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**FAKULTAS SASTRA**  
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# THE TRANSLATION OF PHRASAL VERBS IN THE MOVIE SCRIPT OF THE “SOURCE CODE”

Evert H. Hilman  
Universitas Nasional  
evhilman@yahoo.com

## ABSTRACT

*Translation is not only about translating the language; it is also about translating the meaning of a language to another. Of course the translator must translate the meaning as close as possible to the source text. The aims of the study are to figure out how phrasal verbs are translated into Indonesian and also to find out kinds of phrasal verbs. The study uses the descriptive qualitative method in collecting, analyzing, and concluding the data from the movie script the “Source Code.” This study focuses on two types of phrasal verbs, namely separable and inseparable phrasal verbs and the analysis of the translated data which include the meaning of the data.*

*Keywords: Phrasal Verbs, Separable Phrasal Verbs, Inseparable Phrasal Verbs*

## INTRODUCTION

Phrasal verbs are compound verbs (more than one word) that result from combining a verb with an adverb or a preposition. The resulting compound verb is idiomatic (e.g. its meaning cannot be derived from the dictionary meaning of its parts). For instance, “take back” is a phrasal verb consisting of the verb “take” and the adverb “back.” As a phrasal verb, its meaning becomes “to retract a statement,” which cannot be derived solely by combining the dictionary meanings of the original verb and adverb. (Brown, 2002: 1)

“Phrasal verbs is a short two-word (or sometimes three-word) phrase made up of a verb, such as get, give, make, pull and see and the adverb (adverbial particle) or a preposition, such as in, off, on, out, and up”. This definition is stated by Kay Cullen and Howard Sargeant in *Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs.*” (1998: vii)

The types of verb patterns:

**v + adv** : Intransitive verbs:

For example:

**Break down**: My car **broke down** this morning.

**Sit Down**: Come in and **sit down**.

**v + prep**: These are verbs followed by a preposition.

For example:

**Rely on sb/sth** : You can **rely on** me.

**Call for sb** : I’ll **call for** you at eight.

These two groups are called **inseparable phrasal verbs** as the object always follows the particle.

**Separable phrasal verbs** can be separated by their object. When the object is a noun, it is usually entirely optional whether the object is placed between the verb and the particle or placed after the particle.

**v+ n/pron + adv:**

For example:

**Ask Round:** She's **asked** me **round** for dinner.

**Do Up:** I can't **do** the zip **up**.

**v + n/pron + prep:**

For example:

**Argue into:** I managed to **argue** him **into** going back home to talk to his parents.

**Bounce Off:** we were able to share problems and **bounce** idea **off** each other.

In the translation process, translation fails or untranslatability will still occur. Catford in Bassnett distinguishes two types of untranslatability, which he terms linguistic and cultural. On the linguistic level, untranslatability occurs where there is no lexical or syntactical substitute in the TL (Target Language) for an SL (Source Language) item, whereas cultural untranslatability occurs due to the absence in the TL culture of a relevant situational feature for the SL text. (2002:32)

## METHODS

The descriptive qualitative method is used in this study to collect, classify, and analyze the data from the movie script *The Source Code*. Information from the internet, libraries, journal, and other sources are used to support the analysis of the data. "Descriptive research is a research where a researcher just collects the data, analyze the data and concludes them without taking the conclusion that happens in general". (Hadi, 1983 :3) (*Penelitian deskriptif yaitu penelitian dimana peneliti hanya mengumpulkan data, menganalisa data, dan kemudian menyimpulkan tanpa menarik kesimpulan yang berlaku secara umum*).

## Definitions of Translation

In this part, the study will give a description about theories and terms that support it as stated by Catford quoted by Haltim in his book *Teaching and Researching Translation* "An operation performed on languages: a process of substituting a text in one language for a text in another. We do not "transfer" meaning between languages, we merely 'replace ' a source language meaning by a target language meaning that can function in the same way in the situation in hand." (2001:14).

According to Larson in his book *Meaning based Translation*; translation is the transfer of meaning from the source language into receptor language. Meaning is the most important thing to transfer and it must be held constantly "Translation, then, consists of studying the lexicon, grammatical construction, communicational situation and cultural context of the source language text, analyzing it in order to determine its meaning and then reconstructing this same meaning using the lexicon and grammatical structure which are appropriate in the receptor language and its cultural context." (1984:3)

As stated by Koller quoted by Haltim in his book *Teaching and Researching Translation* "Translation is the result of a text-processing activity, by means of which a source-language text is transported into a target-language text. Between the resultant text in L2 (the target-language text) and the source text in L1 (the source-language text) there exist a relationship, which can be designated as a translational or equivalence relation". (2001:27)

Catford in his words written in *A Linguistic Theory of Translation* defines something essential to such a field "In Translation, there is substitution of TL meanings for SL meanings: not transference of TL meanings into the SL. In transference there is an implantation of SL meanings into the TL text. These two processes must be clearly differentiated in any theory of translation (1965:32)."

