

ANALYSIS OF MODALITY METAPHORS IN STUDENT TRANSLATIONS ON THE TOPIC OF PRIVATE HOSPITALS BEING BETTER THAN STATE HOSPITALS IN TERMS OF SERVICES (SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL LINGUISTIC APPROACH)

Dessy Dwijayanti¹, Bambang Abdul Syukur², Ramadan Adianto Budiman³

Kusuma Husada University, Indonesia^{1,2}

Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Bahasa dan Sastra, Universitas Surakarta, Indonesia³

1ddessy25@gmail.com, 2b.abdulsyukur@gmail.com, 3ramadan.adiantob@gmail.com

Submitted: 2024-09-18

Accepted: 2024-10-17

Published: 2024-10-30

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.70210/amrj.v2i03.87>

Abstract

This study is a qualitative descriptive study that aims to analyze the types of modality metaphors and their translation techniques in argumentative texts written by students of the Midwifery Undergraduate Program. This study uses the Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) approach, and the data is analyzed using the content analysis method to identify the types of modality metaphors and the translation techniques used. The results of the study indicate that the most dominant type of modality metaphor is probability modalization, while bond modulation is not found. The three translation techniques applied are common equivalents (96 times), modulation (3 times), and linguistic amplification (1 time). In terms of translation quality, the aspects of accuracy, acceptability, and readability reached an average of 83%, with an overall average value of 2.03.

Keywords: *metaphor of modality, sfl, translation techniques, translation quality*

Introduction

Systemic Functional Linguistics, developed by Michael Halliday, is an approach to linguistics that emphasizes the function of language in social and communicative contexts. This approach views language as a system consisting of choices that speakers can make to achieve their communicative goals. Then, the Metaphor of Modality is a concept that relates to how we express possibility, necessity, and uncertainty in language. In the context of SFL, this metaphor is important because it reflects the way we understand and express modality in everyday communication. By utilizing the metaphor of modality in linguistic analysis, researchers can gain deeper insights into how language functions in social contexts. This not only enriches our understanding of linguistic interactions, but also of the social dynamics and power that exist in society.

Metaphors have long been known since the time of Aristotle as a form of comparative language style used to convey ideas figuratively. Aristotle saw metaphors as a means to

understand and convey meanings that are different from literal words, and this concept remains relevant today. In modern linguistic and literary studies, metaphors are not only seen as part of language style, but also as cognitive tools for understanding complex reality. Lakoff and Johnson (1980) in their book *Metaphors We Live By* introduced the concept of conceptual metaphor, which shows how metaphors not only appear in language, but also shape the way we think and act. Keraf (1997:138) adds that metaphors must be "brief" to be distinguished from other language styles, emphasizing that metaphors function as compact and efficient expressive tools in conveying meaning. Thus, the world of thought that is developing in general does not always seem to be in line with language and literature lessons in schools - this phenomenon does not only occur in Indonesia, but this phenomenon also occurs in the West. Kant (in Cazeaux, 2007:3) considers metaphors to represent experience as subjective determinations of the objective world. The idea here is that metaphors are something creative and subjective, metaphors can produce objective meanings and in the form of discoveries.

Metaphor studies continue to develop along with the application of various linguistic theories, one of which is in the Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) approach developed by Halliday. In SFL, modality metaphor is one form of grammatical metaphor that attracts the attention of researchers because of its ability to represent the attitudes and views of the writer or speaker. Modality metaphor is a form of realization of interpersonal function in clause structure that aims to show the level of certainty or possibility of a statement. Saeed (2003) calls modality a grammatical category that expresses the degree of certainty or belief of the speaker towards a proposition. This is emphasized by Arvianti (2015) who emphasizes that modality allows the speaker to convey how strong or weak a factual statement is.

Studies on modality metaphors with other research objects such as in presidential debate texts and presidential speech texts have been conducted by Vilipour & Aidinon (2014) and Aritonang (2013). Vilipour & Aidinon (2014) examined the expression of modality metaphors and interpersonal style in Barack Obama's speech text. Meanwhile, Aritonang's (2013) study is more inclined to the impact of the use of interpersonal metaphors, both mood metaphors and modality metaphors in terms of lexical density and grammatical intricacy or in other words the implications of the use of interpersonal metaphors, both mood metaphors and modality metaphors on academic writing in the presidential debate text between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney. Yurike (2021) examined the Analysis of Translation of Modality Metaphors in the Novel *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy M. Montgomery. However, Aritonang (2013) analyzed modality metaphor data specifically only based on value variables without involving other variables. Based on the data and description above, the researcher is interested in conducting a study entitled "Analysis of Modality Metaphors in Student Translations about Private Hospitals are Better than State Hospitals in Terms of Services (Functional Linguistic Systemic Approach)".

Simply to said, this study aims to analyze the use of modality metaphors in argumentative texts of undergraduate students of Midwifery Study Program, especially in the context of comparing private and state hospital services. The Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) approach is used to identify the types of modality metaphors that appear and the translation techniques applied in the translation of the argumentative text. The results of the study are expected to contribute to the study of the translation of modality metaphors in the academic context and the translation practices of students.

Method

The method used in this study is descriptive qualitative. This study is included in qualitative research because the linguistic phenomena studied are plural. This is because the modality metaphor has a different context of use that is interpreted holistically. Furthermore, this study is also interactive and cannot be separated. This means that researchers as the main instrument can adapt to the environment to understand the reality of the modality metaphor and its translation as the focus of the study. In addition, this study does not use a form of calculation because it will see the reality of the modality metaphor data based on its original frame (natural setting) and describe it.

Qualitative research is a research that is not designed using statistical procedures. Meanwhile, Moleong (2010:31-36) defines that qualitative research is research that aims to develop an understanding of individuals and events while still paying attention to the relevant context. This research is also descriptive because it describes linguistic phenomena, especially words and phrases in clauses that represent the metaphor of students' argumentative modality about "Private Hospitals are Better than State Hospitals in Terms of Services" and also in the translated text along with the context of its use. This research is descriptive because of the use of images, tables, diagrams and so on so that the description of the linguistic phenomena studied can be described systematically and holistically, especially in describing the techniques and quality of the translation of the metaphor of modality.

Data collection techniques in this study used document analysis, questionnaires and Focus Group Discussions (FGD). For data analysis techniques using Domain analysis, Taxonomy analysis, Componential Analysis and Cultural themes. The instruments in this study were documentation, interviews, questionnaires and FGD. Documentation in this study was in the form of student translation texts. Interviews as supporting data to determine the difficulties experienced by students in the translation process. FGD by asking a rater who will help ensure or verify the data that has been obtained is accurate and determine the technique and quality of the translation. In a qualitative study, checking the validity of data uses triangulation techniques (Santosa, 2014:57). There are four types of triangulation techniques that are often used in checking the validity of data in qualitative research, namely: source triangulation, method triangulation, theory triangulation, and researcher triangulation (Lincoln and Guba in Santosa, 2014:57). In this study, researchers will use source triangulation and method triangulation.

Result and Discussion

Language users express their experiences, thoughts, and feelings through a clause. One aspect used by the writer in a clause is by using modality. In English grammar, the term modality is a complex discussion because modality itself focuses on the various ways used by the writer or speaker to express their opinions or attitudes towards the truth of what the writer or speaker conveys (Dong, 2013). In other words, the use of this modality marker is able to describe the level of certainty of what is said by the writer or speaker. However, in a clause, modality is not always stated directly using a modality marker, but can be stated in a different clause metaphorically, which is called a modality metaphor. In the SFL view, modality metaphors are based on the relationship of

semantic projection. According to Halliday & Matthiessen (2014), the modality metaphor itself can show the opinion of the speaker or writer according to the probability in a separate projection clause in a complex clause. In this study, the text used was a student translation text.

Of the two types of modality metaphors, only one type of modality metaphor is used by students to express their experiences, attitudes, or opinions related to Health Services in Government Hospitals and Private Hospitals. In addition, the translation techniques used to translate modality metaphors from SL-TL are not diverse, only using 3 (three) translation techniques, namely common equivalents, modulation and linguistic amplification. Most of the modality metaphors are translated by students using the common equivalent translation technique. The use of modality metaphor translation techniques is presented in the following table:

Table 1. Types of Modality Metaphors

Types of Modality Metaphors	Translation Techniques	Frequency
Probability	Established Equivalent	96
	Modulation	3
	Linguistic Amplification	1

A. Types of Modality Metaphors Modalization (Probability)

As seen in the table above, the modality metaphor used in the students' argumentative text is a modal metaphor (probability). According to Halliday & Matthiessen (2014), if a clause is a form of proposal clause or has the meaning of giving and asking for information, then the clause is included in a modality. In English, modality metaphors are realized in clauses such as I think, I suppose, I guess, I thought, I believe, I hope. Some findings of probability modality metaphors are explained below:

