



**LOSS AND GAIN TECHNIQUE USED  
IN INTERPRETING GOVERNOR' SPEECHES IN  
"THE ASEAN WORKSHOP ON CULTURE HERITAGE TOURISM" AND  
"THE 6<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL INTERFAITH DIALOGUE"**

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**ABSTRACT**

The translation techniques are aimed to make the product of translation will be more effective, acceptable, and understandable in terms of messages. One of the them is loss and gain technique. The video recording of "The ASEAN Workshop on Culture Heritage Tourism" and "The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue" conferences show that there are so many words loss and gain in the Governor' speech. It is true that the interpreters can omit and add words/phrases/clauses in target language as the result of using "loss and gain technique", but it arises a question whether the audience, as the hearer of the speech, enable to receive the same message that is delivered by the speaker or not. So, it is important to know the accuracy "loss and gain technique" used especially in interpreting the speeches of Governor of Central Java. The result of this study shows that Mr.X is more frequent using gain technique instead of the loss technique by Mr.Y. Furthermore, the accuracy analysis of loss and gain technique shows that Interpreter Y is able to use loss and gain technique more accurately found in interpreting the Governor' speech than the one of Mr. X.

**Keywords:** *accuracy, governor, interpreter, loss and gain technique, speech.*

Keberadaan teknik penerjemahan ditujukan agar hasil terjemahan lebih mudah dimengerti dan diterima dalam menyampaikan pesan, salah satunya adalah teknik *loss and gain*. Pada video konferensi "*The ASEAN Workshop on Culture Heritage Tourism*" dan "*The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue*" banyak sekali kata/frase/kalimat yang hilang dan ditambahkan dalam pidato Gubernur. Penerjemah memang diperbolehkan untuk mengurangi atau menambahkan kata/frase/kalimat dalam menerjemahkan, sehingga muncul pertanyaan apakah dengan teknik itu pendengar pidato bisa menangkap pesan yang sama seperti yang dimaksudkan pembicara atau tidak. Oleh karena itu, menjadi hal yang penting untuk mengetahui ketepatan penggunaan teknik *loss and gain* terlebih dalam penggunaannya untuk menerjemahkan secara lisan pidato Gubernur Jawa Tengah. Hasil studi menunjukkan bahwa Penerjemah X lebih banyak menggunakan *gain technique*, dan *loss technique* lebih banyak digunakan oleh Penerjemah Y. Hasil analisis ketepatan penggunaan *loss and gain technique* menunjukkan bahwa Penerjemah Y mampu menggunakan *loss and gain technique* lebih tepat daripada Penerjemah X dalam menerjemahkan pidato Gubernur Jawa Tengah.

**Kata kunci:** *gubernur, ketepatan, penerjemah lisan, pidato, teknik loss and gain.*

## INTRODUCTION

In communicating, sometimes the communication agents have some obstruction. Moreover, when they have interlanguage communication that use more than one language. It is a complex situation because if two different languages are used, it means that there are two different cultures involved. Whereas, communication is very important to have conversation, discussion, and even delivering the speech. To solve interlanguage problem of communication, the translator is needed because he can render the source language to the target language. This process is called translation.

Translation, one of important elements in language learning is always performed in a given direction from a source language into a target language. In translating, there are three important elements, that are equivalent, source language text (message) and replacement including the meaning, style, craft, and process. According to McGuire (1980:xii), translation studies explores the process whereby texts are transferred from one culture to another. Translation is usually in a written text. On the other hand, translating for oral language is done by interpreter. Interpreter has ability to “speak” more than one language. Interpreting is the facilitating of oral or sign-language communication, either simultaneously or consecutively, between users of different languages. The process is described by both the words interpreting and interpretation. Nolan (2005:2) points out that interpretation can be defined in a nutshell as conveying understanding. Its usefulness stems from the fact that a speaker’s meaning is best expressed in his or her native tongue but is best understood in the languages of the listeners.

Language interpretation is the facilitating of oral or sign-language communication, either simultaneously or consecutively, between users of different languages. Translation studies deal with the systematic study of the theory, the description and the application of language interpretation and translation. Translating and interpreting activities world wide are more and more important practices, in Indonesia especially Central Java Province. It can be seen in some conferences held by Government of Central Java Province in which every event would be documented especially “The ASEAN Workshop on Culture Heritage Tourism” and “The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue” conferences.

