



## Research Article

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# Translation Techniques Used in Assassin Creed: Renaissance Novel

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## Abstract

*Several studies have been done on the technique of translating novel speech acts. However, impositive speech act translation research is still limited. Speakers perform impositive speech acts to burden their speech partners. Thus, the translator must comprehend the context. This study aimed to determine the translator's translation technique for adjusting target language meaning to the context. The data used in this study was gathered from the original English novel and compared to the same story in Indonesian. The researcher used the Forum Group Discussion with three translation professionals (FGD) to validate the data. The study found that most translators employ the conventional equivalency method. The translator determines the most suitable and acceptable meaning for the target language.*

**Keywords:** translation; techniques; speech act; impositive

## 1. Introduction

Translating speech acts presents a translator with difficulties. The existence of cultural and linguistic distinctions between the source and target languages presents a problem for translators. Additionally, understanding the context of the speech, such as authority and distance, becomes essential knowledge that a translator must learn. Previous academics have conducted a study on translation concerning speech acts.

The translation of speech acts in subtitles has been researched (AL-Sulaimaan & Khoshaba, 2020; Pedersen, 2008; Syarif et al., 2020). All of these researchers agree that the cultural aspect and the linguistic structure contribute to the translation process's complexity. Additional research on the translation of speech acts has been undertaken by (Al Farisi, 2015; Daulay et al., 2021; Santosa et al., 2016, Al-Sowaidi et al., 2021). There is the use of speech acts such as commanding, prohibiting, advising, asking, inviting, and allowing in this translation research. Obstacles such as the target language's usage of verbs to begin sentences pose a unique barrier for translators. Additionally, difficulties with translation in speech actions emerge when machine translation is used. With an

emphasis on context, it will be difficult to translate speech acts (Ciobanu, 2016; Stuker et al., 2012; Sulubacak et al., 2020). Following that, the issue of speech act translation arises in audio-visual translation involving dubbing. From the source language to the target language, a shift in politeness (Lertola & Mariotti, 2017; Napoli, 2020, Mahasneh & Bashayreh, 2021). Finally, the research of speech act translation in literary works in novels found various issues affecting the translation outcomes, including implicit illocutionary and power (Abualadas, 2020; Alooja et al., 2018; Tachtiris, 2017; Washburn, 2016).

Generally, previous research has focussed on the translation of directive speech acts (Al Farisi, 2015; Daulay et al., 2021), as well as expressive and assertive speech acts (Ciobanu, 2016; Sulubacak et al., 2020; Tachtiris, 2017). This study attempted to assess all translation findings for impositive speech acts in the five speech acts: assertive, directive, assertive, commissive, and declarative. With its characteristics that impose a burden on the speaking partner, translators will undoubtedly encounter challenges while translating the source language's impositive speech acts into the target language. The translator's inability to comprehend the context and the translator's failure to employ proper approaches are evident challenges when translating impositive speech acts.

Along with issues that arise in many contexts and cultures, scholars are interested in advancing their understanding of the translation processes used. AL-Sulaimaan and Khoshaba (2020), as well as Al Farisi (2015), adapted Newmark's (1988) translation technique, which emphasized meaning equivalency. It is not detailed in full how the translator does the micro-level translation process. Additionally, AL-Sulaimaan & Khoshaba (2020) discovered a predominance of semantic techniques in translation in their research. As can be observed, the translation results are orientated toward the source language, which results in low legibility in the target language. Meanwhile, Alooja et al. (2018) and Syarif et al. (2020) translated speech acts using Molina & Albir's (2002) translation approach. The novel's speech acts are analyzed using 18 different translation approaches. Meanwhile, the researcher employed the technique developed by Molina and Albir (2002) and adopted by Nababan et al. (2012) to analyze the impositive speech acts in the novel *Assassin's Creed: Renaissance*. The researcher argues that the translated impositive speech acts can be revealed in detail by employing a complete translation technique.

