**SIMULATNEOUS INTERPRETING STRATEGIS FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH**

I Gede Nika Wirawan

Stikom Bali

Jalan Raya Puputan Renon No. 86

Phone 0361-244445

nika.wirawan@gmail.com

**ABSTRACT**

There are many obstacle faced by the interpreter in interpreting a speech from Indonesian into English and vice versa. Because of that, the writer conducted a study and research about the appropriate strategies that could be used by the interpreter to produce a proper interpretation. The method of collecting data used in this research is observation and the method of collecting the data is qualitative. The data source used in this research is the speech of the President of Indonesia, Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in the opening ceremony of 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali. Based on the result, it could be concluded that there are six stretegies that could be used by the interpreter, i.e., understanding the main ideas of the speech, identify the main ideas of the speech, convey the nuances and the intensity of the feelings expressed which would be different in different type of text, analyze the linking words of the speech correctly, train for a good memory and train for re-expression what the ideas in the speech.

Keywords: *simultaneous interpreting, strategies for interpreter*.

**ABSTRAK**

Ada banyak kendala yang dihadapi oleh seorang interpreter dalam menerjemahkan teks lisan berbahasa Indonesia ke dalam Bahasa Inggris maupun sebaliknya. Oleh karena itu, penulis melakukan studi dan penelitian tentang strategi yang dapat digunakan oleh seorang interpreter guna menghasilkan sebuah interpretasi yang baik. Dalam karya tulis ilmiah ini metode pengumpulan data yang penulis gunakan adalah metode observasi dan metode pengolahan data yang digunakan adalah metode kualitatif. Sumber data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah video pidato Presiden Indonesia, Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono dalam upacara pembukaan ASEAN Summit yang ke-19 di Bali. Berdasarkan hasil yang diperoleh dari penelitian yang telah dilaksanakan, penulis dapat menyimpulkan bahwa ada enam strategi yang dapat digunakan oleh seorang interpreter, yaitu memahami ide utama dari teks yang diterjemahkan, mengidentifikasi ide utama dari teks tersebut, menyampaikan expresi perasaan dengan cara yang berbeda di setiap jenis teks yang berbeda, menelaah kata sambung yang digunakan dalam teks dan melatih ingatan dalam mengekspresikan ide yang ada di dalam teks.

Kata kunci:*simultaneous interpreting, strategi untuk interpreter*.

**INTRODUCTION**

Interpreting for a president is a tough duty, so that, the interpreter should have a very good basic knowledge of the technique and strategies in interpreting. The interpreter needs to convey the message clearly since the impact that would be cause if there is one simple mistake would be enormous. One case in Europe, in which the interpreter fail to translate the word “beat” leading to an enormous effect throughout the country and it made a big sensation in the law field. As it is cited in [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk) (2012), A Romanian defendant giving evidence at Snaresbrook Crown Court said the claimant had ‘beaten them’ but the interpreter said ‘bitten’. The mistake came to light once the prosecution questioned the defendant. The judge has now ordered a retrial. It comes as a new contract privatizing court translation services in England and Wales has come into force. Defense solicitor Dhaneshwar Sharma said the interpreter from Applied Language Solutions told the court she realized she had made a mistake but had kept quiet about it, so, to avoid this accident some strategies needed by the interpreter to do an excellence job.

In 2010 Alejandra Hayes and Sandra Hale conducted research in interpreting. They concern with the appeals on incompetent interpreting. In their research they analyze 50 court and tribunal appeals on the ground of incompetent interpreting from New South Wales, The Northern Territory, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia. They found that the quality of the interpreter is very bad. They also suggest that the court needs to train the interpreter well. The impact of the misinterpretation brings a big impact for justice decision. So, in this case the interpreter needs to understand the strategies that is appropriate to be applied as an interpreter.

As same as court interpreter, presidential interpreter has also to know the strategies that need to be applied. The speech of the president is a very formal speech. This speech must be perfect because it would bring a big impact for the country, Obst (2010 : 78). In doing the translation of this speech, the translator must do the right choices in doing the translation since the translation would bring an understanding for the people who could not understand the language of the speaker. So, the translator needs a strategy to avoid the misinterpretation of the speaker so that he or she could deliver the message deliberately. Based on the background above, there are two problems that would be arises, i.e,: (1) What strategies should be applied by the interpreter in doing the simultaneous interpretation? (2) Why these strategies are effective for the interpreter in doing the simultaneous interpretation? The theory used in this research is the theory proposed by Kopczynski’s (1994) about strategies that could be used by the interpreter to have a good quality of interpretation and interpreter.

**Understanding**

The interpretation is possible without all the words and without changing the meaning. Moreover, interpreters cannot be expected to be encyclopaedic dictionaries, and they must accept that there are times when they do not know a word or an idiomatic expression. In a situation of direct contact with the delegates, the interpreter must admit his/her ignorance and, if necessary, clarify the question with the delegates. On the other hand, the interpreter does not have the right to guess at meanings in order to hide a normally possible, even if embarrassing, situation.

**Different kinds of texts**

Speeches may be of different kinds. They can present logical arguments showing both points of view on a question before arriving at a synthetic conclusion, they can be a sequence of logical deductions leading to an obvious conclusion according to the speaker's point of view, and they may simply be descriptive, focusing on an event, a scene or a situation.

**Identification of the main ideas**

In analyzing a message, the interpreter has to identify the main ideas and give them their proper relevance in the interpretation. Moreover, owing to the intrinsic difficulty of a speech or to the speaker's speed, he/she might be forced to omit one or more elements of the original. To sum up, the interpreter has to stress the most important ideas of a speech, pay great attention to verb forms, identify the relative value of the secondary elements of the discourse and leave out anything which is irrelevant to the understanding of the original message.

**Analysis of links**

A speech is not only a sequence of ideas, but also a series of ideas related to one another in a particular way. Ideas may be linked by logical consequences, logical causes, put together without cause-effect relations, and may also be expressed by a series of opposing concepts.

1. **Memory**

An interpreter listens to a speech and then reproduces it in a different language. This means that he/she must resort to short-term memory. For this reason, mnemonic techniques are of paramount importance in interpreters' training. One possibility is that of internally visualizing the content of a speech, creating images in one's mind, and concentrating on ideas, not on single words. Another option is that of connecting the main ideas to a series of numbers, but an effective technique is that of concentrating on the main ideas and on the links among them, trying to reproduce the structure of the speech as a kind of skeleton.

**Reexpression**

After understanding and analyzing, interpreters have to re-express the speech they have just heard. It must be clear that they are not required to give an academically perfect translation. Their role is to make sure the speaker is understood by the audience.

**METHODOLOGY RESEARCH**

The method that will be used in conducting a research has a very important role in a scientific writing since it will affect the validity of the result of the research itself. The method is also intended to give an idea of how to conduct the research for this writing that covers the determination of data source, data collection, and data analysis. The library research method and field research method used in this study. The description of the method can be seen in the following explanations.The data source that will be used in this study is the video of the Indonesian President, Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono speech which is interpreted into Indonesian at the opening ceremony of the 19th ASEAN SUMMIT in Bali in 2010. The meeting is set to address a broad range of issues impacting the region such as global economy, G20 Summit, disaster management, climate change, food and energy security, regional integration, among others, and is expected to adopt several outcome documents, including the Bali Declaration on ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations.This video is chosen since the video is related to the topic of the study and the speech is given by the president of Indonesia in an important event in Bali.

In his speech, Dr.Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono raised five points to address in the coming days, including taking concrete steps to strengthen the three pillars of the ASEAN Community and implement the relevant action plans; promoting economic growth to make ASEAN region more resilient in face of global volatility; maintaining the leadership and centrality of ASEAN in regional cooperation architecture; ensuring the stability and security of the Southeast Asian and East Asian region; and strengthening the role of ASEAN in the global community in tackling global challenges.

The method used in this study is library research. Meanwhile the technique of the study is recording, note taking, reading and observing. The process of collecting the data will be started by searching the video recording the speech of the president in the event. Then, the speech will be transcribed into a text that could be analyzed. The next process would be reading the script of the speech*.* The script will contain the whole speech performed by the president. This is important to understand the whole speech by the president and the interpretation of the speech. From reading the script, we could see the source language and the target language and then, we could see whether the message in source language has been deliver to the target language. Then, the video will be watched to see the real situation in which the interpreter do his or her job. To see the real video is very necessary since the video provide the information how the interpreter d his job in the real situation.

The method used in this study is field research. The study belongs to field research or fieldwork since the collection of information used in the study is from outside of a laboratory, library or workplace setting. In this study the video of the interpretation of the president’s speech will be observe to get the data.

