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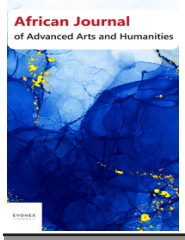

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RESEARCH ARTICLE **Section:** *Literature, Linguistics & Criticism*

Category Shifts in English–Indonesian Subtitling: A Catfordian Analysis of Elemental: Forces of Nature

Annisa Fadilah[1*], Maria Kristin Silaen[2], Palentina Hutahaean[3], Herman Herman[4], Magdalena Ngongo[5], Sutarno Sutarno[6]

[1,2,3,4]Department of English Education, Universitas HKBP Nommensen Pematangsiantar, Indonesia

[5]Department of English Education, Universitas Artha Wacana Christian, Indonesia

[6]Department of International Marketing Management, Politeknik Cendana, Indonesia

*Correspondence: annisafadila2019@gmail.com

Abstract

This study aims to investigate category shifts in the English–Indonesian subtitle translation of the animated film Elemental: Forces of Nature. This study uses a descriptive qualitative research design supported by quantitative data. The qualitative approach is applied to describe and explain the types of category shifts found in the subtitle translation, while the quantitative approach is used to calculate the frequency and percentage of each type of shift. This combination allows the study to provide both descriptive explanations and numerical data regarding category shifts in subtitle translation. The data were obtained from the English dialogues and their Indonesian subtitles. A total of 110 data containing category shifts were selected and analyzed based on Catford's (1965) theory of translation shifts, focusing on unit shift, structure shift, intra-system shift, and word class shift. The findings show that all four types of category shifts occur in the subtitle translation. Unit shift is the most dominant type, occurring in 63 data (57.27%), followed by structure shift with 28 data (25.45%), intra-system shift with 14 data (12.73%), and word class shift with 5 data (4.55%). These shifts occur due to differences between the linguistic systems of English and Indonesian, as well as technical constraints in subtitle translation, such as limited space, timing, and readability. In conclusion, category shifts play an important role in producing subtitle translations that are natural, concise, and easily understood by the target audience.

Keywords: Category Shift, Intra-System Shift, Structure Shift, Unit Shift, Word Classes.

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Introduction

Language is an essential role in human life because it functions as the primary means of communication. Through language, people are able to express ideas, thoughts, emotions, and intentions in both spoken and written forms. Language also allows individuals to interact with others, share information, and build social relationships in society. In everyday life, communication cannot be separated from language since almost all human activities involve the exchange of messages. According to Sapir (1921), language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires by means of voluntarily produced symbols. This definition shows that language is not only a system of symbols but also a meaningful medium that reflects human thinking and culture. Therefore, language is crucial in helping people understand one another and avoid miscommunication.

Language skills consist of four main components: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These skills are closely related and support each other in the communication process. Listening and reading are categorized as receptive skills, while speaking and writing are productive skills. Among these skills, speaking and writing are mainly used for communication because they allow individuals to actively express ideas, opinions, and information to others. Effective communication requires the appropriate use of these language skills, especially in situations involving more than one language.

People around the world use different languages, which often creates difficulties in cross-cultural communication. Language differences may lead to misunderstanding and limit access to information. To overcome these barriers, translation becomes necessary. Translation helps transfer meaning from one language to another so that messages can be understood by a wider audience. Through translation, people can access foreign information, knowledge, and entertainment more easily.

Translation plays an essential role in connecting people from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds (Suardana et al., 2022; Herman et al., 2024). In its basic sense, translation is defined as the replacement of textual material in one language by equivalent textual material in another language (Catford, 1965; Bassnett, 1980). This definition emphasizes that translation involves more than a simple word-for-word substitution. Instead, it requires the translator to transfer meaning from the source language (SL) into the target language (TL) in a way that is acceptable and understandable for the target audience (Sinambela et al., 2024). As Basnett (1980) points out, translation aims to achieve equivalence of meaning between the SL and TL, even though the grammatical structures of the two languages may differ (Ngongo et al., 2024). Therefore, meaning takes priority over form in order to avoid distortion, ambiguity, or misinterpretation in the translated text.

In audiovisual media such as movies, translation is commonly presented in the form of subtitles. Subtitling is a type of translation that transfers spoken dialogue into written text displayed on the screen. Subtitles help viewers understand the storyline, character interactions, and messages conveyed in the movie, especially when the audience does not understand the original language (De Silva et al., 2025). As movies are consumed by audiences from different linguistic backgrounds, subtitles play an important role in making films accessible and enjoyable.

