

# 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

Nowadays, translation has an important role in human life especially for Indonesians. It is because much information does not exist in Indonesian which means that great deal of it is presented in foreign languages, particularly in English (Choliludin, 2005, p.1). In many places in this country, it can be found many text books, journals, news, movies, even advertisements are addressed in English. This situation may become a barrier for someone who wants to get information from the English text.

Based on the above situation, translation plays such a crucial role for people in helping them to get information which is written in English. Regarding this, Weber (1984, p.3) says 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 can help people who do not understand English to get information from the English text.

Unfortunately, people cannot always rely on the translation products since they are still limited. Although currently 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 full fill personal need actually someone can be a translator for himself. It is because the translation skills can be learned and trained.

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 skills 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 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 for examples procedure, descriptive, narrative, and recount. Later, in Senior High School the students learn more complex texts. This situation can be an opportunity for students to train their translation skill before they know about the theory of translation.

Students' translation work is an interesting object for research. Supangkat (2009) has investigated the students' method, strategies, and difficulties in translating English texts into Indonesia in the level of Senior High School. Jayanti (2010), Infiani (2011), and Ahmad (2011) have conducted research about students' translation strategy in the level of college students. Different from those studies, this study attempts to explore the Junior High School students' translation product. On the other words, the participants of this research are beginner learners of English.

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 has been discussed. The result of the research revealed the potential ability of Junior High School 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 strategies do students apply in translating a descriptive text?
2. What difficulties or problems do the students face in translating the text from English to Indonesia?
3. What is the quality of students' translation product?

## **1.3 Aims of the Research**

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

1. Identify the strategies used by students in translating an English descriptive text into Indonesian.
2. Find out the difficulties faced by students in their translation activity.
3. Find out the quality of students' translation product.

## **1.4 Scope of the Research**

This research focuses on identifying the quality of students' translation of a descriptive text. The study is concerned with the strategies used by students in translating text 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.

Firstly, this research reveals information about the ability of Junior High School Students in translating a text. Their natural skills in translating a text become an invention which will inspire the other researchers to conduct other researches to find out new theory about translation.

Secondly, this research reveals some difficulties faced by students in translating a text especially in understanding message from the text. This situation give important information for teachers to conduct the best strategy in helping their students to understand English text.

## **1.6 Organization of the Paper**

This paper is organized into five chapters. The description is as follows:

### **Chapter I Introduction**

This chapter involves background of the research, research questions, aims of the research, scope of the research, significance of the research, and organization of the paper.

### **Chapter II Theoretical Foundation**

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

### **Chapter III Research Methodology**

This chapter describes the methodology of the research that covers purposes of the study and research questions, research design, site and participant, data collection, data analysis, and summary of research methodology.

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

This chapter consists of the result and finding of the research.

### **Chapter V Conclusion and Recommendation**

This chapters states the conclusion of the research and presents recommendation for further research.