

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Translation plays an important role in bridging communication across different languages and cultures. It allows information to be transferred from one language to another so that people from different linguistic backgrounds can understand the same message. According to Baker (2011), translation is not only a process of replacing words from the source language into the target language, but also involves transferring meaning, context, and culture elements. In today's interconnected world, this role becomes even more significant, especially in the dissemination of information through mass media.

In the era of globalization and rapid technological development, news can cross geographic boundaries and language barriers in just seconds. McLuhan introduced the term "global village" to describe how media can connect the world and disseminate information quickly among countries (McLuhan, 1964). In this context, mass media not only play a role in helping people around the world know what is happening in other countries, but also as an information provider (Shoemaker & Reese, 2014). As a result, translation becomes a key element in ensuring that information can be accessed by a global audience. One example is the bilingual news media, which combines national and international languages to reach a wider audience.

Among several bilingual media, Antara News is an example of the news agencies that provide news in a bilingual format. Antara News was established in Batavia by Adam Malik, Albert Manoempak Sipahoetar, and Pandoe Kartawigoena on December 13, 1937. Later, this news agency became the official state-owned news agency in 2007. Antara has an important

role in spreading the national reports to the international community since this agency is an official news agency (Antara News, 2019). Through its bilingual reporting, Antara News reflects how translation is applied in real journalistic practices, particularly in delivering information to international readers.

Antara News regularly publishes news in both Indonesian and English, including reports about natural disasters. According to van Doorslaer (2010), news translation is not only changing the language literally, but also involves processes such as choosing diction carefully, adjusting the context, and restructuring the text, which is usually called trans editing. This indicates that translating news requires more than linguistic competence, as it also involves adapting the message to suit the target audience. These aspects are used in the translation so that the text is suitable for global readers.

Natural disaster news is a type of news that has a complex character because it does not only carry emotional nuances like concern, empathy, and the urgency to act, but also presents factual information such as location, time, and number of victims (Houston et al., 2012). Due to this complexity, translators face challenges in maintaining the balance between emotional and factual accuracy. Therefore, the choice of translation techniques becomes important so that the meaning in the source text can be delivered correctly in the target text. The translation techniques used in the translation process can influence how readers perceive the meaning because of these emotional nuances. Therefore, translating disaster news requires attention to linguistic accuracy, careful word choice, and sometimes an adjustment in sentence structure to make sure the message remains clear and easy to understand for the readers.

In the context of journalism, the role of the translator is often unclear because journalist usually act as both news writers and translators at the same time. As a result, the translator seems to be “invisible” in the final text (Venuti, 1995; van Doorslaer, 2010). This invisibility occurs because translation in journalism is not always considered a separate process. Journalist

often adapt, rewrite, or summarize news from foreign source instead of translating it word by word. As explained by van Doorslaer (2010), this practice makes the boundaries between writing and translation become blurred, making it difficult to determine where translation ends and original writing begins. This condition shows that news translation is more tied to journalistic routines than to the practices of professional translators.

To understand how the translation process operates in this context, it is important to know the techniques used by translators to deliver the meaning from the source text to the target text. Molina and Albir (2002) introduced a classification of translation techniques, including adaptation, amplification, borrowing, calque, modulation, and others. This theory can be used to analyze how news translators choose certain techniques to deliver messages into the target languages. This is especially important in texts that need a balance between language sensitivity and information accuracy, such as natural disaster reports. In the Indonesian context, Molina and Albir's techniques play an important role in maintaining the quality of cross-cultural translation, both in journalism and academic parts (Hidayat et al., 2024).

Although research on translation techniques has been widely conducted, most studies focus on politics, literature, or general texts. Studies that specifically discuss translation techniques in natural disaster news are still very limited, especially in official agencies like Antara News. This type of news is chosen in this research because it tends to be read more widely, both domestically and internationally. Its combination of emotional and factual aspects makes it more engaging compared to other news genres, for example sports news, which is usually only read by fans or specific communities. Therefore, research on the translation of natural disaster news can help to see how language influences the way readers understand the condition of a country during a crisis.