Analyzing subtitle translation is important because subtitle translation involves specific technical constraints, such as limited screen space and display time. Translators are required to shorten sentences, simplify expressions, and adjust linguistic forms without changing the intended meaning. These constraints often result in changes in grammatical structure during the translation process. By analyzing subtitle translation, researchers can understand how translators apply strategies to maintain clarity, naturalness, and meaning equivalence in the target language.

One important concept related to translation strategies is translation shift. According to Catford (1965), translation shifts occur when changes happen between the source language and the target language at different linguistic levels. One major type of translation shift is category shift, which includes structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift. Category shifts frequently occur in English–Indonesian translation due to differences in grammatical systems between the two languages. English often uses compact linguistic forms such as phrasal verbs and compound words, while Indonesian tends to use more explicit or flexible constructions to express similar meanings. As a result, translators apply category shifts to maintain meaning equivalence while ensuring that subtitles remain natural and readable.

Previous studies have shown that category shifts are commonly used as translation strategies to achieve equivalence. Muamaroh and Hanggraningtyas (2022) found that translation shifts were influenced by differences in linguistic systems and were applied to maintain meaning in translated texts. However, their study focuses on literary translation, while research on category shifts in subtitle translation, especially in animated movies, is still limited.

Therefore, this study aims to analyze the types of category shifts found in the English–Indonesian subtitle translation of Elemental: Forces of Nature. Specifically, the study focuses on structure shifts, class shifts, unit shifts, and intra-system shifts, as well as identifying the most dominant type of category shift used in the translation. By examining these shifts, this study seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of how translators adapt linguistic forms in subtitle translation to achieve clarity, naturalness, and meaning equivalence.

Based on the explanation above, this study focuses on the problems related to category shifts in subtitle translation. Differences in grammatical systems between English and Indonesian often cause changes in linguistic forms when subtitles are translated. Therefore, this research aims to identify the types of category shifts found in the English–Indonesian subtitle translation of Elemental: Forces of Nature, including structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift. In addition, this study seeks to explain how these category shifts are applied by the translator to maintain meaning equivalence while adapting to the technical constraints of subtitling. Finally, this research also addresses the problem of determining which type of category shift is most dominantly used in the subtitle translation of the movie.

Literature Review

Translation

Translation is an essential activity that enables communication between speakers of different languages. In general, translation can be understood as the process of transferring meaning from a source language (SL) to a target language (TL). Catford (1965) defines translation as the replacement of textual material in one language by equivalent textual material in another language. This definition emphasizes that translation is not merely a word-for-word process, but an effort to achieve equivalence of meaning (Sipayung et al., 2026). Therefore, translators must consider linguistic structure, context, and meaning to ensure that the message in the SL is accurately conveyed in the TL. In this sense, translation prioritizes communicative effectiveness rather than formal similarity.

Translation Strategies and Techniques

In the translation process, translators often apply certain strategies and techniques to deal with differences between languages. These strategies are used to maintain meaning equivalence when direct translation is not possible. According to Munday (2000), translation involves decision-making processes that require translators to adjust linguistic forms based on context and communicative goals (Yanti et al., 2026). As a result, translators may restructure sentences, change grammatical forms, or modify expressions to make the translation acceptable in the target language.

Importance of Translation

Translation plays an important role in global communication, especially in the modern digital era. Through translation, information, culture, and entertainment can be accessed by wider audiences across linguistic boundaries. In audiovisual media, translation allows viewers to understand foreign films and television programs without knowing the original language (Herman et al., 2026). Therefore, effective translation is necessary to ensure that messages are conveyed clearly and naturally to the target audience.

Translation Shifts

The concept of translation shift plays an important role in explaining changes that occur during the translation process. Catford (1965) introduces the term "shift" to describe departures from formal correspondence between the SL and TL. Shifts occur when equivalence cannot be achieved through direct structural similarity due to differences in linguistic systems (Munthe et al., 2026).

Catford (1965) distinguishes two main types of translation shifts, namely level shift and category shift. Level shift refers to changes between grammar and lexis, while category shift involves grammatical changes

within the language system. Category shifts are further classified into four types: structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra-system shift (Budi, 2022). These categories provide a clear framework for analyzing translation changes, particularly in language pairs with different grammatical structures, such as English and Indonesian.

Hatim and Munday (2004) argue that translation shifts should not be viewed as errors, but as strategic choices made by translators to achieve communicative equivalence. According to them, shifts occur because translators aim to produce natural and acceptable translations in the target language. This perspective supports the idea that translation shifts are an essential part of the translation process.

Subtitle Translation

Subtitle translation, or subtitling, is a type of audiovisual translation that involves transferring spoken dialogue into written text displayed on screen. Hatim (2001) defines subtitling as a form of language transfer used in translating audiovisual media such as films and television programs. Unlike written translation, subtitling is constrained by technical limitations, including limited screen space, timing, and audience reading speed.

Due to these constraints, subtitle translators are often required to condense information and adjust linguistic forms. These conditions frequently lead to the use of translation shifts as a strategy to maintain clarity, readability, and naturalness in the target language. Therefore, subtitle translation provides a relevant context for examining how category shifts function in practical translation settings.

Previous Studies on Translation Shifts

Several previous studies have examined translation shifts in various types of texts. Heliawan (2019) found that unit shifts frequently occur in English–Indonesian translation, especially in cases where words are translated into phrases or vice versa. His study suggests that changes in linguistic units are often necessary to achieve meaning equivalence.

In addition, Muamaroh and Hanggraningtyas (2022) investigated translation shifts and equivalence in literary texts and found that shifts were influenced by differences in linguistic systems between the SL and TL. Their findings indicate that translation shifts are closely related to the pursuit of dynamic equivalence. These studies demonstrate that translation shifts are commonly used across different genres and serve as effective strategies for producing natural and meaningful translations.

Relevance of the Present Study

Based on the reviewed literature, it can be concluded that translation shifts play a significant role in achieving equivalence, particularly in subtitle translation. However, many previous studies have focused on literary texts or non-animated audiovisual content. Therefore, this study contributes to translation studies by analyzing category shifts in the English–Indonesian subtitle translation of the animated film *Elemental: Forces of Nature*. By applying Catford's theory, this study aims to provide a deeper understanding of how category shifts function in subtitle translation and how they help translators produce clear, natural, and accessible subtitles for a wide audience.

Research Method

This study uses a descriptive qualitative research design supported by quantitative data. The qualitative approach is applied to describe and explain the types of category shifts found in the subtitle translation, while the quantitative approach is used to calculate the frequency and percentage of each type of shift. This combination allows the study to provide both descriptive explanation and numerical data regarding category shifts in subtitle translation.

Data Source of the Research

The data source of this research is the English and Indonesian subtitles of the animated movie Elemental: Forces of Nature. The English subtitles serve as the source language (SL), while the Indonesian subtitles serve as the target language (TL). The subtitles were taken from a reliable subtitle source used for academic purposes.

The movie was selected because it contains expressive dialogue and requires linguistic adjustments in subtitle translation. The movie was accessed through an official streaming platform, namely Google TV, to ensure the authenticity and legality of the data. The platform can be accessed at https://tv.google.com/share/title/Elemental:%20Forces%20of%20Nature?m=Cg0vZy8xMXJ6d2tuNGdq

Instrument of the Research

The main instrument of this research is the researcher herself, as the data were analyzed manually. To support the analysis, several tools were used, including the subtitle script, transkrip apps, a laptop, and a note-taking sheet to classify the data based on the types of category shifts proposed by Catford (1965).

Data Collection Technique

The data were collected through several steps. First, the researcher watched the movie repeatedly to understand the context of the dialogue. Second, the English subtitles were compared with their Indonesian translations. Third, subtitle pairs that showed changes in linguistic form between the SL and TL were identified and selected. From the entire subtitle corpus, 110 subtitle pairs containing category shifts were collected as the data of this study.

Data Analysis Technique

The data analysis was conducted based on Catford's (1965) theory of translation shifts, focusing on category shifts, namely unit shift, structure shift, intra-system shift, and word class shift. The analysis was carried out in two stages. First, qualitative analysis was used to describe and explain each type of category shift found in the data. Second, quantitative analysis was applied to calculate the frequency and percentage of each type of shift. The results were then presented in tables and descriptive explanations to support the findings of the study.

Data Analysis

Unit Shift

Unit shift refers to a change in rank between the source language (SL) and the target language (TL), such as from word to phrase, phrase to word, or clause to word. In this study, **63 out of 110 data** (**57.27%**) were classified as unit shifts, making this category the most dominant.

