CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As social creatures, humans require interactions to exchange ideas, feelings, and information. In this process, language presents itself as a communication tool that enables this exchange. However, the languages spoken around the world differ from one another. The diversity of languages in the world presents challenges and barriers to cross-language communication, particularly for individuals who are not fluent in a specific language. Translation serves as a means to overcome these challenges, aiming to convey meaning from the source language to the target language. As a form of interlingual communication, translation is vital in global life. It is hard to envision how people around the world could communicate and comprehend one another without the bridge of translation.

Translation encompasses more than merely exchanging words between different languages. This process must consider several important aspects, including social and cultural contexts as well as the specific aim of the translation. As a process that plays a vital role in transmitting meaning across languages, translation necessitates a profound comprehension of the theories and concepts behind it. Catford (1965) states that translation involves replacing textual material in one language (SL) with its equivalent in another language (TL). Newmark (1988) defines translation as conveying the meaning of a text into a different language while maintaining the intention of the author.

Translation continues to develop to meet the increasingly complex needs of humans. Translation is applied across various fields. One such field is the audiovisual industry, with movie subtitles being an example. Movie subtitles are important for bridging language gaps for viewers who do not comprehend the original language of the movie. Movies from different languages are frequently

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translated into other languages, thus broadening the viewer's reach. For instance, English-language movies are often translated into Indonesian.

The translation must transfer the meaning from the source language to the target language, maintaining both meaning and style equivalence. Nevertheless, the act of translation is challenging. In practice, translation often faces difficulties due to structural differences between the source and target languages. When translating text, including movie subtitles, shifts often occur. Translation shifts can occur when specific words, phrases, or sentences in the source language do not have a direct equivalent in the target language.

The term "translation shift" was introduced by Catford in his book *A Linguistic Theory of Translation*. According to Catford (1965), a shift refers to "departures from formal correspondence in the process of going from the SL to the TL." These shifts take place when a text in the source language is translated into a different grammatical or phonological form in the target language. Catford identifies two categories of translation shifts: level shifts and category shifts, both of which are intended to achieve optimal equivalence for high-quality translation. Furthermore, Catford further divides category shifts into structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift.

The phenomenon of translation shift often occurs in movie subtitles. Translators possess the liberty to implement changes or shifts while translating subtitles to guarantee that the meaning is accurately communicated and equivalent in the target language. This process may lead to alterations or simplifications of meaning. Therefore, the researcher is keen on examining translation shifts within movie subtitles. This study aims to identify English movie subtitles that demonstrate translation shifts in the form of category shifts, as outlined by Catford's theory (1965). In the realm of movie subtitle translation, the translations are not always direct or formally equivalent, particularly when there are structural and grammatical class disparities between two distinct languages. Thus, this study concentrates on the category shift described by Catford (1965), which encompasses four types: structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift. Additionally, this study focuses on subtitles in the form of phrases, particularly adjective phrases,

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to identify and analyze the category shifts found and determine the most prevalent types of category shifts. Adjective phrases often contain rich descriptions and reveal structural differences between English and Indonesian. So, it can change when translated; therefore, it will be analyzed.

To analyze category shifts in subtitle translation, this study employs the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*. This movie is an American movie that was released in 2022 and initially premiered in theaters before subsequently becoming available on the *Netflix* streaming platform. The researcher selected this movie because it contains diverse dialogue. Upon initial viewing of the movie, it became apparent that the characters frequently utilized adjective phrases in their dialogue to describe the atmosphere, characters, or their opinions. This constituted an important reason for the selection of this movie, as the frequent use of adjective phrases provided a large amount of data for analysis. Furthermore, the movie exhibits a diverse linguistic style, ranging from casual to formal dialogue, which analyzes category shifts in translation, both more compelling and contextually enriched.

Due to the aforementioned reasons, the researcher has carried out a study titled "*An Analysis of Category Shift in English-Indonesian Translation of Adjective Phrases in Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery* Movie." This study seeks to explore the application of category shift theory in translation more thoroughly, particularly in relation to movie subtitles and adjective phrases. Furthermore, this study may provide meaningful contributions to the field of translation studies.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

1. What are the types of category shift found in the translation of adjective phrases from English into Indonesian in the subtitles of the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*?
2. What type of category shift is the most dominant in the translation of adjective phrases in the subtitles of the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

1. To identify and analyze the types of category shift present in the translation of adjective phrases from English to Indonesian in the subtitle of the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*.
2. To determine the most dominant type of category shift in the translation of adjective phrases in the subtitle of the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The significance of the study is divided into two aspects, namely:

1. Academic Significance

Academically, this study may enhance the body of knowledge for English language learners, particularly those with an interest in translation studies concerning translation shift. Moreover, this study may also serve as a reference for further research related to translation shift, especially category shifts in the context of movie subtitle translation.

