

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a general description of the research. It covers background, research questions, aims of the research, the scope of the research, research methodology consisting of population and sample and techniques of the research, significance of the research, clarification of key terms, and organization of the research paper.

### 1.1 Background

Looking at readers' interest in reading literary works, such as novel, poetry, and short story, many translators try to translate those literary works into the language that the translators master. A novel is one of the literary works that is often translated into other languages. A novel is often translated because not all readers can understand the language that is used in that novel. By reading the novel which has been translated into the language that the readers understand, the readers can enjoy reading the novel without language barrier. There are some research that uses novels as the data, for example Mehawesh and Salim (2013) and Potnis (2013). Mahewash and Salim (2013) investigated color idiomatic expression in the translation of Naguib Mahfouz's novel *"The Thief and The Dog"*, while Potnis (2013) investigated cultural translation of *Vamshavriksha* – a translated novel of S.L Bhyrappa.

To translate novel is not easy because the translator should understand the culture of both Source Language (SL) and Target Language (TL). Cultural word according to Newmark (1988) is "the way of life and its manifestations that are peculiar to a community that uses a particular language as its means of expression" (p.94). In addition, Larson (1984, p.95) states that every language has different vocabulary's concentrations which depend on the culture, geographical situation, and the worldview of the people. There must be a lot of cultural words consisting in the literary texts, especially in novel. Readers will find a lot of cultural words in the novel that perhaps the readers themselves do not always understand what those cultural words mean in their language. Tomalin and Stempleski (as cited in Behtash and Firoozkoohi, 2009) then categorizes

cultural words as follows; ideas (values, beliefs, institutions), products (customs, habits, food, dress, lifestyles), and behaviors (folklore, music, art, literature).

Sometimes there are several cultural words that are not translated into the Target Language (TL) by the translator. The translator can choose to retain the cultural words in the Target Language (TL) or translate them into the cultural words that can be accepted in the Target Language (TL). In making such choice a translator can apply one of the strategies proposed by Venuti (1995) which are domestication and foreignization. Domestication according Venuti (1995, p.20) is reduction of ethnocentric that adapts the foreign text to the cultural values of target language. While foreignization is an ethnodeviant pressure on domestic values to register the differentiation of linguistic and cultural of the foreign text (Venuti, 1995, p.20).

Domestication means that the foreign elements of the text have been changed into the elements which are recognizable for the target readers, while foreignization is the process where the message of the foreign text is changed into the target text (in this case domestic text) containing foreign nuances (Machali, 2012). It can be concluded that if the translator oftentimes uses domestication in translating cultural words, it means the translator tries to make those cultural words close and familiar to the Target Language (TL), while if the translator oftentimes uses foreignization as the strategy in translating cultural words, it means the translator preserves the cultural words or tries to keep the foreign nuances.

Domestication and foreignization nowadays have become an issue in many studies. Cultural words are still the main issue in the study of domestication and foreignization. There are researchers who conducted a study of domestication and foreignization in cultural words, for example Machali (2012), Behtash and Firoozkoohi (2009). Besides cultural words, another issue that is often used as the subject of domestication and foreignization study is phrasal verb. Sharifabad, et al (2013) investigated the application of domestication and foreignization translation strategies in english-persian translations of news phrasal verbs. Not only in literary texts, domestication and foreignization strategy can also be applied in movies. One of the studies that conducts an analysis of foreignization and domestication in the subtitles of the movie is Judickaite (2009).

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In Andrea Hirata's Novel Entitled "Laskar Pelangi"***

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One of the translated novel is Andrea Hirata's novel entitled *Laskar Pelangi* published by Bentang Pustaka in 2005. Andrea Hirata is one of the most popular writers in Indonesia. His novels are often best-seller, and one of them is *Laskar Pelangi*. It has been sold 1 million copies or 140.000 copies per year. There is a movie version of *Laskar Pelangi* in 2008, and it is not a surprise that there are more than four million watchers watching *Laskar Pelangi* movie. *Laskar Pelangi* has been translated into nineteen languages, for instance German, Portugese, Spain, English and Turkish. In English its title changes into *The Rainbow Troops* translated by Angie Kilbane. The setting of the story itself is in Belitung island, one of the islands in Indonesia, and perhaps there will be some spesific or special characterization of cultural words found in this novel. Thus, this research identified cultural words found in *Laskar Pelangi* and analyzed what strategies was used frequently by Angie Kilbane in translating those cultural words.

The results of this research are expected to give some informations about the categorization of cultural words that were often found in the novel and to give further knowledge about translation to the researcher itself and the readers, especially about what strategy that was often used in translating cultural words from Bahasa Indonesia into English.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

This research analyzed two versions of the novel entitled *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata. There are two questions in this research:

1. What kinds of cultural words are found in the novel?
2. What is the most frequent strategy that is used by the translator in translating the cultural words? What are the implications?

## **1.3 The Aims of The Research**

The aims of this research are as follows:

1. To discover kinds of cultural words that are found in the novel.

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2. To investigate what is the most frequent strategy that is used by the translator in translating the cultural words and to understand the implications.

#### **1.4 The Scope of the Research**

This research examines the novel entitled *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata in two language versions, bahasa Indonesia and English. Bahasa Indonesia version is the source language while English version is the target language. This research is limited to the cultural words which are found in the novel.

This research identified the categorizations of cultural words found in this novel using Tomalin and Stempleski's (1993) theory that consist of ideas (values, beliefs, institutions), products (customs, habits, food, dress, lifestyles), and behaviors (folklore, music, art, literature). Furthermore, this research also investigated what strategy was used frequently in translating those cultural words by the translator.

#### **1.5 Research Method**

This research uses descriptive qualitative method. According to Richard and Schmidt (2002) descriptive research is "An investigation that attempts to describe accurately and factually a phenomenon, subject or area" (p.435). Therefore, it is suitable because this research describes translation strategy of cultural words as the phenomenon accurately and factually.

Another method used in this research was the quantitative method. It was appropriate because as Muijis (2010) states that the quantitative method means collecting numerical data to explain a particular phenomenon. This method is appropriate for this research because this research evaluated what translation strategy frequently used in translating cultural words. After discovering what translation strategy which was frequently used, this research could indicate why the translator used that strategy frequently.

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## 1.5.1 Population and Sample

### 1.5.1.1 Population

There are 34 chapters consisting of 362 pages in the Indonesia version of the novel. The population are all the cultural words which were found in the novel of *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata and in its translated novel entitled *The Rainbow Troops* translated by Angie Kilbane.

### 1.5.1.2 Sample

Not all the population found were analyzed. Cultural words from 362 pages were randomly selected. The random sampling method was used to select the representative samples. Latham (2007) states that random sampling method “Requires that each member of the population have an equal chance of being selected”. In line with this, Barreiro and Albandoz (2001) also says that this method guarantees that the samples that were taken from the population have the same probability of being chosen.

## 1.5.2 Techniques of the Research

The steps of collecting and analyzing the data are as follows:

- a. Reading two versions of the novel. The original novel is *Laskar Pelangi* by Andrea Hirata and the translated novel is *The Rainbow Troops* translated by Angie Kilbane.
- b. Identifying sentences that contain cultural words using Tomalin and Stempleski’s (1993) theory.
- c. Collecting those cultural words which have been found and selecting them using random sampling.
- d. Classifying and analyzing cultural words found based on Tomalin and Stempleski’s categories (1993).
- e. Analyzing what strategy is used frequently in translating cultural words using Venuti framework.

## 1.6 Organization of the Research Paper

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The research paper is organized into five chapters as follows:

1. Chapter I: This chapter presents a general description of the research. It covers background, research questions, aims of the reaserach, limitation of the research, research methodology consisting of population and sample and tehcniques of the research, significance of the research, clarification of key terms, and organization of the research paper.
2. Chapter II: This chapter discusses the theoretical frameworks.
  - Theory of translation : The definition of translation
  - The strategies of translation
  - Theory of cultural words : The definition of cultural words
  - The categorization of cultural words
  - Previous Studies
3. Chapter III: This chapter discusses research method used in this research. This chapter consists of research design, the source of the data, the techniques of collecting data, the poulation and sample, data analysis.
4. Chapter IV: This chapter discusses findings and discussions found in the research paper. This chapter will consist of the findings and discussions.
5. Chapter V: This chapter consists of conclusions and suggestions.