

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, research questions, aims of the study, and scope of the study. This chapter also includes the clarification of terms used in the study and the organization of this paper.

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Translation is the process of exchanging meanings from one language to a different language. Newmark (1988) defines translation as “rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text” (p. 5). Newmark focuses on keeping the meaning of texts into another language as a process of translation. The definition of translation is made to refer to a variety of intentions. Another conception is defined by Munday (2001) who views translation as “the general subject field, the product (the translated text), or the process of producing the translation (translating)” (pp. 4-5). This definition is echoed by Abdellah (2002) who views translation as the act of exchanging ideas and thoughts from different languages. Those conceptions of translation basically involve two different written languages where a translator changes the original language or the source language (SL) into a target language (TL) (Munday, 2001).

Translation has been used for many types of texts from many sources such as articles, books, novels and movies. There are a large number of English-speaking movies which need to be translated into different languages. Due to the fact that the dominating movies use English language (Zakky, 2014), translation has a crucial role in helping non-English speakers understand the movies. For instance, Indonesian people can be assisted to understand the movies by looking at the translation provided in the movie.

There are two types of film/movie translation: dubbing and subtitling (Szarkowska, 2005). Szarkowska explains that dubbing is modifying the source language into the target language by using a method that makes the audience feel like they are listening to the actor speaking the target language, while subtitling is the process of adding caption of the translated dialogues or narratives into a different language. This translated text appears in the bottom of the screen.

However, these translation processes are still challenging to the translator (Abdellah, 2002). The challenges refer to cultural words, specific terms, or idioms to be translated. According to Abdellah (2002) there are two types of translation problems: (1) linguistic problems which include grammatical differences, lexical ambiguity and meaning ambiguity; (2) cultural problems that refer to different situational features. Similarly, Nababan (1999, as cited in Prawita, 2014) states that there are two factors in translation analysis; linguistic features that cover words, phrase, clause and sentence; and non-linguistics factors which include cultural knowledge both of the SL and TL.

One of the linguistic problems in translation is translation shifts used by the translator to have the equivalent meanings. Khanmohammad and Mousavinasab (2014) mention that the translation shift is one of the issues that becomes the scholars' concern. Catford (1965) uses the term 'translation shift' which refers to some of the changes or 'shifts' that occur in translation. The author defines translation shift as "departures from formal correspondence in the process of going from the source language (SL) to target language (TL)" (p. 7). Furthermore, the author indicates two major types of translation shifts which are *level shift* and *category shift*.

According to Catford (1965), the shifts may occur in the following ways. First, the level shift occurs when an item in SL at one linguistic level has a different level in the TL. The only possible level shift is the one from *grammar* to *lexis*, and *vice-versa*. Second, the category shift includes: *structure shift*, that happens when the TL has a different structure of the equivalent translation from the SL; *class shift*, that occurs when the equivalent translation of the SL has a different class in the TL; *unit shift* (rank-changes), that occurs when the changes are made in ranks, such as phrase to clause, clause to sentence, and so on; and *intra-system shift*, that occurs when the equivalent translation of the SL has a different system in the TL, for example the changes from plural to singular.

Some studies on translation shifts have been conducted by many researchers (Banhegyi, 2012; Khanmohammad and Mousavinasab, 2014; Dewi, Indrayani, and Citraesmana, 2014; Farrokh, 2011; Golshan and Fumani, 2016; Vassoughi and Pourebrahim, 2010; and Pajariah, 2014). For example, Banhegyi

(2012) conducted a study which examined Alice Munro's short story "Boys and Girls" Hungarian translation by applying three stages of analysis. The first analysis covered the translation shifts or changes in the target text as compared to the source text by using Klaudy's (2003 and 2005) classification of transfer operation, or in other words translation shift. Second, the author analyzed the function of these shifts. Then, the last stage was analyzing the translation strategy, whether it used domestication or foreignisation. It has been concluded that the translation strategy used by the translator is domestication. The next study was from Golshan and Fumani (2016) which intended to compare the strategy used by the translator by using Pekkanen's (2010) model of translation shifts. The data were taken from three UN documents, between two English-Persian dictionaries (one by Khiyabani (2013) and other one by Aryanpoor (2006)). The study found that the contraction strategy was the most frequent strategy applied in Khiyabani (85 times, 56,7%), and the expansion strategy was the most frequent strategy applied by Aryanpoor (66 times, 44%). Other studies were from Khanmohammad and Mousavinasab (2014), Dewi, Indrayani, and Citraresmana (2014), Farrokh (2011), Vassoughi and Pourebrahim (2010), and Pajariah (2014) which examined the translation shift in different kinds of data by using Catford's (1965) theory of translation shifts. However, all of these studies showed a similar result that structure shift was the most frequent shift occurred in the data.

Those studies show that translation shifts always take place in any language. Indonesian language receives less attention by those who are concerned with translation studies. Therefore, translation shifts in Indonesian context may bring great significance for informing how translation shifts are also addressed in many contexts. To add to the plethora of studies on translation shifts, this study aims to investigate shifts in linguistic features between TL and SL focusing on nominal groups in a movie subtitle.

