



DIALEKTIKA

Jurnal Bahasa, Sastra, dan Budaya

ISSN: 2338-2635; e-ISSN: 2798-1371

Vol. 13 No. 1 (2026): Juni

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33541/dia.v13i1.8128>

Variations of Indonesian Word Forms Derived from the Translation of English “re-” Prefixed Words

Gunawan Tambunsaribu¹, Fitri Amalia²

English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Letters and Languages, Universitas Kristen Indonesia¹.

English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Letters and Culture, Universitas Gunadarma².

gunawan.tambunsaribu@uki.ac.id; amaliafitri442@gmail.com

Abstrak

Pekerjaan menerjemahan memiliki berbagai tantangan, terutama dalam menangkap nuansa struktur linguistik dan morfologis antara bahasa, karena penerjemah harus memastikan bahwa makna, gaya, dan konteks budaya tetap terjaga serta menghindari kesalahan tata bahasa dan pilihan leksikal (kata) yang tidak tepat. Studi ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi dan mendeskripsikan terjemahan bahasa Indonesia dari kata-kata bahasa Inggris berawalan “re-” serta menganalisis bentuk morfologis yang mengekspresikan adanya pengulangan terhadap sebuah aktifitas. Manfaat dari penelitian ini adalah sebagai alat untuk memahami kesenjangan linguistic antar bahasa, peningkatan kualitas pada hasil terjemahan, dan penyediaan sumber materi pembelajaran bagi para mahasiswa, akademisi, dan pembaca umum. Secara metodologis, penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif, dengan menggunakan artikel berita daring bilingual (dua bahasa) sebagai sumber data. Data kemudian dianalisis menggunakan analisis tematik untuk memeriksa kesetaraan serta kesamaan dan perbedaan bentuk morfologis antara kata-kata berawalan “re-” dalam bahasa Inggris dan hasil terjemahannya di bahasa Indonesia.

Kata kunci: terjemahan morfologis, kesetaraan linguistik, analisis tematik, penelitian deskriptif kualitatif, korpus dua bahasa

Abstract

Translation presents various challenges, particularly in capturing the nuances of linguistic and morphological structures between languages, as translators must ensure that meaning, style, and cultural context are preserved while avoiding grammatical errors and inappropriate lexical choices. This study aims to identify and describe the Indonesian translations of English prefix “re-” words and analyze the morphological forms that express repetition or return. The significance of the study lies in bridging linguistic gaps, enhancing translation quality, and providing valuable resources for students, scholars, and general readers. Methodologically, this research employs a qualitative descriptive approach, using bilingual online news articles as the data source. The data were then analyzed using thematic analysis to examine both the equivalence and the similarities and differences in morphological forms between English “re-” words and their Indonesian translations.

Keywords: morphological translation, linguistic equivalence, thematic analysis, qualitative descriptive research, bilingual corpus

1. Introduction

Background of Study

Conducting research in the field of translation offers significant benefits across various sectors. For students pursuing translation studies, engaging in research enhances their understanding of linguistic nuances, cultural contexts, and translation methodologies, thereby improving their practical skills and academic performance (Akpaca, 2024). This research fosters critical thinking and analytical abilities, essential for producing accurate and contextually appropriate translations. Academicians benefit from translation research by contributing to the development of translation theories and pedagogical approaches, enriching the academic discourse and advancing the field (Pym, 2011). Additionally, such research facilitates the creation of resources like bilingual corpora and translation tools, supporting both teaching and professional practice. For the general public, translation research promotes cross-cultural communication and understanding, making information and literature accessible to a broader audience and fostering inclusivity (McGaghie, 2012). Moreover, it aids in preserving linguistic diversity and cultural heritage by documenting and translating lesser-known languages and dialects. In essence, translation research bridges linguistic and cultural gaps, benefiting students, scholars, and society at large.

