

**A STUDY OF CONDENSATION STRATEGY IN SUBTITLING OF  
*THE DEPARTED* MOVIE**



**RESEARCH PAPER**

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

There are many languages in this world; every nation has their own national language and even tribe has their own mother tongue in order to communicate each other. This situation will generate some problem when people want to make cross-cultural communication, because each person does not understand their language. Therefore, people need a medium to solve that problem. People just simply request or work with an interpreter. According to Weber (1984: 3) interpretation is the oral transposition of an orally delivered message at a conference or meeting from source language into a target language, performed in the presence of the participants.

Functionally, an *interpreter* orally converts a source language to a target language; likewise in sign language. The interpreter's function is conveying every semantic element (tone and register) and every intention and feeling of the message that the source-language speaker is directing to the target-language listeners. In other words, *Interpreters* convert one spoken language into another or, in the case of sign-language interpreters, between spoken communication and sign language. This requires interpreters to pay attention carefully, understand what is communicated in both languages, and express thoughts and ideas clearly. Strong research and analytical skills, mental dexterity, and an exceptional memory also are important.

Nowadays, the field of interpretation throughout the world is growing massively, such as: in business settings (where executives from different cultures and languages meet each other; in meetings between a society's legal, medical, educational and welfare institutions; in tourism; education; cultural contacts; and movies

Interpretation process can be found in Movie screen. When watching foreign movies/films whether in theatre or VCD, people are helped by subtitle or closed captioning. **Subtitles** are textual versions of the dialog in films and television programs, usually displayed at the bottom of the screen. They can either be a form of written translation of a dialog in a foreign language, or a written rendering of the dialog in the same language with or without added information intended to help viewers who are deaf and hard-of-hearing to follow the dialog (<http://wikipedia.com/Subtitle> (captioning). There is a difficulty to translate the movie dialog from source language into target language, because there are many dialogues that cannot be translated insignificantly. It needs to be interpreted with simple and appropriate language or we can call it as understandable and readable subtitle. In order to make easier the audiences comprehend the movie story.

The following examples are taken from an Action movie entitled *"The Departed"*

1. Source language : "I want to have any and all ideas, so I can pass them off as my own".  
     Target language : "*aku minta semua ide untuk kujadikan ideku*"

In this subtitling, the subtitler shortens the words without changing the meaning. It was done in order to get better understanding and make easier getting the message from the author in the film manuscript. Therefore, the subtitler shortens the original text which is called as condensation. In fact, the subtitling can be *Aku minta beberapa ide dan semua ide, jadi aku bisa membuatnya menjadi ideku sendiri.*

2. Source language : “Last I heard he was happily married to a 12 year old boy and living on a beach in Thailand“.

Target language : *“kabar terakhir dia menikahi bocah 12 tahun dan tinggal di Thailand”.*

In this subtitling, the audience can realize that there are some words lost from source language but it does not affect the whole meaning. As a matter in fact, the subtitler uses condensation to shorten the original text and it makes the audiences easy to understand the context of the story. The subtitler is eliminating *living on a beach* appropriately, because it just addition information about Thailand.

Based on the phenomenon above, the writer is interested in analyzing the condensation strategy in subtitling *The Departed* movie. Hence, the writer conducts a study entitled “A STUDY OF CONDENSATION STRATEGY IN SUBTITLING OF *THE DEPARTED* MOVIE”.

## B. Previous Study

The writer realizes that the research about subtitling strategy is not the first one. The writer found some previous research that related to this research. First, research about subtitling strategy was conducted by Zakiah (2006), entitled “*Analysis of Taming Sarcasm Words in Subtitling Bad Boys Film*”. In her research, she analyzed the subtitling which used taming strategy. There are some sarcasm words that were changed by the interpreter from the source language into target language. The findings show that the subtitler used taming strategy in making subtitling, the writer knows the audience’s acceptability, and the writer knows the reasons of the subtitler used taming strategy.

Second, it was conducted by Windarta (2008), with her research entitled “*An Analysis of Condensation Strategy in Subtitling of Pirates of The Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl Film*”. She analyzed the subtitling which used condensation strategy. The results of her research show that: first, there are five types of sentences which are used by the subtitler in subtitling. They are positive and negative declarative sentence, positive and negative imperative sentence, and positive interrogative sentence. Second, all of the subtitling which had been already condensed by the subtitler are readable. The data source are *Pirates of The Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl* manuscript and Indonesian simple sentence as comparison.

### **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the background of the study, the research problems of this research can be formulated as follows:

1. What are the operations used when using condensation strategy in subtitling of *The Departed* movie?
2. Have all the information and the meaning been transferred to the target language appropriately?

### **D. Objective of the Study**

1. To describe the operations used when using condensation strategy in subtitling of *The Departed* movie
2. To describe appropriate or inappropriate subtitling.

### **E. Limitation of the Study**

In conducting the result, the writer limits the problems that are going to be discussed. This research concerns on condensation strategy that was used by interpreter in subtitling of *The Departed* movie. This limitation is done to make easy in understanding about the study.

## **F. Benefits of the Study**

The benefits of the study will be distinguished in two benefits: academic benefits and practical benefits.

### **1. Academic Benefits**

- a. The result of the study will enrich interpreting study especially about subtitling.
- b. To give more information for further researcher facing with subtitling

### **2. Practical Benefit**

- a. The result will give deeper explanation about subtitling.
- b. The result of the study can be used as additional reference to another researcher that conducting this subject.

## **G. Research Paper Organization**

To make the reader understand the content of the paper, the writer gives the organization of research paper. The organization as follows :

Chapter I is introduction. this chapter deals with background of the study, previous study, problem statements, objective of the study, limitation of the study, benefits of the study, and research paper organization

Chapter II underlying theory, involves some theories related to the topic. It covers translation, subtitling, condensation strategy, readability and equivalence.

Chapter III is research method. This chapter deals with type of the research, object of the research, data and data source, method of data collection, and technique of data analysis.

Chapter IV is research finding and discussion. This chapter discusses about the data analysis, discussion and finding.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestions.