

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Translation

Translation has been defined in many ways by different writers in the field, depending on how they view language and translation. According to Wills in Choliludin (2007: 3), translation is a procedure which leads from a written source language text to an optimally equivalent target language text and requires the syntactic, semantic, stylistic and text pragmatic comprehension by the translator of the original text. Besides, Nida and Taber (1982: 12) say that translating consists in the reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message, firstly in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style. Both definitions above imply that translation involves two languages: the source language (SL) and the target or receptor language (TL or RL), and that an act of translating is an act of reproducing the meaning of the SL text into that of the TL text.

Catford (1965: 20) states that translation may be defined as the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL). Similar definition is also mentioned by Larson (1984: 3). He says that translation consists of translating the meaning of the source language into the receptor language. This is done by going from the form of the first language to the form of a second language by way of semantic structure. It is meaning which is being transferred and must be held constant. Only the form changes.

From the notions above it can be concluded that translating includes the act of transferring message from the source text to the target text. The aim of translation is to find the equivalent meaning of the source language expression in the target language. Thus, meaning is important in translation and it must be held constant. Furthermore, translating a literary work into another language is creating a new literary work in another language. A translation novel is a novel that contains different language from the original text but carrying the spirit of the original text.

It also arouses the same respond to the readers between the two languages.

1. Types of Translation

Catford (1965: 21-25) makes categories of translation in terms of extent, levels, and ranks. Based on the extent, he classifies translation into *full* and *partial* translation. On the levels of translation, there are *total* and *restricted* translation and on the ranks there are *rank bound* and *unbounded* translation.

- a. Full vs Partial translation. This distinction relates to the extent (in a syntagmatic sense) of SL text which is submitted to the translation process. In a full translation the entire text is submitted to the translation process. By text we mean any stretch of language, spoken or written, which is under discussion.
 1. In a full translation the entire text is submitted to the translation process: that is, every part of the SL text is replaced by TL text material.
 2. In a partial translation, some part of parts of the SL text are left untranslated: they are simply transferred to and incorporated in the TL text.
 3. The distinction between full and partial translation is hardly a (linguistically) technical one.
- b. Total vs. Restricted translation. This distinction relates to the levels of language involved in translation.
 1. Total translation may best be defined as: replacement of SL grammar and lexis with consequential replacement of SL phonology/graphology by (non-equivalent) TL phonology/graphology.
 2. Restricted translation mean replacement of SL textual material by equivalent TL textual material, at only one level, that is translation performed only at the phonological or at the graphological level, or at only one of the two levels of grammar and lexis. In phonological translation SL phonology is replaced by equivalent TL phonology, but there are no other replacements except such grammatical or

lexical changes as may result accidentally from phonological translation. In graphological translation SL graphology is replaced by equivalent TL graphology, with no other replacements, except, again, accidental changes.

- c. Rank-bound translation is translation in which the selection of TL equivalents is deliberately confined to one rank or a few ranks in the hierarchy of grammatical units, usually at word or morpheme rank, that is, setting up word-to-word or morpheme-to-morpheme equivalence. In contrast with this, normal total translation in which equivalences shift freely up and down the rank scale is called unbounded translation.

Based on the purpose of translation, Brislin (in Cholimudin, 2007: 26-29) categorizes translation into these following types.

- a. *Pragmatic Translation*

It refers to the translation of a message with an interest in accuracy of the information that was meant to be conveyed in the source language form. It is not concerned with other aspects of the original language version.

- b. *Aesthetic-poetic Translation*

This refers to translation in which the translator takes into account the affect, emotion, and feelings of an original agnate version, the aesthetic form used by the original author, as well as any information in the message. The examples of this type are the translation of sonnet, rhyme, heroic couplet, dramatic dialogue, and novel.

- c. *Ethnographic Translation*

The purpose of ethnographic translation is to explicate the cultural context of the source language and target language versions. Translators have to be sensitive to the way the words are used and must know how the words fit into cultures.

- d. *Linguistic Translation*

This is concerned with equivalent meanings of the constituent morphemes of the source language and grammatical form. The example

is the language in a computer program and machine translation.

According to Larson (1984: 15) translation is classified into two main types, namely:

a. Form-based translation

Form-based translation attempts to follow the form of Source Language and is known as literal translation.

b. Meaning-based translation

Meaning-based translation makes every effort to communicate the meaning of the SLtext in the natural forms of the receptor language. Such translation is called idiomatic translation.

Larson (1984: 16) says that idiomatic translations use the natural forms of the receptor language both in the grammatical constructions and in the choices of lexical items. A truly idiomatic translation does not sound like a translation. It sounds like it was written originally in the receptor language. Therefore, a good translator will try to translate idiomatically.

