

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

English learners or non English native speakers in Indonesia often get troubles to understand the meaning of English idioms. This is because according to Salim &Mehawesh(2013), idioms are one's everyday language or culturally bound expressions. Idiomsare also well known as multi-word expressions which cannot be translated literally even if someone knows the meaning of the words and the grammar of the phrase (p. 108).

Seeing that case, the writer conducts a research about how the translator from Indonesia translates English idiom into Bahasa Indonesia properly. In term of translation, it is typically defined as the process of transferring words or text from one language into another or target language. The aim of translation is to convey the exact meaning from a source language to target-language. A translator needs to be not only bilingual or multilingual but the translator also must be bicultural or multicultural.

Lack knowledge of translation strategies will lead to mistranslation especially when it comes to idiomatic expression. It happens because idioms in one language hardly match with idioms from other languages (Baker, 1992, p. 64). Each particular language has its own unique and specific idioms which give color to that language. Idioms offer the same kind of problems to non native English speakers and writers. They are unclear because the meaning of the phrase

is not literal or predictable. The translator must first analyze what the writer has intended to say before translating it.

Furthermore, regarding as idioms, the research focuses on the novel *The Catcher in the Rye*. This is a 1951 novel written by J. D. Salinger, a sixteen years old boy. A controversial novel originally published for adult which tells about a teenager named Holden Caulfield. A lot of humor that the writer finds when reading this novel. The way the author conveys the message in this novel is so enjoyable. The author can stimulate every sentence in this novel very well even though there are a lot of vulgar languages here.

On the whole, the purpose of this research is to know the strategies that the translator uses in order to translate idioms in this novel without breaking any rules to translate idioms. According to Baker (1992), there are some actions which cannot be done by idiomatic expressions, such as: change the order of word in it, delete a word from it, add a word to it, replace a word with another and change its grammatical structure (p. 63).

1.2 Identification of the Problem

The main difficulties involved in translating idioms and fixed expressions are the ability to recognize and interpret an idiom correctly. The meaning of idiom is diverse from the meaning which is expressed by the individual words. Also the meaning conveys and associates with culture-specific contexts which make it difficult to translate. An idiom or fixed expression may have no equivalent in the target language. If translator lacks knowledge about the strategies and cultures in

which idioms used, it will lead to mistranslation to the meaning in target language. The questions that come out due to these problems are :

1. What groups of idioms found in the novel of *The Cather in the Rye*?
2. What strategies used by the translator to translate idioms from English into Bahasa Indonesia from the novel *The Cather in the Rye*?

1.3 Objective of the Research

Illustrated by those cases, the research that is going to be conducted focus on the strategies used by the translator to translate English idioms into Bahasa Indonesia. Before analysing the strategies used by the translator, first of all, the writer groups all idioms into groups where they belong to in English and Bahasa Indonesia. After grouping, then the writer analyses the strategies used by the translator to translate all of those idioms from the novel *The Cather in the Rye*.

1.4 Scope of the Research

The novel of *The Cather in the Rye* written by J.D. Salinger actually has been translated into many languages since it was published for the first time in 1951. One of translation versions is in Bahasa Indonesia. The writer believes that there are also many translators from Indonesia who translate this famous American novel. For this reason, the writer only picks one of translation versions in Bahasa Indonesia which is translated by Gita Widya Laksmi. The translation version of hers published in 2015 by Banana.

In this research, first of all, the writer groups all idioms into groups where they belong to in English and Bahasa Indonesia. After that, to analyse the strategies used by the translator to translate those English idioms, the writer

takes a look at strategies proposed by Mona Baker. As a matter of fact, there are also many experts who have their own strategies to translate idioms such as Mildred L. Larson, Mona Baker, Nida, Peter Newmark and et cetera. But the writer does not use all strategies proposed by those experts.

The writer only chooses the strategies to translate idioms proposed by Mona Baker because those strategies are easily understood and explained explicitly. There are four strategies to translate idioms according to Mona Baker, such as: translating idiom using an idiom of similar meaning and form, translating an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translating idiom by paraphrase and translating idiom by omission.

