

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains background of research that describes the translation in general and the phenomena of untranslatable expressions. It is followed by statement of problem that leads to the formulation of research question. The next sections are research objectives, research significance containing the expected benefit of this research, conceptual framework to highlight the concept of this research, and previous studies as complementary references to this research.

1.1 Background of Research

Language is the main communication tool that humans have today and is also the most effective way to convey ideas, intentions and goals to others. In this research, the main element that will be explained is about translation related to the language itself.

The difference in language that each region has is very possible for us to encounter problems in translation. Newmark (2001) says the translation process has played an important role in spreading the culture since long time ago, when language conditions in an area occur distortion or deviation of the meaning of a word or sentence, then the role of translation is needed. this has happened since countries and languages have been linked.

Larson stated that translation consists of studying the lexicon, grammatical structure, communication situation, and cultural context of the

source language text (1989: 3). The definition of translation is the process of transferring meaning from one language to another and in the process of translating the speaker will observe the background in order to communicate with each other. the translator must master and have knowledge of the two cultures of the language to be translated, the translator should also be able to translate not only words but also be able to translate words that contain culture, so that the language to be conveyed can be received correctly (Ovianti, 2019).

Translators cannot be separated from the cultural aspects, namely aspects of cultural equivalents that have the most crucial complexity. This is in line with the opinion of Catford (1978) who says "the central problem of transparency is the finding of TL translation equivalent." Catford's opinion refers to the main problem in translation that is finding the exact equivalent as possible in accordance with the message contained in the Source language text and the resulting equivalent must meet the Target language rules (Ngamelubun, 2016).

Translating activities are often carried out to convey a message, with the aim of clarifying the message intended by a speaker to the interlocutor, as the recipient of the message, for example, when a family member wants to explain a product in a foreign language to one of his family members. The language used to translate is of course the language that can be understood by all family members so that the message can conveyed properly.

Thus, translation is basically an activity of transferring the meaning based on the context (message) from the first speaker, which is called the sender to the second speaker, which is called the receiver, which makes communication

effective. The essence of translation activities is contextual meaning and the main purpose of translation activities is how to make other people as recipients understand (Hasyim, 2015).

Translation here is to solve problems in language between countries and cultures. House (2009) revealed that translation is the process of changing the text from the source language (SL) to another text or target language (TL) that overcome deviations and language limitations. Translation is not only about the replacement of text, but as a medium between language, literature, and society (Wardani, 2014; Himmawati, Wardani, & Rivia, 2017).

At the beginning of writing, this research describes about translation that related to the language. Newmark (1988) revealed translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. on the one hand, translation must be made easy so that the interlocutor can grasp the meaning of the source language. on the other hand, translation can be said to be complicated because a translator is required to know the target language.

During the translation process, the translator is faced with translation problems that can arise when the search for the equivalent of the translated text cannot be carried out as it should be either substantially or functionally or what can be referred to as untranslation (Ngamelubun, 2016). Therefore, the researcher is interested in exploring what strategies and factors can be used to translate words that untranslatable in daily casual conversation among friends. Therefore, it is possible for everyone to be born with different cultural and

linguistic backgrounds, which will certainly be difficult if we do not know how to translate languages that are difficult to translate.

The researcher is also interested in taking objects in words or phrases in daily conversation, because the variety of language used in daily conversation is included in informal language. Daily conversation has the characteristics of a simpler sentence form and the vocabulary used is also informal vocabulary.

In addition, the reason the researcher chose the Youtube platform as a data source in this research is because Youtube is a platform that is not only used to exchange information formally, but we can also meet daily activities on Youtube. In Naila Farhana's Youtube channel, the researcher found a list of daily conversation words and phrases that are difficult to translate or words phrases that have no equivalent, especially in English as the target language.

