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Comparison of Translation Quality Produced by AI Translator Application for Sarcasm in Script Writer Presented by Val Resa on meetnitelive_metrotv

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Abstract: This study aims to compare the quality of sarcasm translations produced by artificial intelligence (AI)-based translator applications to comedy scripts written by a script writer and performed by Val Resa in the Meet Nite Live program on Metro TV. The main focus lies on the ability of AI to capture the nuances of irony, subtle sarcasm, and cultural contextual meanings, which are the characteristics of sarcasm. The research method uses a descriptive qualitative approach with a comparative analysis technique on the translation results of several popular AI applications such as Google Translate, DeepL, and ChatGPT. The results of the study show that most AI applications have difficulty in translating sarcasm accurately, especially when the humour relies on local cultural context, wordplay, and emotional intonation. Some translations actually become literal and lose the desired rhetorical effect. Thus, this study highlights the limitations of AI translators in handling sarcastic humor and suggests the need for human intervention or deeper cultural context-based training to improve translation accuracy.

Keywords: *ai translation; sarcasm; script writer; translation quality*

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Introduction

The phenomenon of corruption in Indonesia is not only a legal and economic issue, but also gives rise to social responses rich in linguistic expressions, one of which is sarcasm. Through digital platforms, sarcasm has become an effective rhetorical tool to voice social criticism of inequality, abuse of power, and moral absurdity displayed by perpetrators of corruption. In this context, society—both ordinary individuals, journalists, and content creators—use sarcastic language as a form of protest that combines irony, humor, and metaphor.

Sarcasm in linguistics refers to a form of verbal irony in which what is said is literally the opposite of what the speaker actually means. In this study, data were obtained from a broadcast called Meet Nite Live Metro TV with a host named Val Resa. Sarcasm was used in this broadcast to expose the social irony that occurs in society, such as when corruptors appear confident in public, smile when arrested, or even pose with two fingers as if they were campaigning or winning a lottery. These narratives are often compared to the situation of ordinary people who are struggling economically, or to petty crimes such

as chicken thieves who are punished by the masses. This contrast is what gives rise to rhetorical power in sarcastic speech that contains subtle satire, hyperbole, social metaphors, and verbal irony.

However, interestingly, sarcasm as a form of indirect communication often becomes a challenge in the process of translating into other languages. Especially when the sarcasm is translated into English using artificial intelligence-based translation tools such as Google Translate, DeepL, or ChatGPT, the accuracy and acceptability of the meaning can be distorted. The nuances of humor, irony, and cultural allusions often cannot be fully captured by machine translators due to the unique social and idiomatic context.

This research aligns with the study “Analisis Teknik Penerjemahan dan Kualitas Terjemahan Kalimat yang Mengandung Ungkapan Satire dalam Novel *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared*,” which examines how translation techniques affect the delivery of satirical expressions. While that study focuses on literary satire in fiction, this paper extends the discussion to sarcasm in contemporary scriptwriting, as presented by Val Resa on MeetniteLive_MetroTV, and evaluates how AI translation tools handle such nuanced expressions. Both studies underline the importance of pragmatic awareness and cultural sensitivity in maintaining the satirical intent of the source text. (Ambhita Dhyaningrum, 2016)

This study resonates with previous translation research, such as “Techniques and Quality of Civil War: Whose Side Are You On? Comic Translation,” (Rifqi Hanif Barezzi, 2018) which explores how linguistic style, tone, and implicit meanings are preserved across languages. Similarly, this paper analyzes the ability of AI-based translators to handle sarcasm and rhetorical nuance in social satire, particularly in scripts presented by Val Resa on MeetniteLive_MetroTV. Both studies highlight that beyond literal meaning, the success of translation lies in conveying tone, cultural references, and evaluative intent — areas where AI still faces challenges, especially in socially embedded content like sarcasm and humor.

With this approach, research is expected to contribute to understanding the dynamics of language use as a tool for social criticism and the challenges of its translation, especially in the context of digital discourse which is full of cultural expressions and indirect rhetoric.

Research Method

This research is a descriptive qualitative research, which aims to describe and analyze the linguistic phenomenon of sarcasm in social criticism of corruptors and evaluate the quality of the translation of the sarcasm into English. There are two types of data sources, namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data includes a collection of sarcastic sentences or paragraphs in Indonesian that criticize the behavior of corruptors, taken from social media, comedy monologues, and digital texts such as the Meet Nite Live Metro TV video. While for secondary data in the form of translated results of the text using three AI translation tools: Google Translate, DeepL, and ChatGPT.

For data collection techniques, several steps were carried out, namely the selection of sarcasm data was carried out purposively based on the linguistic characteristics of sarcasm: irony, hyperbole, metaphor, and value contrast. Then each sentence was translated using the three tools manually and the results were compiled. The last stage is that the data is classified and coded for further analysis.

Results & Discussion

The following is a discussion of the analysis that will focus on identifying and understanding the types of sarcasm found in the source text, as well as how the sarcasm is translated in the translated version. This analysis aims to evaluate the quality of the translation based on the accuracy in maintaining the original sarcastic nuances, as well as identifying challenges that arise in the translation process, both in terms of structure and meaning. Furthermore, the findings in this study will be linked to relevant translation theories to provide a deeper understanding of the relationship between types of sarcasm and translation quality.

1. Result

The following is an analysis based on data taken from a monologue delivered by the host of Meet Nite Live on Metro TV, Val Resa, which is then analyzed based on the types of sarcasm:

Data 1

gaya koruptor pas ditangkap masih bisa senyum manis

Contextual Sarcasm has literal meaning: Smiling can imply positivity, calmness, or innocence. The actual meaning: To mock or criticize the shameless attitude or lack of guilt.

Sarcastic Irony, in this showed a contradiction between expression and reality. A smile, which should indicate sincerity or happiness, is used by a criminal when facing legal consequences. This creates an ironic effect — and if said in a mocking tone — becomes sarcastic.

Data 2

ada dua jenis senyuman paling bikin bulu kuduk merinding

pertama senyuman mantan yang ngenalin pacar barunya....di bawa ke rumah lagi

yang kedua senyum koruptor pas ditangkap sambil pose dua jari kayak habis dapat nomer undian pemilu

Sarcastic Irony "...senyum koruptor pas ditangkap sambil pose dua jari kayak habis dapat nomor undian pemilu." The two-finger pose is associated with victory or political campaigns, not criminal arrests. This is intentional irony. The sentence conveys something that literally appears positive (a smile), but in context carries a tone of mockery and condemnation.

Contextual Sarcasm in the sentence cannot be interpreted literally but relies on socio-cultural knowledge. An ex introducing a new partner at home is a painful situation. A corruptor smiling at arrest reflects shamelessness. Without this cultural context, the sarcasm would be ineffective.

Hyperbolic Sarcasm in the sentence uses exaggeration (hyperbole) to create humor and satire, for example: *"...kayak habis dapat nomor undian pemilu."* The situation is criminal but compared to something joyful. This heightens the emotional impact and absurdity of the moment.

Data 3

contohnya ari yuli ningsih lindoen ASN Kendari habis ngembat 444 juta rupiah kata kejari Kendari eh dianya malah senyum pose dua jari kayak mau ajang pencarian bakat bedanya kalua ajang pencarian bakat mengandalkan skill and brain kalau dia ma bawa duit rakyat dan ahklak dua watt

Sarcastic Irony *"...malah senyum pose dua jari kayak mau ajang pencarian bakat..."* is verbal irony: a criminal (corruptor) striking a pose as if achieving a great accomplishment. The literal meaning (smile-two-finger pose = achievement) completely contrasts with the true meaning (disgrace = caught in corruption).

Contextual Sarcasm in this sentence can only be understood within the Indonesian social context, where: The two-finger pose is associated with political campaigns or talent shows. Corruption is a sensitive issue, and the public expects remorse, not confidence. *"...kalau ajang pencarian bakat mengandalkan skill and brain, kalau dia ma bawa duit rakyat dan ahklak dua watt."* This mocks shared societal knowledge about civil servant morality and pop culture.

Hyperbolic Sarcasm in the sentences *"...ahklak dua watt"* and *"...kayak mau ajang pencarian bakat"*. These are hyperboles — exaggerated styles used to produce sharp humor and sarcasm. Literally, moral character can't be measured in watts, but it serves as a biting metaphor.

