CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Nowadays, English has become the accepted international language. Many people around the world learn it. Hutchinson & Waters, 1987: 6 state that:

> As English became the accepted international language of technology and commerce, it created a new generation of learners who knew specifically why they were learning a language - businessmen and businesswomen who wanted to sell their products; mechanics who had to read instruction manuals; doctors who needed to keep up with development in their field; and a whole range of students whose course of study included textbooks and journals only available in English.

Because of that, translation process is increasingly needed. Development of ESP (English Specific Purposes) fields causes in development many varieties of texts to be translated, such as economics, accounting, natural sciences, medical, technology, techniques, education, law, politics, etc. Many departments in universities use many additional sources written in English to be learnt in class.

The political text is one of fields often translated. It is usually studied by students of government science, law, political sociology, civics, political communication, or political science department. Something interesting in translating the political text is about its terminologies, which are difficult to be translated, especially by those who do not have academic background of that science. There are some words that cannot be translated literally. So, the translators have to consult the dictionaries or encyclopedias to make sure the meaning. It is better for them to use the special dictionaries in translating the political texts. We know that many dictionaries of certain fields are available.

It is a job of the translators to convey meaning as accurate, clear and natural as possible, so that the readers can understand the texts. To do the job well, they have to understand the texts. For the sake of professionalism, if the translators are not able to translate the texts, it is better for them not to accept that job.

1.2 The Reasons for Choosing the Topic

There are some reasons why the writer chose this topic. First, the translation process is increasingly needed, so the translators have to increase their ability in translating many kinds of text.

Second, the political text is one of texts which is often translated by the translators. Sometimes, they face many difficulties in translating it, because of, for example, their academic background. But, as the professional translators, they have to translate the text accurately, clearly and naturally. So, knowing the difficulties in translating the political texts will help us to formulate the best method to solve those difficulties.

1.3 The Significance of the Research

The result of the research is expected to give some positive impacts both particularly on students of English Department in UPI and generally to the society. This research is expected:

a. To provide an alternative text in Translating subjects;

b. To increase students' ability in translating the political texts.

1.4 Research Questions

The writer has formulated the research questions as the follows:

1. What are procedures used by the students in translating the political texts?

2. What are the students' difficulties in translating the political texts?

1.5 Aims of the Research

This research was aimed to:

1. Identify procedures used by the students in translating the political texts

2. Identify the difficulties faced by the students in translating the political texts

1.6 Limitation of the Research

This research analyzed the procedures used by the students in translating the political texts.

1.7 The Respondents of the Research

Twenty of 7th semester students of English Department in UPI were selected as the respondents. The reason why the writer chose them as the respondents was because they have taken the Translating-Interpreting program. So, the writer assumed that they have knowledge about translation theory and practice.

The instruments applied in the data collection of this research were four political texts of Political Education by Robert Brownhill & Patricia Smart (1989), which were chosen randomly. Those texts were given to the respondents to be

translated into Indonesian. The translations having been collected, then they were analyzed in terms of procedures used by the respondents in translating the texts. After that, the writer distributed questionnaire to be answered. There are five questions which were related to their translation, such as the difficulties of translating the political texts and the differences in translating the political texts and non-scientific texts.

1.8 Methodology

This research was conducted by using a qualitative approach, precisely case study. Kirk and Miller define that "qualitative research is certain tradition in social science that fundamentally depends on human observation in their own area and relates on those people in their language and event" (Moleong in Margono, 1996: 36). Then, Van Dalen, 1978: 295 states that "A case study is similar to a survey, but instead of gathering data concerning a few factors from a large number of social units, investigators make an intensive study of a limited number of representative cases".

This research is regarded as a case study due to its investigation that was only conducted in English Department of UPI, particularly the 7th Semester Students of English Department. Afterwards, the data were analyzed by using descriptive method. According to Good (1963: 244), "descriptive studies may include present facts or current conditions concerning the nature of a group of persons, a number of objects, or a class of events, and may involve the procedures of induction, analysis, classification, enumeration, or measurement".

In collecting data, the writer followed some steps in this research, they are:

1.8.1   Data Collection Techniques

The research employed two procedures in collecting the data, namely translating task and questionnaire. On the first session, the respondents were asked to translate political texts. Afterwards, they were asked to answer questions in questionnaire sessions. "The questionnaire is generally regarded as a form distributed through the mail or filled out by the respondent under the supervision of the investigator or interviewer" (Good, 1963: 270). Then, Good mentions that there are two forms of questionnaire, which are the closed (categorical) and open-end (inviting free response) questionnaire. Meanwhile, this research used the open-end questionnaire.

1.8.2   Data Analysis

The collected data were then analyzed by employing several ways. Firstly, the translation result of the respondents was analyzed in terms of the translation procedures used by them in translating the texts. Afterwards, the collected data from the questionnaire were transcribed and analyzed. The data were categorized into several points related to the research questions formulated in this research.

1.9 Clarification of Terms

1.   Analysis is study of something by examining its part.

2.   Translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text (Newmark 1988: 5).

3. Politics is the study of conflicts of interests and values that affect all of society and of how they can be conciliated (Crick, 1987: 1).

1.10 Organization of the Paper

The paper of this research was organized as follows:

CHAPTER I Introduction

It includes Background, The Reasons for Choosing the Topic, The Significance of the Research, Research Questions, Aims of the Research, Limitation of the Research, The Respondents of the Research, Methodology, Clarification of Terms, and Organization of the Paper.

CHAPTER II Theoretical Foundation

It includes Theories of Translation, Theories of Text, and Theories of Political Text.

CHAPTER III Research Methodology

It includes Research Design, The Respondents of the Research, Techniques of Collecting the Data, and Data Analysis.

CHAPTER IV Findings & Discussion

CHAPTER V Conclusion & Suggestion