

**EQUIVALENCE STRATEGIES OF SIMPLE SENTENCES
USED IN *DETECTIVE CONAN* COMIC**



PUBLICATION ARTICLE

Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement
for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education
in English Department

by

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2015**



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Judul Skripsi : ***Equivalence Strategies of Simple Sentences Used in Detective Conan Comic***

Naskah artikel tersebut layak dan dapat disetujui untuk dipublikasikan.

Demikian persetujuan dibuat semoga dapat dipergunakan seperlunya.

Surakarta, 21 Februari 2015

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EQUIVALENCE STRATEGIES OF SIMPLE SENTENCES USED IN DETECTIVE CONAN COMIC

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ABSTRACT

This research belongs to descriptive qualitative research, aiming at identifying and categorizing the variations of translation of simple sentence found in Detective Conan comic; verifying strategies used; and portraying the accuracy of the translation. The data are simple sentences found in Detective Conan comic. The data collected from document and informant, then, are analyzed using Baker's theory of equivalence. The findings of the research are: (1) there are 5 translation variations of simple sentence, i.e. simple sentence translated into (a) simple sentence; (b) complex sentence; (c) minor sentence; (d) two sentences; and (e) not sentence; (2) there are 6 strategies used, i.e. (a) addition; (b) omission; (c) structural adjustment; (d) adoption; (e) adaptation; and (e) paraphrase, as the most dominant strategy used; and (3) the translation is categorized as accurate with 99.4% rate or out of 182 data analyzed, there are 181 data accurately translated and 1 datum inaccurately translated.

Keywords: accuracy, translation strategy, simple sentence, simple sentence variation

INTRODUCTION

Catford (1969: 20) defines translation as the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL). The similar definition also comes from other figures such as Nida (1969: 12), Pinchuck (1977: 38), and Newmark (1981: 7) who essentially aver that translation is a process of finding or rendering the equivalent message from source language (SL) into target language (TL).

Based on the definitions, it is clear that to produce a good translation is not an easy matter because it involves not only well-mastered skill in both (SL and TL) language but it also requires well-understanding in both (SL and TL) culture so that an equivalent message can be achieved. Recently, there are enormous numbers of translation works in various forms which effortlessly can be found, such as novel, movie, educational book, and comic.

Comic, as stated in www.paulgravett.com, is a media conveying narratives through a series of image, arranged in sequence, one or more per page or episode, and separated from each other by being contained within the outlined borders (frames) of boxes (panels).

Detective Conan or more popularly known as *Case Closed* in England is a Japanese *manga*- comic in Japan- about high school detective written by Goshō Aoyama since 1994 and is still ongoing until now. Since it is not easy to produce equivalent translation, regarding the distinction both in structural order and meaning of SL and TL, the translator needs some strategies.

Krings (1986:18) defines translation strategy as “translator's potentially conscious plans for solving concrete translation problems in the framework of a concrete translation task.” Moreover, Loescher (1991:8) defines translation strategy as “a potentially conscious procedure for solving a problem faced in translating a text, or any segment of it.” Considering those views, it can be said that the strategies used depend on the translator’s skill, knowledge, and understanding of both source and target languages.

The research discusses only on simple sentence found in *Detective Conan* comic from chapter 743-752 (10 chapters). Aimed at identifying and

categorizing the variations of translation of simple sentence found, verifying the strategies used, and portraying the accuracy of translation, this research is expected to enrich the knowledge of its readers regarding translation as well as becomes reference for anyone who is eager to conduct or learn translation matter.

The researcher takes the following datum as an example of analysis since it contains many strategies.

SL: On the barrel of the pen, "Dancing Men" is written.

TL: Ada tulisan "Dancing Men" di sini.

The sentence above contains some strategies. They are *paraphrase*, *addition*, *adoption* and *omission* strategy as well as *structural adjustment: phrase order*. Moreover, the sentence also changes from verbal sentence, indicated by verb phrase *is written* as its predicate, into nominal sentence, indicated by noun phrase *tulisan "Dancing Men"* as the predicate.