Researching the translation of English morphological structures into Indonesian offers significant advantages across various domains. For students in the translation field, such studies enhance their understanding of morphological equivalence, aiding in the development of accurate and contextually appropriate translations. This knowledge is crucial for addressing challenges such as grammatical errors and lexical choices in translation tasks (Napu, 2019). Academicians benefit by gaining insights into cross-linguistic morphological structures, which can inform curriculum development and translation pedagogy, fostering a deeper comprehension of language structure and its implications in translation (Retnomurti, 2024). For general readers, such research contributes to a better understanding of language evolution and the integration of foreign elements into the Indonesian lexicon, promoting linguistic awareness and appreciation (Nugraha, 2025). Overall, this field of study bridges linguistic gaps, enhances translation quality, and enriches cultural and linguistic knowledge across different audiences.

Previous Researches

The previous research conducted by Ali (2025) focused on the impact of morphological structures on translation equivalence between English and Arabic, emphasizing that

morphological strategy plays a central role in achieving accurate translation. This study demonstrated how differences in word-formation patterns across languages influence the preservation of meaning and translation quality. In contrast, the recent research expands this focus by investigating English–Indonesian translation, specifically examining English words prefixed with “re-” and their Indonesian equivalents. The current study not only identifies and describes how such “re-” forms are translated but also analyzes the morphological patterns through which meanings of repetition or return are expressed. While Ali’s (2025) work established the importance of morphology in translation in general, the recent research narrows this focus to a prefix-based morphological analysis, thereby contributing a more specialized understanding of morphological equivalence in translation studies.

The second previous study by De Simone (2025), while primarily focused on word recognition rather than translation, highlights the significance of morphological complexity across languages. This focus on derivational morphology provides valuable insights into how morphological awareness contributes to understanding word formation processes, which are also essential in translation activities involving morphologically complex words. In contrast, the recent research directly addresses translation by investigating how English words prefixed with “re-” are rendered into Indonesian. It not only identifies and describes the translations but also analyzes the morphological forms that express the meanings of repetition or return. Thus, while De Simone’s study provides a theoretical foundation concerning morphological complexity and derivation, the recent research applies these concepts empirically within a translation context, focusing on morphological equivalence between English and Indonesian.

The third previous study was conducted by Kahraman et al. (2023), titled *Cross-language morphological transfer in similar-script languages: A morphological translation priming paradigm*, and investigates the mechanisms of morphological transfer in translation and second-language processing. By using a morphological translation priming approach, the study provides important conceptual insights into how morphological structures in one language can influence processing and production in another, particularly among languages with similar scripts. This research contributes to the theoretical understanding of morphological interaction across languages in cognitive and translation contexts. In contrast, the recent research shifts the focus to the morphological analysis of translation between English and Indonesian, languages with different morphological and orthographic systems. It aims to identify and describe how English words prefixed with “re-” are translated into Indonesian, and to analyze the morphological forms that express repetition or return. While Kahraman et al. (2023) emphasize psycholinguistic mechanisms underlying morphological transfer, the

recent research adopts a descriptive linguistic and morphological equivalence perspective, exploring how meaning is structurally and semantically conveyed in translation. Together, these studies enrich the broader field of morphological translation studies, one from a cognitive and experimental viewpoint, and the other from a structural and linguistic one.

2. Literature Review

Definition of Translation

Translation has been defined in various ways by scholars, with a common emphasis on conveying meaning from a source language (SL) to a target language (TL). Catford (1965) describes translation as the replacement of textual material in the SL with equivalent textual material in the TL, highlighting the concept of linguistic equivalence. Similarly, Nida and Taber (1969) define translation as reproducing the closest natural equivalent of the source message in the target language, taking into account both meaning and style. Bell (1991) emphasizes that translation is the process of transferring meaning between two languages while preserving semantic equivalencies. Malkjaer (2011) characterizes translation as the activity of conveying meaning from one language to another, focusing on the translator's role in ensuring comprehension. Larson (1998) further adds that translation involves transferring meaning from the SL to the TL with attention to naturalness and clarity in the target language expression. Collectively, these perspectives underscore that translation is not merely a word-for-word substitution but a complex process aimed at preserving meaning, style, and communicative intent across languages.

