

Forum for Linguistic Studies

https://journals.bilpubgroup.com/index.php/fls

ARTICLE

Techniques for Translating English -ing Forms in Editorial Texts: A Jakarta Post Case Study

Milisi Sembiring 1 0, Risnawaty Risnawaty 2* 0, Roswani Siregar 3 0, Annim Hasibuan 4 0, Sutarno Sutarno 5 0

ABSTRACT

Understanding how -ing forms are rendered is crucial for maintaining the demand for accurate, contextualized translations in journalism. This study examines the complexities involved in translating the -ing form in English (SL) into the Indonesian language (TL), highlighting the grammatical, syntactic, and contextual nuances that influence translation choices. The -ing form, which may function as a present participle, gerund, or adjective, often lacks a direct equivalent in the TL, necessitating adaptations based on syntactic role and meaning. This study explores the linguistic features and classify the various translation techniques used to transfer the messages of the English -ing forms in The Jakarta Post's editorial text into the TL. Three important findings can be drawn from a close examination of the data gathered. First, it is observed that six English terms with the suffix -ing are used to represent nouns; these are then translated into six different adjectives in Indonesian. Second, there are five instances of English -ing forms that function

*CORRESPONDING AUTHOR:

Risnawaty Risnawaty, English Language Education, Universitas Muslim Nusantara Al-Washliyah, Medan 20147, Indonesia; Email: risnawati@umnaw.ac.id

ARTICLE INFO

 $Received: 13 \; September \; 2025 \; | \; Revised: \; 11 \; October \; 2025 \; | \; Accepted: \; 21 \; October \; 2025 \; | \; Published \; Online: \; 18 \; November \; 2025 \; | \; DOI: \; https://doi.org/10.30564/fls.v7i12.12089$

CITATION

Sembiring, M., Risnawaty, R., Siregar, R., et al., 2025. Techniques for Translating English -ing Forms in Editorial Texts: A Jakarta Post Case Study. Forum for Linguistic Studies. 7(12): 1253–1263. DOI: https://doi.org/10.30564/fls.v7i12.12089

COPYRIGHT

Copyright © 2025 by the author(s). Published by Bilingual Publishing Group. This is an open access article under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International (CC BY-NC 4.0) License (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/).

¹ Department of English Language and Literature, Universitas Methodist Indonesia, Medan 20152, Indonesia

² English Language Education, Universitas Muslim Nusantara Al-Washliyah, Medan 20147, Indonesia

³ Department of Management, Universitas Al-Azhar, Medan 20241, Indonesia

⁴ Department of Indonesian Education, Universitas Islam Labuhan Batu, Rantauprapat 21414, Indonesia

⁵ Department of International Marketing Management, Cendana Polytechnic, Medan 20222, Indonesia

as gerunds, or nouns in the context of a sentence. Third, the present participle is used in continuous tenses to indicate ongoing acts in five different cases. The study, which uses Molina & Albir's translation techniques for analysis, reveals that techniques like literal translation amplification, equivalent, and reduction are especially good at retaining the meaning and sense of natural language in the TL. By providing practical guidelines for translators engaged in English— Indonesian language pair work, this study makes a significant contribution to the field of translation studies.

Keywords: Translating; English; -ing Form; Indonesian

1. Introduction

The act of translation comprises transferring linguistic content from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL), ensuring that both syntactic meaning and contextual nuances are retained. A competent translator must possess a comprehensive understanding of the grammatical and syntactic structures of both the SL and the TL [1-3]. As Sembiring emphasizes, translation is the process of converting an SL text's textual form and meaning into a corresponding a TL text [4].

The transfer of meaning from the SL to the TL may be facilitated through the use of machine translation technologies. There are many tools to do such process of writing a same meaning of the SL in the TL. The work of machine translation should be proofread by a human proofreader to make sure the work is acceptable.

The authors undertake the complex task of converting writings, adeptly shifting texts between different languages. This goes beyond merely changing words; it requires a thorough grasp of cultural subtleties, unique phrases, and how meanings change with context. They carefully study the initial text, confirming that the core idea and mood of the original content are kept safe, helping it to connect with the intended readers in a way that matters. Their skill helps them manage the difficulties of language, connect with various cultures and enable clear communication despite language differences.

Inaccurate translations pose a major risk because they not only misrepresent specific words or phrases but also the author's meaning. Translators should be familiar with both the SL and the TL throughout the translation process. Moreover, they must understand the structural features of both languages, as the structure of the SL and the TL is often different [5]. The most widely used techniques for examining culturally bound terminology at the moment

a result, the authors do not translate -ing forms using Newmark's methods and procedures.