Therefore, this study aims to identify the translation techniques used in Antara News's bilingual natural disaster reporting and to analyses the similarities and differences can be

identified between the source text and the target text in terms of selected sentential variation and the translation techniques found in the bilingual natural disaster reports chosen for this study. This research is expected to contribute academically to the study of news translation while also providing practical guidance for translators and journalists in presenting the natural disaster-related information to global audiences effectively and ethically. In this research, the Indonesian version of Antara News articles serves as the source text (ST), while the English version functions as the target text (TT), since Antara News generally produces English versions of Indonesian reports to reach international readers.

1.2 Research Questions

In relation to the analysis of translation techniques in bilingual news on natural disaster reporting by Antara News, this study seeks to answer the following research questions:

- 1) What translation techniques are used in the bilingual news on natural disaster reporting by Antara News?
- 2) What similarities and differences can be identified between the source text and the target text in terms of selected sentential variations and the translation techniques found in the bilingual news on natural disaster reporting by Antara News?

1.3 The Objective of the Research

The objectives of this study were to identify the translation techniques used in Antara News bilingual reports about natural disasters and to analyze the similarities and differences between the Indonesian-English translation in terms of selected sentential variations and the translation techniques found in the bilingual natural disaster reports chosen for this study.

1.4. Focus of the Research

This study focuses on the application of translation techniques in the bilingual news articles published by Antara News about natural disaster, especially floods and landslides. The

objects of this study were The Indonesian news text as the Source text (ST) and their English versions as the target text (TT). The data consisted of four pairs of news articles taken from the official website of Antara News, published in 2025.

This study only focused on two main aspects, namely the translation techniques used in the bilingual natural disaster news published by Antara News and the similarities and differences between the Indonesian source text and its English translation in terms of selected sentential variations and the translation techniques found in the bilingual reports chosen for this study. The analysis was conducted at the lexical and structural levels, without discussing stylistic or pragmatic aspects.

To analyze the translation techniques used, this study only focused on Molina and Albir's (2002) theory, which discusses various classifications of translation techniques. Through this focus, the study was expected to provide an understanding of how translation techniques were applied in Antara News.

1.5 Method of the Research

This study used a descriptive qualitative approach. This approach was considered appropriate because it allowed the researcher to explain the translation phenomenon contextually, to examine the reasons behind the used of certain techniques, and analyze the similarities and differences between the Indonesian source text and its English translation in terms of selected sentential variations and the translation techniques found in the selected bilingual natural disaster reports. Therefore, the result of this study provided a comprehensive and interpretative description, not only a quantitative descriptive one.

According to Creswell (2014), qualitative research was used to explore and understand the meaning that emerged from social and human phenomena. Besides that, Williams and Chesterman (2002) explained that qualitative research in translation usually focused on the analysis of content and textual meaning, not on statistical calculations. This approach helped

the researchers understand how someone or a community interpreted an event, act, or text based on context. In the translation context, the qualitative approach was often used because it allowed researchers to see more deeply how translators made linguistics, cultural, and contextual decision when translating the text.

1.5.1 Data and Data Collection

The data of this study were collected from the official website of Antara News (<https://www.antaranews.com/> and <https://en.antaranews.com/>), which provided news in both Indonesian and English. This website allowed users to search for news using keywords such as *flood* and *landslide*, and provided clear news categories and publication dates. Antara News was chosen as the data source because it is Indonesia's official and credible news agencies that consistently provides bilingual news content. As an official institution, Antara News ensures the accuracy and reliability of its publications, including the English translation.

Natural disaster reports were selected because they often include urgent and factual information that required clear and accurate translation. In this type of translation, translators did not only translate word by word but also adjusted the context, sentence structure, and word choices so that the news content remained clear and easy to understand for English readers.

Four news articles of Indonesian and English version were selected based on two criteria. First, they were available in both Indonesian and English versions as parallel text, where the Indonesian version was translated into English. Second, they focused on natural disasters such as floods and landslides. These criteria ensured that the selected articles were comparable in terms of topic and publication context, allowing the analysis to focus on translation techniques rather than content differences.