2. Practical Significance

Practically, this study has potential usefulness for various parties. This study can be useful for subtitle translators, as the result can provide a real representation of the shifts that take place in movie subtitle translation, so that it can be taken into consideration for making more precise and natural translation choices. Additionally, this study can also be advantageous for movie viewers, as it raises awareness of how subtitles work and why translations are not always consistent with the original text. This can foster appreciation for the complexity of the translation process.

1.5 Methodology of the Study

This study employs a qualitative approach to examine the data collected. According to Creswell (2023), "qualitative research is an approach for exploring

and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem." This study employs a descriptive qualitative method, as it seeks to provide in-depth data and complement the study through interpretive analysis. Creswell (2023) also states that "the descriptive method in qualitative research is an approach to analysis where the researcher stays close to the data and uses limited frameworks and interpretation for explaining the data, and catalogues the information into themes." The data examined in this study are adjective phrases in movie subtitles that undergo category shifts in the translation from English into Indonesian, which require in-depth analysis and interpretation by the researcher. In addition, this study also highlights what types of category shifts are most often found in the translation of these adjective phrases. Due to its descriptive nature, the data obtained is not analyzed statistically but presented in the form of a written report.

1.5.1 Data Source

In this study, the data source used is the subtitle of the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*. This movie is an American movie released in 2022 and is a sequel to *Knives Out* (2019). It was shown in theaters and also on the subscription streaming platform *Netflix*. The movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery* follows Detective Benoit Blanc as he is invited to a private island owned by billionaire Miles Bron. There, he participates in a murder mystery game with some guests who are friends of Miles Bron. However, the game turns real when one of the guests is killed. It turns out that Blanc didn't just come to play but to investigate the murder of a guest who had actually died before the event even started.

This study uses data consisting of adjective phrases found in the subtitles of the movie. The use of adjective phrases as data in this study is due to linguistic considerations and their relevance for analyzing category shift. Adjective phrases in English often have flexibility and a wider range of structural possibilities, which do not always have direct equivalents in Indonesian. This raises the potential for category shift to occur, and the most dominant type of category shift to be found. The *Glass Onion: A Knives Out*

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Mystery movie was selected as the data source because in this movie, the characters frequently utilized adjective phrases in their dialogue to describe the atmosphere, characters, or their opinions. This constituted an important reason for the selection of this movie, as the frequent use of adjective phrases provided a large amount of data for analysis. The subtitles used in the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery* are the official subtitles provided by *Netflix*.

1.5.2   Method of Data Collection

In this study, the data collection method employed was the observation method. As described by Mahsun (2017) observation method (*metode simak*) involves collecting or providing data through the observation of language usage, encompassing both spoken and written forms. This method was selected because the data being studied came from language use in written form, namely, movie subtitles. The observation method (*metode simak*) enables the researcher to collect data by examining the written language displayed on the movie screen. In practice, this method is enhanced by a technique known as note-taking (*teknik catat*), wherein the researcher notes relevant language data from the movie subtitles.

The data collected were adjective phrases in English subtitles and their Indonesian translations from the *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery* movie. The adjective phrases analyzed were those that correspond to the explanation provided by Nelson and Greenbaum in their theory of adjective phrases. Nelson and Greenbaum (2016) define an adjective phrase as a phrase that has an adjective as its head. The data for this study were gathered through these steps:

1. Watching the movie first to understand the story and the context of the conversations.
2. Re-watching the movie using English (SL) and Indonesian (TL) subtitles.
3. Identifying the English adjective phrases in the subtitle and their translations in Indonesian.
4. Taking note of the collection of the adjective phrases found.

1.5.3 Method of Data Analysis

In this study, the method used to analyze the data was the intralingual equivalent method (*metode padan intralingual*). As stated by Mahsun (2017), this method involves comparing linguistic elements, both within a single language and across several different languages. In the context of this study, the intralingual equivalent method *(metode padan intralingual)* was applied to compare the linguistic elements of adjective phrases in English as the source language and their translations into Indonesian in the subtitles of the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*. The application of this method involved a comparative-contrastive technique (*teknik hubung banding membedakan*), following Mahsun's theoretical framework. This technique was selected because the study aims to identify and examine grammatical differences or shifts between adjective phrases in the source and target languages, which is core to the analysis of category shifts. The steps of data analysis were carried out as follows:

