

**Analysis of the Translation Methods of Edgar Allan Poe's Short Story  
'The Tell-Tale Heart' Based on Newmark's Theory**

**\*Noviyanti Dwianisa Putri Yulitha**  
English Literature Department, Universitas Terbuka, Indonesia  
\*Corresponding author, Email : [noviyantidwianisa@gmail.com](mailto:noviyantidwianisa@gmail.com)

ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Received: 20-06-2024 Accepted: 08-07-2024 Published: 10-07-2024 Volume: 2 Issue: 1 DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.61276/loquela.v1i2.45">https://doi.org/10.61276/loquela.v1i2.45</a>	This research analyses the translation methods used by Harum Wibowo in translating Edgar Allan Poe's short story "The Tell-Tale Heart" based on Peter Newmark's translation theory. This research identifies and assesses the translation methods utilized and examines their alignment with Newmark's theory, including eight translation methods: word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, communicative translation, semantic translation, adaptation, and free translation. The research employs a descriptive qualitative method with content analysis techniques. The findings indicate that the translator tends to use communicative translation methods to maintain the horror nuances and Poe's distinctive language style. Additionally, some parts of the text show the use of modulation and transposition procedure to align with the target culture's context. This research is anticipated to enhance the understanding of the application of Newmark's theory in literary translation and assist translators in selecting appropriate methods to preserve the meaning and emotional impact of translated texts.
<b>KEYWORDS</b>  <i>short story, translation, translation methods</i>	





## Introduction

Short stories, as one of the forms of narrative texts, play a significant role in conveying compact yet profound narratives through the use of effective and symbolic language. Narrative texts, in general, are characterized by their structure involving plot, characters, setting, and themes that synergize to create a cohesive and meaningful reading experience. In the context of translation, short stories present particular challenges because every narrative element must be translated not only linguistically but also semiotically, by considering the signs and symbols inherent in both the source and target cultures. The translation process involves various semiotic modes, including verbal and visual texts, as well as cultural contexts, all of which must be taken into account to maintain the integrity and authenticity of the story in the target culture language. It is essential to have a profound understanding of narrative techniques and cultural symbolism to produce translations that are not only linguistically accurate but also rich in meaning and nuances as translators.

Literary translation represents one of the most intricate areas within translation studies. This complexity stems from the diverse cultural, linguistic, and stylistic aspects present in literary works. According to Basil Hatim and Ian Mason, translation involves the transfer of messages between languages, requiring careful consideration of factors such as context, culture, and communicative intent. They argue that translation is not simply a matter of replacing words from the source language with those in the target language but also demands a profound comprehension of the text's meaning and function in both languages (Hatim & Mason, 1990).

Meanwhile, Hatim and Munday (2004) characterize translation as the process of conveying meaning from one language to another. This process necessitates that the translator account for both the linguistic and cultural elements of the original text, as well as the communicative purpose in the target language. They emphasize that translation is a complex activity requiring a deep understanding of context, language nuances, and the dynamics gap between the source text (ST) and the target text (TT).

Edgar Allan Poe, an American writer famous for his Gothic works, has produced numerous short stories filled with psychological nuances and horror atmospheres. One of his renowned works is "The Tell-Tale Heart". This short story not only challenges readers with its gripping plot but also challenges translators to maintain the original nuances, style, and messages in the target language.



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Literary translation is one of the disciplines in translation that requires special attention to cultural nuances, language style, and emotional effects. Edgar Allan Poe, as a master of short stories, creates works with narrative complexity and a strong emotional atmosphere. One of his most famous works, "The Tell-Tale Heart," depicts profound psychological intensity and horror, challenging translators to preserve this essence in the target language (TL).

Harum Wibowo is one of the translators who has translated this short story into Indonesian. Given the importance of maintaining the integrity of literary texts, an analysis of the translation methods used by Wibowo becomes crucial. Peter Newmark, a prominent expert in the field of translation, presents eight translation methods that provide a theoretical framework for this analysis. By understanding the methods used, we can evaluate how the original nuances and emotional effects of this short story are preserved in its translation.

The translation of narrative text such as "The Tell-Tale Heart" requires a careful and methodical approach to ensure that the translation does not lose its original meaning and beauty. In this context, the translation theory articulated by Peter Newmark becomes highly relevant. Newmark (1988: 45-47) introduces several translation methods that can be employed to achieve a balance between fidelity to the source text and ensuring the readability of the target text (TT). These methods, including word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, communicative translation, semantic translation, adaptation, and free translation, provide a useful framework for translators to address various challenges that arise in the process of literary translation.

