

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the general description of the research, covering background of the research, research questions, aims of the research, scope of the research, significance of the research, and organization of the paper.

1.1 The Background

Translation has important role in human life, especially for Indonesians. It is because there are many information which does not exist in Indonesian but it is presented in foreign languages, particularly in English (Choliludin, 2005, p.1). In Indonesia, some text books, journals, news, movies, even advertisements are addressed in English can be found easily in some areas. This situation may become barrier for Indonesian who wants to get information from particular English text.

Based on that situation, translation plays such crucial role for helping people to get information written in English. Regarding to this, Webber (1984, p.3) says that translation is the process of transposition of a text which is written in a source language into target language. It can be said that translation product help people who do not understand English to get information from the English text.

Unfortunately, people cannot always rely on the translation product since they are still limited. Although translation services are offered by many institutions or individuals, but the cost is quite expensive and the quality is also sometimes unsatisfied. For that reason, to fulfill personal need, actually someone can be translator for her/himself. It is because the translation skills can be learned and trained.

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Basically, according to Catford (1965, p.20) the ability for being translator is comprehending both Source Language (SL) and Target Language (TL) as long as someone can find the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL). However, for the quality of the translation product, it will be defined by translator's knowledge about SL and TL, and also by translator's skill in putting the knowledge into the practice of analysis, discovery, transfer, and re-expression of the meaning (Choliludin, 2005, p.38). It can be said that educational background related to theory of translation and experiences in translation field determine the quality of translation work.

To train translation skill, it is actually can be started in Junior High School. It is because at that time the students are starting to learn some genre of texts such as descriptive, narrative, procedures and recount. Later, in Senior High School the students learn more complex texts.

English Education Department students who acquired all translation classes are more reliable since they have experiences in translation and master the theory of translation. However, the chosen text is one of the famous political speeches delivered by Barrack Obama which is important to get the actual meaning of the speech for universal understanding.

The students' translation work is an interesting object for research. Surahman (2013) has conducted research about students' translation product in level of Junior High School. Supangkat (2009) has investigated the students' method, strategies, and difficulties in translating English texts into Indonesian in the level of Senior High School. Different from both studies, this study attempts to explore college students' translation product. On the other words, the participants of this research are the advanced learners with advanced translating skill of English.

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This research analyzed the documents of students' translation work to find out the quality of its translation. The students' strategies in translating text have been disclosed and also their difficulties have been discussed. The result of the research revealed the potential ability of English Education Department translating students' in translating an English text into Indonesian as well as the difficulties faced in their translation activity which can be considered as their weakness in understanding an English text.

1.2 Research Questions

According to the background above, there are three research questions to be answered. The research questions are formulated as follows:

1. What are strategies that students apply in translating a political speech?
2. What are difficulties or problems that the students face in translating the text?
3. What is the quality of the students' translation product based on NAATI's assessment method?

1.3 Aims of the Research

Based on the Research question above, basically this research has aims to:

1. Identify the strategies used by students in translating an English Political Speech into Indonesian.
2. Find out the difficulties faced by students in translation activity.
3. Find out the quality of the students' translation product based on NAATI's assessment method.

1.4 Scope of the Research

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This research focused on identifying the quality of students' translation of a political speech. The study was concerned with the strategies used by the students in translating as well as the difficulties faced by them in translation activity.

1.5 Significance of the Research

This research is expected to give significant contribution in the field of translation and education.

First of all, perceived from theoretical viewpoint, the study can enrich the literature reference in analysis the skill of English Education Department students who acquired translation class in translating a political speech.

Then, in practical aspect, since the study observed how translating students translate political speech, what strategies they used and reveals some difficulties faced by students in understanding the message, outcomes of the study hopefully give important information for lecturers to conduct best strategy in helping students to improve their performance in translation subject.

1.6 Clarification of Terms

In order to avoid misperception about main terms that will be used in the study, the definition of the terms will be elaborated in this section.

- a. Translation strategies: strategy used by translator for sentences and smaller unit of language. (Newmark, 1988)
- b. Translation problems: difficulties faced by translator in terms of lexical and syntactic problems. (Owji, 2013)
- c. Translation Quality: the translation product has two translation standard, accurate with no margin error and expected to be fair copy and clearly legible. (NAATI, 2014)

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- d. NAATI's assessment method: assessment tool of the translation product of translator based on error found in translation work.
- e. Political speech: in this study, the focus of the speech is on the Barack Obama's speech on inaugural address taken from http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/transcript-obamas-immigration-speech/2014/11/20/14ba8042-7117-11e4-893f-86bd390a3340_story.html
- f. English Education Students: 8th semester students who already took all translation classes.

1.7 Organization of the Paper

This paper is organized into five chapters and the content of each chapter in the paper is overviewed as follows:

Chapter I Introduction

In this chapter, the general description of the paper is elaborated. It includes background, research question, aims of the study, scopes of the study, significances of the study, clarification of key terms and the organization of the paper.

Chapter II Theoretical Foundation

This chapter contains the related theories from the experts. It covers definition of translation, translation process, strategies or procedures in translation, problems in translation, and previous research.

Chapter III Research Methodology

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This chapter explains methodology of the research that covers purpose of the study and research question, research design, site and participant, data collection, data analysis, and summary of the research methodology.

Chapter IV Findings and Discussion

This chapter, the findings of the research result is presented and discussed.

Chapter V Conclusion and Recommendation

This last chapter conveys final conclusion of the study, suggestions as contribution for English department students, and possible issue for further research. Also, references and appendices are attached at the end of the paper.

1.8 Concluding Remark

This chapter has elaborated the introduction of the study. It has presented background, research question, aims of the study, scopes of the study, significances of the study, clarification of key terms and the organization of the paper. In next chapter, this paper will discuss the literature review of the study.