

ABSTRACT

VALENTINA, TESSA DIAN. (2026). **Quality as a Result of Translation Techniques of Political Terms in BBC News using Google Translate**. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

The increasing digitization of information has made machine translation a widely used tool for accessing international news content across linguistic boundaries. Nevertheless, political terminology, which is embedded with ideological and institutional significance, presents considerable difficulties for automated translation systems. This research was conducted to examine the translation of English political terms into Indonesian within the BBC News article “US Speaker Mike Johnson may pay political price for Ukraine deal,” as rendered by Google Translate, the machine translation system integrated into the BBC News platform, with particular attention to the relationship between translation techniques and the resulting quality of the translations.

This study was designed to achieve two primary objectives: to identify the translation techniques applied by Google Translate in rendering political terms and to assess the resulting translations against the quality criteria of accuracy, clarity, and naturalness. Furthermore, the investigation sought to determine how the selected translation techniques contribute to the production of translations that effectively convey the intended political meaning.

A qualitative descriptive approach with library research design was adopted in this study. The data comprised 19 political terms extracted from the BBC News article published on April 21, 2024, along with their Indonesian translations produced by Google Translate. The analysis was carried out using Molina and Albir's (2002) taxonomy for identifying translation techniques, while Larson's (1998) quality criteria were applied to evaluate the translations. Kade's equivalence typology was employed exclusively for the purpose of classifying and presenting the evaluation outcomes.

The analysis revealed that Google Translate applied five translation techniques: established equivalent (8 terms), naturalized borrowing (5 terms), literal translation (4 terms), reduction (1 term), and calque (1 term). Based on the quality assessment, 14 translations were found to achieve full equivalence, 3 translations achieved partial equivalence, and 2 translations were classified as non-equivalence. The findings indicate that the established equivalent and naturalized borrowing techniques consistently produced high-quality translations resulting in full equivalence, whereas literal translation proved problematic when applied to figurative or polysemous political terms. It can be concluded that the quality of Google Translate's political term translation is influenced not only by the choice of translation technique but also by the semantic characteristics of the terms being translated and the presence of established equivalents in the target language.

Keywords: *BBC News, Google Translate, political terms, quality, translation techniques*

ABSTRAK

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Meningkatnya digitalisasi informasi telah menjadikan penerjemahan mesin sebagai alat yang banyak digunakan untuk mengakses konten berita internasional lintas bahasa. Meskipun demikian, terminologi politik yang sarat dengan makna ideologis dan kelembagaan menimbulkan kesulitan yang cukup besar bagi sistem penerjemahan otomatis. Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk mengkaji penerjemahan istilah politik dari bahasa Inggris ke bahasa Indonesia dalam artikel BBC News berjudul “US Speaker Mike Johnson may pay political price for Ukraine deal,” yang diterjemahkan oleh Google Translate, sistem penerjemahan mesin yang terintegrasi dalam platform BBC News, dengan perhatian khusus pada hubungan antara teknik penerjemahan dan kualitas terjemahan yang dihasilkan.

Penelitian ini dirancang untuk mencapai dua tujuan utama: mengidentifikasi teknik penerjemahan yang diterapkan oleh Google Translate dalam menerjemahkan istilah politik dan menilai terjemahan yang dihasilkan berdasarkan *quality criteria of accuracy, clarity, dan naturalness*. Selain itu, penelitian ini berupaya untuk mengetahui bagaimana teknik penerjemahan yang dipilih berkontribusi terhadap produksi terjemahan yang secara efektif menyampaikan makna politis yang dimaksud.

Pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif dengan desain penelitian kepustakaan digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Data terdiri dari 19 istilah politik yang diekstraksi dari artikel BBC News yang diterbitkan pada 21 April 2024, beserta terjemahan bahasa Indonesianya yang dihasilkan oleh Google Translate. Analisis dilakukan dengan menggunakan *taxonomy of translation techniques* dari Molina dan Albir (2002) untuk mengidentifikasi teknik penerjemahan, sementara *quality criteria* dari Larson (1998) diterapkan untuk mengevaluasi terjemahan. *Typology of equivalence* dari Kade digunakan semata-mata untuk tujuan mengklasifikasikan dan menyajikan hasil evaluasi.

Analisis mengungkapkan bahwa Google Translate menerapkan lima teknik penerjemahan: *established equivalent* (8 istilah), *naturalized borrowing* (5 istilah), *literal translation* (4 istilah), *reduction* (1 istilah), dan *calque* (1 istilah). Berdasarkan penilaian kualitas, 14 terjemahan ditemukan mencapai *full equivalence*, 3 terjemahan mencapai *partial equivalence*, dan 2 terjemahan diklasifikasikan sebagai *non-equivalence*. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa teknik *established equivalent* dan *naturalized borrowing* secara konsisten menghasilkan terjemahan berkualitas tinggi yang mencapai *full equivalence*, sedangkan *literal translation* terbukti bermasalah ketika diterapkan pada istilah politik yang figuratif atau polisemis. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa kualitas penerjemahan istilah politik oleh Google Translate dipengaruhi tidak hanya oleh pilihan teknik penerjemahan, tetapi juga oleh karakteristik semantik istilah yang diterjemahkan dan ketersediaan *established equivalents* dalam bahasa sasaran.

Kata kunci: *BBC News, Google Translate, political terms, quality, translation techniques.*