As we conclude by combining the definitions stated by the experts, translation is to replace one language (source language) into another language (target language) with its equivalent meaning so the message is still well conveyed to the readers.

According to Halm in his book *Teaching and Researching*, (2001: 23024) the process of translation can be summarized as follows:

1. Analysis

Analysis begins with a set of procedures which are employed in discovering the kernels underlying the source text and the clearest understanding of the meaning in preparation for the transfer ( Nida and Taber, 1969: 197). In this stage, the translator absorbs the message that he wishes to translate and load it with a grammatical and semantic analysis. (Halm, 2001:23)

2. Transfer

Transfer is the stage in which the analysed material is transferred in the mind of the translator from language A to language B (Nida and Taber, 1969: 33). In this stage, he questions the result of the analysis mentioned above, namely the transfer from the source language to the target language with the least change of meaning, but showing equal reaction from the people reading the source language. (Halm, 2001:23)

3. Restructuring

The third and final stage in the process of translation is restructuring the transferred material. What is needed is a mechanism by which the input that has accrued so far may be transformed into a stylistic form appropriately to the receptor language and to the intended receptors. (Nida and Taber, 1969:206).

Thus, it is only when a translation produces in the receiver a response which is essentially the same as that of the original audience that the translation can be considered dynamically equivalent to its source text. (Halm, 2001:24). According to Bell "The transformation of a source language text into a target language by means of processes which take place within memory: (1) the analysis of one language-specific text (the source language text, the SLT) into a universal (non-language-specific) semantic representation and (2) the synthesis of that semantic representation into a second language specific text (the target language text, the TLT)." (1991:20).

## **The Kinds of Translation**

In his book, *Meaning-Based Translation* (1984:15), Larson divides the translation into two types, form-based and meaning-based or idiomatic translation.

### **a. Form-Based Translation**

Form-Based translation is known as literal translation which attempts to follow the form of the source languages. Although this literal translation may be very useful for the purpose related to the study of the source language, they are little help for the speakers of the receptor language who are interested in the meaning of source language text. A literal translation sounds like nonsense and has little communication value.

### **b. Meaning-Based or Idiomatic Translation**

A truly idiomatic translation does not sound like a translation. It sounds like it is written originally in the receptor language. In other words, idiomatic translation uses the

natural forms of the receptor language both in the grammatical construction and in the choice of lexical items.

### Translation Method

According to Newmark in his book *A Textbook of Translation*, there are two groups of method in translation; the first is the method giving emphasis to the first language, and the second one is the method giving emphasis to the second language. They are listed below:

#### 1. The Method Giving Emphasis to the First Language

There are 4 methods of translation that give emphasis to the first language, they are as follows:

##### A. Word-for-word translation:

This method is often demonstrated as interlinear translation when the SL word-order is preserved and the words translated singly by their most common meanings, out of context. Word-for-word translation is the method that is usually used by beginners or used when there are some special words that may sound foreign for the target text readers.

##### B. Literal Translation

The SL grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest TL equivalent but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context. As a pre-translation process, this indicates the problems to be solved.

##### C. Faithful translation

A faithful translation attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the TL grammatical structures. It 'transfers' cultural words and preserves the degree of grammatical and lexical 'abnormality' (deviation from SL norms) in the translation. In faithful translation the translator makes an effort to maintain the format and the form of an SL text.

##### D. Semantic Translation

Semantic translation differs from faithful translation only in as far as it must take more account of the esthetic value (the beauty and natural sound) of the SL text, compromising on meaning here appropriate so that no assonance, play or repetitions jars in the finished version. The distinction between faithful translation and semantic translation and semantic translation is more flexible, admits the creative exception to 100% fidelity and allows for the translators intuitive empathy with the original.

#### 2. The Method Giving Emphasis to the Second Language

##### A. Adaptation

This is freest from translation. It is used mainly for plays (comedies) and poetry. The theme, characters and plots are usually preserved, the second language (SL) culture converted to the next language (TL) culture and text rewritten.

##### B. Free Translation

Free translation reproduces the matter without the manner, or the content without the form of the original. Usually it is a paraphrase much longer than the original. A so-called 'intralingua translation', often prolix and pretentious and not translation.

##### C. Idiomatic Translation

Idiomatic translation reproduces the message of the original but tends to ning by preferring colloquialisms and idioms where these do not exist in the original.