This research aims to analyze how the translation methods proposed by Newmark are applied in the translation of the short story "The Tell-Tale Heart". Through this analysis, it is hoped to provide insights into the effectiveness of these methods in maintaining the integrity of the original text and how these methods can be used to address challenges encountered in the translation of literary works. This study also aims to identify the obstacles that arise during the translation process and provide recommendations for translators working in this field.

Therefore, this research aims to offer insights into the realm of literary translation among which providing practical guidance for translators in facing challenges related to the translation of works by Edgar Allan Poe and other literary texts.

Peter Newmark, a prominent figure in translation studies, proposed eight distinct methods of translation in his influential 1988 work. These methods



encompass a range of approaches from highly literal to more interpretative techniques, each with unique strengths and challenges. This literature review provides an overview of these methods, along with related translation procedures, to offer a comprehensive understanding of Newmark's contributions to the field.

### Translation Methods

1. **Word-for-Word Translation:** Word-for-word translation involves translating the text exactly as it appears in the source language, without considering context or syntax. This method is often used for preliminary analysis to understand the basic meaning of the source text.
2. **Literal Translation:** Literal translation goes beyond word-for-word translation by translating the text according to the grammatical rules of the target language while maintaining the original word order as closely as possible. This method is useful for texts where direct translation can still convey the correct meaning.
3. **Faithful Translation:** Faithful translation attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original text within the constraints of the target language's grammatical structure. This method is often used for texts where the exact meaning must be preserved.
4. **Semantic Translation:** Semantic translation is similar to faithful translation but places greater emphasis on the aesthetic and expressive qualities of the source text. This method aims to maintain the author's intended meaning while making the text more readable and natural in the target language.
5. **Adaptation:** Adaptation is the freest form of translation and is often used for plays, poetry, and other forms of literature where cultural and contextual changes are necessary. This method involves significant reworking of the original text to fit the cultural context of the target language.
6. **Free Translation:** Free translation focuses on conveying the general meaning of the original text without adhering strictly to the form or exact words of the source language. This method prioritizes the overall sense and readability of the translated text over literal accuracy.
7. **Idiomatic Translation:** Idiomatic translation uses idiomatic expressions of the target language to convey the meaning of the source text. This method aims to produce a translation that sounds natural and fluent to native speakers of the target language.



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8. **Communicative Translation:** Communicative translation strives to produce the same effect on the target audience as the original text did on the source audience. This method focuses on readability and comprehensibility, often at the expense of literal accuracy.

To implement these methods effectively, Newmark also outlined several translation procedures:

1. **Naturalisation:** This procedure involves adapting the source language word first to the normal pronunciation, then to the normal morphology of the target language. This helps in making foreign terms more accessible to the target audience.
2. **Modulation:** Modulation changes the form of the text by altering the semantics and point of view. This can include changes from active to passive voice, shifts in perspective, or adjustments in tone to better suit the target language's norms.
3. **Cultural Equivalent:** Cultural equivalence replaces a cultural term in the source language with a term in the target language that holds similar cultural significance. This helps in maintaining the cultural context and relevance of the text.
4. **Transposition:** Transposition involves changing the grammatical structure of the source text to fit the syntax and grammar of the target language. This procedure is necessary when direct translation would result in awkward or ungrammatical sentences.
5. **Addition:** Addition involves including extra information or explanatory notes in the translation to clarify the meaning of the source text. This is often used when the original text contains culturally specific references that may not be understood by the target audience.
6. **Reduction:** Reduction involves omitting certain elements of the source text that may be redundant or unnecessary in the target language. This helps in making the translated text more concise and readable.

Peter Newmark's translation methods and procedures provide a structured framework for translators to approach different types of texts and translation challenges. By combining various methods and procedures, translators can produce translations that are accurate, culturally relevant, and stylistically appropriate for the target audience.

## Methods of Research



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This study will adopt a descriptive-analytical approach to analyze the translation methods of the short story by Edgar Allan Poe, which is included in his collection of works, based on Peter Newmark's translation theory. The study will utilize the text in PDF format to access the short story. The initial step of the research will involve collecting the original English text of the short story from the PDF book, as well as its translation into the target language. Subsequently, the research will focus on analyzing strategies of the translation employed to impart the meaning of the short story from the original language to the target language. A comparative analysis between the original text and the translation will be conducted, taking into account Newmark's principles of translation, such as semantic translation and stylistic translation. It is expected that through this method, the study will provide a deeper understanding of the literary translation process and its implications for the comprehension and appreciation of the literary work.

