



TRANSPPOSITION AND ITS IMPACT ON TRANSLATION QUALITY IN THE BOOK YOU WISH YOUR PARENTS HAD READ

Ayu Awanda¹, Mangatur Nababan², Riyadi Santosa³

^{1,2,3}Study Programs of Linguistics, Faculty of Cultural Science, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Indonesia

Corresponding author: ayuawanda@student.uns.ac.id

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Abstract: Sentence shifts often occur when a sentence in the source language cannot be directly translated into the target language without altering the meaning or message of the source language. This research investigates sentence-level and its types of transpositions in *The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read* and examines their influence on translation quality in terms of accuracy, acceptability, and readability. A qualitative method with a single-embedded case study design was used to gather the data from transposed sentences. Findings revealed a predominance of downward rank shifts (189 instances) over upward rank shifts (15 instances), indicating the translator's tendency to simplify complex source structures into more concise target-language forms. The translation quality achieved high scores in accuracy (2.9) and readability (2.9), suggesting that the intended meaning was preserved and the text remained easy to comprehend. However, acceptability scored slightly lower (2.7), implying that some lexical and syntactic choices did not fully conform to the cultural and linguistic norms of the target language. With an overall mean score of 2.8, the translation is categorised as “good” but could be improved through refined vocabulary selection, enhanced idiomatic expressions, and greater cultural adaptation. These findings highlight the functional role of transposition in balancing semantic fidelity, naturalness, and clarity in English–Indonesian translation.

Keywords: *transposition; rank shift; translation quality.*

INTRODUCTION

Translation is widely understood as the process of conveying meaning from a source language into a target language, with the goal of producing a text that is accurate, acceptable, and readable (Nida, 1964). However, due to inherent differences in grammatical systems and discourse structures, translators are often required to make adjustments which called as ‘shifts’ to preserve the intended meaning across languages. Therefore, translation shift may occur in any level, take several forms, and have diverse impacts (Shofiarizqi & Haryanti, 2023). For example, transposition, plays a particularly significant role at the sentence level, where structural transformation becomes necessary to achieve naturalness and clarity in the target language (Catford, 1965). Transposition involves modifying the grammatical structure of the source language, such as transforming word classes or reordering sentence components, to accommodate the syntactic and rhetorical norms

of the target language. For instance, complex or lengthy sentences in the source language may need to be divided into shorter, clearer sentences in the target language.

While such structural shifts can improve the readability of the target text, they must be carried out carefully to ensure that the original message is preserved and effectively conveyed. As Nida (1964) pointed out, the goal of translation is not merely to replicate form but to ensure that the message is understood in a way that is natural to the target language audience. Therefore, transposition methods demonstrate the translator's skill in adapting grammatical and syntactic structures to suit the target language while preserving the original message (Nasution & Kharisma, 2024). In implementation, translators frequently encounter syntactic structures in the source language that are not directly transferable to the target language. This is especially true in languages with different grammatical rules, such

as between English and Indonesian. In these instances, transposition allows translators to reconfigure sentence components in a way that maintains the original meaning while adhering to the target language's natural flow. For example, compound sentences in English may be segmented into several shorter sentences in Indonesian to ensure clarity and reader comprehension.

For example, compound sentences in English may be segmented into several shorter sentences in Indonesian to ensure clarity and reader comprehension. According to Oshima and Hogue (2006), sentences can be classified into four main types: simple sentences, which contain a single independent clause; compound sentences, which consist of two or more independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction or punctuation; complex sentences, which include one independent clause and at least one dependent clause; and compound-complex sentences, which combine elements of both compound and complex structures. Furthermore, transforming compound sentences into shorter, more manageable units not only aligns with this classification but also enhances the overall coherence of the target text. This strategy not only prevents information overload for the reader but also aligns with the stylistic preferences of the target language.

In English–Indonesian translation, recomposing compound sentence structures can help avoid ambiguity and ensure that each idea is clearly articulated (Newmark, 1988). This makes the translator's primary task to ensure clarity, naturalness, and equivalence in meaning between the source and target texts. As Qian et al. (2024) stated that the translator's comprehension of the source text is pivotal for understanding the text to convey the intended meaning of the author. In this way, the purpose of rendering clear and readable information to the target audience can be better fulfilled (Yan & He, 2024). Through the process of decomposing long or complex sentences into smaller, coherent segments, translators can preserve the logical relationships between clauses while delivering information in a style that is readable and culturally appropriate for Indonesian. This finding is similar with Ahmad et al.'s (2024) research of structure shifts, emphasizing how translators adjust or modify sentences to maintain semantic accuracy and improve textual readability. This process often involves adapting punctuation, modifying conjunctions, or reordering clause positions to suit the grammatical structures of target language.

Moreover, this method allows translators to maintain the intended emphasis and nuance of the source language. In certain cases, the sentence can be in a longer or more complex structure. Nida (1964) said, which prioritizes the effect on the target audience over a rigid adherence to the source language's form. This will make the translator's role as a mediator who adapts the message to reproduce naturally within the cultural and linguistic norms of the target language. Baker (2018) observed, such structural modifications can serve as a communicative bridge, enabling the translator to mediate between linguistic differences while preserving the original message. This approach ensures that the translation remains both faithful in meaning and functional in context, allowing it to achieve the same communicative purpose as the source language. Through this approach, the translator maintains accuracy, acceptability, and readability, encouraging the effective cross-cultural understanding.

While transposition can improve the fluency and readability of a translated text, it also poses potential risks to translation quality. These syntactic errors indicate a more profound issue in understanding the structural organization of the English and Indonesian languages (Pakaja et al., 2025). Consequently, translators must weigh the broader effects of transposition, not only in terms of syntactic correspondence but also in relation to how these changes influence the text's readability and acceptability in the target language. In this context, evaluating sentence-level transpositions is crucial to determining whether the translator has effectively maintained fidelity to the source while ensuring naturalness in the target version. Additionally, such evaluation can reveal patterns in the translator's decision-making process and highlight areas where further refinement may be necessary to achieve a more balanced and culturally resonant translation.

In translation studies, the concept of rank shift is identified as a type of grammatical-level translation shift, first introduced by Catford (1965). Rank shift arises from differences in the grammatical hierarchies between the source and target languages, requiring structural modifications to preserve meaning equivalence and ensure naturalness in the target text. Catford (1965) further explains that rank shift takes place when there is a change from one unit, such as a sentence, to a lower unit, such as a clause, phrase, or word. Hanivah et al., (2024) observed that unit or rank shifts are among the most frequent grammatical adjustments in English–Indonesian

translation, accounting for 28.81% of all grammatical shifts. This tendency demonstrates how translators frequently modify linguistic units to reconcile grammatical disparities between languages and achieve a more natural target text. In many cases, rank shifts are employed strategically to enhance the fluency of the translation and to adapt the structure of the text so that it aligns more closely with the grammatical norms of the target language.

An upward rank shift involves shifting from a lower grammatical unit in the source language to a higher unit in the target language. This strategy is commonly employed to simplify complex structures and improve readability while preserving the intended meaning. It often involves transforming a clause into a phrase or a phrase into a word. For example, a complex sentence in English may be rendered as two simple sentences in the target language. Meanwhile, downward rank shift moving from a higher grammatical unit in the source language to a lower unit in the target language. This form is used to elaborate or clarify meaning in the target language by transforming a word or phrase into a clause or full sentence. It reflects the translator's effort to maintain semantic fidelity while adapting to the linguistic and stylistic norms of the target language. Both forms of rank shift demonstrate the translator's active role in restructuring information to accommodate grammatical differences between languages. These shifts are not merely structural, but also functional and communicative strategies to achieve coherence, cohesion, and naturalness in translation.

This study adopts the evaluation model proposed by Nababan, Nuraeni, and Sumardiono (2012), which categorizes quality into three main aspects: accuracy, acceptability, and readability. Accuracy concerns how faithfully the meaning of the source text is conveyed into the target language without addition or reduction (Mukhoyyaroh & Faridi, 2023). Furthermore, acceptability emphasizes the naturalness of the translation in relation to the grammatical and cultural norms of the target language (Kusumastuti, 2025). Lastly, readability refers to the extent to which the translation can be easily understood by its intended audience (Hanivah et al., 2024). This model provides a comprehensive and systematic framework to evaluate translation quality. This framework enables a nuanced analysis of how structural changes affect the naturalness of the translated text, thus offering valuable insights into the translator's decision-

making process and the overall effectiveness of the translation.