In this study, interpreters are used to translate Governor’ speeches in “The ASEAN Workshop on Culture Heritage Tourism” and in “The 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Interfaith Dialogue”. Mr. Bibit Waluyo, the Governor of Central Java, doesn’t speak English, eventhough his guests come from overseas and they use English in communicating. In this case, Mr. Bibit delivered the speech in Indonesian and then it is translated by the interpreter into English. The interpreter should pay attention to the culture as well. Interpreting is not as easy as translating because in interpreting, the interpreter has no longer time to think, or even corrects the translation result before, that it can be done in translating the text. It is because interpreting renders source language to target language orally. Moreover, interpreting will be easier if the interpreter has the same language with his mother tongue in interpreting the target language. In fact, in this study, the interpreter translated Indonesian into English in which English is not the mother tongue of

the two interpreter, instead of Indonesian is their mother tongue. It would be difficult enough for the interpreter to do. So, the researcher has curiosity about the accurateness of the interpreting result. It is because there are some techniques that can be used to translate from source language to target language.

The translation techniques are aimed to make the product of translation will be more effective, acceptable, and understandable in terms of messages. One of the them is loss and gain technique. The concept of loss and gain is proposed by McGuire (1980:30) said that once the principle is accepted that sameness cannot exist between two languages, it becomes possible to approach the question of *loss and gain* in the translation process. It is again an indication of the low status of translation that so much time should have been spent on discussing what is lost in the transfer of text from SL to TL whilst ignoring what can also be gained, for the translator can at time enrich or clarify the SL text as a direct result of the translation process. Moreover, what is often seen as 'lost' from the SL context may be replaced in the TL context. The interpreter should concern the usage of loss and gain technique. It is because video recording of "The ASEAN Workshop on Culture Heritage Tourism" and "The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue" conferences show that there are so many words loss and gain. It can be assumed that because of losing and gaining words have potency to influence the participant's understanding about the content of the speech. The applying of loss and gain technique influences the quality of the speech. Because adding and omitting in target text by the interpreter potentially change the content message of the source text. The quality of translation result can be viewed through linguistics approach. It is in line with Kopczynski (1994:189) that

I believe that quality can be viewed ...,which I call linguistic. In its linguistic sense quality in translation is viewed as a set of rigid standards of equivalence in content and form between the spoken message in L1 and L2. Concepts such as *equivalence* (= identity or similarity of meaning), *congruence* (= identity or similarity of meaning and form) and *correspondence* (=formally closest translation overriding differences between two languages) have been developed to deal with text in L1 and L2. Their common feature is to view T2 strictly in terms of T1 measuring the fidelity of translation. .... However, I believe that these concepts are useful in investigating the process of interpretation: e.g. one can provide the fullest possible translated text (= correspondent text) as a reference to see what the interpreter omitted, added or replaced and why. This procedure is similar to a well-known method in discourse analysis where one provides default elements to investigate presuppositions.

The quality of translation or interpreting result is influenced by the accurateness of using loss and gain technique by the interpreter. Furthermore, it can be used to investigate which interpreter has better ability in using loss and gain technique in interpreting the speech. By the variable relationships between the participants in the act of interpreting, speaker (S), interpreter (I), and receptors (R) helps to know the reason why the interpreter omitted, added, or replaced. In an interesting study, Kopczynski (1994:192) quoted that David Snelling (1989) gives at least three such possibilities which can be presented as:

1. S = R. An example of this situation can be a technical congress where the speakers and the audience discuss the newest developments of a field of study. On the one hand, I believe one can assume that the receptors are primarily interested in the content of T1 and the precision of terminology rather than its style. On the other hand, the interpreter, even if s/he is thoroughly prepared, cannot possibly match the knowledge and background of the participants of the congress. S/he, therefore, has to adopt a different strategy to achieve the quality requirements from those cases when her/his knowledge matches the speaker and/or the receptors, e.g. keeping close to T1 and to the speaker.
2. S = I. In this case the interpreter shares the same set of presuppositions, cultural values and the language with the speaker. If he translates into a distant culture he may be expected to expand on what the speaker is saying in order to explain culture-specific phenomena and frequently readjust the style of T1 in order to comply with the target culture. In this case the interpreter probably has more of an intruder role in the act.
3. I = R. This case is a mirror image of the previous one: the interpreter shares the presuppositions, culture and language of the receptors. Therefore, s/he sometimes can be allowed to make shortcuts in rendering the meaning of T1. This is also more of an intruder role. The picture is somewhat simplified in that other important factors may come in, such as the field of discourse (topic of conversation, theme of the congress, etc.), level of formality (e.g. translating for the top dignitaries of the state), individual tastes, and so on.