1. Bsu: **Saya pikir** hal tersebut kurang benar, pelayanan kesehatan di rumah sakit negeri banyak yang lebih baik dari pada rumah sakit swasta.
Bsa: **I think** this is not true, health services in state hospitals are much better than in private hospitals.
2. Bsu: **Saya pikir** pelayanan di rumah sakit swasta lebih baik dari rumah sakit negeri
Bsa: I think the service at private hospitals is better than state hospitals

Examples of data 1 and 2 above are the use of modality metaphors formed from a projection clause. "I think" is realized in the projection of the mental clause as a mood adjunct. The modality metaphor is identified as probability. In addition, the clause that accommodates the modality metaphor in example data 1 is a proposal clause. Therefore, the modality metaphor I think shows a level of certainty that refers to the possibility of "ya" or the possibility of "tidak" subjectively to the argument that the writer wants to state.

3. **Bsu** : Saya yakin rumah sakit negeri mampu bersaing dengan rumah sakit swasta jika mampu memberikan pelayanan yang memuaskan bagi pelanggan atau pasien.
Bsa: **I believe** that state hospitals can compete with private hospitals if they are able to provide satisfactory service to customers or patients.
4. **Bsu**: Namun **saya percaya** apapun rumah sakitnya akan selalu melakukan yang terbaik bagi kesehatan pasiennya
Bsa: **I believe** that whatever the hospital, it will always do its best for the health of its patients.

In data example 3 and 4, the mental clause projection is realized through the clause **saya yakin** which is used by the student in giving his opinion. The modal metaphor **saya yakin** also shows the expression of the subjective use of probability towards what the writer believes. This mental clause is also expressed in the form of a proposal clause.

5. **Bsu**: **Saya kira** pengobatan di rumah sakit negeri lebih lengkap ternyata belum tentu
Bsa: **I guess** treatment in state hospitals is more complete, but that's not necessarily true
6. **Bsu**: **Saya kira** rumah sakit negeri lebih baik daripada rumah sakit swasta
Bsa: **I guess** state hospitals are better than private hospitals

Both examples in data 5 and 6 are forms of realization of the modality metaphor expressed in a mental clause projection as well. Both are used by the author to show that there is a probability of the opinion conveyed. By using a mental clause projecting, **saya kira** gives an illustration that the author wants to express his belief in his views on the services of private hospitals and government hospitals. This means that the author seems to be stating his level of belief in a position that may be "ya" or may also be "tidak".

7. **Bsu**: **Saya harap** rumah sakit negeri lebih meningkatkan pelayanannya seperti rumah sakit swasta
Bsa: **I hope** that state hospitals will improve their services like private hospitals
8. **Bsu**: **Saya harap** semua pasien mendapatkan pelayanan yang baik di rumah sakit negeri maupun swasta
Bsa: **I hope** that all patients receive good service in public and private hospitals

In addition to being stated in mental projection clauses such as: *saya pikir*, *saya kira*, and *saya yakin*, modality metaphors can also be realized in mental clauses *I hope*. In example data 7-8 is a form of the use of modality metaphors expressed in propositional clauses. The mental clause *saya harap* used by the author is a form of statement of attitude that contains the hope to do something. In this case, it is related to patient services in private hospitals and government hospitals.

B. Translation Techniques

When talking about translation techniques, it will be related to the translation product in this case the translation results so that it is related to the micro units in a text. According to Molina & Albir (2002), there are 18 translation techniques, namely: amplification, linguistic amplification, generalization, description, adaptation, borrowing, calque, literal, discursive creation, reduction, compensation, modulation, linguistic compression, particularization, substitution, variation, common equivalent, and transposition.

The assessment criteria for Metaphor are Social Context: How the metaphor reflects social and cultural realities, Appeal: How interesting and clear the metaphor is in conveying meaning, Suitability: Does the metaphor fit the context of the conversation. The assessment criteria for Modality Metaphor are Certainty Level: Measuring how certain or uncertain the expression is, Speaker Attitude: How the modality reflects the speaker's attitude and beliefs towards the statement, Communicative Function: How effective the modality is in conveying the intention.

Established equivalents include "He's a real shark in business." This equivalent is readily accepted in a business context, preserving the metaphorical meaning. Modulation "She has a heart of stone." Through modulation, the translation conveys the meaning more directly, although it loses the metaphorical nuance. Linguistic amplification "It's raining cats and dogs." With amplification, the translation emphasizes intensity, but loses the creative element of the original expression. Each translation technique has advantages and disadvantages depending on the context and purpose of the communication. The metaphor and modality chosen affect the clarity, power of expression, and emotional connection between speaker and listener..