2. Translation Strategies

The term *strategy* is often said similar to the term *technique*. In some ways it can be called similar because some experts use these terms with the same purpose. For example, Mona Baker says that she proposes some strategies to translate idiomatic expressions, whereas Andrejs Veisberg proposes some techniques to translate idiomatic expressions. Both expressions aim at the same point.

According to *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, technique is a method of doing or performing something whereas strategy is a plan to accomplish a specific goal. This research will use the term strategy related to Mona Baker's theory of strategies to translate idiomatic translation. Mona Baker's view of translation strategies are applied when a translation difficulty occurs and the translator wishes to solve the problem and produce a good translation. Thus, translation strategies are means which considers to be the best in order to reach the goals.

Based on many experts in translation, there are many translation

strategies to translate a text. Every translator uses different strategies to translate a text since different people may understand a word in different ways. Furthermore, there are kinds of expressions such as idioms and proverbs which are the products of culture. Idioms in one language probably have different forms in other languages. It may have distinctive form but the same meaning.

The way in which an idiom can be translated into another language depends on many factors, such as the availability of an idiom with a similar meaning, the significance of the specific lexical items which constitute the idiom, and the appropriateness of using idiomatic language in a given register in the target language.

Mona Baker (1992: 72) proposes some strategies that can be used to translate idioms.

a. Using an idiom of similar meaning and form

This strategy involves using an idiom in the target language which conveys roughly the same meaning as that of the source-language idiom and, in addition, consists of equivalent lexical items (Baker, 1992: 72). The example is given as follows.

SL: In a little while, however, she again heard a little pattering of footsteps in the distance, and she looked up eagerly, half hoping that the Mouse had **changed his mind**, and was coming back to finish his story.

TL: Beberapa saat kemudian, sekali lagi dia mendengar suara langkah kaki di kejauhan. Alice menatap dengan penuh semangat, berharap si Tikus **berubah pikiran** dan kembali untuk menyelesaikan ceritanya.

The English idiomatic expression *change his mind* is translated into Bahasa Indonesia idiomatic expression *berubah pikiran*. According to *Dictionary of American Idioms and Phrasal Verbs*, change one's mind means to alter one's decision or opinion. The word *change* has similar meaning with *berubah* and *mind* has similar meaning with *pikiran*.

According to the context of the sentence, the word *his* is optional. In conclusion, both English and Bahasa Indonesia idiomatic expression refer to the same meaning and consist of similar lexical item.

b. Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form

It is often possible to find an idiom or fixed expression in the target language which has a meaning similar to that of the source idiom or expression, but which consists of different lexical items (Baker, 1992: 74). This strategy uses different lexical items to express more or less the same idea. The example is presented below.

SL: It would twist itself round and look up in her face, with such a puzzled expression that she **could not help** bursting out laughing.

TL: Tapi, burung itu memutar dirinya dan menatap wajah Alice dengan sangat bingung sehingga Alice **tidak dapat menahan diri** untuk tertawa.

According to *Dictionary of American Idioms and Phrasal Verbs*, the idiom *could not help (doing something)* means could not prevent or avoid on doing something. It means could not restrain, the word restrain refers to prevent oneself from doing something. Thus, idiomatically *could not prevent* means *tidak dapat menahan diri*. Therefore, both expressions in the source language and its translation in the target language refer to the same meaning. In terms of form, both expressions cannot be said as equivalent. If the idiomatic expression *could not help* translated literally, it will become *tidak dapat menolong* and it will be confusing to the reader.

c. Translation by paraphrase

This is by far the most common way of translating idioms when an equivalent cannot be found in the target language or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the target text because of differences in stylistic preferences of the source and target language (Baker, 1992: 74). Below is the example of the paraphrase strategy.

SL: They all sat down **at once**, in a large ring with the Mouse in the middle.

TL: **Seketika** anggota rapat itu duduk dalam lingkaran besar, sementara si Tikus berada di tengah-tengah.

The English idiom *at once* is translated into *seketika* in the target language text. Since the translator cannot find the equivalent of the English idiom in the idiomatic form of the target language, the translator does not translate it into idiomatic expression. The idiom *at once* means immediately or at the same time, the word *seketika* means *dengan serta merta*. The idiomatic expression in the source language text is translated based on its context which is more acceptable and understandable.

d. Translation by omission

As with single words, an idiom may sometimes be omitted altogether in the target text. It is because it has no close equivalent in the target language, its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased, or for stylistic reasons (Baker, 1992: 77). The example is presented below.