Translation is always related to the transfer of meaning to achieve equivalence. However, more efforts and strategies are needed to achieve it. There are some strategies that can be used in translation, they are:

1. Addition: Newmark (1988: 91) argues that the additional information is normally cultural, technical, or linguistic. Information added might be occurred in a translation process when certain information is not found in the source language text.
2. Omission: Certain information can be omitted to make the text more understandable. As stated by Baker (1992: 42), deletion is an omission of a lexical item due to grammatical or semantic patterns of the receptor language.
3. Structural Adjustment: As an attempt to achieve equivalence, a translator sometimes alters the structural adjustment of a sentence. Structural adjustment means a change in the grammar from source language to target language (Newmark, 1988: 85).
4. Adoption: Haryanti (2013) in her article entitled *Strategi Kesepadanan Pesan pada Linguistics Across*

Culture dan **Terjemahannya** states that adoption is a situation where the translator boldly put the source word or expression from SL to TL since there is no equivalent word for the SL in the target language. The case of adoption usually occurs when translating a person's name, building, register, and other cultural terms which do not have the equivalence in the target language.

5. Adaptation: As stated by Haryanti (2013) in her article entitled *Strategi Kesepadanan Pesan pada Linguistics Across Culture dan Terjemahannya*, it is one of the translation strategies in which the translator adapts a word or term in source language, then the spelling and pronunciation are modified in a way that they are suitable in the target language.
6. Paraphrase: Baker (1992: 26-42) mentions paraphrase as one of translation strategies used by professional translators to cope with the problematic issues while doing a translation task. It is a strategy used when the translator creates a liberal approximate translation based on the overall meaning of the source text, some lexical items may even be ignored when it comes to this strategy (Chesterman: 1997)

Based on the number of clause, Indonesian sentence can be divided into two (Alwi, 2003: 336). They are:

1) Simple Sentence

Simple sentence or in Indonesian known as *kalimat tunggal* consists of one clause meaning that it contains one subject and one predicate. Based on its predication, simple sentence is divided into five:

- a) Nominal Sentence: A sentence whose predicate is in the form of noun phrase or pronoun. For example *Anak itu penjual roti*.
- b) Adjectival Sentence: A sentence whose predicate is in the form of adjective or adjective phrase. For example: *Baju nya baru*.
- c) Verbal Sentence: Verb or verb phrase plays role as the predicate.

d) Numeral Sentence: A sentence whose predicate is in the form of numeral. For example: *Anaknyabanyak*.

e) Prepositional Sentence: A sentence whose predicate is in the form of prepositional phrase. For example: *Kakasedangdi kamar*.

2) Complex Sentence

Complex sentence or *kalimatmajemuk* is a sentence whose predicates are two or more. One of them is independent clause and the other is dependent clause.

RESEARCH METHOD

The research carried out belongs to descriptive qualitative research since it is conducted to interpret, describe, and categorize the findings. The object is the equivalence strategies of simple sentences with *Detective Conan* comic as its data source. The data are collected through document and informant. The collected data, then, are analyzed using Baker's theory of equivalence, Alwi's theory of Indonesian sentence, and Frank's theory of English sentence. It is analyzed by following Miles and Huberman's interactive method (1992: 16) which consists of three stages: (1) data reduction; (2) data display; and (3) conclusion or verification.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the analysis done to 182 data of simple sentences found in *Detective Conan* comic, here are the findings:

1. Variations of Simple Sentence Found in *Detective Conan* Comic

From 182 data analyzed, the researcher finds five variations of simple sentence in *Detective Conan* comic. They are:

a. Simple Sentence Translated into Simple Sentence

The writer finds 118 data out of 182 data analyzed showing that simple sentence is translated into simple sentence. There are 18 variants found regarding this case. They are:

1) Active Sentence Translated into Active Sentence

In this variation, active sentence is translated into active sentence since it contains element which acts as subject giving any process to object.

004/DC/HA1/HT1

SL: *I was saving that for last.*

TL: *Akusengajamenyisakannyauntukdimakan paling akhir.*

It can be seen that the above datum is in active form. In the SL the one acting as predicate is *was saving* while in the TL, *sengajamenyisakan* is the predicate marked by prefix *me-* and suffix *-kan*. Both are in the form of active sentences. There are 39 cases of active sentence translated into active sentence.