It is true that the interpreters can omit and add words/phrases/clauses in target language as the result of using “loss and gain technique”, but it arises a question whether the audience, as the hearer of the speech, is able to receive the same message that is delivered by the speaker or not. It was then the researcher realized that it is important to know the accurateness “loss and gain technique” used in interpreting the speeches of Governor. It is a crucial thing because of the importance of speech and the result of interpreting consideration influences the International relationship between Central Java Province and some countries especially ASEAN after the end of the conference.

## **METHOD**

### **Research Design**

This study is an interpreting analysis by loss and gain technique approach as suggested by McGuire (1980:30) and Andrzej Kopczynski (1994:189). This study was conducted by analyzing the speech under the study from one of English Department section that was translation. The translation section was revealed by studying interpreting that the interpreter rendered every utterances produced by the speaker from source language to target language, in which one of translation technique was explored from loss and gain of the utterances and its interpretation. for evaluating which interpreter had a better accurateness in using loss and gain technique in interpreting the speech of Governor.

## **Data**

There were two data that was used in this research. The first one was the interpreting video of Governor' speech of "The ASEAN Workshop on Culture Heritage Tourism" by Mr. X, that was held on July 10<sup>th</sup> 2012, had 10.05 (10 minutes and 5 second). The second one was the interpreting video of Governor' speech of "The 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Interfaith Dialogue" by Mr. Y, that was held on March 12<sup>th</sup> 2012, had 8.05 (8 minutes and 5 second). Both of the events were held in Wisma Perdamaian Semarang.

## **Unit of Analysis**

This research analyzed the Governor's and the interpreter's utterances, containing the words, phrases, or clauses, in the speeches of Central Java Governor and its interpreting.

## **Data Collection**

Biro Humas of Central Java Government recorded "The ASEAN Workshop on Culture Heritage Tourism" and "The 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Interfaith Dialogue" conferences. There is the speech of Mr. Bibit Waluyo, the Governor of Central Java Province.

## **Setting**

Prior to the speech, Governor of Central Java delivered the speech to the country delegations that they had a certain topic. The Governor delivered the speech in Bahasa Indonesia that then rendered orally into English by interpreter.

## **Data Processing and Analysis**

To represent the recorded video in written form, it was then transcribed the speech by listening and typing the Indonesian speech as the source language. It was continued by listening and typing the speech in English as the result of interpreting. Since there were two speeches in two events, so it was done from one event to another event. For the accuracy of the transcription, it was rechecked by the help of a native speaker.

The transcription speeches of "ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism" and "The 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Interfaith Dialogue" that were in Indonesian and English then analyzed the loss or gain technique used in two speeches based on McGuire's theory. The findings are aimed to identify the accuracy of loss and gain technique used in the interpreting result by those interpreters based on Kopczynski's theory. Furthermore, comparing the accuracy of loss and gain technique used in the interpreting result by those interpreters for concluding which interpreter had a better accuracy in using loss and gain technique in interpreting the speeches of Governor.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

The researcher found 72 of loss and gain techniques in the Governor' speech of "Asean Workshop On Cultural Heritage Tourism" by Mr. X. The

number of loss technique is 27 patterns (37,5%) and the number of gain technique is 45 patterns (62,5%). The loss and gain techniques, in the interpreting result of “ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism” speech, can be seen in the table 1:

Table 1. Loss and Gain Technique in The Governor’ Speech of “ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism” by Mr. X

LEVEL	FINDINGS			
	LOSS TECHNIQUE		GAIN TECHNIQUE	
	$\Sigma$	%	$\Sigma$	%
Word	10	37,04	18	40,00
Phrase	14	51,85	22	48,89
Clause	3	11,11	5	11,11
<b>Total</b>	27	100	45	100

It can be seen, based on the table 1, Interpreter X used the loss technique in word class for 10 patterns (37,04%), phrase class for 14 patterns (51,85%), and clause class for 3 patterns (11,11%) while the gain technique is used in the word class for 18 patterns (40%), phrase class for 22 patterns (48,89%), and clause class for 5 patterns (11,11%). The number of gain technique is higher than the loss technique in the interpreting of Governor’ Speech of “ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism” by Mr. X.

