

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Translation is one of the most appropriate and inexpensive solutions for accelerating the progress of science and technology in developing countries. This is the key for humans to be able to share data, stories, experiences, and, especially, information. However, translation is a complex thing. Translation techniques are often used when translating a literary work, one of which is a short story.

Within the realm of literature, one of the most well-liked forms of artistic expression is the short story. In spite of the waning interest in reading that is prevalent in current times, it is inevitable that every modern person has read at least one short story or is familiar with at least one short story. This might be folklore, stories found on the internet, or even collections of short stories. It is possible due to the fact that short stories not only contain exciting narratives but are also brief, meaning that reading them can take a manageable amount of time. There are various famous short stories in the literary world, including the Interpreter of Maladies by Jhumpa Lahiri (1999).

On July 11th, 1967, Nilanjana Sudheshna Lahiri was born in London, England to parents who immigrated to Great Britain from India. When Lahiri was a child, her father, a university librarian, decided to move to the United States for employment, settling in South Kingstown, Rhode Island. Lahiri, whose family nickname was “Jhumpa,” pursued her English literature studies at New York’s Barnard College. Later, she enrolled at Boston University, where she earned three master’s degrees in literature and a doctorate in Renaissance studies. Jhumpa Lahiri was awarded the 2014 National Medal of Arts and Humanities by President Barack Obama. This accomplishment subsequently made her one of the most renowned Indian-American women authors. Additionally, This Blessed House has won a number of other honors, including the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the Hemingway

Foundation/PEN Award in 2000. Over 15 million copies have been sold worldwide. In addition, it was selected as The New Yorker's Best Debut of the Year and is on Oprah Winfrey's list of the Top Ten Books.

Lahiri's writing is characterized by "ordinary" language and character against the background of figures who are usually Indian immigrants. Lahiri frequently recounts her own experiences as well as those of her parents, colleagues, and other members of the Indian community with whom she is acquainted. Lahiri likes to focus on the life of Indian immigrants in America. She writes on social portraits, such as racism, poverty, and gender marginalization among the Indian immigrant community in America.

One of the elements that build short stories to become good work is figurative language. Figurative language functions to beautify a literary work. Perrine (cited in Purwoadhi, 2018) states that there are four primary reasons why figurative language is effective. First, figurative language offers imaginative enjoyment to readers of literary works. Second, it enriches two passages with additional imagery, concretizing the abstract and enhancing the sensuality of literary works. The third, figurative language is used to add emotional intensity to otherwise solely informative statements and to convey attitudes and information. Fourth, it is a concise method of conveying a great deal of information. A short story without figurative language will be uninteresting; the short stories will have no artistic language.

Figurative language is used extensively in the short stories, both in the original language and in translations. Larson (cited in Aulia, 2019) states that the purpose of a translator in translating figurative language is to maintain the three elements of clarity, fourth, and beauty in the language. Unfortunately, the majority of translators have difficulty translating figurative language because not everyone can readily interpret such language.

On the basis of the aforementioned considerations, the writer concludes that the study of the use of translation techniques in translating figurative language for short stories is still significant, as literary works such as short stories have their performance characteristics. This study also uses Miles and Huberman's (cited in

Rofiah, 2022) approach because in order to identify and analyze data sources in the form of short stories, the writer require a variety of techniques for determining the validity of the data sources and classifying the figurative language. In addition, Miles and Huberman's (cited in Rofiah, 2022) theory is also applicable to this study because this study uses short stories.

This study is essential so that translators who utilize translation techniques in the process of translating short stories can develop their skills in translating figurative language in order to convey aesthetic values into the language they are translating into. This study focuses on 2 short stories written by Jhumpa Lahiri in her book *Interpreter of Maladies*, "Sexy" and "This Blessed House", which have also been translated into Indonesian by Gita Yuliani K (2006) into *Seksi dan Rumah yang Diberkati*. Both of her short stories depict the life of the Indian diaspora in America, which is one of the reasons why these short stories are so famous and distinctive.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

In this collection of short stories, we will be looking into two different topics.

- 1.2.1 What figurative language is used by the author?
- 1.2.2 What techniques are used by the translator to translate the figurative language into the target language?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

This study has two goals, both of which are expected to provide answers to the concerns raised above:

- 1.3.1 To find out the kinds of figurative language are used in "Sexy" and "This Blessed House."
- 1.3.2 To find out what techniques are used by the translator to translate the figurative language into target language.

1.4 Significance of the study

The findings of the study are supposed to give theoretical and practical contributions for academic world.

1.4.1 Theoritically

In reference to the study objectives, it is anticipated that this study will provide additional information and new knowledge that will improve the translator's capacity to analyze figurative language translation. Through this study, it is anticipated that the community will be more cautious when analyzing figurative language translations, thereby preventing any errors.

1.4.2 Practically

It is anticipated that this study's findings will serve as a resource for other researchers conducting future studies. This study reveals the true meaning of figurative language in short stories as well as the translation techniques employed by translators when translating SL to TL. Consequently, they are able to offer critical analysis in the field of translation.