Table 2. Examples of Unit Shift

Source Language (SL)	Target Language (TL)
Fireball	Bola api
Wake up	Bangun
Get back	Kembali
In love with you	Mencintaimu
Move out	Pindah

The examples above illustrate how English expressions are frequently translated into Indonesian using different unit ranks. Due to differences in linguistic structure, English often employs compound words and phrasal verbs, while Indonesian tends to use single words or phrases with affixation. For instance;

Data 1: Unit Shift

SL: fireball

TL: bola api

In data 1, the English compound noun "fireball" is translated into the noun phrase "bola api", indicating a shift from a single word into a phrase.

Data 2: Unit Shift

SL: wake up

TL: bangun

In data 2, the English phrasal verb "wake up" is translated as "bangun", showing a reduction from a phrase to a single verb in Indonesian.

Data 3: Unit Shift

SL: in love with you

TL: mencintaimu

In Data 3, the English phrase in love with you is translated into the single verb mencintaimu, which includes affixation and pronominal attachment. This represents a unit shift from a phrase to a word while maintaining the intended meaning.

The high frequency of unit shifts suggests that English and Indonesian differ significantly in how meaning is packaged into linguistic units. English often uses compact forms such as phrasal verbs and compound words, whereas Indonesian tends to express meaning more explicitly through phrases or affixed forms. In subtitle translation, this difference becomes more prominent due to technical constraints such as limited screen space and reading time. As a result, translators frequently adjust unit ranks to produce subtitles that are concise, natural, and easy to read.

This finding supports Catford's (1965) view that shifts occur when formal correspondence between the SL and TL cannot be maintained. It also aligns with Heliawan's (2019) argument that translation may involve changes in form as long as the meaning remains equivalent. Therefore, unit shifts in this study function as an effective strategy to maintain meaning equivalence while adapting the dialogue to subtitle constraints.

Structure Shift

Structure shift involves changes in grammatical structure between the SL and TL. Based on the analysis, **28 data (25.45%)** were identified as structure shifts, making this category the second most frequent type of shift found in the data.

Table 2. Examples of Structure Shift

Source Language (SL)	Target Language (TL)
My dad's dream	Mimpi ayahku
Mother's dying wish	Keinginan terakhir ibuku
True love	Cinta sejati
Amazing opportunity	Kesempatan luar biasa
Nice hat	Topi yang bagus

Structure shifts found in this study demonstrate how grammatical reorganization is necessary when translating between languages with different syntactic patterns. English and Indonesian differ significantly in terms of possessive constructions, modifier placement, and phrase structure. These differences make structure shifts unavoidable in subtitle translation.

Data 4: Structure Shift
SL: My dad's dream
TL: Mimpi ayahku

In Data 4, the English possessive noun phrase my dad's dream is translated into mimpi ayahku. This shift involves a change in grammatical structure, where the English possessive marker ('s) is replaced by a possessive pronoun suffix (-ku) in Indonesian.

Data 5: Structure Shift
SL: Mother's dying wish
TL: Keinginan terakhir ibuku

In Data 5, the English noun phrase mother's dying wish undergoes structural reorganization in Indonesian. The possessive form and modifier order are adjusted to fit Indonesian syntactic rules, resulting in keinginan terakhir ibuku. This indicates a structure shift due to differences in noun phrase formation.

Data 6: Structure Shift
SL: True love
TL: Cinta sejati

In Data 6, the adjective–noun order in English (true love) is translated into a noun–adjective structure (cinta sejati) in Indonesian. This change reflects a structural shift influenced by differences in modifier placement between the two languages.

Structure shifts found in this study indicate that grammatical reorganization is often necessary when translating between English and Indonesian. Such shifts help ensure that the translated text sounds natural and conforms to the syntactic norms of the target language, particularly in subtitle translation where clarity and brevity are essential.

Intra-system Shift

Intra-system shift occurs when changes take place within the same grammatical system, such as number or plurality. In this study, **14 data (12.73%)** were classified as intra-system shifts.

Table 3. Examples of Intra-system Shift

Source Language (SL)	Target Language (TL)
Limbs	Dahan
Branches	Ranting
Customers	Pelanggan
Policies	Aturan
Friends	Teman

Intra-system shifts in this study mainly involve changes in number, particularly the translation of plural nouns into singular or unmarked forms in Indonesian. Although both English and Indonesian possess systems of plurality, they differ in how plurality is expressed and emphasized.

