# STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I hereby certify the study entitled *A Corpus Based Study of Reporting Verbs in Dan Brown's the Lost Symbol: a Translational Perspective* comprises only my original work. It contains no material which has been submitted for the award of any other degree or diploma at any university except where due reference acknowledgement is made in text.

Bandung, January 2012

Talitha Disti Amalia

# PREFACE

Alhamdulillah, praise to Allah the almighty, the most Gracious who has granted the blessing and peace upon us, making this possible.

The study entitled *A Corpus Based Study of Reporting Verbs in Dan Brown's The Lost Symbol: A Translational Perspective* is submitted to the English Department of Indonesia University of Education with the aim of fulfilling the requirement for Sarjana Sastra degree.

The writer realizes that the paper is not perfect. Therefore, the writer would be very grateful to welcome any constructive criticism and suggestions to improve the further study.

Hopefully, the paper would be useful to the reader and it can motivate other researcher to study reporting verbs better and deeper.

Bandung, January 2012

Talitha Disti Amalia

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, the writer would like to give her highest gratitude to Allah SWT His blessing. In accomplishing the paper, there are many people who have involved and contributed. Therefore, the writer would like to express the deepest gratitude and appreciation to:

- Dr. Hobir Abdullah, M.Pd. as the writer's main supervisor, thank you for all your time, patience, encouragement, critical support, and invaluable assistance in undertaking the study.

- Drs. Ahsin Muhammad, M.Ag as the writer's co-supervisor, thank you so much for every single precious time and for all the help, support, and guidance during the process of my paper writing.

- Prof. Dr. H. Didi Suherdi, M.Ed as the head of English Department.

- All the lecturers in English Department UPI.

- All staff of administration in English Department for all the information and help.

- The respondents, thank you for your time and you help. It means a lot.

- Lutfi Jatmika; a Translator and Interpreter of Business Bilingual Services, Jakarta.

- Rahmat Miftahul Rizki; a Translator of CV.Anindyatrans, Jakarta.

- Rara Rizal; a Translator and Interpreter.

- Bunda in Heaven.

- Ibu, Neneng Tresna Wijaya for being such a great Mother.

- Husband, Riza Handani Udjo for the love and patience. Thank you so much.

- Ayah, my little brothers, thank you for all the supports.

- Mama Nino, thanks for being the coolest mother-in-law ever.

- Best friends , thanks for all of the joy, happiness, and also the madness we have gone through.

- My classmates in English Literature B'07 for the togetherness.

