

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter provides explanation related theories used in this study, such as the definition of translation, translation process, difficulties in translating text, definition of narrative text and humorous text.

A. Definition of Translation

There are many different definitions of translation, although there are similarities on the main points. Many experts of translation give different explanation about translation but they only focus on translating source language text into other target languages. Newmark states that translation is mastery in transferring written message from one language into written message of another language.¹ Here, Newmark restricts the definition only in the scope written language.

Catford states that translation is an operation performed on language, a process of substituting a text in one language for a text in another.² Furthermore, Catford states that translation may be defined as the replacement of textual material in one language (source language) by equivalent textual material in another language (target language).³

According to Brislin translation is a general term referring to the transfer of thoughts and ideas from one language (source) to another

¹ Peter Newmark, *Approaches to translation*, P. 7.

² Catford, *A linguistic theory of translation*, P. 1.

³ *Ibid.*, P. 20.

language (target), whether the languages are in written or oral form.⁴ Bell states that translation is the expression in another language (or target language) of what has been expressed in one, source language, preserving semantic and stylistic equivalences.⁵

McGuire views that translation involves the rendering of a source language (SL) text into the target language (TL) so as to ensure that the surface meaning of the two will approximately similar, and the structure of the SL will be preserved as closely as possible, but not so closely that TL structure will be seriously distorted.⁶

Basnett suggests that translation involves the transfer of meaning contained in one set of language signs through competent use of dictionary and the process also involves a whole set extra linguistic criterion.⁷ The good translations should be accurate, natural and communicative in meaning.

Basically, all the above statements about translation have the same ideas, in the sense that translation is a process of replacing or transferring messages, thoughts, ideas, meaning or information from the source language to the target language. The main point in the translation is that a translator may not change the meaning of the message of the original text.

⁴ Richard W. Brislin, *Translation, Application, and Research*, (New York: Gardner Press, 1976), P. 1.

⁵ T. Rogers Bell, *Translation and Translating*, (London: Oxford University, 1991), P. 5.

⁶ S. B. McGuire, *Translation Studies*, (Methuen London and New York, 1980), P. 2.

⁷ Susan Basnet, *Translation Studies*, (London: Routledge, 1991), P. 13.

B. Translation Process

As we have learned, translation is transferring a text in the source language (SL) into an equivalent text in the target language (TL). This process is not simply translating each word or phrase in the TL, but it is looking for the equivalence of meaning or message in the SL to be transferred into TL. In many cases the process is not linear, but it is usually goes back and forth so that finally the translator can come to the most equivalent translation of the original text.

Thus steps in this process are as follows:

1. Understanding the meaning or message of the text in the SL
2. Looking for an equivalent meaning or message in the TL
3. Restructuring this equivalent meaning or message in the TL into an accepted form of the text in the TL

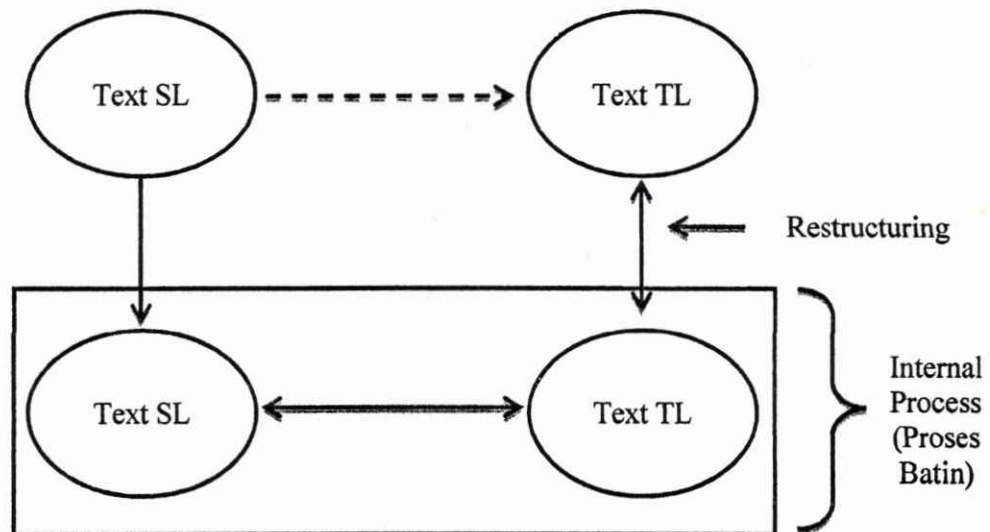


Figure 2.1 Translation Process

The first step is to understand the meaning/message of the text. You might need the dictionary to look up for the difficult words/ phrases/ construction, such as:

1. Outfit : assemblage of articles
2. Innumerable : too many to count, countless
3. Loaded with : burdened with
4. Thoughtfully : contemplative, considerate
5. Sarcastic : being harsh or ironical
6. Frigid : without feeling, very cold
7. I wish that we'd brought the piano

The construction is in the subjunctive mood, meaning that the speaker wishes to have done something he/she did not do.

The second step is to look for the equivalence of meaning/message in Indonesian:

1. Outfit : pakaian, perlengkapan
2. Innumerable : tak terhitung banyaknya
3. Loaded with : dibebani dengan
4. Thoughtfully : dengan merenung
5. Sarcastic : sarkastis, mengejek
6. Wish : hendak, ingin, berkehendak

The final step is to restructure the equivalence according to the rules and conventions of the target language.⁸

⁸ Drs. Sabrony Rachmadie, M.A et al. *Materi Pokok TRANSLATION*. (Jakarta: Karunika Jakarta, 1985), P. 4.2 - 4.4.