 Meanwhile the technique of the study is recording, note taking, reading and observing. The process of collecting the data will be started by searching the video recording the speech of the president in the event. Then, the speech will be transcribed into a text that could be analyzed. The next process would be reading the script of the speech*.* The script will contain the whole speech performed by the president. This is important to understand the whole speech by the president and the interpretation of the speech. From reading the script, we could see the source language and the target language and then, we could see whether the message in source language has been deliver to the target language. Then, the video will be watched to see the real situation in which the interpreter do his or her job. To see the real video is very necessary since the video provide the information how the interpreter d his job in the real situation.

The data will be analyzed descriptive qualitatively research. Therefore the collected data will be analyzed qualitatively and comparatively. The data will be analyzed qualitatively means that the data was analyzed by applying descriptive technique. The strategies used by the interpreter in the video will be analyzed descriptively. The theory of Kopczynski will be used as the parameter of the strategies.

The problems of the study will be analyzed using the theory proposed by Kopczynski’s about strategies to have a good quality of interpretation and interpreter. The analysis will consist of the strategies for the interpreter, and the reason why the strategies appropriate for the interpreter.

**DISCUSSION**

The Analysis and Findings of Simulteneous Interpreting Strategies for Presidential Speech. From the theories of Kopczynski’s (1994) about strategies to have a good quality of interpretation and interpreter, we could point out some strategies which is appropriate for the interpreter to be applied in doing the interpretation.

The understanding we refer to here is not of words but of ideas, since an interpreter has to convey concepts. But what happens if an interpreter doesn't know a word or an expression that he/she hears in a speech? First of all we can underline that an interpreter can understand a speaker’s meaning without actually understanding every single word and expression used. For example, let’s imagine that a delegate says:

*“I don't think that the advisory committee is the appropriate forum for discussion of this point. What is important is that the groundwork be done in the technical working parties, in order to prepare the basis for a decision in the executive committee.”*

Let’s assume that the interpreter understands neither forum nor groundwork. Yet this does not prevent him/her from understanding that (1) the advisory committe is not the right place to discuss the matter, and (2) the question has to be properly prepared for the executive committee by the technical working parties. The interpretation is possible without all the words and without changing the meaning, Gillies (2013 : 56).

Furthermore, in order to understand meaning without knowing all the lexical items, and to be able to deduce from context, interpreters must in any case have a thorough knowledge of their working languages, and that is one of the reasons why it takes three to four years on average to form a professional with sufficient knowledge to allow him/her to undertake this career, Munday (2008 : 94). Another key element in interpreting is the kind of attention required, that is to say an active attention, which must lead the interpreter to ask him/herself: What does the speaker mean?

So, it is very necessary for the interpreter to understand the ideas of the source languages since the interpretation is done to deliver the message of the speaker in the source language to the target language. We could see in the real work from the example below.

**Source Language**

*Kehadiran Yang Mulia sekalian* akan semakin memperkokoh kerja sama di kawasan Asia Tenggara, yang saat ini tengah bergerak maju menuju Komunitas ASEAN 2015.

**Target Language**

*Your presence* will strengthen cooperation in the Southeast Asian region that is now progressing towards becoming ASEAN Community in 2015.

From the sentence above, we could see that the interpreter did not only translate word per word but the interpreter translate the message of the SL. The phrase *Kehadiran Yang Mulia sekalian* was translated into ‘your presence.’ Here English language does not have the equal meaning of the phrase *Kehadiran Yang Mulia sekalian*. *Yang mulia* is not as same as *anda* since the words has difference politeness. Since the interpreter should convey the meaning of the language, so that the most equal equivalence of this phrase is ‘your present’ so that the interpreter used this word. Here we could see the application of this strategy which points out that the translator should transfer the idea or the concept of the SL into the TL. Of course the translator should understand the context where the language is being used.

There are polemical speeches, which purpose is to convince the audience, and rhetorical ones, where content is secondary, the main aim being to pay tribute to somebody or some organization through elegant style and cultural references, and there are elusive ones, where the main aim is not communicating anything or hiding something, Nolan (2012 : 167). If a speaker is following a logical line of thought, weighing up pros and cons, the interpreter must be able to spot the turning points in the speech, and therefore has to pay attention to discursive linking devices such *as but, however, on the other hand, conversely, on the contrary*, etc. If the speech follows a series of deductions, the interpreter must pay attention to links such as *as*, *given that, therefore, consequently, because, thence, henceforward*, which can all be key words. In this case, the interpreter shouldn’t miss any stage of the reasoning, lest the whole speech structure comes tumbling down. In the case of a narrative, chronological speech, it goes without saying that an interpreter must pay due attention to time phrases, dates and verb tenses. The audience want to know what happened and when.