Before being analyzed in depth, the researcher has found several studies that have similarities which also analyze the untranslatable words. The first previous study is research undertaken by Ngamelubun (2016) entitled *Ketakterjemahan Dalam Penerjemahan* written by Maria M. Ngamelubun. This research focused on examines the weaknesses that occur in translation. The purpose of this research is to describe the weaknesses, the causes and how to overcome them. The results showed that the weaknesses occur due to differences in perspective, mental set and the absence of a match, especially culture. And one way to overcome or avoid impotence is to give a description of the word that has no equivalent. In translating a translation, a translator must have basic knowledge so that they can translate. The basic knowledge is declarative

knowledge (knowledge of translation) and procedural knowledge (know how to translate). Both types of knowledge underlie the competencies used as terms which underline the skills and elements of expertise.

Second, a graduating paper undertaken by Oviantin (2019) entitled *Cultural Untranslatable Words Found in a Thousand Splendid Suns Novel from State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta, English Departement Faculty of Adab And Cultural Sciences* and published in 2019. This research focused on finding the translation methods used by translators in translating the translation of cultural words found in the novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini. The results showed that the translator used direct translation, that is, borrowing cultural words and translating word for word from SL to TL grammatically and structurally. In addition, the cultural words found cannot be fully interpreted from SL to TL. This happens because the translator wants to prevent the meaning from being lost or diminished by the meaning or message to be conveyed precisely.

Third, is research journal with entitled *Analysis of The Untranslatability in Direct – Speech Translation Towards Tintin in The Land of Soviets*, undertaken by Wardani & Himmawati (2014). This research examines the analysis of impurity that occurs in the translation of utterances in *Tintin in Soviet Land* from English into Indonesian. This analysis was conducted to determine the appearance of speechlessness in the translation of popular comics. The purpose of this analysis is to find out how the translation of utterance translation in *Tintin in the Soviet Land* emerged. The results showed that there were three types of

non-translation that occurred in Tintin translation in the Soviet Land, namely (1) culture-specific concepts, (2) complicated source language and (3) differences in expressive translation. Translator's references cannot be lost from the English context. In other words, the results of the translation are still oriented towards English. The translation results are not in the Indonesian context. To produce an appropriate meaning, translators should use translation methods that are oriented towards the target language. In addition, speech is one of the small units in the language that should be translated using translation procedures in the diversion and reconstruction process.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background problem, in everyday life, there are often many expressions that do not have equivalence in two languages. It happens to some expressions in Indonesian language and in English. These problems lead to research with following research questions as follows:

1. What are the factors that cause the untranslatable Indonesian words in daily conversation into English?
2. What are the strategies used for translating the untranslatable Indonesian words in daily conversation into English?

1.3 Research Purposes

Based on the formulation of the research question above, the researcher is intended:

1. To identify the factors that caused the untranslatable Indonesian words in daily conversation into English.
2. To find out the strategies used for translating the untranslatable Indonesian words in daily conversation into English.

1.4 Research Significance

This study is expected to be used theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this research is expected to offer new insights in the field of linguistics, especially in the field of translation, and this research is expected to contribute to research, especially in the form of the analysis of the untranslatable words in casual conversation among friends. This research is also expected to have an impact as a reference for other studies that want to learn about translation from untranslatable words.

Practically, this research is expected to give knowledge to the reader about the tradition and history of a word. Besides that, readers can also practice the results of this analysis in everyday life, so that with the knowledge gained, this research can be used in daily conversations properly without losing the meaning of the actual words in the source language.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

In order to clarify the key terms used in this research, some definitions are put forward:

Translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. on the one hand, translation must be made easy so that the interlocutor can grasp the meaning of the source language. on the other hand, translation can be said to be complicated because a translator is required to know the target language (Newmark, 1988).

Translation fails—or untranslatability occurs—when it is impossible to build functionally relevant features of the situation into the contextual meaning of the TL text. Broadly speaking, the cases where this happens fall into two categories. Those where the difficulty is linguistic, and those where it is cultural (Catford, 1978).

Word is a single unit of language which means something and can be spoken or written (Hornby, 2015).

Phrase is a small group of words without a finite verb that together have a particular meaning and that typically form a part of sentence (Hornby, 2015).

Daily conversation is a variety of language used in a relaxed or informal atmosphere.