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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Problem

Written communication is one of its most expressive forms in literature. Literature serves as a powerful vehicle for conveying experiences, thoughts, and emotions, offering readers a window into the author's inner world. Through literature, authors share their perspectives on life, encapsulating values and ideas that resonate with readers. Over time, various forms of literature have emerged, including *pantun*, poetry, rhymes, proverbs, novels, and more.

Among these forms, novels stand out as a widely appreciated literary genre across different cultures. Since novels are written in various languages around the world, readers from other countries often require translated versions to understand and appreciate the content. For students, novels not only serve as a source of entertainment but also as a valuable learning tool. By reading novels, students can gain new experiences, broaden their knowledge, develop emotional intelligence, nurture creativity, and find inspiration in positive role models.

However, translation is not a simple task. According to Emzir (2015: 4), translation is an activity in which the meaning of expressions in a source language (SL) is transferred into equivalent expressions in a target language (TL), regardless of the medium—oral, written, or



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symbolic. A major challenge in translation arises from the structural and referential differences between languages. For instance, English commonly follows a Modifier–Head (MD) structure, while Indonesian tends to use a Head–Modifier (DM) structure. These syntactic differences can significantly influence how translations are rendered and understood. Therefore, a translator must possess a deep understanding of both the source and target language structures.

Nida and Taber in Nasution (2017: 126), described translation as a process of communication, so translators' role stand in between two different languages in which they act as the recipient of source language and subsequently act as the communicator in the target language.

There are numerous techniques in translation, such as addition, subtraction, transposition, omission, reduction, borrowing, cultural equivalence, modulation, descriptive equivalence, adaptation, and idiomatic translation. However, this research will focus on three specific techniques: transposition, borrowing, and adaptation. The subject of study in this research is the novel *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom.

The rationale for selecting these three techniques is as follows: 1) An analysis of transposition technique will elucidate the inherent structural divergence among languages. Consequently, translators must exercise caution and refrain from the indiscriminate imposition of target language (TL) structures onto the source language (SL). 2) An analysis of



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borrowing technique will apprise readers of the linguistic assimilation of foreign elements into Indonesian, with specific reference to English in this research. 3) An analysis of adaptation technique will underscore the cultural specificities embedded within different languages. Direct translation from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL) without considering these nuances may result in ambiguity and a lack of comprehensibility.

The selection of this novel as the subject of inquiry is predicated on its rich potential for extracting salient insights. Prior scholarly work by Rohmah (2020: 54-55) identified the novel's capacity to elucidate fundamental human affective states, including love, wisdom, and empathy, thereby fostering an enhanced appreciation for lived experience among readers. This novel is a memoir which is dedicated to the author's younger brother, Peter. The narrative centers on Albom's recurring meetings with Morrie Schwartz, his former sociology professor from Brandeis University, during Schwartz's terminal battle with ALS. Furthermore, based on researcher experience while reading the novel, there are many more things that can be learned, such as the values of family and friendship.

Since this novel is popular among the readers, it gets its movie adaptation with the same title on December, 1999 and even after more than 20 years, this novel is still being produced. The enduring relevance of its thematic content to contemporary human experience and word choices that



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are still based on everyday life, so researcher confirmed the selection of Mitch Albom's "*Tuesdays with Morrie*" as the subject of this research.

B. Identification of The Problem

The problems of this research were identified as follow:

1. Translating is not an easy task since different languages are structured differently and have different ways of expressing things.
2. No one has researched the translation of the novel *Tuesdays with Morrie* although this novel is still in production and is known to many readers.
3. Novels, despite being popular learning tools, present challenges for readers from different countries due to language barriers.
4. Translators act as communicators between two different languages, requiring a deep understanding of both source and target language structures to produce meaningful and understandable translations.
5. While numerous translation techniques exist, the researcher focused on only three specific techniques: transposition, borrowing, and adaptation, applied to the novel "Tuesdays With Morrie by Mitch Albom."

C. Limitation of The Problem

Based on the identification problems of the above, researcher limited to analyzing the translation of the novel "Tuesdays With Morrie by Mitch Albom" through only three specific techniques: transposition, borrowing, and adaptation.



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D. Research Question

Based on the limitation of the Problem above, the researcher can formulated the questions of research as a follow:

1. What is the most dominant technique used among transposition, borrowing, adaptation in the novel *Tuesdays with Morrie*?

E. Purpose of The Research

The purpose of this research is to determine what the most dominant translation technique among transposition, borrowing, and adaptation in the novel "*Tuesdays With Morrie* by Mitch Albom."

F. Significances of The Research

Based on the purpose of the research, the significances of the research can be stated as follow:

1. Readers

This research can help the readers to learn more about translation techniques, especially in transposition, borrowing, and adaptation.

2. Researchers

This research can be resources or references to conduct topic related to transposition, borrowing, and adaptation translation techniques on the novel *Tuesdays with Morrie*.



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G. Definition of The Key Terms

1. Novel

Guillain (2015: 6), stated that novel is a story that can be a fiction or based on real events. It usually broken up into chapters or section because of their length.

2. Translation

Sfetcu (2018: 8), said that translation represents always an original text ("original text", or "source"), changing one language (source language) to another language (target language) to understand the meaning of the source language.

3. Transposition

According to Molina & Albir (2002: 511), transposition technique is a translation technique that is used to alter or match the target language structure by changing the grammatical structure, changing the position of adjectives, and even changing the plural form to single.

4. Borrowing

According to Vinay & Darbelnet (2000: 85), borrowing is a translation technique that borrows a word directly from the source language. Based in Molina & Albir (2002: 499), the borrowing techniques are divided into two types: pure borrowing that is without any adjustment and naturalized borrowing that is made to fit the



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spelling rules in the target language. For example, an adjustment on the spelling or pronunciation.

5. Adaptation

According to Sukmaningrum et al (2022: 1097), adaptation is one of the translation technique that enables the translator to replace the cultural element of the source language (SL) with one of the target languages (TL).