Data 4

*lanjut geser ke banyuwangi
ada mantan kades aliyen yang diduga ngibrit bawa dana desa 1,3 milliyar rupiah.
Pas ditangkap bukannya malu malah senyum lebar kayak anak SMA baru jadian
Panggilannya ayah bunda lagi
Bisa aja saya
1.3 milliyar bos..*

Sarcastic Irony can be found in the sentences *"Pas ditangkap bukannya malu malah senyum lebar kayak anak SMA baru jadian"* This is high-level irony: a happy expression appears in the face of a serious legal case (village fund corruption of Rp1.3 billion). It defies social expectations and is classified in linguistics as verbal irony.

Contextual Sarcasm in this sentence requires Indonesian cultural understanding: Village fund corruption = serious crime. "Ayah-bunda" = contemporary language used by young couples or viral content. "*Panggilannya ayah bunda lagi*" — sarcasm emerges from the contrast between a shameful moral status and overly sweet language, which is inappropriate in this context.

Hyperbolic Sarcasm can be seen in the sentences "Bisa aja saya" and "1.3 miliar bos...". These are forms of hyperbolic sarcasm — emphasizing absurdity and moral disparity through deliberate exaggeration and satire. In linguistics, this is classified as evaluative metaphor: indirectly forming a sharp negative judgment.

Data 5

Itu uang kalau dikumpulin bisa upgrade jalan di desa

Dari jalanan tanah jadi jalanan mulus kayak pipi artis korea

Hyperbolic Sarcasm uses exaggeration (hyperbole) to deliver cynical social criticism. The phrase "*jalanan mulus kayak pipi artis Korea*" is an excessive but intentionally striking comparison to highlight the absurd impact of corruption. In pragmatics, such hyperbole violates the maxim of quantity (Grice) — purposely overstated for rhetorical effect.

Metaphorical Sarcasm in this sentence contains evaluative metaphor, e.g.: "*jalan mulus kayak pipi artis Korea*" → more than a visual description, it criticizes what was lost due to corruption. This style is common in political humor and social critique — masking anger with humorous imagery.

Sarcastic Irony in the sentence implies a contrast between the potential public benefit of taxpayer money vs. the reality of it being corrupted. Irony emerges from the fact that the public loses basic infrastructure, while the corruptor enjoys the spoils.

Data 6

Tapi pak kades ini luar biasa, sayang sama keluarganya

Sampai dana desa diprioritaskan buat pribadi dan keluarga sendiri

Sarcastic Irony in the sentence delivers sarcastic praise using a positive tone ("*luar biasa*", "*sayang sama keluarganya*"). But its true meaning is a sharp criticism of misusing village funds. This sarcasm relies on verbal irony: positive words are used to convey a negative message.

Implicated Sarcasm based on conversational implicature theory (Grice, 1975): The speaker's intent is not stated directly but implied.

"Dana desa diprioritaskan buat pribadi dan keluarga sendiri" is phrased as a good policy but clearly refers to corruption. This intentionally violates the maxim of quality (do not say what is false) for rhetorical effect.

Contextual Sarcasm in that sentences is only effective if the listener understands the social norms and ethics of village governance in Indonesia. Without the context that village funds are for public development, the critical effect is lost.

Data 7

Cintanya memang hakiki Cuma caranya criminal sekali

Padahal warganya masih bingung mau makan apa hari ini

Persis kayak janji mau nikahin

Tapi nikahnya gak jadi, resepsinya jadi mimpi kali ye..

Sarcastic Irony can be found in "*Cintanya memang hakiki, cuma caranya kriminal sekali.*" This sentence uses fake praise to deliver sharp criticism: genuine love for family is paired with criminal behavior (corruption). This is verbal irony — the surface structure is positive, but the actual meaning is negative.

Contextual Sarcasm in the sentences "*Padahal warganya masih bingung mau makan apa hari ini.*" This highlights social inequality: corrupt officials justify their actions as love for their families while ordinary people struggle to eat. The sarcastic effect only emerges if the reader understands the Indonesian social context — the conflict between public poverty and elite greed.

Analogical Sarcasm can be seen in the "*Persis kayak janji mau nikahin, tapi nikahnya nggak jadi, resepsinya jadi mimpi kali ye...*" This is a form of sarcasm through analogy: Political or moral promises are likened to promises of marriage. Reality = broken promises, empty dreams. Used to criticize the false commitments of leaders or officials. Linguistically, this is sarcastic metaphor — imaginative comparison conveying emotional and moral critique.

