

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background

Translation has become a fundamental study nowadays to deliver beneficial information from one language to another. Transferring the understandable messages of a source language for readers is the main purpose of the translation. Newmark (1988:5) states translation as "Rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text". Therefore, the translation plays the important role to access lots of information required by individuals, groups of people, or even the government of a country.

There are a large number of translated sources that have been produced by many translators, those that have been rendered into Indonesian by translators from different background knowledge in fact. The higher the translator's background knowledge, the better the translation quality. Meanwhile, we often find out lots of low quality products of translation around us. Those translated sources do not cover Newmark (1991:105) and Finlay (1974) in Simatupang (1999) about criteria for a good translation who state respectively that "a translation should not read as translation" and "A translation should give a sense of original text and the reader is unaware that he is reading a translation."

Translation is a challenging job for the translators at present since the science and technology provide many new forms of translation work rapidly developed. One of them is translation of films for a foreign language audience. To handle the translation for the films, there is an Audiovisual Translation (AVT) as a media covering subtitling and dubbing. According to Taylor (2000:1) there are two types of translation: dubbing (which involves the substitution of the original soundtrack by a version in the target language) or subtitling (the superimposition on the screen of a written version of the soundtrack). They are regarded as forms of Audiovisual Translation (AVT).

Subtitle is sometimes added to films when they are released in a country with different language to that used in the film. It has to be done in order to broaden the selling market of the film. Subtitle is also used in a variety of other films when some dialogues are spoken in a foreign language; for example, the use of African or Arabian language, the subtitles are often placed on the screen to enable the viewers to understand what is being said.

In this study, the researcher focuses on the subtitling strategies because it is close related to the process of subtitling. Gottlieb clarifies that subtitles tend to be favored for tradition reasons in Scandinavia, the Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal, Greece, Israel, Egypt, and throughout the Arab world. By contrast, dubbing is the standard method of translating film in a number of European countries such as France, Germany, Italy and Spain (Gottlieb in Coelh, 2003).

However, the subtitlers usually encounter so many problems in the process. Realizing that the problems potentially occur in the process, subtitling strategies are really needed to give some directions in solving the problems. Therefore, this study focuses on the strategies used by the subtitler in arranging the film subtitles.

### **1.2 Reasons for Choosing the Topic**

The subject of this study is drama, thriller, and politics/religion film entitled *The Interpreter*. It was directed by Sidney Pollack from Universal Studios and starred by Nicole Kidman, Sean Penn, and Catherine Keener. Written by Martin Stellman and Brian Ward, this film is released on April 2005.

The researcher decides to take this film as the object since it contains many political sentences interesting to be analyzed. As the politics world is a sensitive field, the researcher attempts to classify the subtitling strategy used in transferring the meaning of the whole sentences whether it is appropriately translated or not.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Study**

The appropriateness of the film subtitle can be seen from many point of views, one of them is strategy used by the subtitler to make it readable and understandable.

This study analyzes the subtitling strategy and the problems that may exist in subtitling the entire sentences in this film *The Interpreter*.

#### **1.4 Research Questions**

The questions submitted for this study are as follows:

1. What are the subtitling strategies used by the subtitler in subtitling the drama film “The Interpreter”?
2. What problems that may exist in subtitling process?

#### **1.5 Aims of the Study**

Considering the research questions in the earlier, the present study attempts to investigate as about:

1. To analyze the strategies frequently used by the subtitler.
2. To analyze and describe the problems the may occur in subtitling process.

#### **1.6 Significance of the Study**

The reason why the researcher chooses this topic is because subtitling is one of interesting activities on audiovisual translation. In line with this, Taylor (2000) mentions that:” Audiovisual translation has recently become a topic of interest within the discipline of translation study.”

This study is expected to observe subtitle in connection with the discipline of translation studies, specifically in the strategies used in translating existing sentences.

Thus, this study will bring some benefits to:

1. English as second language for learners who are studying translation subject.

2. Those who are interested to be an audiovisual translator.

Finally, the researcher also hopes this study will give some contributions to the development of translation study in English Departments especially in Indonesia University of Education.

### **1.7 Research Method**

The method used in this study is qualitative and the approach is descriptive. Gay (1987:139), as quoted by Pratama (2006), states, "A descriptive method is a method of research that involves collecting data in order to answer the questions concerning the subject of study." In this study, the researcher attempts to analyze, interpret and classify the collected data.

As Gay L.R in Pratama (2006:37) says:

*A descriptive method is a method of research that involves collecting data in order to test hypothesis or to answer question concerning the current status of the subject of the study.*

Maxwell (1996) states that this kind of approach focuses on specific situations or people and emphasizes on words rather than numbers

The researcher believes that descriptive methods is appropriate for this study because the goal of this study is systematically, factually, and accurately describes or illustrates the fact, characteristics and relationship of the researched elements.

## **1.8 Data Collection**

In conducting the study, the researcher follows several steps, those are:

### **1. Data Collection**

- a. Watching the original film entitled *The Interpreter*.
- b. Obtaining the English movie script from the internet.
- c. Making the subtitle script taken in the film. The researcher transfers the subtitle into script next to the film dialogue.
- d. Analyzing and describing the usage of subtitling strategies in the film.
- e. Doing library research in order to get relevant theories.

## **1.9 Data Resources**

The main data of the research taken from the original VCD of drama film *The Interpreter*. Original movie script taken from the internet and the subtitle script is taken from the original film. The researcher transfers both dialogues and subtitle into written text.

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

### **CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents the background, the reason for choosing the topic, limitation of the study, the research questions, the aims of the study, the significance

of the study, research method, data collection, data resources and the organization of the paper.

## **CHAPTER II THEORITICAL FOUNDATION**

This section contains literature review, which serve a set of the relevant theories as a basis for investigating the research questions. They are the definition of translation, text types, translation process, translation methods, translation procedures, definition of subtitling and subtitle, subtitling process and subtitling strategies.

## **CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This section includes the method of the research, which describes the reasons for choosing its procedure, techniques of collecting data and analyzing data.

## **CHAPTER IV FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

This section reports the research findings, including the analysis of the data and also contains the researcher's interpretation of the result of the research.

## **CHAPTER V CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

This section contains conclusion and recommendation for further research in accordance with the result of the research.

