

Chapter II

Literature Review

2.1. Translation

Translation happens to be important and common as the connection with the foreign countries is getting easier and easier. We can see translating happen everywhere, in conversation, in movies, and even in books and literary works. Because of these the business in the field of translation is very good and the requirements for translator's service are really needed.

2.1.1. Definition of Translation

Generally, people defined translation as an act of transferring meaning from one language to another language. Many experts have already defined translation in many ways. Newmark (1988: 5) says that translation is "rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text". On the other hand, Nida and Taber (1982: 12) state that "translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message". In other words the meaning must be close or similar with the source language. Catford says that translation is "the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL)", which is similar to what Nida said.

From these three experts, it can be concluded that translation is changing or rendering the meaning from source language to target language, the meaning of the target language also must be equivalent or similar with the source language.

2.1.2. Problems of Translation

In the middle of translating, a translator sometimes faces a problem. The main problem usually comes from the difference of culture between the source language and target language, especially when it comes down to translating an idiom. Newmark (1988) says that “in translating idiomatic into idiomatic language, it is particularly difficult to match equivalence of meaning with equivalence of frequency” (p. 28). He thinks that the main problem that a translator faces is mostly on lexical level such as words, and idioms (Newmark, 1988).

Meanwhile Baker (1992) says that the main problems expressed by idioms and fixed expressions for translators relate to two principal areas: “The ability to recognize and interpret an idiom correctly; and the difficulties involved in rendering the various aspects of meaning that an idiom or a fixed expression conveys into the TL” (p. 65). She summarized the main problems involved in translating idioms (1992, pp.68-71) as follows: (a) An idiom or fixed expression may have no equivalent in the TL. (b) An idiom or fixed expression may have a similar counterpart in the TL, but its context of use may be different; the two expressions may have different connotations or they may not be pragmatically transferable. (c) An idiom

may be used in the ST in both its literal and idiomatic senses at the same time. Unless the TL idiom corresponds to the SL idiom both in form and in meaning, the play on idiom cannot be successfully reproduced in the TT. (d) The very convention of using idioms in written discourse, the contexts in which they can be used and their frequency of use may be different in the source and target languages.

2.1.3. Process of Translation

A translator requires a process to translate a text. The process basically begins with the translator reads and analyzes the whole source text, then the translator begins to translate the text in his/her mind, finally the translator recreates the structure for the target text.

Bathgate (1983, cited in Floriasti, 2014) states that there are seven steps in translation process: First step is tuning. In this step the translator tries to adapt to the source text, and its language style depend on what kind of text that the translator tries to do. Most translators usually do this by reading and digging information regarding the text background, content, and context. The second step is analysis. After getting comfortable with the text, the translators analyze the text in the sentence level. To make it easier the translator can split the sentences into clauses and phrases, and examine the syntactical relation one another. The third step is comprehension. After splitting the sentences into clauses and phrases, the translators tries to reconstruct it all again until he/she get the whole meaning or purpose of the text. This is all depending on the translator's knowledge of the text, as the translator should be able

to understand the source text he/she translates. The fourth step is terminology. In this step the translator tries to look at the key words and find the equivalent and appropriate terms for the target text, so that the translation can be accepted by the reader of the target text. Fifth step is restructuring. After everything is gathered, the translator tries to construct them in a form that is acceptable in target text language. Sixth step is checking. In this step, the translator will double check his/her draft for errors or mistype. It is quite common and important in this step that the translator asks for suggestion from other person. Finally the last step is discussion. In this last step, the translator ends the translation process by having a discussion with experts or editors. After that, the translator can publish his/her final translation to public.

On the other hand, Nida and Taber (1982: 33) divided the process of translation into three steps. The first step is analysis. In this step the translator analyzes the source language text in terms of grammatical relationships and the meaning of the words and sentences. The second step is transfer. After the materials have been analyzed, the translator transfers the source language into his/her mind to form a target text with similar message. Finally the last step is restructuring. In this last step, the translator restructures the transferred materials in order to make the final message acceptable in the target language.