##### D. Communicative Translation

Communicative translation attempts to render the exact contextual meaning of the original in such a way that both content and language are readily acceptable and comprehensible to the readership. (Newmark 1988: 45-47)

## Definitions of Idioms

According to *Longman Dictionary of Language Teaching & Applied Linguistic*, idiom is “an expression which functions as a single unit and whose meaning cannot be worked out from its separate parts” (1985:134).

In a simple definition, idiom is a group of words consisting different meaning which have to be understood as a unit. Yet, there are types of idioms which can be used to recognize words in group either orally or in written text. These differ in forms and meaning, as stated in Longman:

1. Pairs of words  
Touch-and-go, high and dry, in black and white, the birds and the bees. (Note that the word order in these pairs is unchangeable)
2. Similes  
Quick as wink, (go) like clockwork, sleep like baby.
3. Phrasal verbs  
Chicken out, take to something, dry off, and come up with something.
4. Actions which represent feelings  
Turn your back (on somebody) (to refuse to help or support someone), raise eyebrow (in surprise, doubt, displeasure, or disapproval).

These idioms can be used by themselves to express feelings even when the feeling is not stated. For example His recent decision has raised eyebrows in City Hall means “everyone was surprised and not sure the decision was right”.

## Definitions of Phrasal Verbs

Danesi states in his book *Basic American Grammar and usage*, “Phrasal verbs or construction consists of a verb followed by one or more words (preposition, adverbs and so on) acting as a verb unit. It is a verb unit, consisting of a verb and another word or word, with a single meaning.” (2006:176)

Another quotation taken from Yates in her book *The Ins and Outs of Prepositions* says “Phrasal Verb is a verb followed by a preposition that narrows or changes the meaning of the verb.” (1999:189)

There are common types of phrasal verbs which provide different ways of use and understanding. Therefore, we should take a look at the following:

### a. Separable phrasal verbs

Separable phrasal verbs can be separated by their object. When the object is a noun, it is usually entirely optional whether the object is placed between the verb and the particle or placed after the particle.

Example:

**v + n/pron + adv:**

I've **called** him **down** to breakfast already.

The song **carried** her **back** to her childhood.

**v + n/pron + prep;**

He **devoted** his life **to** the struggle for justice.

He swiftly **divested** himself **of** his clothes.

### b. Inseparable Phrasal Verbs

Inseparable phrasal verbs are the object is placed after the preposition or adverb.

Example:

### v + adv

The computer **locks up** when I try to load the program.

I **look across** to where they were sitting.

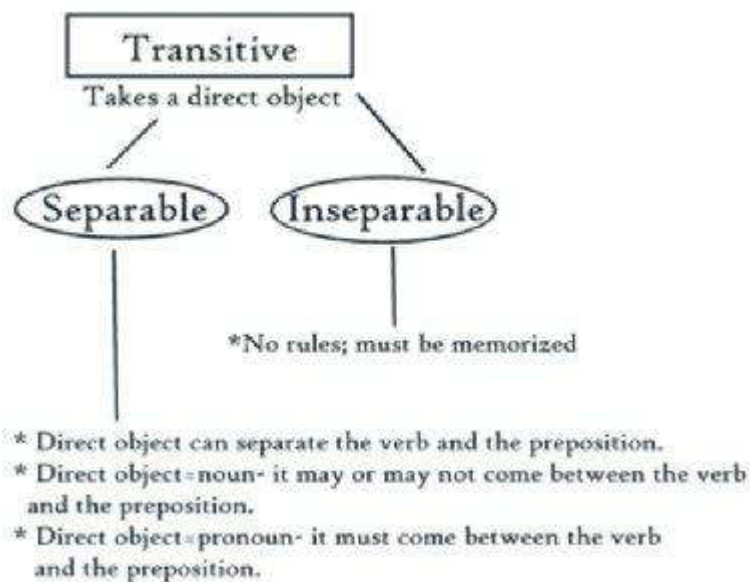
### v + prep

There are three files that I can't **account for**.

He finally **alighted on** a situation

It is important to know that phrasal verbs can either be transitive (the verb takes a direct object) or intransitive (the verb cannot take a direct object). Some transitive verbal phrases are separable. That is, the verb can be separated from the preposition by a direct object. If the direct object is a noun it may or may not come between the verb and the preposition; however, if the direct object is a pronoun, it must come between the verb and the preposition.

There are no rules for helping you to determine which transitive phrases are inseparable; you just have to memorize them. In these cases the verb and the preposition or adverb cannot be separated by the direct object. Intransitive phrases are those that do not take a direct object and cannot be separated.