Although there were many articles related to floods and landslides published by Antara News in 2025, only four articles were selected in this study. This limitation was applied to ensure that the data could be analyzed in depth within the scope of this research. The selected

articles were considered sufficient to represent the translation patterns and allow a detailed comparison between the source text and the target text.

The first pair cover aid sent by the Ministry of Social Affairs to landslide and flash flood victims in Sukabumi, West Java, published on March 7, 2025. The Indonesian version was reported by Hana Dewi Kinarina Kaban, and the English version was translated by Hana D. and Tegar Nurfitra. The second pair cover a flash flood and landslide in Pegunungan Arfak, West Papua, published on May 21, 2025. The Indonesian version was reported by Fransiskus Salu Weking, and the English version was translated by Fransiskus S. and Tegar Nurfitra. The third pair cover floods and landslide that hit 1,800 homes and damaged four bridges in Bulukumba, South Sulawesi, published on July 10, 2025. The Indonesian version was reported by Suriani Mappong, and the English version was translated by Suriani M. and Arie Novarina. The fourth pair report the declaration of a disaster emergency in West Sumatra amid floods and landslides, published on November 26, 2025. The Indonesian version was written by Muhammad Zulfikar and edited by Nurul Hayat. The English article lists Muhammad Zulfikar and Raka Adji as translators and Rahmad Nasution as editor.

To provide a clearer overview of the dataset, the number of sentences in each source text (ST) and target text (TT) was presented in the following table.

Table 2.1 Number of Sentence in the Source Text and the Target Text

No.	Article	Writer	Translator	ST (Sentence)	TT (Sentence)
1	ST: Korban meninggal akibat banjir bandang dan longsor di Pegunungan Arfak 10 orang TT: W Papua: 10 dead, 10 missing in flash flood, landslides	Fransiskus Salu Weking	Fransiskus S. and Tegar Nurfitra	12	8
2	ST: Kemensos kirim bantuan bagi korban longsor banjir bandang di Sukabumi TT: Ministry sends aid to landslide, flood victims in West Java's Sukabumi	Hana Dewi Kinarina Kaban	Hana D. and Tegar Nurfitra	17	15

3	ST: 1.800 rumah terdampak banjir di Bulukumba Sulawesi Selatan TT: Floods hit 1,800 homes in Bulukumba, S. Sulawesi, damage 4 bridges	Suriani Mappong	Suriani M. and Arie Novarina	12	11
4	ST: Sumbar tetapkan status tanggap darurat bencana hingga 8 Desember TT: West Sumatra declares disaster emergency amid floods, landslides	Muhammad Zulfikar	Muhammad Zulfikar and Raka Adji	10	13
Total				51	47

As shown in the table, the number of sentences in the source text and the target text varied due to the application of different translation techniques. In total, the dataset consisted of four Indonesian source text and four English target text. All texts were accessed directly from Antara News and Antara English News websites.

The procedure of data collection began with accessing the official website of Antara News, followed by searching for bilingual news articles about natural disaster using the keyword such as *banjir* and *longsor* for Indonesian articles and *flood* and *landslide* for English articles. The relevant news articles were generally found under *Humaniores* or *Current Issues* categories. Each article was then checked to ensure it was available in both Indonesian and English versions and was published in 2025.

After selecting the articles, the Indonesian version (ST) and English versions (TT) of each article were copied into a Microsoft Word document to facilitate comparative analysis. Next, each article was assigned a code (1, 2, 3, and 4), and each sentence within the article was also coded (ST1.1, TT1.2, and so forth).

For ease of reference, the Indonesian original text and its English translation were coded as ST and TT respectively. Each ST and TT was broken down into sentences and each sentence was numbered, the number (1, 2, 3, and so on) indicated the sentence order within the text. For example, ST1.1 means the first sentence of source text 1. Likewise, TT1.1 means that the

sentence belonged to the target text 1 and it was the first sentence in the respective text. The selected ST sentences and their corresponding translation were presented in a facing translation format to facilitate comparison.

