

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Formulation of Problems

The researcher formulates the problems into a question which has already been exposed in the first chapter. The question is what are the methods used in translating symbolism in Ayu's short story entitled "Mereka Bilang, Saya Monyet!"?

3.2 Research Subjects

The subjects of this research are symbols in a short story entitled "Mereka Bilang, Saya Monyet!" written by Djenar Maesa Ayu. The difficulty of translating the symbols is the main interest of the researcher to analyze.

3.3 Research Procedure

The research procedure is divided into three parts. The first part is research design; the second part is data collection; and the last part is data analysis.

3.3.1 Research Design

The researcher employs a qualitative research design considering the characteristics of a case study. The qualitative research design deliberately gives up on the quantity in order to reach a depth in analysis of the object studied (http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Qualitative_method). Maxwell (1996) states that qualitative research design focuses on specific situations or people and emphasizes on words rather than numbers. The purposes of qualitative research design are to understand a phenomenon in context-specific settings (Hoepfl, 1997), to understand a social or human problem in a complex holistic picture formed with words (Cresswell, 1994), to understand the meaning of events and actions, to understand the particular context of the events and actions and the influence that this context has on, to identify unanticipated phenomena and influence, to generate new grounded theories, to understand the process by which

events and actions take place, and to develop causal explanations of the events, situations, and actions (Maxwell, 1996: 17-20).

A case study is a unit of analysis that focuses on a single entity which exists in natural environment (Johnson, 1992). The purpose of case study is to describe the case in its context.

Guided by a research question, a researcher studies the case and those aspects of the environment that pertain to that case and that shed light on the research question. Stake (1998) offers this definition of case study: “the case study is a study of a ‘bound system,’ emphasizing the unity and wholeness of that system, but confining the attention to those aspects that are relevant to the research problem at the time” (Johnson, 1992: 76).

In presenting the data, the researcher employs a descriptive method. Gay L.R. (Anggraeni, 2004: 37) states that 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 research. The researcher believes that descriptive method is appropriate for this research because the goal of this research is to systematically, factually, and accurately describe or illustrate the fact, characteristics, and relationship of the researched elements.

3.3.2 Data Collection

In collecting the data, the researcher follows three steps. The first step is getting and observing the original Djenar Maesa Ayu’s short story. The researcher observes the Indonesian version (“Mereka Bilang, Saya Monyet!”) and the English version (“They Say I’m a Monkey”). Observation is conducted several times in order to understand the main points.

The second step is gaining and making the list of symbols in Ayu’s short story. This step is carried out by the researcher in order to acquire the textual data for this research.

The last step is doing library research in order to get relevant theories. This step is carried out for getting some additional theories and data which are required to accomplish the research.

3.3.3 Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the researcher employs eight steps. The first step is reading and comparing the original Indonesian version entitled “Mereka Bilang, Saya Monyet!” with the English version entitled “They Say I’m a Monkey.” In this step, the researcher reads and compares every sentence in the Indonesian version with the English version to determine the translation methods which are used by the translator. It is also conducted to search out the symbols in Ayu’s short story.

The second step is arranging the sentences which contain symbols sentence by sentence. For example:

Sepanjang hidup saya melihat manusia berkaki empat. Berekor anjing, babi atau kerbau.	All my life I’ve seen four-legged people. People with the tail of a dog, pig, or buffalo.
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The third step is identifying the data. In this step, the researcher identifies every item carefully.

The fourth step is classifying the items into the translation methods proposed by Newmark. When an item is classified based on Newmark’s translation methods, the item will fall into one of these eight methods, namely (1) Semantic Translation, (2) Word-for-word Translation, (3) Literal Translation, (4) Faithful Translation, (5) Adaptation, (6) Free Translation, (7) Idiomatic Translation, and (8) Communicative Translation.

The fifth step is gathering the finding based on each method and counting the number of the methods.

The sixth step is counting the numerical data by using a simple scaling for translation methods (Thorsten, 1999: 22) in order to determine the percentage of each method.

$$P = \frac{F}{N} \times 100\%$$

P = Percentage
F = Frequency of translation methods
N = Overall number of translation items

The final step is discussing the data to draw conclusion.