Data 8

Anak koruptor posting makan susi

Giliran rakyat posting makan mie instan sama nasi

Kesenjangan sosial

Sarcastic Irony in this sentence does not explicitly condemn, but compares two extreme conditions: Children of corruptors → eating sushi (symbol of luxury). Ordinary people → eating instant noodles + rice (symbol of survival). This creates social irony: those who steal from the people live in luxury, while the victims struggle.

Comparative Sarcasm for the sharp contrast is used as a sarcastic device: Sushi vs. instant noodles + rice, Wealth from corruption vs. Survival. This style resembles "sarcastic juxtaposition" in discourse linguistics — placing two extremes to convey criticism without stating it directly.

Contextual Sarcasm showed the implicature of this sentence only works if the reader knows that corruption harms the people. Certain foods (like sushi) symbolize elite lifestyle in Indonesian pop culture. This makes the sentence effective as veiled social criticism.

Data 9

Jakarta juga gak mau ketinggalan, pada januari lalu

Iwan Hendry wardana ex kepala dinas kebudayaan pemprov DKI Jakarta juga senyam senyum

Sarcastic Irony in the "*Jakarta juga nggak mau ketinggalan*" sounds like praise or pride, but it's actually a jab at the involvement of Jakarta officials in a disgraceful case (corruption). "*Senyam-senyum*" highlights an inappropriate reaction (smiling amid legal trouble), reinforcing the irony. This is verbal irony: the literal expression is positive, but the meaning is critical.

Contextual Sarcasm has sarcastic meaning is only clear if the reader knows that: "*Senyam-senyum*" is an inappropriate response during a criminal case. Jakarta → the capital → should be a role model, but instead "joins the trend" in scandals. In linguistic pragmatics, this relies on shared background knowledge.

Evaluative Sarcasm in that sentence does not mention the crime explicitly but conveys moral judgment through word choice and irony. The word "juga" (also) suggests a systemic issue, not an isolated incident. The narrative tone implies: "lihat, bahkan Jakarta ikut-ikutan."

Data 10

Yang ditahan oleh kejaksaan yang diduga bikin sanggar fiksi..laporan fiksi tapi nyolong duit ABPD nya true story

di negara lain pejabat korupsi langsung malu resign ngilang ke goa.

Di Indonesia malah foto-foto malah pose dua jari...idih kocak

Sarcastic Irony in the "*Yang ditahan oleh kejaksaan yang diduga bikin sanggar fiksi... laporan fiksi tapi nyolong duit APBD-nya true story.*" The sentence features an explicit contrast between reality and falsehood. "*Sanggar fiksi*" and "*laporan fiksi*" are satirical jabs at fictitious grants or projects. "True story" is added as a bitter comment on the harsh reality. This is verbal irony: using "fiction" to reveal the truth of corruption.

Cross-Cultural Comparative Sarcasm in the sentences "*Di negara lain, pejabat korupsi langsung malu, resign, ngilang ke goa. Di Indonesia malah foto-foto, pose dua jari...*" This compares idealized ethical norms in other countries with the behavior of Indonesian officials, to highlight the banality and lack of shame. The contrast evokes bitter humor and public shaming. A type of evaluative sarcasm across norms, common in critical discourse analysis.

Satirical Sarcasm for "*Idih, kocak*" reinforces the tone of mockery or rhetorical ridicule — a hallmark of social satire. This mimics the commentary style of netizens: light on the surface but ethically and politically sharp. Similar to sarcasm-as-satire, popular in political comedy, memes, and sociocultural critique.

Data 11

Lebih malu lagi udah ketangkap disuruh mundur dari PNS susah..padahal lebih susah parkir paralel dari pada manual ya..

Sarcastic Irony in the sentence presents something as logical ("*mundur dari PNS susah*"), then contrasts it with something clearly more difficult yet commonly done (parallel parking). This is verbal irony: the real intent is to mock, not state fact. Purpose: to expose the laziness or lack of moral courage.

Analogical Sarcasm for "*Parkir paralel vs mundur manual*" is a humorous but biting analogy, used to ridicule how something simple (stepping down) is made unnecessarily difficult. A form of "mock comparison" — contrasting unrelated things to shame illogical behavior.