2) Active Sentence Translated into Passive Sentence

The datum shows that there is a change in the sentence, from active into passive one.

027/DC/HA13/HT13

SL: *My sister is almost starting a match.*

TL: *Pertandingan kakakku segera dimulai.*

In the SL the predicate is *is starting* while the TL's predicate is *segera dimulai*. It indicates passive form since the prefix is *di-*. The writer finds 2 cases out of 118 data analyzed showing active sentence is translated into passive sentence.

3) Passive Sentence Translated into Passive Sentence

The following is the datum:

085/DC/HA56/HT56

SL: *Something's written here.*

TL: *Sesuatu tertulis di sini.*

Based on the datum, it can be seen that both sentences are in passive voice, indicated by the predicate. The SL's predicate is in the form of past participle *written* preceded by *to be is*, while the TL's predicate has the prefix *ter-* which shows the passive form in Indonesian. To summarize, there are 5 data experiencing the case.

4) Passive Sentence Translated into Active Sentence

An example of passive sentence which is translated into active sentence is presented as follow:

122/DC/HA86/HT86

SL: *He is said to have changed his look to this.*

TL: *Kabarnya, sekarangdiatelahmengubahpenampilannyamenjadisepertiini.*

The predicate of the SL is *is said* while in the TL, the predicate is *telahmengubah*. It is clear that the predicate undergoes a change from passive verb *is said*, indicated by *to be is + past participle said*, into active verb *telahmengubah*, marked by prefix *me-*. The writer finds 2 data showing the case.

5) Verbal Sentence Translated into Nominal Sentence

The following datum shows the change from verbal sentence into nominal sentence.

047/DC/HA31/HT31

SL: *Well, I guess my mother's influence was strong.*

TL: *Inipengaruhibuku.*

The datum above is in the form of verbal sentence marked by the predicate *guess*, which is a verb. Meanwhile, the translation is in the form of nominal sentence indicated by noun phrase *pengaruhibuku* as predicate. Out of 118 data, there are 11 cases found.

6) Nominal Sentence Translated into Verbal Sentence

The datum below is the example of nominal sentence which is translated into verbal one.

060/DC/HA39/HT39

SL: *This is Shinichi's phone.*

TL: *Ternyata Ran menelponkeponselSinichi.*

The SL employs a linking verb *is* as the predicate, and a noun phrase, *Sinichi's phone*, acting as the complement. Thus, it is clear that the SL is in the form of nominal sentence. Furthermore, the Indonesian translation is in the form of verbal sentence since its

predicate is in the form of verb *menelpon*, indicated by the prefix *me-*. Out of 118 data, there are 4 cases found.

7) Nominal Sentence Translated into Nominal Sentence

Nominal sentence is a sentence whose subject is in the form of noun or noun phrase.

009/DC/HA3/HT3

SL: My father is a detective.

TL: Ayahkuinidetektif, lho.

The SL contains to be *is* as the predicate and noun phrase *a detective* as a complement, while the translation has noun *detektifas* its predicate. Hence, it is clear that both sentences are nominal sentences. To summarize, there are 17 data experiencing the case.

8) Nominal Sentence Translated into Adjectival Sentence

Adjectival sentence is a sentence whose predicate is in the form of adjective.

050/DC/HA32/HT32

SL: It's the same in the tennis.

TL: Tennis jugasama.

The source language displayed is in the form of nominal sentence. It has linking verb *is* as its predicate while the target language is in the form of adjectival sentence indicated by its predicate which is in the form of adjective *sama*. There are 2 sentences undergoing the case.

9) Verbal Sentence Translated into Adjectival Sentence

The following datum shows the change from verbal sentence into adjectival one:

054/DC/HA34/HT34

SL: This time of year, it doesn't get dark in London until 9.00.

TL: Sekarang London dan sekelilingnya baru gelap setelah jam 9 lebih.

The source language showed in the datum above is in verbal sentence form with the predicate *doesn't get dark*. The target language, on the other hand, is in the form of adjectival sentence

whose predicate is in the form of adjective *gelap*. Out of 118 data, there are 9 cases found.

