



## Analyzing the Translation Strategies Used in the Translation of Jhon Lennon's Song "Imagine"

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### Abstract

This study aims to analyze the translation strategy used in John Lennon's song "Imagine". This study is an approach approach through descriptive research. The data used is in the form of a translation of John Lennon's song entitled "Imagine" in English and Indonesian versions. Analyzing the data by identifying the method of translating the Kerstrom strategy. The results of this study reveal that the methods applied by the translator are: 1. Non-strategic translation strategies, namely: word count analysis, syllable vs. words. 2. Translation strategy: word to word, word addition, rhyme use, paraphrasing, and literal translation. There were 139 from the origin language and 131 results from the destination language. From the original language there are 178 syllables and 139 words. while in the destination language there are 294 syllables and 131 words. Most translators use literal translation techniques (45%). The second most popular method is the use of paraphrasing (23%). Translators also use a rhyming scheme (15%). The next method is to translate word by word (10 percent). Translators also use the word addition approach (7%). This study only covers strategic translation in John Lennon's song "Imagine". There are other areas of translation that can be used as research centers. Therefore, to complete the description of the translation of John Lennon's song entitled "Imagine" Other researchers suggest to do other research on this subject, such as translation procedures, methods and other fields of translation.

Keywords: translator strategy, translation, song.

### Introduction,

Translation is an activity for Replacing text from one language to another (Larson, 1984). From the understanding of an expert above, it can be understood that translation is a broad scope that can be carried out by a person or group to carry out the process of changing a meaning or meaning from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL).

Translation becomes a familiar thing in everyday life. Every human being does a translation to know and understand more the meaning of a language that different from the language he has. More than 7000 languages in the world, different place has a different language. Although sometimes there are languages that are almost the same, the meanings of words in that language may have different meanings. Not infrequently there is also a miscommunication in the conversation being discussed. Not only in terms of communication between individuals, people with groups, or groups with groups. There are many more uses of translation in daily life. translated book by a book translator, the



translation also done in terms of government. In the world of education, sports, culture, and also in terms of entertainment. One of the translations made in the entertainment world is music or songs.

In the life of music is something that is not foreign to the community, whether young or old, even children also enjoy music. for music and songs in their language is very easy and fun to enjoy. Different if the song you hear is a song from another language. We can just enjoy the tone and rhythm, but sometimes we can't understand the meaning of the song we listen to because of limitations in terms of language. A song that may sound cheerful but after we find out the translation in the language we use the meaning is about sadness and vice versa. In translating songs, we usually use core words that we already know the meaning of. or syllables that sometimes sound the same or close.

A challenge in translating a song not only from language but also understanding the two languages which have different meanings. In order to enjoy the song from a language that is not fully understood, a translation process is use. In the process of translating songs, there will always be challenges for a translator. For example a song intended for adults who already have a large vocabulary in the language. A translator must find the right words in each lyric so that the result of the translation of the song can be understood properly according to conditions from various aspects of life from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL).

A musician also usually creates a song with a beautiful tone and hopes it will be easily understood by listeners. it is not uncommon for musicians from other countries to sing songs from different countries and languages and change them into the singer's native language. recycle songs like this cannot be separated from the help of a professional translator. This is where the job of a translator is to be able to translate a song so that it can fit from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL) and can still be sung again by the singer and enjoyed well by the listener

A song that has been translated from source language (SL) to target language (TL) can also be a source of learning for some people. For children who haven't even learned letters yet can't even speak, listening to songs is fun. dancing and nodding their heads and smiling cheerfully, without having to understand the meaning of a song. On the other hand people even learn a new language based on the word they just heard from a word translated in a song. this becomes very interesting for teenagers in exploring the deepening of language for them. Language can be learned easily and with fun just by listening to songs.

Low (2005, in Kerstrm, 2010) argues that the translator's primary role in song translation is to make the translational results singable, adaptable, and matched the song's rhythm and rhyme so that musicians may perform the song. It means that a good translator must be able to translate a song that can be meaningful and can be enjoyed by everyone even though they have different language backgrounds.



