



## Analysing Students' Translation Work on Indonesian Prepositional Phrases into English

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**ABSTRACT:** This research is entitled Analyzing Students' Translation Works on Indonesian Prepositional Phrases into English. Prepositional phrases are phrases that contain prepositions with nouns or nominal phrases, or prepositional phrases. The aims of this research are (1) to describe prepositional phrases in Indonesian as the Source Language and their translation into English, and (2) to analyze the types of translation procedure applied by the students of Bachelor of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Udayana University.

This research is included in qualitative descriptive research, the data were taken from the translation of folk tales by fourth semester students of Bachelor of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Udayana University, using observation methods and recording techniques. The data were then analyzed by applying translation procedure theory, and Indonesian and English syntactic theories. The data is presented formally and informally in the form tree diagrams followed by elaborations. The results show that the types of prepositional phrases in Indonesian have head elements in the form of prepositions with modifiers; nouns or nominal phrases, or prepositional phrases. The translation procedures applied are literal, transposition, borrowing, and modulation.

**KEYWORDS:** prepositional phrases, procedures, translation

### INTRODUCTION

Bachelor of English Literature, is the largest study program in the Faculty of Humanities, Udayana University. This study program has AUNQ-A standards, so it has quite high responsibility and task to prepare prospective graduates to have international standard qualification. Profiles of graduates from the Bachelor of English Literature are mastering the English language system (phonology, morphology, grammar, semantics, syntax), understanding the principles of teaching and learning, communication skills in English both orally and in writing, able to carry out research in the fields of Literature, English, and able to translate English text into Indonesian or vice versa.

Regarding the demands of translation skills, Bachelor of English Literature students are given a lot of practice in translating texts from Indonesian to English and vice versa, through the Theory of Translation, Practice of Indonesian - English Translation, and Practice of English-Indonesian Translation courses. This research aims to examine and analyze the students works on the translation of prepositional phrases from Indonesian as a source language (SL) into English as a target language (TL), and discuss the procedures applied in the translating the Indonesian prepositional phrases into English.

Prepositional phrases (PP) in Indonesian are phrases which have prepositions as heads, followed by modifiers in the forms of nouns or nominal phrases, or prepositional phrases, or clauses for example: *di kamar* 'in the room', *di kamar mandi* 'in the bathroom', *ke rumah*, 'to the house', *ke atas rumah* 'to the top of the house', *sampai dia datang* 'until he comes' (*di* 'in' and *ke* 'to' in bold are the cores of the phrases, while the room, bathroom, house, top of the house, and he comes are the modifying phrases. Lapoliwa (1992:10) defines a preposition as a phrase consisting of a preposition and a noun. He groups prepositions in Indonesian into two, namely: single prepositions and combined prepositions. Single prepositions are prepositions that consist of one word, either a monomorphemic word or a complex word, in the sense that it consists of a base morpheme and one or more affixes. Compound prepositions are prepositions that consist of two or more words. There are fifty five single prepositions collected which include: *akan, akibat, antara, atas, bagi, untuk, berdasarkan, berkat, Bersama, beserta, buat, dalam, dari, daripada, dekat, demi, dengan, di, hingga, karena, ke, kecuali, kepada, lepas, lewat, melalui, mengenai, mengingat, menjelang, menuju, menurut, mulai, oleh, pada, sama, sampai, sebagai, sebagaimana, sebelum, sejak, sejauh, sekitar, sekeliling, selain, selaku, selama, guna, sepanjang, seperti, sesudah, setelah, laksana, tanpa, tentang, terhadap*. This



study focused on the Indonesian prepositional phrases which involved single prepositions, specifically prepositions: *di*, *ke*, and *dari*

According to Kroeger (2005: 47) a prepositional phrase in English is a constituent phrase that has a preposition as the core followed by a pronominal, a proper name, and a nominal phrase, as in: behind me, behind John, behind the old school house.