#### A. Transitive separable

As stated earlier, in some transitive phrases the verb can be separated from the preposition or adverb so that a noun or pronoun (the direct object) can be inserted between them.

For Example: All three of these sentences are correct.

1. Can you add up the total in your head?

In this sentence, you see that the phrase is not separated. The direct object comes after the phrase "add up".

2. She added it up in her head.

In this sentence the phrase is separated by the direct object, it, which is a pronoun. Because the direct object is a pronoun, it must come between the verb and the preposition.

3. She added the total up in her head.

In this sentence you see that the phrase is separated by the direct object, *the total*, which is a noun. The direct object comes between the verb and the preposition.

#### B. Transitive inseparable

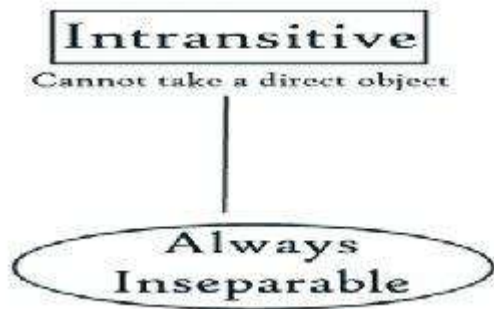
Remember that some prepositions cannot be separated because they are required by certain verbs for a specific meaning. If these words were to be separated, it would change the idiomatic meaning of the phrase.

For Example:

Although Jason has been very ill this year and has missed a lot of school, he does not want to drop out of school.

For this sentence to keep its idiomatic meaning, to *quit school*, the phrase cannot be separated.

#### C. Intransitive never separable



Some phrasal verbs are intransitive which mean they cannot take a direct object. These verbs can never be separated from the preposition.

For Example:

Correct:

1. Sean began to catch on after he read the directions several times. ("Directions" is the direct object of the verb- *read*, not the object of the verb "catch on.")
2. Sean began to catch on to the directions. ("Directions" is the object of the preposition *to*, it is not the direct object of the sentence. The following chart is a brief list of intransitive, inseparable phrases and several of their meanings. By no means is this a complete list.

Verb Meaning:

Back down > retreat from a position in an argument, to



Go down something backwards.

Come through > succeed, to be approved, to produce or Perform as promised for someone or a group to survive something.

Drop in > to stop by for a casual or unexpected visit.

Fall behind > to lag behind schedule, to lag behind someone or something.

There are common types of phrasal verbs which provide different ways of use and understandings. Therefore, we should take a look at the following kinds of them stated by Hart in his book *The Ultimate Phrasal Verb*.

## DISCUSSIONS

After the data have been collected, then they are administered, analyzed, and interpreted. The following categories are the classifications of the data:

1. English separable and inseparable phrasal verbs appropriately translated into Indonesian are grouped into classification A.
2. English separable and inseparable phrasal verbs less appropriately translated into Indonesian are set into classification B.

Each of the classified data is then coded. The encoding system is as follows:

(05/SC/03:29/A)

(05/KP/03:29/A)

05 is the number of the datum. SC stands for the title of the English version of the movie the "Source Code," and KP stands for the title of the Indonesian movie "Kode Pusat." 03:29 is the minute where the datum is found in the movie and A is the classification for the data as mentioned above.

### Classification A

#### English separable or inseparable phrasal verbs appropriately translated into Indonesian

SL: Sean: I dont know what's **going on**. (SC/06:03/A)

TL: Sean: Aku tak tahu apa **yang sedang terjadi**. (KP/06:03/A)

From the translation above, the phrasal verb **go on** is translated into **yang sedang terjadi**. Based on (OPV: 144) the words **go on** mean activities or events that are strange or amusing. Meanwhile, (K.I.I.I.I: 163) explains it as **memulai, melanjutkan, belangsung**. The phrasal verb **go on** is used as a verbal adjective (V + Ing). According to (OPV: 144) I find this verb phrase has one pattern V + Adv. This means that the expression is inseparable phrase for it takes the object after its adverb or preposition. Referring to similar meanings given by the supporting dictionaries, it is concluded that the translation of **going on** into **yang sedang terjadi** is acceptable.

SL: Godwin: **Stand by** for thread one of alpha memory pattern. (SC/08:29/A)

TL: Godwin: **Bersiap-siap** untuk proses pertama dari pola memori alpha.

(KP/08:29/A)

From the translation above, the phrasal verb **stand by** is translated into **bersiap-siap**. Based on (OPV 305) the words **stand by** mean to support or help sb in a difficult situation. Meanwhile, (K.I.I. 551) explains it as **bersiap, siap-siaga**.