Data 7: Intra-system Shift

SL: customers

TL: pelanggan

In Data 7, the plural noun customers in the source language is translated into the unmarked form pelanggan in Indonesian. This indicates an intra-system shift within the grammatical system of number, where plurality in English is explicitly marked by the suffix -s, while Indonesian does not require morphological marking to express plural meaning.

Data 8: Intra-system Shift

SL: policies

TL: aturan

In Data 8, the English plural noun policies is rendered as aturan in the target language. Although both languages share the same grammatical system of number, Indonesian commonly expresses plurality implicitly through context. Therefore, the plural form in the source language is translated into an unmarked form in the target language, resulting in an intra-system shift.

From a subtitle translation perspective, intra-system shifts contribute to brevity and clarity. Explicit plural marking in Indonesian subtitles may result in longer expressions that are unnecessary for comprehension. Therefore, intra-system shifts function as a strategy to maintain naturalness and efficiency while still conveying the intended message.

Word Classes Shift

Word class shift involves a change in grammatical category, such as from verb to noun or adjective to verb. In this study, **5 data (4.55%)** were identified as word class shifts, making this category the least frequent.

Table 3. Examples of Word Classes Shift

Source Language (SL)	Target Language (TL)
Watch it	Hati-hati
Itches	Gatal
Retired	Pensiun

Although word class shifts occur less frequently than other types of category shifts, they play an important role in achieving pragmatic equivalence. Word class shifts are often applied when a direct grammatical equivalent is unavailable or sounds unnatural in the target language.

Data 9: Word Classes

SL: itches

TL: gatal

In data 9, the English verb "itches" is translated into the Indonesian adjective "gatal." which functions as an adjective or interjection in Indonesian. These shifts help the translation sound more natural and understandable for the target audience while still keeping the original meaning.

Data 10: Word Classes
SL: retired
TL: pensiun

In data 10, the word "retired" (an adjective or past participle) is translated into "pensiun," which can function as a noun or a verb in Indonesian.

These findings indicate that word class shifts require a higher level of translator awareness, as they involve deeper semantic and contextual considerations. Although limited in number, word class shifts contribute significantly to the overall effectiveness of subtitle translation.

Overall, the findings demonstrate that category shifts are commonly applied in the English–Indonesian subtitle translation of Elemental: Forces of Nature to maintain meaning equivalence and naturalness. Each type of shift are unit shift, structure shift, intra-system shift, and word class shift plays a specific role in adapting English expressions into Indonesian within the technical constraints of subtitling. These results provide a descriptive overview of how linguistic changes occur in the translation process and serve as the basis for further interpretation in the discussion section.

Results

This section presents the findings and discussion of category shifts identified in the English–Indonesian subtitle translation of the animated film *Elemental: Forces of Nature*. Based on the analysis, a total of **110 data** containing category shifts were identified. The data were classified into four types of category shifts as proposed by Catford (1965), namely *unit shift, structure shift, intra-system shift, and word class shift*. The findings indicate that all four types of category shifts occur in the subtitle translation of the film, with varying frequencies and functions. The distribution of the data shows that **unit shift** is the most dominant type, followed by **structure shift, intra-system shift, and word class shift.** This distribution suggests that changes in linguistic units and grammatical structures are common strategies used by translators to adapt English dialogue into natural and readable Indonesian subtitles.

Table 1. Frequency and Percentage of Category Shift

No	Category Shift	Frequency	Percentage
1	**Unit Shift**	**63**	**57.27%**
2	**Structure Shift**	**28**	**25.45%**
3	**Intra-system Shift**	**14**	**12.73%**
4	**Word Classes Shift**	**5**	**4.55%**
	Total	**110**	**100%**

(Percentage = Frequency : 110 x 100)

The table above clearly shows that more than half of the total data consist of unit shifts. This indicates that changes in linguistic rank are the most frequently applied strategy in the English–Indonesian subtitle translation of *Elemental: Forces of Nature*. Examples of each category shift are presented in the following tables.

Discussion

Overall, the findings of this study confirm that category shifts are closely related to the technical constraints of subtitle translation, including limited screen space, timing, and audience reading speed. These constraints require translators to convey meaning efficiently within a short time frame, which often makes direct or literal translation impractical. As a result, translators must carefully adjust linguistic forms to ensure that the subtitles remain readable and understandable without losing the intended meaning of the source text. This condition supports Catford's (1965) argument that shifts occur when formal correspondence between the source language and the target language cannot be maintained.

