

**TRANSLATION EQUIVALENCE IN BAHASA INDONESIA  
REDUPLICATION INTO ENGLISH IN *NEGERI LIMA MENARA* (2009)  
AND *THE LAND OF FIVE TOWERS* (2013)**

**A GRADUATING PAPER**

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for Gaining  
the Bachelor's Degree in English Department



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**2025**

**MOTTO**

*Live your life sincerely, as it yours.*

—abi.



## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this work to myself, who lives her life sincerely. My parents who always supported me. All of my friends who colored my life.





**NOTA DINAS**

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kami menyatakan bahwa skripsi tersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang Munaqosyah untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.

Atas perhatiannya, kami mengucapkan terima kasih.

**Wassalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb**

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## A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, praise to be Allah, who always gives us mercy and blessing so the author can finish this graduating paper. *Alhamdulillah rabbil 'aalamiin*. This thesis is not just to fulfill my graduation requirements but also as a process of life learning. This thesis was completed with the support and contribution of many people. The author would like to express the deepest gratitude for:

1. Prof. Dr. Nurdin, S.Ag., SS., MA. As the Dean of Adab and Cultural Science Faculty.
2. Dr. Ulyati Retno Sari, S.S., M.Hum. as the Head of the English Department.
3. Dr. Margo Yuwono, M.Hum., as the Secretary of the English Department.
4. Fuad Arif Fudiyartanto, Ph.D. as my research and academic advisor. Thanks for all the guidance and support, especially in conducting this thesis.
5. The rest of English Department lectures. Aninda Aji Siwi, S.Pd., M.Pd., Anisah Durrotul Fajri, SS., M.Hum., Dr. Arif Budiman, S.S., M.A., Bambang Hariyanto, S.S., MA., Ph.D., Dr. Danial Hidayatullah, SS., M.Hum., Febriyanti Dwiratna Lestari, SS., MA., Harsiwi Fajar Sari, SS., M.A., Dr. Ubaidillah, S.S., M.Hum., and Dr. Witriani, S.S. M.Hum.
6. Ummi and Abi, thanks for every struggle, lesson, and trust for me to live my life. Also, my brothers and sister, hope you guys are always happy.
7. Ardi Tri Yudha, who always supporting and listening to the author.
8. Pia, Eef, Ardi, Gopar, and Wakyeng, who always became the refresh place for the author through the MENYALA ABANGKU group. More than grateful I had to meet you guys.

9. My sharing and everything friends in college, Disa, Nanda, and Zahra, who always support me.
10. Rafi Zaidan, it's great to have many lines in every chance as writer-buddy.  
*allahummaghfirlahu warhamhu wa'afihi wa'fu'anhu.*
11. All of the member of English Literature 2021, especially C class.
12. All of the people who accompany me on every journey and chance in completing this thesis, May Allah bless you, *aamiin.*

Yogyakarta, 23/02/2025



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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Explanation
SL	Source Language
TL	Target Language
Q	Quantity
Ch.	Chapter
TE	Translation Equivalence
TS	Translation Strategy
F	Full
P	Partial
M	Multiple
Z	Zero

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**ABSTRACT**

When linguistic and cultural elements differ between languages, non-equivalence may occur in the translation process. Non-equivalence can appear at various linguistic levels, depending on the complexity of translation. Certain reduplication of SL may contain specific cultural contexts that are difficult to convey thoroughly in TL. Thus, this research aimed to analyse the translation equivalence of Bahasa Indonesia reduplication into English. This study is a qualitative descriptive study. The data were collected from novels entitled *Negeri 5 Menara* (2009) and its translation by Kilbane (2013). The researcher used a purposive sampling method which 12 chapters were taken from 46 chapters of the novel. The researcher found 505 data translated into words and phrases performing full, partial, multiple, and zero equivalence. The major occurrences were partial and multiple equivalence. The researcher also found two cases of zero equivalence that led to lexical interference. The researcher also identified five translation strategies employed by the translator to maintain the meaning in TL. The most frequent strategy used was the paraphrase using related words. From all these findings, it can be concluded that translation strategies play a crucial role in maintaining meaning when dealing with reduplication. The study highlights the challenges of preserving both linguistic structure and cultural nuances, emphasizing the need for adaptive translation techniques to achieve equivalence. Suggestion for further studies could examine a broader range of literary texts to determine whether similar translation patterns and challenges occur across different genres, such as poetry, folklore, or academic writing.