1.5 Methodology of the Study

The writer uses the descriptive qualitative with Manual Data Analysis Process (MDAP) method by Miles and Huberman (cited in Rofiah, 2022) to collect the data. This method is best suited for study because it includes classification elements and better accommodates the writer's understanding of the data analysis performed. The data acquired from short stories were analyzed using the method of Miles and Huberman (cited in Rofiah, 2022) which consists of three main things: data compression, data presentation, and conclusion/verification.

These three main things are intertwined during the data collection process with the following stages:

a. Data collecting

In the data collecting process, data analysis can also be done at the same time. The data obtained comes from everything that is seen, heard, and observed. It is not final data that can be directly analyzed to draw a conclusion.

b. Data reduction

This stage takes place continuously as the implementation of the research takes place. Intended to further sharpen, classify, direct, remove data that is not needed, and organize it.

c. Data Presentation

The presentation of data is a structured collection of information that allows for the drawing of conclusions and execution of action. It is easier for the writer to comprehend what transpired and what to do when the data are presented with care. Data can be presented in the form of graphs, concise descriptions, graphs, charts, or tables.

d. Conclusion/Verification

At the stage of data collection, the writer draws conclusions supported by substantial evidence based on condensed and presented data. The conclusion is the answer derived from the formulation of the problems and questions posed by the writer at the outset.

The approach of Miles and Huberman (cited in Rofiah, 2022) allows the writer to collect data while still conducting data analysis. In addition, the figurative language found in short stories is classified according to the theory of Hatch, which consist of simile, metaphor, synecdoche, metonymy, allusion, personification, hyperbole, and antithesis (cited in M.Taneo et al., 2022). Furthermore, the writer identified the figurative language translation technique used in the short story using Molina and Albir's translation techniques, which consist of Adaptation, Borrowing, Established Equivalent, Description, Amplification, Calque, Compensation, Discursive Creation, Generalization, Linguistic Amplification, Linguistic Compression, Literal Translation, Modulation, Particularization, Reduction, Substitution, Transposition, and Variation. (cited in Indarti, 2021). This theory of translation techniques is used in this study because it uses procedures to analyze and categorize efforts to achieve translation equality.

1.6 Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study focuses on the translation techniques of figurative language used in *Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri, with English as the source language

(SL) and Indonesian as the target language (TL). The short stories that have been chosen are “Sexy” and “This Blessed House” alongside the translation version *Seksi* and *Rumah yang Diberkati*. These two stories were chosen because they have a lot of figurative language that can be studied. Furthermore, the writer limits the type of figurative language by the theory of Hatch (cited in M.Taneo et al., 2022). According to Hatch, figurative language consists of simile, metaphor, synecdoche, metonymy, allusion, personification, hyperbole, and antithesis. In addition, this study is based on Molina and Albir’s translation techniques (cited in Indarti, 2021) which consist of Adaptation, Borrowing, Established Equivalent, Description, Amplification, Calque, Compensation, Discursive Creation, Generalization, Linguistic Amplification, Linguistic Compression, Literal Translation, Modulation, Particularization, Reduction, Substitution, Transposition, and Variation.

1.7 Status of the Study

At the Faculty of Letters and Languages at the Christian University of Indonesia, there has been much discussion on research on translation techniques. Some discuss noun phrases, metaphors, and so on. Meanwhile, this study explains the figurative language translation techniques used in Jhumpa Lahiri’s short stories. The first prior research similar to this study was conducted by Sarah Sonia entitled “*Translation Techniques of Figurative Language Used in Edgar Allan Poe’s Short Stories*” (2021). The difference with this study lies in the object and theories used.

The second prior research has been studied by Siti Nursolihat and Evie Kareviati from IKIP Siliwangi entitled “*An Analysis of Figurative Language Used in The Lyric of ‘A Whole New World’ By Zayn Malik and Zhavia Ward*” (2020). The purpose of this study is to analyze the figurative language employed in this study. However, the emphasis of their research is on the lyrics of the song “A Whole New World” by Zayn Malik and Zhavia Ward, whereas the focus of this study is on short stories written by Jhumpa Lahiri. In addition, they both use figurative language analysis, but their research does not discuss other things such as the translation techniques used.

The third prior research is “*Cultural Translation: Jhumpa Lahiri and the Interpreter of Maladies*” conducted by Fazilet Akdoğan Özdemir (2013) from Boğaziçi University. Her research is based on a case analysis in a collection of short story books by Jhumpa Lahiri. Her research utilizes the *Interpreter of Maladies* (2000) as its data source, the same as this study. However, her data research concentrates on cultural translation, a complex concept due to the use of the metaphor of translation in postcolonial contexts and cultural theory. While conducting this study, the writer concentrates on analyzing the techniques used to translate figurative language.

1.8 Organization of the study

This section will discuss about the organizational structure in this study. The following is the organization and its explanation.

- a. Chapter I is the introduction. This chapter provides background of the study, statements of the problem, the purpose of the study, the significance of the study, methodology of the study, scope, and limitation, status of the study, and organization of the research.
- b. Chapter II is the review of related literature. This chapter contains the theories that underlie this study. It contains the definition of translation, the definition of figurative language, and techniques of translation.
- c. Chapter III is the findings and discussions. This chapter contains the answers to research problems, interprets research findings, integrates research findings into established knowledge collections, modifies existing theories, and explains research results.
- d. Chapter IV is the conclusion and suggestion. This chapter discusses the conclusions of the research.