One study by Rababah and Moindjie employed Newmark's translation theory to examine the translation of particular objects. They emphasize the translator employed a combination of literal rendering, adaptive rephrasing, and functional equivalents for translating idiomatic and expressive Culture-Specific items [7]. The study examines the translation techniques applied to -ing forms in the SL, with reference to the editorial "Homes Unbought or Unbuilt" published in The Jakarta Post [8]. Various grammatical forms, including verb forms such as -ing are needed to explore. It is seldom that the focus is on translating the -ing form in previous studies; therefore, the authors are interested in translating the -ing form as the process of learning English and to advance their translation skills from English to their mother tongue.

The gerund, which is derived from a verb and functions as a noun, is characterized by the inclusion of the -ing suffix. It may serve various roles within a sentence, translating the -ing form using Molina & Albir's [9] translation technique to develop learners' skills in the including that of a subject, an object of a verb, or an object of a preposition. Additionally, it may manifest as a present participle, wherein a verb functions as an adjective or as a component of a verb phrase. Its usage encompasses the depiction of actions or the formation of continuous tenses, and it can also function as a descriptive modifier. Furthermore, it may be employed as an adjectival phrase [10,11].

The -ing form is important to understand in the process of transferring a message from the SL into the TL. The translators should be familiar with the grammatical structure of the -ing form in the SL in exploring the meaning of the context in the SL [5]. The translators should restructure the meaning of the sentence in the TL. They should categorize the different translation techniques employed to are Newmark's translation methods and procedures [6]. As convey English -ing forms in editorial content from The Jakarta Post into Indonesian and examine the linguistic and contextual elements affecting the selection of translation techniques, including adaptation, calque, literal translation, transposition, modulation, amplification, or borrowing.

In order to cultivate an individual into a proficient and dependable translator, there exist at least nine essential prerequisites that must be possessed, namely 1) the translator must possess a comprehensive and trustworthy understanding of both the SL and the TL. 2) the translator must engage with the cultural nuances inherent in both the SL and the TL 3) the translator must remain informed about the evolution of both the source and target languages. 4) the translator must commit to the cultural contexts of both the source and target languages, and must exhibit proficiency in both their native language and the language pertinent to their field of expertise. 5) A competent translator must demonstrate the capability to translate across multiple domains, particularly in the realm of science. 6) translators must possess the cognitive agility to rapidly convert messages from the SL into the TL. 7) translators must be prepared to undertake assignments that accumulate under stringent time constraints. 8) translators must exhibit proficient research abilities. 9) translators must be capable of adapting to advancements in technological developments [12].

The use of the -ing form in English has many functions. It functions as a gerund, a present participle, an adjective and a prepositional phrase. In this paper the authors focus on translating the -ing form from the SL into the TL. The -ing form in English can lead to varying interpretations and uses in translation contexts [13]. When an adjective follows a linking verb (for instance, appear, be, become, or seem), it can be employed in various constructions subsequent to the adjective, including an -ing form. Verbs that have the ability to be followed by the -ing form include appreciate, avoid, contemplate, delay, deny, detest, dislike, endure, enjoy, escape, excuse, face, fancy, finish, involve, mention, mind, miss, postpone, practice, resent, risk, suggest, feel, like, give up, keep on, leave off, look forward to, put off, can't stand, and spend/waste time. Lee, S. A. 2007 [14] and Martin Hewings 2002 [15] introduce the active pattern: Verb + -ing + object, active pattern: Verb + object + -ing.

Certain verbs that are followed by an object + -ing in and stylistic consistency.

the active voice do not have a passive form.

Every sentence has multiple parts, and each part can be composed of multiple smaller parts. This fundamental concept serves as the foundation for examining constituent structures in syntax. For the analysis of syntactic categories, the second principle—that each portion belongs to a certain type or types that can be mentioned in a description is the foundation. The third principle serves as the foundation for grammatical function analysis, which holds that each sentence portion has a role and function of its own or can be filled within a larger part [16].

There are several aspects regarding verbs that are succeeded by *-ing*. They are verbs that take an object, followed by the *-ing* form. Appreciate is frequently succeeded by possessive + *-ing*. Want can be used informally with *-ing* and conveys a meaning akin to need [17].

The car *wants cleaning*. Verbs are typically succeeded by *-ing*, by using an object *-ing* form. Smoking is not permitted in the school. With *-ing*, this signifies contemplation of. At one stage, I thought about *moving* to Canada. Involve possesses an impersonal subject. For instance: *Being* a sports person requires consistent practice.