SL: I shall have to ask them what the name of the country is, **you know**.

TL: Tapi aku harus bertanya pada mereka nama negeri ini.

It can be seen in the example above that *you know* is not realized in Bahasa Indonesia. According to *Dictionary of Idioms and Phrasal Verbs*, the idiomatic expression *you know* is used to open a conversation or switch to a new topic. The translator applies the omission strategy by letting the idiom *you know* be not translated to get effectiveness and considers that the readers will easily understand the meaning of the idiom.

Since it is very difficult to translate idioms into idioms, then a translator may apply non-idiomatic translation in order to maintain the meaning of the translated expressions in the target language. Moreover, he or she has a choice not to realize an idiom in the translation since it has no close match in the target language or its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased.

3. The Assessment of Translation Result Quality

The field of translation assessment is problematic, and it is often difficult to tell the difference between translation evaluation, translation criticism, and translation quality assessment. In attempt to answer the question of why to test the translation, Larson asserts three main reasons the translators want to be sure his translation is accurate, clear, and natural. So, an important point in translation process are accuracy, clarity, and naturalness. Accuracy means correct of the source message, and transfer of the meaning of that message as exactly as possible into receptor language. Clarity means the translator choose the way which communicates most clearly, the way which ordinary people will understand. And naturalness means that translator use the natural form of the receptor language, if the translation is to be effective and acceptable. A translation should not sound foreign. These are three determining and widely accepted criteria in assessing the quality of any translation. Seeking objectivity in selecting the criteria for assessing the quality of the translations subject to this study, the researchers used Larson's criteria.

An inclusive and nearly exact indicator for the quality category of accuracy to be utilized in this investigation in this investigation is adapted from Larson. He conceives of four levels for accuracy of a translated text:

Table 2.1
Accuracy Level and Definition

No	Category	Definition
4	Excellent	Accurate and clear meaning, without any omission or changes of meaning.
3	Good	Correct meaning, with no omission, addition or any changes of meaning.
2	Fair	Correct meaning, with minimum redundancy and grammatical errors.
1	Bad	Semantically misleading and incomprehensible, unclear meaning, there are some grammatical errors and deviation of meaning.

Larson argues that, a translation may be accurate but still communicate to the people for whom it is prepared due to lack of clarity. The quality category of clarity can be evaluated on four levels.

Table 2.2
Clarity Level and Definition

No	Category	Definition
4	Excellent	Easy to understand, correct words phrase and grammar nothing ambiguous.
3	Good	Appropriate words, phrases and grammar and clear meaning.
2	Fair	Complex syntax but understandable meaning, with some diction or mechanical errors.
1	Bad	Stylistically awkward, structurally burdensome, and poorly structured, with diction and mechanical errors.

Eventually, the purpose of naturalness tests is to see if the form of the translation is natural and the style appropriate. Larson's indicators for the quality category of naturalness are the following:

Table 2.3
Naturalness Level and Definition

No	Category	Definition
4	Excellent	Make sense, read naturally (written in ordinary language, common grammar, proper idioms and words)
3	Good	Correct meaning, appropriate idioms and words but there are some syntactic structure errors.
2	Fair	Make sense with minimum unnatural words, grammar, phrase and idiom.
1	Bad	Unnatural form, with awkward language, linguistically unnatural and stylistically awkward.

Larson's indicators for assessing the accuracy, clarity, and naturalness of translation is adopted by Kurniadi Agus Satria to assess the quality of students' translation in translating text from English into bahasa Indonesia. Based on the explanation that there are three main aspect to measure the translation quality. They are accuracy, clarity, and naturalness.

B. Idioms

One of the most important aspects of language is idioms. They are frequently used in a wide variety of situations, from friendly conversations to more formal conversations and written contexts. Hornby (1995: 589) mentions that an idiom is a phrase or sentence whose meaning is not clear from the meaning of its individual words and which must be learnt as a whole unit, for instance, the idiom *spill the beans* means to reveal secret information, especially without intending to do so.

Carter (1993: 65) defines idioms as special combinations with restricted forms and meanings that cannot be deduced from the literal meanings of the words which make them up. Accordingly, an idiom is learned and used as a single unit. It should not be analyzed into its constituents; it is unchangeable and always carries figurative meaning.

In addition, Ball (1968: 1) finds that an adequate definition of an idiom is "the use of familiar words in an unfamiliar sense." Palmer (1996: 80) states that "an idiom is semantically like a single word, it does not function like one. Many an idioms contain a verb and a noun, but although the verb may be placed in the past tense, the number of the noun can never be changed", for instance, the expressions 'kick the bucket' and 'kicked the bucket' (someone who dies) are largely used in English, in contrast to 'kick the buckets' which never occurs.

