2 Translation Equivalence

Achieving equivalence is the most crucial aspect of the translation process. Catford (1965) provides a generalization of the conditions for translation equivalence by stating that "translation equivalence takes place when an SL and a TL text or item can be related to (at least some of) the same characteristics of substances." In her book, Towards a Science of Translating, Nida & Taber (1969) suggest that there are two distinct types of equivalence: formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence.

2.2.1 Formal Equivalence

Nida & Taber (1969) explain that formal equivalence emphasizes the message itself, considering both its form and content. This type of translation prioritizes correspondences such as poetry to poetry, sentence to sentence, and concept to concept. Essentially, formal equivalence translation is oriented toward the source; it aims to preserve as much as possible of the form (such as syntax and idioms) and content (like themes and concepts) of the original message. In this process, a formal equivalence strives to replicate several formal components, which include: (1) grammatical units; (2) consistency in word choice; and (3) meanings related to the source context.

2.2.2 Dynamic Equivalence

According to Nida & Taber (1969), the translating process 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. A dynamic-equivalence (or D-E) translation may be described as one concerning which a bilingual and bicultural person can justifiably say, "That is just the way we would say it." It is important to realize, however, that a D-E translation is not merely another message that is more or less similar to that of the source. It is a translation, and as such must clearly reflect the meaning and intent of the source.

2.3 Metaphor

Lakoff and Johnson's (2008) theory of conceptual metaphors explains how one idea is expressed through another in metaphorical terms. In this theory, there are two conceptual domains: the target domain and the source domain. The target domain is usually more abstract, while the source domain is more concrete or specific.

2.3.1 Structural

A structural metaphor is a type of metaphor where a whole complex idea is understood through another concept. One key feature of this metaphor is that it emphasizes certain aspects while downplaying others. This means that one experience or activity is explained using the terms of another. For example, the phrase "I see what you are saying" compares understanding someone's words to seeing something.

2.3.2 Orientational

An orientational metaphor is a type of metaphor based on spatial orientation. It uses concepts like up-down, in-out, on-off, and front-back, which are rooted in our physical experiences of space. For instance, the phrase "things are looking up" uses the concept of "up" to represent something positive or good.

2.3.3 Ontological

An ontological metaphor is a metaphor where abstract things like actions, emotions, and ideas are understood as objects or substances. This comes from our experiences with physical objects. There are different types of ontological metaphors, such as thinking of abstract ideas as things or imagining them as containers. For example, the phrase "I can't get the tune out of my mind" is a metaphor that treats the mind as a container.

3. METHODS

This research uses a descriptive qualitative method because it aims to describe how the metaphors in the original English text of "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland"

have been translated into Indonesian, noting any notable differences or adaptations. Richards and Schmidt (2010) describe descriptive research as "an investigation that aims to provide an accurate and factual account of a phenomenon, subject, or area."

Additionally, this research is based on library research. Nazir (1988) defines library research as a method where the researcher gathers relevant information from books, journals, dissertations, theses, scientific research, and other written sources, whether electronic or printed.

In this research, data will be collected through document examination, focusing on the original English text of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and its Indonesian translation. The data for this research will include both the English and Indonesian versions of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Next, the researcher will classify the data into relevant categories, focusing on Nida & Taber (1969) translation process 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, which contains three essential terms.

4. RESULTS

In this research, the researcher conducted a descriptive-qualitative approach. The researcher also uses the theory from Lakoff and Johnson (2008) to find out the metaphor that enters the English text of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and Nida's theory (1964) to support the translations. According to Lakoff and Johnson (2008), metaphors are not just for poetic imagination or rhetorical effect but metaphors are a creative way to convey meaning, making language more expressive and livelier. Meanwhile, according to Nida (1964) about dynamic equivalence, the translating process 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.

Table 1. Result

Types of Metaphor	Frequency (Times)	Source Text	Target Text
Structural	4	p70, p121, p97, p11	p60, p96, p93, p13
Orientational	4	p15, p117, p11, p11	p21, p93, p17, p12
Ontological	11	p23, p98, p168,	p26, p80, p131,

		p187, p90, p19, p131, p93, p1, p134, p84	p146, p74, p27, p105, p89, p12, p106, p69
Total	19		

After analyzing the data, the researcher found 19 metaphors based on the table above. The first one comes from the structural type, with 4 data. The second comes from the orientational type, with 4 data. The last one comes from the ontological type, with 11 data.

5. DISCUSSION

The novel by Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, published in 1865, is a fanciful and fascinating story that transports readers on a strange trip through an extraordinary realm. The plot revolves around Alice, an inquisitive and creative little girl who falls down a rabbit hole and ends herself in Wonderland, a world full of strange characters and bizarre happenings. Alice encounters the White Rabbit, the Cheshire Cat, the Mad Hatter, and the Queen of Hearts, leading her to a series of weird and unexpected experiences. Set in a dreamy setting, the work is distinguished by its lively language, creative wordplay, and scathing satire on Victorian society.

