

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

There are some kinds of literary works, such as poetry, short story, novel, etc. Novel is one of the literary works that has its own characteristic, according to *Geddets & Grasset English Dictionary and Thesaurus*, novel is a relatively long prose narrative that is usually fictitious and in a form of long story. Novel usually consist of chapters that formed a story and readers are taken to trace every words in the chapters and perhaps this is the thing that make novel is more interesting to read than any other literary works. While readers enjoy read the novel, they are haunted by curiosity about what will happen in the next chapter.

This exactly is what happening to Indonesian readership, the researcher realized about the interest of Indonesian readers to literary works especially novel while she was walking around in a bookstore and saw a lot of novels in the bookcase, some of the novels are written by Indonesian writers, some are written by foreign writers. However, there are some novels written by foreign writers that have been translated into Indonesian and most of the books are best seller. This phenomenon showed that Indonesian readers who are interested to 'foreign' novels though they could not understand the original text still can enjoy reading the novels in form of Indonesian language. Here the researcher found that translation is more than transferring the words (of a language) into another words in another language, but the role of translation in form of delivering message from

a text (of source language) into another language (target language). As Newmark states (1988: 5) that translation is rendering the meaning of a text (of a language) into another language in the way that the author intended in the text.

It is not easy to translate one language into another language because the translator should understand many aspects that are related to the translation process of a text, such as the grammatical and cultural aspects of at least two languages concerned. In translate cultural words translator has to select the procedure of translation to overcome problems such as the distortion of cultural words meaning. Procedures of translation may be used by the translator if there is a concept which is totally unknown in the target culture. It is basic alternative way in which the translator can find the equivalent expression in the receptor language (Larson, 1984:163). The use of an appropriate translation procedure eventually affects the final product or result of translation.

One of the translated novels is a Harper Lee novel entitled *To Kill a Mockingbird* that has been published in 1961 and a Pulitzer winner. This novel tells the story about daily life of family and neighborhood of two South American children in 60s. Since the novel has a background of daily life of a community, and as Brown (1980:122) states that “culture is a way of life, it is the glue that binds a group of people together”, there must be a lot of cultural aspects in the novel in which make the researcher easier to analyzing the cultural words in the novel. Besides, the researcher is wondering how the translator of *To Kill a*

Mockingbird novel, Femmy Syahrani, translates the cultural words in the novel considering the cultural differences of the target language and the original novel.

1.2 Limitation of the Study

In order to make the research focused on the problem this research was limited in the cultural words translation in the novel entitled *To Kill a Mockingbird*. This study is focused on identifying the clarification of cultural categories based on Newmark's cultural categories and investigating the procedures of translation based on Newmark's theory used by Femmy Syahrani in translating the cultural terms in *To Kill a Mockingbird* novel into the target language.

1.3 Research Questions

The research questions are mainly based on the researcher's interest. Therefore, the researcher is interested in studying the translation of cultural words written in the *To Kill a Mockingbird* novel. The problems addressed are as follows:

1. What kinds of cultural words are found in the *To Kill a Mockingbird* novel?
2. What procedures are used by the translator in translating the cultural words in *To Kill a Mockingbird* novel?

1.4 Aims of the Study

Considering the background above and specific the problems that will be analyzed, the researcher intends to conduct the study with the following aims:

1. To find out the categories of cultural words in order to get the nearest lexical equivalent.
2. To identify the procedures used by the translator in translating the cultural words in *To Kill a Mockingbird* novel.

1.5 Data Source

This research used data from the cultural words available in *the* English novel written by Harper Lee entitled *To Kill a Mockingbird* (published by Warner Book in 1960). The data were taken from each thirty one chapter of the novel and it was considered representative because it contained cultural words and the translation procedures.

1.6 Research Method

This research was conducted based on the descriptive method, that was, a method used to explain, analyze, and classify data. Here as Gay L.R (1987: 47) states:

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

This means that the researcher does not control or give any treatment to variables. Meanwhile, Sax (1979: 35) similarly explains that “in descriptive research, an account of the current status of some persons or problems is obtained without the investigator’s influence or controls the participating subject, events,

institution, or communities”. From the statement above, a descriptive method is more appropriate to describe these phenomena.

1.7 Procedures of the Research

This research was undertaken based on the following procedures:

1. Collecting the data.

The data were taken from all of cultural words in *To Kill a Mockingbird* novel. The researcher tried to find out and analyze their translation methods into Indonesian by Femmy Syahrani, based on Newmark’s criteria of translating method.

2. Analyzing the data.

Based on the data collection taken from the novel, the researcher found out the kind of translating method used by the translator in translating the cultural words from English version into Indonesian. The translating methods were analyzed by using Newmark’s criteria.

3. Interpreting the data.

In order to have a clear picture of the result of investigation, the researcher elaborated the result based on the analysis supported by theories from some reference books, articles, and journals on cultural words taken from the internet.

1.8 Clarification of the Main Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding, the researcher classifies the following terms:

- a. Translation is rendering of a text into another language in the way that the author intended in the text (Newmark, 1988: 5)
- b. Translation procedures are procedures in the translation process to translate sentences and the smaller unit of a language. (Newmark, 1988: 81)
- c. Culture is the total range of activities and ideas and their material expression in objects and processes peculiar to a group of people, as well as their particular environment. (Larson, 1984)
- d. Cultural words are words that are associated with a particular language. As Newmark (1988: 95) adapting Nida's for categories of the cultural word, as follows:
 - 1) Ecology: Animals, plants, local winds, mountains, plains, etc.
 - 2) Material culture (artifacts): Food, clothes, houses and town, transport and communications.
 - 3) Social culture – work and leisure.
 - 4) Organizations, customs, activities, procedure, concepts: Political and administrative, religious, artistic.
 - 5) Gestures and habits.

1.9 Organization of the Paper

This paper is organized into five chapters. The first chapter presents the introduction to the study and some issues describing general descriptions of the paper. This chapter consists of background, limitation of the study, research questions, the aims of the study, data source, clarification of the main terms, and

the method that is used in this research. The second chapter explains the theories of translation, the theories of cultural words and their categories, the translation procedures used for translating cultural words, and synopsis of the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The third chapter presents the method of the research. It will be divided into four sections: research method, data sources, data collecting, and data analysis. The fourth chapter (Findings and Discussions) presents the interpreting of data collection and data analysis. And the last chapter presents the conclusions and suggestions based on the data interpretation.

