CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter encompasses overview of the study including background of the study, purposes of the study, statements of problems, scope of study, significance of study, clarification of terms, and organization of the study.

1.1 Background of Study

Language is an essential part of human beings. It is the most important means of communication and the basic aspect of culture (Sirbu, 2015). Halliday (1973) defined language as an instrument of social interaction which has a clear communicative purpose. Every day we exchange and negotiate meanings through language in order to understand each other. However, for those who only speak one language, exchanging meaning might be a bit of a pickle since people from different parts of the world speak different languages. Fortunately, this condition could be dealt with the help of translators and interpreters by transferring meaning from one language to another.

Translating, according to Newmark (1988), means transferring equivalent meanings from source language (SL) into target language (TL) in the form of written text. Translating is no easy work since not only does it involve transferring language, but also cultural value which comes hand in hand with the language. Furthermore, translation plays an important role in interlingual communication because it makes possible the sharing of knowledge and culture between languages (Doherty, 2016). This sharing of knowledge and culture across languages can be achieved through various media including movies by means of translation methods. There are several methods of translation including audio-visual translation which means translating dialogues in movies or TV programs. Audio-visual translation is then further divided into two namely dubbing and subtitling.

Subtitling serves as translation aid for movies or TV programs. Basically, similar to translating, subtitling means transferring verbal messages in the movies or TV
programs into written ones presented on the screen (Gambier & Gottlieb, 2001). In addition, being a product of translation, the making of subtitles involve rendering meanings to be as close, if not equivalent, to that in the source language (SL) (Catford, 1995). One of the ways to maintain equivalent meanings in the translation process is through the choice of theme. Therefore, the present study attempted to figure out how equivalent meanings are delivered in the subtitling of Pengabdi Setan in terms of choice of theme. The movie Pengabdi Setan was chosen as data to be analyzed because of several reasons. First, the utterances in the movie dialogues and in the subtitle consist of all sorts of themes with its various features. Second, the organization of meanings in numerous utterances in the source text are realized by different types of themes in the target text. Third, the movie received numerous awards nationally and internationally. Moreover, choice of theme is chosen as focus of the present study since it plays an important role in making meaning equivalent as it is the point of departure of a clause which consists of information on what the clause is going to be about (Gerot & Wignell, 1994). The attempt of maintaining equivalent meanings in terms of choice of theme can be achieved through shifting and unshifting of themes which resulted in theme variations.

There have been several related studies conducted to investigate the choice of theme which taking up translation products as data. Damayanti (2012) conducted a research on theme equivalence and theme shift found in the Indonesian-English translation of thesis abstracts. Findings of the analysis show that most of the themes in the source language (SL) were not shifted in the target language (TL). Wulandari (2013) analyzed types of themes and theme shifts in the English-Indonesian translation of Barrack Obama’s speech at Universitas Indonesia. Findings of the study shows that most themes in the target language (TL) were not shifted. Sakti (2014) investigated theme variations in English-Indonesian subtitle of the movie “2012”. The findings indicate that in both English and Indonesian subtitles, the most frequently found theme is topical which is followed by interpersonal and textual theme.
There are numerous studies related to the topic of translation techniques using theory as proposed by Molina and Albir (2002). Yuliasri and Hartono (2014) analyzed translation techniques employed in the translation of humor in Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone the movie. Findings of the analysis show that 14 translation techniques were employed in order to deliver equivalent humor in the target language (TL). Rahmawati (2016) conducted a research to analyze translation techniques used in the translated novel titled Divergent. Findings of the analysis indicate that 12 translation techniques were employed to translate direct conversations in the novel. Another study conducted on translation techniques was done by Fitria (2018) to analyze translations of journal abstracts. Findings show that five translation techniques were employed in the translations of the abstracts.

However, none of the aforementioned studies focuses on one aspect of language in attempting to deliver equivalent meanings. Therefore, the present study attempted to investigate the translation techniques used to translate one aspect of language which is theme.

1.2 Purpose of Study

This research aims to find out ways the translator used to maintain equivalent meanings through the analysis of choice of theme and translation techniques.

1.3 Statement of Problem

This study attempts to answer the following question:

1. How does the translator maintain meanings of the source language through the choice of theme?
2. How is the translator’s choice of theme viewed from the concepts of translation techniques?

1.4 Scope of Study

The present study focuses on investigating how the translator maintain to deliver equal meanings in the target language (TL) in terms of choice of theme. Furthermore, the
present study also analyzes the choice of themes as viewed from the concepts of translation techniques. In order to do the analysis, Hallidayan (1994) theory of thematic structure and Molina and Albir’s (2002) theory of translation techniques were employed.

1.5 Significance of Study

This study is expected to be beneficial not only to the writer, but also to readers and other researchers. The outputs of this study are expected to give contribution to the study of translation in terms of how equivalent meanings are achieved through the choice of theme.

1.6 Clarification of Terms

In order to avoid confusion and misunderstanding, listed below are some clarification on terms used in this research:

1. **Theme**
   Theme is the departure of the clause which contains information from the speaker’s point of view as well as what the clause is about (Gerrot & Wignell, 1994; Halliday, 1967).

2. **Translation Techniques**
   Translation techniques are, “procedure used to analyze and classify how translation equivalence work” (Molina & Albir, 2002, p. 509).

1.7 Organization of Paper

The present study is organized into five chapters as follows:

1. **Introduction**
   This chapter covers several points including the background of study, purpose of study, statement of problem, significance of study, clarification of terms, and organization of paper.
2. **Theoretical Background**
   
   This chapter provides elaborations of several concepts, theories and previous studies as aids to help answer the research question of this study.

3. **Research Methodology**
   
   This chapter contains research design, data sources, data analysis, data presentation, and synopsis of the movie.

4. **Findings and Discussion**
   
   This chapter presents the findings and discussion of the study.

5. **Conclusions and Suggestions**
   
   This chapter contains two points which are conclusions of the study and suggestions for further related studies.