## Literature Review

Songs are fun for everyone. Therefore translating songs is a common thing to do and also a fun thing. The process of translating songs from English to Indonesian is an exciting thing to do because the two countries have different languages and different backgrounds. With the translation process, it is hoped that the messages contained in the song in the source language (SL) can be understood well in the target language (TL). Researchers are motivated to conduct the research to see the process behind the translation of one of the world peace songs popularized by John Lennon entitled "Imagine". By identifying non-strategic translator tactics to determine the singability of music lyrics, as well as translation strategy, which refers to the strategies utilized by translators to interpret lyrics based on Kerström (2009) and Lefevere's song translation theory (1975).

Kestrom (2009) stated that there are ten translation strategies for translating the lyrics of a song, which are divided into two sub-sections, notably, non-strategic translation and translation tactics. Words against word count and syllables are the two criteria used for non-strategic translation. In order to better understand the strategic translation process that translators employ while translating a song lyric, this study integrates Kerström's (2009) and Lefevere's (1975) ideas. There are a total of nine of them: literal translation, word-for-word translation, use of English words in the translation, use of metaphors, use of paraphrases, interpretation strategy, and word-for-word translation (Kerström, 2009; Lefevere, 1975, cited in Aji, 2016).

Translation that is exact The target language word (TL) is usually shown below the source language word (SL) in an interlinear translation. The words are translated singly and without context, while the word order in the original language (SL) is maintained. The translation of cultural terminology is literal. Word-for-word translation's main objective is to let the reader understand how the original language functions.

Word argumentation, adding words is a strategy used when translators provide additional target language (TL) information that does not exist in source language (SL). Word omission occurs when a translator deletes or deletes the word Related information from the source language (SL) of the target language (TL). Metaphors are used. A metaphor is something that expresses itself in the form of an image. Also Expressed as a literal expression that expresses people and things Something with properties similar to an object or person explained. The application of rhymes. The application of rhyme strategies is also known as the translator's strategy. Repeats the sound that ends between one line and the next, with sounds similar to "Aaaa" or "abab."

The use of paraphrases, or the strategies that translators choose to employ those forms come at the expense of shifting from the central meaning of source language (SL) to the next meaning of



target language (TL). The translation of English words, the translation of English words The original English words are preserved in the translated version. This can happen if it is preferable to leave the word untranslated. In target language (TL), translators are unable to find the meaning of a word.

Literal interpretation in this process where the translator converted the source language's (SL) structure into the target language's (TL) structure (TL). In the initial stages of translation, this technique is also frequently applied. This literal translation technique converts the grammatical structure of the source language (SL) into the closest counterpart in the target language (TL), but the vocabulary words are translated again separately without context. Strategy for interpretation, this strategy keeps the content of the source text but changes the format. This means that, depending on their interpretation, the translator will create a different version of the original lyrics.

### **Research Methodology,**

This research is since the data is considered primary research was obtained directly from the researcher's collection of John Lennon Imagine song lyrics. The data in this study is analyzed using a qualitative descriptive method. The qualitative descriptive method will be used in this study. This study employed the descriptive qualitative technique. Given the narrative, descriptive, and non-numerical nature of the data, descriptive the qualitative technique entails summarizing the data in a reliable and correct way, which results in the presenting of study findings with an air of undeniability. It implies that narrative description of objects is the primary goal of descriptive qualitative research as opposed to the use of numbers or statistics for analysis.

Creswell continued by saying that the qualitative technique makes use of participant meaning, the research's natural environment, and the researcher as its main instrument. Qualitative researchers typically gather information in the field at the site where participants are exposed to the subject or problem being studied. This information was obtained up close by speaking with individuals and observing how they acted and behaved in their natural environments during face-to-face interactions. The phrase "researcher as key tool" describes qualitative researchers who gather information through looking at documents, watching participants, or conducting participant interviews. The information gathering is the responsibility of the researchers. In addition, participant meaning suggests that the researcher keeps their attention on understanding the meaning that the participants have about the problem or issue throughout the qualitative research process rather than the meaning that the researchers bring to the research or that authors express in the literature.

Additionally, Yin argued that when performing qualitative research, the researcher should draw from a variety of sources rather than just one. It means the researchers often gather a variety of data sources, such as interviews, observations, documents, and audiovisual data, rather than depending on

a single data source. The data is then sorted into categories or topics that cross all of the data sources by the researchers after they have made sense of it all.

According to the definition above, descriptive qualitative research is a research approach that focuses on describing the study object in the form of a story rather than utilizing numerical data or statistics to analyze the data. The researcher then employs the natural context of the study, the researcher as a primary tool, participant meaning, and data collection from numerous sources. The researcher utilized this study strategy to investigate The information utilized in this investigation came from the groups of words in each lyrics of John Lennon's song "Imagine" and its Indonesian translation, "membayangkan." To facilitate analysis, using Microsoft Word, the primary and targeted lines of the songs were put presented in the following subsections in a table.

## **Findings and Discussion,**

### **Findings**

#### **1. Non-Strategic Translation Strategies**

John Lennon's non-strategic song translation techniques Think about a tune. The line structure referenced in the lyrics is determined using Kerström's translation method theory, which was first proposed in 2009. Using this method, the study is split into two groups: words per word count and syllables. The following sections present and discuss the analysis.

##### **Word Count Analysis**

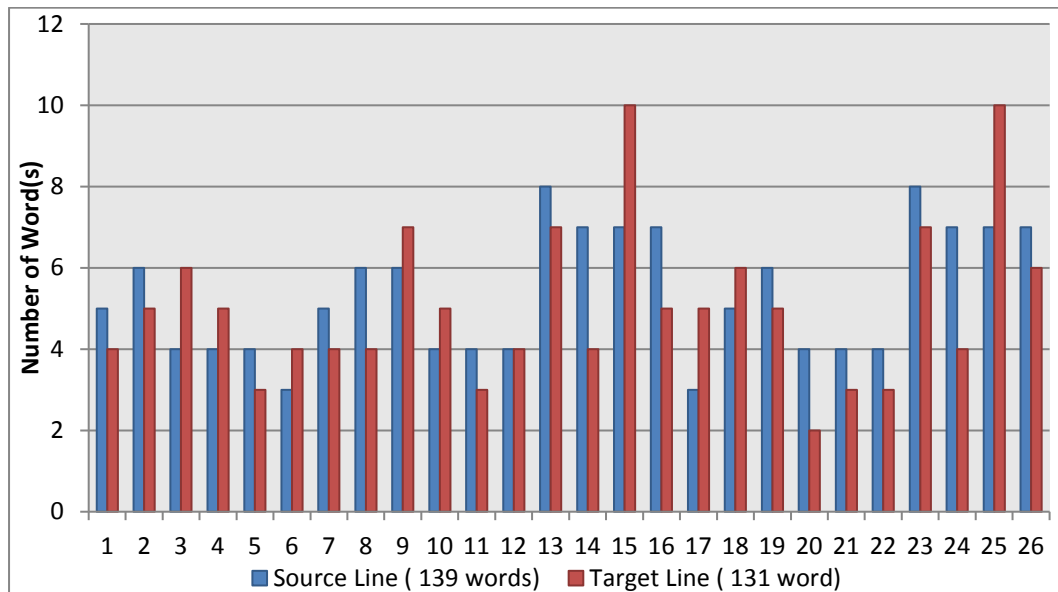
Word count is an approach that compares the amount of words in the source language (SL) and target lines of music lyrics (kerström, 2009). The chosen Jhon Lennon song, Imagine, comprises 26 lines of lyrics. It was discovered that the target lines have fewer words than the source lines. Figure 1 shows a summary of the word count analysis of Jhon Lennon's song Imagine, as well as the translated version. The following seleted example presents and discusses the examination of word count in a music lyric line

##### **(1) Line 14**

SL : But I am not the only one (7 words)

TL : Tapi aku bukan satu-satunya (4 words)

The chosen line's word count measurement sample shows a considerable reduction in word count inside this targeting Line 14. Since there are seven words in the source line and only four in the objective line, Line 14's total word count is almost double that of Line 14. This reduction in word count may be due to the translator's decision to preserve the fundamental meaning of the source line—"dealing with a problem for sharing clarification"—at the expense of changing the target line's form



**Figure 1: Word Count Analysis Summary Word Count Analysis Summary in Imagine by Jhon Lennon**

#### Analysis of Syllables vs. Words

According to Kerström (2009), the syllables vs. words technique compares the number of words and syllables in the source and target lines of song lyrics. The analysis of the song Imagine by John Lennon's syllables vs words is summarized in Table 1..