Furthermore, the researcher found 50 of loss and gain techniques in the Governor’ speech of “The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue” by Mr. Y. The number of loss technique is 30 patterns (60%) and the number of gain technique is 20 patterns (40%). The loss and gain techniques, in the interpreting result of “The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue” speech, can be seen in the table 2:

Table 2. Loss and Gain Technique in The Governor’ Speech of “The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue” by Mr. Y

LEVEL	FINDINGS			
	LOSS TECHNIQUE		GAIN TECHNIQUE	
	$\Sigma$	%	$\Sigma$	%
Word	17	56,67	12	60
Phrase	10	33,33	7	35
Clause	3	10,00	1	5
<b>Total</b>	30	100	20	100

It can be seen, based on the table 2, Interpreter Y used the loss technique in word class for 17 patterns (56,67%), phrase class for 10 patterns (33,33%), and clause class for 3 patterns (10%) while the gain technique is used in the word class for 12 patterns (60%), phrase class for 7 patterns (35%), and clause class for 1 pattern (5%). The number of loss technique is higher than the gain technique in the interpreting of Governor’ Speech of “6th Interfaith Dialogue” by Mr. Y.

Loss and gain technique occurred in word/phrase/clause level. It can be seen in the two tables above that there are differences of amount word/phrase/clause level loss and gain. The word level patterns in the interpreting result of Mr. Y is much more than the interpreting result of Mr. X in which Mr. X used loss and gain technique for 38,89% in word level (28 patterns) and Mr. Y used loss and gain technique for 58% in word level (29 patterns). Phrase level patterns in the

interpreting result of Mr. X is much more than the interpreting result of Mr. Y in which Mr. X used loss and gain technique for 50% in phrase level (36 patterns) and Mr. Y used loss and gain technique for 34% in phrase (17 patterns). Clause level patterns in the interpreting result of Mr. X is much more than the interpreting result of Mr. Y in which Mr. X used loss and gain technique for 11,11% in clause level (8 patterns) and Mr. Y used loss and gain technique for 8% in clause level (4 patterns). So, the interpreting of Governor' Speech of "ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism" are dominated by the phrase class. On the other hand, the interpreting of Governor' Speech of "The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue" are dominated by the word class. The clause class arouse infrequently in the interpreting result of two speeches by its interpreter.

In this section, the findings of loss technique would be analyzed further for the accuracy in using loss technique in word/phrase/clause level by the interpreter. The result of analysis would be divided in two categories, that are accurate and inaccurate. The applying loss technique would be called accurate when the interpreter made shortcuts that was in line with the content of the ST concerning the content message, terminology, language culture, the intention, grammar, and so on. It is assumed that there's no problem in transferring the ST into TT and would be marked "√". If there's mistake or problem in rendering the utterance of the speaker, it would be called inaccurate when the loss technique ommit and/or change the ST (the content of the Governor's utterance) and the interpreting result would got mark "X".

The researcher has delivered the findings of loss technique in the interpreting result of Mr. X and Mr. Y that there are 27 loss technique patterns in the speech of "ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism" by Mr.X and 30 loss technique patterns in the speech of " The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue" by Mr.Y. The accuracy of using loss technique by Interpreter X can be seen in the table 3:

Table 3. Loss Technique Used in The Speech of "ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism" by Mr. X

	LOSS TECHNIQUE			
	ACCURATE √		INACCURATE X	
	Σ	%	Σ	%
Word	7	25,93	3	11,11
Phrase	8	29,63	6	22,22
Clause	2	7,41	1	3,7
Total	17	62,97%	10	37,03%

Table 3 shows that Interpreter X applied the loss technique accurately in word class for 7 patterns (25,93%), phrase class for 8 patterns (29,63%), and clause class for 2 patterns (7,41%). The inaccuracy of using loss technique applied in word class for 3 patterns (11,11%), phrase class for 6 patterns (22,22%), and clause class for 1 pattern (3,7%). On the other hand, the accurateness of using loss technique by Interpreter Y can be seen in the table 4:



Table 4. Loss Technique Used in The Speech of “The 6th Regonal Interfaith Dialogue” by Mr. Y

	LOSS TECHNIQUE			
	ACCURATE √		INACCURATE X	
	Σ	%	Σ	%
Word	13	43,33	4	13,33
Phrase	5	16,67	5	16,67
Clause	1	3,33	2	6,67
Total	19	63,33%	11	36,67%

Table 4 shows that Interpreter Y applied the loss technique accurately in word class for 13 patterns (43,33%), phrase class for 5 patterns (16,67%), and clause class for 1 pattern (3,33%). Interpreting result of Mr. Y inaccurately used loss technique in which applied in word class for 4 patterns (13,33%), phrase class for 5 patterns (16,67%), and clause class for 2 patterns (6,67%).

It can be seen, based on the table 3 and table 4, that Mr. X used the loss technique accurately for 17 patterns (62,97%) and 10 patterns (37,03%) are inaccurately applied. On the other hand, Mr. Y used the loss technique accurately for 19 patterns (63,33%) and 11 patterns (36,67%) are inaccurately applied. So, both of the interpreters, Mr.X and Mr.Y, used the loss technique accurately. But, Interpreter Y has better accuracy (63,33%) than Interpreter X (62,97%) in using loss technique for the Governor’ speech.