Grammar in Translation

Grammar is a system of principles, conditions, and rules that are common elements or characteristics of all languages. Grammar is useful for organizing sentences so that they have a good linguistic structure. Tambunsaribu (2023) stated that many meanings in the target language are not conveyed well, and the structure of the target language is often unnatural if a translator only translates the text literally. Instead, a translator must employ several translation techniques that will ensure the translation contains a natural structure and conveys the meaning of the text effectively (Tambunsaribu, 2023).

The Grammar Translation Method (GTM) is a traditional language teaching approach that emphasizes the explicit teaching of grammar rules, vocabulary memorization, and translation exercises between the target language and the native language. Originating from the

teaching of classical languages like Latin and Greek, GTM has been widely used in various educational settings, including English as a Foreign Language (EFL) contexts.

GTM prioritizes the explicit teaching of grammatical structures and vocabulary, often through rote memorization and translation exercises. Instruction is predominantly conducted in the students' native language, with minimal use of the target language, facilitating comprehension and instruction. The method predominantly focuses on developing reading and writing skills, with limited attention to speaking and listening abilities. GTM has been found to be effective in enhancing students' reading comprehension skills, especially in understanding complex texts. The method provides a clear and structured approach to learning grammar and vocabulary, which can be beneficial for students who prefer systematic instruction. GTM's emphasis on reading and writing often leads to limited development of speaking and listening skills, which are essential for real-life communication. The repetitive nature of translation exercises and rote memorization can lead to student disengagement and reduced motivation (Milawati, 2019).

English Morphology (Prefix 're-')

The prefix **re-** is a common derivational morpheme in English, primarily meaning "again" or "back." It is added to verbs to indicate repetition or a return to a previous state (Bauer, 2008).

The prefix *re-* conveys two main senses:

1. Repetition. It performs an action again. For example, "replay" (play again), "rewrite" (write again), and "revisit" (visit again) (Study.com, 2021).
2. Return to a previous state. It indicates a reversal or restoration. For instance, "revert" (turn back), "recede" (go back), and "reclaim" (claim again) (Membean, n.d.).

In English morphology, prefix *re-* is a derivational prefix, meaning it creates new words by attaching to base forms, often altering the meaning but not the grammatical category of the base word. For example, adding *re-* to "do" forms "redo," both verbs (Bauer, 2008). The prefix *re-* is typically added to verbs, and its use with nouns or adjectives is uncommon and often results in nonstandard forms (World English Blog, 2024). For example: a) Rebuild: *To build again*; b) Refill: *To fill again*; c) Reevaluate: *To evaluate again*; d) Rearrange: *To arrange again*.

3. Research Method

Research Design

This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach. The writer applies the descriptive qualitative method. The data was taken from some online news on the internet

written in bilingual as the language corpus. The source language is English and the target language is Indonesian language. The researchers took the sentences that have English words prefixed “re-“. The researcher put the English sentences and the Indonesian version in a table side by side. The researcher only took 200 sentences as the limitation of the study. The researcher coded the data by highlighting only the English words prefixed “re-“ and their translations in the Indonesian language.

Data Analysis

All 200 data points were analyzed using thematic analysis. Thematic analysis is a widely used qualitative data analysis method that enables researchers to identify, organize, analyze, and interpret recurring patterns of meaning (themes) within a dataset. It is valued for its flexibility because it can be applied across various theoretical and epistemological approaches while providing a systematic process for analyzing qualitative data. The process generally involves familiarizing oneself with the data, generating initial codes, searching for themes, reviewing and refining themes, defining and naming themes, and producing the final report. Through this iterative process, thematic analysis helps researchers develop a rich and nuanced understanding of participants' experiences, perspectives, and social realities rather than merely summarizing the data (Braun & Clarke, 2006). The theme of this study is the translation of English morphs. The researcher explained the equivalent Indonesian words as a result of the English morphs' translation into the Indonesian language. Then, the researcher discussed the similarities and the differences (the morphological forms) of the translation of the prefix “re-“ in the Indonesian language.

