

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the nature of the research. In detail, this chapter consists of background of the research, research questions, aims of study, research methods, and organization of the paper.

1.1 Background

The higher traffic of interaction among nations, which is affected by the rapid development of technology, has increase the exchange of information, including literary works. Through the process of translation, a literary work and an author are well-known in other countries, or even becoming the favorite ones.

People read translated literary works for various reasons, in which the most common one is for pleasure. The readers want to enjoy the imaginary trip to the other world civilizations and meet the people. In line with that hope, in reading translated literary works, the readers wish to get a good quality of translation.

Unluckily, such hope does not always come true. Many literary works are poorly translated. They contain various problems of accuracy, clarity, and naturalness. Those problems are one of the main concerns of translation study. Translation problem is the initial point where the scholars stand to formulate the translation theories. As Newmark (1988:21) says, "The heart of translation theory is translation problems".

In translating literary works, various problems can easily encountered since such texts contain more cultural, lexical, grammatical, and other issues. Hu (2000) argues that translating fiction is a complex process related to some factors, such as wheter the translation should be source-language-oriented or target-language-oriented, or wheter a text should be adapted for certain pragmatic purposes.

Venuti (cited in Delzenderooy, 2008) states that there are two kinds of approach to literary translation, namely *domestication* and *foreignization*. Domestication means to translate in a transparent, fluent, "invisible" style in order to minimize the foreignness of the target-text, while foreignization on the other hand, "entails choosing a foreign text and

developing a translation method along lines which are excluded by dominant cultural values in the target language".

Baker through *In Other Words* (1992) proposes a good practical theory of translation problems. She categorizes the problems into six, which are the problems *at word level, above word level, grammatical, thematic and information structures, cohesion, and pragmatic*. Further, Baker (1992) also proposes the general strategies commonly used by the professional translators in solving those problems.

In Indonesia, many literary books had been translated into Indonesian from other languages, especially from English. Today, it is not only English literary books which are translated into Indonesian, but also vice versa. The works of Pramoedya Ananta Toer were considered as the literary works which are widely translated from Indonesian into foreign languages.

Apart from Pramoedya's, nowadays, the works of Andrea Hirata are getting popular in the world because they are translated into various languages. For example, today, his most famous book *Laskar Pelangi* is published at least in 20 countries in the world (wikipedia.com).

Through internet-based searching, the researcher found a study which is relevant to the present study. The study entitled *The Translation Strategy of Cultural Words in Laskar Pelangi* (2012) which was conducted by Rizky Gunawan. He found that seven procedures are used to render the selected Indonesian cultural words into English include pure borrowing, naturalized borrowing, notes, cultural equivalent, functional equivalent, descriptive equivalent, and reduction. In this research, the researcher used the theory of translation strategy proposed by Newmark (1988).

Based on the background above, the researcher is interested to conduct a research on translation problems faced by the English translator in translating *Laskar Pelangi* into the English version *Rainbow Troops*, and on the translation strategies applied to solve the problems. This research is entitled "The Problems and Strategies of Translation of Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* into Its English Version *Rainbow Troops*".

The present study will be different from the previous research in which it uses Baker's theory of translation problem at word level which covers eleven items and Baker's theory of translation strategy at word level which covers eight items.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background, this research is conducted to answer two research questions as follows:

1. What problems are encountered in the translation of Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* into Its English Version *Rainbow Troops*?
2. What strategies are applied in the translation of Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* into Its English Version *Rainbow Troops*?

1.3 Aims of Study

In line with the research questions, the study was conducted with the following aims:

1. to identify the problems encountered in the translation of Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* into Its English Version *Rainbow Troops*.
2. to identify the strategies applied in the translation of Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* into Its English Version *Rainbow Troops*.

1.4 Research Methods

This research is constructed with a descriptive qualitative research design. Frankle and Wallen (1993:389) suggest that descriptive qualitative is a method of research to investigate the quality of relationship, activities, situations, or materials, then to synthesize the information obtained from various sources (e.g. observations, interviews, and document analysis) into coherent description of what the researcher has discovered.

1.4.1 Data Collection

In collecting data, this research is guided with some steps, as follows:

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1. Identifying and classifying translation problems encountered.
2. Identifying and classifying translation strategies applied.

1.4.2 Data Analysis

The data are analyzed in two steps as follows:

1. Elaborating each identified translation problem and relating it to the theory of translation problem proposed by Baker.
2. Elaborating each identified translation strategy and relating it to the theory of translation strategy proposed by Baker.

1.5 Organization

This paper is organized by following the guideline written in the book of *Pedoman Penyusunan Skripsi* by Tim Jurusan Bahasa Inggris UPI (2010). This paper consists of five chapters, each of which has its own role in delivering contents in detail. Chapter I is *Introduction*, which aims to introduce the paper in brief, and which is divided into *background*, *statement of problems*, *aims of study*, *research methods*, and *organization*.

Chapter II is entitled *Theoretical Foundation*, which is responsible to elaborate the theories and the previous studies related to the research as an effort of giving reasonable arguments. The theories cover definition of translation, significance of translation, language function, text categories and text types, types of meaning, translation methods, translation problems, translation strategies, and translation of novel.

Chapter III is *Research Methods*. This part is an elaboration of technical issues in the research, which describes research design, assumptions in the research, clarification of key terms, steps of finding data, and steps of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is *Findings and Discussions* presenting the collected data, the analysis process of the data, and the interpretation and discussion of the findings. The data identified are categorized under the Baker's classification of translation problems at word level. This chapter is divided into two main parts. The first part is the translation problems encountered in translating Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* into *Rainbow Troops*, and the second part is

the translation strategies applied in translating Andrea Hirata's *Laskar Pelangi* into *Rainbow Troops*.

The last part, Chapter V is *Conclusion and Suggestion*. The first part is the report on the results of the study to give statements as the answers to the research problems. The second part is on the important points related to the research which can be offered to support other similar research in the future and any parties who have interests in the research findings.