Speeches may also be polemic in nature, and in this case the interpreter must try not only to convey the content of the original, but also the nuances and the intensity of the feelings expressed, Taylor (2007 : 12). Or they may be rhetorical, where form becomes more important than content, such as in dinner or farewell speeches, in which the spirit of the speech, rather than its exact details, must be forcefully conveyed. In such a situation, special attention must be paid to images, metaphors and similes, anecdotes, jokes and so on. One golden rule, however, must be remembered: the interpreter must make no addition to a speech, under no circumstance, as his/her job is to communicate a message as it is, without adding or deleting anything.

In the presidential speech, the text is more polemic in nature, since the interpreter must convey the nuances and the intensity of the feelings express. We could see in the example below.

**Source Language**

“KTT ASEAN kali ini *insya Allah* akan melahirkan Bali Concord III.”

**Target Language**

“This ASEAN Summit, *God willing***,** will give birth to Bali Concord III.”

We could see that in the SL, there is a cultural term said by the president, “insya Allah” which is very deep in culture. The term is actually an expression to express the feeling of the speaker wish the things goes well. The phrase insha'Allah means ‘God willing’ or ‘if God wills it’ and it is an [Arabic](http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-arabic.htm) term. Devout Muslims say *insha'Allah* whenever they make a statement about a plan to do something, in a way of requesting God to bless the activity. The phrase also acknowledges submission to God, with the speaker putting him or herself into God's hands, and accepting the fact that God sometimes works in inscrutable ways.

It is clear that if the interpreter doesn’t translate some details, the interpretation will not be perfect but still adequate, whereas, if he/she misses out significant points of the discourse, the result will be a seriously flawed performance, Pochhacker (2004 : 145). Indeed, interpreters should be capable of providing a summary of a speech, since delegates often do not want a detailed interpretation but only an exhaustive and precise summary of what has been said.

Generally, one can say that delegates need answers to these three basic questions: who does what, and when, and who says or thinks what. Let's take an example :

*The Secretary-General has put forward to the member states a new proposal for the reform of the functioning of the U:N. US State Department sources conformed yesterday that, although in principle they recognized the need for reform, they did not see it being along the lines suggested by the Secretary-General.*

All this could be reduced to:

*The Secretary-General has made a proposal for U.N reform. The US has said that it is against the proposal, although it is in favor of reform in principle. This simplification represents the main ideas according to the subject-verb-object model, but we have to keep in mind that there are always secondary details, expressed by adverbs, adjectives, lists of examples, exclamations which also have a role to play in the speech, and that, if left out, do not necessarily impinge on the substance of the message*.

In the real situation, we could see below the translation of the interpreter in interpreting the president speech.

**Source Language**

*Dengan dukungan tersebut kita telah menghasilkan banyak capaian, sejak diselenggara-kannya KTT-18 ASEAN di Jakarta bulan Mei lalu.* Saya meyakini, dukungan serupa akan diberikan dalam penyelenggaraan KTT ke-19 di Pulau Bali ini.

**Target Language**

*This support has led to many achievements following the 18th ASEAN Summit in Jakarta last May.* I am sure that similar support will also be offered for the current 19th ASEAN Summit in Bali.

We could understand that the translation of the interpreter does not a literal translation which translated word per word. It could be seen above that the interpreter only deliver the message of the speaker. In the speech spoken by the president, there is a statement *Dengan dukungan tersebut kita telah menghasilkan banyak capaian, sejak diselenggara-kannya KTT-18 ASEAN di Jakarta bulan Mei lalu.* If the translator does not know how to identify the main ideas, the message delivered could be too much. It could be ‘with this support we have produced many achievements, since it was conducted the 18th ASEAN Summit in Jakarta last May*.*’ But that translation is not adequate information that should be delivered to the hearer. It should be ‘This support has led to many achievements following the 18th ASEAN Summit in Jakarta last May.’The translation of the sentence in this style is more efficient than the previous one. It delivers the main idea of the message.

Since the analysis of this paper is focusing on a speech, the interpreter does need many linking devices nor pay much attention on them. Linking devices help you carry over a thought from one sentence, idea or paragraph to another with words or phrases so that there are no sudden jumps or breaks between ideas. The understanding of these linking devices is very crucial for the interpreter to connect the previous ideas to the next ideas. In doing the interpreting, the link that is appeared in the data is the link to connect the ideas of the previous sentence with the next sentence.