Furthermore, the findings of gain technique in the interpreting result of Mr. X and Mr. Y, that there are 45 gain technique patterns in the speech of “ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism” by Mr.X and 20 gain technique patterns in the speech of “ The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue” by Mr.Y, would be analyzed further for the accuracy in using gain technique in word/phrase/clause level by the interpreter. The accuracy of using gain technique by Interpreter X can be seen in the table 5:

Table 5. Gain Technique Used in The Speech of “ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism” by Mr. X

	GAIN TECHNIQUE			
	ACCURATE √		INACCURATE X	
	Σ	%	Σ	%
Word	11	24,44	7	15,56
Phrase	10	22,22	12	26,67
Clause	1	2,22	4	8,89
Total	22	48,88%	23	51,12%

Table 5 shows that Interpreter X applied the gain technique accurately in word class for 11 patterns (24,44%), phrase class for 10 patterns (22,22%), and clause class for 1 pattern (2,22%). The inaccuracy of using gain technique applied in word class for 7 patterns (15,56%), phrase class for 12 patterns (26,67%), and clause class for 4 pattern (8,89%). On the other hand, the preciseness of using gain technique by Interpreter Y can be seen in the table 6:

Table 6. Gain Technique Used in The Speech of “The 6th Interfaith Dialogue” by Mr. Y

	GAIN TECHNIQUE			
	ACCURATE √		INACCURATE X	
	Σ	%	Σ	%
Word	9	45	3	15
Phrase	3	15	4	20
Clause	0	0	1	5
Total	12	60%	8	40%

Table 6 shows that Interpreter Y applied the gain technique accurately in word class for 9 patterns (45%), phrase class for 3 patterns (15%), so there's no clause class for accurate of using gain technique. The inaccuracy of using loss technique applied in word class for 3 patterns (15%), phrase class for 4 patterns (20%), and clause class for 1 pattern (5%).

It can be seen, based on the table 5 and table 6, that Mr. X used the gain technique accurately for 22 patterns (48,88%) and 23 patterns (51,12%) are inaccurately applied. On the other hand, Mr. Y used the gain technique accurately for 12 patterns (60%) and 8 patterns (40%) are inaccurately applied.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the data analysis of interpreting result, the following conclusions can be drawn.

1. Loss and gain technique used in the interpreting Governor' speeches in “The ASEAN Workshop on Culture Heritage Tourism” by Mr. X and “The 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Interfaith Dialogue” by Mr. Y can be described as the following:
  - a. The word level patterns in the interpreting result of Mr. Y is much more than the interpreting result of Mr. X in which Mr. X used loss and gain technique for 38,89% in word level (28 patterns) and Mr. Y used loss and gain technique for 58% in word level (29 patterns).
  - b. Phrase level patterns in the interpreting result of Mr. X is much more than the interpreting result of Mr. Y in which Mr. X used loss and gain technique for 50% in phrase level (36 patterns) and Mr. Y used loss and gain technique for 34% in phrase (17 patterns).
  - c. Clause level patterns in the interpreting result of Mr. X is much more than the interpreting result of Mr. Y in which Mr. X used loss and gain technique for 11,11% in clause level (8 patterns) and Mr. Y used loss and gain technique for 8% in clause level (4 patterns).
  - d. The interpreting of Governor' Speech of “ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism” are dominated by the phrase class.
  - e. The interpreting of Governor' Speech of “The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogue” are dominated by the word class.
  - f. The clause class arouse infrequently in the interpreting result of two speeches by its interpreter.

2. Accuracy of using loss and gain technique in the interpreting Governor' speeches can be described as the following:
  - a. Interpreter X used loss and gain technique accurately in which 39 accurate pattern (54,17%) and 33 inaccurate pattern (45,83%) of 72 loss and gain pattern in the interpreting result of "ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism" speech.
  - b. Interpreter Y used loss and gain technique accurately in which 31 accurate pattern (62%) and 19 inaccurate pattern (38%) of 50 loss and gain pattern in the interpreting result of "6th Regional Interfaith Dialogoue" speech by Mr. Y.
  - c. The interpreting result of "The 6th Regional Interfaith Dialogoue" speech has better accuracy than the interpreting result of "ASEAN Workshop on Cultural Heritage Tourism" speech.
3. The researcher concludes that Interpreter Y is able to use loss and gain technique more accurately found in interpreting the Governor' speech than the one of Mr. X.

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