Evaluative Sarcasm in the sentence does not explicitly mention "corruption" or "shame", but conveys moral and social judgment through absurd analogies. This sarcasm provokes laughter and anger — a typical effect of moral evaluation in pragmatics.

Data 12

Dan fenomena senyum koruptor ini sudah fenomenal di medsos

Bedanya kl di medsos, senyum dapat LIKE, kl di dunia nyata senyum dapat baju orange. Borgol gratis dan nyinyiran netizen.

Sarcastic Irony for the sentence delivers sarcasm through contrast between social media perception vs legal reality. "*Senyum dapat LIKE*" vs. "*senyum dapat baju oranye dan borgol*" → creates sharp irony because the smile that appears "friendly" is shown in a criminal context. This is social irony — an expression used inappropriately to its situation.

Comparative Sarcasm for contrasts the online world (likes and validation) with real-world consequences (punishment and shame). The effect arises from the absurd gap between perception and reality. A form of juxtaposition sarcasm — sarcasm built through comparing two different worlds.

Hyperbolic Sarcasm in the phrases like "*borgol gratis*" and "*nyinyiran netizen*" are deliberately exaggerated to ridicule sharply but humorously. This technique is often used in political comedy and digital culture memes.

Data 13

Banyak yang bilang senyum itu cerminan hati, tapi kl koruptor udah ketangkap senyum, itu udah kayak bakso bulat boraks ngembang beracun.

Irony-Based Sarcasm can be found in the phrase "*senyum itu cerminan hati*" is a commonly held moral statement. But for corruptors, the smile is compared to "*bakso bulat boraks ngembang beracun*" — creating a sharp ironic contrast. This is verbal irony: the literal meaning (smile = good) is flipped to sarcasm (smile = poison).

Metaphoric Sarcasm in the sentences "*Bakso bulat boraks ngembang beracun*" is a strong visual and sensory metaphor — describing something that looks delicious but is deadly. In pragmatics, this is an evaluative metaphor: using imagery to express moral judgment indirectly. The corruptor's smile is likened to something fake and dangerous.

Hyperbolic Sarcasm in the depiction of poisonous meatballs (boraks) is an intentionally extreme image used to deliver sharp condemnation. This style is common in social-comedic criticism — entertaining yet sharply critical.

Data 14

Karena di republic ini maling ayam bisa dibakar massa. Sementara koruptor masih sempat tebar pesona

Irony-Based Sarcasm can be implied meaning: there's a reversal between what should happen (corruptors get punished) and what actually happens (corruptors smile and pose). Sarcasm arises from glaring injustice → chicken thieves are burned, while corruptors are admired or left untouched. This is verbal irony in pragmatics: words express meanings opposite of the literal.

Social Comparative Sarcasm can be showed the comparison between petty thieves (chicken thieves) vs. grand criminals (corruptors) aims to highlight unequal law enforcement and social morality. This technique is known in critical discourse analysis as a contrast strategy for critique. The sarcasm stems from the absurdity of a normalized social structure.

Data 15

Mirip gebetan yang selingkuh tapi alasan Cuma curhat di kamar . whattshapnya ada gak? Mana coba? Terakhir kapan? Kitanya emosi, dia masih senyam senyum sambal jastip. Mantan Cuma bikin sakit hati tapi koruptor bisa bikin sakit satu negeri

Evaluative Sarcasm for the phrase "*tebar pesona*" is used sarcastically — usually meaning "attracting attention" positively, but here it's a jab at shameless corrupt officials. This is a veiled social judgment through sarcastic word choice.

Analogical Sarcasm for the writer draws an analogy between a corruptor and an unfaithful ex/partner → both cause harm, but at different scales. The corruptor is likened to a cheating lover → both pretend innocence while hiding major wrongdoing. This is conceptual mapping — using personal domains (romance) to explain public issues (corruption). The goal is to make the criticism emotionally relatable and sharp.

Irony-Based Sarcasm can be found in phrases like "cuma curhat di kamar" or "senyam-senyum sambil jastip" are used cynically to express that the corruptor's reasons and behavior are absurd but casually displayed. Also, the irony in "mantan cuma bikin sakit hati, tapi koruptor sakit satu negeri" plays on the scale of harm. This is verbal irony: what is said sounds light, but the intent is deeply critical.