According to Larson, translation is a change of form (ibid: 3). This form could be words, phrases, clauses, sentences, or even paragraphs. He states that a translation begins with a source text. The source text is then analyzed to discover its meaning. After discovering the meaning, the meaning itself is then restructured in accordance

to grammatical structure from receptor language. The diagram below is Larson's process of translation

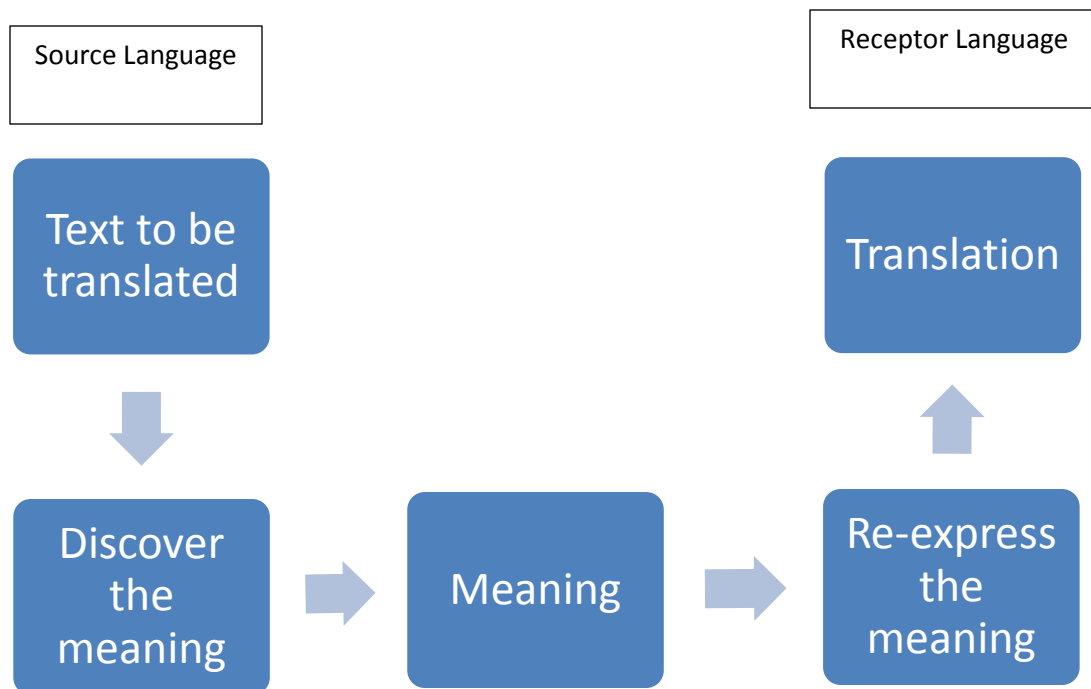


Diagram 1: Larson's Process of Translation

2.1.4. Strategy of Translation

To translate a text, different translator could use a different kind of strategies especially in translating idiom. Vinay and Darbelnet (2000, cited in Munday, 2001) states seven strategies of translation. These strategies are borrowing, calque, literal translation, transposition, modulation, equivalence and adaptation.

On the other hand, Mona Baker, (1992; 72-28), proposes four strategies specifically for translating idioms. The first is using an idiom of similar meaning and form (Baker; 1992: 72). This strategy is using an idiom in target language, which has roughly the same or similar meaning with the source language idioms, also the form on both of the idioms are similar. For example, *wolf in sheep's clothing* translated into *serigala berbulu domba*.

The second is using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form (Baker; 1992:74). Different than before, this strategy using an idiom in target language that has the same or similar meaning with the source language idioms, but this time the form is different. For example, *kill two birds with one stone* translated into *sambil menyelam minum air*.

The third is translation by paraphrase (Baker; 1992: 74). This strategy paraphrase the source target idioms and mostly used when the target language has no similarity in meaning with the source language idiom. For example *raining cats and dogs* translated into *hujan kucing dan anjing*.