Phrases can be categorized into endocentric and exocentric types, depending on how the sentence's phrases are distributed. When a phrase behaves and is distributed in the same way as one of the components that make it up, it is considered endocentric. Conversely, a phrase is considered exocentric when its distribution differs from that of its constituent parts [18,19].

The investigation revealed the existence of several forms of translated phrasal verbs within the Indonesian language, encompassing single-word equivalents, two-word combinations, and expressions consisting of more than two words [20].

There is little research on how to translate English -ing forms in editorial contexts, particularly in Indonesian media such as The Jakarta Post. The study examines a unique linguistic element that is the use of -ing forms within a particular editorial in the Jakarta Post in order to shed light on translation techniques used in the process of translation the SL into the TL. In journalistic pieces, which have an impact on public opinion, the precise translation of -ing forms is essential to preserving coherence, meaning, and stylistic consistency.

2. Methods

The authors applied Molina and Albir's [9] translation technique to translate the SL into the TL, they propose 18 translation techniques to translate a SL into a TL, they are: 1) adaptation, 2) amplification, 3) borrowing, 4) calque, 5) compensation, 6) description, 7) discursive creation, 8) established equivalent, 9) generalization, 10) linguistic amplification, 11) linguistic compression, 12) literal translation, 13) modulation, 15) reduction, 16) substitution (linguistic, paralinguistic) 17) transposition and, 18) variation.

Data collection was conducted online from the Jakarta Post Daily Newspaper website. The authors select the article that contain rich usage of English -ing forms to ensure relevance to their research focus. They limit the scope to ensures manageable data size from editorial text. The authors prepare data for analysis and isolate linguistic features for translation analysis.

Although machine translation is increasingly being used, it is still done by hand. By doing this, the source and target texts are read in their entirety, and linguistic characteristics of English -ing forms and their translation equivalents in Indonesian language are found, chosen, and examined. The discussion includes a few examples that illustrate the presence and translation of -ing forms. Alhubayshi, Fallata, and Alowedi [21] assert that translation machines' capacity to convey linguistic diversity and cultural nuances is constrained.

The translator most likely wished to make the author's work better. However, ignoring the fundamental standards and guidelines of translation ultimately resulted in a translation that was ambiguous and occasionally contentious [22].

They focus on translating -ing form, from English into Indonesian. Data are gathered from published editorial Jakarta Post daily Newspaper text [8] and data analysis is supported by linguistic analysis [23,24].

3. Data Analysis

The authors identify the -ing form(s) used, along with their grammatical rules and function in the following data. The Jakarta Post's editorial article "Homes Unbought or Unbuilt' [8] uses words ending in -ing, which can func- as subject of the clause. A is a determiner and housing is as

tion as verbs (participles), nouns (gerunds), adjectives, or components of phrases.

All data in this study covers elements of -ing forms in English, which consist of -ing forms as gerunds, present participles, and adjectives. Therefore, the authors only selected one article from the Jakarta Post Daily Newspaper.

Translation plays a crucial role in bridging linguistic and cultural divides, particularly in the context of editorial texts that convey complex social issues. The translator's job is to negotiate intricate systems of meaning across boundaries as a cultural agent, not only a linguistic mediator, as Susan Bassnett highlights [25].

SL: The government is in a bind with its housing program.

TL Pemerintah sedang dalam masalah dengan program perumahannya.

Its housing program in example 1 as a noun phrase includes a possessive, an adjective, and a noun. It is translated literally. The -ing form in example 1 is housing, it acts as an adjective that describes the program as a noun. It indicates what kind of program it is. A literal translation is used to ensure the meaning is correct. The structural rules for the -ing form in English as a noun phrase consist of possessive, adjective as modifiers to modify the program as a noun. Program perumahannya as a noun phrase in the TL which consists of an enclitic -ing form in example 1 functions as an adjective.

In the SL, a prepositional phrase appears as "with its housing program". The prepositional phrase from the SL is converted to "dengan program perumahannya" in the TL, which also functions as a prepositional phrase.

2. SL: It was clear from the beginning that tackling a housing backlog accumulated over many years was never going to be easy.

TL: Sejak awal sudah jelas bahwa dengan pelaksanaan backblog perumahan untuk memenuhi kebutuhan perumahan yang menumpuk dari tahun ke tahun tidak mudah.

In the process of translating the -ing form in example 2 literal translation is applied. The beginning in example 2 is a noun phrase, the is determiner of the head beginning which functions as a gerund. Tackling as a gerund acting an adjective modifying backlog. The -ing form of the beginning functions as a gerund is a noun and it is translated
literally into the TL awal as a noun. Both beginning and
tackling are gerunds, meaning they are verbs functioning
as nouns. Tackling is the main subject of the clause "was
never going to be easy."

