# Slang Language in the Subtitle of "The Social Network" Movie

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## ABSTRACT

Movies are everyday entertainment for people in their daily lives. There are a lot of foreign movies that are being played in Indonesian theatres. Unfortunately, there are many places where people watch the movie with the subtitles that are not created by the professional translators. *The Social Network* was translated by more than one translator. This research was conducted to analyze how accurate the translation is and what the similarities and differences between the translators are. This study is a qualitative descriptive study, which analyzes the slang word translation accuracy in the movie *The Social Network* using Newmark theories of translation quality assessment. The finding of the study showed that the translation from both of the translators is accurate enough and there is almost no inaccurate translation, also there are several slang words that are not included in the data of the previous study, but the writer found on subtitle the data of the other two translators.

**Keywords**: Slang, Translation, Accuracy

## INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, movies are used as daily entertainment for people no matter if they are young or old. Many foreign movies are being played in the Cinemas, subscription-based streaming service applications like *NETFLIX* and *HBO*, some websites provide foreign movies. In every foreign movie that is being played, there are always Indonesian subtitles for the viewers. Usually, the legal places to watch the movie, like in cinema and subscription-based streaming service, the subtitle is done by professional translators, and for the non-legal places to watch the movie, the subtitle usually being created by a freelancer or amateur translator.

The writer chooses to focus on the slang translation in *The Social Network* movie subtitle from English to Indonesian. Because the writer thinks that translating slang words from English to Indonesian is difficult without proper knowledge. Therefore, the writer wants to compare two different translators from different backgrounds. The first translator is taken from TA. Many viewers considered her as a freelance translator to have a good subtitle translation based on her profile in subscene. The second one is from *HBO*. The translator can be considered professional because *HBO* is a big company and established a long time ago.

The writer uses two theories, accuracy of translation and slang words. The first one is a theory from Newmark (1988) about the translation quality assessment and from Nababan's classification (2008) that has the same as Newmark's (1988) theory to determine the accuracy, acceptability, and readability of the translation. According to Newmark (1988), a good translation should fulfill specific criteria like the result of the translation does not have any reduction or change in its meaning, keeping the original message intact. Also, a good translation should be accurate, economical in denotation and connotation. The writer also used the data from Istiqomah's (2019) study about the analysis of slang words in the same movie title *The Social Network* as the comparison with the writer's finding to determine the accuracy and to find the similarities and differences on each translator.

The writer chooses the movie *The Social Network* because the movie is about the business stories about Mark Zuckerberg in creating Facebook in his youth, also the writer chooses this movie because there are a lot of young people involved in the movie, and the young people tend to speak using the slang language and not a formal language, therefore, the writer is curious on how many slang words that included in the movie. The movie included a lot of business meeting between Mark and his colleagues in order to create Facebook and there are also story about he is sued by his friend and must come to the court to conclude the problems, also the way Mark Zuckerberg in this movie is a little bit informal even when he in the court.

## METHOD

The writer used to analyze the data is a qualitative approach because this research tries to find out about the accuracy of the translation from translator TA and *HBO* in *The Social Network* movie. The study data were collected from *The Social Network* movie with TA subtitle and watched *The Social Network* from the HBOGO application to find out the data from translator *HBO*. The writer then divided into five sections to determine the accuracy of the translation, the first one is for the slang words taken from the movie, the second one is Indonesian Translation (translators LI, TA, *HBO*), and the third is to determine the accuracy which split into three sub-section (accurate, less accurate, and inaccurate) for each of the translators. Here is the table to analyze the data

Legends:

- A: Accurate translation
- LA: Less accurate translation
- IA: Inaccurate translation

**Table 1. Example of Data Collection & Analysis**

| No | Slang Words (English) | Indonesian Translation | | | LI | | | TA | | | HBO | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | LI | TA | HBO | A | LA | IA | A | LA | IA | A | LA | IA |
| 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

First, the writer tries to find out the slang words in *The Social Network* movie, then try to determine each translation from three translators, whether the translation is accurate or not based on the Nababan's theory of Translation Quality Assessment. Then the writer tries to explain each of the slang words, why some translations are considered accurate, and some are less accurate.