This study will examine the translation procedures utilized by translators in translating the novel *Assassin's Creed: Renaissance* from English to Indonesian by conducting a review of existing studies. The researcher analyzed it using the principle of 18 translation procedures (Molina & Albir 2002). This investigation is expected to provide a thorough picture of the diverting decisions made by translators. Thus, the researcher argues that this research can provide a comprehensive picture of how translators employ procedures to translate impositive speech acts in the novel *Assassin's Creed: Renaissance*.

## 2. Method

As part of the product research, the researcher will use the given primary data, specifically the novel *Assassin's Creed: Renaissance* and its translation. In addition, the researcher employs qualitative descriptive research and case studies to examine the application of translation procedures (Yin, 2009). This study's data consists of utterances in the source language (SL) and target language (TL) texts that feature impositive speech acts. The novel *Assassin's Creed: Renaissance* was used as a data source in this study since it contains a lot of positive speech acts required in this study. The selection of raters and translation experts forms an important aspect of the study's usage of the purposive sampling technique. Impositive speech acts, which comprise directive, assertive, commissive, expressive, and declarative speech acts, were studied in 1997. All data will be analyzed utilizing translation theory techniques (Molina & Albir 2002).

### 3. Result

According to the findings of the Forum Group Discussion (FGD), sixteen data points were acquired about the form and function of impositive speech act in directive, assertive, expressive, commissive, and declarative speech in the novel *Assassin's Creed: Reinassance*. Established equivalence, discursive invention, variation, pure borrowing, explication, paraphrase, literal, transposition, implication, generalization, modulation, compensation, amplification, reduction, description, and particulation are all examples of data. The following table contains information on the translation technique.

**Table 1:** Translating impositive speech act in *Assassin Creed: Renaissance*

| No           | Translation techniques   | Frequency   | Percentage   |
|--------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1.           | Established equivalent   | 1374        | 68,8%        |
| 2.           | Discursive Creation      | 59          | 2,9%         |
| 3.           | Variation                | 275         | 13,4%        |
| 4.           | Pure borrowing           | 92          | 4,70%        |
| 5.           | Explicitation            | 50          | 2,6%         |
| 6.           | Paraphrase               | 23          | 1%           |
| 7.           | Literal                  | 8           | 0,4%         |
| 8.           | Transposition            | 9           | 0,5%         |
| 9.           | Implication              | 40          | 2,5%         |
| 10.          | Generalization           | 4           | 0,2%         |
| 11.          | Modulation               | 31          | 1,5%         |
| 12.          | Compensation             | 24          | 1.2%         |
| 13.          | Linguistic Amplification | 2           | 0,1%         |
| 14.          | Reduction                | 4           | 0,2%         |
| 15.          | Description              | 1           | 0,05%        |
| 16.          | Particulation            | 1           | 0,05%        |
| <b>total</b> |                          | <b>1997</b> | <b>100 %</b> |

As stated in the table above, translation techniques are employed in order. Implementing established equivalence technique 1374 (68.8%), discursive creation 59 (2.9%), Variation 275 (13.4%), pure borrowing 92 (4.70%), explicit 50 (2.6%), paraphrase 23 (1%), literal 8 (0.4%), transposition 9 (0.5%), implicit 40 (2.5%), generalization 4 (0.2%), modulation 31 (1.5%), compensation 24 (1.2%), linguistic amplification 2 (0.1%), reduction 4 (0.2%), description (0.05%) and particularization 1 (0.05%).

#### 3.1 Established equivalent

This strategy uses daily words and phrases as well as dictionaries (Molina & Albir, 2002). Here is an example of using established equivalents.

Example:

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 002 |  |
| ST  | <i>Enough of your nonsense, grullo</i> |
| TT  | <i>Cukup omong kosongmu, grullo</i>    |

Translation of "Enough of your nonsense" in English into Indonesian as "cukup omong kosongmu" appears in the data set 002. In Indonesia, this phrase is already common usage.

### 3.2 Discursive creation

This strategy is meant to exhibit temporary counterparts in an unexpected or out of context manner to generate new interpretations in the audience. The following is an illustration of the application of the discursive creation technique.

