

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This section discusses some subtopics. They are; the background of the study, the statements of research problems, the objectives of the research, the scope and limitation of the research, significance of the research and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

English, as an international language, is one of the most spoken language in the entire world. As a language that is widely used by people to communicate, the importance of learning English rises alongside the fact that this language is the most used language in almost all sectors in the world. Its usage does not limited only in the field of education or economic, but also in entertainment. The ability to communicate in English has long become an important requirement for participating in this fast paced world.

In order to truly understand and grasp the meaning consisted within a language, one must be familiar with its culture, social condition, and its idiomatic expressions, few small things that are actually pretty important. Some language learners have a hard time understanding those things, thus lead to an unsuccessful language interpreting. The ability to either interpret or translate a subject in original or source language to target language must be mastered by speakers in order to avoid miscommunication and misinterpretation between languages. If speakers misinterpret something in

source language, the result would be the unsuitable translation found in the target language.

Translator is responsible in transferring the intended meaning from the source language to target language accurately to avoid any misunderstanding. Acknowledging this responsibility, translator need to master many aspects including understanding the culture and social environments of the source language seeing as this two things often cannot be translated easily. The main concept of translation can be defined as the process of transferring the meaning of a text from one particular language to another, source language (SL) to target language (TL) (Pratiwi, 2017). This transferring process sometime needs more than finding the equivalent words from one language to another, and require a throughout contextual analysis. In translation's field of study, translating idiom is often considered as the latter. This is because idiom is part of one language that not always has an equivalent meaning in others language. Translating idioms is not always an easy task to do, due to the fact that it needs a throughout understanding of the context used in the passage and language itself.

As one of the hardest thing to be translated, idiomatic expression has its own complexity where the meaning may and may not be different if the words stand individually. As something that born in a particular community, idiom is influenced by culture, social, religious beliefs, different ideology of people from various societies or nations. Thus, it is really possible for an idiom to not having an equivalent meaning in the target language (Agoes,

2016). Idiom itself stands from so many types. It indeed could be a real challenge for translator to accurately convey the intentional meaning of idiomatic expressions in source language (SL) into target language. Even to be able to spot every idiom correctly sometimes needs an experienced speaker to do so and it will be a lot harder for the inexperienced one.

O'Dell & McCarthy (2010) the appearance of idioms will often be found in English fiction, newspaper, or magazine, or can also be through TV shows, movies, and songs. From all the information above the researcher choose an American TV shows as an object for his research in finding idioms. TV shows or TV series sitcom (situation comedy) as a popular literary work can be a bridge for learning idiomatic expressions because they show the use of idioms by native speakers. A series may be produced in English, but now even non-English speakers may be able to enjoy it altogether. It can happen through the work of a translator in translating the subtitle. As we know that the language used in a series/shows, because it contains real life communication, mostly contains double meanings, contradictions, and idiomatic expressions, thus the translation of the subtitle should be done accurately

In conducting this research, the researcher plans to look into an American sitcom: *Friends* season 5. According to screenrant.com *Friends* is the highest-rated American sitcom on many lists, *Friends* is, by far, deserving of its accolades. This sitcom consist of ten season from 1994 up to 2004. Based on the same source, out of all ten season, the fifth is

considered as the best season. As one of the legendary sitcoms to ever exist and watched by many people around the world, the responsibility for the translator to deliver the message is huge. In translating the source language to target language it is inevitable to encounter the problem of finding idioms equivalence from source language to target language because both languages are distinctively different in both linguistics and cultures. It is up to the translator's ability to be aware of idioms. The translation has to be done accurately in order to maintain the intended meaning. In other words, the 'lost in translation' and misunderstanding can be avoided.

In analyzing the quality of the translation, Nababan et al. (2012) present a developed scoring model for translation quality assessment. The data of this research that has been collected and categorized by their types; Verb + object/complement (and/or adverbial), prepositional phrase, compound, similes, binomials, trinomials, whole clause or sentence (McCarthy & O'Dell, 2002), will be assessed to find out its translation quality. The translation quality according to Nababan et al. (2012) covers three aspects i.e. translation accuracy, acceptability and readability.

Based on what has been explained, the researcher is interested in conducting a descriptive qualitative research about the strategy of translating idiomatic expressions from English to Indonesian entitled with **Translation Quality Assessment of Idiomatic Expressions Translation in American Sitcom 'Friends' Season 5 Subtitle.**

B. Research Questions

According to the background presented above, the writer formulated two research problems as follow:

- a. What types of idiomatic expression found in the 'Friends' Season 5?
- b. How is the translation quality assessment of idiomatic expression found in the 'Friends' Season 5 subtitle?

C. Research Objectives

From the problem stated in the research problems, the objectives of this research are as described below:

- a. To describe the kind of idiomatic expression found in the 'Friends' Season 5.
- b. To describe the translation quality assessment of the translation of idiomatic expressions found in 'Friends' Season 5 subtitle.

D. Scope and Limitation

This research will be focused solely on two main objects. Those are as follow:

- a. Frist, it will be focused on finding out the types of idiomatic expression discovered in the TV series sitcom 'Friends Season 5'. Those types are going to be categorized using the theory presented by McCathy & O'dell.

- b. Second, it will be focused on the translation quality assessment of the translation of idiom in the Indonesia subtitle.

E. Significance of the Study

This particular study is expected to provide practical significance in the field of translation. It is expected for the study to have many practical significance of the research that can be useful for:

- a. Practical Significance

The result of this study could; make the students not watching English-spoken TV series sitcom for entertainment purposes only but also for a media to learn an aspect of a language; inspire the teacher to use TV series sitcom clip to teach student idiomatic expression, and not only stick to the text book lesson; give the future translator a wider knowledge regarding types of idiomatic expression and their translation.

- b. Theoretical

The research result could be a reference for future researcher who want to do a research on idiomatic expression in situational comedy or TV show.

F. The Definitions of the Key Terms

In order to have a clear understanding on this research, the writer presents the definition of key term(s) as follow:

- a. Translation

Translation often described as a process of changing textual material or written material or words in the SL with equivalent textual material or written material or words in target language.

b. Idiomatic expression

Idiomatic expression is daily expressions that used by a language speakers. Idiomatic expressions can be defined as phrases which have a different meaning with its word if stand individually.

c. Subtitle

Subtitles can be described as the text obtained from either a screenplay or transcript of the dialogue in films, movies, TV programs, video games, and the like. Subtitles can be displayed at the bottom of the screen as well as at the top of the screen.