CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1. 1 Background of the Study

It is the fact that many books, research journals and magazines are written in English. To access the scientific information from those kinds of texts, students not only need to read and understand written documents in English but also make translation from English   into Indonesian (Suryawinata, 1989: 38).

In relation to this, the translation of English written texts is also carried out by the students Biology Education of School of Graduate Studies.   The translation done is as one of the ways to transfer information from English written sources which is needed to make use of related academic research and to deal with scientific information especially to fulfill the requirements of their studies

Meanwhile, in doing the translation, students in some cases frequently encounter various problems. Therefore, as argued by Lim (995: 478) that they tend to have misinterpretation of meanings and messages conveyed in the texts. However, these problems should be regarded as an inevitable part of the translation process.

With respect to the problems,   Newmark (1984: 14) states that the translation problems are available at all aspects of translation, namely the aspects of language, the subject matter, and the translator himself.

In the aspect of language, a translator might encounter problems when they are faced with the differences between source and target language systems.

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These problems will be seen more clearly, for example, at the differences of grammatical systems of the source and the target languages (Baker, 1995: 83).

In the aspect of subject matter, the translation of natural sciences texts is mainly aimed at expressing facts, experiments and hypothesis. Accordingly, the translation of natural sciences texts is straight forward without superfluous words (Suryawinata, 1989: 42), while according to Qingjia (1995: 943) the requirement of preciseness, smoothness and conciseness in scientific translation is very strict.

In addition, as suggested by Nida (1964: 223), since natural sciences texts, including biology texts, rarely contain idiomatic or culture-bound expressions, the type of equivalence most common in the translation is formal equivalence which focuses attention on the message and content rather than its form.

Further, the students of Biology Education of School of Graduate Studies admitted that they need adequate translation methods and strategies to translate the English biology texts. For that reason, the methods and strategies employed for the translation works should be efficient and sufficient to make sense of information in English related to their specific studies to keep abreast of academic developments by making proper translation. Additionally, as suggested by Kulwindar (www.accurapid.com/journal/34edu), to translate natural sciences texts from English to any other pair of languages, a translator must be a subject specialist so that the content of the original text is communicated accurately, clearly and naturally.

With reference to the translation problems, Yusrida (2002), in her research, identified four types of problem in; 1) grammar, 2) lexicon, 3) grammar that causes global and local problems and 4. lexicon that causes global and local problems in translation.

Her study concludes that the students encountered problems in SL on the types of omission, addition, misformation and misordering. Within the types of lexical problems, content words constitute the greatest problems, and then followed by special terms. In the types of grammatical problems, syntactical problems had been the main problems and successively followed by morphological and function words problems.

The sources of the problem are; first, lack of knowledge of Indonesian grammatical equivalence for English function words, special terms and complex sentence constructions. Second, the lack of knowledge of Indonesian lexical equivalence of English idioms and special terms.

Similar to Yusrida, Harto (2003), in his study found that the translator's problems in doing translation works are (1) finding the general terms relevant with the target language, (2) getting original texts not clearly written, (3) finding the relevant terms in accordance with the original cultures and concepts, (4) minimum subject knowledge about the materials being translated.

Besides, most of his respondents admitted that they still found difficult words to translate. The difficult words varied from one to the others ranging from less than five percent to ten percent of the whole text being translated.

Another research which is related to translation problem was also conducted by Karimi (http://accurapid.com/journal/35equiv.htm). In his study about Equivalence in Translation particularly about the process of finding equivalences

between two languages namely Persian and English conducted in a university in Iran, revealed that finding equivalence is the most problematic stage in translation. The problems found in the study are a compound adjective in English may be translated into an adjective clause in Persian, a linguistic element which is explicit in Persian may be implicit in English and vice versa.

Based on the background above, this study attempted to investigate the methods, strategies applied in doing the translation and the problems the participants encountered in the translation of English biology texts

1.2 Questions the Study Will Address

Due to the purposes above, this research will address the following questions:

1. What methods do the participants use in translating English Biology texts.

2. What problems do the participants encounter in translating English Biology texts.

3. What strategies do the participants apply to overcome their difficulties in translating English biology texts

1.3 Aims of The Study

This study attempted to (1) find out students' methods in doing translation (2) investigate the actual problems of Biology Education Students of School of Graduate Studies in translating English Biology text, (3) investigate strategies to accomplish their translation and to overcome their difficulties in translating English Biology texts.

1.4 Significance of The Study

The findings of this study would hopefully contribute to shed light on the difficulties in translating English Biology text into Indonesian. It is also expected to provide both theoretical and practical benefits for students or to those interested in translation work in the context of solving problems in translating English biology texts into Indonesian. The results of the research are expected to;

1. be utilized as an input for improving the translation of natural sciences in general and English biology texts in particular

2. give contribution to the profession and the teaching of translation particularly the methods and strategies of translation.

1.5 The Scope of The study

This research is limited to the final product of translation. The study limits itself and focuses on the methods, problems and strategies in translating English biology texts.

1.6 Clarification of Key Terms:

1. Problem   refers to the difficulties encountered by the participants in translating English Biology texts.

2. Method refers to a way of doing something, particularly the translation of English biology texts into Indonesian.

3. Strategies are the procedures the participants employ in translation and to solve translation problems.

4. English biology texts are the texts written in English which is concerned with the discussions of animals, plants and human being.

5. Translating refers to the act of transferring meaning of a text from one language into another

6. Translation is the transposition of a text written in a source language into a target language by the same massage in another language in which the translated version is accurate in meaning, contains all nuances of the original, written in clear, elegant language that can be easily understood by the reader (Weber 1984: 3)