**Keywords:** Translation, Equivalence, Reduplication

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**ABSTRAK**

Ketika elemen linguistik dan budaya berbeda antar bahasa, ketidaksepadanan dapat terjadi dalam proses penerjemahan. Ketidaksepadanan dapat muncul di berbagai tingkat linguistik, tergantung pada kompleksitas penerjemahan. Reduplikasi tertentu dalam Bsu dapat mengandung konteks budaya tertentu yang sulit untuk disampaikan secara menyeluruh dalam Bsa. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis kesepadanan terjemahan reduplikasi bahasa Indonesia ke dalam bahasa Inggris. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Data dikumpulkan dari novel berjudul *Negeri 5 Menara* (2009) dan terjemahannya oleh Kilbane (2013). Peneliti menggunakan metode purposive sampling dimana 12 bab diambil dari 46 bab novel tersebut. Peneliti menemukan 505 data yang diterjemahkan ke dalam kata dan frasa yang menunjukkan kesepadanan penuh, sebagian, berganda, dan nol. Kemunculan terbanyak adalah kesepadanan parsial dan multipel. Peneliti juga menemukan dua kasus kesepadanan nol yang mengarah pada interferensi leksikal. Peneliti juga mengidentifikasi lima strategi penerjemahan yang digunakan oleh penerjemah untuk mempertahankan makna dalam Bsa. Strategi yang paling sering digunakan adalah parafrase dengan menggunakan kata yang berhubungan. Dari semua temuan ini, dapat disimpulkan bahwa strategi penerjemahan memainkan peran penting dalam mempertahankan makna ketika berhadapan dengan reduplikasi. Penelitian ini menyoroti tantangan dalam mempertahankan struktur linguistik dan nuansa budaya, serta menekankan perlunya teknik penerjemahan yang adaptif untuk mencapai kesepadanan. Saran untuk penelitian lebih lanjut adalah untuk meneliti lebih banyak teks sastra untuk menentukan apakah pola penerjemahan yang sama dan tantangan yang sama juga terjadi pada genre yang berbeda, seperti puisi, cerita rakyat, atau tulisan akademis.

**Kata kunci:** Penerjemahan, Kesepadanan, Reduplikasi

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Study

In translating a particular language to another, equivalency is one of the most crucial components because the purpose of translating is to deliver the meaning as similar as possible from source language (SL) to target language (TL). As in Nida & Taber (1982), a translator must reproduce the equivalent of the recipient's language with the closest meaning to the natural language, both in terms of meaning and style. If a translator fails to convey both the literal and intentional meaning of a text, the inequivalence will occur in the translation result. Baker (2018) emphasizes that inequivalence occurs when the same effects cannot be achieved in the TL as in the SL due to linguistic and cultural differences in both languages. Inequivalence may lead to distortions in the narrative flow, where subtle nuances, cultural references, and character motivations may be inaccurately conveyed on the TL. This can result in a disconnect between the intended emotional impact of the original novel and its translated version, potentially making it difficult for the reader to follow and comprehend the plot.

Furthermore, Inequivalence can occur at different linguistic levels. Depending on the type of inequivalence, there might be a wide range in both the type and the level of difficulty in translating. When a word appears in the SL and there is no direct equivalent word in the TL, this condition is known as the inequivalence at word level (Baker, 2018, p. 19). Translation inequivalence at the word level

becomes particularly clear when dealing with linguistic phenomena like reduplication.

Reduplication, as one of the morphological processes, has a variety of functions and purposes in its use in various language contexts. In many languages, reduplication is a common phenomenon in language to provide grammatical functions as in inflections. Additionally, reduplication is utilized in lexical derivations to create semantic forms (Nadarajan, 2006). The result of reduplication is a reduplicative word that is an independent vocabulary unit. The morphological status of the constituent components depends on the overall meaning of each lexical unit that participates in the formation of reduplication. Reduplication resembles compounding if the entire part of the base is being reduplicated. However, if only some particular part of the base is used, it resembles an affix, where the repeated part can be attached at the beginning or the end of the base.