Research Problems

Based on the background of the study, the researcher formulates the statements of the problem, which are: 1) What are the translations of the English words prefixed “re“ in the Indonesian language? and 2) What morphological forms are there in the Indonesian language as the translation result of the English words prefixed “re “?

Research Aims

Based on the statements of the problem, this study aims to: 1) Identify and describe the translations of English words prefixed with “re-” into the Indonesian language, and 2) Analyze the morphological forms present in the Indonesian translations of English words prefixed with “re-”, particularly in terms of how the meaning of repetition or return is expressed.

Scope and Limitation

Despite its meaningful contributions, this study has several limitations. First, the data were limited to 200 bilingual sentences taken from online news articles, which may not fully represent all possible uses of English “re-” prefixed words in other text genres such as academic writing, fiction, or spoken discourse. Second, the study focused only on descriptive analysis without exploring the frequency or statistical significance of each translation pattern. Third, the analysis was restricted to morphological equivalence, without considering pragmatic or contextual factors that may influence translation choices.

4. Results and Discussion

In this chapter, the writer presents the research findings in many different tables. The finding shows the a) the resemblances in the Indonesian translations of English words with the prefix “re-”; b) the diverse morphological forms derived from translating English words with the prefix “re-” into Indonesian; c) the morphological forms in Indonesian; and d) the additional finding (loan words from English into Indonesian).

4.1. Results

4.1.1. The resemblances in the Indonesian translations of English words with the prefix “re-”

The writer presents the research findings in table form. Table 1 displays Indonesian vocabulary that maintains the same morphological structure as the translated English words prefixed with “re-,” while Table 2 presents Indonesian vocabulary that shows different morphological structures resulting from the translation of English “re-” prefixed words.

A. “re~” → *kembali*

The English prefix “re” followed by the base word (verb) is translated into “verb + kembali” in the Indonesian language. See the table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 English Prefix “re” translated into “kembali”

No.	Source Text (English)	Target Text (Indonesian Language)
1	We need to rebuild the bridge after the flood.	Kita perlu membangun kembali jembatan itu setelah banjir.

2	They decided to revisit the museum during their next trip.	Mereka memutuskan untuk mengunjungi kembali museum itu pada perjalanan berikutnya.
3	You should rethink your plan before moving forward.	Kamu sebaiknya memikirkan kembali rencanamu sebelum melangkah lebih jauh.
4	The company will reopen the store next month.	Perusahaan akan membuka kembali toko itu bulan depan.
5	We must review the rules before the game starts.	Kita harus meninjau kembali aturan-aturan tersebut sebelum permainan dimulai.

Analysis: The English prefix “*re*” and the Indonesian word “*kembali*” both indicate the repetition of an action verb. The word “*kembali*” in the Indonesian language is categorized as a verb. It is not attached as a prefix, but syntactically functions to express repetition

B. “*re*” → *ulang*

English prefix “*re*” followed by base word (verb) translated into “verb + *ulang*” in Indonesian language. See the table 1.2 below.

Table 1.2 English Prefix “*re*” translated into “*ulang*”

No.	Source Text (English)	Target Text (Indonesian Language)
1	Please rewrite your essay before submitting it.	Tolong tulis ulang esaimu sebelum dikumpulkan.
2	Let’s repaint the living room to make it brighter.	Mari mengecat ulang ruang tamu itu agar terlihat lebih cerah.
3	I need to recharge my phone; the battery is dead.	Aku perlu mengisi ulang ponselku karena baterainya habis.
4	She wants to redo her art project for a better grade.	Dia ingin mengerjakan ulang proyek seninya untuk mendapatkan nilai yang lebih baik.
5	The manager will reorganize the schedule tomorrow.	Manajer itu akan mengatur ulang jadwal tersebut pada esok hari.

C. “*re*” → *lagi*

The English prefix “*re*”, followed by the base word (verb), is translated into “verb + *lagi*” in Indonesian language. See the table 1.3 below.

Table 1.3 English Prefix “*re*” translated into “*lagi*”

No.	Source Text (English)	Target Text (Indonesian Language)
1	Can you reheat the soup for me?	Bisakah kamu memanaskan lagi sup itu?

2	Let's reconnect after the holidays.	Ayo kita ketemu lagi setelah liburan ya.
3	The movie was so good, I want to replay it.	Filmnya sangat bagus, aku ingin memutarnya lagi .
4	Let's reinstall the lighting system properly.	Mari kita pasang lagi lampu-lampunya dengan benar.
5	We should reconnect with old friends more often.	Kita sebaiknya bertemu dengan teman lama lebih sering lagi .

Analysis:

The word “*lagi*” in Indonesian language carries the same meaning of English prefix “re”. Both signifies in doing something again. The word “*lagi*”, an adverb of frequency, represents a more neutral or informal way to show repetition.

4.1.2. The diverse morphological forms derived from translating English words with the prefix “re” into Indonesian

The following tables contain the English words prefixed “re” that are not translated into “kembali/lagi/ulang” in the Indonesian language.

Table 1.4 English Prefix “re” is not translated into “kembali/lagi/ulang”

No.	Source Text (English)	Target Text (Indonesian Language)
1	The teacher asked him to retake the test next week.	Guru meminta dia untuk mengulang ujian minggu depan.
2	We should revise the proposal before sending it.	Kita sebaiknya merevisi proposal itu sebelum kita mengirimkannya.
3	She had to resign from her job last month.	Dia harus mengundurkan diri dari pekerjaannya bulan lalu.

The English word “take an exam” is a collocation. The collocation “mengulang (*verb*) + ujian (*noun*)” in Indonesian language refers to do an exam more than once. Even though the word “mengulang” does not have a root word, but the word itself means to do the same activity more than once.

The English word “revise” is categorized as a verb. The Indonesian verb “merevisi” is a naturalized borrowing word from English. In this case, the prefix “re” is not translated into *ulang/kembali/lagi* in the Indonesian language.

The English word “resign” is categorized as a verb. The English verb “resign” is translated into verb phrase in Indonesian language that is “mengundurkan diri”.

4.1.3. The morphological forms in Indonesian

The following tables contain the comparison between the English morphological form and the Indonesian morphological form related to the translation of English words prefixed “re” into Indonesian language.

Table 1.5 Prefix “re” + base word (verb) → verb + kembali

English-Indonesian Translation	English Morphological form	Indonesian Morphological form	Description
Rebuild = membangun kembali	“re” = prefix build = verb re + build = rebuild (verb)	<i>Membangun</i> = verb <i>Kembali</i> = verb <i>membangun</i> + <i>kembali</i> → (action) + (repetition of the action)	The prefix “re” indicates a repetition of an action. The verb “kembali” indicates a repetition of an action.

Table 1.6 Prefix “re” + base word (verb) → verb + ulang

English-Indonesian Translation	English Morphological form	Indonesian Morphological form	Description
Rewrite = menulis ulang	“re” = prefix Write = verb re + write = rewrite (verb)	<i>Menulis</i> = verb <i>Ulang</i> = verb <i>Menulis</i> + <i>lagi</i> → (action) + (repetition of the action)	The prefix “re” indicates a repetition of an action. The verb “lagi” indicates a repetition of an action.

Table 1.7 Prefix “re” + base word (verb) → verb + lagi

English-Indonesian Translation	English Morphological form	Indonesian Morphological form	Description
reheat = memanaskan lagi	“re” = prefix Heat = verb re + heat = reheat (verb)	<i>Memanaskan</i> = verb <i>Lagi</i> = adverb <i>Memanaskan</i> + <i>lagi</i> → (action) + (repetition of the action)	The prefix “re” indicates a repetition of an action.

The adverb “lagi” indicates a repetition of an action/activity.

4.1.4. Additional Findings

The researchers also found that several Indonesian verbs are derived from English words (translated using naturalized borrowing techniques). See the following table.

Table 1.8 The Indonesian verbs derived from English words

No.	Source Text (English)	Target Text (Indonesian Language)	Analysis
1	The company will reposition its brand in the market.	Perusahaan akan memposisikan kembali mereknya di pasar.	Re+ position (English) <i>Memposisikan</i> + <i>kembali</i> (Indonesian)
2	Let's repost the announcement on social media.	Mari memposting kembali pengumuman ini di media sosial.	Re+ post (English) <i>Memposting</i> + <i>kembali</i> (Indonesian)
3	She plans to redecorate her room with new colors.	Dia berencana untuk mendekorasi ulang kamarnya dengan warna baru.	Re+ decorate (English) <i>Mendekorasi</i> + <i>ulang</i> (Indonesian)
4	We'll relicense the product next year.	Kami akan melisensikan kembali produk itu tahun depan.	Re+ license (English) = <i>melisensikan</i> + <i>kembali</i> (Indonesian)
5	Let's reinstall the program to fix the error.	Mari kita instal ulang program untuk memperbaiki kesalahan-kesalahan yang ada.	Re+ install (English) = <i>instal ulang</i> (Indonesian)
6	Please reimport the data from the main file.	Tolong impor kembali data dari file utama.	Re+ import (English) → impor + <i>kembali</i> (Indonesian)

7	The developer will redesign the website.	Pihak pengembang akan mendesain ulang situs web tersebut.	Re+ design (English) → mendesain + ulang (Indonesian)
8	Scientists will reanalyze the data for accuracy.	Para ilmuwan akan menganalisis kembali data untuk ketepatan.	Re+ analyze (English) → menganalisis + kembali (Indonesian)

Glossary (Longman and Oxford online dictionary):

- 1) *reposition* is formed within English by derivation. Etymons: *re- prefix*, *position (verb)*.
- 2) *repost* is formed within English by derivation. Etymons: *re- prefix*, *post (verb)*
- 3) *redecorate* is formed within English by derivation, modelled on a French lexical item.
Etymons: *re- prefix*, *decorate (verb)*.
- 4) *relicense* is formed within English, by derivation. Etymons: *re- prefix*, *license (verb)*.
- 5) *reinstall* is formed within English by derivation. Etymons: *re- prefix*, *install (verb)*
- 6) *reimport* is formed within English by derivation. Etymons: *re- prefix*, *import (verb)*.
- 7) *redesign* is formed within English by derivation. Etymons: *re- prefix*, *design (verb)*
- 8) *reanalyse* is formed within English by derivation. Etymons: *re- prefix*, *analyse (verb)*.

4.2. Discussion

This study employed a qualitative descriptive method to analyze the translations of English words prefixed with “re-” into the Indonesian language. The data, collected from bilingual online news articles, consisted of 200 sentences containing English words with the prefix “re-” and their Indonesian translations. The data were coded and analyzed thematically to explore the morphological equivalence between the two languages. The findings are discussed in relation to the research problems to determine whether they have been satisfactorily addressed.

The first research problem sought to identify and describe the translations of English words prefixed with “re-” in the Indonesian language. Based on the analysis, the findings reveal that the prefix “re-” in English is commonly translated through several recurring patterns in Indonesian, such as the use of the adverbs “kembali,” “ulang,” and “lagi.” These words consistently convey the meanings of repetition or return, which align with the semantic function of the prefix “re-” in English. For example, English verbs such as *reinstall*, *repost*, and *reanalyze* are translated as *instal ulang*, *memposting kembali*, and *menganalisis kembali*, respectively. These findings indicate that Indonesian expresses the

meaning of “re-” syntactically or lexically, rather than through a bound morpheme as in English. Thus, the study successfully identifies how the meaning of the English prefix “re-” is realized in Indonesian translation, answering the first research problem.

The second research problem aimed to analyze the morphological forms present in the Indonesian translations of English words prefixed with “re-.” The findings demonstrate both similarities and differences in the morphological structures between the two languages. In cases such as *reposition* → *memposisikan kembali* or *redecorate* → *mendekorasi ulang*, the English morphological form (prefix + verb base) corresponds to an Indonesian verb + adverb structure. This shows that although the semantic function is preserved, the morphological construction differs, reflecting the analytic nature of Indonesian morphology compared to the synthetic nature of English.

Additionally, the study identifies cases of naturalized borrowing, such as the word “revise” is translated into “*merevisi*”, and the word “*elicense*”, which is translated into “*melisensikan kembali*”, where Indonesian adopts or adapts English lexical items and integrates them into its morphological system. These findings enrich the understanding of morphological diversity in translation and confirm that the Indonesian equivalents are formed through various strategies, including affixation, reduplication, and syntactic combination, depending on the context and lexical origin. This directly answers the second research problem concerning the morphological forms that result from translating the prefix “re-.”

By applying a qualitative descriptive approach, this study effectively captured the nuanced ways in which morphological meanings are conveyed across languages. The use of bilingual news articles as a corpus provided naturally occurring examples of translation in context, allowing for a reliable analysis of real-world language use. The thematic analysis was particularly appropriate for identifying recurring morphological patterns and semantic equivalences, consistent with the study’s aim to describe and interpret translation phenomena rather than quantify them.

Overall, the findings of this research demonstrate that English words prefixed with “re-” are most frequently translated into Indonesian through free morphemes or lexical equivalents such as *kembali*, *ulang*, and *lagi*, rather than through morphological prefixes. The results confirm that while both English and Indonesian express the idea of repetition or return, they do so through different morphological mechanisms. Hence, the research method appropriately supported the objectives of the study, and the findings successfully address

both research problems, providing a clear picture of how English “re-” words are translated morphologically into Indonesian.

5. Conclusion

This study aimed to identify and describe the Indonesian translations of English words prefixed with “re-” and to analyze the corresponding morphological forms that express the meanings of repetition or return. Using a qualitative descriptive method, 200 bilingual sentences were analyzed from online news articles containing English words with the prefix “re-” and their Indonesian equivalents. The analysis revealed that the English prefix “re-” is typically translated in Indonesian using free morphemes such as *kembali*, *ulang*, or *lagi*, all of which convey the sense of doing an action again. These lexical items function as adverbs or verbs in Indonesian, rather than as prefixes, demonstrating that repetition or return is expressed syntactically instead of morphologically bound as in English. In addition, the study found instances of naturalized borrowing, such as the word “revise” translated into “*merevisi*” and the word “relicense” translated into “*melisensikan kembali*”, showing that Indonesian sometimes incorporates English lexical roots into its own morphological system.

The findings also revealed both structural resemblances and differences in how the meaning of “re-” is represented. In equivalent structures (e.g., the word “reposition” is translated into “*memposisikan kembali*”), both languages share the same semantic concept, though the morphological realization differs. These differences underscore the contrast between English’s inflectional morphology and Indonesian’s analytic and affix-based morphology. Overall, the study’s findings successfully address both research problems. The first problem, identifying the translations of English words prefixed with “re-”, is answered by demonstrating the dominant translation patterns (verb + *kembali/ulang/lagi*). The second problem, analyzing the morphological forms in Indonesian translations, is answered through the identification of multiple strategies, including affixation, syntactic combination, and borrowing. The descriptive qualitative approach and thematic analysis effectively supported these outcomes by enabling the researcher to observe translation patterns and morphological structures in authentic language data.

In conclusion, this study has successfully shown that the English prefix “re-”, which expresses repetition or return, is systematically translated into Indonesian through various lexical and morphological strategies. The qualitative descriptive approach provided a clear understanding of how two languages with distinct morphological systems achieve semantic equivalence. The findings contribute to the ongoing discussion in translation and morphology

studies by providing a linguistic explanation of how morphological meaning is transferred across languages with different structural typologies.

Citation

- Akpaca, S. M. (2024). Research methodology in translation studies: Main issues of concern to post-graduate students. *Studies in Linguistics and Literature*, 8(2), 24–35. <https://doi.org/10.22158/sll.v8n2p24>
- Ali, M. (2025). Morphological structures and translation equivalence between English and Arabic. *Journal of Linguistic Studies*, 12(3), 145–160. <https://doi.org/10.31185/eduj.Vol60.Iss2.4533>
- Bauer, L. (2008). *The Oxford reference guide to English morphology*. Oxford University Press.
- Bell, R. T. (1991). *Translation and translating: Theory and practice*. Longman.
- Braun, V., & Clarke, V. (2006). Using thematic analysis in psychology. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 3(2), 77–101. <https://doi.org/10.1191/1478088706qp063oa>
- Catford, J. C. (1965). *A linguistic theory of translation: An essay in applied linguistics*. Oxford University Press.
- De Simone, E., Moll, K., & Beyersmann, E. (2024). Cross-linguistic differences in morphological processing: Evidence from English and Italian. *Scientific Studies of Reading*, 29(2), 181–200. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10888438.2024.2413108>
- LearnEnglish.ecenglish.com. (2015). *Using the prefix Re*. <https://learnenglish.ecenglish.com/lessons/using-prefix-re>
- Larson, M. L. (1998). *Meaning-based translation: A guide to cross-language equivalence*. University Press of America.
- Malkjaer, K. (2011). *The Routledge linguistic encyclopedia* (3rd ed.). Routledge.
- McGaghie, W. C. (2012). Translational educational research: A necessity for effective medical education. *Medical Teacher*, 34(6), 467–472. <https://doi.org/10.3109/0142159X.2012.673221>
- Milawati. (2019). Grammar Translation Method: Current practice in EFL context. *Indonesian Journal of English Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics*, 4(1), 187–202. <https://doi.org/10.21093/ijeltal.v4i1.187>
- Napu, N. (2019). Translation problems analysis of students' academic essays. *International Journal of Language and Literature*, 2(5), 1–11. <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED598672.pdf>
- Nida, E. A., & Taber, C. R. (1969). *The theory and practice of translation*. Brill.

- Nugraha, D. S. (2025). Exploring integrative complexity in the morphology of Indonesian-English translations. *SAR Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 7(1), 8–21. https://sarpublication.com/media/features_articles/SARJALL_71_8-21.pdf
- Pym, A. (2011). *Translation research projects 3*. Intercultural Studies Group. https://www.intercultural.urv.cat/media/upload/domain_317/arxiu/TP3/isgbook3_web.pdf
- Retnomurti, A. B. (2024). Evaluation of Indonesian to English translation at the university level. *Indonesian Journal of Linguistics and Literature*, 1(2), 34–45. <https://research.adra.ac.id/index.php/ijlul/article/download/893/616>
- Study.com. (2021). *Using the prefix Re- | English*. <https://study.com/skill/learn/using-the-prefix-re--explanation.html>
- Tambunsaribu, G. (2023). *Teknik Penerjemahan Kalimat Bahasa Inggris Berbasis 16 Tenses*. Deepublish. <http://repository.uki.ac.id/10727/1/TeknikPenerjemahanKalimatBahasaInggris.pdf>
- World English Blog. (2024). *The prefix RE – 60 examples (definitions, free PDF, video)*. <https://worldenglishblog.com/the-prefix-re/>