Translation according to Machali (2009: 26) is an effort to replace the meaning of the source language text with the equivalent meaning of the text in the target language. Larson (1984: 3) explains translation as the transfer of meaning from the source language to the target language. Meanwhile, Vinay and Darbelnet (2000; 84-91) argue that transferring the equivalence of the source language text to the target language text is the most crucial thing in translation, considering that each language has its own system and culture. In this regard, they proposed seven translation procedures which are grouped into two categories, namely: direct translation which includes; borrowing (The SL word is transferred directly to the TL), calque (a kind of borrowing in phrase level where the source language expression or structure is transferred in a literal translation), and literal translation (word-for-word translation), while indirect translation consists of transposition (a change of one part of speech for another without changing the sense), modulation (changing the semantic elements and perspectives that are prioritized in the source language text), equivalent (cases where languages describe the same situation by different stylistic or structural means), and adaptation (This involves changing the cultural reference when a situation in the source culture does not exist in the target culture or otherwise).

To achieve an equivalent translation, the translator determines the procedures used in translating the text in the source language into text in the target language. This is what intrigued researchers to examine the translation of Indonesian prepositional phrases into English by the fourth-semester students of Bachelor of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Udayana University. The translated text is in the forms of folklore in Indonesian with different titles as the source language, and the product of translation in English as the target language.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This research is descriptive-qualitative research. It involved twenty students of fourth semester of the Bachelor of English Literature program, Faculty of Humanities, Udayana University who were randomly selected. The data were taken from the translation of folklore texts in Indonesian as the source language (SL) into English as the target language (TL). Of the twenty translations, ten translations were taken at random. These ten translations were the source of data in this research. The Indonesian Prepositional Phrases using prepositions: *di*, *ke*, and *dari* with their translations into English were the primary data in this research. The data that had been collected were reviewed and presented in the form of tables and tree diagrams and explained descriptive-qualitatively based on the theory of translation procedures by Vinay and Darbelnet (2000)

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Lapoliwa (1992: 5) defines a Prepositional Phrase (PP) as a phrase consisting of a preposition and a noun. PP is divided into two, namely PP with a single preposition and PP with a combined preposition. This research focused on PP with a single preposition. Lapoliwa (1992: 20) lists a number of fifty-five different single prepositions, but in ten folk tales as the data source in this research, thirty-five were found, including: *akan*, *antara*, *bagi*, *berkat*, *Bersama*, *beserta*, *dalam*, *dari*, *dekat*, *demi*, *dengan*, *di*, *hingga*, *karena*, *ke*, *kecuali*, *kepada*, *melalui*, *menjelang*, *menuju*, *menurut*, *oleh*, *pada*, *sampai*, *sebagai*, *sebelum*, *sejak*, *sekitar*, *selama*, *seperti*, *setelah*, *tanpa*, *tentang*, *terhadap*. In this article, PP presented with three different types of prepositions and their translation in English as TL. The analysis of translation through the PP structure in SL and TL was presented followed by the description of the translation procedures applied.

### PP with *di* as the Head and Their Translations in English.

Of the ten folktales as data sources in this research, one hundred and thirty PP with *di* as heads were found. The preposition *di* was translated into English PP with prepositions; on, in, at, and to. The data were presented below:

No	SL	TL	Data source
1	<i>Di daerah pantai selatan Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta</i>	<i>On the south coast of Yogyakarta Special Region</i>	Syekh Belabelu



2	Yang tinggal <i>di</i> Pondok Pamancingan ialah Syekh Belabelu,..	The one who lives <i>in</i> the Pamancingan Hut is Sheikh Belabelu	Syekh Belabelu
3	Setibanya <i>di</i> sawah, ...	When he arrived <i>at</i> the rice field,	Kabayan
4	Seribu penyesalan datang <i>di</i> hatinya.	A thousand regrets came <i>to</i> her heart.	Batu Menangis

Data (1-4) show that the Indonesian PPs with preposition *di* as heads or cores were translated into PP with numerous prepositions: **on**, **in**, **at**, and **to**. The translators, in this case the students understand the context where the preposition *di* as heads occurred, so that they could find prepositions in the TL which had the closest meanings. The structures of PPs in both SL and TL are presented using tree diagrams therefore, the differences in structures are clearly visible.

