

## **Category Shift of Noun Phrase in the Short Story of “The Backward Fall”**

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**Abstract** - In accordance with Catford's (1965:73), translation shift was categorized into two major types: Level Shift and Category Shift. This study is conducted so as to find out the category shift of noun phrase in the Indonesian translation of *The Backward Fall* by Jason Hermandollar that is *Jatuh ke Atas* by Harum Wibowo. The data were collected by using the source text (the English text) and the Target Text (the Indonesian text). Listing all the noun phrases used in source text (ST) with their Indonesian translation then identifying the category shifts based on Catford's theory (1965:76) which were classified into Structure Shift, Class Shift, Unit Shift and Intra System Shift. The results of the study found that the Structure shift was dominant (25,52%) then followed by Intra-system Shift (17,57%). Class Shift (2,93%) and Unit Shift (3,76%) were rarely used in the study. Furthermore, it was interesting that several combinations of the shifts were also found such as Unit Shift+Intra-System Shift (15,90%), Structure Shift+Unit Shift (18,41%), and Structure Shift+ Intra-System Shift (15,06%). The findings of the research may be good for a supplementary guideline of similar studies.

**Keywords:** Translation, Category Shift, Noun Phrase, Text

### **INTRODUCTION**

It seems translating is only about reconstructing the words' meaning from one language (source language) into another language (target language). In fact, Catford (1965:20) defined translation is as the replacement of textual material in the other language (TL). Moreover, Bell (1991:20) defines that translation is the phenomenon as “the replacement of a representation of a text in one language by a representation of an equivalent text in a second language.” Baker (1998:77) says that it is equivalence as the relationship between a source text (ST) and a target text (TT) that has allowed the TT to be considered as a translation of the ST in the first place. In addition, Nida and Taber (1982:12) stated that translation consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style”. Then the above theory is strengthened by Wills (1982:12) in Choliludin (2007:3) saying that translation is a procedure which leads from a written source language text to an optimally equivalent target language text and requires the syntactic, semantic, stylistic, and text pragmatic comprehension by the translator of the original text.

The translation from the source language into the target language cannot be exact equivalents as both languages are widely different in structure and cultural background. The understanding of the structure and the culture in both languages is required by the translator as it makes the translator capable of grasping the meaning in the text accurately and allows him to transfer the same meaning. One of the rules in doing translation is about shift. According to Catford (1965:73), a shift is the departure from formal correspondence in the process of going from the

source language to the target one [1]. Two major types of shift occur : level shifts and category shifts. Level shifts mean that a source language (SL) item at one linguistic level has a target language (TL) translation equivalent at a different level such as from grammar to lexis and vice versa. Category shifts referred to unbounded and rank-bound translation (Catford, 1965:75). In this study, it will focus on the category shift analysis of noun phrase in the Indonesian translating translation of *The Backward Fall*.

### **Problem of the Research**

Based on the explanation above, the problems to be discussed in this study are :

1. What kinds of category shifts used in the translation of *The Backward Fall*?
2. How is the occurrence of Catford's shifts in the translation of *The Backward Fall*?
3. What is the dominant category shift probed in the short story of *The Backward Fall* into Indonesian translation?

### **Objective of the Research**

The objective of this research is to answer the problems that have been mentioned in the previous point. They are:

1. To find out the kinds of shifts used in translating used in the translation of *The Backward Fall*?
2. To obtain the occurrence of Catford's shifts in the translation of *The Backward Fall*?
3. To probe the dominant category shift in the short story of the *The Backward Fall* into Indonesian Translation?

## Scope of the Research

As explained in Introduction that translation shifts are classified into two major types of shift are identified: "Level Shift" and "Category shift". In this research, the writer will analyze the category shifts from the short story of *The Backward Fall* by Jason Hermandollar into *Jatuh ke Atas* by Harum Wibowo.

## THEORITICAL REVIEW

### Definition of Translation

There are many theorists describe what translation is in different ways. They have their own explanation about translation. Translation is not only the transferring something written in source language into target language. Translation means rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text (Newmark, 1988). it means that the translation to translate the meaning of the text to another language must be intended with the message of the author. Translation involves the rendering of a source language (SL) text into the target language (TL) so as to ensure that (1) the surface meaning of the two will be approximately similar and (2) the structures of the SL will be preserved as closely as possible but not so closely that the TL structures will be seriously distorted (Basnett, 1980:2).

