

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides a brief elucidation of the whole contents of the research including the background of the research as well as the research question, the purpose of the research, the scope of the research and the significance of the research. It also presents a brief explanation about the method of the research, and other related aspects of the research.

1.1 Background of the Research

One of the important aspects in mastering English language is a fluent use of idioms. It is supported by Genzel (1991) cited in Jedličková (2007), 'it's impossible to be proficient in English without knowing idioms and expressions. They are everywhere!' Every language has evolved its own set of idioms, and English certainly has a very rich collection. Idioms can be found in a daily conversation of English native speaker, film, TV, music, novel or newspaper. Because they are part of everyday speech, idioms tend to confuse non-native speakers who are not familiar with them.

The difficulty faced by non-native speakers in learning idioms is how to interpret their meaning because it is totally different from each individual word. Moreover, idioms are hard to be understood by non-native speakers and learners because such idioms cannot be translated word for word; rather they should be translated into equivalent concepts in the TL to convey the same meaning and produce the same effect on the readers. It is supported by Larson (1984:20) "The combinations are fixed and their meaning comes from the combination. A literal

word-for-word translation of these idioms into another language will not make sense.”

According to Webster’s Dictionary an idiom is “an expression whose meaning cannot be predicted from the usual meaning of its constituent element.” It implies that idioms are phrase or combination of two or more words having different meaning from individual words. According to Hockett (1959:310), based on its formation, idioms are classified into six types, which are: 1) Substitute, 2) Proper Name, 3) Abbreviation, 4) English Phrasal Compound, 5) Figure of Speech, and 6) Slang.

In the film, idioms usually appear in the dialogue used by actors and actresses. It can be seen in the form of written text at the bottom of a television screen called subtitle. According to free encyclopedia, “film is a term that encompasses individual motion pictures, the field as an art form, and the motion picture industry.” The basic purpose of film itself is to entertain people or even to record many real events in the human life. Learners can learn about idioms by reading and listening to the dialogue both in the source language and the translation text in the subtitle of the film. Translation is defined as “...taking the original source text (ST) and turning it into a text in another language (the target text, TT)” (Hatim and Munday (2004:3). According to Munday (2001:5), translation is

Changing an original written text (the source text or ST) in the original verbal language (the source language or SL) into a written text (the target text TT) in a different verbal language (the target language or TL).

There are two major types of film translation; dubbing and subtitling. Dries (1995) cited in Szarkowska (2005) says that dubbing “refers to the method in which a foreign dialogue is adjusted to the mouth and movement of the actors/actress in the film and thus makes it familiar to the target audience.” As for subtitling, it refers to translation of the film dialogue in text usually shown at the bottom of the screen. Both dubbing and subtitling have a similar purpose making the audience understand the film by listening to the sound or reading the text in the target language.

However, a literal translation will not work out in translating idioms. The quality of the translation will influence many learners in learning idioms, whether its meaning makes any sense or not. As stated by Larson (1984:116), “the real danger comes in translating an idiom literally, since the result will usually be nonsense in the receptor language.” Some audiences may have a big curiosity about idioms and try to find them out through some questions; for instance, what types of idioms found in the subtitle of the film? What translation strategies used by the translator in translating idioms in the subtitle? Based on these problems the research was then conducted to find out types of idioms and to analyze translation strategies used by the translator in translating idioms in the subtitle of film *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*. The title of the research is “**A Translation Analysis of Idiom in the Subtitle of Film *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*.**”

1.2 Research Question

The research was conducted based on two research questions:

1. What types of idioms frequently found in the subtitle of film entitled *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*?
2. What translation strategies used by the translator in translating types of idioms in the subtitle of film entitled *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*?

1.3 Purpose of the Research

The research was aimed to find out:

1. The types of idioms frequently found in the subtitle of film entitled *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*.
2. The translation strategies used by the translator in translating types of idioms in the subtitle of film entitled *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*.

1.4 Scope of the Research

The research was mainly focused on finding out types of idioms based on Hockett's theory of types of idioms. Afterward, the research was conducted to find out translation strategy used by the translator in translating types of idioms which were available on the subtitle of film *Pirate of the Caribbean 3: At World's End* by using Baker's criteria of translation strategy of idioms.

1.5 Significance of the Research

Hopefully, this research would be more useful for English as Foreign Language learners who want to learn and to master English idioms. Moreover, the result of the research was expected to be more helpful in the academic field especially for students of translation who want to analyze idioms by using translation point of view, that translation strategies can work quiet well for translating idioms.

