

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Ginori and Scimone (2001) state that languages vary with the persons who speak them and the place where such persons live. Language and society are related to each other because language is created when people come together. It makes them need a language to communicate to each other. Thus, they must have their own language. According to Wardhaugh (1986), language is defined as what the members of a particular society speak, while society is defined as any group of people who are drawn together for a certain purpose. Furthermore, Halliday (1985) argues that language exists and must be studied in various contexts, such as in professional settings and classrooms. However, as time goes by, people do not only communicate with their society but they also need to communicate with the societies outside them in order to adapt themselves with the era of globalization.

Speaking about the globalization era, English has become the main language which must be mastered to convey information among modern societies. Since communicating in English has become indispensable, translation is becoming very important in any field of life, for instance in politics, economics and health. According to Larson (1984), translation is a process of transferring the meaning of a text from its forms to the forms of a second language. Meanwhile,

Nida (1982) argues that translation is the process of reproducing the receptor language to the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, both in terms of meaning style. However, translators do not only transfer the languages but also should pay attention to what the author wants to convey.

Nevertheless, errors in translating sometimes happen and can be inevitable. Therefore, a translator should examine his reasons for choosing the text and the potential for its use by the receptor language audience when translating a text (Larson, 1984). When translators transfer the source text, they should consider to the receptor audience. Sometimes the translator might make ‘mistakes’ intentionally as to the adaptation translation must relate to the receptor audience in the intended country. In this case, the ideology of the receptor audience is becoming a priority for the translators.

According to Newmark (1981), the dynamic of translation can be guidelines for translators in improving their performance. It covers source language writer, source language norms, source language culture, source language setting and tradition, target language readership, target language norms, target language culture, target language setting and tradition, the truth (the facts of the matter), and translator. Moreover, according to Newmark (1981), good translators should relate to the text with the dynamic of translation because translation cannot be separated with ideology.

Ideology is defined as:

“the set of beliefs and values which inform an individual’s or institution’s view of the world and assist their courses as systematically organized sets

of statements which give expression to the meanings and values of an institution.” (Hatim & Mason, 1997,p. 83)

From the passage, it can be concluded that ideology refers to a way of life. Ideology lives and influences some particular groups. Each group of people then lives based on their ideology and sometimes they try to influence their ideologies to each other. However, in translation, translators should concern about the ideology. They should not only learn about the target language but also the ideology of the country. There are some examples of lost in translation cases recently that happened in Indonesia because of the ignorance on ideology.

One example is the controversy of Irshad Manji’s book. This book was released in Canada in June 2011 and was translated into some languages including Indonesian. This book made many contradictions in some Muslim countries. In Indonesia, the discussion of Irshad Manji’s book was dispersed by Islamic Defenders Front (FPI). As stated by Manji (2012), the book which is entitled *Allah, Liberty, and Love* is a book that encourages Muslim women to keep working and have spirit for struggling their rights without fear. Another book is “*5 Kota Paling Berpengaruh Di Dunia*” which was published by PT. Gramedia. The Gramedia publisher then burnt a book of Douglas Wilson. The publisher recognized there is mistranslation in that book. The author wrote some words that humiliated Muhammad as a prophet of Islam because the description of Muhammad deviated from the fact.

From those examples, it is obvious that the role of translators is difficult to determine how to transfer the meaning because every country has its own

ideology which must be different from one another. The only translators' mistake of the controversial books above is that the translators were not sensitive about the ideology of Indonesia, especially the ideology about religion, and it made the book were banned. In the same line, van Dijk (2008, p.183) states:

Ideological effects will differ in every case of translation-even in translation of the same text- because of the translator's particular choices on all these various levels – on the levels of representation of the subject, as well as representation of the relevant locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts in his or her own name as translator.

From the passage above, it can be acknowledged that translators have an important role as determiners. They can be the creators of a worldview or an ideology which is appropriate with the ideology of the receptor audience or they can make a worldview or an ideology that depends on the needs.

The last example occurred outside Indonesia, but it influenced in many countries. It was about the Hiroshima and Nagasaki's bombs in Japan. Those tragedies occurred because of mistranslation. In July 1945, USA asked Japan to give up without any condition or they would be attacked with a big power that would destroy the country. Then, Japan said "no comment and will think the offer", but it was translated into "we do not care with that threat". It made the USA president angry. In the following 10 days after the statement, the prime minister of Japan was fired. Hiroshima was then bombed and three days later they bombed Nagasaki. This case proved how mistranslation can trigger to destroy the relationship between two countries.

Those explanations indicate the importance of a culture knowledge in transferring a language. Thus, the researcher chose to investigate whether the shift in translation may lead to different worldview or ideology of the text or not. The researcher chose to analyze the written speeches of Barack Obama. According to Hornby (2003), speech is a formal talk that a person gives to an audience. Speech may influence and give a big impact to the audience. Nowadays, one of the best orators in the world is Barack Obama, the president of the United States. He can ensure the audience by his optimistic speech.

Through speech, there are some points of view that the speaker wants to convey. In this case, the speeches were taken from the Internet. Nowadays, the Internet is like an answer for many people to get information. It makes our lives easier, but it has positive and negative impact. All information is not always true. Therefore, readers have to be critical when they are reading pieces of texts. The researcher selected the speeches of Obama because he is the president of USA who has an important role for the international world.

Many speeches of Obama were translated in many languages and appear on Internet. It happens also in Indonesia, people need an access to information quickly now. Nevertheless, some of them may not understand English. Consequently, translated texts appear in some websites or blogs. Thus, this study attempts to investigate the transitivity shift in the speeches and to analyze the possible meanings behind the shifts that occur. The researcher selects three speeches of Obama. Using the speeches, the researcher selects random sentences of source language and target language in terms of transitivity shift.

1.2 The Research Questions

The research questions of this study are as follows:

1. What kinds of transitivity shifts are used in Barack Obama's translated speeches?
2. What meaning can be derived from the shift?

1.3 The Aim of the Study

Based on the research questions above, the aims of the study are as follows:

1. To examine the transitivity shift which occurs in Barack Obama's translated speeches.
2. To reveal the meaning of the shifts occur in the translated speeches.

1.4 The Significance of the Study

The study aims to give some information about transitivity shifts in translation. This study is expected to be beneficial for: academicians to conduct study in this field of analysis, students who are interested in this field, translators, and practicing.

1.5 The Research Method

The method which is used in this research is a qualitative method. The researcher attempts to define, classify, analyze, and describe the collected data.

The research conducts a qualitative method considering the characteristics of the case study that deals with translation issues which does not involve to any statistic formulas. Cresswell (1994) states that the qualitative method is an inquiry process to understand a social or human problem, which is based on complex holistic picture, words, and the detailed view of participants. In addition, according to Maxwell (2005), the strength of a qualitative research derives primarily from its inductive approach, its focus on specific situations or people and its emphasis on words rather than number. In addition, this method has a strong point in the way of revealing a phenomenon in detail with the intention which may enlighten (Alwasilah, 2002).

In conducting the research, the researcher employs the following procedure:

1. Data Collection

The researcher obtained the data from the speeches of Barack Obama in the source language (English) and the target language (Indonesian). The researcher selected three speeches of Barack Obama namely “the President seeks new beginning between U.S., Muslims based on mutual respect”, “Obama Inaugural Address”, and “Obama Speech in University of Indonesia, Jakarta”. Those speeches were taken from www.america.gov, www.obama-mamas.com/blog/?p=2104, www.tempo.co, www.madeandi.wordpress.com, and www.vivanews.com.

2. Data Analysis

To analyze the data, the researcher uses transitivity proposed by Halliday (1985) and transitivity shift developed by Calzada Perez (2007) as the tools of analysis. Those tools of analysis are used to investigate the transitivity shift which happens in the speeches and to find out the meaning of the shifts that occur in the target text.

1.7 Clarification of the key terms

1. Translation is the general term which refers to the transfer of thoughts and ideas from one language (source) to another (target), whether the languages are in written or oral form, whether the language have established orthographies or do not have such standardization, or whether one or both languages is based on signs, as with sign languages of the deaf. (Brislin, 1976)
2. Functional grammars view language as a resource for making meaning. It concerns not only with the structures but also with how those structure construct meaning. (Gerot & Wignell, 1994)
3. Transitivity analysis investigates the clause which is composed of two essential elements: the process and the participant(s). (Halliday, 1985)
4. Transitivity shift is made by Calzada Perez to categorize transitivity in translation into several shifts such as expansion, contraction, materialization, dematerialization, agency shift, voice shift, nominalization, and modality shift. (Calzada Perez, 2007)
5. Ideology is set of beliefs and values which inform an individual or institutional view of the world as to assist their interpretation of events, fact and other aspects of experience which informs his definition of discourse as 'systematically organized sets of statements which give expression to the meanings and values of an institution'. (Hatim & Mason, 1997)
6. Speech is a formal talk of a person gives to an audience. (Hornby, 2003)

1.8 Organization of the Paper

1. Chapter I (Introduction)

This chapter presents an explanation about background, reasons for choosing the topic, research questions, aims of the research, limitation of the research, the method used in conducting the research, the steps of collecting and analyzing the data, clarification of the key terms and organization of the research paper.

2. Chapter II (Theoretical Foundation)

This chapter provides the theories of translation for conducting the research.

3. Chapter III (Research Methodology)

This chapter includes the chosen methodology of the research and describes the procedures of the research, the data resources and the reason of choosing the procedures.

4. Chapter IV (Finding and Discussion)

In this chapter, the findings, the data analysis and the further discussion on the data are discussed.

5. Chapter V (Conclusion)

This chapter conveys some conclusions and suggestions.