

THE TRANSLATION STRATEGIES OF IDIOMS FOUND IN *THE BOSS BABY: BACK IN BUSINESS MOVIE SERIES*

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ABSTRACT

Idioms are fixed combinations of words whose meaning cannot be determined by looking at the expression itself. Moreover, identifying whether the phrase or clause is an idiom or not is also difficult to do unless the translator is familiar with the expressions. This research aims at finding the translation strategies in translating the idioms found in *The Boss Baby: Back in Business Movie Series, Season 2, Episodes 1-3*. This research is a descriptive qualitative. Observation method and note taking were applied in order to collect the data and achieve the aim of the research. The results show that there are 20 idioms found in the three episodes. The strategies used in Episode 1, entitled *As the Diaper Changes*, are *an idiom with dissimilar form strategy (1), paraphrasing (5), and omission (1)*. Episode 2, entitled *Super Cool Big Kids Inc.*, *an idiom with similar meaning and form (1), and paraphrasing (5)*. Episode 3 entitled *P.U.*, *paraphrasing (7)*.

Keywords: equivalence, idioms, translation strategies

INTRODUCTION

Translation is a challenging work to do because a translator must transfer it into its target language accurately and suitably. Translation is not only about understanding the grammar in the source text, comprehending the linguistic, having a good sense of semantic analysis, but also a thorough comprehension to notice and identify an idiom in the source text. Idioms are fixed combinations of words whose meaning cannot be determined by looking at the expression itself. Moreover, identifying whether the phrase or clause found is an idiom or not is also difficult to do unless the translator is familiar with the expressions. Besides, idioms frequently change in English. Although last for a long time, some disappear very quickly. Therefore, a translator must put their effort to look for the definition not only in the idiom dictionary but also in the internet. An expert also stated that idioms are frozen patterns of language that allow little or no variation in form

and, in the case of idioms, often the meaning it carries cannot be deduced from their individual components.

The idiom in English is not always, although there are some, has its exact equivalent if it is translated into Indonesian. There also some cases that an idiom can be easily misinterpreted if, (a) some idioms are 'misleading' and they seem transparent because they offer a reasonable literal interpretation. Moreover, the idiomatic meanings are not necessarily signaled in the surrounding text. In this case, a translator who is not familiar with the idiom in question may easily accept the literal interpretation and miss the play on idiom. (b) An idiom in the source language may have a very close counterpart in the target language, which looks similar on the surface but has a totally or partially different meaning. Apart from being alert to the way speakers and writers manipulate certain features of idioms and to the possible confusion which could arise from similarities in form between

source and target expressions, a translator must also consider the collocational environment which surrounds any expression whose meaning is not readily accessible. Once a translator recognizes an idiom and finds its meaning, the next step is to decide how to translate it into the target language. The difficulties involved in translating an idiom are totally different from those involved in interpreting it. The main difficulties are: (a) the idiom found may have no equivalent in the target language, (b) it may have a similar counterpart in the target language, but its context of use may be different, (c) it may be used in the source text in both its literal and idiomatic senses at the same time, (d) The very convention of using idioms in written discourse, the contexts in which they can be used, and their frequency of use may be different in the source and target languages.

Therefore, this research aims at finding the translation strategies in translating the idioms found in *The Boss Baby Movie Series Back in Business*. This research uses the idiom translated strategies proposed by Baker (2011). The strategies are divided into five strategies, they are described as follows: (a) using an idiom of similar meaning and form. This strategy involves using an idiom in the target language which conveys roughly the same meaning as that of the source-language idiom and, in addition, consists of equivalent lexical items. This kind of match can only occasionally be achieved. In other words, the idiom in the source language is translated into idiom in the target language. (b) Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form. It is often possible to find an idiom or fixed expression in the target language which has a meaning similar to that of the source idiom or expression, but which consists of different lexical items. In

other words, the idiom found in the source text is translated into idiom in the source text but different form. It can be the part of speech or the phrase. (c) Borrowing the source language idiom. It is not unusual for idioms to be borrowed in their original form in some contexts and this strategy dealing with culture-specific items. (d) Translation by paraphrase. This strategy is the most common way to translate an idiom into its target language. This happens when a match cannot be found in the target language or the use of idiomatic language is not appropriate in the target text because of the stylistic preferences are different. This strategy can be found accurate or less accurate. (e) Translation by omission of a play on idiom. This strategy involves rendering only the literal meaning of an idiom in a context that allows for a concrete reading of an otherwise playful use of language. (f) Translation by omission of entire idiom. As with single words, an idiom may sometimes be omitted altogether in the target text. This may be because it has no close match in the target language, its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased, or for stylistic reasons.

