CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the research, research questions, aims of the research, significance of the research, research method, participants, data resources, data collection, data analysis, clarification of key terms and organization of the paper.

1.1 Background of the Research

Translation plays an important role to any fields in this world. Translation also works as a connector between author and reader (Suryawinata and Hariyanto, 2003:159). For instance, if the reader is a native Indonesian, she/he will not be able to enjoy the meaning of English text compared to those who have language ability of both Indonesian and English. Therefore, translation is done to any kinds of text including literary works (Suryawinata and Hariyanto, 2003).

Hariyanto (2003) claims that literary works have aesthetic values which emphasize the beauty of the words. It is in line with Newmark (1988:163) who highlights poetry as the most personal among literary works, where the word has greater importance than other types. Additionally, Raffel (cited in Baker, 1998:171) states that poetry is also characterized by rhythm and rhyme.

Words, meaning, flow or rhythm and rhyme as aesthetic values are considered as difficulties in translating poetry (Rimbaud, cited in www.beyond-

the-pale.co.uk). Baker (1998:171) agrees with statement that in poetry translation, poetic use of language is frequently removed from the source language. Moreover, Frost (cited in Baker, 1998:170) claims that poetry is lost in translation.

Suryawinata (cited in Hariyanto, 2003) states that a literary translator usually encounters problems related to linguistic, literary and aesthetic, and socio-cultural. Hariyanto (2003) adds that in poetry as one of the literary works, the translators are also likely to face similar problems. The translator has to produce the equivalent in the target language.

However, poetry translation is possibly done because every language has word as a sound unit (Savory, cited in Suryawinata and Hariyanto, 2003:160; Suryawinata and Hariyanto, 2003). Fitzgerald's *Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam* (1859) and Pound's *Cantos* (1925) are examples which proved that poetry translation has been accepted for thousand years ago (Baker, 1998:170). Lefevere (cited in Bassnett, 2002:82-84) proposed the earliest different strategies applied in translation of Catullus' Poem as solutions for problems in translating poetry and it brought to further effort to do poetry translation.

Regarding to poetry translation existence, two poetries entitled *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* (1923) and *The Road Not Taken* (1916) by an American poet Robert Frost (1874-1963) are used as the data resources of this research. Those poetries were selected because they were the most Frost' popular poetries in the world and for students as translators in this research.

Eventually, a translation analysis of two Robert Frost's poetries from English as the Source Language (SL) into Indonesian as the Target Language

(TL) based on strategies and problems is done to reveal the translators' problems, abilities and skills in translating poetries. To investigate some phenomena occurring in translating poetries, the researcher holds a practice of translating two English poetries by Robert Frost into Indonesian to twelve students in a translation class at the English Education Department of FPBS UPI (Fairclough, 2003:26-28; Nord, 1991:35-38). In this case, translators are native Indonesians who have learnt translation theory and practice.

From the above explanation, the researcher analyzes kinds of strategies and problems in students' translation of two Robert Frost's poetries entitled *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* and *The Road Not Taken* and finally takes "An Analysis of Students' English-Indonesian Translation of Two Robert Frost's Poetries: A case study of students in a translation class at the English Education Department of FPBS UPI" as the title of the research.

1.2 Research Questions

The research questions are formulated as follows:

1. What kinds of strategies are applied by the students in translating two English poetries by Robert Frost into Indonesian?

2. What kinds of problems are encountered by the students in translating two English poetries by Robert Frost into Indonesian?

1.3 Aims of the Research

The expected results from the research are

1. To discover the kinds of strategies applied by the students in translating two English poetries by Robert Frost into Indonesian.

2. To discover the kinds of problems encountered by the students in translating two English poetries by Robert Frost into Indonesian.

1.4 Significance of the Research

This research is expected to give significant contribution in the field of translation. For students as translators, this research can be used as reference to do poetry translation. Besides, it can also be used as reference for translation lecturers to their teaching materials in classroom. Hopefully, it introduces the readers to poetry translation as other type of translation. In addition, this research can also enrich references for other researchers in related issues.

1.5 Research Method

This research applies qualitative method as it relates to participants' written work or translation (Bogdan and Taylor, cited in Moleong, 2004:3). This research explores a single phenomenon (students' poetry translation in a translation class) by collecting detailed information. Thus, the case study is chosen to be the research design (Merriam, 1988; Yin, 1989, cited in Creswell, 1994:12). Besides, the main analysis used in this research is textual analysis considering the poetry translation text used in this research (Fairclough, 2003:26-28; Nord, 1991:35-38). To present the data, a descriptive analysis is used in terms of giving information and taking conclusions (Purwanto, 2007:94).

1.5.1 Participants

In this research, the participants are twelve students in a translation class at the English Education Department of FPBS UPI. They were selected because they have learnt translation theory and practice and poetry theory.

1.5.2 Data Resources

This research is limited in its samples-that are two English poetries by Robert Frost. The data resources are the most Frost's popular poetries entitled *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* and *The Road Not Taken.*

1.5.3 Data Collection

In collecting the data, the researcher used two instruments namely documents and questionnaires. The two Robert Frost's poetries as data resources were distributed to participants to get the translation products (Fraenkel and Wallen, 1990:406). Besides, questionnaires were also distributed to participants to get the answers from research questions (Sugiyono, 2009:142).

1.5.4 Data Analysis

The collected data were then analyzed by implementing Lefevere's theory of poetry translation strategies (1975) and Hariyanto's theory concerning problems in translating poetry (2003).

Lefevere's theory (1975) was used to analyze the translation strategies from documents of students' translation products. Hariyanto's theory (2003) was

applied to analyze the students' problems in translating poetries from questionnaires.

1.6 Clarification of Key Terms

The definitions of key terms used in this research are as follows:

1. Analysis: a form of literary criticism in which the structure of a piece of writing is analyzed. (www.wordreference.com)

2. Translation: a rendering process to the meaning of a text into another language. (Newmark, 1988)

3. Poetry: an imaginative awareness of experience expressed through meaning, sound, and rhythmic language choices so as to evoke an emotional response. (Flanagan, 2003)

4. Poetry Translation Strategy: a translator's technique which deals with the meaning and style (form) of poetry. (Lefevere, 1975; Suryawinata and Hariyanto, 2003)

1.7 Organization of the Paper

The paper is organized into five chapters. Each chapter has its own capacity to explain the contents in details.

CHAPTER I is Background. This chapter presents background of the research, research questions, aims of the research, significance of the research, research method, participants, data resources, data collection, data analysis, clarification of key terms and organization of the paper.

CHAPTER II is Theoretical Foundation. This chapter presents foundation of theories relevant to the topic of the research. It discusses translation theories, definition of translation, translation process, criteria of good translation, language functions, poetry and translation, strategies in translating poetry, problems in translating poetry and recent research.

CHAPTER III is Research Method. This chapter describes procedures of the research used by the researcher to conduct the whole research. It includes research method, participants, data resources, data collection, and data analysis.

CHAPTER IV is Findings and Discussions. It consists of presentation of the data obtained from the research followed by explanation and interpretation of the data.

CHAPTER V is Conclusions and Suggestions. This chapter consists of conclusions of the research and the researcher's suggestions in the field of translation.