1. Analyzing the form of the shift that occurs in each adjective phrase that undergoes category shift.
2. Classifying the adjective phrases that have been analyzed based on the type of category shift that occurs, namely, structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift.
3. Determining the most dominant type of category shift involves analyzing its frequency of occurrence in the classified data. The researcher determines the most dominant category shift by applying the formula based on Suherman and Sukjaya (in Malik & Chusni, 2018) as follows:

$$P = \frac{f}{n} \times 100\%$$

P = Presentage

f = Frequency

n = Total

100 = Constant value

4. Making a conclusion based on the analyzed data.

1.6   Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study is related to translation that focuses on the analysis of translation shift. The translation shift examined in this study specifically focuses on category shift in the translation of adjective phrases from English into Indonesian, which are found in the subtitle of the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*. This analysis is grounded in Catford's theory of translation shift, which categorizes four types of category shift: structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift. The scope of this study is limited to identifying and analyzing category shifts in the translation of adjective phrases and to determining the most dominant type of category shift found. In addition, the data examined in this study is restricted to the official subtitles of the movie *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*, as provided by *Netflix*.

1.7 Status of the Study

In translation studies, particularly those concerning shift, numerous studies have been conducted using similar theoretical approaches, although the objects of the study and the types of data analyzed are different. The researcher has found several previous studies that are relevant and support the topic of shift in translation. These previous studies provide a broad overview of how shift theory is applied in the context of translating various types of texts and highlight the importance of understanding shift as part of the process of transferring meaning between languages.

Several previous studies related to this topic have been identified by the writer. Fitria (2020), in a journal article titled "Translation Shift in English into Indonesian Subtitle of *Guzaarish* Movie," discusses translation shift found in the subtitles of *Guzaarish* movie. Similarly, Arosyida (2022), in her thesis titled "Category Shift Analysis in Translation from English into Indonesian on Short Story," discusses category shift in the short story *The Story of an Hour* by Kate Chopin. Ratna and Suyudi (2022), in their journal article titled "Category Shift Translation of Noun Phrase in the *Cruella* Movie Script and Its Translation," discuss category shift in the noun phrases of the *Cruella* movie script. Tambunan (2022), through the journal article titled "Category Shifts in Translating English

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Complex Noun Phrases in *Ugly Love* Novel into Indonesian," discusses category shift in the translation of complex noun phrases in the novel *Ugly Love*. Furthermore, Imanda (2023), in her thesis titled "The Translation Shift Analysis in the "Luca" Movie, discusses translation Analysis in the 'Luca' Movie," discusses translation shifts found in the subtitles of the *Luca* movie.

The five previous studies mentioned above have similarities in the theory used, namely Catford's (1965) theory of translation shift, which served as the basis for data analysis. All five studies focused on shifts in text translation, whether in movie subtitles, short stories, scripts, or novels. In terms of research methodology, they all employed a qualitative approach, with data collection involving original English text and their Indonesian translations. The studies by Fitria and Imanda not only analyzed translation shift but also identified the most dominant type of shift. The other three studies limited their analysis to category shift only.

The five previous studies above differ in the types of data used, but the results of their analyses are generally the same. Fitria (2020) examined translation shifts in movie subtitles using data consisting of verbs, phrases, and tenses, and found that the most dominant type of shift was category shift. Arosyida (2022) used various phrases in a short story as data. Ratna and Suyudi (2022) used noun phrases in a movie script as data and found that structure shift was the most frequently occurring type of category shift. Tambunan (2022) used complex noun phrases from a novel and found that structure shift and unit shift were the most common types of category shift. Imanda (2023) analyzed translation shifts in movie subtitles using words, phrases, and sentences as data and found that category shift was the most frequent, with structure shift being the most dominant subtype.

Several previous studies mentioned above can be used as previous research for this study because they focus on the analysis of shifts in the context of translation. This indicates a relevant correlation between those previous ones. This study will analyze category shifts but will focus on one type of data, namely, adjective phrases. In addition, the movies used are also different.

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1.8 Organization of the Study

This study is systematically organized in four chapters to provide a clear and structured discussion of the research. The organization is as follows:

1. Chapter I: Introduction

   This chapter provides the introduction, encompassing the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, significance of the study, methodology of the study, scope and limitation of the study, status of the study, and organization of the study.

2. Chapter II: Review of Related Literature

   This chapter contains an explanation of the theories underlying this study. It discusses the definition of translation, translation shift, the concept of category shift, subtitling, and the definition of phrase, particularly adjective phrases.

3. Chapter III: Findings and Discussion

   This chapter showcases the research findings and provides a detailed explanation of the results of data analysis. It contains the answers to the research questions.

4. Chapter IV: Conclusion and Suggestions

   This chapter outlines the conclusions derived from the research results and provides suggestions for parties who wish to conduct similar studies.