

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Translation is a branch of linguistics. In recent years, translation contributes a lot in education, technology, health, economic, politic, and literature. Translating practically a connection to the wider world, especially in overcoming language barriers. In studying English at university, translation is also one of the subjects to study. Before getting translation as subject, the English students earlier provided by the linguistic subjects such as grammar, so when translating texts, newspapers, books, letters, poems and many more from English (target language) into Bahasa Indonesia (source language) the students are able to get or convey the message contained in the original source into a good translation work.

Translation is an action of transferring the meaning of written or oral message from one language into other language. Based on Catford (1965), translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL). And according to Moentaha (2006; p. 11), “Translation is the process of replacing the text in the Source Language (SL) into the Target Language (TL) without changing the level of SL.”

The researcher was interested to conduct a research about translation study in literary work, in this case the data source was taken from a novel entitled “The

Railway Children” written by Edith Nesbit, first published in 1906. In Indonesia, “The Railway Children” has translated by Widya Kirana published by Penerbit PT. Gramedia Pustaka Utama entitled “*Anak-anak Kereta Api*”. This novel contains many figures of speech, especially simile. Figures of speech are imaginative tools in both literature and ordinary communications used for explaining speech beyond its usual usage (Fadaee, 2010), while simile is comparing two different objects. The likeness of the two objects is suggested. In Bahasa Indonesia, simile is the comparison of two different things but it is considered to equal (<http://samudra-fox.blogspot.com/2009/02/majas.html>). The comparison could be identified by its marker such as “*seperti*”, “*umpama*”, “*ibarat*”, “*laksana*”, “*bak*”, “*bagaikan*”, “*bagai*”. For instance, “*Persaudaraan mereka berdua bagaikan anjing dan kucing*”.

To translate simile in the source language into the target language is to find the cultural meaning and has appropriate equivalence in the source language. A translator has to assess the quality and value of the writing in the source language text. It is not about between literary and non-literary texts, but it is about between good (or effective) and bad (or ineffective) writing. Newmark (1988, p. 127) exposed that :

If a text is well written, whether it is literary or scientific, historical or technological, its formal components are of prime importance, and the translator must respect them and fully account for them in his version, not by any kind of imitation but by transposing them through deep structure (‘what does this really mean?’) to congruent formal components.

In other words, a translator is expected to translate the texts with all his knowledge, proficiency and perception not only his ability to produce the target text, but also his understanding of the source language.

It is interesting to investigate the accuracy of the use of the techniques adopted by the translator in translating similes into Bahasa Indonesia. This research was conducted in the focus on viewing the frequently-applied techniques of translation in dealing with similes in the translations of phrases, clauses, sentences or expressions found in the novel.

B. Focus and Subfocus of Research

The focus of this research is the similes translation from English to Indonesia found in the original novel “The Railway Children” written by Edith Nesbit and in the translated version “*Anak-anak Kereta Api*” by Widya Kirana.

The subfocus of the research were directed to: (1) The similes in the English novel translated in Indonesian and (2) the techniques used by the translator in translating the similes.

C. Problem Formulation

The problem formulation of this research is how are the techniques employed in translating English similes into Indonesian language in the Edith Nesbit’s novel entitled “The Railway Children”?

D. Research Questions

1. What are the English similes in the novel “The Railway Children” by Edith Nesbit?
2. How were the techniques used in translating English similes in the novel “The Railway Children” in the translated novel “*Anak-anak Kereta Api*”?

E. Research Objectives

The objectives of the research were to collect and analyze data to find out:

1. The English similes in original English novel “The Railway Children”
2. The techniques in translating English similes in the novel “The Railway Children” by the translator into the translated version “*Anak-anak Kereta Api*”.

F. Significances of Research

The researcher hopes this research is useful to students who take Translation Class, translators and also the other researchers.

1. To students, the results of this study hopefully can enrich the knowledge in English learning, especially in deepen their understanding of translating figure of speech, simile.
2. To translators, this research hopefully will help to improve their understanding of translation.

3. To other researchers, hopefully will get motivate to explore more about translation.