Example:

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 017 |  |
| ST  | <i>Do patch him up as best you can, friend</i> |
| TT  | <b>Tolong tambal</b> dia sebisa mungkin, kawan |

The English phrase "Do patch him up as best you can" is rendered as "Tolong tambal dia sebisa mungkin" in Indonesian data 017. In Indonesian, the translation of the source language's is very different from the context in which it is spoken.

### 3.3 Variation

This method is aimed to substitute linguistic or paralinguistic components (intonation, gestures) that influence linguistic variations. Here's an example of how to use this variation.

Example:

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 004 |   |
| ST  | <i>Ezio Auditore! <b>You pampered little whelp!</b> I'd say it was rather your family of penpushers and accountants that goes running to the guards whenever there's the faintest sign of trouble. Codardo!</i>       |
| TT  | Ezio Auditore! <b>Dasar kau anak anjing manja!</b> Memang keluargamu yang tukang corat-coret kertas dan akuntan yang selalu mengadu kepada para pengawal setiap kali ada tanda masalah yang sekecil apa pun. Codardo! |

The utterance "You pampered little whelp" is rendered as "Dasar kau anak anjing manja!" in Indonesian data 004. The linguistic aspects of the source language are replaced with Indonesian in the translation.

### 3.4 Pure borrowing

This strategy avoids translating words from the source language to the target language by not modifying their meaning. Italics are commonly used while writing this technique. The following is an illustration of the application of pure borrowing.

Example:

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 002 |   |
| ST  | <i>Enough of your nonsense, <b>grullo</b></i> |
| TT  | Cukup omong kosongmu, <b>grullo</b>           |

It says "Enough of your nonsense" in English. In Indonesian, "cukup omong kosongmu" is the translation. Use the same words from the source language when translating into Indonesian.

### 3.5 Explicitation

This technique utilizes explicit or paraphrased information in the original language. The following is an example of how such an explanation might be used.

Example:

|     |                       |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 022 |                       |
| ST  | <i>You sly devil!</i> |
| TT  | Dasar setan licik!    |

On data 022, the English speech "You sly devil!" was translated into Indonesian as "Dasar setan licik!" The source language's speech is translated by inserting information into the target language.

### 3.6 Paraphrase

It is possible to employ this strategy by paraphrasing while keeping the sense of the original language intact. The following is an illustration of how to employ this paraphrase.

Example:

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 004 |   |
| ST  | <i>Ezio Auditore! You pampered little whelp! I'd say it was rather your family of penpushers and accountants that goes running to the guards whenever there's the faintest sign of trouble. Codardo!</i>              |
| TT  | Ezio Auditore! Dasar kau anak anjing manja! <b>Memang keluargamu yang tukang corat-coret kertas dan akuntan yang selalu mengadu kepada para pengawal setiap kali ada tanda masalah yang sekecil apa pun.</b> Codardo! |

In data 004, the English speech "I'd say it was rather your family of penpushers and accountants that goes running to the guards whenever there's the faintest sign of trouble " is translated into Indonesian as " Memang keluargamu yang tukang corat-coret kertas dan akuntan yang selalu mengadu kepada para pengawal setiap kali ada tanda masalah yang sekecil apa pun". Speech in the source language is translated to the target language by paraphrasing the meaning in the source language.

### 3.7 Literal

This technique is used when utterances are translated without regard to their context. The following is an example of how to use the literal method.

Example:

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 005 |   |
| ST  | <i>that's quite enough from you, Ezio, you <b>little prick!</b></i> |
| TT  | Itu sudah cukup darimu, Ezio, dasar <b>'kelamin kecil!'</b>         |

In data 005, the utterance "little prick!", which translates to "kelamin kecil" in Indonesian. Speech in the source language is translated into the target language word for word.

### 3.8 Transposition

This technique is used to translate grammatical categories from one language to another by modifying the grammatical categories of the source language. The following is an illustration of how to employ the transposition technique.