C. Difficulties in Translating Text

In this study, the researcher used the theory of difficulties in translating text based on the previous study which was conducted by Rini entitled "Difficulties in Translating Texts for Beginner Translator" that was published by Journal Kata.

Her research found that the students still faced difficulties in translating humor text. The difficulties which found are difficulties in translating adverb of time, English plural form, adverb of place, verb, noun, possessive pronoun and reference. These difficulties are as follows:⁹

1. Difficulties in translating Adverb of time

The first difficulty that was found is translating adverb of time. She found that some students still made mistake in translating it. For example: in translating the first sentence "Mr. and Mrs. Williams had *always* spent their summer holidays in England in the past, in a small boarding house at the seaside." Some students faced difficulty in translating the word "always". They translated it into *seringkali* but the correct translation was *selalu*.

2. Difficulties in translating English plural form

The second difficulty was translating English plural form. She found that the students made a mistake again. For example: in translating the phrase "their summer holidays", it can be expressed in *setiap liburan musim panas mereka* rather than repeating the word *liburan*. She explained that the word *setiap* in Indonesian is followed

⁹ Rini, *Difficulties in Translating Texts for Beginner Translator Students*. P. 173-177.

by a single noun so it is good enough if the "holidays" is translated into *setiap liburan* not *liburan-liburan*.

3. Difficulties in translating Adverb of place

The third difficulty was translating adverb of place. The students faced problem in translating it. For example: in translating the word "in England", some students translated it into *di Negara Inggris* and the correct translation was *di Inggris*. She explained that England had been conveyed that it was in the country of England, therefore it was not necessary to restate the word country (*Negara*).

4. Difficulties in translating Verb

The fourth difficulty was translating the verb. She found that some students made mistakes in translating verb in that humor text, for example: in translating the word "flew to Rome". She found that some students used the word *menelusuri* which had the meaning that they were already in Rome and went everywhere in Rome, while the "flew to Rome" meant that they were not already in Rome and used the airplane to arrive in Rome. So it was good enough to translate it into *terbang ke Roma*.

5. Difficulties in translating Noun

The fifth difficulty was translating noun. She found that some students still made a mistake in translating the word "the clerk". They translated it into *pelayan hotel* while the best translation was *pegawai hotel*, *petugas hotel* or *karyawan hotel* rather than *pelayan hotel*. It was because the clerk meant that she/he as the receptionist while

pelayan hotel can be translated into helper or it can be said as office boy/girl or bellboy.

6. Difficulties in translating Possessive pronoun

The sixth difficulty was translating possessive pronoun. In her study, she found that some students faced difficulty in translating possessive pronoun. For example: in translating the word “their summer holidays”, some students translated it into *liburan musim panasnya*. It was obvious that the phrase shown the possessive pronoun in plural form. So, the correct translation of it was *liburan musim panas mereka*. It is because the possessive pronoun *mereka* shown as plural form while *-nya* shown a singular form.

7. Difficulties in translating Reference

The last difficulty was translating reference. She found in her study that some students translated the wrong reference in Indonesian. For example: in translating the subject “we”, they made mistake by translating it into *kita* whereas in English the subject can be translated into *kita* (referring only the speakers) and *kami* (referring both to the speakers and the hearers). But in this context, “we” referred to the clerk only and not to the clerk and the couple. So the best translation was *kami*.

D. Definition of Narrative Text

Narrative text is one of English text types. According to Anderson, narrative text is a text that has a purpose to entertain the reader or listener.

However, narrative can also be written to teach or inform, to change attitudes or social opinions and to show the moral of a story.¹⁰ Porter defines narrative as “the representation of an event or a series of events”.¹¹ Some examples of narrative text are fantasy novel, historical fiction and stories.

Narrative text is writing in which a story is told, the details may be fictional or factual. Meyers states narrative is one of the most powerful ways of communicating with others. A good written story lets your reader response to some event in your life as if it were own. They not only understand the event, but they can almost feel it. The action, details, and dialogue put the readers in these seem and make it happen for them.¹² It can be concluded that narrative text is a story tells us about something interesting that can make us feel the story in the text.

There many different types of narrative texts, among others:¹³

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|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Humor | 6. Mystery |
| 2. Romance | 7. Fantasy |
| 3. Crime | 8. Science Fiction |
| 4. Real Life Fiction | 9. Diary Novels |
| 5. Theoretical fiction | 10. Adventure |

There can be a combination of narratives within each of these different types. Sometimes, the term genre is used for the type of narrative.

¹⁰ Mark Anderson and Susan Anderson, *Text Type in English 2*, (Australia: Mackmillan, 1997), P. 8.

¹¹ Porter Abbott H, *The Cambridge Introduction to Narrative*, (Cambridge: University Press, 2002), P. 12.

¹² Meyers, Allan, *Gateways to Academic Writing: Effective Sentences Paragraph and Essay*, (New York: Longman, 2005), P. 52.

¹³ Ernest Neo, *Narrative for 'O' Level*, (Malaysia: Longman, 2005), P. 58-60.

A genre is some kind of category. The notion of genre is to help you generate story ideas.

E. Humorous Text

A humorous text 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. One of the aims is to make audience laugh as a part of telling story. Here is typical structure:

1. Orientation

In orientation, the narrator tells the funny characters names in unusual setting. It is used for making the readers in interested in the story. It makes them curious so they will read the story.

2. Complication

In this part, something crazy happen. The narrator gives the crazy happen to make the reader laugh. It makes the reader entertain themselves by reading the story.

3. Sequence of event

In this part, there are many imaginative ideas, such as: funny things said by characters and extraordinary things happening to ordinary people.

4. Resolution

In this part, all the event are well. And sometimes the story will end with happy ending.