CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter explains the methodologies employed in this research, which encompasses a detailed presentation of the methods utilized, providing comprehensive insight into the procedures and techniques applied to ensure a systematic and rigorous investigation of the chosen subject.

3.1 Research Design

The objectives of this research were to analyze the idiom characteristics that contribute to untranslatability and the translation strategies in translating idiomatic expressions from Riordan's (2018) "9 from the Nine Worlds" and the Indonesian rendition of the book. Therefore, the researcher adopted a qualitative method for this research. The qualitative research method, as defined by Creswell and Creswell (2018), is a type of research method that seeks to comprehend the meaning of a social phenomenon. It focuses on providing a detailed description and interpretation of a phenomenon based on the data collected and organized by the researcher. For the research design, the researcher applied the Descriptive Translation Studies (DTS), which, according to Toury (1995), is a research design that aims to describe translation as it actually occurs within the context of the target culture. DTS was deemed appropriate for delving into the complexities involved in rendering idiomatic expressions and identifying translation strategies applied in the target language. This design allowed for an in-depth analysis within the natural context of literary translation.

3.2 Data and Sources of Data

This research acquired data from 2 hard copy sources: Riordan's (2018) "9 from the Nine Worlds" book and the Indonesian rendition of the book. The original book, published by Disney-Hyperion in 2018, comprises 154 pages and served as the basis for identifying idioms in the source language (English). The Indonesian rendition, translated by Reni Indardini and published by Noura Books in 2019, comprises 192 pages and provides the corresponding translation for the idioms identified from the original book.

The data consisted of idiomatic expressions (idioms) identified in the original English text, along with their corresponding translations in the Indonesian rendition of the companion book. As Hurford et al. (2007) characterized, idioms are phrases whose meanings cannot be predicted from the literal meanings of their individual words. To ensure accuracy in identifying idioms, the researcher verified each expression using reputable online dictionaries, namely the *Cambridge Dictionary* and *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*.

Considering untranslatability, as defined by Aranda (2007), as the result of a word or lexical gap in another language, this study excluded idioms translated using Baker's (2018) idiom translation strategy of employing an idiom with similar meaning and form (words) in the target language. Such cases were considered to have equivalent words in the target language, thus not reflecting untranslatability. The analysis, therefore, focused on instances where untranslatability was evident and alternative translation strategies were employed. To further ensure that idioms classified as untranslatable lacked direct equivalents in the target language, the researcher also consulted two major compilations of Indonesian proverbs and

idiomatic expressions: "2700 Peribahasa Indonesia" by Bachtiar (2011) and "2700 Peribahasa Indonesia Plus Pantun" by Dianawati (2007) to verify the absence of comparable idiomatic expressions in Indonesian, thereby reinforcing the classification of the selected idioms as untranslatable.

3.3 Data Collection

In this research, the data were collected using a documentary method, as described by Bungin (2007) and aligned with Creswell and Creswell's (2018) qualitative data collection procedures. This method involves systematically gathering and analyzing written sources to extract relevant data. In this study, the written sources consist of the original English version of "9 from the Nine Worlds" by Riordan (2018) and its Indonesian rendition.

According to Creswell and Creswell (2018), qualitative documents may include public or private texts that provide meaningful insight into the research problem. Bungin (2007) similarly emphasizes that documentary methods are appropriate for collecting and organizing textual data in a structured and analytical way. The data collection process involved the following steps:

1. The researcher thoroughly read both the original English version and the Indonesian rendition of "9 from the Nine Worlds" to become familiar with the content and identify potentially idiomatic expressions in the source text.

2. Idiomatic expressions were carefully identified in the English source text based on the definition provided by Hurford et al. (2007), which characterizes idioms as expressions whose meanings cannot be derived from the literal meanings of their constituent words. Additionally, the

corresponding translations of the idioms were located in the Indonesian rendition of the companion book.

3. Each identified idiomatic expression was verified for its idiomaticity using reliable online sources, specifically the *Cambridge Dictionary* and *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*, to confirm that the expression was recognized as an idiom.

4. To determine whether the identified idioms had direct equivalents in the Indonesian language, the researcher consulted two comprehensive reference works on Indonesian idioms and proverbs: *2700 Peribahasa Indonesia* by Bachtiar (2011) and *2700 Peribahasa Indonesia Plus Pantun* by Dianawati (2007).

5. The idioms and their translations were compiled into a dataset presented in the Appendix (pp. 65–86) of this thesis, which served as the basis for further analysis focused on the idiom characteristics contributing to untranslatability and the translation strategies applied, following Baker's (2018) framework.