Previous studies on translation shifts have approached the phenomenon from various linguistic and evaluative perspectives. Wibawa (2023) examined grammatical transpositions at the levels of words, phrases, and clauses, identifying patterns of structural modification employed to maintain equivalence between the source and target texts. However, the study remained primarily descriptive and did not extend its analysis to evaluate how such shifts influenced translation quality, particularly in terms of meaning preservation and naturalness. Similarly, Farahsani (2024) conducted a detailed analysis of transposition types in literary translation, classifying upward and downward shifts to illustrate how translators restructure grammatical units to achieve target language conformity. Despite its systematic categorization, the study did not explore the communicative or functional implications of these transformations, leaving a gap in understanding how transposition contributes to overall translation quality.

In contrast, Batubara (2024) explicitly linked the use of transposition techniques to the dimensions of translation quality, emphasizing how grammatical restructuring enhances readability and acceptability. However, while the study acknowledged the functional value of transposition, its analysis remained limited to surface level textual adjustments and did not examine the deeper semantic relationships or discourse level effects of these shifts. In a related study, Athifatuzzahra et al. (2024) examined how this strategy contributes to translation quality through parameters such as accuracy, acceptability, and readability. Nonetheless, their analysis tended to emphasize evaluative aspects rather than exploring the specific linguistic mechanisms by which transposition influences these dimensions, leaving a conceptual gap between the technique and its functional outcomes.

Furthermore, Fadhilah et al. (2025) examined transposition within the framework of translation quality assessment. While this interdisciplinary approach was innovative, the study placed greater emphasis on stylistic features than on the syntactic transformations that underpin stylistic variation, thereby overlooking how grammatical shifts directly contribute to meaning construction. Similarly, Ulhaq et al. (2024) investigated how transposition influences meaning transfer across discourse, offering valuable insight into its

semantic dimension. However, the study did not systematically associate these findings with measurable indicators of translation quality in terms of accuracy, acceptability, or readability.

Additionally, Maulani et al. (2025) explored the interaction between form and meaning in translation but treated transposition merely as a supplementary device rather than a central analytical framework. Besides, Zahra et al. (2023) provided a more comprehensive perspective by recognizing transposition as both syntactic restructuring and semantic reinterpretation, advancing understanding of its dual role in translation. Yet, despite this theoretical contribution, their study remained limited in scope as it did not empirically assess how these shifts affect translation quality dimensions such as accuracy or readability.

Based on those research, the current study addresses a gap by specifically focusing on sentence-level and types of rank shift in transpositions as the object of analysis rather than as the primary goal. It aims to examine how these transpositions influence the meaning and readability of the translated text, using quality parameters such as accuracy, acceptability, and readability. As a result, this study offers a new perspective that shifts the analytical emphasis from transposition as a technique to transposition as linguistic data, thereby contributing original insights into how structural changes shape the overall effectiveness of the translation. Furthermore, the findings are expected to enrich translation studies by providing empirical evidence on the functional role of transposition in bridging syntactic differences between English and Indonesian.

METHOD

The research employed a qualitative approach, as it aimed to explore linguistic phenomena related to translation in depth. As Moleong (2018) explained, qualitative research was designed to understand meaning and context through language rather than relying on statistical data. However, numerical indicators were still used in this study to identify patterns and support the interpretation of results. The research design followed a single-embedded case study, as proposed by Santosa (2021), which allowed the researcher to conduct an in-depth examination of a single case, namely the phenomenon of transposition, with multiple units of analysis in the form of individual translated sentences.

The data sources for this research consisted of documents and informants/raters. The document was in the form of a book entitled *The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read* and its Indonesian translation. The book comprised six chapters, and the researcher collected 35 sentence pairs from each chapter using purposive or criterion-based sampling. This method ensured that the selected data met the specific objective of the research: to identify and analyze occurrences of transposition. The informants referred to three raters involved in evaluating translation quality, including the researcher by conducting a focus group discussion (FGD). The raters were selected based on their expertise in translation, fluency in both English and Indonesian, and their experience in assessing translation quality.