Based on the research findings conveyed by the researcher above, the researcher found 19 linguistic expressions that contain metaphorical cases such as structural type, orientational type, and ontological type. 4 linguistic expressions are classified as structural metaphors. Afterward, 4 linguistic expressions which are classified as orientational metaphors. The last one is 11 linguistic expressions, which are classified as ontological metaphors. The description can be seen below:

1) **Structural Metaphor**
   "She was looking at a sea of green leaves."
   "Di matanya, rumput-rumput itu nampak jauh sekali berada di bawah."

The sentence "She was looking at a sea of green leaves" is a part of the structural metaphor. It compares the many leaves to a vast sea, creating a strong image in the reader's mind. Using the word "sea," the metaphor suggests depth, abundance, and an overwhelming expanse of greenery. This helps the reader visualize them more vividly and engagingly, emphasizing the large number of leaves and their vastness. In contrast, the translation "Di matanya, rumput-rumput itu nampak jauh sekali berada di bawah" shifts the focus to distance, suggesting the grass looks far below in her eyes. While this version changes the perspective, it loses the original metaphor's rich imagery and doesn't convey the same sense of vastness or abundance.

The translation process, in this case, dynamic equivalence, as seen in the adaptation of "She was looking at a sea of green leaves" to "Di matanya, rumput-

rumput itu nampak jauh sekali berada di bawah." A dynamic equivalence translation is not merely another message that is more or less similar to that of the source. It is a translation, and as such must clearly reflect the meaning and intent of the source. The shift from "sea of green leaves" has the meaning "lautan dedaunan hijau" but in the target language it becomes "rumput-rumput". That means the dynamic equivalence translation makes it natural to the reader so that points toward the receptor language can be accepted.

2) Orientational Metaphor
"Now I'm opening out like the largest telescope that ever was!"
"Nah, kini tubuhku sudah membesar dan meninggi seperti teleskop terbesar yang pernah ada!"

The sentence "Now I'm opening out like the largest telescope that ever was!" is a part of orientational metaphor. It means growth is described as expansion or opening outward, linking it to the up is more/stronger metaphor, where becoming larger or unfolding equates to power or significance. Another meaning of this metaphor is emphasis on rapid growth or a significant change happening very quickly, also a sudden surge of confidence, anger, and strong emotion. By using the word "opening out," the metaphor suggests achievement, growth, strength, and prominence. In contrast, the translation "Nah, kini tubuhku sudah membesar dan meninggi seperti teleskop terbesar yang pernah ada!" shifts focus to the person's physical growth that is very fast and significant, so that his body becomes very large and tall, exceeding the normal size of humans in general. While this version changes the perspective, it loses the original metaphor's rich imagery and doesn't convey the same sense of expansion or mechanical unfolding.

The translation process, in this case, is dynamic equivalence, as seen in the adaptation of "Now I'm opening out like the largest telescope that ever was!" to "Nah, kini tubuhku sudah membesar dan meninggi seperti teleskop terbesar yang pernah ada!", it is a translation, and as such must clearly reflect the meaning and intent of the source. The shift from "opening out" has the meaning "membuka/melebar", but in the target language it becomes "membesar dan meninggi seperti teleskop terbesar". That means the dynamic equivalence translation makes it very natural to the reader so that points toward the receptor language can be accepted.

3) Ontological Metaphor
"The Hatter's face turned white."
"Si Hatter yang berubah pucat dan gugup."

The sentence "The Hatter's face turned white." is a part of ontological metaphors. The original text represents fear through a physical change in color, retained in the translation with added emotional context. By using the word "face

turned white," the metaphor indicates a sudden draining of color, suggesting a strong emotional or physical response. These metaphors illustrate how people get sick but in an abstract explanation because in ontological metaphors where abstract things like actions, emotions, and ideas are understood as objects or substances.

The translation process, in this case, dynamic equivalence, as seen in the adaptation of "The Hatter's face turned white," to "Si Hatter yang berubah pucat dan gugup**.**", it is a translation, and as such must clearly reflect the meaning and intent of the source. The shift from "face turned white" has the meaning "wajah berubah putih," but the target language has a different meaning "pucat dan gugup" which makes readers easy to understand. That means the dynamic equivalence translation makes it natural to the reader so that points toward the receptor language can be accepted.

6. CONCLUSION

Through the theories, the researcher found 19 data containing metaphorical cases such as structural, orientational, and ontological. 4 linguistic expressions are classified as structural metaphors; 4 linguistic expressions; 11 linguistic expressions, are classified as ontological metaphors. The 19 linguistic expressions also contain dynamic equivalence. This analysis of metaphor translation in "Alice in Wonderland" provides numerous avenues for additional research. Subsequent studies can enhance our understanding of metaphor translation, ultimately improving the quality and authenticity of translated literary pieces.

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