Nominal groups, or in many literatures, called Noun Phrases is one of the linguistic factors in translation (Nababan, 1999, cited in Prawita, 2014). This study attempts to analyze translation shifts of nominal groups from English to Indonesian in a movie subtitle, entitled *The Martian*. This movie is a science fiction movie which is one of the Oscar winning movies in 2016. This study has

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**THE TRANSLATION SHIFT ANALYSIS OF NOMINAL GROUPS IN THE MARTIAN MOVIE SUBTITLE**

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chosen this movie because it contains many nominal groups. Nominal groups have the most interesting structure among other types of groups (Gerot & Wignell, 1994). Gerot and Wignell refer to nominalisation where the information tends to become packed into nominal groups rather than spread it over a number of clauses. As a consequence, the text becomes more difficult to read or to say. Gerot and Wignell further state that ‘in English there are more places for adding experiential information to noun than to verbs’ (p. 149). In addition, nominal groups are not only language features but also one of the aspects often addressed in translation shift analysis.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

This research is conducted to answer the following questions:

1. What types of translation shift are used in the Indonesian translation of nominal groups in “The Martian” movie subtitle?
2. How do the translation shifts affect meanings?

## **1.3 Purposes of the Study**

The purposes of the study are:

1. To find out the types of translation shift found in the Indonesian translation of nominal groups in “The Martian” movie subtitle.
2. To find out how the translation shift affect meanings.

## **1.4 Scope of the Study**

This study focuses on the analysis of nominal groups (Gerot & Wignell, 1994) and translation shifts (Catford, 1965) of English noun phrases and its Indonesian translation in *The Martian (2015)* movie subtitle. Moreover, this study examines the meaning shifts of each nominal group.

## **1.5 Research Methodology**

### **1.5.1 Research Design**

This study uses a descriptive-qualitative method in order to explore the phenomenon regarding the translation shifts of English nominal groups and its

Indonesian translation that are found in *The Martian* movie subtitle. Creswell (2007) states that qualitative method is used when a problem or an issue needs to be explore. It aims to provide a detail understanding of the issue. Therefore, the analysis of translation shifts of English nominal groups and its Indonesian translation in *The Martian* movie subtitle will be explored in a descriptive way. The analysis will be conducted by using nominal groups' theory from Gerot and Wignell and Catford's types of translation shift.

### **1.5.2 Objects of the Study**

The data of this study are collected from the sentences or clauses that contain nominal groups in the movie and its subtitle. The movie is entitled *The Martian* (2015). The length of the movie is 151 minutes. This movie is one of the Oscar Winning Movie 2016 and this movie also contains many nominal groups. The data will be in the form of movie transcription and the translated movie transcription. *The Martian* (2015) movie script is taken from [www.springfieldspringfield.co.uk](http://www.springfieldspringfield.co.uk). consist of 10,502 words, and the subtitle is taken from the legal copy of Indonesian subtitle of *The Martian* (2015) movie consist of 8,220 words.

### **1.6 Data Collection**

The data used in this study are collected from English nominal groups and its Indonesian translation in *The Martian* (2015) movie. The data collection includes the process of searching and organizing the data. First, the researcher collects nominal groups from the movie script as the source language and its subtitle as the target language. Second, the researcher lists and compares the English nominal groups and Indonesian nominal groups into the table.

### **1.7 Data Analysis**

There are several steps of analysis to conduct this study which includes categorizing, describing, and concluding. The first step is identifying English nominal groups and its Indonesian translation in a table. The table consists of English nominal groups and its Indonesian translation, the structure of each

nominal group, types of translation shifts, and the analysis of the translation shifts. In this step of the analysis, the researcher uses Gerot and Wignell's (1994) theory of nominal groups.

The second step is categorizing the translation shifts of English nominal groups and its Indonesian translation. In this step, the researcher uses Catford's (1965) types of translation shifts. It includes the *category shift which involves structure shift, class shift, unit shift, and intra system shift*. This step also includes determining the most frequently used translation shift in the movie.

The next step of the analysis is describing the findings in detail. The analysis of each nominal groups and its translation is given based on its translation shift. In addition, this study also examines the effect of translation shifts to meanings, whether the meaning is change or not. Then, the last step is drawing conclusion from the findings and the analysis.

## **1.8 Significance of the Study**

This research is expected to give some contribution both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this study can give some contribution to the translation field, particularly translation shift, as a reference. Practically, the readers are expected to understand the translation shifts that occur in translation studies, and understand the effect of translation shift into the meaning.

## **1.9 Clarification of Key Terms**

### **- Translation**

Translation can refer to “the general subject field, the product (the translated text), or the process of producing the translation translating”. Translation involves two different written languages where the translator changes the original language or the source language (SL) into the target language (TL) (Munday, 2001)

### **- Subtitle**

Subtitle is ‘words shown at the bottom of a film or television picture to explain what is being said’ (Cambridge Dictionary).

### **- Translation Shift**

Translation shift is the changes that occur in translation. Translation shift is ‘departures from formal correspondence in the process of going from the source language (SL) to target language (TL)’ (Catford, 1965, p. 7).

- **Nominal Groups**

Nominal Groups is a group of words that come together as a noun (Cambridge Dictionary). It can act as a subject, object, or complement of a clause, or as a prepositional complement (Leech & Svartvik, 2001)

### **1.10 The Organization of the Paper**

The organization of this study is as follows:

#### **Chapter I: Introduction**

This chapter deals with the background of the research, reason for choosing the topic, scope of study, research question, aims of study, research method, significance of the study, clarification of key terms, and organization of the paper.

#### **Chapter II: Literature Review**

This chapter covers the theory for examining the problem, which includes theory of translation, translation shift, equivalence translation, and noun phrase.

#### **Chapter III: Research Methodology**

This chapter involves the research methodology and procedure of the analysis. It consists of the steps of collecting the data and the data analysis.

#### **Chapter IV: Findings and Discussion**

This chapter discusses the interpretation of the collected data.

#### **Chapter V: Conclusion and Suggestion**

In chapter V, the writer concludes the interpretation of the research, also provides suggestion that are drawn from the analysis.