Furthermore, this study applied data analysis framework proposed by Miles and Huberman (1994), which consisted of three interrelated stages: data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing and verification. In the data reduction stage, the researcher selected sentences containing instances of transposition. During the data display stage, the collected data were classified according to transposition types, analyzed in terms of rank shifts by Catford (1965), and evaluated using the Translation Quality Assessment (TQA) instrument developed by Nababan et al. (2012). Moreover, in the conclusion drawing and verification step, the researcher elaborated the classified data in detail to provide a clear and comprehensive understanding of translation shifts and their impact on translation quality. This systematic approach ensured that the analysis remained transparent, verifiable, and aligned with established qualitative research standards.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Sentences

The data were identified at the sentence level, illustrating how structural adjustments were applied during the translation process. This category included changes in sentence construction, segmentation, and reproducing that were implemented to achieve greater clarity, coherence, and naturalness in the target language. English as source language involved vocabulary ideas that can express particular instances or occurrences, whereas Indonesian as a target language text does not, leading to the unit shift (Bessie, 2023). The modifications often arose due to differences in grammatical structures between the source language and the target language.

These sentence-level transformations highlighted how translators strategically maintained sentence structure while preserving the original meaning. The detailed occurrences of sentence-level transposition identified in the corpus were presented in Table 1, which outlined the source sentences, and Table 2 for the target language.

Table 1. *Types of sentence in the source language of The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read*

No	Types of Sentences	Total
1	Simple Sentence	13
2	Compound Sentence	26
3	Complex Sentence	40
4	Compound-Complex Sentence	147
Total		226

Table 1 presented the distribution of sentence types found in the source language of *The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read*. A total of 226 sentences were identified and classified into four types: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex. The largest percentage (147 cases) was found in compound-complex sentences, followed by complex sentences (40 cases). Moreover, compound sentences occurred 26 times, while simple sentences were the least frequent, with only 13 cases, indicating that compound sentences allowed writers to connect related ideas seamlessly, which improved the logical flow of their arguments or narratives (Mawaddah et al., 2024). The analysis revealed that a single instance did not necessarily represent only one sentence. This variation resulted from sentence transposition, a process in which structural adjustments occurred between the source and target languages. In certain target version, whereas in other cases, two or more source sentences were combined into a single, more concise sentence in the target text. These translations occurred when the translations differed structurally from the source sentences as a result of either inherent cross-lingual differences or idiosyncratic preferences of translators (Luo et al., 2024).

The dominance of compound-complex sentences in the source language indicated that the author frequently used syntactic constructions that combined multiple independent clauses with one or more dependent clauses. This structure allowed the author to present layered information, link related ideas, and maintain a logical flow within a single sentence. Erisyerico & Luardini (2025) noted, “writing cohesive and engaging narrative texts requires effective use of clause complexity to convey meaning and maintain reader interest”.

Such complexity was often characteristic of expository or persuasive writing, where nuanced meaning and detailed elaboration were necessary. The relatively high occurrence of complex sentences also reflected the author’s preference for embedding subordinate clauses to expand and qualify main ideas. As Balthazar et al. (2023) stated, subordinate clauses and conjunctions within complex sentences explicitly encoded relationships among propositions, enabling smoother idea integration.

The lower frequency of compound sentences suggested that the author relied less on coordinating independent clauses of equal weight, favoring instead the hierarchical clause structures seen in complex and compound-complex forms. Meanwhile, the minimal use of simple sentences highlighted a style that prioritized syntactic elaboration over brevity, which may have been intended to engage readers through detailed reasoning rather than concise statements. Besides, Maulana et al. (2023), who reported that advanced texts frequently utilize hierarchical clause structures to convey complex ideas. Moreover, Dewayanti & Margana (2024) emphasized that contextual understanding is crucial for maintaining clarity and coherence, particularly when adapting source language structures to the target language in translation.