Translating idioms is one of the most difficult tasks for translators. It involves far more than the replacement of lexical and grammatical items between languages, and it may involve discarding the basic linguistic elements of the SL text. According to Baker (1992: 65), the first difficulty that a translator comes across, while translating idioms, is the ability to recognize and distinguish idiomatic

from non- idiomatic usage. Recognition is difficult, and sometimes impossible, since many idioms can be slightly modified, while others can be discontinuously spread over a clause. As a rule, the more difficult an expression is to understand and the less sense it makes in a given context, the more likely a translator will recognize it as an idiom (Baker,1992 :65-66).

From the definitions above it can be concluded that an idiomatic expression or an idiom is an expression (i.e. term or phrase) whose meaning cannot be deduced from the literal definition and the arrangement of its parts. An idiom can be in the form of phrase, clause, or sentence. In addition, the source and the target cultures have a great influence on the comprehensibility as well as the translatability of idioms. Hence, better understanding and using idioms needs both knowing their historical background and familiarity with both the source and the target cultures, and having a clear idea about their different situational context.

It should be quite clear by now, the concept of idiom has been interpreted differently by different people. The scope of idiomaticity and the view of different types of idioms are quite extensive. Since idioms differ greatly both in their character and composition, it is indeed important to provide categorizations for different types of idioms. In this research, some classifications of English idioms from some experts will be introduced by the researcher.

Lim (2004: i) says that generally speaking, English idioms consist of the following six types:

- a. phrasal verb, as in *call on, put off, do away with,*
- b. prepositional phrases, as in *in a nutshell, from time to time, with a view to,*
- c. idioms with verbs as keywords, as in *come in handy, fight shy of, leave much to be desired,*
- d. idioms with nouns as keywords, as in *a blessing disguise, child's play, food for thought,*
- e. idioms with adjectives as keywords, as in *cold comfort, wishful thinking, plansailing,* and
- f. idiomatic pairs, as in *safe and sound, aches and pains, sink or swim.*

Moreover, Seidl and McMordie (1980: 41-240) also classify idioms into

the following groups.

- a. Key words with idiomatic uses
 - 1) Adjective and adverb, e.g., *bad news, a big mouth, in short, it is high time*
 - 2) Noun, e.g. *by the way, in the end, the bottom line*
 - 3) Miscellaneous, e.g., *after all, how in the world, it is too bad*
- b. Idioms with nouns and adjectives
 - 1) Noun phrases, e.g., *a blessing in disguise, a breath of fresh air*
 - 2) Adjectives + noun, e.g., *a blind date, a close call, a narrow escape*
- c. Idiomatic pairs

This kind of idiom consists of some combination. Five different types are given as follows:

 - 1) pairs of adjectives, e.g., *safe and sound,*
 - 2) pairs of nouns, e.g., *flesh and blood,*
 - 3) pairs of adverbs, e.g., *in and out,*
 - 4) pairs of verbs, e.g., *sink or swim,*
 - 5) identical pairs, e.g., *all in all.*
- d. Idioms with prepositions, e.g., *at ease, behind the scenes, in a flash, out of bounds*
- e. Phrasal verbs, e.g., *break up, go on, get out, settle down, get up*
- f. Verbal idiom
 - 1) Verb + noun, e.g., *throw a party*
 - 2) Verb + prepositional phrase, e.g., *keep in touch*
- g. Idioms of comparison, e.g. *as black as coal, as dumb as a statue, to eat like a horse, to go like the wind*

The types of idioms in Bahasa Indonesia and English are different. English has more types of idioms than Bahasa Indonesia. In this research, the researcher provides the classification based on an expert. Khak (2006) states that there are three types of idioms in Bahasa Indonesia, they are as follows:

1. complex idiom

- a. affixation
 - 1) prefix + noun or verb, as in *mengekor, tersemat*
 - 2) affix (combination) + noun, as in *bersemuka, bersebadan*
 - b. reduplication, e.g., *mata-mata, kuda-kuda*
2. phrasal idiom
- a. verba idiom
 - 1) verb + noun, as in *naik darah*
 - 2) adverb + verb, as in *sudah berpulang ke rahmatullah*
 - b. nomina idiom
 - 1) noun+ noun, e.g., *buaya darat*
 - 2) noun + adjective, e.g., *kuda hitam, air besar*
3. proverb (peribahasa), e.g., *sambil menyelam minum air, gali lubang tutup lubang.*