Evaluative-Hyperbolic Sarcasm in the sentences "Sakit satu negeri" is an intentionally exaggerated moral evaluation — hyperbole used to emphasize the impact of corruption. This style is common in satirical social comedy: entertaining but sharply condemning.

2. Discussion

From the above discussion, it can be concluded that the most frequently appearing type of sarcasm, especially in the context of social criticism such as corruption in Indonesia, is sarcastic irony.

- a. Core Characteristics of Sarcastic Irony: Pretend Praise, Actual Criticism. Sarcastic irony works by stating something that appears positive, while the true intention is negative or

disapproving. For example: “Senyumnya koruptor manis banget, kayak habis menang lomba.” The sentence seems to compliment the corruptor’s smile, but actually criticizes their shameless behavior in a dire situation. This type is highly effective for embedding sharp criticism beneath casual language, avoiding direct confrontation that could be deemed offensive, and generating a bitterly humorous effect.

- b. Social Contexts: Inequality, Injustice, and Absurdity. Sarcastic irony is most effective for highlighting social absurdities — such as corruptors smiling in front of the camera, or contrasting expectations vs. reality (e.g., maling ayam dibakar, koruptor selfie) — and for criticizing without using harsh language, while still delivering a painful sting. That is why sarcastic irony is frequently chosen by scriptwriters, political comedians, or netizens who aim to be: smart yet sharp, funny yet critical, harsh without making direct accusations.
- c. Rhetorical Power and Linguistic Aesthetics. Sarcastic irony is:
 - 1) more aesthetically linguistic: playing with ambiguity of meaning,
 - 2) rhetorically stronger: makes the audience pause and reflect (“Wait, what does that really mean?”),
 - 3) well-suited to digital humor, stand-up comedy, or social media content.

Figure 1. Table of Sarcasm Types

Type of Sarcasm	Example Sentence	Function in Discourse
Sarcastic Irony	<i>"Senyum koruptor itu manis banget, kayak habis menang lomba."</i>	Reveals irony: the smile seems positive but hides hypocrisy or bad behavior. Critiques the corruptor’s casual attitude.
Comparative Sarcasm	<i>"Maling ayam dibakar massa, sementara koruptor masih sempat tebar pesona."</i>	Highlights social inequality by contrasting the harsh punishment of petty crimes with lenient treatment of corruptors.
Evaluative Sarcasm	<i>"Mantan cuma bikin sakit hati, tapi koruptor bisa bikin sakit satu negeri."</i>	Exaggerated judgment of impact: showing that the damage caused by corruption outweighs personal heartbreak.
Metaphoric Sarcasm	<i>"Senyum koruptor itu kayak bakso bulat boraks, ngembang beracun."</i>	Builds metaphor: something that looks appealing is actually toxic — likening fake smiles to deadly deception.
Hyperbolic Sarcasm	<i>"Sakit satu negeri kalau koruptor senyum, bukan cuma bikin sakit hati."</i>	Overstates the impact to emphasize the extent of societal harm through sarcastic exaggeration.
Analogical Sarcasm	<i>"Mirip gebetan yang selingkuh tapi alasan cuma curhat di kamar, WhatsApp-nya ada gak?"</i>	Uses analogy of romantic betrayal to criticize corruption, showing that trivial excuses mask serious damage.

Sarcastic irony dominates because it is the most effective form for addressing absurd social realities using a style that is subtle, witty, and often humorous. In contexts of corruption or puzzling public policies, ironic sarcasm allows criticism to “scratch with a smile” — stinging without slapping. The dominant presence of ironic sarcasm in these expressions suggests that social irony and contrasts between expectation and reality are the most powerful strategies in criticizing social injustice and corruption. The use of analogies, metaphors, and hyperboles strengthens the sarcastic impact, making the criticism more engaging and resonant with the audience.

3. Translation Quality

The second discussion concerns the quality of translations. This study applies the evaluation framework of Nababan et al. (2012), which assesses two key aspects: accuracy and acceptability. Below is a comparative table of translation quality produced by Google Translate, DeepL, and ChatGPT:

Figure 2. Translation Quality Table

Nababan's Aspects	ChatGPT	DeepL	Google Translate
Accuracy	3 (high)	2 (medium)	1-2 (low-medium)
Acceptability	3 (high)	2 (medium)	1 (low)
Average Score	3.0	2.0	1.3

Google Translate is a free translation tool developed by Google that helps users understand and communicate in various languages. Users can type, speak, or upload documents to translate. It supports over 100 global languages and is widely used by students and travelers. The app is available on smartphones and computers. Although not perfect, its technology continues to improve. It also features image-based translation, helpful for reading signs, menus, and instructions in foreign languages.