Based on the table above, it can be seen that there are 3 (three) translation techniques used by students in translating modality metaphors. The three uses of translation techniques are described as follows:

Established Equivalent

The translation technique of established equivalent is commonly used when the translator attempts to use words, terms or expressions that are commonly used in the TL.

1. Bsu: **Saya pikir** rumah sakit swasta memiliki pelayanan yang baik.
Bsa: **I think** private hospitals have good services.
2. Bsu: **Saya berpikir** bahwa pelayanan di swasta lebih baik dari rumah sakit negeri karena sudah menjadi suatu hal yang biasa kita temui ketika melakukan pemeriksaan kesehatan di RS negeri.
Bsa: **I think** that private healthcare services are better than public hospitals because it has become a common occurrence to encounter during health check-ups in public hospitals.

Examples 1 and 2 in this translation technique are a series of translation techniques used in student translations. Metaphors of modality in the SL such as *saya pikir* and *saya berpikir* are translated using words or clauses that are commonly used in the TL, namely *I think*. Although grammatically in the TL there is a difference between the words *pikir*

and pikir (verbs that are added with the prefix -ber), both have the same meaning so that when translated into the TL, I think and I think become I think

3. Bsu: **Saya harap** rumah sakit pemerintah dapat menyamakan kenyamanan dan kualitas dari pelayanan rumah sakit swasta kedepannya.
Bsa: **I hope** that government hospitals can match the comfort and quality of private hospital services in the future.
4. Bsu: **Saya berharap** perawat bisa berkomunikasi efektif kepada pasien sehingga pasien bisa menangkap pembicaraan dengan baik.
Bsa: **I hope** that nurses can communicate effectively with patients so that patients can understand the conversation well.

As in the translation technique data 1 and 2, the use of the common equivalent translation technique is also applied by students to translate the modal metaphors *saya harap* and *saya berharap*. Both are translated into TL as *I hope*, which is literally a word or clause that is often used in TL.

5. Bsu: **Saya kira** peralatan medis dirumah sakit swasta lebih lengkap sehingga pasien dapat ditangani lebih cepat
Bsa: **I guess** the medical equipment in private hospitals is more complete so that patients can be treated more quickly

The modality metaphor *saya kira* in the SL and in data 5 is translated using the common equivalent translation technique in the TL into *I guess*.

The use of common equivalence techniques by students has an impact on the results of accurate and acceptable translations of modality metaphors because the meaning of the modality metaphor expressed in the SL remains equivalent or has the same meaning when translated into the TL.

Modulation

Modulation is a translation technique characterized by changing the perspective, focus or cognitive category in the TL. This change occurs not only at the lexical level but can also occur at the structural level. The use of this modulation translation technique can be seen in the following data examples:

1. Bsu: **Menurut saya** pelayanan di rumah sakit swasta lebih profesional dibanding di rumah sakit negeri
Bsa: **I think** the service in private hospitals is more professional than in state hospitals
2. Bsu: **Menurut saya** pelayanan di RS pemerintah lebih cepat dibandingkan RS swasta, tapi ternyata tidak
Bsa: **I guess** the service in state hospitals was faster than private hospitals, but apparently not

If we look at its realization, “*menurut saya*” is not a modality metaphor in the TL because it is not in the form of a projecting mental clause. However, when translated

into the SL it becomes “I guess” and “I think,” where both of these clauses are mental clause projections and are the realization of modality metaphors. In this section, it seems that there is a change in perspective that occurs at the lexical level.

Even though there is a change in focus from the SL to the TL, the use of modulation translation techniques does not reduce the level of accuracy of the translation of modality metaphors because the meaning that is intended to be conveyed from the SL does not deviate when translated into the TL.

Linguistic amplification

One form of the use of linguistic amplification techniques is addition or addition. As its form, linguistic amplification is a translation technique that attempts to add linguistic elements that are not in the SL, but are in the TL..

In this study, an example of the use of linguistic amplification techniques is in the following data example:

Bsu: Pelayanan RS swasta lebih baik karena ada harga untuk setiap pelayanan dan fasilitas yg diterima.

Bsa: **I think** private hospital services are better because there is a price for each service and facility received.

The example data above is the application of linguistic amplification translation techniques through addition or addition. In SL, there is no realization of modality metaphor, but in TL there is a realization of modality metaphor through mental clause projection, I think. This shows that there is an addition of linguistic elements in this case, the addition of modality metaphors.