The dominance of unit shift and structure shift in this study indicates that grammatical adaptation plays a more significant role than lexical substitution in English–Indonesian subtitle translation. Unit shifts frequently occur because English and Indonesian differ in how meaning is organized into linguistic units. English often employs compact expressions such as phrasal verbs or compound nouns, while Indonesian tends to use simpler or more explicit forms.

Structure shifts, meanwhile, are mainly influenced by differences in grammatical patterns, such as possessive constructions and adjective noun order. These findings show that translators prioritize grammatical naturalness in the target language to ensure audience comprehension.

This result aligns with Hatim and Munday's (2004) view that translation shifts are not merely changes in form, but strategic decisions aimed at achieving communicative equivalence. Rather than strictly preserving the original structure, translators focus on how meaning can be effectively delivered to the target audience. In subtitle translation, this approach is especially important because viewers must read the subtitles quickly while simultaneously processing visual and auditory information.

Furthermore, the presence of intra-system shifts reflects systemic differences between English and Indonesian, particularly in the expression of plurality. Indonesian often omits explicit plural markers when the meaning can be inferred from context, which contributes to subtitle conciseness. Although word class shifts occur less frequently, they demonstrate the translator's flexibility in adapting expressions to convey pragmatic meaning when direct grammatical equivalence is unavailable.

The findings indicate that category shifts do not distort meaning, but instead facilitate effective communication between the source text and the target audience. By applying appropriate shifts, translators are able to maintain meaning equivalence while adapting the dialogue to linguistic norms and subtitle constraints. This is particularly important in animated films like Elemental: Forces of Nature, which target a wide audience, including children and families. Therefore, category shifts play a crucial role in producing subtitles that are natural, concise, and accessible.

Previous studies have shown that category shifts are commonly used as translation strategies to achieve equivalence. Muamaroh and Hanggraningtyas (2022) found that translation shifts were influenced by differences in linguistic systems and were applied to maintain meaning in translated texts. However, their study focuses on literary translation, while research on category shifts in subtitle translation, especially in animated movies, is still limited.

Conclusion

This study investigates category shifts in the English–Indonesian subtitle translation of the animated film Elemental: Forces of Nature using Catford's (1965) theory of translation shifts. The analysis focuses on four types of category shifts, namely unit shift, structure shift, intra-system shift, and word class shift. Based on the findings, a total of 110 data containing category shifts were identified, indicating that category shifts are a common and significant feature in subtitle translation from English into Indonesian.

The results reveal that unit shift is the most dominant type of category shift, accounting for 57.27% of the total data. This dominance suggests that changes in linguistic rank are frequently required to adapt English expressions into concise and natural Indonesian subtitles. English often uses compact forms such as phrasal verbs and compound words, while Indonesian tends to express meaning through simpler or more explicit forms. Therefore, unit shifts function as an effective strategy to maintain meaning equivalence while addressing the technical constraints of subtitle translation, such as limited space and reading time.

Structure shift is the second most frequent type, representing 25.45% of the data. These shifts mainly occur due to differences in grammatical structures between English and Indonesian, including possessive constructions and adjective noun order. Structure shifts help ensure that the translated subtitles follow Indonesian grammatical norms and sound natural to the target audience. Without such shifts, the subtitles would appear awkward and difficult to understand.

Intra-system shift, which accounts for 12.73%, reflects differences within the grammatical systems of the two languages, particularly in the expression of plurality. Indonesian often omits explicit plural markers when the meaning can be understood from context. As a result, intra-system shifts contribute to subtitle clarity and efficiency without causing loss of meaning. Meanwhile, word class shift, although the least frequent at 4.55%, plays an important role in conveying pragmatic meaning when direct grammatical equivalence is unavailable. These shifts demonstrate the translator's flexibility in adapting expressions to suit Indonesian usage.

Overall, the findings confirm that category shifts are not translation errors, but necessary and strategic adjustments influenced by linguistic differences and subtitle constraints. The combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches allows this study to provide both descriptive explanations and statistical evidence

regarding how category shifts occur and function in subtitle translation. This study contributes to translation studies by highlighting the importance of category shifts in producing subtitles that are natural, readable, and accessible for a wide audience.

Despite its contributions, this study has limitations, as it focuses on a single animated film and only examines category shifts based on Catford's theory. Future research may explore other types of translation shifts, include different genres or languages, or apply alternative theoretical frameworks to gain a broader understanding of subtitle translation strategies.

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