

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the background of the study, the research questions, the object of the study, the significant of the study, the scope and limitation of the study and also the definition of key terms.

A. Background of study

Language and people have a close relationship because the development and the growth of language walk together with the development of people's lives. They use language to express their thoughts, ideas, feelings, attitudes, and experiences. It means that language is used to communicate each other. As a means of communication, language allows people to say everything and express their communicative need. Catford defines language as a type of patterned human behaviour.¹ It is a way, perhaps the most important way, in which human beings interact in his/her social situations.

Related to its function as an international language, English plays a great role in the world. It is because English has been used by the countries all over the world. But in Indonesia, English is as foreign language which people only learn in the classroom. They never use English in their daily communication. It makes them too hard to understand English well. But in this globalization era, not all information has been covered in Indonesian however some information are written in English now. It is required them to

¹John Cunnison Catford, *A linguistic theory of translation*, (London: Oxford University Press, 1969), P. 1.

understand the information in English written text by translating sentences to get the message from the text. For that reason, translation is needed. It is because translation is very important in the process of exchanging information. Without translation, prospective scientists will be left behind in following the development of science, moreover if they lack the ability to read the foreign language text.

Translation is known as the process of translating words or text from one language into another. According to Catford, translation is the replacement of textual material in one language by equivalent textual material in another language.² In line with Catford, Newmark stated that translation is a craft consisting in the attempt to replace a written message and or statement in one language by the same message and/or statement in another language.³ It means that translation is the transferring meaning from one language to another language in order the message of the text can be understood by others people.

Translation is not an easy task, since it is a process of transferring meanings from the source language to the target language. It needs to mastery both of the source language and the target language. To make a good translation is not easy for the translators too. They are faced by many problems either linguistics or non- linguistics.

Nida states:

“But difficulties and thanklessness notwithstanding, if the translator is to produce acceptable translation he must have an excellent background in the source language and the same time must have control over the resources of the language into which he translating, he cannot simply match words from

²Ibid., P. 20.

³ Peter Newmark, *Approaches to translation*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1981), P. 7.

a dictionary, he must in real sense create a new linguistic form to carry concept expressed in the source language.”⁴

From the statement above it can be concluded that translating process is not only a matter of producing acceptable translation in the target language but also knowing or mastering the background knowledge of the source language. To master the background knowledge of the source language, teaching translation is needed.

Teaching translation is not an easy thing to do especially for students who mastery of the foreign language is relatively weak.⁵ It is obvious that teaching translation is difficult. It is because they learn the detail of translation when they study at university. Although it is not easy thing to do, it is possible to teach translation for foreign language students. Gile argues that there are several possible benefits that the students can get from translation course, such as “comprehension of the process and of what professionalism entails in translation, stimulation and practice in analytical reading and in independent decision-making and the students’ level of interest towards translation as an intellectual activity.”⁶ It means that learning translation have many benefits for them.

At STAIN Kediri, translation is one of the subjects learned by the students in English Department. One of the objectives of this course is to make the students understand the process and the rule of translation

⁴ E. A. Nida, *The Theory and Practice of Translation*. (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1969), P. 14.

⁵ Clara Herlina Karjo. Problems in Translating Legal English Text into Indonesian. *Arab World English Journal (AWEJ)*. Vol.6: 2. 2015. P. 353.

⁶ Daniel Gile. *Training students for quality: ideas and methods*. IV Conference of Training and Career Development in Translation and Interpreting: *Quality in Translation - Academic and Professional Perspectives*. Universidad Europea de Madrid. 2005. P. 70

correctly. So the students can transfer the meaning from source language (SL) into target language (TL) correctly. In attempts to acquire the target language, the English Department students may face many difficulties because of the different systems between source language (English) and target language (Indonesia). In this case, the researcher is interested to observe the difficulties faced by them in translating text.

The material that will be used is a narrative text, especially humor text. Humor texts are used based on the following considerations. First, humor texts are expected to motivate students in doing translation because humor texts are funny. Second, this element of funniness can be used to test students' ability in transferring the content. If they can laugh when reading the translation, it means that their translation is already correct. If not, it means that there is a mistake in transferring the meaning.

Some researches had found that English learners still have a problem about this. Ishraq (2012), in "Difficulties that M.A Students Encounter in Translating Political Expressions from His Majesty King Abdullah's Our Last Best Chance" found that most translations are inadequate as the students faced difficulties while translating. These difficulties were mostly due to their unfamiliarity with political expressions/terms, producing improper equivalence in the TL; and resorting to literal translation.⁷ In addition, Julia noted that "transferring message or meaning and restructuring it into good Indonesian are not easy. Students still make many

⁷ Ishraq Al -Zu'bi. *Difficulties that M.A Students Encounter in Translating Political Expressions from His Majesty King Abdullah's Our Last Best Chance*. (Amman, Jordan: Middle East University, 2012), P. IX-X.

mistakes in understanding the text and in restructuring it into good Indonesian.”⁸

Based on the background stated above, the researcher conducted a research entitled “**The Difficulties Faced by English and Non-English Department Students of STAIN Kediri in Translating Text**”. To make this study more interesting and different from the previous study, the researcher will take two different subjects those are English and Non-English department students. It is for finding out what difficulties faced by them in translating humor text from English into Indonesian.

B. Research Questions

Based on the statement in the background of the study above, the problem of the study can be formulated as follows:

1. What difficulties do English department students of STAIN Kediri face in translating humor text?
2. What difficulties do Non-English department students of STAIN Kediri face in translating humor text?

C. Objectives of the Study

Objectives of the study consist of the statement about the purpose of the research specifically which are reached out by the researcher. Based on the problem that is stated in the previous point, this research is expected:

⁸Julia Eka Rini. Difficulties in Translating Texts for Beginner Translator Students. *Jurnal Kata*. Vol. 9:2. 2007. P. 169-170.

1. To find out the difficulties faced by English department students of STAIN Kediri in translating humor text.
2. To find out the difficulties faced by Non-English department students of STAIN Kediri in translating humor text.

D. Significance of the Study

The significance of this study is expected to broaden people's understanding about transferring message from one language to another language. The readers are expected to understand more about the process of translating text. They are expected to explore their ability in translating text. This result of the study is expected to be useful for:

1. Students

It can be used as an additional reference to improve their ability in case of translating humor text.

2. English teachers

It can be used as an additional reference to design better teaching material and improve a technique used in teaching translation, especially about translating English text into Indonesian.

3. Researchers

By doing this research, it will encourage the researcher to learn more about how to be a good translator in order the researcher will find the better way to teach translation subject in the future.

4. For the other researchers

It can be used as an additional knowledge in doing further research on translation.

E. Scope and Limitation of the study

The scope of the study is about translation. This research attempts to analyze the difficulties in translating humor text from English into Indonesian. In order to get a good analysis, the research takes data from the students' translation sheet.

In order to avoid a very wide analysis, the researcher limits her analysis on the difficulties of the text based on the Rini's study. In this case the students are supposed to translate the humor text prepared before. Then they have to translate the text into Indonesian. The participants are both English and Non-English department students of STAIN Kediri. The English department is the students in sixth semester who have taken Translation practice subject, while the Non-English department is the students in second semester who takes English application class and they do not take Translation practice subject.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To make a limitation of this study clear, it is needed to define the meaning of the key term of this study. And also to avoid misunderstanding about the meaning of word in the research, the definitions of key terms are defined as follow:

1. Translation

Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language by equivalent textual material in another language.

2. A humorous text

A humorous narrative is one of the types of narrative text. Humor is a literary tool that makes audience laugh, or that intends to induce amusement or laughter.