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The writer found out that the professional translator *HBO* has a higher accuracy percentage than translator TA. However, based on the analysis both of the translators have the same mistake about translating the slang words in this movie.

**Table 2. List of Slang Words Translation & Accuracy**

| No | Slang Words (English) | Indonesian Translation | | | LI | | | TA | | | HBO | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | LI | TA | HBO | A | LA | IA | A | LA | IA | A | LA | IA |
| 1 | **Get the hell out of here** | Pergi dari sini | Pergi dari sini | Enyahlah dari sini | | x | | | x | | x | | |
| 2 | I'll **be right back** | Permisi teman | Segera kembali | Sebentar | | x | | x | | | | x | |
| 3 | You don't even know what the **thing** is yet | Inti | terpenting | Intinya | | x | | | x | | x | | |
| 4 | And if somehow, someway, you've managed to live your life like the Dalai Lama then they'll make **shit up** | Kesalahan | masalah | masalah | | x | | x | | | x | | |
| 5 | Every once in a while I hop on and **stir the pot** to get a good debate going | Mengusik | Memanaskan suasana | Memperkeruh suasana | | x | | x | | | x | | |
| 6 | But you're going to go through life thinking that girls don't like you because | Orang aneh | Orang aneh | Kutu buku | | x | | | x | | x | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | you're a **nerd** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | And I want you to know, from the bottom of my heart, that you're an **asshole** | Breng sek | Brengs ek | Bajinga n | x | | | x | | | x | | |
| 8 | Erica Albright's a **bitch** | Wanit a jalang | Wanita jalang | Wanita jalang | x | | | x | | | x | | |
| 9 | Oh **shit** | Sial | Sial | Sial | x | | | x | | | x | | |
| 10 | **Holy Shit** | Sial | Sial | Sial | x | | | x | | | x | | |

From the analysis using the theory from Newmark (1998) and Nababan (2008), here are some examples provided. The first example is "**get the hell out of here",** the most accurate translation is from *HBO*, the word translated into *enyahlah dari sini* is more accurate because it shows the emotion of the speaker, so the viewers of this movie can understand that the speaker is angry and telling someone to get out from her place. The other translation from translator LI and TA is correct, but not accurate because it does not really show the emotion of the speaker itself.

For example, number two, the example is "I will **be right back",** the word is translated accurately by translator TA, she translated the word into *segera kembali*, because the meaning for the word **be right back** is it told someone is going back soon but without telling the specific time when they are going back, and the translation here is accurate because he told his friend that he is going back soon.

The third example is "you do not even know what the **thing** is yet", the word is translated accurately by translator *HBO*, the word translated into *intinya*, it is considered accurate because the context based on the sentence is *kau bahkan tidak tahu intinya apa*. Rather than the other translator translated the word **thing** into *inti* or *terpenting*, it sounds weird if it is connected with the whole sentence therefore the translation from translator *HBO* is accurate.

Fourth example is "And if somehow, someway, you've managed to live your life like the Dalai Lama then they'll make **shit up**". The most accurate translation is from translator *HBO* and TA, he/ she translated the word **shit up** into *masalah*, the word is correct because the sentence mean that they will make something into the problem, therefore the word translated into *masalah* is accurate to describe the meaning to the viewers.

Fifth example is **stir the pot**. Based on the dictionary the meaning for the word **stir the pot** was "someone who loves to proliferate the tension and drama between 2 or more feuding

people/groups in public to get a raise of people in hopes of starting a shitstorm of drama and uncomfortable conflict, sometimes for personal gain but oftentimes just for the thrill of confrontation". The translation here is okay, by translating **stir the pot** into *mengusik*, but the context here is Mark wanted to give some argument when someone comments on his post to get the answer for the picture he posted. So it would be better if that word translated into *memanaskan* because he wanted some people to argue. The second translator was TA, the translation from this translator was accurate because the word **stir the pot** is translated into *memanaskan suasana*, which explains correctly based on the dictionary that the word **stir the pot** means to incite the tension between 2 people/ group and because the translation is *memanaskan suasana* which make the viewers understand the meaning of the word **stir the pot**. The third translator is *HBO*, the translator used the word *memperkeruh suasana* to translate the word **stir the pot** which is correct based on the dictionary definition and has the same meaning as *memanaskan suasana*.