Example:

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 006 |  |
| ST  | <i>Let's see if you fight as well <b>as you gabble!</b></i>        |
| TT  | Mari kita lihat apakah kau bisa berkelahi <b>sehebat ocehanmu!</b> |

"Let's see if you can fight as well as you gabble!" is the line in data 006 "*Mari kita lihat apakah kau bisa berkelahi sehebat ocehanmu!*" is the English translation into Indonesian. The source language's grammatical category is changed to the target language's grammatical category to translate the source language's speech.

### 3.9 Implication

This technique is used in the target language by utilizing more concrete and descriptive phrases. Here's an example of how to use the transposition technique.

Example:

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 157 |   |
| ST  | <i>Take these. Use <b>them</b> to dispatch the archers.</i> |
| TT  | Bawa ini. Gunakan untuk menumpas para pemanah               |

The utterance in data 157 is "Take these. Use them to dispatch the archers." in English, which translates to "Bawa ini. Gunakan untuk menumpas para pemanah" in Indonesian. Speech in the source language is translated into more concrete and specific phrases in the target language.

### 3.10 Generalisation

When applying this strategy, more generic or neutral phrases in the target language are used instead of specific terms. The following is an illustration of how to employ the generalisation technique.

Example:

|     |   |
|-----|---|
| 018 |   |
| ST  | <i>Time to go home, <b>little brother</b></i> |
| TT  | Waktunya pulang, <b>adik kecil</b>            |

Data 018 contains the speech "Time to go home, little brother." It is translated into Indonesian as "Waktunya pulang, adik kecil". Speech in the source language is translated into the target language using more general or neutral terminology.

### 3.11 Modulation

This strategy involves shifting the target language's emphasis or point of view. Here's an example of how to use the transposition technique.

Example:

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 020 |  |
| ST  | <i>Baby brother still <b>has much to learn</b></i> |
| TT  | Adik bayi masih <b>harus banyak belajar</b>        |

In data 020, the English translation of the speech "Baby brother still has a lot to learn" is "Adik bayi masih harus banyak belajar." Speech in the source language is translated by altering the target language's lexical and structural focus and point of view.

### 3.12 Compensation

This technique is used to send messages to other parts of the text that have been translated into the target language. In this example, you can see how to use the compensation technique.

Example:

|     |                                |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| 019 |                                |
| ST  | <i>We'd better hurry, too.</i> |
| TT  | Sebaiknya kita juga bergegas   |

The speech in data 019 is "We'd better rush as well." in English, translated to "sebaiknya kita harus bergegas". The source language's speech is translated by communicating with other sections of the translated text in the target language.

### 3.13 Linguistic Amplification

This technique is used to augment the target language with text-linguistic components. The following is an illustration of the transposition technique in action.

Example:

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 99 |  |
| ST | <i>I want to, Ezio, you don't know <b>how much</b> - but my family - it would kill my parents</i>              |
| TT | Aku ingin, Ezio, kau tidak tahu <b>seberapa</b> aku ingin ikut denganmu-tapi keluargaku-orangtuaku pasti sedih |

The utterance in data 99 is "I want to, Ezio, you don't know how much - but my family - it would kill my parents " which is translated into Indonesian as "Aku ingin, Ezio, kau tidak tahu seberapa aku ingin ikut denganmu-tapi keluargaku-orangtuaku pasti sedih". By transferring messages to other portions of the translated text in the target language, speech in the source language is translated.

### 3.14 Reduction

The information in the source language is compressed using this technique. Here is an example of how to use the reduction technique.

Example:

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 174 |  |
| ST  | <i><b>Just give me</b> back my purse and we'll say no more</i> |
| TT  | <b>Kembalikan</b> dompetku, itu sudah cukup                    |

According to data 99, the English statement "just give me back my purse and we'll say no more " was translated into Indonesian as "kembalikan dompetku, itu sudah cukup". Speech in the source language is translated by conveying messages to other parts of the translated text in the target language.

### 3.15 Description

This technique involves replacing terms in the source language with their descriptions in the target language. Here is an example of how to use the description technique.

