

AMPLIFICATION TECHNIQUE OF TRANSLATION IN THE TARGET LANGUAGE NOVEL ‘EARTH DANCE’

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Abstract

This research article discusses the act of adding information called amplification technique in translating Indonesian novel *Tarian Bumi* into English, ‘Earth Dance’. The amplification technique of translation is needed to fill up the gap regarding the information given in the source language novel and in the target language novel. The language use in the source language novel is so unique that additional information needs to be given in the target language. In that way the readers of the target language will get the same message as the readers of the source language novel. The objectives of this research is to describe what information is added in the target language novel and to identify what background of the adding information through amplification technique of translation. The method used is qualitative method with descriptive-comparative approaches. The data are taken from the Indonesian novel *Tarian Bumi* which is translated into English, ‘Earth Dance’. The results show that the information added through the amplification technique covers implicit-explicit information, cultural information, and grammatical differences between Indonesian language and English. The background of the application of the amplification technique of translation in this research is the uniqueness of the language use in the source language regarding the setting of the novel, Balinese culture.

Keywords: amplification technique of translation, the novel ‘Earth Dance’, source language, target language

Introduction

The term “amplification” in literature has its own meaning that it refers to a process of making stronger, bigger, louder, or more important. <https://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-amplification-in-literature.html>. Seeing from the sequences of comparative adjectives used in the definition, it can be concluded that in amplification there is an act of making more. In the process of making more it involves the process of making addition. As in the Translation Studies, it refers to a technique of adding information in the target language text for the same reason; to make the text more comprehensible to the readers of the target language text. What a translator does by using this technique is to give the same amount of information as received by the

readers of the source language text. Consequently the quantity of words in the target language text is higher than what can be found in the source language text. However, this does not mean that the information given in the target language is more than the information given in the source language text. It is only a matter of giving the same message through an equivalent that can fulfill the requirement of being natural, the closest one both in terms of meaning and in terms of style (Nida, 1969). Amplification technique of translation is one of the ways to reach this objective stated in the definition of translation.

The amplification used as the topic of this research article is the amplification technique found in an English target novel

'Earth Dance'. It is a part of a big scheme of research with the novel "Earth Dance" as the data source. The first research which has been carried out is about the existence of paraphrase strategy found in the first section of the novel (Mahmud et al., 2021). It discusses the types of paraphrase and the linguistic units being paraphrased. This leaves to a gap where more researches can be carried out. This strategy leads to some techniques of translation involving addition or amplification or explicitation, alteration or transposition or modulation, and deletion or reduction. As based on the quantity of data identified, the amplification technique found more frequently than alteration and reduction, this present research focuses on the addition or amplification.

The objectives of this research are to identify what information which is added to the target language text in order to get the closest natural equivalent and what background of the adding information seeing from the context of the story in the novel. Having the setting of Balinese culture, the language used in the source language text is affected by the life there; how people there live in the social stratification known as caste. The caste which plays the major part in the story is the lowest one called Sudra for the logical reason that the majority of Balinese, about 90% is from this caste (http://www.balix.com/travel/guide/chapters/about_bali/people_caste.html) The style of the language they use is represented through this novel. The style of the language is unique that it needs efforts to balance the information given in the source language text with the information given in the target language text. It is where the amplification technique works.

The literature review consists of two major parts; involving previous researches and involving the main references used in this research. The previous research is divided into 3 parts: (i) the previous researches dealing with amplification as one of the techniques of translation; (ii) the previous researches dealing with

amplification technique as explicitly stating in the titles; (iii) the previous researches dealing with the same data source, the novel Tarian Bumi and its translation 'Earth Dance'

Researches about amplification as one of techniques of translation are found in the translation of literary texts as well as non-literary texts. Back in 2017, an article discussing translation technique used in the translation of a novel "A Time to Kill" from English into Indonesian was published (Ndruru, 2017). From the research it is identified that the most frequent usage of translation technique is amplification technique following by other techniques. In 2019 amplification as one of the translation techniques found in a thesis regarding the translation of subtitle in Doraemon "Stand By Me" movie (Meylisa, 2019). Unlike the translation of a novel, the amplification technique in translating subtitle is used less frequently than any other techniques. The next previous research deals with two kinds of amplification dealing with the translation of utterances flouting the maxim of quality (Aresta et al., 2018). The two amplifications are categorized into (1) amplification as an addition as in a condition where information not stated in the source language text is added in the target language text and; (2) amplification as an explicitation in a case where implicit information in the source language text is translated into explicit information