No	SL	TL
1		

The tree diagrams in (1) show that PP in SL and TL have the same structures, that is prepositions as heads and followed by NPs. The translator tried to transfer the meaning of every word in the PP and express them following the TL system. So, it can be said that literal procedure was applied. However, there is a shift in the structure of the NP from the SL to the one in the TL as seen in the NP node; from N and NP to Det and NP which is referred to as transposition procedure. Borrowing occurs in translating the name of a place in SL, *Yogyakarta* is transferred directly to *Yogyakarta* in the TL.

Data No.	SL	TL
2		

The structure of the PP in data (2) also show that PP in the SL and TL have the same structures, namely the prepositions as the heads and the NP as modifiers. So, it can be said that a literal procedure is applied, where the translator tries to transfer the meaning of the SL PP into the TL by adapting to the structure of the TL system. However, the structure of the NP as a modifier in the SL is rendered



into different structure in the TL that is; from N as the head of the NP, and N as modifier of the NP into Determiner and NP, therefore transposition was also applied in this data. Borrowing procedure occurs in rendering the word *Pemancingan* without changing it in the TL

Data No.	SL	TL
3	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <p><b>P</b>                      <b>N</b></p> <p><i>di</i>                      <i>sawah</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <p><b>P</b>                      <b>NP</b></p> <p><i>at</i>                      <i>the rice field</i></p>

Diagram (3) also shows that the **NP** in SL has a prepositional structure **P** as the head and **N** as the modifier, while the **PP** structure in the TL consists of **P** as the head and **NP** as the modifier. The procedure applied by the translator was transposition procedure, there is a change in the structure of the **PP** from **N** to **NP**. A literal procedure was also applied, where the translator tries to transfer the meaning of SL **PP** into the TL **PP** by adapting to the structure of the TL system (*di* is translated into *at* while *sawah* was translated into *the rice field*).

Data No.	SL	TL
4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <p><b>P</b>                      <b>N</b></p> <p><i>di</i>                      <i>hatinya.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <p><b>P</b>                      <b>NP</b></p> <p><i>to</i>                      <i>her heart.</i></p>

Data (4) shows the same thing as the previous data, there is the application of transposition procedure in the translation of **PP** modifier, where **N**, *hatinya* in the SL was translated into **NP**, *her heart* in TL. In this data the translator also applies a literal procedure because he is trying to transfer the meaning of the SL **PP** into the TL.

From the four data analyzed, the **PP** structure with the head, preposition *di*, has a modifier in the form of **NP** and **N**, while the equivalent **PP** structure in TL is in the form of the prepositions *on*, *in*, *at*, *to* as the heads and modifiers in the forms of **NP**. It can be said that the translators had been able to differentiate the context of the SL **PP** therefore, they could determine the closest equivalents for the prepositions in the SL. The four data analyzed also show that the translators applied literal procedure, transposition, and borrowing is applied when the translated **Ns** as modifiers were place names.

**PP with *ke* as the Head and Their Translations in English**

The following is **PP** data with the preposition *ke* and its translation in English

Data No	SL	TL	Data source
5	<i>datanglah Syekh Maulana Mahgribi ke wilayah pantai selatan.</i>	Sheikh Maulana Mahgribi came <b>to</b> the south coast.	Syekh Belabelu
6	<i>Mengapa engkau tidak segera turun ke sawah dan mengambil tutut-tutut (Siput) itu?"</i>	Why didn't you get <b>into</b> the rice field and catch the snails?"	Kabayan



7	<i>Pada suatu hari, raja Sumbing Perbangkara berburu ke hutan di tepi kerajaan.</i>	One day, the king of Sumbing Perbangkara was hunting <i>in</i> the forest on the edge of the kingdom	Sangkuriang
8	<i>Maka, kubiarkan ia berjalan dan kusebutkan agar ia lekas pulang ke rumah</i>	So, I let it walks and tells it to go home soon.	Kabayan

Data (1-4) show that the translators understood that the preposition *ke* in SL cannot be translated into one preposition in SL. The translators were able to distinguish the context in which the preposition *ke* as the core of the PP so that they could find the closest equivalent in the TL. In data (5) *ke* was translated into *to* because the translator translated the verb *datang* into the word came so that the closest equivalent for the preposition *ke* as the head of PP is *to*, *came to* not *came in*, the same is the case with data (6-8).

