

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is an important tool for people to share their ideas, thoughts, and perspectives of their world to others. Through language people can understand each other. However, the difference of language sometimes prohibit people to understand other peoples ideas. That is the reason we need to translate someone's particular language. In this case, translation is needed.

According to Nida and Taber (1982) translation is a process to find the closest natural equivalent of source language meaning into its target language. In translating a language, a translator needs to reproduce the meaning of source language into the target language naturally. In order to reproduce the message of the source language into the target language a translator has to think about the equivalence of the meaning of both languages.

The equivalence is defined as the same meaning conveyed by different expressions. Most scholars of translation realized the importance of the equivalence in translation. They think that this equivalence is the key point in the study of translation. According to Nida (1964) there are two types of equivalence in translation, the first one is formal equivalence and the second one is dynamic equivalence. The equivalence is needed to identified the equivalent of the source language word in the target language. However, It is not easy to find a word equivalent of a source language in its target language. One of the reasons is the difference of culture between the source language and the target language.

Culture is a way of life peculiar to a group of people (Newmark, 1988). Community has its own peculiar culture, and it makes them different from other communities. Culture influences many aspects of lives, one of them is language. Language that is used by people in one community is influenced by the culture that exists around them. As a result, every language has its own cultural words. Cultural words associated with particular language and sometimes it cannot be translated literally. Therefore, the translator have to work harder to find the closest equivalence of the source language into its target language. Translation of cultural words is important because it helps people from different culture to understand the cultural words of different language in their own language.

In this thesis, the writer concerns on the analysis of the Irish cultural words found in the novel *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt and its Indonesian translation by Meda Satria. Meda Satria is a translator who has translated two English books; *The Female Brain* by Louann Brizendine (2007) and *City of Fallen Angel* by Cassandra Dare (2011) into Indonesian. *Angela's Ashes* novel is a biography and a true story book about the writer's childhood, where he has to struggle with poverty and his father's alcoholism. This book was published in 1996 and won Pulitzer for Biography or Autobiography in 1997, National book Critics Circle Award, *Los Angeles Times* Award, Royal Society of Literature Award, and this novel also has been translated into more than twenty languages.

The writer choose *Angela's Ashes* novel because there are many cultural words can be found from this novel. The setting of this novel is mostly in Ireland and it is set around the 1930s and 1940s. During that years, Ireland had a

depressed economy. There are many unemployed and economic problems at the time. Therefore, Irish people have to struggle with poverty and this condition becomes the main theme in *Angela's Ashes* novel. Due to the setting of the novel, the writer finds many cultural words related to Irish culture such as; the name of foods, clothes, organization, custom and so on that are interesting to be analyzed.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

The procedures applied by the translator in translating Irish cultural words into Indonesian becomes the inspiration in conducting this research. The research on translating English cultural words into Indonesia will be formulated based on the following research question:

1. What are the categories of Irish cultural words found in the novel *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt?
2. What are the procedures applied by the translator in translating them into Indonesian?
3. What are the equivalences used in translating the cultural words from Irish into Indonesian?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The aim of this research is to find the categories of the cultural words found in the novel *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt (1996). Besides, it is also aimed to analyze the procedure used in translating the cultural words from Irish into Indonesian, and to identify the equivalence of the cultural words from Irish into its Indonesian translation. Then, it is also hoped that this research can contribute in the field of translation study especially in cultural words topic.

1.4 Scope of the Study

In this thesis, the writer limits and focuses on analyzing Irish cultural words found in the novel *Angela's Ashes* written by Frank McCourt. In analyzing the category of cultural words, the writer uses the theory proposed by Newmark (1988). There are five categories of cultural words; 1) ecology, 2) material culture, 3) social culture, 4) social organization, 5) gestures and habits. The writer also uses Newmark's theory about the procedures of translation in analyzing the procedure applied by the translator in translating Irish cultural words into Indonesian. In identifying the principle of equivalence in translating Irish cultural words into Indonesian, the writer uses Nida's theory (1964) about equivalence. The principle of equivalence is divided into formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence.

1.5 Methods of the Study

In conducting this research, the writer will follow several steps as proposed by Sudaryanto (1993). The steps are collecting data, analyzing data, and presenting the result of analysis.

The data are taken from an English novel as the source language with the title *Angela's Ashes* which is written by Frank McCourt and published in 1996. This novel is downloaded from e-book provider website and its Indonesian translation as the target language with the title *Angela*, it was translated by Meda Satria and published by Penerbit Matahari, Jakarta 2014.

The data are collected by using non-participant observational method (Sudaryanto, 1993). The writer only observed the object of the research, in this

case the English and Indonesian novel of *Angela's Ashes*, without involving other participants. In collecting the data, first, the writer read and re-read the English and Indonesian version several times, and then marked the sentences that contains of cultural words found in the novel. Second, the sentences contained of the marked cultural words in English version are paired with their Indonesian version. In this step, the writer applied note taking technique where the writer needs to take a note of the cultural words of Irish and Indonesian. It helps the writer to analyze the techniques used in translating the cultural words of this novel.

The writer selected the cultural words in the source language. In doing her research, the writer used Newmark's theory (1988) to determine cultural words and technique to translating cultural words from Irish into Indonesian. There are five categories of cultural word that proposed by Newmark. They are 1) ecology, 2) material culture, 3) social culture, 4) organization (custom, activities, procedure, and concept) and 5) gesture and habits.

In this research, the writer identifies all Irish cultural words based on the Newmark's cultural word categories (1988). The writer found 129 Irish cultural words in the novel *Angela's Ashes*. However, for the translation procedures, the writer only analyze 16 Irish cultural words. Since each cultural words with the same meaning and context repeated several times, the writer only analyze one of them by using systematic random sampling.

In analyzing the data, the writer used translational method which is proposed by Sudaryanto (1993). Translational identity method is a method used on analyzing the translation of one language into another. This research focuses in the

translation of cultural words from Irish into Indonesian.

There are some steps in analyzing the data, first, the writer marked the sentences contain cultural words from source language and comparing it with its target language. Then, the writer identified the cultural words and determined their categories based on the category of cultural words as proposed by Newmark (1988). After identifying the cultural words, the writer found out the procedures that are used by the translator to translate those words by using Newmark's theory. Finally, the writer found out the equivalences of the translation of source language and target language by using Nida's theory (1964).

In presenting the result, formal and informal method are used (Sudaryanto, 1993). Formal method is a method of presenting the results of analysis in the form of signs and symbols. The writer used tables to show the cultural words that found in English version and also its Indonesian version, the categories of the cultural words, the procedures applied and the equivalences of translation based on Nida's theory. While informal method is a method of presenting the results of analysis in the form of words or verbal language.