There are some previous researchers that have been conducted the research related to translating idiom and its strategies. Suryawan and Winaya (2018) discussed about the translation strategies of idioms with special reference to “*Anak Semua Bangsa*” and “*Child of All Nations*”. The aims of their research were (1) to find out the translation strategies applied by the translator in translating the idioms of ST to the TT and (2) to identify the types of equivalence of the translated idioms. Observation method and note-taking technique was used in collecting the data. The data were analyzed using descriptive qualitative method. In order to answer the formulated questions, the theory of

translation strategies of translating idiom proposed by Mona Baker (1992) was applied in analyzing the translation strategies used by the translator in translating the idioms in the novels and the theory of equivalence proposed by Eugene Nida in *Toward a Science of Translating* (1964) to identify the types of equivalence of the translated idioms. The results indicate that there were only three translation strategies found in the translation of 20 idioms used as the data in this study. Moreover, both Nida's theory of Formal and Dynamic Equivalence were found in the translation of the idioms. Wicaksono and Wahyuni (2018) discussed about the translation strategies found in Indonesian Legends, namely; *Batu Kuwung*, *Batu Menangis*, *Gunung Merapi*, *Tangkuban Perahu* and *Candi Prambanan*. The aims of their research were (1) the idiomatic expressions which are found in Indonesian Legends, (2) the meaning of the idiomatic expressions found in Indonesian Legends, and (3) the various strategies which are used in translating idioms in Indonesia into English found in Indonesian Legends. The descriptive qualitative research design, in the form of document analysis, was employed in this study. This research revealed that idiomatic expression translation strategy by paraphrasing was the most dominant strategy used by the translator in translating the idiomatic expressions found in five Indonesian Legends (eleven out of eighteen cases). Meanwhile, the second most common strategy was translating by omission (six out of eighteen cases). The last was the strategy of using an idiom of similar meaning and form which only one out of eighteen cases. Thus, it can be concluded that the translator only applied three strategies out of the main five strategies of translating idiomatic expression suggested by Baker. Pratiwi (2017) discussed about the types of

idioms and the strategies applied by the translator in translating Indonesian idioms on the novel '*Pasung Jawa*' into English version 'Bound'. Her research were based on Fernando's theory about the types of idioms and Baker's strategies in translating idioms. The data were analyzed using descriptive qualitative method. Note taking was employed as the instrument. The finding showed that there were two types of idioms; pure and semi-idioms. The researcher also revealed the Baker's five strategies that applied on the novel, they were: translating an idiom with similar meaning and form, translating an idiom with similar meaning but dissimilar form, translating an idiom by paraphrasing, translating an idiom by omission the play of an idiom, and translating an idiom by omission the entire idiom. Meanwhile, this present research will take the data from a movie and the source text is English. All data found will be analyzed using Baker's strategies.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research is a descriptive qualitative. Kumar (2011) stated that qualitative research is a research that has aim to describe situation or phenomenon with the use of qualitative measurement scales and if the analysis is done to create the variation the situation without quantifying it. Observation method and note taking were applied in order to collect the data and achieve the aim of the research. The data which had been collected were listed in parallel between the source language and the target language. Further, the idioms found and identified in the movie were first checked manually in *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2010), *A Boatload of Idioms over a thousand English expressions* (2004), and *A Dictionary of American Idioms, the Fourth Edition* (2004) due to the data

validation. After that, the researcher match its equivalent in the target text, whether the equivalent is idiom, verbs, or paraphrase using the online *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia*. Further, the idioms found were analyzed by using five translation strategies to translate idioms using Baker (2002).

The research data is the subtitle of *The Boss Baby Movie Series, Netflix Original*. The research object of this research is *The Boss Baby Movie Series, Season 2 'Back in Business', Episode 1* entitled *As the Diaper Changes*, *Episode 2* entitled *Super Cool Big Kids Inc.*, and *Episode 3* entitled *P.U.*. The duration of each episode is 24 minutes. This season was released in 2018.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

RESULTS

The results show that there are 20 idioms found in *The Boss Baby Movie Series, Season 2 'Back in Business'*, and *Episode 1-3*. There are seven idioms found in Episode 1, six idioms in Episode 2, and seven idioms found in Episode 3. The most translation strategy used is by paraphrasing. There are no idioms found that are translated using borrowing and omission of a play on idiom strategies. The results are presented as follows.