**Table 1 summarizes the Syllables vs. Words Analysis.**

the song Imagine by Jhon Lennon.

Line	Source Line		Target Line	
	Syllable	Word	Syllable	Word
1	8	5	9	4
2	7	6	10	5
3	5	4	12	6
4	6	4	9	5
5	7	4	8	3
6	5	3	8	4
7	8	5	10	4
8	6	6	11	4
9	7	6	15	7
10	7	4	10	5
11	7	4	8	3



12	5	4	10	4
13	9	8	18	7
14	8	7	11	4
15	9	7	22	10
16	7	7	11	5
17	7	3	11	5
18	6	5	12	6
19	7	6	13	5
20	6	4	9	2
21	7	4	8	3
22	5	4	9	3
23	5	8	9	7
24	8	7	11	4
25	9	7	17	10
26	7	7	13	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>131</b>

Table 1 demonstrates that the number of syllables in the source and target lines is slightly different the song Imagine by Jhon Lennon.. On the contrary, the target lines' word count is dramatically reduced. The validation process sample will be shown and discussed illustrates the examination of syllables vs. words.

(1) Line 5

SL : Imagine all the people (4 words)

I-ma-gine/all/the/pe-ople (7 syllables)

TL : Bayangkan semua orang (3 words)

Ba-yang-kan/se-mu-a/o-rang (8 syllables)

The line illustration from John Lennon's song Imagine. The words in target row 5 appear to be less than those in the source row, according to this study of words vs. syllables. Reducing the number of words displayed by the target line has no impact on the number of syllables since the words in the target line contain fewer syllables than those in the source line. As a result, it's possible that translators had trouble maintaining consistency in the number of syllables used rather than the number of words.



The translator's choice to match the text to the arrangement in order for the text to keep the same meter may be related to the practice of retaining the same number of syllables.

## 2. Translation Strategies Applied to Translate the Lyrics

Overcome translation issues using strategic translation tactics is a method employed by translators. Kerström (2009) provides lyrics this study is a combination of theories translation strategy for translating lyrics produced by Kerström in 2009 Leftever in 1975 to make evident strategic translation techniques utilized by translators when translating selected songs text. In this study, 5 of the 9 Strategic Translation Strategies were examined. Translators employ a strategic translation strategy. An examination of the translator's strategic translation strategy in translating the selected lyrics The translation is presented in the section below.

### *Word for word translation*

The translators must translate the source language (SL) word for word while using this method. To determine whether this strategy is used, we can compare the source language (SL) and the target language (TL) word for word.

(2) Line 12

SL : Living life in peace

TL : Menjalani hidup dengan damai

The line example from the song Imagine by Jhon Lennon in this word to word strategy demonstrates that the number of words contained from source language (SL) to target language (TL) is the same . Each word can be translated based on the order of words contained in the lyrics. on the lyrics " Living life in peace " if translated using this strategy it becomes " Menjalani hidup dengan damai ". The translator found that there is a word to word strategy in the lyrics of the song imagine by John Lennon.

### *Addition of words*

When adding words to a sentence, it's a good idea to do so translators provide additional words target language (TL) information, but this information does not exist in source language (SL).

(3) Line 20

SL : A brotherhood of man

TL : Persaudaraan manusia

(4) Line 17

SL : Imagine no possessions

TL : Bayangkan tidak ada harta benda

### *Use of rhymes*



The usage of rhyme methods is frequently referred to as the translator's strategy. Repeats the sound that stops between one line and the next, using noises similar to: "Aaaa" or "abab". Here's the use of rhymes from the song Imagine by Jhon Lennon,

(5) Line 1

SL : Imagine there's no Heaven

TL : Bayangkan tidak ada Surga

(6) Line 2

SL : It's easy if you try

TL : Ini mudah jika kau mencoba

(6) Line 3

SL : No hell below us

TL : Tidak ada neraka di bawah kita

Confirmed use of rhyme strategy used by translators for translation three lines: line 1, line 2, line 3 from the song Imagine by Jhon Lennon. These above lines are the use of this strategy three characteristics of triplet rhyme rhyming lines (Kuchtova, 2012), considered the three finish lines look similar the echoing end. In addition, it will also be identified busy triplet rhyme introduced a translator on the target line with a 'AAA' rhyme scheme. Repeat i used the Indonesian vowel "a" for finishing. As you can see from the existence of the words "surga," "mencoba," and "kita." Therefore, The translator concentrated on the sound of end the line with a similar tone end at the target line.