Meanwhile the previous researches regarding the use of amplification technique as one of translation techniques in non-literary texts are found in several journal articles. Mostly the researches deal with the translation work from English into Indonesian. The previous research regarding the use of translation techniques for non-literary text involved amplification technique as one of the solutions where the amplification technique identified applicable (Đorđević, 2017). This research is based on the translation techniques by Vinay and Darbelnet. Then in a journal article published in 2018, amplification

technique has been identified as one of the five most frequent techniques used in translating abstracts of *EduNomika* journal together with transposition, reduction, established equivalent, and borrowing (Fitria, 2018). In the same year, a doctoral dissertation discussed amplification both as a translation strategy and as a translation technique in a corpus-based study dealing with the translation of evidential adverbs was written (Gutiérrez, 2018).

The number of research involving amplification as a part of translation techniques is higher compared to specific research dealing with amplification stated explicitly in the titles. Based on the google search engine there are only 3 titles so far; all of them are from current researches published in 2020. The first one deals with the translation of children picturebook where a typology of amplification technique consisting of naturalizing, synchronizing, and stylizing amplification is proposed (Purnomo et al., 2020). The term amplification technique stated explicitly in the title of the research article. The next one is where the term amplification technique is stated together with other translation technique, namely transposition in a title of a research article. The two translation techniques are applied in translating English commands in a novel *Harry Potter and The Order of Phoenix* into Indonesian (Darmayanti, 2020). This research refers to the translation techniques by Molina & Albir (2002). Similarly to the second research, this third research uses amplification technique and other technique stated explicitly in the journal article, this time with description technique (Lestari, 2020). The article discusses the two techniques in translating Arabic phrases in a book of *Matan Al-Ghayah Wa Al-Taqrīb*.

The next previous researches deal with the data source, the novel *Tarian Bumi* 'Earth Dance'. Using google search engine, the research regarding the translation of the novel *Tarian Bumi* into *Earth Dance* is limited when it is compared with the discussion of the Balinese culture written in

the novel. Back in 2017, a research about the translation of conceptual metaphors in the novel was published (I Gede, 2017). It reveals the types of Indonesian conceptual metaphors and the translation strategies used. There are some other researches but they are not related to Translation Studies, like with liberal feminism study (Danardana, 2019); with Critical Discourse Analysis (Putri, 2019).

2.2 Amplification Technique

Referring to Molina & Albir (2002) classification of translation techniques, the term amplification deals with the act of adding information in the target language text, the information which is not stated in the source language text (Molina & Albir, 2002). This leads to the condition that the term amplification is synonymous to several other terms in Translation Studies as it gives information in the target language text which does not exist in the source language text. The terms which can be related to this process are Nida's addition, when information that is not specified in the source text is inserted in the target text, as one of the adjustment techniques (Munday, 2016); paraphrase, description, and notes as parts of translation procedures (Newmark, 1988); and the term explicitation by Klaudy and Karoly (Mahmud et al., 2020). making explicit in the target text information that is implicit in the source text, as one of the translation strategies (Noftariani, 2019). In other words amplification is meant as a way to add information for any reason as in addition to make the implicit information explicit and to clarify the ellipted information (Sharifabad, 2015)

The amplification which is used in this present research is the term amplification as a part of translation techniques proposed by Molina and Albir (2002). It refers to the condition where details that are not found in the source language text is introduced in the target language text, for example, in the translation a sentence (1) "Please give me this gift to Mrs. President" is translated into Indonesian "Tolong berikan hadiah ini

kepada Ibu Presiden, istri Kepala Negara’. In the example, the information about Mrs. President ‘Ibu Presiden’ is added by the information ‘istri Kepala Negara’ that the Mrs. President this refers to the wife of a president, the head of the nation (Erlina, 2016). This additional information is to state explicitly in the target language text that in Indonesian, the term “Ibu Presiden” may refer to (a) a female president and (b) it may refer to a wife of a president. This leads to the function of amplification as a technique of adding information.