DISCUSSION

The data representatives are presented as follows (Table 2). The idiom **'crossing your fingers'** in the ST, according to *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, means **'to hope that your plans will be successful'**. This idiom is also translated into an idiom, which is a symbol, **'kau silangkan jari'** in the TT. According to *Kamus Baku Bahasa Indonesia*, this sentence means **'gerakan yang digunakan untuk memohon perlindungan'**. Therefore, the strategy

found in the subtitle translation is using an idiom of similar meaning and form. Strategy using an idiom of similar meaning and form involves using an idiom in the target language which conveys roughly the same meaning as that of the source-language idiom and, in addition, consists of equivalent lexical items. This kind of match can only occasionally be achieved (Baker, 2002). There is only one idiom found that was translated using this strategy.

Table 3.
Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form

Source Text	Target Text
00:03:12,401 -->	<i>Itu memukau</i>
00:03:14,861	<i>benak bayiku.</i>
That just blew my baby mind.	

The idiom **'blew my baby mind'** in the ST, according to *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, means **'to produce a very strong pleasant or shocking feeling'**. This idiom is translated into an idiom **'memukau benak bayiku'** likewise in the TT. The adjective **'memukau'**, according to *Kamus Baku Bahasa Indonesia*, means **'memesona; mengagumkan'** and has the same meaning as in the ST. However, the forms are different, a clause into a word. Therefore, the strategy found in this subtitle translation is similar meaning but dissimilar form strategy. It is often possible to find an idiom or fixed expression in the target language which has a meaning similar to that of the source idiom or expression but consists of different lexical items. There is only one datum found that related to this strategy (Baker, 2002). There is only one idiom that was translated using this strategy.

Table 4.
Translation by Paraphrase

Source Text	Target Text
00:07:01,504 --> 00:07:04,549	<i>Saat ibu dan ayah</i>
So, while Mom and I are jumping through hiring hoops,	<i>berusaha dapat kerja.</i>

The idiom ‘**jumping through ... hoops**’ in the ST, according to *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, means ‘to do something difficult or complicated in order to achieve something’. This idiom is translated into a phrase ‘*berusaha dapat kerja*’ in the TT. According to *Kamus Baku Bahasa Indonesia*, the phrase means ‘*melakukan suatu usaha*’. Therefore, the strategy found in this subtitle translation is translating by using paraphrase. This strategy by far is the most common way of translating idioms when a match cannot be found in the target language or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the target text because of differences in stylistic preferences of the source and target languages (Baker, 2002). There are 17 idioms that were translated using this strategy.

Table 5.
Translation by Paraphrase

Source Text	Target Text
00:20:51,375 --> 00:20:53,461	<i>Kau sungguh bersusah</i>
You, uh, really went all out.	<i>payah</i>

The phrase ‘**went all out**’ in the ST, according to *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, means ‘**to put forth the utmost amount of energy, effort, enthusiasm, and/or resources (toward some task or action)**’. This idiom is translated into a verb phrase ‘*bersusah payah*’ in the TT. According to *Kamus Baku Bahasa Indonesia*, this

verb phrase means ‘*mengerjakan sesuatu dengan memeras keringat*’. Therefore, the strategy found in this subtitle translation is translating by using paraphrase. This strategy by far is the most common way of translating idioms when a match cannot be found in the target language or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the target text because of differences in stylistic preferences of the source and target languages (Baker, 2002).

Table 6.
Translation by Paraphrase

Source Text	Target Text
00:01:54,948 --> 00:02:00,454	<i>Kita akan lindungi</i>
No. We're gonna protect Baby Corp's love and make a splash with our new CEO.	<i>cinta Baby Corp dan bertindak dengan CEO baru.</i>

The idiom ‘**make a splash**’ in the ST, according to *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, means ‘**to do something in a way that attracts a lot of attention or causes a lot of excitement**’. This idiom is translated into a verb ‘*bertindak*’ in the TT. According to *Kamus Baku Bahasa Indonesia*, the verb means ‘*melakukan tindakan*’. Therefore, the strategy found in this subtitle translation is translating by using paraphrase. This strategy by far is the most common way of translating idioms when a match cannot be found in the target language or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the target text because of differences in stylistic preferences of the source and target languages (Baker, 2002).