Table 2. *Types of sentence in the target language of the book you wish your parents had read*

No.	Types of Sentence	Total
1	Simple Sentence	110
2	Compound Sentence	34
3	Complex Sentence	218
4	Compound-Complex Sentence	39
Total		401

Table 2 presented the distribution of sentence types found in the target language of *The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read*. The analysis identified four sentence types: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences, with a total of 401 sentences. The most frequently used type was complex sentences (218 cases), followed by simple sentences (110 cases). Compound-complex sentences appeared 39 times, while compound sentences occurred the least frequently, with only 34 cases. This pattern suggests that the translator prioritized structures that could convey multiple ideas within a single sentence, enhancing coherence and preserving the nuances of the source text. Moreover, Li (2023) found that “text type significantly influenced translation choices,

particularly in the use of subordination and coordination structures,” which underscores the role of discourse characteristics in shaping syntactic decisions. Consequently, the predominance of complex sentences in the target text may be interpreted as a strategic adaptation to the functional and communicative demands inherent in the source material, reflecting a deliberate alignment between grammatical realization and text type conventions.

The predominance of complex sentences in the target text suggested that the translator prioritized maintaining intricate syntactic relationships present in the source language, especially when these structures were necessary to preserve the logical flow and nuance of the original message. According to Araghi and Palangkaraya (2024), there are measurable linguistic features that can be used to assess translation difficulty and even predict translation quality, thereby reflecting a tendency to favour grammatical constructions that allowed for the expression of multiple ideas within a single sentence. This choice aligned with Indonesian discourse patterns, which could accommodate extended clauses without compromising readability.

The significant number of simple sentences indicated an effort to break down certain ideas into more digestible units, likely to enhance clarity and accessibility for the target audience. According to Nida (1964), adjustments of this nature aligned with the principle of dynamic equivalence, which prioritized the communicative effect on the reader over strict adherence to the source language’s form. Moreover, Umairah & Aisiyah (2023) reported that translations achieved readability by employing “simple sentence structures and easily understandable words for readers”. Such findings reinforce the view that simpler syntactic constructions can support reader comprehension and accessibility in translated texts.

The relatively low occurrence of compound sentences and compound-complex sentences in the target text suggested that the translator applied these structures selectively, reflecting sensitivity to the grammatical and syntactic norms of Indonesian. As Baker (2018) observed, structural modifications are often necessary to mediate between linguistic systems while maintaining the pragmatic intent of the message. In the English-Indonesian translation, recent studies have shown that “translation shifts from English to Indonesian are caused by differences in word order, grammatical structures, cultural nuances, and

idiomatic expressions” (Manurung et al. 2024). It can be shown that, when faced with long and complex sentences in the source language, the translator may have opted for restructured forms—either by simplifying them or by converting them into complex sentences that better aligned with Indonesian syntactic conventions, thereby preserving meaning while enhancing readability.

Overall, the sentence distribution in Table 2 reflected a strategic balance between maintaining the depth and nuance of the original text and ensuring the translated work remained accessible, coherent, and natural for the target readers. This balance demonstrated the translator’s ability to adapt sentence structures without compromising meaning, cultural relevance, or stylistic consistency. Such an approach ultimately enhanced the readability and overall quality of the translation. These findings align with the observations of Kunilovskaya et al. (2023), who noted that “translated and interpreted texts could exhibit lexical and syntactic properties that make them simpler, and hence, easier to process than their sources or comparable non-translations”. Accordingly, the translator’s balancing of depth and accessibility was not only stylistic but also consistent with empirical evidence on translation readability.

Transposition

The table below illustrated examples of transposition in translation, highlighting both upward and downward rank shifts. These examples demonstrated how translators adjusted grammatical structures from the source language to the target language to ensure equivalence of meaning, grammatical acceptability, and communicative effectiveness. By shifting language units, either from higher to lower ranks or vice versa, translators employed transposition as a strategic tool to accommodate structural differences and enhance textual clarity and cohesion in the target text. Research by Aini (2023) illustrated that grammatical cohesion in Indonesian EFL narrative texts plays a crucial role in ensuring comprehension, highlighting the importance of cohesive devices. This indicated that transposition not only preserves the original meaning but also reinforced inter-clausal connections, thereby improving readability and coherence in the target language. Table 3 below presents the total of upward and downward rank transpositions.

