CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter describes some related theories and literature about translation and descriptive text in order to give relevant knowledge of this present study. It discusses about definition of translation, translation method, translation techniques, translation quality assessment, definition of descriptive text, generic structures of descriptive text and language features of descriptive text.

A. Definition of Translation

There are many definitions of translation stated by some experts. Bell (1993: 5) explains in his book said the translation is an expression in another language (or target language) of what has been expressed in another source language, which maintains semantic similarities and styles.

Meanwhile, Catford (1978: 20) says that translation can be defined as the substitution of text material in one language (source language) by the same text material in another language (target language). Munday (2008: 5) states that translation itself has several meanings: it can refer to the general subject field, the product (the text that has been translated) or the process.

Yaqub (2014: 226) describes translation is the term used for all tasks where the meaning of an expression in one language (the source language) is turned into the meaning of another (the target language), whether the medium is spoken, written or signaled. Oxford (1990:46) defines translating as converting the target language expression into the native language (at various levels, from words and phrases all the way up to whole texts) or converting the native

language into the target language. Likewise, O'Malley and Chamot (1990:120) describe the translation strategy as using the first language as a base for understanding and/or producing the second language. The definition of translation refers to using one language as a basis for understanding, remembering, or producing another language, both at the lexical level and the syntactic level, and also in either direction from the target or the source language into the other language (Liao, 2006:194).

According to all the definitons above, the researcher concludes that translation is a transfer process which aims at transforming a written source language text into an optimally equivalent target language text which requires syntactic, semantic and pragmatic understanding and analytical processing of the source language.

B. Translation Procedures

Translation procedures are the technical devices used to transfer. the meaning of a text in one language into a text in another language. They involve essentially adding structural or lexical elements to those present in the SL or subtracting from them; eliminating elements that are obligatory in the SL but unnecessary in the TL or with no counterpart there, and where disparity between the two media goes beyond language patterns, adapting the content of the message so that the TL text will come as close as possible to the intent of the SL text and create a similar impact. Translation in the very broad sense of the term can be listed in terms of different levels of complexity. According to Rachmadie et. al. (1988:134-137), there are seven procedures in translation, they are

translation/transcription, transliteration, borrowing, literal, transposition, modulation and adaptation.

The first is translation/transcription which means rendering the sounds of an SL into a TL form. For example Indonesian language "*Jawa*" translated into English "Java". The second is transliteration which means the process of rendering the letters of one alphabet into the letters of another with a different alphabetical system. For example, from the Russian Cyrillic alphabets into the Latin ones or from Arabic into Latin. No transliteration takes place between Indonesian and English since both use the Latin alphabets.

The third procedure is borrowing. Many types of borrowing are made from one language to another. A procedure often used when the TL has no equivalent for the SL units is to adopt them without change but sometimes with spelling or pronunciation adjustments. For example the Indonesian word "*durian*" will be translated as it is. The fourth procedure is literal. This is one-to-one structural and conceptual correspondence. It can include borrowings and word-for-word translation. This presupposes a kind of interlingual synonymy. For example the sentence "*John sedang menyanyi*" will be translated into "John is singing".

The fifth procedure is transposition. This is one of the most common procedure used in translation. It involves replacing a grammatical structure in the SL with one of a different type in the TL in order to achieve the same effect. The sixth procedure is modulation. Modulation and transposition are the two main processes in translation. Modulation entails a change in Lexical elements, a shift in the point of view. Transposition and modulation may take place at the same

time. For example the sentence "time is money" is translated into "*waktu itu sungat berharga*".

The last is adaptation. This procedure is used when the others do not suffice. It involves modifying the concept, or using a situation analogous to the SL situation though not identical to it. An adaptation may at the same time entail modulation and transposition. It goes beyond language.

C. Translation Method

Translation method is a method of translation related to the whole text. According to Newmark (1988:45), there are eight methods of translation. The methods of translation are word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, semantic translation, adaption, free translation, idiomatic translation and communicative translation.

The first method is word-for-word translation. Word-for-word translation is where words are translated singly by the most common meanings. It is not prioritize the context. The order of the source language is preserved. Cultural words are translated literally. The main use of word-for-word translation is to understand the mechanism of the source language or interpret difficult texts as a pre-translation process.

The second method is literal translation. Literal translation is where the source language grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest target language equivalents, but the lexical words are again translated singly out of context. As a pre-translation process, this indicates a problem that must be solved.

The third method is faithful translation. It attempts to produce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the target language grammatical structures. It transfers cultural words and preserves the degree of grammatical and lexical in the translation.

The next method is semantic translation. Faithful translation and semantic translation have some differences. The faithful translation is uncompromising and dogmatic. Meanwhile, the semantic translation is more flexible, recognizes creative exceptions to 100% sensibility. It allows the translator's intuitive empathy with the original.

The fifth method is adaptation. Adaption is the freest form of translation and is used mainly for plays (comedies) and poetry. The themes, characters, plots are usually preserved, the source language culture is converted to the target language culture and the text is rewritten. Then, the next method is free translation. It produces the target language text without the style, form, or content of the original. Free translation is usually a paraphrase that is much longer than the original.