(7) Line 22

SL : Sharing all the world

TL : Berbagi seluruh dunia

(8) Line 23

SL : You may say that I'm a dreamer

TL : Kau mungkin mengatakan bahwa aku seorang pemimpi

(9) Line 24

SL : But I'm not the only one

TL : Tapi aku bukan satu-satunya

(10) Line 25

SL : I hope someday you'll join us

TL : Aku berharap suatu hari nanti kau akan bergabung dengan kami

Confirmed the use of the rhyme strategy used by the translator for the translation of four lines: line 22, line 23, line 24 and 25 of the song Imagine by Jhon Lennon. based on the successive lines of

the four lines of the song from Jhon Lennon with the title *Imagine* the end of the letters of each line in sequence A-B-A-B. as in the translation of the lyrics of the song "Berbagi seluruh dunia / Kau mungkin mengatakan bahwa aku seorang pemimpin / Tapi aku bukan satu-satunya / Aku berharap suatu hari nanti kau akan bergabung dengan kami". At the end of the word in the translation of the 4 stanzas the lyrics are the word "dunia - pemimpin - satu-satunya - kami " and have an A-B-A-B rhyme and are one part of the use of rhymes in the research strategy.

### *Use of paraphrases*

In other words Noun phrase or verb phrase. However, the clause is the source language. As such, it can be translated with the appropriate representation of the target language. Translators paraphrase and communicate using translation strategies Meaning according to the context. Here's the use of paraphrases from the song *Imagine* by Jhon Lennon:

(11)Line 9

SL : Nothing to kill or die for

TL : Tidak ada yang perlu dibunuh atau berkorban

'die for' meant to '[excellent](#) or to be [strongly wished](#) for'. The translator translated 'die for' into 'berkorban'. The translator paraphrased it into the acceptable phrase in Indonesian.

### *Literal translation*

A literal translation adheres as closely as possible to the format of the original text while ignoring the grammatical structure of the original language. Translators attempt to replicate the source language's (SL) grammatical structure in the target language (TL), as well as the latter language's appropriate word structure (TL). The literal translation from John Lennon's song *Imagine*, according to the translator, is as follows:

(12)Line 3

SL : No hell below us

TL : Tidak ada neraka di bawah kita

(13)Line

SL : Above us only sky

TL : Di atas kita hanya langit

(14)Line 21

SL : Imagine all the people

TL : Bayangkan semua orang

## **Discussion**

Non-Strategic Translation Strategies

The findings of the non-strategic translation techniques analysis show that there is a difference in a line of text's quantity of words and syllables. That is it turns out that each finish line consists of 26 songs lyrics "Imagine" by Jhon Lennon Seems to have few words source line. These few beings the number of words can result translator's decision to pay more attention about proper translation strategies target lyrics line retain the basic importance of the source a line that presents similar ideas target text. However, the translator also, take freedom in the sense of source incorporate another idea into the finish line if the target line does not have the ideal word suitable for arrangement.

The number of syllables in the target line, on the other hand, is fairly similar to that of the source line. This could be due to translators' habit of using the same number of words per syllable as the source line. When translators are having trouble finding equivalent amounts of words per syllable to the source line, the following number of syllables is proposed. Your insource line seeks to make lyrics to the music arrangement of song by reducing the number of syllables in the finish comparable or very similar lines. Again, the principle of ease of singing was applied by translators to translate this song, which allows you to sing the target line of lyrics.

#### Strategies for Strategic Translation

The data analysis revealed that the translator used five strategic translation strategies out of a total of nine strategic translation techniques. Word for word translation, word addition, rhyming, paraphrase, and literal translation are some of the tactics used. Figure 2 shows the translator's overall strategic translation tactics for translating lines of song lyrics Imagine.