Table 3. *Types of transposition in The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read*

Chapter	Title	Transposition	Total
1	Your Parenting Legacy	Upward Rank	3
		Downward Rank	32
2	Your Child’s Environment	Upward Rank	2
		Downward Rank	28
3	Feelings	Upward Rank	3
		Downward Rank	32
4	Laying A Foundation	Upward Rank	3
		Downward Rank	33
5	Conditions For Good Mental Health	Upward Rank	2
		Downward Rank	31
6	All Behaviour Is Communication	Upward Rank	2
		Downward Rank	33
Total			204

Upward rank

The analysis of transposition types in *The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read* showed that the upward rank category occurred 15 times across the six chapters, as shown in Table 3. This type of transposition involved changing a unit of meaning into a higher grammatical rank in the target language, for example from a phrase into a clause, or from a clause into a full sentence. Paraswari et al. (2024) explained that “shifts occur because different languages have different ways of expressing the same idea, thus requiring changes in grammatical categories to effectively convey the same meaning”.

An example of upward rank transposition appears in the sentence:

Later on, we lose sight of our body-to-body communications with our children as words gradually take over, but it will still be there. It is still relevant to observe a child as well as hear them in order to fully listen to them and to allow them to impact on you. (131)

Selang beberapa waktu kemudian, kita lupa akan komunikasi skin-to-skin kita dengan anak kita ketika kata-kata bertahap mengambil alih, tetapi komunikasi skin-to-skin tetap ada dan relevan ketika anda mengamati dan mendengarkan anak yang mungkin akan memengaruhi anda. (193)

In this case, the original English sentence contained the noun phrase “*body-to-body communications*”, which the translator rendered as “*komunikasi skin-to-skin*”. While the phrase itself remained a phrase, the overall structure surrounding it was expanded in the target language by adding an explanatory clause, “*yang mungkin akan memengaruhi anda*”. This expansion raised the grammatical rank from a simple coordinated verb phrase (observe and hear) to a full subordinate clause, which constituted an upward

rank transposition. Parthama, et al. (2025) said that “structure shifts facilitate the re-organisation of complex sentence structures, improving narrative flow and grammatical accuracy”. As a result, this strategy not only preserved the original meaning but also enhanced the clarity and naturalness of the target text, ensuring that readers could easily comprehend the intended message.

According to Catford (1965), such shifts were often used when the target language required more explicit connections between ideas for naturalness or clarity. In this example, the Indonesian version introduced an additional layer of meaning by specifying the possible impact of listening to the child, making the implicit effect in the source language more explicit. This strategy aligned with Baker's (2018) observation that structural modifications could act as a communicative bridge, enabling translators to preserve pragmatic intent while adapting to linguistic differences.

Furthermore, the upward rank changes observed in this dataset suggested the translator's tendency to elaborate ideas in the target language, potentially to match the cultural communication style that favoured explicitness over implicit inference. As Newmark (1988) noted, such adjustments could enhance reader comprehension, particularly when translating from languages with more condensed syntax to those that relied on overt logical connections.

Downward rank

Based on the data in Table 3, downward rank transposition appeared far more frequently than upward rank, with a total of 189 occurrences across the six chapters. This type of transposition involved shifting from a higher grammatical unit to a lower one, such as from a clause to a phrase, or from a sentence to a clause. In translation practice, downward rank was often applied to produce a more concise target text, remove

redundancy, or adapt meaning to the syntactic norms of the target language.

An example of downward rank transposition can be found in the sentence:

I told him I thought it was important that he did indeed unlock and open it because, otherwise, he wouldn't be sensitive to the needs of his own son and would pass down to Toby what had been passed down to him. (20)

Penting baginya untuk membongkar dan membuka kotak itu. Kalau tidak, ia tidak akan peka terhadap kebutuhan-kebutuhan putranya sendiri. Dan ia akan meneruskan pengalaman yang dilaluinya kepada Toby. (23)

In the source language of page 20, the clause “I told him I thought it was important that he did indeed unlock and open it” was structurally complex, containing a matrix clause “I told him” and an embedded clause “I thought it was important...”. In the target text, this was condensed into the phrase “Penting baginya untuk membongkar dan membuka kotak itu.” The shift reduced a clause with multiple layers into a single nominalized phrase, which was a clear example of downward rank transposition.

