

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Background of the Research

Translation is one of the branches of linguistics that has big contribution to human being, such as; development of information, sciences, and arts among countries. In using translation, human can get knowledge from foreign language through meaning transferred from one language into the others. Larson (1984) explained translation is a process of transferring meaning from the source language to target language by changing the form of the language.

The purpose of translation study is to find out the closest meaning in the receptor language which is similar to the source language. Therefore, the result of the translation will sound natural in the receptor language. A translator has to find out the similar meaning of lexical, idiomatic expressions and slangs from the source language into the receptor language.

Edward Sapir believes that language is used as medium of human expression for their society (Bassnet, 2002). It means that the function of language is as communication tools for human life. In using language, human can express their thought and their feeling to the others. In expressing feeling and thought, teenagers prefer to use slang. Leech and Svartvik (1981) states that slang is a language which is used by particular social group, for example a group of teenagers, a group of army or

theatre use slang which functions to prevent the outsiders cannot understand the topics discussed. As example, slang word used by army is FUBAR which comes from the acronym Fucked Up Beyond All Recognition. “The situation’s gone FUBAR!” has means as “It’s a mess.” This slang intended to prevent the others know what is the command from the leader army.

The use of slang is also intended to show solidarity and intimacy among the members of the group. In similar way, Nida and Taber (1982) also stated that young people tend to speak differently from the elders. They tend to adopt new forms or speech including slang. Teenagers tend to use their own way in order to be different from elder people. As example in Indonesian, the teenagers use the word slang *kepo* for those who curious about something. It’s uncommon for the elders use this word since it is only used by the teenagers.

The origin of slang first appeared in print around 1800, applied to the speech of disreputable and criminal classes in London. The term, however, was probably used much earlier (www.britannica.com). Nowadays, slang is used by common people in informal situation. Since the spreading of slang is encouraged by mass media, people get knowledge of the use of slang. In the young adult novel, the writer used slang to adapt the teenagers’ characters in their lives. Slang is also used to attract the young adult fiction reader to the novel.

In translating slang, translators often find many problems dealing with translating it into the receptor language. The translators have to know the context of

the text, the lexicon, and grammatical structure of the source language. It requires knowledge to find out the appropriate translation for the target language.

In this research proposal, the writer discusses the analysis of slang in the novel *Paper Towns* by John Green. This novel was published in 2008 by Dutton Books. Meanwhile, the translation into Indonesian version is translated by Angelic Zaizai in 2014 entitled *Kota Kertas*. *Paper Towns* received many literary awards (see Appendix A). This novel is adapted into movie version in 2015.

1.2. The Identification of Problems

Based on the backgrounds above there are two questions which become the focus of the research, they are:

1. What are the most frequently used slangs as found in the Novel *Paper Towns*?
2. What are the procedures applied by translator in translating the slangs?

1.3. The Objectives of the Research

The purposes of this research are; first, to identify the most frequently slang found in the novel *Paper Towns*. Second, this research is aimed to describe the procedures used by the translator in translating the slang from English to Indonesian. Third, this research is aimed to describe the way used by the translator to maintain the sense of slang from the source language.

1.4. The Scope of the Study

The source of the data is taken from the English novel *Paper Towns* written by John Green and translated to Indonesian by Angelic Zaizai. The Indonesian version is published by Gramedia Pustaka Utama in 2014. This novel told about a teenage girl named Margo who disappeared and left some clues that help her friend, Quentin, to find her. The writer chose this novel as the object of research because the genre of the novel young adult fiction where the characters used slang in the dialogue. The author of *Paper Towns* is an American author lived in Orlando, Florida.

In this research, the writer focuses on the slang and the procedures of its translation used by the translator in translating slang which is found in the novel *Paper Towns* (2008).

1.5. Method of the Research

The writer will apply three steps in conducting research purposed by Surdaryanto (1993). They are collecting data, analyzing data, and presenting the result of the analysis.

The method used for collecting data is observational method. The data is technically collected by note taking technique. First, the writer reads the English novel *Paper Towns* and its translation in Indonesian. Second, the writer observes lists slang found in the novel by using characteristics of slang theory by Anderson and Trudgill (1990) and slang word formation theory purposed by Matiello (2008). The writer will take the four most frequently slang used for the data of analysis.

The data will be analyzed using translational method. The defining factor is the other language. After listing of slang found in the novel *Paper Towns* and its Indonesian version, the writer will determine the most frequently used slang. Then, the writer identifies the procedure of translation used by the translator to make the translation acceptable in target language.

According to Sudaryanto (1993), there are two ways in presenting the result of the analysis. They are informal and formal method. Informal method is presenting the result of the analysis by using verbal language. The writer describes the slang and the procedure to translate it from the source language into the receptor language. For the formal method, the writer will present the data in the form of table.