From the analysis, the advantage of Google Translate is that it delivers fairly accurate denotative-literal meanings and can support basic text comprehension. However, major drawbacks include rigid and unnatural translation. Phrases like "he even smiled and posed with two fingers" sound like raw machine translation — not stylistic, journalistic, or sarcastic. It fails to capture emotional tone, cultural nuance, or informal language. Many parts also feel disjointed. For low accuracy: too literal, causing semantic distortion (e.g., "he even smiled and posed with two fingers"). For low acceptability: the results often feel machine-generated, not naturally phrased.

DeepL is an AI-based machine translation tool known for producing more accurate and natural translations compared to others. It supports multiple languages like English, German, French, Spanish, Japanese, and more. Many users find DeepL better at understanding sentence context. Besides a free version, DeepL also offers a premium version with added features, and supports the translation of plain text, Word docs, and PDFs.

DeepL's main strength lies in producing more natural translations than Google Translate. Some parts are decent and communicate meaning effectively. However, drawbacks include many passages still sounding stiff or too literal, failing to convey humor or sarcasm fully. Sentence structure may also lack cohesion (e.g., "who is suspected of stealing 1.3 billion rupiah in village funds" appears incomplete). In terms of accuracy: literal but misses cultural context, sarcasm, and stylistic features. In terms of acceptability: moderate — some outputs feel like user manuals.

ChatGPT, developed by OpenAI, is an AI model designed to engage in human-like text dialogue. It can answer questions, write content, translate, and offer suggestions. Many use it for work, study, or entertainment. ChatGPT is trained on diverse text sources, making it capable of generating relevant and coherent language. However, it still has limitations and may provide inaccurate answers when prompted ambiguously.

The translation quality of ChatGPT surpasses the other two platforms. Its advantages include highly natural and fluent output, often resembling native speaker writing. It preserves the sarcastic,

satirical, and humorous tone very well (e.g., “morals running on 2 watts”, “served fresh”, “borax-infused meatball puffed up and toxic”). It adapts cultural and idiomatic expressions effectively, such as translating “Kayak habis dapat nomor undian pemilu” into “like they just won an election raffle”, and “baju orange, borgol gratis” into “orange jumpsuit, free handcuffs.”

Its only drawback may be the tendency to take slight liberties in stylistic enrichment — though this often enhances the sarcastic nuance. In terms of accuracy: idioms and humor are well adapted to the cultural context of the target language (e.g., the metaphor “morals running on 2 watts” aptly reflects “akhlak dua watt”). The translations read naturally in contemporary English, making them highly acceptable.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis of sarcastic utterances containing social criticism toward corruption, it can be concluded that there are significant differences in translation quality produced by Google Translate, DeepL, and ChatGPT. Overall, ChatGPT produces the highest-quality translations, scoring highest in all three aspects: accuracy, acceptability, and readability. The translations maintain implicit meanings, sarcastic tones, and rhetorical nuances from the source language. The use of metaphor, idiom, and irony in the target language feels natural, fluent, and contextually appropriate.

Meanwhile, DeepL shows fairly good translation quality, especially in terms of grammar and readability. However, DeepL tends to translate more literally, causing sarcastic tones and implicit meanings to be diluted. Some translations feel rigid and lose the rhetorical power of the original. On the other hand, Google Translate delivers the lowest quality translations. Although the surface-level meaning is conveyed, the translations often sound unnatural, overly literal, and fail to capture important elements such as humor, irony, and cultural contrasts. As a result, the critical message in sarcasm becomes weak or, in some cases, confusing to the target audience.

Thus, it can be concluded that effective sarcasm translation requires high contextual and pragmatic awareness, as well as an understanding of language style and cultural norms in the target language. AI-based tools like ChatGPT, trained with contextual and narrative approaches, appear more capable than literal-statistical translators like Google Translate and DeepL, especially when handling expressive, rhetorical, and locally nuanced texts such as political and social sarcasm in Indonesia.

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