Based on the major role of amplification is to add information and based on the relation of this term with similar translation instruments, like addition, paraphrase, explicitation, description, notes, it can be implied that there are some functions of amplification. The functions are (i) to make implicit information explicit both lexically and grammatically including to avoid ambiguity; (ii) to clarify an elliptic expression including to bridge grammatical gaps; (iii) to define cultural words or expression. All of them has one single objective that is to give information to the readers of the target language text as much as what is comprehended by the readers of the source language text. Therefore the amplification technique with is major act is to add information which is not stated in the source text is not about the quantity of information but it is about the quality of information.

Methodology

The method used in this research is a mixed method of qualitative and quantitative method with comparative and descriptive approach. It is qualitative as it deals with qualitative phenomenon and it is quantitative as it involves the measurement of quantity or amount (Kothari, 2004). The qualitative method is used to reveal all the phenomena in both texts, the source language text and the target language text regarding the adding information. The data collection is started by collecting all

information in the target language text which are paraphrased observed from the wording, the quantity of words. The information in the target language text consists of more words compare to the information given in the source language text. The next step is to identify what information is added in the target language text. In this way what backgrounds or functions of the adding information can be observed and revealed. While the quantitative method is used in order to see which background or function applied more than others.

All the processes performed in the analysis is to find out what information which is not stated in the source language text but is observed to be inserted in the target language text. And by studying the context, it can be revealed the backgrounds or functions of the adding information through the amplification technique.

Findings and Discussion

The analysis and discussion is divided into 3 sections based on the background of why amplification technique needs to be applied:

- (a) Amplification for Implicit into Explicit Information; this deals with implicit information in the source language text which is naturally comprehended by the readers of the source language text yet will not give the same comprehension to the readers of the target language if it is not added with more information stated explicitly.
- (b) Amplification for Grammatical Gaps; this deals with the different grammatical rules between the source language and the target language, mostly dealing with the syntactic function, Verb in English or P (Predicate) in Indonesian, especially with the static verb like linking verbs.
- (c) Amplification for Cultural Terms; this deals with cultural terms which need description in order to gain the same quality of information as

received in the source language. However there are some cultural words which are left uninformed in the story as they have already been described in the glossary.

The data are taken from the four beginning sections of the novel. It can be identified that amplification technique has been found

in 91 data. There are 63 data involving implicit to explicit information; 21 data involving grammatical gaps; and there are 7 data involving cultural information as seen in the following table.

Table 1. The Background of Amplification Technique Used in the Target Novel ‘Earth Dance’

No.	Background	Quantity/%
1	Making Implicit Information to Explicit Information	63 = 69.23%
2.	Bridging Grammatical Gaps	21 = 23.07%
3	Describing Cultural Terms	7 = 7.69%

Referring to the phenomena stated in Table 1 it can be identified that Amplification technique of translation which is used more frequently is with the background of making information from implicit to explicit. And the one which is with the background of describing cultural information is the least frequent. There is one single logical

explanation to this is that most of cultural terms written in the novel are described in the glossary out of the context of the story.

The analysis and discussion are not taken all 91 data found. Each classification which is made in a table consists of several data representing each background.

Table 2. Amplification: Making Implicit Information to Explicit Information

No.	Source Language Text	Target Language Text
1	<i>Perempuan griya itu benar-benar baik.</i> Literal Translation: The Griya woman is indeed very kind.	Telaga , a woman of the <i>griya</i> , had been very kind indeed.
2	<i>Sebagai perempuan junior, Ibu hanya bisa menunduk.</i> Literal Translation: As a junior woman, mother could only bow.	As her junior, Mother could only bow her head in response.
3	<i>“Perempuan Bali itu, Luh, perempuan yang tidak terbiasa mengeluarkan keluhan.”</i> Literal Translation: The Balinese woman, Luh, is a woman who never speak up a complain	“Balinese women are not ones to complain,” her mother had said
4	<i>Keringat mereka adalah api. Dari keringat itulah asap dapur bisa tetap terjaga.</i> Literal Translation: Their sweat is fire. From the sweat, the smoke of the kitchen can be kept.	Their sweat is the fire of life . The fuel that keeps the stoves burning and feeds the family.

