

**TRANSLATION OF SLANG WORDS FOUND IN THE SUBTITLE OF  
“DESPICABLE ME” MOVIE INTO INDONESIAN**



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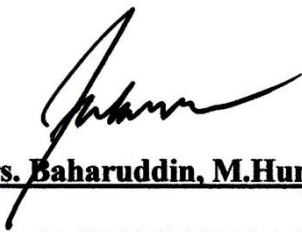
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## **Translation Of Slang Words Found in the Subtitle Of “Despicable Me” Movie Into Indonesian**

### **Abstract**

This thesis is entitled **Translation of Slang Words Found in The Subtitle of “Despicable Me” Movie into Indonesian**. It is aimed at finding out the slangs and its types of slang and also discussing its equivalence in the translation of “Despicable Me” movie’s subtitle. Documentation method was used in collecting the data. The data collected were analyzed by reading the data which is the utterances and the subtitle of the movie. In doing the analysis, this thesis used the theory of the types of slang from Elisa Mattiello (2008) based on Sociological Properties. The data found 34 slang words used in the utterances. There are 3 Group and Subject Restriction, 22 Informality and Debasement, 5 Vulgarity and Obscenity, and 2 Time-Restrictions, Ephemerality, and Localism. The highest slang found in the subtitle is Informality and Debasement (22) appears more than the other types of slang. It shows that the speaker of the movie tends to break with the standard language to show their need to be colloquial and to make the conversation informal and Time-Restriction, Ephemerality, and Localism is the lowest data (2). Meanwhile, this thesis applied two meaning of equivalence by Nida and Taber (1961), they are formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence. The Formal Equivalence focuses on the form and content of original text (word for word). The Dynamic Equivalence based on the naturalness of content of the SL (sense for sense). In this research, there are 34 data belong to equivalent (formal equivalence is 11 data and dynamic equivalence is 23 data). The dominant data of meaning of equivalence is Dynamic Equivalence because in the receptor language has a closest natural equivalent of the source language message.

**Keywords:** slang, translation, *Despicable me* Movie, slang types, meaning equivalence.



## **Introduction**

Language, communication, and human beings are three components that cannot be separated from each other. As a social being, human always needs to communicate with others in order to fulfill their needs. This communication possibly occurs through the use of language. People use language to express and share ideas, feelings, desires, thoughts and experiences without being limited by time or place. Language also enables people to persuade somebody or talk about the language itself. In other words, language plays an important role for human beings due to its function as a means of communication.

Nowadays in the globalization era, the relation and communication among nations become very significant in order to create friendship and cooperation. From various languages in the entire world, English language is used to communicate between the people in different languages and become the international language. However, not all people can use and communicate using English language fluently, especially in Indonesia. In addition, it becomes difficult for them to understand the meaning. Moreover, to understand that idea and the meaning are become the difficult thing to them. That is why translators and interpreters take the significant role to prevent misunderstanding in the communication among speakers in different language. Therefore the communication becomes unlimited.

The purpose of translation study is to find out the closest meaning in the target language which is similar to the source language. Therefore, the result of the translation will sound natural in the target language. A translator have to find

out the similar meaning of slang word from the source language into the target language.

High quality of translation is needed by common people because they really believe on the translation in text books, subtitle and dubbing in films or videos, and also interpreting.

Film is one of entertainment media which is interesting for all generation. It contains cultural elements, moral messages, educations, lifestyles, politics, and history. In this case, the researcher analyzes a film for the teenagers which contains many elements which are culture, education, moral message, lifestyle, and slang.

Slang is informal words used in casual conversation without formality. It means that slang is not proper to be used in formal conversation. Slang is commonly used by group of people who want to look different than others. Slang is usually used by teenager or certain class in the society.

In translating, the translator does not only change the source text into target text, especially in translating slang words of subtitle. Translator should find the correct meaning which can show the idea or the message in this movie to get the certain effect. But translator may make some mistakes or ignore the text in translating the original message of the movie.

In this research, there are many reasons to analyze slang words subtitle in the *Despicable Me* Movie. The first, there are enough data found of slang word in *Despicable Me* Movie. Secondly, slangs words have difficulties in understanding the meaning and in finding the equivalent because slang is uncommon language.

*Despicable Me* movie is the most favorite entertainment for all people especially teenagers. The teenagers usually imitate the style and the way the actor spoke in a movie especially when the characters use slang language. Moreover, they just imitate the slang word without knowing its meaning. How can it be formed, and used as the daily language. It is one of language phenomenon that makes this research interest to analyze the slang words in *Despicable Me* movie.

### **Literature Review**

According to Cambridge Dictionary slang is vocabulary that is used between two people who belong to the same social group and who know each other well. Slang is very informal language. It can offend people if it is used about other people or outside a group of people who know each other well. We usually use slang in speaking rather than writing. Group of people was like children, criminals, soldier, etc. It means that slang is not proper to be used in formal conversation. Slang is usually used by teenager or certain class in the society.

Based on *WordWeb* portable dictionary/slang, "Slang is informal language consisting of words and expressions that are not considered appropriate for formal occasions; often vituperative or vulgar". Slang is like a fashion or lifestyle, used by various societies rich or poor, honest or dishonest. Some people may say that slang is the vulgar language, but the fact is most society still using slang language in their life activities. They still used them because they do not want considered not fashionable.

When people speak, they should understand well about situation around. It is important in choosing appropriate language that will be used, formal style or non-

formal one. The use of slang language can be affected by some social factors such as age, gender, status, etc. Slang is another area of vocabulary which reflects a person's age (Holmes, 2001:167). According to Claire (1988:15), slang is a term that is used by people in social situation where they feel comfortable with their friends. Slang is usually used in non-formal situation. It can make a conversation becomes more intimate. Slang term is used in almost all oral language and usually used to express people's feelings and creativities. So, it can conclude that slang is a non-formal or casual spoken language which create and used by the member of a certain community and usually used in informal situation.