10) Adjectival Sentence Translated into Nominal Sentence

There is one datum showing the case:

010/DC/HA4/HT4

SL: *I'm fond of crime novels!*

TL: *Sayapenggemar novel detektif!*

The SL of the datum above is categorized as adjectival sentence since its predicate is in the form of linking verb, *am* and it is followed by adjectival phrase *fond of crime novels*. Meanwhile, the target language belongs to nominal sentence indicated by its predicate which is in the form of noun phrase *penggemar novel detektif*. The writer only finds 1 datum showing such case.

11) Adjectival Sentence Translated into Verbal Sentence

This datum shows an adjectival sentence which is translated into verbal sentence.

025/DC/HA12/HT12

SL: *I'm sure Holmes is here!!*

TL: *Akutahu Holmes ada di dalam!*

The source language showed in the datum above is in adjectival sentence form with a linking verb *am* acting as predicate and an adjective acting as complement, *sure*. The target language, on the other hand, is in the form of verbal sentence whose predicate is the verb *tahu*. Out of 118 data, there are 4 cases found.

12) Adjectival Sentence Translated into Adjectival Sentence

The following is an example of adjectival sentence translated into adjectival sentence:

057/DC/HA37/HT37

SL: *The London Eye is really far away.*

TL: *Ternyata London Eye jauh.*

The subject of the SL is *The London Eye*, the predicate is linking verb *is*, and *really far away* is its complement. Meanwhile,

the subject of the TL is *London Eye* and its predicate is an adjective *jauh*. From the analysis, it is clear that both sentences are in the form of adjectival sentence. There are 8 data experiencing the case.

13) Numeral Sentence Translated into Numeral Sentence

Numeral sentence is a sentence whose predicate is in the form of numeral or number.

051/DC/HA32/HT32

SL: *Love is 0.*

TL: *Love samadengan 0.*

Based on the datum above, it can be seen that the SL is numeral sentence marked by linking verb *is* as the predicate and its complement is in the form of number, which is 0 or zero. The TL also shows the same form. Its predicate is *samadengan 0*. The writer only finds 1 datum regarding the case.

14) Verbal Sentence Translated into Numeral Sentence

The writer only finds 1 datum showing verbal sentence translated into numeral sentence.

082/DC/HA55/HT55

SL: *I've found them around here!*

TL: *Bonekainibanyakberserakan!*

Have found functions as the predicate of the sentence above indicating that it is a verbal sentence. Nevertheless, the predicate of the translation is *banyakberserakan*. The word *banyak* indicates that the TL is in the form of numeral sentence.

15) Adverbial Sentence Translated into Adverbial Sentence

The following datum shows an adverbial sentence translated into adverbial one:

020/DC/HA8/HT8

SL: *They're in the first class.*

TL: *Mereka di kelasutama, kan?*

Both sentences belong to adverbial sentence. The SL has linking verb *are* as predicate and adverbial clause *in the first class* as its complement. In line with the SL, the target language

also employs adverbial phrase: *di kelasutama* as its predicate. Out of 118 data, there are 3 of them showing the case.

16) Adverbial Sentence Translated into Verbal Sentence

The following datum shows a change from adverbial sentence into verbal sentence.

097/DC/HA63/HT63

SL: *It's here, Shinichi!*

TL: *Akumenemukannya!*

The source language showed in the datum above is in adverbial sentence form with a linking verb acting as predicate, *is* and an adverb acting as complement, *here*. The target language, on the other hand, is in the form of verbal sentence whose predicate is a verb *menemukan*. There are 4 data showing such case.

17) Verbal Sentence Translated into Adverbial Sentence

A verbal sentence can also be translated into adverbial sentence. Here is the datum:

065/DC/HA41/HT41

SL: *Ran is coming!*

TL: *Ran akan kemari!*

The source language shown in the datum above is in verbal sentence form with a predicate which is in the form of verb phrase *is coming*. The target language, on the other hand, is in the form of nominal sentence with a predicate which is in the form of adverb phrase *akan kemari*. Out of 118 data, there are 4 data of the same case.

18) Adverbial Sentence Translated into Nominal Sentence

The writer finds 1 datum which belongs to adverbial sentence translated into nominal sentence.