## **Results and Discussion**

### **Results**

The process of translation is intricate and multi-dimensional, frequently presenting a range of challenges. These difficulties usually arise due to linguistic, cultural, and specific textual differences between the source and target languages. Issues can include finding suitable equivalents for words or phrases, dealing with polysemous words, and capturing cultural nuances that may not have direct equivalents. Such challenges were also evident in the translation of the short story "The Tell-Tale Heart" when examined using Newmark's translation theory. The research highlighted various strategies employed in the Indonesian version of the story, such as semantic translation and stylistic adaptation, which were essential for preserving the original text's meaning and emotional impact. Comparative analysis revealed notable differences in lexical choices, syntactic structures, and cultural nuances between the source and target texts. These findings underscore the importance of a comprehensive understanding of both languages and their cultural contexts to produce accurate and effective translations. The key data and results from the research are summarized in the discussion.

### **Discussion**

In the discussion of the research method proposed for analyzing the translation method of Edgar Allan Poe's short story "The Tell-Tale Heart" based on Newmark's theory, it is crucial to consider the role of the translator's perspective and expertise in selecting appropriate methods or techniques during



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the translation process. Cultural competence assumes a significant role in ensuring the accuracy of translation, as it allows the translator to grasp the nuances and cultural references embedded within the original text. Therefore, translators with extensive cross-cultural knowledge are more capable of generating translations that accurately reflect the intended meaning of the source text. Additionally, the choice of translation method is paramount, as it provides a systematic framework for the translator to adhere to throughout the translation process, thereby enhancing the fidelity of meaning at the word and sentence levels. By applying Newmark's theory as a guiding framework, translators can employ various translation techniques to capture the essence and literary elements of Poe's work effectively. These techniques may include semantic translation to preserve the intended meaning, as well as stylistic translation to maintain the emotional impact and narrative intimacy present in the original text. This research aims to clarify and illuminate the complexities of literary translation through an in-depth examination of the methods employed.

These are the translation:

1. Source Text (ST): When the old man looked at me with his vulture eye a cold feeling went up and down my back; even my blood became cold.

Target Text (TT): Setiap kali dia menatapku, darahku langsung membeku.

Analysis: The translation above uses the communicative translation method. Communicative translation aims to convey the source text's message in the clearest, most natural, and effective way, making it easily understood by the target language reader.

"When the old man looked at me with his vulture eye" uses the transposition procedure, becoming "Setiap kali dia menatapku". The sentence structure and main elements are rearranged to produce a more natural sentence in Indonesian. Meanwhile, "with his vulture eye" is omitted using the reduction procedure to make the sentence more concise and direct.

2. Source Text (ST): I did not want his money. I think it was his eye.

Target Text (TT): Aku melakukannya bukan karena hartanya, tapi karena matanya! Ya, benar. Matanya!





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Analysis: The translation above uses the communicative translation method. In this case, it successfully conveys the emotional intensity and strong reasoning behind the character's actions. Changing the sentence structure from "I did not want his money" to "Aku melakukannya bukan karena hartanya" uses the transposition procedure. Then, using the addition procedure in the sentence "Ya, benar. Matanya!" which is not in the original text, adds emphasis and dramatic effect.

3. Source Text (ST): So you think that I am mad? A madman cannot plan.

TARGET TEXT (TT): Sekarang intinya begini; kalian menganggapku gila, tapi orang gila pasti tidak tahu apa-apa.

Analysis: The translation above uses the communicative translation method by changing the structure and adding "Sekarang intinya begini;" at the beginning of the sentence to clarify the context of what is being said. "A madman cannot plan" is modulated and transposed to "orang gila pasti tidak tahu apa-apa," which is more natural in Indonesian.

4. Source Text (ST): I stood quite still. For a whole hour I did not move. Nor did I hear him again lie down in his bed.

Target Text (TT): Aku berdiri bak patung dan bungkam. Selama satu jam penuh aku tidak bergerak sama sekali, dan sementara itu tidak pula aku mendengarnya berbaring kembali.