Reduplication has differences in pattern and rules usage in every language. For example, in Bahasa Indonesia, reduplication is frequently used to express plural categories, intensity, or variations in meaning (Bauer, 2003). Compared to Bahasa Indonesia, English reduplication is limited to give certain effects in communication. The differences in pattern and rules of the reduplication usage between Bahasa Indonesia and English may affect the translation equivalence. The absence of reduplication patterns in the TL may require translators to find alternative words to convey the intent meaning of the original text. Additionally, certain reduplication of SL may contain specific cultural and grammatical contexts that are difficult to convey thoroughly in TL.

Reduplication is commonly used in Bahasa Indonesia daily life communication, while in English, reduplication is limited to give a certain communication effect. As mentioned above, differences in the usage of certain linguistic features may significantly affect the translation process, requiring careful adjustments to achieve translation equivalence while maintaining the original meaning and natural fluency. Based on this phenomenon, the researcher analyses translation equivalence in reduplication found in *Negeri 5 Menara* (2009) and its English translation by Kilbane (2011). This novel was chosen as the object of study because it is a prominent literary work that reflects authentic Indonesian cultural and linguistic expressions, including frequent use of reduplication. Additionally, *Negeri 5 Menara* presents a rich linguistic landscape, as it combines colloquial and literary expressions, making it an ideal text to examine how reduplication is handled in literary translation.

## 1.2 Research Questions

Considering the previous background of study mentioned, the researcher aims to analyze the translation equivalency in reduplication in Bahasa Indonesia to English that will be depicted in two research questions.

1. How do reduplicated words in Bahasa Indonesia translate into English?
2. How is the translation equivalence in translating reduplication from Bahasa Indonesia to English?

## 1.3 Objectives and Significances of Study

The aims of this study are to analyze the reduplicated word of Bahasa Indonesia when it is translated into English contained in *Negeri 5 Menara* by A. Fuadi and

how the translation process affected the translation equivalence of the translated novel. This study can serve as an overview for translation strategies by highlighting how reduplication functions worked in different languages while also considering the equivalency and cultural context of the translated text. This research will contribute to translation studies by showing the challenges of reflecting cultural nuances and conveying specific emotions, intensities, or qualities that may be culturally significant.

#### **1.4 Literature Review**

Translation equivalence is an important thing as it aims to ensure the accuracy of transferring meaning from one language to another. There are several studies examining the translation equivalence from Bahasa Indonesia to English.

The first research is by Melliana et al. (2021) which using qualitative approach and content analysis method. The data used in this research are words and phrases found in *Laut Bercerita* novel by Leila S. Chudori and its translation. The authors combined Nida and Baker theory in analyzing the translation equivalence. Melliana et al. (2021) collect 45 data that are divided into two types of analysis based on translation form which are words and phrases. The authors classified the data into 3 types of equivalence which are dynamic equivalence, formal equivalence, and equivalence at word level. This research highlights six types of translation strategy based on Newmark (1988) which are adaptation, communicative translation, descriptive equivalence, idiomatic translation, semantic translation, through translation, and transference. Melliana et al. (2021) found that communicative translation, adaptation, and semantic translation are the most occurrences to modify

the cultural terms used in the SL. Those strategies concentrate on conveying the message in the TL in a way that is as close to its natural counterpart as possible.

The second research is by Putra (2022) which concluded that there is a complex process to ensure high-quality translations since translators need to be familiar in both languages and have a thorough understanding about culture in each language. The focus on his research is to find the translation equivalence of locative prepositional phrase found in *A Political Biography of Suharto* by R.E. Elson. Nida and Taber (1964) theory is applied in this research which distinguish translation equivalence into formal and dynamic equivalence. In translating the locative prepositional phrase, dynamic equivalence is the most dominant type of translation equivalence where the SL translated more accurately using dynamic equivalent techniques in order to improve readability and acceptability in TL. The method used in this research is qualitative research with content analysis approach.