According to (OPV 305) this verb phrase has one pattern V + Prep. which means that the expression is inseparable phrase for it takes the object after its adverb or preposition. Referring to similar meanings given by the supporting dictionaries, it is concluded that the translation of **stand by** into **bersiap** is acceptable.

SL: Godwin: Then **go back** and try again. (SC/10:10/A)

TL: Godwin: Kalau begitu **kembalilah** dan coba lagi. (KP/10:10/A)

From the translation above, the phrasal verb **go back** is translated into **kembalilah**. Based on (OPV 138) the words **go back** mean to return to a place where you were before. Meanwhile, (K.I.I. explains it as **kembail, pulang, mundur**. According to (OPV: 138) the verb phrase has one pattern V + Adv. This means that the expression is inseparable phrase for it takes the object after its adverb or preposition. Referring to similar meanings given by the supporting dictionaries, the translation above is natural.

SL: Christina: And I **signed up** for an LSAT course. (SC/10:54/A)

TL: Chritina: Dan aku **mengikuti** latihan di LSAT. (KP/10:54/A)

From the translation above, the phrasal verb **signed up** is translated into **mengikuti**. Based on (OPV: 288) the words **signed up** means: 1.To sign a document saying that you agree to work for s, play for their team. Meanwhile, (KII: 526) explains it as **menandatangani kontrak, mencatatkan diri**. According to (OPV: 288) the verb phrase has two patterns: V + Adv and V + N/Pron + Adv. The phrasal verb **signed up** is the past tense of **sign up**. The description has shown that **signed up** is separable. Besides, the patterns give an exact thought that the phrasal verb is in transitive form. It means **signed up** should take an object to complete the form. After analyzing the data, the translation is correct.

SL: Sean: **Think of** it as a game. (SC/21:36/A)

TL: Sean: **Anggap saja** ini sebuah permainan. (KP/21:36/A)

From the translation above, the phrasal verbs **think of** is translated into **anggap saja**. Based on (OPV: 339) the words **think of** mean: **1.** to have an image or idea of a particular person or thing in your mind. **2.** To create an idea in your imagination. Meanwhile, (K.I.I.:587) explains it as **mengingat, bermaksud, berfikir, memikirkan**. According to (OPV: 339) this verb phrase has one pattern V + Prep. This means that the expression is inseparable phrase for it takes the object after its adverb or preposition. Referring to similar meanings given by the supporting dictionaries, the translation above is correct.

## Classification B

**English separable or inseparable phrasal verbs less appropriately translated into Indonesian.**

SL: Christina: Sean, listen to me! **Get up!** (SC/27:15/B)

TL: Cristina: Sean, dengarkan aku! **Bangun!** (KP/27:15/B)

From the translation above, the phrasal verb **get up** is translated into **bangun**. Based on (OPV: 131) the words **get up** means **to stand after sitting, lying**. Meanwhile, (K.I.I.: 268) explains it as **bangun, berdiri, mempersiapkan**. According to (OPV: 131) this verb phrase has one pattern V + Adv. This means that the expression is inseparable phrase for it takes the object after its adverb or preposition. Referring to similar meanings given by the supporting dictionaries this phrasal verb is inappropriately translated because in that situation Sean was not asleep but he fell. So **berdiri** is more appropriate.

SL: Godwin: Some gloves, a screwdriver to **get into** overhead vent. (SC/39:43/B)

TL: Godwin: Seperti sarung tangan, obeng untuk **membuka** saluran udaranya. (KP/39:43/B)

Grammatically, **get into** is an inseparable phrasal verb. It has one form: V+Adv or V+Prep (OPV: 124). The words **get into** above are idiomatically translated into **membuka**. This verb phrase translation is not in line with the definition of **get into** taken from (KII:267) which states **memasuki, naik**. This verb phrase translation is not in line with the definition of **get into** taken from (KII:267) which states **memasuki, naik**. The tendency of **get into** is to succeed in entering a place. So, it is assumed that the correct translation is **Seperti sarung tangan, obeng untuk masuk kesaluran udaranya**.

## CONCLUSION

The English phrasal verbs that are found in the novel are translated well. This conclusion is based on the data categorized as follows:

- A. English separable and inseparable phrasal verbs appropriately translated into Indonesian are grouped into classification A.
- B. English separable and inseparable phrasal verbs inappropriately translated into Indonesian are set into classification B.

Out the 36 collected data, only 32 phrasal verbs belong to classification A which are correctly translated, and the other 2 go to classification B which are less appropriately translated

It is clearly found out that, the types of phrasal verbs used in the movie script of the "Source Cod" are separable phrasal verbs and inseparable phrasal verbs.

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