Example:

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 262 |  |
| ST  | <i>What you speak is <b>blasphemy</b></i>            |
| TT  | Kata-katamu adalah <b>penghinaan terhadap Tuhan!</b> |

The phrase "What you talk is blasphemy!" was translated into Indonesian as "Kata-katamu adalah penghinaan terhadap Tuhan!" in data 99. The source language's speech is translated by substituting the target language's description for the source language's vocabulary.

### 3.16 Particularisation

This strategy is used to increase the clarity of the target language by employing more concrete phrases. The following is an illustration of how the particularisation technique can be applied.

Example:

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 226 |  |
| ST  | <i>Wherever you go, I'll follow, Francesco, until I have cut you down</i>        |
| TT  | Ke mana pun kau pergi, aku akan mengikuti, Frensesco, sampai aku menebas lehermu |

The utterance "Wherever you go, I'll follow, Francesco, until I have cut you down" appears in data 226. The phrase is translated into Indonesian as "Ke mana pun kau pergi, aku akan mengikuti, Frensesco, sampai aku menebas lehermu". When speaking in the source language, more concrete terms in the target language are used to translate the speech.

## 4. Discussion

The study demonstrates that established equivalence and variety are the most often employed translation techniques for impositive speech acts. By employing the established equivalency technique, the translator attempts to express the statement in a manner that is easily accepted by the reader, resulting in a natural translation. This idea is consistent with Veldi's (2014) and Milostivaya et al. (2019) assertions that it is critical to employ the established equivalency technique that translators must master. Additionally, Nababan et al. (2019) indicate in their research that variation translation approaches are used to bring the translation closer to the reader by focusing on the tone, style of language, and social dialect they are familiar with. Therefore, the translator must pay close attention to the context to make the optimal judgment regarding message diversion.

Context, as an integral aspect of speech, can assist the translator in understanding the meaning intended by the speaker in a text. According to Pan (2021), the existence of context can assist translators in acting as a bridge between two different cultures between the source language and the target language. On the other hand, if the context is not employed in the translation, it might lead to harmful results, particularly when it comes to the scriptures (Mahasneh, 2021). Connelly et al., (2021) and Zhu, (2021) go on to emphasize the importance of context in avoiding literal translation procedures. Furthermore, a translator's expertise allows him to locate the closest equivalent to the target language.

In this study, researchers discovered that translators employed both discursive creation and literal strategies in their work. In this example of the discursive creation, it can be seen that the translator has difficulties finding an equivalent in the target language that is adequate for the translation task at hand. As a result of the cultural differences and the structural disparities between the two languages, this is unavoidably the case. According to Istiqomah et al., (2019) and Cobeta, (2021), translators frequently employ discursive creation approaches while translating text or audio-visual material. A translator's skill is one of the factors that contribute to the addition or modification of meaning from the source language to the target language. Following the purpose, the translator does this task in order to increase the readability of the target language.

In contrast to discursive production, literal procedures are employed by translators to maintain the integrity of the source language in the target language. In the context of this study, the words that were kept were not identified or recognized in the target language, making it extremely difficult for readers to comprehend what was being said. Furthermore, the application of discursive production



strategies might result in a shift in the function of speech from one of commanding to one of request. As part of this function shift, the translator is responsible for reducing the amount of speech that was previously burdening the speech partner by include the phrase "help." As a result of employing this technique, it can be demonstrated that the translator does not translate outside of the novel's context. According to Romdhati et al. (2018), translators employment of discursive creation strategies has also been explored. They discovered an error in interpreting the context of the word never being forbidden in Indonesian, which was corrected.

## 5. Conclusion

This study demonstrates that the impositive speech acts have been successfully translated. However, some strategies are inappropriate and may even produce meaning distortion in the target language if misused. The use of discursive and literal fabrication techniques may obfuscate the original meaning of the target language. To do so, a translator must be aware of the context in which a speech is made. In addition, the translator must be aware of the cultural context associated with the source language by attempting to find the meaning that is the most similar to that of the target language. Furthermore, this study suggests that future research should look at the shifts that occur in the employment of translation procedures due to the findings. Then, research into the competency of translators, particularly in terms of pragmatic competence, becomes extremely crucial to investigate, both in the context of text translation and in the context of audio-visual translation.

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