From the beginning is a prepositional phrase is translated literally with sejak awal in the TL. A housing backlog is a noun phrase, backlog is the head and it is modified by the modifiers a housing.

3. SL: Successive administrations have failed at the attempt, but none have invested as much political capital into the effort as President Prabowo Subianto, who made the issue a key electoral promise and put his brother and top advisor Hashim Djojohadikusumo in charge of *the housing task force*.

TL: Beberapa pemerintahan sebelumnya telah gagal dalam upaya tersebut, namun tidak ada yang menginvestasikan modal politik sebanyak yang dilakukan oleh Presiden Prabowo Subianto, yang menjadikan isu ini sebagai janji utama dalam pemilihan umum dan menempatkan saudara dan penasihat utamanya, Hashim Djojohadikusumo, sebagai penanggung jawab gugus tugas perumahan.

The housing task force in the SL is literally translated to gugus tugas perumahan in the TL.

4. SL: Failure to deliver on the promised 3 million homes, *comprising* 1 million urban apartments and 2 million rural houses, would cost the President a significant quantum of public support.

TL: Kegagalan untuk memenuhi 3 juta rumah yang dijanjikan, yang terdiri dari 1 juta apartemen di perkotaan dan 2 juta rumah di pedesaan, akan membuat Presiden kehilangan dukungan publik yang signifikan.

Comprising 1 million urban apartments and 2 mil-7. lion rural houses is an appositive phrase. *Comprising* is present participle which function to introduce the composition 1 million urban apartments and 2 million rural houses". Comprising is translated with *yang terdiri dari*. It is translated by using the amplification translation technique in the TL the word *yang* as determiner is added in the TL in the process of translation.

5. SL: Property prices in urban centers like Jakarta have grown much faster than average incomes over the past decade, *making* home ownership an unreachable dream for many young Indonesians.

TL: Harga properti di pusat-pusat kota seperti Jakarta telah tumbuh jauh lebih cepat dibandingkan dengan pendapatan rata-rata selama satu dekade terakhir, membuat kepemilikan rumah menjadi impian yang sulit dicapai oleh banyak anak muda Indonesia.

Making acts as a present participle that describes home ownership. It starts with a non-essential relative clause that adds details. Making serves as a present participle that modifies the whole clause. The -ing form making as a present participle which functions as an adverbial modifier to show the result of the main clause. Making in example 5 is translated literally into Indonesian "membuat" as a verb in the TL.

Making home ownership an unreachable dream for many young Indonesians is a participial phrase, making modifies the entire main clause.

5. SL: Many apartments stand empty but are too expensive for those who would like to live, rather than invest, in them, *causing* what is now widely referred to as *a housing crisis*, particularly for Gen Z Indonesians.

TL: Banyak apartemen yang kosong namun terlalu mahal bagi mereka yang ingin sebagai tempat tinggal dari pada berinvestasi pada apartemen tersebut, sehingga menyebabkan apa yang sekarang secara luas disebut sebagai krisis perumahan, terutama bagi Gen Z Indonesia.

The term *causing* functions as a present participle, serving to modify the clause it appears in, and its literal translation in the TL is *menyebabkan*.

7. SL: As a way out, according to a leaked policy draft, the Public Housing and Settlements Ministry wants developers to build small, or rather, tiny houses to offer buyers an affordable abode while builders still get appealing margins.

TL: Sebagai jalan keluarnya, menurut draf kebijakan yang bocor, Kementerian Perumahan Rakyat dan Permukiman menginginkan pengembang untuk membangun rumah-rumah kecil, atau lebih tepatnva, rumah-rumah mungil untuk menawarkan kepada para pembeli sebuah hunian yang terjangkau, sementara para pengembang masih mendapatkan margin yang menarik.

Appealing margins are the object, it is translated literally as margin yang menarik in the TL, appealing modifies margins. The -ing form is used after the verb get, appealing is an adjective in the example 7. It is translated literally into menarik in the TL. The verb "get" can be followed by a present participle, especially in causative constructions or when describing ongoing or resulting actions.

8. SL: That proposal remains controversial within the ministry itself, with some saying it undermines the standards for affordable housing while others argue an adjustment is needed to address high land prices and building costs.

TL: Usulan tersebut masih menjadi kontroversi di dalam kementerian itu sendiri, dengan beberapa orang mengatakan bahwa hal tersebut merusak standar untuk perumahan yang terjangkau, sementara yang lain berpendapat bahwa penyesuaian diperlukan untuk mengatasi harga tanah yang tinggi dan biaya pembangunan.