1.5 Method of the Research

In order to conduct this research, the writer follows three steps proposed by Sudaryanto. According to Sudaryanto (1988), there are three steps to do a research, such as collecting the data, analyzing the data and presenting the result of analysis (p. 57).

1.5.1 Collecting the Data

In collecting the data, the writer uses observational method. Sudaryanto (1993) mentions that observational method is used to observe language (p. 133). Then, for the technique to collect the data analysis, the writer uses non-participant observational technique. According to Sudaryanto (1993), non-participant observational technique is used to collect the data and describe the language without involving the researcher in the dialogue or conversation but only works with the data (p. 134).

1.5.1.1 Research Procedure

The writer chooses one of famous American novels entitled *The Catcher in the Rye*. In English version, it is written by the author itself J. D. Salinger. This novel published for the first time in 1951. Meanwhile, the translation version in Bahasa Indonesia is translated by Gita Widya Laksmi as translator, Yusi Avianto Pareamon as editor and Risdi as layout. It was published in 2015 by Banana. This novel consists of twenty six chapters. In English it has 214 pages and in Bahasa Indonesia it has 295 pages.

Furthermore, the writer reads the novel *The Catcher in the Rye* from both versions English and Bahasa Indonesia. Along reading it, once the writer finds idioms in one page, the writer looks at books of idioms in English written by Gillett, A. (2004), Spears, R. A. (2007), and Ammer, C. (1997). Then, the writer retypes all those idioms on the laptop and not forget to type the pages in which part those idioms found.

There are 234 idioms found by the writer, but not all of those idioms analysed. This is because the writer finds there are some similar idioms repeated in other pages. For example, the writer finds an idiom *can't stand* on page 14. "*I can't stand that stuff. It drives me crazy. It makes me so depressed I go crazy*". The idiom *can't stand* also can be found on page 14, 23, 24, 75, 90, 116, 141, 156 and 193 in this novel. Seeing that, each idiom that is going to be analysed is idiom found in the first page of idiom from the novel. After selecting one of similar idioms repeated on other pages, the writer gets 35 idioms that are going to be discussed in this research.

1.5.2 Analysing the Data

In analysing the data, the writer uses translational identity method. According to Sudaryanto (1993), the technique used for translational identity method is other language. Other language's technique is used to analyse the translation from one language into another (p. 14).

Furthermore, the writer also uses comparative method proposed by Sudaryanto to analyse the data. According to Sudaryanto (1988), comparative method is used to compare one data to another. By comparing the data, the researcher knows the similarities and the differences between the data (p. 63).

1.5.2.1 Research Procedure

The writer analyzes English idioms from the novel *The Catcher in the Rye* by reading the text of that novel again. The text that is re-read by the writer only in which part those idioms found. The purpose to do so is to know what the story about in that novel before continuing to group those idioms and then analyze the strategies used by the translator to translate all of those English idioms.

To group English idioms and Bahasa Indonesia, the writer follows the theory proposed by Fernando and Chaer. According to Fernando (1996), there are three groups of idioms in English: pure idiom, semi idiom and literal idiom (p. 60-63). Meanwhile, to group idioms in Bahasa Indonesia, the writer uses theory proposed by Chaer. According to Chaer (1996), there are two groups of idiom: full idiom and semi idiom (p. 8).

Especially to group English idioms that have been translated into Bahasa Indonesia by the translator, the next step that the writer does is look for the

meaning in Bahasa Indonesia through books of idioms and Bahasa Indonesia dictionary as well. The purpose is to know whether the translation versions also belong to idioms in Bahasa Indonesia or not.

After all those English idioms grouped accordingly, the next step is to compare English idioms and Bahasa Indonesia version from that novel. By comparing both English and Bahasa Indonesia's version, the writer knows the strategies used by the translator to translate those English idioms by reading the translation versions in Bahasa Indonesia from those English idioms.

1.5.3 Presenting the Result of Analysis

According to Sudaryanto (1993), the result of analysis is presented by using two methods. They are formal and informal method. The formal method is used to present the finding in the form of sign, symbol and table. On the other hand, in informal method, the finding is presented by using words or natural language(p. 145). To be sure, the writer applies both of them, formal and informal method.