Munday (2000:4) says that the term translation itself has several meanings: it can refer to the product and the process. The product involves the translated text and the process involves the translator changing an original written text (source language) into written text (target language) in different verbal language. Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL) (Catford, in Machali 2000:5). it means that the translation is changing of the text material of the source language (SL) to the target language (TL) which in the target language the text has the equivalence in the source language.) Wills (1982:12) in Choliludin (2007:3) saying that translation is a procedure which leads from a written source language text to an optimally equivalent target language text and requires the syntactic, semantic, stylistic, and text pragmatic comprehension by the translator of the original text. Nida and Taber (1982:12) proposes a rather complete definition of translation. According to the two experts, "Translating consisting of reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalence of source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style." The definition proposed by Nida and Taber contain some elements that should be taken into account by a translator in performing his/her task: reproducing the message, equivalence,

The category shift itself is categorized into four types: structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift.

### Significance of the Research

By doing this research, the researcher hopes that the results of this study can be useful to serve the novice knowledge about translation shifts mainly category shifts and how they are applied in translation.

natural equivalence, closest equivalence, priority on meaning and also style.

According to the definition, the translator should try to reproduce the message contained in the source language into the one in the target language. In this matter, what the translator should do in translating is to create the equivalent message, not the form in the target language. Or it can be stated that an emphases should be put on the reproduction of the message rather than the conversation of the form or grammatical structures. To get such equivalent message, many grammatical and lexical adjustments should be made. Based on the various definitions above, it is known there are so many factors that should be considered to get a good translation. A good translation, therefore, does not sound like translation. It should be natural as if it is originally written in target language

### Concepts of Shifts

Based on Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (2009), "Shift is a change in the way people think about something, in the way something is done. Catford (1965:141) gives the idea on shift, namely "The change of formal structure of the Source language into the Target language". Catford (1965: 80) in Hatim (2001:15) classified the translation shift into two major types of shift are identified: "Level Shift" and "Category shift". Level shifts means a SL item at one linguistic level has a TL translation equivalent at a different level. This shift commonly occurs with shift from grammar to lexis and vice versa. However, category shift means change from the formal correspondence in translation. Furthermore, it is divided into structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra shift.

- a. Structure-shifts, which involve a grammatical change between the structure MH (modifier + Head) into HM (Head + Modifier)
- b. Class-shifts, that grouping members of a given unit which is defined by operation in the structure of the unit next above. Class shift occur when the translation equivalent of a source language (SL) item is member of a different class form the original item.
- c. Unit-shifts, which involve changes in rank, that is departures form formal correspondence in which the translation equivalent of unit at one rank in the



“that grouping of members of a given unit which is defined by operation in the structure of the unit next above” (quoted in Hatim and Munday, 2004:45). Structure shifts entail class shifts. This is because of the “logical dependence of class on structure” (Catford, 1965:119).

Example: ST: The bend  
Noun  
TT: membelok  
verb

From example of translation above, it can be seen that the Source Text (ST) of **The bend (Noun)** in the form of a phrase is translated into **membelok (Verb)** in the target text (TT). It means that there is class shifts from the sentences above by a change of a word class from a noun into a verb and it is proved that structure shifts entail class shifts.

### **Intra-System Shift**

A system is meant the closed number of elements among which a choice must be made. In fact, the terms available in each system in one language can show fundamental differences from the terms of the same system in another language. This can be considered as a major source of shifts at this level of language description. In other words, intra-system shifts refer to those changes that occur internally within a system. They are regarded only on the assumption that is formal correspondence between the two languages, i.e. ST-TT should possess approximate systems. The equivalence is said to occur at a non-corresponding term in the TL system. All languages have their systems of number, deixis, articles, etc. intra-system shifts happen when a term is singular in the source text and its textual equivalent is plural, or vice versa (a change in number even though the languages have the same number system).