The last literature review is a thesis by Rosida (2023). This thesis is a qualitative descriptive research. This thesis is aimed to analyze the translation process and the equivalence in Islamic terms in *Negeri 5 Menara* novel by Ahmad Fuadi. The theories applied are the translation procedures by Newmark (1988) and translation equivalence by Nida and Taber (1964). The author collects 21 data of Islamic terms that performing six types of producers. The dominant type of translation procedure appeared is the transference where the translator directly adapts the word from the source language. Both dynamic and formal equivalence are found in this research. Dynamic equivalence appears when the translator prioritized the similarity of effect between the readership and the original text even

though the form and meaning are not performing full equivalence. Whereas, formal equivalence when the form and meaning is similar or closely equivalence.

All the similarities and differences in the three previous research above provide valuable insights for the author. Thus, the differences with this research lies in the object of the research and theory used in analyzing the translation equivalence. The object of this research is the reduplication word found in *Negeri 5 Menara* novel. Additionally, this research uses the translation equivalence scheme propose by Danko Šipka (2015) (as cited in De Deyne et al., 2023) to identify the type of equivalence which distinguish into full, partial, multiple, and zero equivalence. Then, translation equivalence at word-level by Mona Baker is also used to identify the strategy applied by the translator when dealing with no direct lexical counterpart since the object of this research is reduplication word

### **1.5 Theoretical Approach**

This research employs several theories to analyze the equivalence on reduplication translation in *Negeri 5 Menara* to *The Land of Five Towers*. This study focused on reduplication translation, so the researcher uses the translation equivalence at word level theory by Baker (2018). Baker (2018) highlights the challenges in achieving translation equivalence at word level highlighting the common problem and the strategies used to resolve the translation inequivalence. In order to assess the degree of translation found in the data, the researcher uses a translation equivalence scheme by Šipka (2015) (as cited in De Deyne et al., 2023). The scheme provides a structured model for categorizing translation equivalence,

distinguishing between full equivalence, partial equivalence, multiple equivalence, and zero equivalence.

Additionally, since translation is related to the language transfer process by the translator, the researcher uses the language transfer theory by Weinreich (1953) that explores how the bilingual apply knowledge from their first language (L1) when using a second language (L2). The researcher aligned the theory with translation as a language transfer process to analyze how linguistic structures, meanings, and stylistic elements from the SL influence the TL. This transfer process in translation can take the form of either positive transfer, where L1 and L2 similarities allow for appropriate translation (equivalence), or negative transfer (interference), where differences result in inappropriate translation or unnatural expressions.

## **1.6 Research Method**

### **1.6.1 Type of Research**

This research is conducted by using descriptive qualitative research methods. Qualitative research design refers to a systematic approach to conducting research that emphasizes understanding people's experiences, perspectives, and meanings (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). This research, then, uses the inductive approach which begins with collecting data and then looks for patterns or draws theories from it. This research design was chosen because this study aims to discover the translation equivalence of the translated novel by examining then describing the differences of reduplication use in Bahasa Indonesia and English.

### **1.6.2 Data Source**

The sources of the data are novels entitled *Negeri 5 Menara* by Fuadi (2009) and its translation *The Land of Five Towers* by Kilbane (2011). The researcher also uses various book sources, scientific journals, and previous research related topics to collect secondary data.

### **1.6.3 Data Collection Technique**

Data collection is conducted on a certain population set by the researcher. In the circumstance of a large population, and the researcher have limitations perhaps on time, funds, and manpower, it is possible for the researchers to take samples from the population (Sugiyono, 2013). In the data collection, the researcher would apply the purposive sampling method. Purposive sampling is the process by which a researcher selects participants and locations in order to discover or comprehend the main phenomenon (Creswell & Poth, 2012). Additionally, the data collection process in this research involves a comprehensive analysis of the novel, focusing on specific chapters at the beginning, middle, and end to ensure that all relevant data is captured and included in this research because, presumably, reduplication appears in every page of the novel. Thus, the researcher will collect the data from 12 chapters of 46 total chapters in the novel which are distributed into four first chapters in the beginning, four chapters in the middle, and four last chapters in the end of the novel.