Conclusion

Based on the previous findings and discussions, it can be concluded that the type of modality metaphor used by students in creating argumentative texts is the modality metaphor type of modalization: probability. In this context, the modality type: probability is used to express the author's opinion or opinion about what they, as the author, say through the text. In addition, the use of this modality metaphor also describes the author's level of certainty which may mean yes or maybe no regarding their feelings and experiences regarding the differences in services they observe, experience, and feel in private hospitals and government hospitals. There are three types of translation techniques applied in translating modality metaphors from SL-TL, namely common equivalents, modulation and linguistic amplification. The most frequently used translation technique is common equivalents. The use of this translation technique will also later affect the quality of the translation of a text which is a product or result of a translation study.

References

- Arvianti, G.F. 2015. Kajian Terjemahan Modalitas Pada Novel The Appeal Karya John Dalam Bahasa Indonesia (Kajian Terjemahan Sistemik Fungsional). International Seminar Prasasti III: Current Research in Linguistics. 334-339.
- Bell, R. T., & Candlin, C. (1991). Translation and translating: Theory and practice. Longman.
- Cazeaux, Clive. 2007. Metaphor and Continental Philosophy: From Kant to Derrida. New York: Routledge

- Chairunnisa. (2016). Analisis terjemahan kalimat yang merepresentasikan terjemahan kesantunan positif dalam novel *The Host* karya Stephenie Meyer dan dampaknya pada kualitas terjemahan (Unpublished Thesis): Universitas Sebelas Maret.
- Emzir. (2015). Teori dan pengajaran penerjemahan. Jakarta: PT. Raja Grafindo Persada
- Halliday, M.A.K & Matthiessen, M.I.M Christian. 2014. *Halliday's Introduction to Functional Grammar Fourth Edition*. London dan New York: Routledge.
- Hapsari, P. W. (2016). Kajian terjemahan kalimat yang merepresentasikan tindak tutur asertif menjawab dalam dua versi terjemahan novel *Pride and Prejudice* (Unpublished Thesis). Universitas Sebelas Maret.
- Keraf, Gorys. 2007. *Diksi dan Gaya Bahasa*. Jakarta: PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama.
- Kuncara, S. D. (2012). Analisis terjemahan tindak tutur direktif pada novel *Sang God Father* (Unpublished Thesis). Universitas Sebelas Maret.
- Moleong, L.J. *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Bandung: PT. Remaja Rosdakarya.
- Molina, L., & Albir, A, H. (2002). Translation technique revisited: A Dynamic and functionalist approach. *Meta: Translators' Journal*, 47(4), 498-512.
- Nababan, M.R. (2003). *Teori menerjemah bahasa Inggris*. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar.
- Nababan, M.R, Nuraeni, A & Sumardiono. (2012). Pengembangan model penilaian kualitas terjemahan. *Kajian Linguistik and Sastra*, 24(1) Juni 2012: 39-57
- Nida, E. A., & Taber, C, R. (1982). *The theory and practice of translation*. E.J. Brill.
- Pranata, A. Y. (2015). Perbandingan perjemahan ujaran yang mengandung implikatur percakapan dalam subtitle film kategori remaja "The Avengers" dan film kategori dewasa "The Departed" (Unpublished Thesis). Universitas Sebelas Maret.
- Prayogi, Icuk, & Ikmi, N,O. Mengenal Metafora dan Metafora Konseptual. *Jurnal Sasindo Pendidikan Bahasa dan Sastra*. 45-70
- Poyungi, S. Y. (2021). Analisis Terjemahan Metafora Modalitas dalam Novel *Anne of Green Gables* Karya Lucy M. Montgomery. Thesis. Universitas Sebelas Maret
- Santosa, R. (2014). *Metode Penelitian Kebahasaan*. UNS Press.
- Santosa, R. 2017. *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif Kebahasaan*. Surakarta: UNS Press
- Shuttleworth, M., & Cowie, M. (2014). *Dictionary of translation studies*. New York: Routledge Publishing.
- Tjandra, S. N. (2005). *Masalah penerjemahan dan terjemahan jepang-indonesia*. Aksarakarya.
- Valivour, V & Aidinion. N. A. 2014. An investigation of Metaphorical Modality in Barack Obama Speeches from SFL Perspective. *International Journal of Basic and Applied Science*, Insan Akademika Publications, 3 (1), July 2014, 28-33.
- Wahyudi. (2016). Analisis terjemahan tindak tutur giving compliment pada subtitle film *Twilight series* dan kualitas terjemahannya. Tesis. Universitas Sebelas Maret.
- Wiratno, T. 2018. *Pengantar Ringkas Linguistik Sistemik Fungsional*. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar.