Chapter III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter focuses in detail explanation of procedures and methodology used to conduct this research. It contains every step in conducting the research.

3.1 Research Questions

The research is geared to answer the following research questions:

1. What is the frequency of reporting verbs in the original novel (SL)?

2. What are the procedures employed in translating the reporting verbs?

3. How is the accuracy of the translation?

These questions are certainly helpful in finding the answers of the research and narrowing the phenomenon to be studied later. These questions are taken through deep introspection and consideration. Since the study of reporting verbs is interesting and researchable, observation and literature (includes theories and previous studies) are needed in order to raise relevant research questions.

3.2 Method of Research

The study employs descriptive research in order to gain more information about a particular characteristic within the study of reporting verbs in fiction. A descriptive study, as states by Ross (1999), may be used to develop theory, identify problems with current practice, justify current practice, make judgements or identify what others in similar situations may be doing. It refers to the type of research question, design, and data analysis that will be applied to a given topic. Descriptive research can be either qualitative or quantitative. It can involve collections of quantitative information in numerical form, or it can describe categories of information of a certain phenomenon.

Particularly in the study, the corpus is analyzed by employing descriptive research using both of qualitative and quantitative methods. According Ross on her "Ways of Approaching Research" (1999), quantitative and qualitative are said to be systematic. In fact having a system or following a process is a defining principle of research. Broadly speaking, quantitative research is thought to be objective whereas qualitative research often involves a subjective element. It is thought that in gaining, analyzing and interpreting quantitative data, the writer can remain detached and objective. Often this is not possible with qualitative research where the writer may actually be involved in the situation of the research.

The study is used to develop theory, identify problems and find the pattern of the data which later on might be concluded into an intact argument. In addition, there is no manipulation of variables and no attempt to establish causality of the

study. Therefore, in other words, if the researcher uses descriptive method, he just collects and analyzes the data, and then draw a conclusion that only applies to the study.

3.3 Data Collection

Data Collection is an important aspect of any research study. To obtain the sample in this research, the probability sampling technique is applied. With reference to the technique, Summerhill and Taylor state that:

> "Data collection techniques include screening records and reports, direct observation of behavior, face-to-face interviews, telephone interviews, and mail questionnaires. If valid information is readily available in records and reports, then further data collection may not be necessary; or, if direct observation is feasible and will provide the information needed, then there may be no need to ask people to respond to questions. However, these techniques are often not feasible or are inadequate to provide the quality or quantity of information desired. Consequently, survey instruments may be necessary to gather data from which judgments about programs can be made." (1992:1)

Different ways of collecting data as stated above are useful for different purposes, and each has advantages and disadvantages. Various factors will influence the choice of a data collection method such as the questions to be investigated, available resources, timeline, and more. As a matter of fact,

inaccurate data collection can impact the results of a study and ultimately lead to invalid results.

The samples of this research are reporting verbs appearing in the novel which are translated to Indonesian. The data is taken from Dan Brown's novel entitled *The Lost Symbol*. The original (SL) best-selling novel is written by Dan Brown entitled *The Lost Symbol* which has 671 pages. It consists of a prologue, 133 chapters, and an epilogue. Whilst, the Indonesian version of the novel has 712 pages. It consists of a prolog, 133 chapters and an epilog. Its Indonesian version is translated by Inggrid Dwijani Nimpoeno. Particularly, in the study the *e-book* (digital book) version of the novel is used to make the study easier to conduct. It consists of 339 for its English version and 757 pages for its Indonesian version. The corpus-processing software compiles all reporting verbs appearing in the novel to study reporting verbs frequency. However, in order to answer other research questions as they have been mentioned previously, the probabilty sampling is employed. It takes 20% of the total population. The representative samples to analyse translation procedures and accuracy are 205 occurances of all reporting verbs found in direct quotations appearing in SL and its translation.

3.3.1 Data Coding

Data coding is needed to make the data classification easier. The following are the examples of data coding in the study:

1. The code for data in SL is DB/TLS/SL/Number.

For example: DB/TLS/SL/111 = "No problem," Nuñez said. "I'll use the wand." (Page 13)

2. The code for data in TL is DB/TLS/TL/Number.

For example: DB/TLS/SL/111 = "Tak masalah" jawab Nuñez. "Saya pakai tongkat saja." (Page 34)

3.4 Data Analysis

Employing descriptive research, the study is expected to achieve completely objective corpus-based study of reporting verb. The study is conducted with some procedures in order to find the answers of the previous research questions. There are at least three major procedures conducted in the study; the first step is seeing the frequency of reporting verbs by using corpus-processing software, the second one is selecting the concordance (data appears in the corpus) manually and, the third is analysing the data.

The corpus-processing software; MonoConc Pro version 2.0 is used in the study. The software is created by Michael Barlow copyright 1996, 2000. *Concordancer: MonoConc* Pro is a fast concordance (text searching) program with a good user-interface. It is used in the analysis of English or other texts in other languages for linguistic or language teaching and language learning purposes. As well as providing KWIC (Key Word In Context) concordance results, the software also produces wordlists and collocation information. The program is easy to use, but also comes with a range of powerful features such as

Context Search, Regular Expression search, Part-of-Speech Tag Search, Collocations, and *Corpus Comparison*. *MonoConc Pro* is networkable and operates well under a variety of Windows.

To compile the reporting verbs in SL, the software provides a fast concordance program. It makes the analysis easier and faster. However, the study combines short of automatic tools and manual analysis as the technique of investigation in the study. The automatic tool is needed to depict the list of reporting verbs in SL and to see the occurrences of each reporting verb found in SL. The manual analysis is needed to investigate the translation procedures and translation accuracy of reporting verbs. The analysis of translation procedures aims to observe the reporting verbs in corresponding to SL. It then leads to the observation of whether the translation is accurate or not based on the three professional translators' evaluation. To gain the result, questionnaires are spread to three professional translators (evaluators). The evaluators then score the level of accuracy of the translation.