5	<p><i>Sementara aku harus kerja keras, kaki mereka terangkat di kursi.</i></p> <p>Literal Translation: While I have to work hard, their feet are up on the benches.</p>	<p>While I'm working hard, they just sit there with their feet up on the benches.</p>
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Data (1) to (5) in table 2 involve the use of amplification technique with the background of making the implicit information in the source language text to explicit in the target language text. When in data (1) the name “Telaga” which is not stated in *Perempuan griya itu benar-benar baik* ‘The griya woman is indeed very kind’ is translated into ‘Telaga, a woman of the griya, had been very kind indeed’, the information about a woman of the griya is made explicit by adding the name of the woman of the griya, Telaga. The technique of adding information namely amplification is needed as the readers of the target language text have to know a specific person referred by the noun phrase “a woman of the griya”. There are several female names appeared in the text showing women of the griya. By the use of this amplification technique, the readers of the target language will have the knowledge about a specific woman of the griya who is discussed on the sentence through her name, Telaga.

In data (2) the piece of information which is added dealing with the verb *menunduk* ‘bow’ in the sentence *Sebagai perempuan junior, Ibu hanya bisa menunduk*. In this sentence the act of bowing done by a junior woman of the griya represents the act of acceptance and agreement without any arguments to what has been told by the senior woman of the griya. The additional information **her head in response** put after the verb bow is to explicitly state that the junior woman makes no response in words but bows her head. This information will give clear comprehension to the readers of the target language text about the manner a junior of the griya has toward a senior of the griya in Balinese culture.

Meanwhile in data (3) the information which is added not dealing with a part of a sentence but with the whole part of it. The amplification technique is needed to add information on who makes the statement “*Perempuan Bali itu, Luh, perempuan yang tidak terbiasa mengeluarkan keluhan*” as it is not stated in the source language text. The readers of the source language naturally understand based on the context who has made the statement; it is Luh’s mother but not the readers of the target language. It is therefore after the translated utterance “Balinese women are not ones to complain” the speaker is explicitly stated “**her mother had said**”.

Having similar context, data (4) *Keringat mereka adalah api. Dari keringat itulah asap dapur bisa tetap terjaga* refers to the previous information stated in data (3) about the fact that Balinese women support their family by working hard to get money for their life. The implicit information about why the Balinese women work are explicitly stated in the target language text through the additional information **feeds the family**. In this way the readers of the target language will gain the knowledge that in Balinese culture, women work hard to feed their family; their children including their husbands.

The last data of table 2, data (5) is about the condition where Balinese women have to work harder than men which is described in the following utterance spoken by one of the Balinese women in the novel *Sementara aku harus kerja keras, kaki mereka terangkat di kursi*. This statement shows the irony in the Balinese culture where women have to work while men just sit leisurely without working. The piece of information which is made explicit is the information of just sitting in a way that they

can put their feet up on the benches. It is explicitly stated in the additional information **they just sit there**.

Table 3. Amplification: Bridging Grammatical Gaps

No.	Source Language Text	Target Language Text
6	<i>Kenten orang sakit. Sakit jiwa</i> Literal Translation: Kenten sick person. Mentally ill.	Kenten is sick. She's mentally ill.
7	Tidak Literal Translation: No	I am not.
8	<i>Aibkah?</i> Literal Translation: Shameful?	Was it shameful?
9	<i>Kamu mulai tidak yakin?</i> Literal Translation: You start not sure	You are starting to have doubts, aren't you?
10	<i>Sakit, sakit sekali menjadi orang seperti aku.</i> Literal Translation: Hurt, so hurt to be person like me	It hurts me so. It hurts to be a woman like me.

Table 3 deals with the representation of data amplification technique of translation having the background of bridging grammatical gaps between the source language text and the target language text. The major cause of the use of this technique with this background is the gaps regarding the syntactic functions: S, V, O, C, A, in English where the name of the function V is overlapping with the part of speech verb (V). In Indonesian the functions are S, P, O, K. This shows a difference where one of the syntactic functions under the name of V (verb) in English supposes to be equivalent with the function P (predicate) in Indonesian. The English uses the term V as all predicates in English have to be verb either it is static or dynamic while in Indonesian language the syntactic function P (predicate) can be of any parts of speech including the verb itself. This leads to

grammatical gaps needed to be bridged so the readers of the target language text will be familiar with the syntactic structures in the target language text.