Example:

ST : The petals  
plural noun

TT : Daun bunga  
singular noun

From example of translation above, it can be seen that the ST of **The petals (Plural)**, is translated into **Daun Bunga (Singular)** in the TT. The product (TT) should be in plural too but if it is transferred into “daun bunga-daun bunga”, the meaning sounds strange. But it should be in singular (vice versa). The changes from plural to singular is called intra-system shift.

### **Short story**

According to <https://www.cliffsnotes.com/cliffsnotes/subjects/literature/what-is-a-definition-of-short-story>, July, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018; 23:02, a *short story* is fictional work of prose that is shorter in length than a novel. Edgar Allan Poe, in his essay "The Philosophy of Composition," said

that a short story should be read in one sitting, anywhere from a half hour to two hours. In contemporary fiction, a short story can range from 1,000 to 20,000 words. Because of the shorter length, a short story usually focuses on one plot, one main character (with a few additional minor characters), and one central theme, whereas a novel can tackle multiple plots and themes, with a variety of prominent characters. Short stories also lend themselves more to experimentation — that is, using uncommon prose styles or literary devices to tell the story. Such uncommon styles or devices might get tedious, and downright annoying, in a novel, but they may work well in a short story.

Mentioned in online Webster dictionary, a short story is an invented prose narrative shorter than a novel usually dealing with a few characters and aiming at unity of effect and often concentrating on the creation of mood rather than plot. (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/short%20story>, July, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018; 23.18)

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **Research Design**

In this study, the researcher used the combination between descriptive qualitative and quantitative approach. qualitative approach is used to describe the data. Meanwhile, quantitative approach is used to count the percentage of the kinds of category shifts found in the translation.

### **Source of The Data**

The data of the research for finding out the kinds of category shifts and the occurrence of the shifts of noun phrases were analyzed were taken from the English – Indonesian translation of a short story entitled “The Backward Fall” written by Jason Helmandollar whose Indonesian version entitled “Jatuh ke Atas” translated by Harum Wibowo.

### **Data Collection**

This research paper is conducted by finding the short story mentioned above as the source text (ST) its translation as the target language. The short story was chosen as it provides the needed data, noun phrases, will be analyzed by using category shift theory.

### **Data Analysis**

The following procedures are carried out to analyze the data of the research

1. Underline the noun phrases on the ST and the TT.
2. Make a list of all the noun phrases of the ST and TT whose total was 239.
3. Analyze each noun phrase on the ST and the TT.

4. Classify the noun phrases into a proper type of category shifts that is based on Catford's theory (1965).
5. Count the percentage of each kind of category shift to get the dominant shifts from both the ST and the TT
6. Analyze each category shift according to Catford's theory (1965) by giving descriptive explanation.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### Findings

First, the writer's analysis found that there are several classification of category shifts of noun phrases in the short story of 'The Backward Fall' by Jason

Hermandollar (ST) with its translation 'Jatuh ke Atas' by Harum Wibowo (TT).

Table 1. Frequency of the Category Shift Occurrence

No.	Types of category shifts	Total	Percentage
1	Structure Shift	61	25,52 %
2	Unit Shift	9	3,76 %
3	Class Shift	7	2,93%
4	Intra System shift	42	17,57%
5	Unit Shift + Intra System Shift	38	15,90%
6	Structure Shift + Unit Shift	44	18,41%
7	Structure Shift + Intra System Shift	36	15,06%
8	Untranslated	2	0,84%
Total		239	100%

From table 1, the dominant category shift is structure shift (25,51%) though it doesn't dominate much as its percentage is not more than 50%. It was found that there were several combinations of the category shifts that were Intra System Shift+Unit Shift,

Structure+Unit Shift, Intra System Shift+Structure Shift and Structure Shift+Intra Structure Shift + Unit Shift. Most of the mixed category shifts had significant percentage except Structure Shift + Intra System Shift +Unit Shift that was only 1,24 %.

### Discussion

#### 1. Structure Shift

Structure shift involves a change in grammatical structure between the source language and the target language and it usually about the structure MH (modifier + Head) into HM (Head + Modifier). In this

research, there were 61 data (25,51%) categorized into structure shift. It proved Catford's (1965 : 77) which regarded that structure shifts was the most frequent category shifts at all ranks in translation. Here are the two samples of the structure shift analysis.