Table 7.
Translation by Paraphrase

Source Text	Target Text
00:03:54,651 -->	<i>Cepat atau</i>
00:03:58,321	<i>lambat, kau</i>
Sooner or later, you have to pick a side.	<i>harus memilih kubu.</i>

The idiom ‘**sooner or later**’ in the ST, according to *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, means ‘**at some unknown time in the future; sometime**’. This idiom is translated into non-idiom ‘*cepat atau lambat*’ in the TT. According to *Kamus Baku Bahasa Indonesia*, the phrase ‘*cepat atau lambat*’ consist of two adjectives ‘*cepat*’, means ‘*dalam waktu singkat*’, ‘*lambat*’, means ‘*perlahan-lahan*’, and ‘*atau*’ as a conjunction to connect the two adjectives. Therefore, the strategy found in this subtitle translation is translating by using paraphrase. This strategy by far is the most common way of translating idioms when a match cannot be found in the target language or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the target text because of differences in stylistic preferences of the source and target languages (Baker, 2002).

Table 7.
Translation by Paraphrase

ST	TT
00:02:48,543 -->	<i>Menyumpit itu</i>
00:02:51,254	<i>cara tak</i>
Spit wads are a harmless, long-range way	<i>berbahaya, agar anak tak nakal</i>
00:02:51,338 -->	
00:02:53,256	
to keep a kid on a straight and narrow path.	

The idiom ‘**straight and narrow**’ in the ST, according to *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, means ‘**the honest and morally acceptable way of living**’. This idiom is translated into a phrase ‘*tak nakal*’. According to *Kamus Baku Bahasa Indonesia*, the phrase means ‘behave well; not naughty’. If the meaning is compared to dictionary, the result of the translation is simplified in order to make children understand the idiom easily. Therefore, the strategy found in this subtitle translation is translating by using paraphrase. This strategy by far is the most common way of translating idioms when a match cannot be found in the target language or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the target text because of differences in stylistic preferences of the source and target languages (Baker, 2002).

The idiom ‘**ASAP**’ in the ST is the abbreviation of ‘**as soon as possible**’, according to *Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary*, means immediately. This idiom is omitted in the TT. Therefore, the subtitle translation strategy is translation by omission of entire idiom. As with single words, an idiom may sometimes be omitted altogether in the target text. This may be because it has no close match in the target language, its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased, or for stylistic reasons (Baker, 2002). There is only one idiom that was translated by omission. This omission is less accurate because based on the context and scene, ASAP is used to emphasize that the serum must be saved immediately.

Table 1.
Data Collection

No.	Source Text	Target Text	Translation Strategies
1.	Episode 1: 00:03:12,401 --> 00:03:14,861 That just blew my baby mind.	Itu <i>memukau benak</i> bayiku.	idiom to idiom but different lexical items
2.	00:04:21,595 --> 00:04:22,721 No way.	<i>Mustahil.</i>	paraphrasing
3.	00:07:01,504 --> 00:07:04,549 So, while Mom and I are jumping through hiring hoops, ...	Saat ibu dan ayah <i>berusaha dapat kerja, ...</i>	paraphrasing
4.	00:10:35,677 --> 00:10:37,137 We need this out of sight, ASAP.	<i>Serum ini harus</i> <i>diamankan. -</i>	omission
5.	00:17:13,241 --> 00:17:15,368 Whatever happens in that senior center, 00:17:15,451 --> 00:17:17,537 you have to promise you won't make fun of me.	<i>Apa pun yang terjadi di</i> <i>sana,</i> <i>berjanji takkan</i> <i>mengejekku.</i>	paraphrasing
6.	00:18:22,143 --> 00:18:23,936 Now or never, boss. Go!	<i>Kini saatnya, bos!</i>	paraphrasing
7.	00:20:51,375 --> 00:20:53,461 You, uh, really went all out.	<i>Kau sungguh bersusah</i> <i>payah</i>	paraphrasing
8.	Episode 2: 00:01:54,948 --> 00:02:00,454 No. We're gonna protect Baby Corp's love and make a splash with our new CEO.	<i>Kita akan lindungi cinta</i> <i>Baby Corp dan bertindak</i> <i>dengan CEO baru.</i>	paraphrasing
9.	00:02:54,174 --> 00:02:57,803 Is it too late to say good night to my big grandson?	<i>Apa telat untuk antar</i> <i>tidur cucu besarku?</i>	paraphrasing
10.	00:03:54,651 --> 00:03:58,321 Sooner or later, you have to pick a side.	<i>Cepat atau lambat, kau</i> <i>harus memilih kubu.</i>	paraphrasing
11.	00:17:12,823 --> 00:17:17,954 How? We're supposed to be... Wait, who's that big piece of pie, then?	<i>Bagaimana bisa?</i> <i>Harusnya...</i> <i>Tunggu, lalu siapa</i> <i>potongan besar itu?</i>	paraphrasing
12.	00:18:03,916 --> 00:18:08,296 I guess we have no choice. We have to get our love share back, 00:18:08,379 --> 00:18:12,466 even if that means making friends with the elderly.	<i>Kami tak punya pilihan.</i> <i>Jatah cinta kami harus</i> <i>kembali,</i> <i>meskipun berarti</i> <i>berteman dengan lansia.</i>	paraphrasing