In data (6) “*Kenten orang sakit. Sakit jiwa*” there is no verb involved. Kenten is the subject of the sentence and “*orang sakit*” is the predicate as well as “*sakit jiwa*” is incomplete sentence where predicate stands alone. It is natural in Indonesian language but not in English. In order to make the equivalent for those two sentences into the closest natural one that it is readable, acceptable in English, the use of static verb (is) “*Kenten is sick*” is added and the incomplete sentence “*Sakit jiwa*” is made into a complete sentence “**She's** mentally ill” by adding the subject, **she**, and the static verb, **is**. The same case occurs in data (7) where the incomplete sentence in negation “*Tidak*” is made complete ‘**I am**

not' by adding subject, **I**, and static verb, **am**. And this also happens in data (8) where amplification technique is applied by bridging grammatical gaps from incomplete sentence in interrogative "*aibkah*" into complete sentence also in interrogative where the static verb is preceded by the subject, **it**, referring to the interrogative construction in English. The suffix *kah* which is attached to the adjective *aib* 'shameful' in Indonesian language indicates a question, no grammatical subject needed like in English. The last data of this table 3, data (10), also undergoes the same case where the adjective *Sakit*, *sakit sekali* plays a function as the subject with the verb *menjadi* 'become' as the predicate. In the target language text, the amplification technique with the grammatical gap background is applied. To make the sentence readable and acceptable in the

target language the grammatical subject "**it**" is added, the sentence is distributed into 2 where in the first sentence the object "**me**" is inserted:" **It hurts me** so. **It hurts** to be a woman like me."

In data (9) Indonesian interrogative sentence "*Kamu mulai tidak yakin?*" which does not have any specific interrogative construction just ended by the question mark is bridged into the same construction followed by question tag 'You are starting to have doubts, **aren't you?**'. The interrogative mark is represented by the question tag which is not stated in the source language text. By using the amplification technique with this grammatical gap background, the readers of the target language will have the same comprehension as the readers of the source language that it is a question tag which just needs a confirmation instead of an answer.

Table 4. Amplification: Describing Cultural Terms

No.	Source Language Text	Target Language Text
11	<i>Ayah nenek seorang pendeta yang memiliki banyak sisia, orang-orang yang setia dan hormat pada griya.</i>	Her father had been a <i>pandita</i> , a learned man and priest , with many family retainers who were loyal to the <i>griya</i> .
12	<i>Konon kata orang Luh Sekar memang selalu menampik cinta laki-laki Sudra.</i>	People noted that Luh Sekar refused to go out with low-caste sudra men.
13	<i>Sekar tahu diri, sangat tahu diri, menjadi penari joged perlu pawisik para dewa.</i>	Sekar was well aware that to become a dancer she needed a nod from the gods, a whisper of affirmation .
14	<i>Laki-laki itulah yang paling rajin datang setiap ada joged.</i>	Ida Bagus Ngurah Pidada was always there when they performed the provocative joged dance .
15	<i>Meme bisa membawakan takir dan celemik ke griya"</i>	you can bring some <i>takir</i> and <i>celemik</i> containers for making offerings at the <i>griya</i> ."

Unlike the data in table 2 and table 3, table 4 involves the use of amplification technique with the cultural term background where the additional information is a must otherwise the readers of the target language will not get the knowledge of what the cultural terms mean. Those which are translated by using the amplification technique such as *pandita* into 'a learned

man and priest' in data (11), *Sudra* into 'low-caste' in data (12), *pawasik* into 'a whisper of affirmation' in data (13) are those which are not listed in the glossary except the cultural terms *joged* in data (14) and *takir* and *celemik* in data (15). The additional information inserted in the target language text regarding the cultural terms in data (14) and (15) are just the brief

description of what the cultural terms are about. The term *joged* needs to be described in the target language text due to the reason that the word is used in the story frequently.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis and discussion, it can be concluded that amplification technique of translation is an option that can be used to deliver what the author of the source language wants to as the message of the text. The way this technique works is through additional information inserted in the target language text. It is an effort to give similar effect to the readers of the target language text that the target language text is readable, acceptable, and comprehensible. It fulfills the requirement of what needs to be done in translation; giving equivalent which is natural in terms of meaning as well as in style, not only just natural but also the closest one.

Amplification is not just a technique of adding information in the target text without some criteria as the background. Amplification technique refers to the adding information which are related to the context like making implicit information explicit, bridging grammatical gaps from the source language text into the target language text based on the grammatical rules of the target language, and amplification also involves the act of describing cultural terms in a brief explanation by keeping the cultural terms as borrowing. In this research, the amplification technique which is used more frequent than any other is the one with the background of making implicit information explicit.

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