Some saying is translated with beberapa orang mengatakan, it is translated by using amplification. Affordable housing is translated by amplification translation technique with perumahan yang terjangkau and building costs are translated biaya Pembangunan in the TL.

The standards for affordable housing as a noun phrase, "for affordable housing" is the prepositional phrase which modifies "standards". With some saying is a prepositional phrase introducing a secondary clause expressing concurrent commentary. To address high land prices and building costs is an infinitival phrase which consists of a noun phrase, building costs.

9. SL: The government is banking on the private sector for the lion's share of investment in the 3 million homes program, and therein lies the problem: There is a significant gap between the square meter price homebuyers can accept and the one that developers

bagian terbesar dari investasi dalam program 3 juta

rumah, dan di situlah letak masalahnya: ada kesenjangan yang signifikan antara harga meter persegi yang dapat diterima oleh pembeli rumah dengan harga yang diminta oleh pengembang.

The verb banking is in the present participle -ing form. It serves as a verb and is translated as mengandalkan in Indonesian. The authors apply an equivalent translation technique in translating the government is banking on the private sector is translated as Pemerintah mengandalkan sektor swasta.

SL: Instead of simply ploughing more taxpayer funds into houses for some lucky recipients, with eligibility criteria yet to be clearly defined, the government must find ways to make housing more accessible in general, well beyond the scope of the 3 million homes program.

TL: Alih-alih hanya mengucurkan lebih banyak dana pembayar pajak untuk membangun rumah bagi beberapa penerima yang beruntung, dengan kriteria kelayakan yang belum jelas, pemerintah harus menemukan cara untuk membuat perumahan yang lebih mudah diakses secara umum, jauh di luar cakupan program 3 juta rumah.

Ploughing more taxpayer funds into houses "ploughing" is a gerund; "more taxpayer funds" is the object; "into houses" is a prepositional phrase. To make housing more accessible in general, is an infinitive phrase, "housing" is the object. -ing is used after the verb make, it is followed by verb-ing, housing which means as a gerund. Ploughing and housing in the SL are translated literally into mengucurkan and perumahan in the TL.

SL: To have a lasting impact on the overall property market, housing policy must be conceived of as development policy rather than social policy.

TL: Untuk memberikan dampak yang langgeng terhadap pasar properti secara keseluruhan, kebijakan perumahan harus dipahami sebagai kebijakan pembangunan dan bukan kebijakan sosial.

A lasting impact in the SL is translated with dampak yang langgeng, both lasting and yang langgeng are adjectives modify a noun. The authors apply literal translation TL: Pemerintah mengandalkan sektor swasta untuk technique. A housing policy is translated literally to kebijakan perumahan in the TL.

12. SL: On the supply side, development needs to be encouraged by *cutting* red tape and *making* available more state-owned land, especially in urban areas where *the housing* backlog is greatest.

TL: Di sisi pasokan, pembangunan perlu didorong dengan memangkas birokrasi dan menyediakan lebih banyak lahan milik negara, terutama di daerah perkotaan yang memiliki backlog perumahan terbesar.

Cutting red tape is a gerund phrase translated literally with memangkas birokrasi, making available more state-owned land is a gerund phrase, "making" is the gerund; "available" is the complement; "more state-owned land" is the object.

Making available more state-owned land is a gerund phrase, making is the gerund; "available" is the complement; "more state-owned land" is the object. Where *the housing backlog* is greatest is a relative clause, it modifies "urban areas"; "where" introduces the clause; describes the severity of the issue.

The housing backlog in the SL is translated to backlog perumahan in the TL, translation reduction is applied the is not translated in the TL.

13. SL: *Housing* is arguably a state's prime Responsibility after food security, and our government deserves praise for *working* on both fronts simultaneously, but it may want to take its time to draft clear policies be-

fore making bold announcements.

TL: Perumahan bisa dibilang merupakan tanggung jawab utama negara setelah ketahanan pangan, dan pemerintah kita patut dipuji karena telah bekerja di kedua bidang tersebut secara bersamaan, tetapi mungkin perlu meluangkan waktu untuk menyusun kebijakan yang jelas sebelum membuat pengumuman yang berani.

Example 13 has the *-ing* form of the word house, it can be used as a noun. The *-ing* form of the *housing* is the verb as a gerund. It functions as a noun and it is translated into an Indonesian "*perumahan*". *Working* is a verb used after the preposition, it functions as a verb and it is translated literally into an Indonesian "*bekerja*". As a subject in example 13, the *-ing* form is used. *Making* is a gerund, it is translated literally *membuat* in the TL.

