



## Techniques Used by Students in Translating Report Text from Indonesian into English

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### Abstract

Due to the different aspects of the source language and the target language, there are some techniques involved in the translation process to achieve the equivalence of the translation result. This study is aimed at analyzing the dominant translation techniques as proposed by Molina and Albir (2002) used by the third year students of the English Department in translating report text from Indonesian into English. Descriptive research was used to examine this research and also translation test and interview were used to collect research data online. The sample of this research was 36 students who learned translation study. There were several results that the researchers found while conducting the research. The results of this research that have obtained in this study were the most dominant technique used by students in translating report text was established equivalent. The function of this research is to give additional information to the readers about the techniques used in translating the texts.

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## INTRODUCTION

As a foreigner, it needs a process to translate another language into its language. It is called a translation. Translation is a process of transferring meaning from one language into another language. It is an important thing to get the meaning from the other languages. In translation, it has to decide the source language (SL) and the target language (TL) to ease the people to get meaning from the other foreigners. The translator has to consider several things such as language structure, culture, and style.

In translating text from Indonesian to English or vice versa, each text has different techniques used. A report text is a kind of text to classify and describe the way things are with reference to a range of natural, man-made and social phenomena in the environment. Report text is important to learn because it has relationship with the daily life context, for example: News in the television or newspaper, scientific report in the book, etc. Report text may contain information from various areas of knowledge. According to Anderson and Anderson (2003), report is a piece of text that tells information about a subject. It usually contains facts about the subject, a description, and information on its parts, behavior, and qualities. In other words, the report text is a piece of text that displays information about the subject. It usually contains facts about the subject, a description, and information on its parts, behavior, and qualities. In other words, the report text is a piece of text that displays information about the subject. The reason for choosing this text is because its factual nature will make it easy for anyone who reads it to understand that this text is a report.

Due to the different aspects of the source language and the target language, there are some techniques involved in the translation process in order to achieve the equivalence of the translated works. Molina and Albir (2002), clearly states that translation method, strategies and techniques are essentially different categories. Molina and Albir (2002), identify the technique in translating as the procedure to analyze and classify the SL in producing the equivalent of the TL. Strategies and techniques occupy different places in problem solving in which

strategies are part of the process, while techniques affect the result.

The translator can convey the SL to the TL text by using some translation techniques to make the reader understand the translation in the TL. Since the techniques of translation are crucial, there are many scholars have conducted studies on translation techniques. Cholis and Linggar (2022) analyzed on students' use of translation techniques in translating final test text. They found that the most translation found was calque with 940 occurrences (62,37%), literal translation with 371 occurrences (20,90%), reduction with 96 occurrences (6,23%), and the last borrowing with 158 occurrences (10,48%). It can be concluded that students' knowledge of translation techniques is very limited. Then, Rahesa and Rosa (2021) found that there were nine translation techniques used by students in translating a narrative text use, namely literal translation, established equivalent, discursive creation, amplification, generalization, adaptation, borrowing, modulation, and linguistic compression. The students seem to be afraid of staying away from the ST (source text) that is English text style and structure because they are worried that they cannot keep the original meaning contained in the ST.

Next, Fadilaturrehman and Tiyono (2019) did a research on analysis of translation techniques in translating cultural words. They found six techniques for translating cultural words: amplifications, literal translation, borrowing, description, word-for-word, and adaptation. In translating the cultural words, the translator used the technique of borrowing dominantly. In addition, Azis (2021) analyzed on translation techniques of dark jokes in the subtitles of a movie. He found seven translation techniques used: linguistic compression, linguistic amplification, literal translation, adaptation, borrowing, adaptation, and modulation. Linguistic compression and literal translation were the most frequently techniques used.

These studies above show that the analysis of translation techniques is already done in different kinds of text and areas of knowledge. To transfer the meaning from SL into TL need certain techniques in order to deliver the message accurately to the readers. It also implies that the studies which analyze the

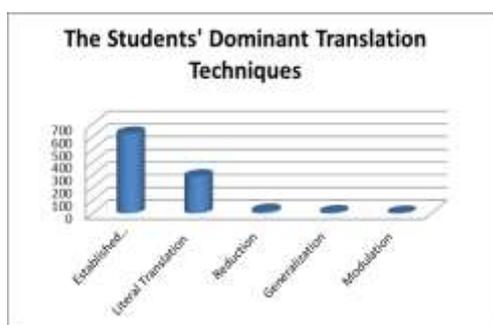
techniques of translation are needed to be done since the development of the global information requires the improvement of translation skill. To sum up, this study analyzed the dominant translation techniques used by students in translating report text from Indonesian into English.

## METHOD

The method of this is a descriptive research. This research design is chosen to achieve the purposes of this research, they are, find out the dominant translation techniques used by students in translating report text from Indonesian into English. The data of students' translation techniques were collected through test. The participants were asked to create translate the report text from Indonesian into English. Then, these data were collected from students of 2022 who have joined Translation course at Universitas Negeri Padang. The total of these students were 29.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The data of students' dominant translation techniques used by the students in translating report text from Indonesian into English were collected from translation tests. Then, the data were analyzed to determine the dominant translation techniques in translating report text.