Table 2. Data of Structure Shift

No	Pg/Pr	Source Text	Pg/Pr	Target Text
1	1/1	"Dad?" she says, "I swear, I can't remember the words to <i>my own songs</i> ."	1/1	"Ayah?" katanya. "Sumpah, aku tidak bisa mengingat kata-kata yang ada pada <i>lagu-laguku sendiri</i> ."

2	1/1	She is sixty-two sitting on the edge of the couch, <b>her old acoustic guitar</b> .	1/1	Wanita itu berumur enam puluh dua tahun dan sedang duduk di pinggir sofa, <b>gitar akustik tuanya</b> .
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Source: Taken from The Backward Fall by Jason Helmandollar and its translation by Harum Wibowo

Analysis :

1. ST : my own songs  
           M      H  
 TT : lagu-lagu ku sendiri  
           H      M
  
2. ST : her old acoustic guitar  
           M      H  
 TT : gitar akustik tuanya  
           H      M

It is clear here that there is a shift from M-H (modifier head) to H-M (head+ modifier) between the ST and the TT of the two data above. Having a look from No. 1

and 2, it can be seen that the modifiers here are in the form of adjective and the heads are in the form of noun.

## 2. Unit Shift

A “unit shift” where a strict rank-for-rank correspondence between SL and TL sentences, clauses, groups, words and morphemes is not observed: e.g. the English definite article translated by a change in word order in Russian; (Catford, (1965: 80) in Hatim (2001:15. Unit shifts occur when translation equivalent

of a source text unit at one rank in is a unit at a different rank in the target language. It includes shifts from morpheme to a word, word to phrase, clause to sentence, and vice versa. From the research, 9 data (3,72%) were identified as unit shift. The table below provides the data of the unit shift.

Table 3. Data of Unit Shift

No	Pg/Pr	Source Text	Pg/Pr	Target Text
1		<b>Low level to higher level</b>		
	4/29	He watches for a time as her face voids of all emotion, <b>all evidence of thought</b> .	4/12	Dia memperhatikan sebentar sementara wajah istrinya menampakkan kekosongan – tanpa emosi, <b>semua bukti yang pernah dipikirkan</b> .
2		<b>High level to lower level</b>		
	3/19	After a few moment, she turns <b>her head</b> to him.	3/19	Setelah beberapa saat, dia membalikkan <b>kepalanya</b> ke arah suaminya.

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Source: Taken from The Backward Fall by Jason Helmandollar and its translation by Harum Wibowo

Analysis :

1. ST : all evidence of thought  
                                   word  
 TT: semua bukti yang pernah dipikirkan  
   Phrase
  
2. ST : her head  
           Phrase

TT: kepalanya  
word

The term low level to higher level to the word of “thought” in the ST was applied since its form is in a word which was translated in the TT into a phrase “ yang pernah dipikirkan”. However, the opposite one

happend to the second data, “ her head’ whose form is in a phrase was translated into “ kepalanya” which becam a word. Hence, this unit shift applied the term of high level to lower level.

### 3. Class Shift

Class shift occurs when the translation equivalence of an SL item is a member of a different class from the original item. It is a change in word class. Catford defines class shifts following Halliday’s definition “that grouping of members of a given unit which is defined by operation in

the structure of the unit next above” (quoted in Hatim and Munday, 2004:45). It was found that insignificant data of class shift. There were 7 data (2,48%) and most of them were about the change of the word class from noun into verb. Here are the representatives.

Table 4. Data of Class Shift

No	Pg/Pr	Source Text	Pg/Pr	Target Text
1	1/6	She smiles and strums the guitar with <b><i>a flourish</i></b> . “Lucky guess,”	2/6	Wanita itu tersenyum dan memetik gitarnya dengan <b><i>mendayu-dayu</i></b> . “Tebakan yang beruntung.”
2	2/10	“What’s that, Mom?” he says. He is instantly on <b><i>his feet</i></b> , ...	2/10	” Ada apa, Bu?” dia berkata. Dia segera <b><i>tegak bersiap-siap</i></b> , ...