- And finally to everyone who helps the writing process of the paper.
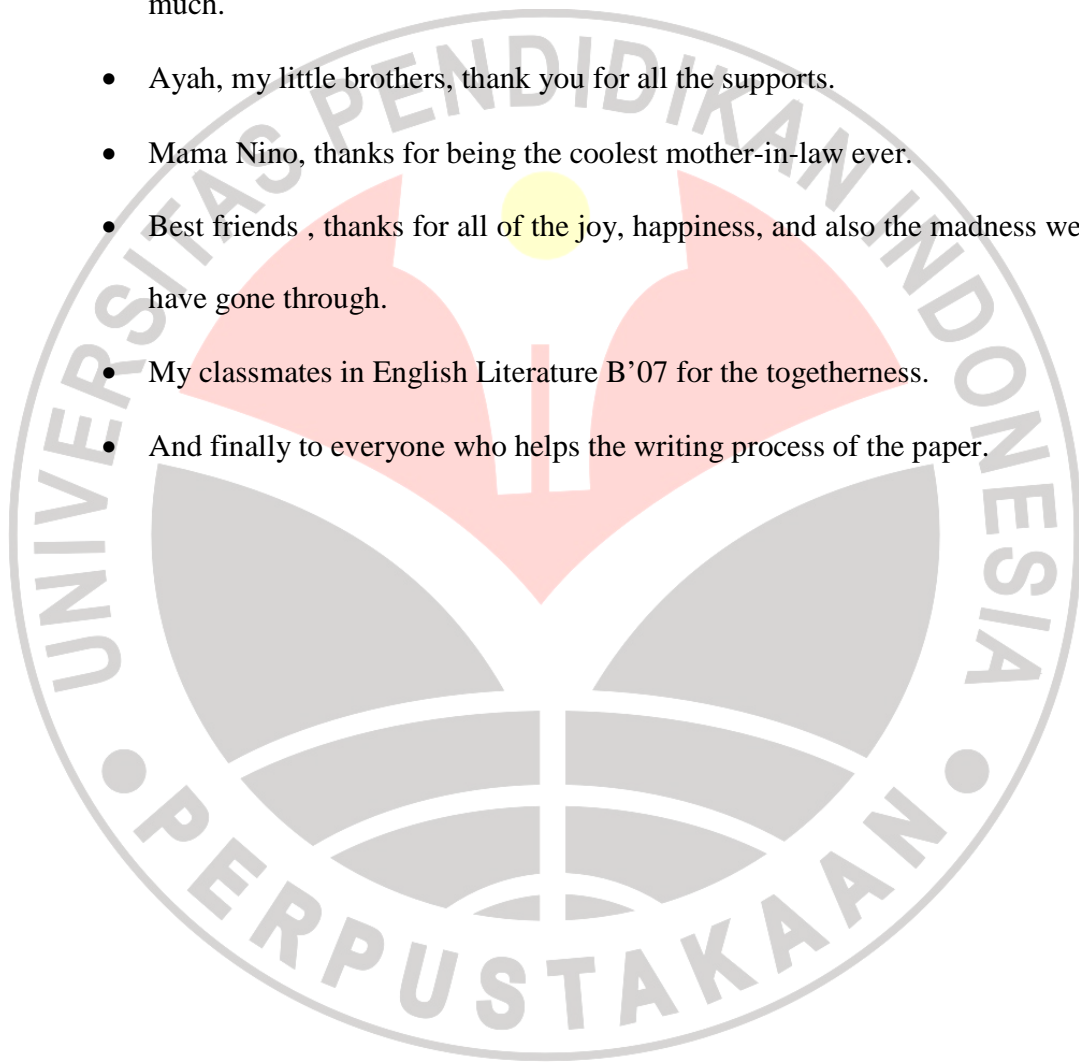
# ABSTRACT

The tittle of the study is *A Corpus Based Study of Reporting Verbs in Dan Brown's the Lost Symbol: a Translational Perspective*. The study focuses on depicting the frequency of reporting verbs appearing in the source language (SL), analysing the procedures of translating reporting verbs from English as source languange (SL) to Indonesian as target language (TL) and assessing the accuracy of the translation. The study employs descriptive research which uses corpus-processing software to compile the data and manually analyse the data.

The data is taken from one of the world's best-selling novel entitled *The Lost Symbol* written by Dan Brown and its translation version *The Lost Symbol* translated by Inggrid Dwijani Nimpoeno. Based on the result of corpus-based analysis, 41 reporting verbs has been found in SL with total 1025 occurrences in the direct quotation . They occur in different frequency because some reporting verbs appear once but some others appear frequently in the novel. Nevertheless, due to the limited time of study the probabilty sampling is employed. It takes 20% of the total population. The representative samples to analyse translation procedures and accuracy are 205 occurrences of all reporting verbs found in direct quotation appearing in SL and its translation.

The result of corpus-based analysis shows that in SL *said* (36%) is the most frequent reporting verb in the novel, followed by *replied* (7%), *whispered* (6%), *shouted* (6%) and *asked* (5%). It also shows that *agreed, gasped, groaned, looked, muttered*, and *screamed* as the less frequent reporting verbs with only one occurrence each verb. Using the theory proposed by Newmark (1988), the writer analyses the procedures of translating reporting verbs from SL to TL. It presents that the procedures occuring in the study are Literal translation (73%), Synonymy (14%), Equivalence (9%) and Expansion (4%).

Based on the questionnaire given to three professional translators, supported by the theories of accuracy by Larson (1984), Newmark (1988) and Baker (1992) and confirmed by the findings of translation procedure in translating reporting verbs to SL to TL, it can be concluded that the translation is mostly accurate. The translator tends to avoid inaccuracy by frequently using literal translation. There is no significant mistake in translating the reporting verbs. It still conveys the meaning from the SL to TL so it still can easily be understood by the readers.

**Key words:** reporting verbs, corpus, translation, translation procedure, direct quotation, accuracy

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