Analysis: Target text uses a more idiomatic expression like "berdiri bak patung dan bungkam.". However, the entire sentence uses the communicative translation with the transposition and addition procedures, emphasizing the description more, such as "berdiri bak patung dan bungkam.".

5. Source Text (ST): "Yes! Yes, I killed him. Pull up the boards and you shall see! I killed him. But why does his heart not stop beating?! Why does it not stop!?"

Target Text (TT): "Tidak ada lagi yang perlu disembunyikan! Kuakui perbuatanku! Bongkar papan-papan itu! Di sini, dan di sini! Aku sudah tidak tahan mendengar suara degupan jantungnya yang mengerikan!"



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Analysis: Target text uses the free translation method, where the target text conveys the overall meaning of the source text more freely and is not bound to the original sentence structure. The phrase "Yes! Yes, I killed him" is translated to "Tidak ada lagi yang perlu disembunyikan! Kuakui perbuatanku!" which conveys the meaning in a more dramatic and idiomatic way.

The use of the transposition procedure is seen in the change of sentence structure, such as "Pull up the boards and you shall see!" becoming "Bongkar papan-papan itu! Di sini, dan di sini!". The addition procedure is also seen in the additions "Tidak ada lagi yang perlu disembunyikan!" and "Di sini, dan di sini!" which are not in the original text to add a more vivid and dramatic description.

6. Source Text (ST): At that moment I must have become quite white. I talked still faster and louder.

Target Text (TT): Langsung saja wajahku berubah menjadi pucat, tapi aku mencoba berbicara dengan lebih lancar, dan dengan suara yang ditinggikan.

Analysis: In this text, the translator uses the communicative translation method because the target text prioritizes conveying the message in a way that is easily understood and accepted by the target language reader. The sentence "I must have become quite white" is translated to "Langsung saja wajahku berubah menjadi pucat" which immediately gives a clear image to the reader.

In the target text, the modulation procedure is used by changing the perspective from speculative "I must have" to direct descriptive "Langsung saja." Meanwhile, the modulation and transposition procedure is used in the phrase "tapi aku mencoba" which provides an additional nuance that is more detailed compared to the source text.

7. Source Text (ST): The eighth night I was more than usually careful as I opened the door

Target Text (TT): Pada malam kedelapan, aku lebih berhati-hati daripada biasanya saat membuka pintu.



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**Analysis:** In the source text, "The eighth night" is translated as "Pada malam kedelapan," and "I was more than usually careful" is translated as "aku lebih berhati-hati daripada biasanya." There is a slight adjustment in the word order to make the sentence more natural in Indonesian.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the study "Analysis of Translation Methods for Edgar Allan Poe's Short Story 'The Tell-Tale Heart' Based on Newmark's Theory" demonstrates that the translator, Harum Wibowo, predominantly employs communicative translation methods. By utilizing procedures such as modulation, transposition, and addition, Wibowo effectively enhances the readability and acceptance of the translation for the target audience. These strategies ensure that the translation retains the original's meaning and nuances while making it more accessible to readers in the target language.

Furthermore, the application of these communicative translation techniques by Wibowo is instrumental in maintaining the stylistic and thematic essence of Poe's work. The modulation and transposition procedures adeptly convey the psychological intricacies and narrative subtleties, while the addition of clarifying elements bridges cultural and contextual gaps. Overall, this research underscores the importance of selecting and applying appropriate translation methods to produce a faithful and reader-friendly translation, ultimately enriching the reader's engagement and comprehension of the literary text.

The importance of recognizing that the profound impact of Peter Newmark's theories have significantly influenced translation studies. The research has demonstrated the application of Newmark's translation methods in the analysis of the short story "The Tell-Tale Heart." The findings reveal crucial role of semantic and stylistic translation in preserving the original meaning, style, and cultural nuances of the text. Nevertheless, translation presents a multifaceted process fraught with numerous challenges, including the capture of narrative intimacy and the preservation of emotional resonance. As with any translation theory, Newmark's ideas have been both praised and critiqued by scholars and practitioners. Translation theory continues to evolve, reflecting the dynamic nature of the field, where translators employ diverse principles and methodologies tailored to their specific contexts and objectives. Successful translation necessitates a profound comprehension of both the source and target languages, alongside adept navigation of cultural disparities to craft a text that resonates with the intended audience. This research enhances comprehension of



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literary translation, underscoring the significance of maintaining fidelity to the original text while ensuring clarity in the target language.

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