Source: Taken from The Backward Fall by Jason Helmandollar and its translation by Harum Wibowo

Analysis :

1. ST : a flourish  
noun  
TT : mendayu – dayu  
verb
  
2. ST : his feet  
noun  
TT : tegak bersiap-siap  
verb

From the data above, it is definitely explained that there was a change of the word class from noun into a verb on the two data in the table 4. ***A flourish*** and ***his feet*** are the

phrases (ST) whose function are as noun while ***mendayu-dayu*** and ***tegak bersiap-siap*** in the TT function as verb.

### 4. Intra System Shift

Intra-system shifts, which occur when, SL and TL possess systems which approximately correspond formally as to their constitution, but when translation involves selection of a non-corresponding term in the TL

system“. For instance, when the SL singular becomes a TL plural. This study found that there were 42 data (17,42%) classified into Intra System Shift. Here are the samples of the shift :

Table 5. Data of Intra System Shift

No	Pg/Pr	Source Text	Pg/Pr	Target Text
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1	1/1	She is sixty-two and sitting on <b>the edge of the couch</b> , ...	1/1	Wanita itu berumur enam puluh dua tahun dan sedang duduk di <b>pinggiran sofa</b> , ...
2	3/18	Above the television is a mantle <b>full of pictures</b> .	3/18	Di atas televisi adalah sebuah mantel <b>yang penuh dengan gambar</b> .

Source: Taken from *The Backward Fall* by Jason Helmandollar and its translation by Harum Wibowo

Analysis :

The ST of “the edge of the couch” was translated into the TT “pinggiran sofa”. It means that definite article of ‘the’ was not translated into the TT. Generally, the article of “the” is usually translated into ‘itu’ in the TT. In this case the translator didn’t apply it, but equivalent meaning was probably considered. Furthermore, in the second sample, the word of “pictures (plural)” in “full of pictures” was not translated into plural meaning in

the TT whose meaning should be “gambar-gambar”. Yet, the word of “pictures” was translated into “gambar” which became a singular form. It was considerably parallel that all languages have their systems of number, deixis, articles, etc. intra-system shifts happen when a term is singular in the source text and its textual equivalent is plural, or vice versa (a change in number even though the languages have the same number system).

### 5. Shift Combination

From the writer’s analysis, it was found that the shift combination was also identified in this research. There were 4 shift combination pattern: Unit Shift + Intra

System Shift (28/15,76%), Structure Shift + Unit Shift, (44/18,25%), Structure Shift + Intra System Shift (35/14,25%). The following is the samples:

Table 6: Data of Shift Combination

No.	Shift Combination	The Source Text	The Target Text
1	Unit Shift + Intra System Shift	The ceiling	Atas atap
2	Structure Shift + Unit Shift	His chair	Kursinya
3	Structure Shift + Intra System Shift	The same song	Lagu yang sama

Source: Taken from *The Backward Fall* by Jason Helmandollar and its translation by Harum Wibowo

Analysis:

1. “The ceiling” applied unit shift + Intra System Shift due to the fact that the definite article of “the” is usually translated into “itu” to show the definite meaning, yet in the TT, “the” was not translated and identified as Intra System Shift. Then a word of “ceiling” was translated into two words or a phrase in the TT that was “atas atap”. This shift is called as Unit Shift.
2. “His chair” whose pattern is M-H was translated into “kursinya” whose pattern is

H-M and that used Structure Shift. Then the phrase of “his chair” was translated into a word “kursinya” and it showed it applied unit Shift.

3. The structure shift was applied in the phrase od “the same song” whose structure is M-H in the ST and it was translated into “lagu yang sama” whose structure is H-M in the TT. Moreover, the Intra System Shift was applied since the definite article of “the” was not translated.

### CONCLUSION

The conclusions of this study are :

- a. There were 7 (seven) category shifts identified in this research. Four categories was compatible with Catford’s theory (1965). They were Structure Shift, Unit Shift, Class Shift and Intra System Shift. In addition, 3

(three) types of combination shifts were significantly found whose total was 118 out of 239 data.

- b. The dominant shift in this study was structure shift whose total was 61 data and it was corresponding with Catford’s (1965:77)

saying that the structure shifts was the most frequent category shifts at all ranks in translation.

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