1.6 Method of the Research

The data were analyzed by using descriptive and qualitative data analysis. Descriptive method is a method that aims to describe the character, fact, problem situation and issues in the text. As said by Khan (1990:96) "...descriptive method is concerned with the present and attempts to determine the status of phenomenon under investigation." Furthermore, Gay (1987) cited in Firmansyah (2008:8) defines a descriptive method as

"a method of research that involves collecting data in order to test hypothesis or to answer question concerning correct status of the subject of the study. The descriptive study determines and reports the way things are."

In line with Gay and Khan, Newman (2003:438) defines qualitative method as a method in the form of written text, word, phrase, or symbols describing or representing people, action and events in social life." Furthermore, Maxwell (1996) states that "qualitative research design focuses on the specific situation or people and emphasizes words rather than number." A similar definition is also given by Huda (1999:38) that "those which do not utilize statistical analysis and are confined to the description of concept or phenomenon

categories...” In conclusion, qualitative descriptive method identifies people, action and event in social life in the form of word expressions rather than numerical.

1.7 Object and Data Analysis of the Research

1.7.1 Object of the Research

The object of the research was a film entitled *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*. It was directed by Gore Verbinski and written by Terry Rossio and Ted Elliott. It was chosen because in the subtitle of the film contain many idioms. Some of idioms may seem unfamiliar for some audiences. It also won two Oscar awards and many other awards in 2007.

1.7.2 Data Analysis of the Research

The data of the research were taken from the film *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*. The following steps were used to analyze the data:

1. Watching original DVD and VCD film *Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End*.
2. Downloading the original film text subtitle and writing the translated version.
3. Listing and classifying the idioms found in the subtitle.
4. Finding and writing the indexical meaning of idioms found in the subtitle.
5. Comparing types of idioms in the source text with the idioms in the target text.

6. Analyzing and identifying a hundred idioms chosen randomly into types of idioms as well as the translation strategies of each type of idiom.
7. Presenting and discussing the data findings of the research
8. Drawing conclusion based on the result of the research.

1.8 Definition of Key Terms

- Idiom** : the expressions whose meaning is not predictable from the usual meanings of its constituent elements (Jedličková, 2007).
- Translation** : transferring the essential meaning of a written text into another language in the way that the author intended the text (Newmark, 1992:5).
- Translation strategy** : A potentially conscious procedure for solving a problem faced in translating a text, or any segment of it (Loescher, 1991 cited in Ordudari, 2007).
- Substitute** : word refers to something already introduced to the context (Larson, 1984:72).
- Proper Name** : a symbol which designates an entity of which there is only one (Hockett, 1958:312).
- Abbreviation** : the use of a part as a whole (Hockett, 1958:313).
- English Phrasal Compound** : compound of words that the structural signal has no particular meaning save precisely that of

making the form as idiomatic (Hockett, 1958:317).

Figure of Speech : When the meaning of the words have a "deep" meaning, which is different from the "surface" meaning. The meaning of the whole is different than the sum of its parts.

(<http://www.leon.com/figuresofspeec>)

Slang : the use of informal word and expression to describe an object or condition.

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slang>)

Film : a term that encompasses individual motion picture, the field of film as an art and the motion picture industry (<http://www.wikipedia.com>).

Subtitle : words that translate what is said in a film into a different language and appear on the screen at the bottom (Dries, 1995 cited in Szarkowska, 2005).

Learner : a person who is gaining knowledge or skill (Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary, 1995).

English as Foreign Language : English as a foreign language indicates the use of English in non-English-speaking region. Study can occur either in the student's home country, as part of the normal school curriculum or otherwise, or, for the more privileged minority, in an

anglophone country that they visit as a sort of educational tourist, particularly immediately before or after graduating from university (<http://www.wikipedia.com>).

1.9 Organization of the Paper

This research was organized into five chapters as follows:

➤ CHAPTER I

This chapter involved the background of the research, research question, the purpose of the research, the significance of the research, limitation of the research, method of the research, clarification of the key term, and organization of the paper.

➤ CHAPTER II

This chapter described the theory written to support the research analysis and several literatures in which doing the research.

➤ CHAPTER III

This chapter described the design of the research method, population and sample and research instrument. It also presented the data collecting procedure and the data analysis.

➤ CHAPTER IV

This chapter contained the explanation of the data presentation previously collected and then the data are analyzed by using the theory serves in chapter II.

➤ CHAPTER V

This chapter contained the conclusion and the suggestion of the research findings.

1.10 Closing Remark

This chapter has provided the background of the research which will be described in the chapters that follow. It has also presented the research question of the research, the purpose of the research, the scope of the research and the significance of the research. A brief explanation about the research method and other related aspects of the research has been described as well. The theoretical framework of the research will be described more detail in the upcoming chapter.