**Figure1.** Students' Translation Technique

Figure 1 shows there were five techniques used by students when they translated report text. Based on the table of students' translation techniques, the established equivalent technique was the most

commonly used by the students that got 625 points. After that, literal translation was the second technique commonly used in translating report text with 289 points. Also, the reduction technique was the third translation technique used by students in translating report text with 20 points. Then, the generalization technique was the fourth with 9 points. And the last was transposition technique has 5 points.

### Established equivalent

Established equivalent is a translation that incorporates a word or phrase which is recognized as equivalent in the target language (by dictionaries or by the language used). It can be seen from the result of student's translation below;

Datum 37:

#### Source Language

*Semua spesies elang termasuk ke dalam ordo Falconiformes.*

#### Target Language

*All eagle species belong to the order Falconiformes.*

Datum 72:

#### Source Language

*Selain itu juga bisa membuat elang mampu terbang tanpa mengepakkan sayap mereka.*

#### Target Language

*It can also make eagles able to fly without flapping their wings.*

In datum 37, this technique was used when translating the word 'termasuk' into 'belong to' in the target language. Additionally, in datum 72, this technique was used in translating the words 'mengepakkan' into '*flapping*' in the target language.

### Literal translation

The literal translation technique is in which the SL grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest TL equivalents, but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context (Newmark, 1988). Meanwhile, according to Molina and Albir (2002), it simply translates the source text into the

target text, concentrates on the form and the structure without adding or reducing it to the target text. It can be seen from the result of student's translation below;

Datum 60:

Source Language

*Kisaran ukurannya adalah dari 40cm sampai 1m.*

Target Language

*Its size range is from 40cm until 1m.*

In the student translation result, it can be seen that the words in SL were translated literally into TL. However, the translation was adapted to the TL sentence construction. For instance, the word "kisaran" into "range", "ukurannya" into "its size", and "adalah" into "is".

**Reduction**

Reduction is a translation process that eliminates needless words in the target language (Molina and Albir, 2002). It also reduces certain elements of the SL. It can be seen from the result of student's translation below;

Datum 27:

Source Language

*Elang merupakan salah satu hewan yang ada diseluruh negara Indonesia.*

Target Language

*The eagle is one of the animals Indonesian.*

In the student's translation, it can be seen that translation reduced the source language in the target language. Namely, in the text "yang ada diseluruh negara" omitted in the text TL. Therefore, the meaning of TL was not accurate and equivalent to the SL.

**Generalization**

Generalization is performed in the target language using a general or a neutral word (Molina and Albir, 2002). It can be seen from the result of the student's translation below;

Datum 5:

Source Language

*Elang dikenal sebagai predator besar yang memiliki kemampuan yang kuat untuk terbang.*

Target Language

*Birds are known huge hunters that have a solid capability to fly.*

In the datum above, the student had difficulty in the choice of words. This datum can be seen from the word elang in the source language, translated birds in the target language. Because the word "bird" is too general, while "eagle" is a type of bird.

**Transposition**

Transposition is a shift in the series of speeches with others, without altering the importance of the message (Molina and Albir, 2002). It may occur by sequence shift and can be accompanied by word-class changes, i. e., noun phrase, preposition noun. It modified the type of grammar. The grammatical structure of various languages could make this happen. It can be seen from the result of student's translation below;

Datum 53:

Source Language

*Elang merupakan salah satu hewan yang ada di seluruh Negara Indonesia.*

Target Language

*The eagle is one of the animals that can be found throughout Indonesia.*

In the student's translation result, the change of grammatical occurred in this datum from noun into verb. The word "be found" in the target language should be "exist" in the target language.

From the data on the dominant translation technique used by the students in translating report text in the finding section, it can be seen that there were five techniques used by students. They were established equivalent, literal translation, modulation, reduction, and transposition. The most used technique by the students in translating report

text from Indonesian into English was established equivalent. This technique means the students could find the meaning of the words in the dictionary and get the correlation of the equivalent meaning between the cultural context of the text and the daily use of the readers. It is supported by Apriyanti (2016) et. al, there was three characteristics of translating report text such as; first, grammatical structure was divided into tenses, word formation, and article. The second characteristic was cultural words; it is a special language is used for the way of life of representations that are distinctive to culture as its means of expression. The last characteristic was writing mechanic.

The second translation technique used by the student was literal translation. Most students translate the sentence in the source text word by word into the target text. As supported by Molina and Albir (2002), it simply translates the source text into the target text, concentrates on the form and the structure without adding or reducing it to the target text. Sentences are translated according to the function and meaning of each word according to the phrase structure of each source language.

The last translation technique used by the students was transposition. The shift is caused by the system and rules of language, such as the change from adjective added noun to noun added adjective.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results, the study on the translation technique used by the third year students of English Department of Universitas Negeri Padang in translating report text entitled “Elang” from Indonesian into English. It is concluded that five translation techniques used in the students’ translation are established equivalent, literal translation, reduction, generalization, and transposition. The most frequently used technique by students is established equivalence. This is because of the word that is recognized as equivalent in the target language.

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