3.4 Data Analysis

The data analysis for this research focused on analyzing idiomatic expressions found in Riordan's (2018) "9 from the Nine Worlds" and the translation found in the Indonesian rendition of the book. This analysis was designed to address the research questions regarding the untranslatable characteristics of idioms and the translation strategies used to render the idioms. Following Creswell and Creswell's (2018) data analysis steps for qualitative research, the researcher engaged in the following procedures:

1. **Organizing and Preparing the Data**

   The researcher collected and organized the data from both the source and translated texts into a structured dataset, which is presented in the Appendix (pp. 65–86) of this thesis. Idiomatic expressions were identified, documented, and compiled along with their corresponding translations and page references for clarity and ease of analysis.

2. **Reading and Familiarizing with the Data**

   The researcher closely read all idiomatic expressions in both versions of the text to gain a general understanding of the data.

3. **Coding**

   A coding system was developed to categorize the idioms based on their characteristics and the translation strategies applied using Baker's (2018) framework. Codes were assigned as follows:

   Idiom Characteristics

   1. **VTC**: Violates Truth Conditions
   2. **GIE**: Grammatical Ill-formed Expressions
   3. **SLS**: Simile-like Structures
   4. **MI**: Misleading Idioms

   Translation Strategies

   1. **TP**: Translation by Paraphrase
   2. **OPI**: Omission of a Play on Idiom
   3. **OEI**: Omission of the Entire Idiom
   4. **BSLI**: Borrowing the Source Language Idiom
   5. **USMDF**: Using an Idiom of Similar Meaning but Dissimilar Form

Example: **Datum1/VTC/OPI**

This code indicates that data number 1 involves an idiom that violates truth conditions and was translated using the omission of a play on idiom strategy.

4. **Data Display**

The coded data were presented in a table format, including the source and target language texts, the coded reference, idiom type, characteristic, strategy applied, and page numbers. Idioms were highlighted in bold within the sample texts to emphasize their presence. For example:

Code	Texts	Idiom Types	Characteristics	Translation Strategies
Datum1/PI/ VTC/OPI	"He is **pulling your leg**." (Page 17) "Dia hanya **bercanda**." (Page 28)	Pure Idiom	Violating Truth Condition	Omission of a Play on Idiom

Table 3.1 Data Display

5. **Interpreting the Data: Untranslatability Analysis**

To address the first research question, the researcher identified and analyzed the characteristics of idioms using Baker's (2018) classification. This was aligned with Aranda's (2007) notion of untranslatability in interpreting why certain idiom characteristics are difficult to translate directly.

6. **Interpreting the Data: Translation Strategies Analysis**

For the second research question, the researcher analyzed the translation strategies used, as outlined by Baker (2018). This involved analyzing strategies such as translation by paraphrase, omission of a play on idiom,

omission of the entire idiom, borrowing the source language idiom, and using idioms of similar meaning and dissimilar form. Then, the researcher analyzed how these strategies help overcome untranslatability in rendering idioms.

7. **Representing the Findings**

The findings were organized thematically and discussed in Chapter 4, including examples, interpretations, and discussion of recurring patterns in relation to the research questions. Key data were displayed using tables, such as Table 4.1 *Idiom Characteristics* (p. 38) and Table 4.2 *Translation Strategies* (p. 45), alongside narrative explanations to enhance clarity and analytical depth.

3.5 Trustworthiness

To ensure the trustworthiness of this research, detailed descriptions were provided, as recommended by Brink (1993) and Creswell and Creswell (2018). These descriptions encompassed thorough interpretations of the idioms identified in the source text and their translations by aligning the descriptions with the corresponding theories used for this research. As such, the descriptions for the idiom characteristics were analyzed in line with Baker's (2018) classification and Aranda's (2007) notion of untranslatability, helping to explain why certain idioms resist direct translation. The descriptions for translation strategies were aligned with Baker's (2018) idiom translation strategies in order to explain how these strategies can overcome untranslatability. In addition, the trustworthiness of this research was reinforced by drawing on previous related studies. These studies provided comparative insights and validated the analytical framework, ensuring that the

interpretations and findings of this research were grounded in a broader academic context.

Additionally, to maintain accuracy and consistency in data handling, the researcher derived on suggestions by Gibbs (2007, as cited in Creswell & Creswell, 2018). This involved checking the gathered data to prevent errors and ensuring there is no drift in the definition or application of codes throughout the analysis process. Continuous comparison of the data with the established codes, along with careful documentation of any adjustments made during the coding process, were crucial in maintaining the integrity of the research.