The types of slang are gained from Mattiello (2008) who categorizes types of slang based on sociological properties which is called speaker-oriented properties which qualify the speaker as belonging to same distinct group, include: group and subject restriction, secrecy and privacy, informality and debasement, vulgarity and obscenity, time-restriction, ephemerality and localism.

Translation is a bridge which helps to link people who do not understand each other. Translation makes communication between people. This way equivalence becomes the measure of success of translation process. The more equivalence the source and the target text are, the better communication goals will be received. Some specialists believe that the equivalence may be regarded as a synonym of the translation process, others believe that the equivalence should not cause the loss of main message of the text. Despite different approaches, the equivalence is an important notion in the translation process and it helps to approach the meaning and value of the translation process in general.



According to Nida and Taber (1961) maintains that there are two basic types of equivalence. They are formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence.

Formal equivalence focuses on the form and content of original text. In formal equivalence, a translator may use literal or word for word translation (in slang, idioms, and other expressions) in order to reveal as much as possible of the form and content of the original message. It can be concluded that this equivalence focuses on preserving foreignness or the originality of the SL within TL.

Dynamic equivalence based on the naturalness and the translator may not stick in form or content of the SL. It is an approach to translation in which the original language is translated “thought for thought” rather than “word for word” as informal equivalence. It involves taking each sentence (or thought) from the original text and rendering it into a sentence in the target language that conveys the same meaning, but does not necessarily use the exact phrasing or idioms of the original. It is useful when the original language is very different from the target language, making a more literal translation difficult to understand.

## **Research Method**

The study uses the descriptive qualitative method to describe the equivalent of slangs translation in the subtitle of “Despicable Me” movie whether the English version and Indonesia language version. Thus, the descriptive method is the way to describe each type of slang words found in the subtitle of “Despicable Movie”. The data are form words or phrases rather than numbers. The first step is collecting the data, then explain the data are taken and analyze that.

The study focuses on the slangs found in the subtitle of the movie with the title “Despicable Me”. The unit analysis of the research is the utterances in the movie and the subtitle of Indonesian language version.

The sources of the data uses in the research is taken from the subtitle in English and in Indonesian language of a movie which titled “Despicable Me” directed by Chris Renued.

The data get by downloading from the internet ([www.subscene.com](http://www.subscene.com)) which is contributed by a person whose nickname “Adnancraze” in 2010. Several data are applies in data collection within certain order as follows:

1. Identifies the transcription of “Despicable Me” movie with several times reading to find word or phrase used in “Despicable Me” movie script.
2. Marks the word selected as the data by underlining and bolding the words which may be included as slang words in “Despicable Me” movie. Then, finding the equivalent of the term in Indonesia language in subtitle of the movie.
3. Quoting the data into the note to group those quotations into word categories and phrases categories in “Despicable Me” movie script. In this case, the data which is not exact with types of slang words are reduced.

The instrument in this research use tables to provide exact data by analyze the selected slang words by categorizing them into the types of slang and knowing the meaning equivalent between source text and original text.

The data analyzing by using the following steps:

1. Classifies the data based on the theory of slang types by Elisa Mattiello (2008) in order to find the answer to the first problem.
2. Compare the slang words in the English versions to their equivalence in Indonesian by Nida and Taber (1961) theory.
3. Draw the conclusion based on the finding, it is to answer the research problems and to give more suggestion for researchers in the same field.

## **Discussion**

This data description wants to discuss the slang language that is used in the Despicable Me movie by Chris Reneud, which was published on July 9, 2010 in the United States.

This findings focuses on slang language used by actresses and actors who played in Despicable Me movie. Below are the illustrations of the slang language in the movie. First, tries to analyze the data one by one into the Source text in English language. After that, analyzes the meaning equivalence between slang language and the translation in Indonesian. Then, discuss five types of slang language based on Elisa Mattiello theory.

Informality and debasement appears more than the other type of slang. It shows that the speaker of the movie tends to break with the standard language to show their need to be colloquial and to make the conversation informal. Since most of the slang expressions used in the movie are the slang expressions that are commonly used by American teenagers, it can also show that American teenagers tend to create new words that they like to use inside their community. They

creates unique slang expressions to match the rhyme so when they speak it out, it sounds cool. The use of informality and debasement type can be a little bit confusing when people hear it without knowing the full context of it.

According Nida and Taber (1961) propose two equivalence, namely formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence. From the table above it is found that the amount of dynamic equivalence is more than formal equivalence. It shows that the speaker of the movie tends to create a new word for this slang rather than just using standard word and changing the meaning.

## **Conclusion and Suggestion**

The slang language that utilized in this movie scripts are from the America or American slang and English or British slang. Although the slang language is non-standard language, it makes people more creative to develop their language and their vocabularies as they used the language in a suitable position or situation.

The translation of slang language into Indonesian language in *Despicable Me* movie based on the meaning equivalence between source text and target text. The equivalence in this translation consists of formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence.

The dominant meanings of equivalence is Dynamic Equivalence because in the target text was very good translation and it has a closest natural equivalence of the source text message to avoid awkwardness in order to produce of translation, which does not sound such as a translation in the target text culture.

To improve and to develop translation, there are some suggestions to some researchers. They are stated as follows:

In slang language translation we should consider the culture from source language in order to make equivalence in the used language and we should consider the conversation context to match the meaning.

For all the readers or students of English Department, Faculty of teacher training and education, Mataram University, hopefully will further study about the slang language and make it as one of topics for research study in the future.

The writer hopes that this research will be useful for the future improvement of studying translation, especially about slang language.

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