4. Results

The focus of this study is the -ing form in the editorial text of The Jakarta Post daily newspaper translated from the SL to the TL. The researchers analyzed all -ing forms in the SL and then translated them into the TL. **Table 1** shows that each sentence has -ing forms and their functions, the meaning of the -ing forms and their functions in the SL are transferred to the TL. After analyzing the data, the authors summarize the findings of the English -ing forms.

	Table 1. The Summary of Analysis -ing Forms.					
	Sentence	-ing Form(s)	Function			
1	The government is in a bind with its housing program.	housing	Adjective modifying "program"			
2	It was clear from the beginning that tackling a housing	beginning, tackling,	beginning = noun (gerund); tackling = gerund			
	backlog	housing	as subject; <i>housing</i> = adjective			
3	put Hashim in charge of the housing task force.	housing	Adjective			
4	comprising 1 million urban apartments	comprising	Present participle modifying "homes" (non-restrictive clause)			
5	making home ownership an unreachable dream	making	Present participle showing consequence (modifies whole clause)			
6	causing what is now referred to as a housing crisis	causing, housing	<pre>causing = present participle (result); housing = adjective</pre>			
7	get appealing margins.	appealing	Present participle acting as adjective			
8	some saying it undermines others argue	saying	Present participle showing reported speech			
9	The government is banking on the private sector	banking	Present participle functioning as verb (progressive form)			
10	instead of ploughing more taxpayer funds	ploughing	Gerund as object of preposition "instead of"			
11	To have a lasting impact	lasting	Adjective modifying "impact"			
12	cutting red tape and making available land	cutting, making	Gerunds (part of noun phrase)			
13	deserves praise for working on both fronts	working	Gerund after preposition "for"			

Table 1. The Summary of Analysis -ing Forms

The -ing form appears as:

Gerunds (noun-like) \rightarrow e.g., tackling, ploughing, working.

Present participles (verb/adjective-like) \rightarrow e.g., *making*, *causing*, *banking*.

Adjectives \rightarrow e.g., housing, lasting, appealing.

It has been observed that gerunds often turn into verbs in Indonesian (e.g., tackling \rightarrow *menangani*). Participles that indicate outcomes or actions transform into active verbs (e.g., causing \rightarrow *menyebabkan*). Adjectival *-ing* forms such as housing are typically translated into nouns

(e.g., housing program \rightarrow program perumahan). Indonesian generally prefers clear verbs and nouns, so the *-ing* form seldom serves as a direct equivalent.

The -ing forms in these sentences would typically be translated into Indonesian, considering their grammatical function and context. Since English -ing forms can act as gerunds, participles, or adjectives, translation often depends on meaning rather than form. **Table 2** shows that -ing forms as nouns, adjectives, or present participles are translated from the SL to the TL using translation techniques.

Table 2. Translation techniques used.

Sentence	SL	TL	Translation Technique
1	with its housing program.	dengan program perumahannya.	literal
2	from the beginning,	sejak awal,	literal, literal,
	the beginning, tackling a housing backlog	awal, menangani backlog perumahan	literal
3	the housing task force.	gugus tugas perumahan	literal
4	comprising 1 million urban apartments	yang terdiri dari 1 juta apartemen di perkotaan	amplification
5	making home ownership	membuat kepemilikan rumah	literal
-	causing,	menyebabkan,	literal,
6	a housing crisis	a housing crisis krisis perumahan	reduction
7	appealing margins	margin yang menarik	literal
8	some saying, affordable housing, building costs	beberapa orang mengatakan, perumahan yang terjangkau, biaya pembangunan	amplification, amplification, literal
9	banking on the private sector	mengandalkan sektor swasta	equivalent
10	ploughing, housing	mengucurkan, perumahan	literal, literal
11	a lasting impact, housing policy	dampak yang langgeng, kebijakan perumahan	reduction, literal
12	cutting red tape, the housing backlog	memangkas birokrasi backlog perumahan	literal, literal
13	housing	perumahan	literal

Translating -ing requires adapting not just the word, but its function—whether it's describing a continuous action, a noun-like verb, or an adjective. It is also known as the gerund or present participle.

The authors apply linguistic analysis to find gerunds and participles in translation, and they have the difficulty of translating *-ing* forms due to lack of direct equivalents in Indonesian. Common strategies include using *sedang*, *lagi*, or verb nominalization. They may misinterpret context-sensitive *-ing* forms, especially when used as adjectives or nouns. The *-ing* form in English is also known as the present participle or gerund, depending on its function. It has a versatile grammatical structure.