1.5.2 Data Analysis

The data labelling system used in this analysis follows the coding procedure described in the Data Collection section, where each text was coded as ST and TT, and each sentence was numbered systematically (e.g., ST1.1, ST2.4, TT3.5) to facilitate comparison between the source text and the target text.

Data analysis in this research was conducted to examine the translation techniques used in the bilingual natural disaster news and to analyze the similarities and differences between the ST and the TT in terms of selected sentential variations and the translation techniques found in the bilingual natural disaster reports chosen for this study. Therefore, four pairs of articles in Indonesian (ST) and English (TT) were placed side by side to make the comparison easier.

The unit of analysis in this study was comparable ST-TT sentence units. A sentence is defined as a sequence of words which begins with a capital letter and ends with a full stop, question mark, or exclamation mark (Crystal, 2003). Sentences were selected as the unit of analysis because they were sufficiently detailed to capture the translation techniques while still maintaining context.

Before identifying the translation techniques, sentence correspondence between the ST and the TT was established. Each sentence was identified, numbered, and compared to determine its alignment in the translation process. The correspondence was categorized into five types, including one ST sentence corresponding to one TT sentence, two ST sentences corresponding to one TT sentence, one ST sentence corresponding to two TT sentences, omitted ST sentences, and added TT sentences. These categories were developed based on observable translation patterns in the data. This step was conducted to identify structural

adjustments in translation, such as sentence merging, omission, and addition.

After the correspondence analysis, only comparable ST-TT sentence pairs were selected for further analysis based on theory proposed by Molina and Albir (2002). During the correspondence analysis, each ST sentence had no corresponding translation in the TT, it was categorized as omitted ST sentence. Likewise, if a TT sentence had no corresponding ST sentence, it was categorized as an added TT sentence. These units were excluded because they did not provide direct ST-TT pairs for comparison. Therefore, the analysis focused on comparable sentence pairs.

The comparable sentence pairs were then analyzed to identify the translation techniques used based on the theory proposed by Molina and Albir (2002). Each sentence pair was examined carefully to determine the application of translation techniques and marked in bold for easier identification. The bold formatting was used to indicate the identified translation techniques in each sentence pair. This marking was applied only to highlight analytical focus, while the rest of the sentence was kept unchanged to maintain the original context of the data.

After identifying the translation techniques, the analysis proceeded to examine the similarities and differences between the Indonesian and English versions of selected bilingual news article. This analysis focused on two aspects, including selected sentential variations, and the used of the translation techniques found in the reports. In this study, selected sentential variations referred to sentence level correspondence patterns between the source text and the target text. These variations included one-to-one sentence correspondence, one-to-two sentence correspondence, two-to-one sentence correspondence, omission of ST sentences, and addition of TT sentences. This step aimed to examine how meaning and structure were transferred from the source text into the target text.

The findings were then used to answer the second research question regarding the similarities and differences between the Indonesian and English versions of selected bilingual

news articles. The results of the analysis were presented in tables showing the translation techniques, their frequency, and their corresponding percentages. This presentation was expected to make the identification of translation techniques and the explanation of the similarities and differences between the source text and the target text more systematic.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

- a) Translation is a field of applied linguistics that focuses on the process of transferring messages from the source language (SL) to the target language (TT) without losing the meaning contained within (Catford, 1965).
- b) Translation Techniques are methods used by translators to transfer the source language to the target language while maintaining meaning, style, and cultural context (Molina and Albir, 2002).
- c) News translation is the process of translating news from one language to another while preserving the meaning, context, and writing style so that it remains clear and understandable (Bielsa and Bassnett, 2009).
- d) Bilingual News is news presented in two languages at the same time to allow readers who use a different language to understand the information (Valdeón, 2015).
- e) Antara News is a news platform established in 1937 and Indonesia's official agency since 2007 that presents its news in a bilingual format, namely Indonesian and English (Antara News, 2019).
- f) Natural Disaster News refers to news that informs about natural disasters, their effects and the steps people can take to reduce risks or help the victims, drawing on the concept of natural disasters as defined by UNDRR (UNDRR, 2016).
- g) Source Language (SL) is the original language of a text that has not been translated into another language (Catford, 1965).