Catford (1965) noted that such transpositions were often motivated by the syntactic economy of the target language. Indonesian tended to favour shorter, more direct expressions, omitting the layered embedding common in English. As Baker (2018) also pointed out, condensing grammatical rank could improve target text readability, especially when the source language employed more elaborate clause structures. Similarly, Octoveria and Munandar (2023) emphasized that “translation shifts do not only modify the syntactic structure of the target text, but they also modify the information load in the translation,” highlighting how structural adjustments help preserve meaning while maintaining clarity in the target language. These findings demonstrated that upward and downward rank transpositions are essential strategies for adapting complex source sentences into natural and readable Indonesian constructions.

In this case, the downward rank transposition removed the narrator's perspective markers “I told him, I thought” and foregrounded the main message—the importance of unlocking and opening the box. This strategy not only streamlined the sentence but also focused the reader's attention on the key action, which was consistent with Newmark's (1988)

communicative translation approach that prioritized clarity and the target audience's ease of understanding. Those example highlighted the translator's ability to restructure sentences for clarity without altering the intended meaning of the original text.

The prevalence of downward rank in the data set (as seen in Table 3) suggested that the translator systematically employed this technique to adapt the source language's often complex syntactic patterns into the more economical and direct style preferred in Indonesian written discourse. By reducing structural complexity, the translator could maintain the original meaning while making the sentences easier to process for readers. Furthermore, this strategy facilitated smoother transitions between ideas, contributing to the overall coherence of the target text. Similarly, Fitri & Rosita (2025) found that translators frequently modify grammatical structures to achieve clarity and naturalness across languages in English-Indonesian song lyrics to adjust syntactic forms.

The translation quality

The analysis focused on three key parameters: accuracy, acceptability, and readability, based on the assessment model proposed by Nababan, Nuraeni, and Sumardiono (2012). These parameters served as essential indicators for determining how well the translated text conveyed the intended meaning of the source, reflected the cultural norms of the target language, and maintained both cohesion and coherence across the discourse.

Table 4. *The translation quality of The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read*

Category of Translation Quality	Scores
Accuracy	2,9
Acceptability	2,7
Readability	2,9
Average Score	2,8

Based on the results presented in Table 4, the assessment of translation quality focused on three main aspects: accuracy, acceptability, and readability. The first aspect evaluated was accuracy, which concerned how precisely the translated text conveyed the meaning and intention of the source text. Accuracy ensured that the translated content maintained the original meaning and intent of the source text without distortion, omission, or embellishment (Kunst & Bierwiczzonek, 2023).

The following example illustrated how accuracy was reflected in the translation.

Even if you live apart from your child's other parent, what matters is that you refer to them in respectful ways, that you can appreciate their good points and not always be emphasizing their faults. (35)

Sekalipun jika anda hidup terpisah dari pasangan, yang terpenting anda tetap menerimanya dengan cara yang sewajarnya. Bahwa anda bisa mengapresiasi sisi baiknya dan tidak selalu menekankan kesalahan padanya. (45)

In the example “*Even if you live apart from your child's other parent...*”, the translator successfully preserved the original message about respect and appreciation between separated parents. The target text accurately transferred the intended meaning while adapting the grammatical structure to Indonesian norms. The cohesive ties between clauses, such as “*yang terpenting*” and “*bahwa Anda bisa mengapresiasi...*”, helped maintain logical connections within the sentence. Therefore, it showed that the translator prioritized semantic accuracy while ensuring inter clausal cohesion, which justified the score of 2.9.

The second aspect assessed was acceptability, which focused on the naturalness and appropriateness of the translation within the linguistic and cultural norms of the target language. Wisudawanto & Susylowati (2024) highlighted that translators must consider naturalness and appropriate linguistic choices to ensure that the translation communicates effectively to the target audience. This aspect evaluated whether the translated text read naturally to native speakers and conformed to the grammatical, lexical, and stylistic conventions of Indonesian. A translation is deemed natural if the grammar or style in the translation does not feel odd in the target language (Suyasa, 2024).

An example below exemplified the degree of acceptability achieved in the translated text.