Table 3 reveals that *housing* serves as a noun and is utilized as the sentence's subject. It alludes to the idea of housing provision, which is viewed as a state duty. *Banking* indicates a continuing government operation and is a part of the present continuous tense (is banking). It shows a dependence on investment from the business sector.

Housing serves as an adjective that alters policy. It identifies the kind of policy under discussion and sets it apart from others, such as development or social policy. A prepositional phrase on the supply side provides background information for the subsequent clause. It sets the stage for the issue of development and land availability while introducing the focus area, which is supply.

Function Description Example Housing is arguably a state's prime responsibility after food security, and our Gerund government deserves praise for working on both fronts simultaneously, but it may want Acts as a noun to take its time to draft clear policies before making bold announcements. Used in continuous The government is banking on the private sector for the lion's share of investment in the Present Participle tenses 3 million homes program, and therein lies the problem. To have a *lasting* impact on the overall property market, housing policy must be Adjective Describes a noun conceived of as development policy rather than social policy. On the supply side, development needs to be encouraged by *cutting* red tape and *making* Follows certain available more state-owned land, especially in urban areas where the housing backlog is Preposition Phrase prepositions greatest.

Table 3. The uses of the -ing form in the Editorial Text entitled "Homes Unbought or Unbuilt" in The Jakarta Post.

5. Conclusions

The analysis demonstrates the syntactic versatility of -ing forms in English, revealing four distinct functional categories: gerunds, present participles, adjectives, and prepositional phrase complements. Each function contributes uniquely to sentence construction and meaning:

- Gerunds act as nouns, often serving as subjects or objects within policy discourse.
 - Present participles appear in continuous tenses, indicating ongoing actions or states.
 - Adjectival -ing forms modify nouns, adding descriptive precision to abstract concepts like housing policy or lasting impact.
- Prepositional phrase complements follow prepositions, forming cohesive noun phrases that express causality, consequence, or procedural steps.

This study emphasizes the significance of contextual analysis in identifying the grammatical function of *-ing* forms. Although certain cases clearly operate as adjectives, others obscure the distinction between verbal and nominal use, particularly when incorporated into intricate noun phrases or progressive structures.

The results highlight the syntactic flexibility of -ing forms and their essential function in expressing nuance and temporal connections in policy discussions. For translators and academic authors, understanding these roles is crucial for ensuring grammatical precision and syntactic clarity in both the original and translated languages.

The examination of the thirteen pairs of sentences shows a prevalent dependence on literal translation,

along with some instances of amplification, reduction, and equivalent techniques. This pattern indicates a significant tendency to maintain the syntactic structure of the SL within the TL, especially in contexts related to institutions and policies like housing programs.

Significantly, amplification was utilized to elucidate culturally or contextually implicit aspects, whereas reduction was applied to simplify phrases without considerable loss of meaning. The employment of equivalent translation in "banking on the private sector" shows awareness of idiomatic phrases, guaranteeing communication efficiency in the target language.

The translation technique demonstrates a practical method that balances accuracy with ease of reading, prioritizing literal translations when feasible and employing alternative techniques as needed to ensure clarity and contextual significance. This corresponds with Molina and Albir's framework, in which the choice of techniques is directed by textual function and linguistic limitations.

Author Contributions

M.S., R.R., and R.S. conceived of the presented idea. M.S., R.R., R.S., and A.H. conducted the research. M.S. and S.S. contributed to manuscript review and editing. All authors discussed the results and contributed to the final manuscript. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Funding

This work received no external funding.

Institutional Review Board Statement

Not applicable.

Informed Consent Statement

Not applicable.

Data Availability Statement

The data supporting the findings of this study are available from the editorial board of The Jakarta Post which are publicly accessible in online editions held by the Jakarta Post Daily Newspaper.

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to express their gratitude to their colleagues who provided valuable input on the completion of this paper, as well as to the editorial team and reviewers of the Forum for Linguistic Studies for their feedback in improving this manuscript.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

References

- [1] Sembiring, M., Girsang, M., Ambarita, E., et al., 2023. Translating politeness of Persadaan Tendi texts in Karonese language into English. Theory and Practice in Language Studies. 13(6), 1444-1451. DOI: https://doi.org/10.17507/tpls.1306.13
- [2] Sembiring, M., Girsang, M., Siregar, R., 2022. Translating Nure-Nure texts in Karonese society into English: Applying translation techniques. Theory and Practice in Language Studies. 12(5), 904–912. DOI: https://doi.org/10.17507/tpls.1205.10
- [3] Risnawaty, S., Sembiring, M., Ihsan, F., et al., 2022. Macrostructure analysis of Indonesian translation and source texts of the World Health Organization's COVID-19 pandemic guidance. Indonesian Journal of Applied Linguistics. 12(2), 533–544. DOI: https://doi. org/10.17509/ijal.v12i2.43858