The seventh method is idiomatic translation. It reproduces messages from the original, but idiomatic translation tends to reverse the nuances of meaning by preferring colloquial languages and idioms where this does not exist in the original. The last method is communicative translation. It seeks to make contextual meanings appropriate from the originals in such a way that content and language can be accepted and understood by readers.

D. Translation Quality Assessment

Translation quality refers to how accurately the message of a source language text transferred into the target language and how readable the translated text is for target readers. Schiaffina and Zearof (2005) in Kadhim et. al. (2013:40) state how translation quality could be measured. They introduce types of errors in an output, whether these errors lie in meaning, form, or in compliance. This assessment is intended to measure the quality of the translation text from English to Indonesia. This study is going to use the instruments of translation quality from Nababan which are taken from *Pengembangan Model Penilaian Kualitas Terjemahan* (2012). The assessment measures three translation qualities which are the translation accuracy, the translation acceptability, and the translation readability.

The first aspect of translation quality assessment is accuracy. Accuracy is a term used in evaluating translation to refer to whether the source language text and the target language text are equivalent or not. The concept of equivalence leads to the same content or message between both. A text can be referred to as a translation, if the text has the same meaning or message as the other text without any changes.

The second aspect of quality translation is related to the problem of acceptability. The term acceptability refers to whether a translation is disclosed in accordance with the rules, norms and culture that apply in the target language or not. The concept of acceptance is very important because even though a translation is accurate in terms of its content or message, the translation will be

rejected by the target reader if the way of disclosure is contrary to the target language's norms, norms and culture.

The last aspect is readability. In the context of translation, the term legibility is basically not only about the readability of the source language text but also the readability of the target language text. This is in accordance with the essence of every translation process that always involves both languages at once.

The level of translation accuracy is set by how accurate or equivalent the content from source language transferred into the target language. The level of translation acceptability is set by deciding whether the content or the message from the source language text has been conveyed in accordance with the rules, norms, and the culture of the target language. The level of translation readability refers to the ease of a translation text to understand.

According to the previous study conducted by Nisak (2016), the standard of translation quality can be seen at the total amount of data. The translation is good quality in accuracy if the accurate data is more than less accurate data and inaccurate data. The translation is mid quality in accuracy if the less accurate data is more than accurate data and inaccurate data. The translation is bad quality in accuracy if the inaccurate data is more than accurate data and less accurate data.

The translation is good quality in acceptability if the acceptable data is more than less acceptable and unacceptable data. The translation is mid quality in acceptability if the less acceptable data is more than acceptable data and unacceptable data. The translation is bad quality in acceptability if the unacceptable data is more than acceptable data and less acceptable data.

The translation is good quality in readability if the readable data is more than less readable and unreadable data. The translation is mid quality if the less readable data is more than the readable data and unreadable data. The translation is bad quality if the unreadable data is more than readable data and less readable data.

E. Definition of Descriptive Text

Descriptive text is one kind of texts that must be mastered by students in learning English. In the syllabus of the first grade in senior high school, descriptive text is one of the materials that should be taught by the teacher in the teaching learning process. Descriptive text is one of genres which is demanded to master by high school students in Indonesia (Noprianto, 2017:65).

According to Gerot & Wignell (1994) cited in Anggun (2016:149), descriptive text is a kind of text with a purpose to give information. The context of this kind of text is a description of a particular thing, animal, person, or other person. The process of describing is done through ordering their characteristics clearly, starting from naming them, classifying them, and dealing with their attributes, behaviors, functions, and so on so that readers or listeners may be able to pay attention to what the writer is writing as if they can see it directly through their own eyes.

Moreover, the purpose of descriptive text is to describe something in a specific way. When describing someone or something, the writer must give the picture to the reader in words. To make writing real, the author must write specific details to attract the reader's attention.

F. Generic Structures of Descriptive Text

There are two generic structures of descriptive text according to Noprianto (2017:67). The generic structures are identification and description. Identification explains about the topic or identifying what or who want to be described. On the other hand, description explains about details of the topic: describing parts, qualities and characteristic. Description occurs about the explanation or delineation about something.

G. Language Features of Descriptive Text

Regarding its linguistics features, Anggun (2016:150) states that descriptive text employs seven linguistics features. The first language feature is focusing on specific subject as the main character. The next language feature is using present tense as dominant tenses. The third is using linking verbs or relational process frequently (is, are, has, have, belongs to) in order to classify and describe appearance or qualities and parts or functions of the participant).

The next language feature is using action verbs or material process and behavioral process in giving additional description regarding action and behavior done by the participants in text. Then, the fifth is using stative verbs when describing feelings. The next is using adjectives and adverbs to add information to nouns (participant) and add information to verbs (actions) to provide more detailed description about the topic. The las language feature is using adverbial phrases to add more information about manner, place, or time and sometimes realized in embedded clause which functions as circumstances.