CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1   BACKGROUND

There are many ways of developing someone's language skills. We can find them inside the campus area or outside the campus area. One of the activities that can support language skills mastery is through comic book. It is one of the materials that can be applied in learning language skills. This is so because through comic books we can learn some language skills such as writing and reading, and we might find some new vocabulary.

Nevertheless, the writer believes that some of us probably still feel that comic books have some bad effect on children. It is a negative instrument that can reduce children's desire to learn or one of the factors that caused their low learning achievement. This is probably true, but the writer has different point of view on this phenomenon, whether the usage of every tool will give positive or negative effects depends on who and how to use it. It is just like a "double edged sword", it can give bad impact if the readers forgot their time to learn. But, it is different if we can use it as a fun way of learning English.

Language can take the form of verbal or spoken, and non-verbal such as written language and sign language. Scripts of science, philosophy, religions, literature, history, tradition and other valuable information about a certain community were documented on the written form. Here, a translator is needed to deliver the information from the source language into the target language. He acts

as the conveyor of the message written on the source language for those who don't speak the language. That is why translating comic books or any kinds of literature in a right way is very important.

What is translation actually? Newmark (1988) defined translation as rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. It means that the meaning and the message of the text should remain unchanged, while what are supposed to change are the form and the code (Larson, 1984). Translation is therefore a process based on the theory that is possible to abstract the meaning of a text from its forms and reproduce that meaning with the very different forms in the second language. It is the accurate rendering of a document into another language so that it is suitable for its intended purpose. A translation is not only should be complete and accurate but it should also be grammatically correct.

It is suggested that in order to perform their job successfully, translators should meet three important requirements. They should be familiar with the source language, the target language, and the subject matter. Besides converting a text from one language to another, translators are responsible for making sure that the correct words and expressions resulted in a translation passed correctly to the readers as well as verifying that each word, phrase and nuance comes across in a clear and definite way. Translators also should confirm that the document is error-free to the best of their ability. Based on this premise, translators discover the meaning behind the forms in the source language and do their best to produce

2

the same meaning in the target language, using the forms and structures of the target language.

From the above phenomenon, the writer is interested in analyzing the errors in translating comic books by conducting a study entitled "An Analysis of Errors in Translating "Kingdom Come", a Comic Book Written by Alex Ross and Mark Waid".

1.2 STATEMENTS OF THE PROBLEM

Based on the background mentioned above, the problems to be investigated in this study can be formulated in the following questions:

a. What errors occur in the comic book "Kingdom Come"?

b. What could have caused those errors?

c. What strategies are applied in translating the comic book "Kingdom Come"?

1.3 LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

In this research, the writer will analyze the translation in a four issues comic book written by Alex Ross and Mark Waid entitled "Kingdom Come". The writer will analyze the errors on the translation and the strategies used by the translator in translating those books.

1.4 THE AIMS OF THE STUDY

The study is aimed as follows:

a. To identify the kinds of errors found in the translation.

b. To find out what factors that could have caused those errors.

c. To document the strategies applied in translating the English versions into Indonesian.

1.5 THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Translating is one of the most important things in today's world. It is a means of communication, used for multilingual notices, for reports, papers, articles, correspondence, textbooks to convey information, etc. There are many important parts of language that participate in the completeness of the meaning translated into the target language. The writer believes that the result of this study can be used as an input in English language teaching and an alternative way to study through comic books in developing communication skills, whether it is listening, reading or translating explicit and implicit message. For other researchers, this study is expected to be used as an additional reference, especially those who conduct study on the translation of comic books. And it is also expected to be beneficial for translators in their attempt to be more creative in translating English comic books into Indonesian without reducing the meaning.

1.6   METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURE OF THE STUDY

In this study, the writer used qualitative descriptive approach. As Creswell cited in Badu (2002:62) defines qualitative approach as:

An inquiry process of understanding a social or human problem based on building a complex, holistic picture, formed with words, reporting detailed reviews of informants and conducted in natural setting.

By using a descriptive method, the writer aims at describing the facts about the object of the study, namely the errors and strategies used by the translator in translating those books. This method analyzes some possibilities in discovering the solution of the problem by collecting the data, analyzing, and comparing references related to the problem.

The procedure of this study can be described as follows:

a)   Formulating the problem

b)   Searching related source

c)   Comparing and analyzing the original version with the translated version

d)   Collecting the data of errors

e)   Analyzing and processing the collected data

f)   Reporting

1.7 ORGANIZATION OF THE PAPER

The writer will present this paper in several chapters, noted as follows:

Chapter One: Introduction

This section discusses, first, the background of the selected topic in the study. It briefly describes some translation theories and the condition of comic translation in Indonesia and other countries and the contribution of the research to the translation application. Second, it mentions the subject of the study and the reason of choosing the subject. Third and fourth, it involves the statements of the problem and the aims of the study, which each part consists of two main views. Fifth, it visualizes the qualitative and descriptive methods that are used as the research methods and the source of data collection.

Chapter Two: Theoretical Foundation

It contains translation theory, which provides the definition of translation, text types, and the process of translation. The uppermost point of this section is translation and error analysis theory. It will specifically discuss the definition of translation, errors and mistakes, translation process, Newmark translating strategies and comic and its translation.

Chapter Three: Research Methodology

The third chapter contains the utmost explanation of the research procedures. It is divided into the description of qualitative descriptive method as the research design, the technique of collecting the data, data analysis and clarification of the terms.