Data No.	SL	TL
5		

The tree diagram for data (5) shows that PP SL and PP TL have the same structures, namely consisting of prepositions as the head and PP as the modifiers. The structural differences are at the level of NP as a modifier, in PP with the preposition *ke* as the head of the SL, the NP structure consists of the noun, as the head and NP as the modifier, while in the SL it consists of determiner as the modifier and NP as the head. In SL the head position is before the modifier while in TL it is the opposite. Therefore, if we identify the translation procedures applied, they can be grouped into transposition. In this data, the translator also transfers the SL meaning word by word and packs it with the TL system so that literal procedures are applied.

Data No.	SL	TL
6		

In data (6), *ke* was translated into preposition *into*, the translator was able to understand the context in which *ke* was used therefore, he can find the most equivalent one, namely *into*, not *in* or *to*. Judging from the structure of the SL PP, it consists of preposition and noun was translated into NP which consists of preposition and NP, so it is clear that the translator applied the transposition procedure in the modifier structure. The translator also transferred the SL PP meaning word by word and packages it in the TL system so that literal procedure was also applied.



No	SL	TL
7	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <pre> graph TD     PP --- P[<b>P</b> ke]     PP --- N[<b>N</b> hutan.]             </pre>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <pre> graph TD     PP --- P[<b>P</b> in]     PP --- NP[<b>NP</b> the forest]             </pre>

In data (7) the SL preposition *ke* was translated into *in*, the translator was able to understand the context in which *ke* is used, in this case *ke* is preceded by the verb *berburu* which required the target place and in the TL the most equivalent preposition in such a context is preposition *in*. Judging from the structure, the SL PP consists of preposition and noun, while the TL PP was translated into PP which consists of prepositions and NP, so it is clear that the translator applied the transposition procedure in modifier structure. In translating the SL PP as a whole, the translator applied literal procedure, where the translator transferred the meaning of the SL PP word for word and adapted it into the TL system.

Data No.	SL	TL
8	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <pre> graph TD     PP --- P[<b>P</b> ke]     PP --- N[<b>N</b> rumah]             </pre>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>N</b></p> <pre> graph TD     N --- home[home.]             </pre>

Data (4b) shows that PP, *ke rumah* in SL was translated into noun, *home* in TL. The translator applied a transposition procedure, namely changing the phrase structure into word category, namely noun, home. The translator already understands that *ke rumah* was translated into home because the word home is preceded by the verb go which leads to a goal, so it can be said that the translator applied modulation procedure, namely a translation procedure by changing the point of view from the message conveyed in the SL to the message conveyed in the TL.

**PP with *dari* as the Head and Their Translations in English**

Data No.	SL	TL	Data source
9	<i>salah seorang dari putera Prabu Brawijaya terakhir,</i>	one <b>of</b> the last sons of King Brawijaya	Sheikh Belabelu
10	<i>jauh lebih dahulu dari kedatangan Syekh Maulana Mahgribi</i>	much earlier <b>than</b> the arrival of Sheikh Maulana Mahgribi	Sheikh Belabelu
11	<i>... kecantikan gadis ini bagaikan bidadari yang baru turun dari kayangan.</i>	...the beauty of this girl like an angel who had just descended <b>from</b> heaven.	Batu Menangis
12	<i>Kisah ini bermula dari seorang dewa dan seorang dewi yang karena kesalahan yang dibuatnya di kayangan, akhirnya harus menjalani hukuman di dunia.</i>	This story started <b>when</b> a god and goddess who made a mistake in the heaven. So, they punished to do goodness as a wild boar and a dog on their life on earth.	Sangkuriang

The four data (9-12) presented show that the translators already understand that prepositions in the SL cannot be translated into the same preposition in the SL. The translators were able to distinguish the context of the preposition *dari* the PP, so that he could find



the closest equivalent in the TL. Data (9) shows that *dari* was translated into *of* because the translator translated it into *one of* therefore the closest equivalent for the preposition in the TL was *of*, *not from*, as is the case with data (10-12). The following tree diagrams describe the structures of the PP in both languages.