**Figure 2: The Result of the Analysis of Overall Strategic Translation Strategies**

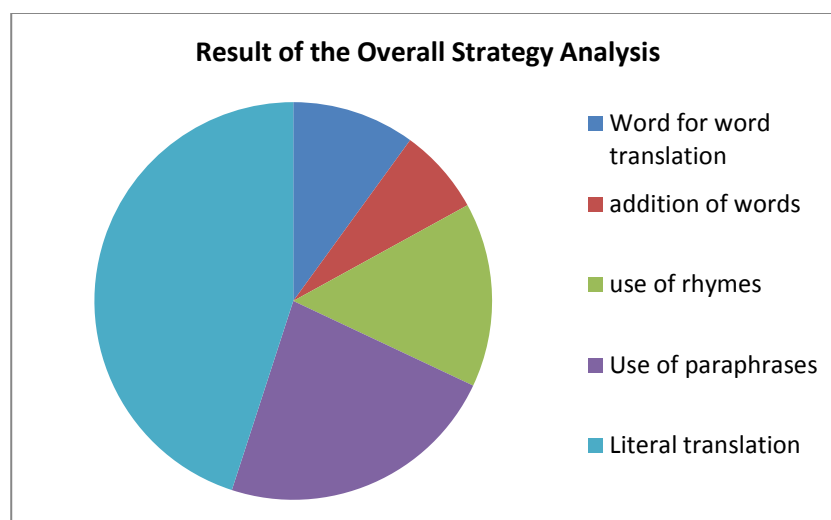


Figure 2 demonstrates that the translator utilized a literal translation technique the majority of the time (45 percent ). The second most popular method is the usage of paraphrases (23 percent ). The



translator also employed the rhyming scheme (15 percent ). The next method is to translate word for word (10 percent ). The translator also employs the approach of word addition (7 percent ).

Because of this, the translator may be compelled to utilize a literal translation strategy most of the time decided the literal translation method translates word for word only more to adjust the arrangement or order of words in the translated language. with it the translation is done can be easily understood by people who will listen to a song.

Because the translator has chosen to employ a paraphrase technique, it is possible to force them to do so. In order to build the finish line, it is fundamentally important to preserve and depict the source line with the target's closest meaning at the expense of changing rows. This approach complies with one of the options for translation of lyrics put forth by Franzon (2008); it adjusts the translation to the song's existing musical structure. Or, the selection of the translator to focus on this choice second. Translators don't just list significant places in the meaning of, but also in the musical rhythm that enables me to sing the lyrics of the target language.

The use of rhyme strategies indicates that translator was simply not focused on presentation. A similar sound ends at the finish line, but he also used words with similar numbers from syllables to source lines match the musical arrangement's translation of this song. In In addition to using the translator, the rhyme scheme was also left to the translator's discretion from the meaning of the source integrate another idea into the finish line, as you can see from the use of interpretation strategy. Translators can sacrifice the basic importance of the source lyrics to keep singing easy target text.

Based on analysis results for strategic translation strategies, translator translate lines using a specific strategy it 's not just about the meaning of Not only are the lyrics important, but so is the song's musicianship. As a result, the line was translated by the translator use the same number of words source text syllables realizes translation of singable songs.

#### **Conclusion and Suggestions**

The findings of the investigation lead to two primary conclusions. Alternatively, the first conclusion concerns a non-strategic translation plan. However, translators prefer to translate lines of text with fewer words or lines that can be translated by changing the prominence of the source line. Source lines and finish lines have the same amount of syllables. To choose a song to sing translation, translators tend to translate lines with words that have a comparable amount of syllables or a very similar source line.

Word for word translation, addition of words, use of rhymes, usage of paraphrases, and literal translation are among the five strategic translation tactics utilized by the translator. It's most likely because the translator wants to make the translation singable by modifying it to the song's music arrangement. The translator did not apply four other strategic translation tactics in translating lines of



the lyrics, as a consequence of this investigation. The employment of metaphors, the usage of English words in the translation, the removal of words, and the interpretation technique are all examples of strategic translation strategies.

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