113/DC/HA75/HT75

SL: *My first glance is always at a woman's sleeve.*

TL: *Yang pertama kali aku perhatikannya orang wanita itu jengolan bajunya.*

The datum shows that there is a change on the predication. The predicate in SL is in the form of adverbial phrase *at a woman's sleeve*, while the predicate in the TL is in the form of noun phrase *ujunglenganbajunya*. Hence, it is clear that the SL which is in the form of adverbial sentence is translated into nominal sentence.

b. Simple Sentence Translated into Complex Sentence

Complex sentence or *kalimatmajemuk* is a sentence whose predicates are two or more. One of them is independent clause and the other is dependent clause. The following is one of the data found:

058/DC/HA37/HT37

SL: *It's not quite far enough to need a taxi for.*

TL: *Terlalu dekat kalau harus naik taksi.*

The above datum portrays the change from English simple sentence into Indonesian complex sentence. The SL contains a subject, *it*, a predicate *is*, and a complement *quite far enough to need a taxi for*. Meanwhile, the translation is in complex sentence indicated by conjunction *kalau*. It shows that the Indonesia belongs to complex sentence modified by adverb clause of condition. Out of 182 data analyzed, there are 15 cases found.

c. Simple Sentence Translated into Minor Sentence

As stated in *Meriam Webster* dictionary, a word, phrase, or clause acting as a sentence and having in speech an intonation characteristic of a sentence but lacking the grammatical completeness called minor sentence. In the data source, the writer also finds cases when a simple sentence is translated into a minor sentence. Here is the sample:

006/DC/HA1/HT1

SL: *That's right.*

TL: *Betul sekali.*

The SL is simple sentence with a subject *that*, a predicate *is*, and complement *right*, while the TL is in minor sentence because it does

not contain complete grammatical elements needed to form a sentence. The translation is lack of subject and predicate. However, the word *betulsekali* which is an adjective phrase is enough already to express the whole meaning. Out of 182 data analyzed, there are 46 cases found.

d. Simple Sentence Translated into Two Sentences

The followings are the data showing that a sentence can possibly be translated into two sentences. Though those sentences are in the form of minor sentence, they still are considered as sentence. There are 2 data found about it.

076/DC/HA47/HT47

SL: *What is it to you?*

TL: *Kenapa!? Nggak boleh, ya!?*

The datum above shows the case of one sentence translated into two minor sentences. The SL is in the form of interrogative simple sentence having one subject *it*, predicate *is*. The TL, on the other hand, is translated into two sentences *kenapa* and *nggak boleh, ya* which basically are included in minor one.

e. Simple Sentence Translated into Not Sentence

Sentence, in *Collins Cobuild Advanced Dictionary of English*, is a group of words begun with capital letter and ended by a full stop, question mark, or exclamation mark. Most sentences contain a subject and a verb.

Based on the definition mentioned, it is clear that the datum presented below is not categorized as a sentence.

066/DC/HA42/HT42

SL: *I am strong detective.*

TL: *Ay yem strong detektif.*

The sentence above shows that a simple sentence is translated into not sentence. The subject of the SL is *I*, the predicate is *am* and the complement is *strong detective*. However, the TL is not classified as sentence since it does not have subject and predicate. The words *ay*

and *yem* have no meaning. They simply are representation of how the words *I* and *am* sound in the target language. Only 1 datum regarding the case does the writer find.

2. Equivalence Strategies of Simple Sentences Used in *Detective Conan* Comic

In this part, the writer portrays strategies used in translation of simple sentence variations.

The followings are the strategies used in translating simple sentence:

a. Addition

In a certain condition, words or phrases may be added in a translation in order to make the text more understandable.

016/DC/HA7/HT7

SL: *First class is so spacious!*

TL: *Kabin kelas utamaternyata luas sekali!*

The datum above shows us that in the SL, there is no such words meaning *kabin* and *ternyata*, however, it can be seen in the TL that those words are found. The appearance of *kabin* and *ternyata* are additional information brought by the translator in order to make the text more natural and understandable. It is found that the translator applies word addition strategy for 53 times.

