

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the introductory part of the paper which covers background of the study, reason for choosing the topic, scope of the study, research question, aims of the study, research method, clarification of terms and organization of the paper.

### **I.1. Background**

Along with the development of technology and information, there are many written sources made by people to deliver their knowledge, experience, research, and opinion. This makes readers who come from different background become the object of their writing. Generally, this helps the society to be more educated by keeping their knowledge up dated all the time. But, it will be useless if the readers do not understand the information sources because they do not share the same language as the book or other information sources use. Therefore, translation is the instant way to facilitate the readers to get the information they need from other languages.

A good translation in readers' perspective means that there is no difference between the original and the translation products. It means that the writer's intention is delivered in the same way by the translator (Newmark, 1988). Therefore, the readers will feel the same sense every time they read it in both

languages. One factor that influences a good translation is coherence or information flow in the text. For that reason, sentence is not autonomous, it is interrelated one to another in delivering the message (Enkvist, in Baker, 1992). In the translation process, information flow is reflected by the thematic progression in the text. It emphasizes on a clause as a message which considers that sentence is divided into theme and rheme. Theme is the main topic or point of departure of the utterance meanwhile rheme is the rest of the message and always comes after the theme (Halliday, 1994). By following the appropriate thematic pattern, a text could be easily comprehended by its readers.

In addition, people, especially those who do not master English in which many information sources written in the language, tend to have translator to transfer the message. In fact, there are many complains regarding the translation product. This might be caused of the unorganized process in translating a text. Thus, it might result in unstructured idea in the text that makes the text is hard to be understood or it might be misleading the readers, for the worst. For that reason, the writer, through this study, has analyzed one of translation products to investigate the idea structure of a text which took Emoto's *The True Power of Water* as the data resource.

This study conducts an analysis on the thematic progression in an informative text. It involves the sequence of theme in each sentence in the paragraph to draw the applied thematic pattern. The reason why this study is focused on thematic progression is to find out how the information flows in the translated text. This study is qualitative in nature, thus, it is going to describe

some phenomena from the analytical process. Thematic progression feature of functional grammar will be used as a tool in analyzing the data meanwhile the data will be obtained from an informative text entitled ‘The True Power of Water’ by Masaru Emoto.

In brief, language is an expression of thought through words dedicated to interlocutors or readers. That is the reason why an information source should be understandable and easily comprehended by its reader.

## **I.2. Reason for Choosing the Topic**

Information flow plays an important role in a text. It represents the speakers’/ writers’ idea in delivering the message. It is used to account for the acceptability of a given sequence in a context (Baker, 1992). In other words, especially in translation, the flow of the discourse is one factor to measure the quality of the translation.

Since the data resource type is an informative text, it contains message to be delivered. Therefore, an informative text should be clear and understandable by the readers because of its function. The above terms of ‘clear and understandable’ refer to the information flow in the text which is represented by thematic progression.

In this case, the writer used a popular science book as the data resource of this study. The book is one of the Emoto’s best seller books published in Indonesia entitled *The True Power of Water*. In order to bridge the communication gaps, the book is translated into Indonesian by Azzam Translator.

For that reason, the writer feels very interested in analyzing this subject in order to find out the information flow in the book.

### **I.3. The Scope of the Study**

The writer limits the study on the analysis of the thematic progression in the translation of *The True Power of Water*. The thematic progression encompasses simple linear progression, constant progression, split progression, and derived progression. The analysis of the thematic progression is conducted at the level of sentence.

### **I.4. Research Question**

The issue to be discussed in this paper will be summarized in the following research questions:

1. What kinds of thematic progressions are applied in the translation of *The True Power of Water*?
2. What does the application of the thematic progression imply regarding the information flow in the text?

### **I.5. Aims of the Study**

Given the research question, this research paper is aimed at the following matters:

1. To find out the thematic progression pattern applied in the text;

2. To know logical interpretation of the applied thematic progression used by the translator adjusted to the conceptual theory;
3. To enrich writer's knowledge about translation process

## **I.6. Research Method**

This study applied descriptive analytic method which aimed at describing some phenomena occurred. Since the analysis on this paper is a qualitative research, it is going to describe some phenomena occur in the data resources. According to Fraenkel and Wallen (1993), descriptive qualitative can be defined as a method of research to investigate the quality of relationship, activities, situation / material then to synthesis the information obtained from various source (e. g: observation, interview, document analysis) into a coherent description of what the researcher has discovered. And thematic feature of functional grammar will be used as a tool in analyzing the data obtained.

Population of the data is the Emoto's *True Power of Water* which is translated by Azzam Translator. The book consists of five chapters which cover 412 paragraphs. In order to get as much information as possible, the writer identified the whole paragraphs in terms of its thematic progression. The writer, then, employed purposive sampling to extend the information and observed the phenomena occurred in the paragraphs (Moleong, 2007). The taken samples are 100 of the total 412 paragraphs.

### **1.6.1. Data Collection Steps**

There are some steps in collecting data required for this analysis, such as:

- a. Selecting the source of data to be analyzed
- b. Reading the data in both the original and its translation
- c. Finding certain phenomena based on the data resource
- d. Gathering theories to support the data analysis either from books, journals, or article.
- e. Identifying the data based on the focus study
- f. Deciding the sample to be taken based on the thematic progression frequency

### **1.7. Data Analysis**

To find out theories and concepts related to the research, the data are organized to prove something meaningful. Focusing on the thematic features in the translation text, the research is qualitative in nature, so the organization and analysis of the data are in descriptive analysis technique by describing, clarifying and analyzing the data resource. Here are some stages in analyzing the data:

- a. Observing the data
- b. Analyzing the data
- c. Classifying the data
- d. Interpreting and concluding the analysis

## I.8. Clarification of Terms

There are some terms the writer used in this research report, such as:

### **Translation is**

1. The process in changing something into different form (Oxford Dictionary)
2. A process of rendering the message from source language into target language in the way the author intended the text (Newmark, 2001).

**Theme** is the idea represented by the constituent at the starting point of the clause

**Rheme** is the idea of what the speaker/writer is going to say about the theme

**Thematic progression** is structure of information within the clause by making use of two independent patterns: a) Theme + Rheme , b) Given and New

**Simple linear progression** is a thematic structure where an item from the rheme of the first clause becomes theme of the subsequent clause.

**Constant progression** is a thematic structure where the item in the theme of the first clause is also selected as the theme of the following clause.

**Derived progression** is a thematic structure where the particular themes in subsequent clauses are derived from a hypertheme or from the same overriding theme.

**Split progression** is a thematic structure where the rheme of the first clause is split into two items, each in turn being then taken as the element in the subsequent clause.

## **1.9. Organization of the Paper**

The research paper is presented in five chapters in which the general descriptions of each chapter are elaborated as follows:

### **CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION**

The chapter provides background of the study, problem statement, scope of the study, aims of the study, research method, clarification of terms, and organization of the paper.

### **CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

This chapter consists of theoretical foundation relevant to the study which covers translation and thematic progression theories.

### **CHAPTER III: RESEARCH METHOD**

This chapter explains the procedures and stages in conducting the research employed by the writer in this paper, of which will be presented as some points as follow: formulation of problem, the research design, the subject of the research, description on the procedures of data collection, brief description about the data analysis and interpretation

### **CHAPTER IV: DATA ANALYSIS**

The chapter describes the data collection, the analysis and interpretation about the findings

### **CHAPTER V: CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The chapter comprises conclusions and suggestions toward the study.