Tabel 1 lanjutan

13.	00:20:26,976 --> 00:20:30,521 I saw you crossing your fingers in the reflection of Danny's sunglasses.	<i>Kulihat kau silangkan jari di kacamata Danny.</i>	idiom to idiom with similar form
14.	Episode 3: 00:02:48,543 --> 00:02:51,254 Spit wads are a harmless, long-range way 00:02:51,338 --> 00:02:53,256 to keep a kid on a straight and narrow path.	<i>Menyumpit itu cara tak berbahaya, agar anak tak nakal.</i>	paraphrasing
15.	00:03:04,101 --> 00:03:07,687 Tim, I shared a room with six siblings, all horrible. 00:03:07,854 --> 00:03:10,524 Three of them just passed gas non-stop. Drove me crazy.	<i>Tim, nenek sekamar dengan enam saudara nakal. Tiga hobi buang gas. Menyebalkan.</i>	paraphrasing
16.	00:04:05,912 --> 00:04:09,124 I'm trying to find a way for us to spend some time apart, 00:04:09,207 --> 00:04:10,500 for the sake of our brotherhood. 00:04:05,912 --> 00:04:09,124 I'm trying to find a way for us to spend some time apart, 00:04:09,207 --> 00:04:10,500 for the sake of our brotherhood.	<i>Aku cari cara untuk jaga jarak denganmu, Aku cari cara untuk jaga jarak denganmu, demi hubungan.</i>	paraphrasing paraphrasing
17.	00:05:18,276 --> 00:05:20,237 Yes. Had to try. Good luck. 00:16:37,830 --> 00:16:40,249 Stop at Mrs. Dingle's. She loves a good bargain. 00:16:40,333 --> 00:16:41,333 Sure thing.	<i>Ya. Semoga beruntung! Ke Ny. Dingle. Dia suka obral. Tentu.</i>	paraphrasing paraphrasing
18.	00:21:30,956 --> 00:21:31,957 I'm really sorry. 00:21:32,041 --> 00:21:34,543 Maybe you and I aren't meant to be business partners.	<i>Maafkan aku. Kita tak bisa jadi rekan bisnis.</i>	paraphrasing

Table 2.
Using an idiom of similar meaning and form

Source Text	Target Text
00:20:26,976 --> 00:20:30,521 I saw you crossing your fingers in the reflection of Danny's sunglasses.	Kulihat <i>kau silangkan jari</i> di kaca mata Danny.

Table 7.
Translation by omission of entire idiom

Source Text	Target Text
00:10:35,677 --> 00:10:37,137 We need this out of sight, ASAP	<i>Serum ini harus diamankan.</i> -

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this research, there are seven idioms found in Episode 1, entitled *As the Diaper Changes*. One idiom is translated using an idiom with dissimilar form strategy. Further, five idioms were translated using paraphrasing strategy due to the target language does not have its exact equivalent. Last, one idiom is translated using omission strategy. This strategy is less accurate because it does not suit best to its context. There are six idioms found in Episode 2, entitled *Super Cool Big Kids Inc*. Five idioms are found using paraphrasing strategy due to the target language does not have its exact equivalent. There is one idiom found that is translated using an idiom with similar meaning and form. This idiom is a symbol both in the source language and in the target language. There are seven idioms found in Episode 3, entitled *P.U*. The seven data found are translated using paraphrasing due to the target language does not have its exact equivalent. There are no idioms found that translated using borrowing and omission of a play on idiom strategies. This happened because the target language is rich in vocabulary and there are many idioms are translated into non-idiom. Even though the equivalents are not the exact form of the idiom itself, the meaning does not change.

Although the data found are taken from the subtitle, identifying whether the phrases or clauses are idioms or not is quite challenging. There were times that according to the researcher, the phrase or clause identified is an idiom; however, by checking it in the dictionary, it is not an idiom. Therefore, using dictionary is a must when it comes to identifying idioms. Due to researcher's ability and time, it is suggested that the next researchers analyze the figurative language used in this movie.

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