Sixth example is the word **nerd** into *orang aneh*, actually the translation is accurate, but it would be better if it translated into *kutu buku*, because based on the slang dictionary nerd is "an intelligent, obsessive, and social inept person" and also it would sound more polite for the viewers. Therefore, the writer put these translations into less accurate sections. The second translator TA uses the same word to translate the word **nerd**, she translated the word into *orang aneh,* which means the explanation is the same with the first translator LI, because it a bit impolite for the viewers in the target language, therefore the writer consider this translation as less accurate. The third translator was *HBO*, here the translator translates the word **nerd** into *kutu buku*, which is accurate based on the online slang dictionary, also the translation is more polite for the viewers to determine the characteristics of Mark Zuckerberg.

Next example is the word **asshole.** The first translation is from LI, based on the dictionary the translation for the word **asshole** was "An idiot or contemptible person". The translation for the sentence "It is because you're an **asshole**" is *karena kamu adalah seorang bajingan*. Here, the context is correct because the sentence said by Erica to Mark was to show her discontent toward Mark, rather than translating the word **asshole** into *orang jahat* or *idiot*. But here translator LI translates the word **asshole** into *brengsek* is also correct, the translation will be *karena kamu adalah orang brengsek*. The meaning for this translation is still the same, therefore the writer considers these into accurate translations. The second translator is TA, she used the same word to translate **asshole**, she translated the word into *brengsek*, therefore the explanation is the same with translator LI, and also the translation is considered as accurate. The third translator was *HBO*, here the translator used the word *bajingan* to translate the word **asshole**,in the target language (Indonesian) the word *brengsek* and *bajingan* have the same meaning. Therefore, the translation from *HBO* is accurate.

Eight example is the word **bitch.** Based on the dictionary the meaning for the word **bitch** was "a contemptible woman". The first translator, who is LI, translated the word **bitch** into *wanita jalang* which is correct. Because Erica's reputation was tarnished by Mark and it was spreaded into the whole college using the online questionnaire. The second and the third translator use the same translation for the word **bitch**, both of the translators translate the word into *wanita jalang*. Which is correct because the viewers can understand the meaning of the word **bitch** in the target language (Indonesian).

Ninth example is the word **shit** is a popular word in English to exclamate something regarding the feeling and emotion. Therefore the first translator LI translated the word **shit** into *sial* is accurate. The other translator which is TA and *HBO* have the same translation for the word **shit**, both of the translator translate the word into *sial*, because in the target language (Indonesian), the word *sial* usually said when there is something bad happen for the person, therefore the word is easy enough for the viewers to understand the emotion of the speaker in the movie. The writer considers these translations to be accurate.

Tenth example is Based on the dictionary the word **holy shit** explained as "an expression yelled at something bad and/or surprising". These translations would be better translated into *astaga* rather than *sial*. Because based on the dictionary it and expressions a person shows when the person is surprised by something that is not from his/her own action. Here the translator LI translates the word **holy shit** into *sial*, this translation is less accurate because the word **holy shit** means that the speaker is shocked/ yelled, therefore the word should be translated *astaga*, to show the expression of the speaker. The second translator TA translates the word **holy shit** into *sial* too, therefore the explanation is the same with translator LI, the translation did not show the emotion of the speaker therefore it was considered as less accurate. The third translator *HBO*, translates the word **holy shit** into *astaga*, which is accurate because it shows the speaker is shocked by something that happened suddenly without their consent.

**CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the writer found out that both translators' translation is good enough because the percentage of the translation accuracy is high enough, and there is only one mistake for both translators because the writer considers the word hard enough to perceive in translation the TL. There are some differences between translator TA and *HBO*. The difference is the word usage in the TL translation. Some of the translations have the same meaning but different word usage. Therefore, the writer can conclude that whether the translator is a professional or freelancer, there is only a slight difference between the translator as long as the translator has the skill and experience in creating the subtitle.

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