The researcher takes some steps in collecting the data. First, the researcher read both of the novels thoroughly while collecting the data in the

form of reduplication found in the Bahasa Indonesia version. Second, the data found will be compared in the English version to identify the translated form of Bahasa Indonesia reduplication. Third, the researcher selects the samples to be analyzed using purposive sampling technique. The data collection process in this research involves in-depth content analysis of the novel to obtain the data that represent the purpose of the research being conducted and meet the criteria for providing information. Thus, the researcher collects Bahasa Indonesia reduplication taken from 12 chapters from a total 46 chapters. Last, all the samples found will be classified into three groups based on the form of translation which are word, phrase, and clause for further analysis.

#### **1.6.4 Data Analysis Technique**

In this study, the unit of the analysis is reduplication. Each data that has been obtained then will be classified based on the translation form of Bahasa Indonesia reduplication, namely word and phrase, to examine the translation equivalence. The researcher analyzes the equivalence of each data by examine differences and the similarities between the reduplication used in Bahasa Indonesia and English that will be categorized into four type of equivalence, namely full, partial, multiple, and zero equivalence. This research then will also analyze the translation strategy used in translating reduplication with no counterpart pairs in SL by considering the linguistic feature and structure of reduplication in Bahasa Indonesia and English.

### **1.6.5 Paper Organization**

This research is organized into four chapters to ensure a clear and logical coherence of information. The first chapter introduces the research including several sub-chapters, such as the background of the study, research questions, research objective and significance, literature review, the theoretical framework, and the research method. The second chapter presents the detailed research objects and theory used in analyzing the translation equivalency. The third chapter is the findings and discussion chapter containing a depth discussion and analysis of the problem. The last chapter is the fourth chapter that contains conclusions and suggestions for the next researcher. In addition to answering the study questions, this chapter will provide a summary of the main conclusions.

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter serves as the final section of this research, summarizing the key findings and providing recommendations for future studies. This chapter is divided into two parts, conclusion and suggestion. The conclusion part presents a summary of the research finding, analysis, and discussion according to the research question. Additionally, the suggestion part offers recommendations from the researcher for the future research outlining the potential areas of study that could expand the understanding of reduplication translation across different contexts.

#### 4.1 Conclusion

This study has explored the translation equivalence of reduplication from Bahasa Indonesia into English, specifically in *Negeri 5 Menara* and its translation, *The Land of Five Towers*. There are several results from the analysis of the data guided by the research questions.

The researcher found 505 reduplications that were translated into words and phrases performing full, partial, multiple, and zero equivalence. Partial equivalence is the most frequent type of equivalence found in this research due to the linguistic elements, such as grammatical and lexical, differences between Bahasa Indonesia and English. Additionally, there are two occurrences of zero equivalence that led to the lexical interference. The occurrences are the result of direct lexical performing by the translator without the adaptation to the TL.

The findings reveal that reduplication in Bahasa Indonesia serves various grammatical and semantic functions, including plurality, intensity, variety, and repetition, which often lack direct lexical counterparts in English. Furthermore, this study identifies the translation strategies employed to achieve the equivalent in the absence of lexical equivalent in English. Through the analysis, the researcher found five strategies applied by the translator to maintain the meaning, readability, and naturalness in TL. The most frequently used translation strategy is the paraphrase using related words because paraphrasing provides a flexible approach to convey the intended message without disrupting the fluency.

#### **4.2 Suggestion**

Based on the conclusion above, the researcher wants to provide some suggestions that may be useful especially for readers and other researchers. For other researchers, there are several areas that future research could explore to deepen the understanding of translation strategies and their implications. First, further studies could examine a broader range of literary texts to determine whether similar translation patterns and challenges occur across different genres, such as poetry, folklore, or academic writing. Another potential area of study is the role of machine translation in handling reduplication, investigating whether machine translation tools can effectively preserve meaning or require human intervention to achieve translation equivalence. By expanding the scope of research, future studies can contribute to improving translation practices and strategies, particularly in navigating the complexities of linguistic and cultural adaptation between Bahasa Indonesia and English. Lastly, for the readers, gaining an awareness of the

challenges in translation, particularly in cases of linguistic and cultural differences, can enhance their understanding and appreciation of translated texts. By recognizing how translation strategies impact meaning, readability, and cultural adaptation, readers can develop a more critical perspective when interpreting translated works.



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