I'll cover how our attitudes in pregnancy can have a bearing on our future bond with our child, and how to be with a baby, a child, an adolescent or an adult child so you can have a relationship with them that is a source of strength to them and satisfaction to you. (8)

Saya akan membahas perilaku pada masa kehamilan yang dapat memengaruhi ikatan kita dengan anak kita. Dan bagaimana hubungan saat mereka bayi, balita, remaja, atau pra-

dewasa sehingga anda dapat memiliki hubungan yang dapat menjadi sumber kekuatan bagi mereka dan kepuasan bagi anda. (5)

Acceptability dealt with how natural and culturally appropriate the translation was within the linguistic system of the target language. In the example “*Saya akan berusaha menurunkan sikap saya selama kehamilan...*”, the translation aligned with Indonesian grammar and style but slightly lacked idiomatic fluency. The phrase “*menurunkan sikap*” was not entirely natural, which slightly affected both the linguistic acceptability and the overall coherence of the text at the discourse level. Nevertheless, the translator maintained adequate cohesion through consistent reference and verb use, allowed the message to remain contextually relevant. The score of 2.7 reflected a translation that was acceptable and understandable but could have been improved by refining lexical choice to strengthen coherence and natural flow.

The third aspect examined was readability, which related to how easily the target readers could understand and process the translated text. This aspect focused on sentence clarity, lexical simplicity, and overall text organization to ensure smooth comprehension and effective communication of ideas. Nurmalasari et al. (2023), which emphasized that translators can enhance readability and comprehension by employing simple sentence structures and easily understandable words for readers. Moreover, readability also refers to the reader's capacity to comprehend the text and is often assessed through various readability indexes (Sembiring, 2025).

The following example illustrated how readability was realized in the translation.

You may need to practise dealing with your own emotions, not repressing them or becoming hysterical but acknowledging how you feel and finding ways of soothing yourself or accepting help from those around you to help you soothe yourself. (60)

Mungkin anda perlu latihan menghadapi emosi-emosi anda sendiri. Bukan untuk menekannya atau menjadikannya berlebihan, melainkan mengakui perasaan itu dan mencari jalan untuk menenangkan diri sendiri atau menerima bantuan dari orang-orang di sekitar anda. (82)

Readability concerned how easily the target audience could understand and follow the translation. In the example “*Anda perlu berlatih*

menangani emosi anda sendiri...”, the translation was clear, logical, and coherent. The sentence structure was well-organized, and cohesive devices such as conjunctions “*bukan untuk menekan atau menyangkalnya*” contributed to a smooth flow of information. The overall coherence of ideas enabled readers to comprehend the intended psychological advice effectively. The score of 2.9 suggested that the text achieved good readability with only minor complexity due to long clauses.

Based on those three parameters, the translation could still be categorized as good, but it could have been improved further by refining expressions to better match the cultural and linguistic norms of the target audience. Adjustments in terminology, sentence flow, and cultural adaptation could have raised the acceptability score to match accuracy and readability, thus enhancing the overall quality. Efendi et al. (2024) revealed that careful adaptation of linguistic and cultural elements can significantly enhance the overall effectiveness and readability of translated texts. Overall, it demonstrated that strategic linguistics and cultural adjustments were essential in achieving a translation that was not only accurate but also coherent and engaging for the readers.

CONCLUSION

This study examined sentence level transpositions in *The Book You Wish Your Parents Had Read* and their impact on translation quality, focusing on accuracy, acceptability, and readability. The findings revealed that downward rank transpositions were far more prevalent than upward rank transpositions, indicating the translator’s consistent effort to simplify complex syntactic structures from the source language into more concise and accessible forms in the target language. Such structural adjustments effectively enhanced clarity and coherence while preserving the original meaning.

The translation achieved high scores in both accuracy (2.9) and readability (2.9), suggesting that the intended meaning was successfully conveyed and the text was generally easy to comprehend for the target audience. However, the lower score in acceptability (2.7) indicated that certain lexical choices and syntactic patterns did not fully align with the linguistic conventions and cultural norms of the target language, resulting in occasional expressions that sounded less natural to native readers.

Overall, with an average score of 2.8, the translation fell into the “good” quality category according to the applied assessment model. Nevertheless, improvements could be made by refining vocabulary choices, enhancing idiomatic expressions, and adapting sentence structures to better reflect the stylistic norms of the target language. By addressing these areas, the acceptability of the translation could be raised to match its strong accuracy and readability, thereby ensuring both semantic fidelity and cultural appropriateness.

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