Data No.	SL	TL
9	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <pre> graph TD     PP --&gt; P     PP --&gt; NP     P --- dari     NP --- NP_text[putera Prabu Brawijaya terakhir]                     </pre>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <pre> graph TD     PP --&gt; P     PP --&gt; NP     P --- of     NP --- NP_text[the last sons of King Brawijaya]                     </pre>

It can be observed in data (9) that the PP in the SL has the same structural form as the TL, the translator translated the meaning of the SL PP word for word, and packages it by following the TL language system so that literal translation procedure occurred. The translation of NP in the SL, *putera Prabu Brawijaya terakhir* translated into NP *the last sons of King Brawijaya* shows a structural shift caused by the TL language system, resulting in a transposition procedure. The translator also applied borrowing in translating the name of the person, *Brawijaya*.

Data No.	SL	TL
10	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <pre> graph TD     PP --&gt; P     PP --&gt; NP     P --- dari     NP --- NP_text[kedatangan Syekh Maulana Mahgribi]                     </pre>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PP</b></p> <pre> graph TD     PP --&gt; P     PP --&gt; NP     P --- than     NP --- NP_text[the arrival of Sheikh Maulana Mahgribi]                     </pre>

Referring to the structure of the SL PP and TL PP in the tree diagram for data (10), both have the same structures where P is followed by NP as modifiers. It can be seen that the preposition *dari* as the core of the phrase was translated into *than* in the TL, because in data (10) the P *dari* was used in a comparative context therefore, in the TL the comparative form is expressed by the comparative form followed by the word *than*, the closest equivalent of the preposition *from* in this context. In data (10), the translator tried to express the meaning of the SL word by word and adapted it to the form or structure of the TL so that this procedure is called a literal procedure. The borrowing procedure was also applied when the translator translated the name, *Sheikh Maulana Mahgribi*.



Data No.	SL	TL
11	<p style="text-align: center;">PP</p> <pre> graph TD     PP --&gt; P     PP --&gt; N     P --- dari     N --- kayangan                     </pre>	<p style="text-align: center;">PP</p> <pre> graph TD     PP --&gt; P     PP --&gt; N     P --- from     N --- heaven                     </pre>

In data (11), the translator translated the SL PP into PP that has the same structure. Therefore, in data (11) the translator applied a literal procedure, namely translating the SL meaning word by word and rendered it in the TL using TL system.

Data No.	SL	TL
12	<p style="text-align: center;">PP</p> <pre> graph TD     PP --&gt; P     PP --&gt; NP     P --- dari     NP --- "seorang dewa dan seorang dewi yang..."                     </pre>	<p style="text-align: center;">PP</p> <pre> graph TD     PP --&gt; P     PP --&gt; NP     P --- when     NP --- "a god and goddess who..."                     </pre>

Data (12) shows the same structures of the PP in SL and the PP in the TL, namely that the PPs consist of Ps and NPs. In this data the translator applied modulation procedure that is by changing the point of view from the message conveyed in the SL to the message conveyed in the TL.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Based on the discussion on analysing students’translation work on Indonesian prepositional phrases (PP) especially the ones with preposition *di*, *ke*, and *dari* as the source language (SL) into English it can be concluded that;

PPs in Indonesian as the SL are translated using PP with various prepositions as the heads of the phrases in English. For example, PP with the preposition *di* was translated into PP with prepositions *on*, *in*, *at*, *to* in English. Judging from the structures of Indonesian PP, they had the structures: P as the heads of the phrases, and NP or N as modifiers, while PP in English as TL have structures: P as the heads or no P, but only a noun, and NP or N as the modifiers. The translation procedures applied included literal, transposition, borrowing, and modulation. Based on the data analyzed, it seemed that the translators in this case the students could render the messages in the SL PP in English as the TL.

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*Cite this Article: Ni Luh Ketut Mas Indrawati, Ida Ayu Made Puspani (2023). Analysing Students' Translation Work on Indonesian Prepositional Phrases into English. International Journal of Current Science Research and Review, 6(11), 7106-7114*