**Source Language**

*Sementara itu*, di samping ketidakpastian baru yang menghantui perekonomian dunia, permasalahan dan tantangan yang fundamental juga masih kita hadapi, seperti ketahanan pangan, energy dan air; perubahan iklim; bencana alam, serta dampak revolusi teknologi informasi pada kehidupan masyarakat kita.

**Target Language**

*In addition to* these new uncertainties casting a cloud on the world economy, the world continues to be faced with fundamental problems and challenges, such as food, energy and water security; climate change; natural disasters, as well as the impact of information technology revolution on society.

From the example above, the translator used the connection *in addition to* to connect the previous ideas to the following ideas. This connector has an important role to make the hearer understand deeply about the speech. The speech has many connectors that should be recognized by the interpreter. The literal translation of *sementara itu* is actually *meanwhile.* In this case the translator translated *sementara itu* into *in addition to* inthis translation. Here the translator would like to add one thing to another.

In the context of speech analysis, we have to underline the basic point that is the importance of the beginning and the end of the text to be interpreted. The beginning is just like the starting point of a journey, and it often includes significant elements which are useful to understand the overall meaning of a speech. The end is usually the most important part of a message, since it contains its conclusions, or a summary of what has just been said, or a comment of vital significance, and therefore interpreters, sensing the end coming near, have to redouble their concentration in order to provide a precise, well-structured and clear oral translation of the final part of a speech.

After understanding and analyzing, interpreters have to re-express the speech they have just heard. It must be clear that they are not required to give an academically perfect translation. Their role is to make sure the speaker is understood by the audience.

What does this mean in practice? First, interpreters must recognize that they are public speakers and therefore they have to establish contact with the audience, speaking clearly and articulating precisely. They are supposed to establish eye-contact with the audience, since there is always the risk of looking at their notes all the time, thereby losing contact and communicative interaction with the recipients of the message. A good interpreter will look at his/her notes only from time to time, and express the translation in an effective way, without wavering or repeating ideas, through a steady but not monotonous rhythm. The general gist of the speech will be conveyed also by means of a correct use of pauses and changes in tone, in order to enliven the performance.

Interpreting is a profession that is all about communication, Nolan (2005 : 89). In order to communicate well, interpreters have to ‘make their own speech’ out of the speeches they interpret, and their speech must be faithful to the original and as accurate as possible. Interpreters understand the ideas of a discourse and have to re-express the same ideas: therefore, they can invert the order of two sentences, merge two sentences in one, or divide long sentences up into a number of shorter ones. In order to do that, they must have clearly understood and completely analyzed the original speech, before starting with the re-expression.

Here, there is another point to be kept in mind: real interpreters have to continue to work on their working languages, including their mother tongue, with the aim of keeping them rich, lively, effective and up-to-date.

1. Be informed about the latest national/international events with learning new terminology and also of grabbing the spirit of the era we are living in;
2. Constantly enrich one's general vocabulary and style, through regular reading of a broad range of well-written publications in all working languages;
3. Following the press in one's native language too, which is of particular importance for the interpreters for living abroad;
4. Watch television, see movies, go to the theatre, and listen to songs in their original language.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Based on the finding in the analysis, some conclusions can be withdrawn as follows. There are six strategies that could be applied by the translator to produced a good interpretation for a presidential speech, i.e., understanding the main ideas of the speech, convey the nuances and the intensity of the feelings expressed which would be different in different type of text, identify the main ideas of the speech, analyze the linking words of the speech correctly, train for a good memory and train for re-expression what the ideas from the SL to the TL. These strategies are very effective for the interpreter because it could improve the interpreter’s performance while doing their job at work. The interpreter would have a basic point that they must do to produce a good interpretation. These strategies should be applied for any kind of interpreting work.

**REFERENCES**

Gillies, A. 2013. *Conference Interpreting: A Student’s Practice Book.* New York: Routledge.

Munday, J. 2008. *Introducing Translation Studies*. London and New York: Routledge.

Nolan, J. 2012. *Interpreting Techniques and Exercise.* Bristol: MPG Books Group.

Nolan, J. 2005. *Interpretation*. Clevedon: Cromwell Press Ltd.

Obst, H. 2010. *White House Interpreter.* Indiana: Author House.

Pochhacker, F. 2004. *Introducing Interpreting Studies.* London: Routledge.

Taylor, V. 2007. *Conference Interpreting: Principles and Practice.* Canberra: National Library of Australia.