

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

This chapter contains the methodological aspects of the study. It discusses the setting and participants, research method and also synopsis of the novel.

3.1 Setting and Participants

Since the study was to find out the students' translation methods, problems, and solutions in translating the chapter of the novel as formulated in the research questions (Chapter 1), it involved six students of the English Department of UPI who were still at the eighth semester. These students are considered to have been familiar with many things to do with the translation, for they have already learned many theories about translation, especially translation from English into Indonesian.

In the class where data were collected, the participants were chosen based on their level of GPA in order to represent all levels of achievement. Their GPA scores are categorized into high, middle, and low. The categorizations are as follows:

- a. High : 3,46, 3,30
- b. Middle: 3,00, 3,00
- c. Low: 2,50, 2,78

3.2 Research method

3.2.1 Research Design

This study was conducted by using a qualitative approach, precisely case study. Fraenkel and Wallen (1993:380) states that qualitative research is research studies that investigate the quality of the relationship, activities, situations, or materials.

Meanwhile, Johnson (1992:75) explains that case study is a study of one case. Further, Meriam cited in Nunan (1992:75) adds that case studies are particularistic, descriptive, and heuristic and rely heavily on inductive reasoning in handling multiple data sources. Case study was chosen as a method of research since it has several advantages, as described by Adelman et. al cited in Nunan (1992:78), such as, it is strong in reality, it claims that one can generalize from a case, it can represent a multiplicity of viewpoints and can offer support to alternative interpretations, it can provide a database of materials which may be reinterpreted by future researchers, the insights yielded by case studies can be put to immediate use for a variety of purposes, and case study data are usually more accessible than conventional research reports.

This study is regarded as a case study due to its investigation that was only conducted in English department of UPI, particularly in a class which six students of them are regarded to represent the class. Because of that, the finding of the study can only be generalized on the specific limit, meaning that it cannot be generalized that all students of English department of other universities have the same characters.

Afterwards, the data were analyzed by using descriptive method. According to Gay as cited in Halida (2001) descriptive method is a method of research that involves collecting data, translation test and interview in this case, in order to test or to answer

questions concerning the status of the object of the study. He adds that descriptive method determines and reports the way things are.

To obtain some additional information, an interview was conducted to the participants. It is in line with Johnson (1992:88) who states that interview provides questions used to gain additional information. It can be designed to reduce the amount of writing that the interviewer must do, by listing typical response categories.

3.2.2 Data Collection Technique

The study employed two procedures in collecting the data, namely translating task and interview. On the first session, the students were asked to translate the 11th chapter of the novel entitled "A Letter from Yesterday" in 90 minutes.

Afterwards, the students were asked several questions in the interview session. The questions were related to their translation. The interview was conducted in Bahasa Indonesia (See Appendix 4). It was done in order to get information related to their reasons using certain methods of translation, whether they met any problems during translating and the solution they did to solve the problems.

Nunan (1992:149) categorizes interview into three types. The first one is unstructured interview which is guided by the responses of the interviewee rather than the agenda of the researcher and the direction of the interview is relatively unpredictable. The second one is semi-structured interview. In this interview, the interviewer has a general idea of where s/he wants the interview to go, and what should come out of it, but does not enter the interview with a list of predetermined questions. The last one is structured interview. In this interview, the agenda is totally predetermined by the researcher, who works through a list of set questions in a predetermined order.

From the definition of each type of interview mentioned above, the researcher applied the semi-structured interview since according to Dowsett cited in Nunan (1992:149), this kind of interview has some advantages. First, it gives the interviewee a degree of power and control over the course of the interview. Secondly, it gives the interviewer a great deal of flexibility. Finally, it gives one privileged access to other people's lives.

3.2.3 Data Analysis

The collected data were then analyzed by employing several ways. Firstly, the chapter of the novel was divided into 23 paragraphs, which were then analyzed in terms of the translation methods used by the students in translating the chapter. Those students' translation methods were grouped based on Newmark (1988) and Larson's (1984) translation methods as discussed in Chapter II. Further, students' translations were assessed by using the criteria of acceptable translation as suggested by Larson (1984), those are, accuracy, naturalness, and clarity.

Afterwards, the collected data from the interviews were transcribed and analyzed. The data were categorized into several points related to the research questions formulated in this chapter, those are the problems faced in translating the novel and the solution used in solving the problems.

3.3 Synopsis of the Novel

The Notebook written in year 2000 by Nicholas Sparks is a story about the power of love, a story of miracles that will stay forever in everyone's heart. Set in the midst of the beauty of coastal North Carolina in 1946, *The Notebook* begins with the story of Noah

Calhoun, a modest, rural Southerner who returned home from World War II. Noah, a thirty one years old man, is frequently haunted by images of a beautiful girl he met fourteen years earlier, a girl he loved very much. Though they never see each other any longer, he feels satisfied to live with only memories of the past. But, the girl unexpectedly returns to his town to see him once again.

The girl is Allie Nelson, twenty nine, comes from a wealthy family who is now engaged to another man, but realizes that the love she had for Noah has not weakened with the passage of time. However, their different worlds that once ended their previous relationship still remain. With her impending marriage that only weeks away, Allie is forced to question her real expectations and dreams for the future, and whom she would like to spend the future with.

Meanwhile, the 11th chapter of the novel entitled *A Letter from Yesterday* (see Appendix 1) describes Allie who had to see Lon, her suspicion fiancé, after her sudden leave to Noah's town. Along the way to her inn where Lon was waiting for her, she kept thinking of Noah and decided to read one of his letters that is the good-bye letter. She red the letter for three times before got out off the car and met her fiancé who was waiting for her explanation.