The writer summarizes that the translator uses addition strategy for 69 times.

b. Omission

The following is the example of omission strategy applied in a sentence:

028/DC/HA13/HT13

SL: *I have to fly there!*

TL: *Aku harus kesana!*

As seen in the datum, there is word *fly* found, but in the TL, the word *terbang*, which is the Indonesian translation of *fly*, does not exist. It is clear that the translator omits the word in order to make the

text more natural and understandable. Omission is applied for 55 times.

c. Structural Adjustment

This part shows structural adjustment occurring in the data found. They are changes of word or phrase order and change of verb (active into passive verb or passive into active).

074/DC/HA45/HT45

SL: *You can't run anymore, Shinichi.*

TL: *Shinichi, kamusudahnggakbisalarilagi.*

It can be seen from the datum above that the word *Shinichi* is placed last in the SL, however, it is placed at the beginning of the sentence in the TL. Based on that, it is clear that the datum above undergoing a change of word order. Yet, the change done does not affect the whole message from the text. The translator changes the word order of simple sentences in *Detective Conan* comic for 6 times.

To summarize, the writer finds out that structural adjustment strategy occurred for 16 times.

d. Adoption

Adoption is a strategy used by a translator when he or she cannot find the equivalence between SL and TL. In another word, the translator simply puts the original word into the target language text.

037/DC/HA19/HT19

SL: *I'm Apollo Glass*

TL: *Namanu Apollo Glass.*

From the datum above, it can be seen that instead of translating the word *Apollo Glass* into *Apollo kaca*, the translator leaves it the same. It is done because it will be inappropriate to translate someone's name. Adoption commonly occurs when translating person's name, place, and name of brand. Adoption is applied for 46 times.

e. Adaptation

Adaptation is a translation strategy used by translator by borrowing certain expression or word from source language into target language.

058/DC.HA37/HT37

SL: It's not quite far enough to need a taxi for.

TL: Terlalu dekat kalau harus naik taksi.

Adaptation strategy can be identified in the datum above. The word *taxi* in the SL is adapted into *taksi* in the TL. The writing and pronunciation are similar. Adaptation is applied for 15 times.

f. Paraphrase

Paraphrase, as stated in *Oxford dictionary*, is the way to express something said or written using different words. In other words, in translating the text, the translator may use different words or expression, but it has the same meaning as the original.

005/DC/HA1/HT1

SL: Just let me have it.

TL: Jangan pelit, dong.

From the datum above, it can be seen that the sentence is in a positive one since there is not the word *not* or *no*. However, the translation is in negative one marked the word *jangan*. Moreover, in the SL, there is no word *stingy* meaning *pelit*. Yet, such word is found in the TL. It shows that the translator paraphrases the text because even though the dictions are different, it still has the same meaning based on the context. It turns out that paraphrase is the most dominant strategy. It is used for 121 times.

3. The Accuracy of the Translation of Simple Sentence in *Detective Conan* Comic

As mentioned in the objectives of the study before, the third objective of this research is to portray the accuracy of simple sentence translation in *Detective Conan* comic. Out of 182 data analyzed, there are

181 data or 99.4% which is accurately translated while another one or 0.6% is inaccurately translated. Here is the inaccurately translated datum:

168/DC/HA142/HT142

SL: You can't get there from here.

TL: Bukantribunini.

The datum above is not well-translated since it is not appropriate with the context and missed the original meaning from the source text. The sentence *You can't get there from here* cannot be translated into *Bukantribunini*. The sentence is said by the officer of Wimbledon to Conan at the entrance when he is asking to go to a certain seat even though his ticket is for another one. Thus, the translation should be *Kamutidakbolehmasukdarisini*.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that: (1) there are 5 translation variations of simple sentence found in *Detective Conan* comic, *i.e.* simple sentence translated into (a) simple sentence, 118 data; (b) complex sentence, 15 data; (c) minor sentence, 46 data; (d) two sentences, 2 data; and (e) not sentence, 1 datum; (2) there are 6 strategies used, *i.e.* (a) addition, 69 times; (b) omission, 55 times; (c) structural adjustment, 16 times; (d) adoption, 46 times; (e) adaptation, 15 times; and (e) paraphrase, as the most dominant strategy used, 121 times; and (3) the translation is categorized as accurate with 99.4% rate or out of 182 data analyzed, there are 181 data accurately translated and 1 datum inaccurately translated.

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