- in Karonese society into English. International Journal of Language Studies. 9(3), 131-146.
- [5] Sembiring, M., Panggabean, H., 2018. Translating culture-bound terms in wedding speech texts of Karonese society into English. SKASE Journal of Translation and Interpretation. 11(1), 69–92.
- [6] Newmark, P., 1988. A Textbook of Translation. Prentice-Hall: New York, NY, USA; London, UK.
- [7] Rababah, S.M., Moindjie, M.A., 2025. Analyzing translation strategies and procedures for culture-specific items in Morning and Evening Talk by Naguib Mahfouz. Forum for Linguistic Studies. 7(9), 421– 432. DOI: https://doi.org/10.30564/fls.v7i9.10810
- [8] Editorial Board (The Jakarta Post), 2025. Homes unbought or unbuilt. Available from: https://www.thejakartapost.com/opinion/2025/06/30/homes-unboughtor-unbuilt.html (cited 30 June 2025).
- [9] Molina, L., Albir, A.H., 2002. Translation techniques revisited: A dynamic and functionalist approach. Meta. 47(4), 498-512. DOI: https://doi. org/10.7202/008033ar
- [10] De Smet, H., 2010. English -ing clauses and their problems: The structure of grammatical categories. Linguistics. 48(6), 1153–1193. DOI: https://doi. org/10.1515/LING.2010.038
- [11] Conti, G., 2011. Defining a rule for the use of infinitive and gerund complements. English Language Teaching. 4(3), 1–13. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5539/ elt.v4n3p3
- [12] Djuharie, O.S., 2022. Translation Techniques and Guidelines: English-Indonesian. Yrama Widya: Bandung, Indonesia. (in Indonesian)
- [13] Dahlia, A., 2019. The meaning of -ing form as classifier in nominal group: Systemic functional linguistics perspective. English Journal of Luturama. 3(2). DOI: https://doi.org/10.33197/EJLUTAMA.VOL3. ISS2.2019.271
- [14] Lee, S.A., 2007. -ing forms and the progressive puzzle: A construction-based approach to English progressives. Journal of Linguistics. 43, 153-195. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1017/S0022226706004476
- [15] Hewings, M., 2013. Advanced Grammar in Use, 3rd ed. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, UK.
- [16] Moeliono, A.M., Lapoliwa, H., Alwi, H., et al., 2017. Standard Indonesian Grammar, 4th ed. Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa, Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan: Jakarta, Indonesia. (in Indonesian)
- [17] Vince, M., 2003. Advanced Language Practice. Macmillan Publishers Limited: Milan, Italy.
- [4] Sembiring, M., 2015. Translating Daliken si telu texts [18] Clark, B., 2013. Syntactic theory and the evolution of

- syntax. Biolinguistics. 7, 169–197. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5964/bioling.8961
- [19] Chomsky, N., 2002. Syntactic Structures, 2nd ed. Mouton de Gruyter: Berlin, Germany.
- [20] Istima, Y.P., 2016. Translating English phrasal verbs into Indonesian language. Lingua Litera. 2(1), 36–56. DOI: https://doi.org/10.55345/stba1.v2i1.26
- [21] Alhubayshi, R.M., Fallata, S.M., Alowedi, N.A., 2025. Examining the quality of machine translation subtitling for Saudi series: Tash Ma Tash as a model. Forum for Linguistic Studies. 7(10), 36–46. DOI: https://doi.org/10.30564/fls.v7i10.10617
- [22] Dildabekova, A.K., Amalbekova, M.B., Turginba-

- yeva, L.V., 2019. Types of translation errors in a literary text (based on A. Nurpeisov's Blood and Sweat trilogy). SKASE Journal of Translation and Interpretation. 12(2), 1–14. Available from: http://www.skase.sk/Volumes/JTI17/pdf_doc/01.pdf (cited 20 August 2025).
- [23] Tarmini, W., Bawati, S., 2019. Indonesian Syntax, 1st ed. UHAMKA Press: Jakarta, Indonesia. pp. 1–138. (in Indonesian)
- [24] Supriyadi, 2014. Indonesian Syntax, 1st ed. UNG Press: Gorontalo, Indonesia. (in Indonesian)
- [25] Bassnett, S., 2014. Translation Studies, 4th ed. Routledge: New York, NY, USA.