The fourth and the last is translation by omission (Baker, 1992: 77). Much like omitting a single word, this strategy omits the entire idiom in the target text. The reason behind this is usually because there is no idiom that is similar in target language, and the meaning is too hard to be translated or paraphrased.

In this study the writer choose Mona Baker's theory on translating idioms, because she gives the strategy specifically for translating idioms.

2.2. Idioms

Idiom is one kind of figurative language is widely known for its unique and sometimes nonsensical form. Idiom can be widely found in literary works such as poetry and novels. It has a function to beautify writings so it would not be boring for the readers. Each country has different and unique idioms. Many English speaking countries often use idiom not only on their literary works, but as simple as daily conversation. That's why English has myriad kinds of idioms.

2.2.1. Definitions of English Idioms

As for the definition, many experts have already described it. Makkai (1972; 122), considers the idioms as “multiword expressions whose meaning is not predictable from their component parts”, while Rosamund Moon (1998; 3), defines idiom as “an ambiguous term, used in conflicting ways, and an idiom is a particular lexical collocation or phrasal lexeme, peculiar to a language”. From these experts it can be said that an idiom is a peculiar phrasal expressions whose meaning is not the same as its form and it tends to be ambiguous.

On the other hand, **Newmark** (1988, p. 104) claims that an idiom has two main functions: pragmatic and referential. The pragmatic function is “to appeal to the senses, to interest, to surprise, to delight”, while the referential function is “to

describe a mental process or state, a concept, a person, an object, a quality or an action more comprehensively and concisely than is possible in literal or physical language” (Cited in Strakšiene, 2009, p. 14). In other word, the pragmatic function comes from the idiom’s physical form. Idioms usually function as an adornment to a sentence, in a way that the sentence sounds more appealing to the reader. The referential function comes from the idiom’s meaning. Idioms usually reflect human experience and life lesson that were passed down through generations, and it usually can help the reader to understand complex ideas in a simplified manner.

2.2.2. Types of English Idioms

As mentioned before, English has so many idioms and some experts have already divided them into several types. According to McCarthy and O'Dell (2003:6) idioms can be grouped based on their possible combinations. The first type is verb + object/complement (and or adverbial). For example, *jump down someone’s throat* (to react angrily to what someone says or does). The second type is prepositional phrase. For example, *on time* (punctual). The third type is compound. For example, *a bone of contention* (a subject about which there is disagreement). The fourth type is simile (as + adjective + as or like + a noun). For example, *as blind as a bat* (bad eyesight). The fifth type is binominal (word + and + word). For example, *odds and ends* (various small, unimportant, inexpensive items). The sixth type is trinomial (word + word + and + word). For example *ready, willing and able* (well prepared and capable of

acting as soon as possible). The last type is whole clause or sentence. For example *it's raining cats and dogs* (raining heavily).

Meanwhile, Fernando (1996) in Leah (2012) says that idioms can be grouped into three sub-classes: pure idioms, semi-idioms, and literal idioms. Pure idiom is a type of idiom in which the meaning cannot be understood just by looking at the words that creates the phrase. For example the idiom *break a leg* (good luck) is one of this type, because the meaning got nothing to do with breaking someone's leg. Semi idiom, on the other hand, contains at least one part that has literal meaning while the other does not. A person can guess the meaning of this type of idioms, even if the person is not familiar with the idiom. For example the idiom *foot the bill* (to pay the bill) is one of this type. The "foot" is the non-literal element, while the "bill" is used literally. The last is literal idiom. This type of idiom meaning is made up from the literal meaning of its parts, so that a person can easily guess its meaning. This type is less complex than the previous two. For example *a man/woman of few words* (a man or woman who does not speak much) is one of this type, because the idiom itself already describe the meaning.

In this study the writer use Fernando's theory on types of idioms, because he gives more detailed information on types of idioms.

2.2.3. Definition of Indonesian Idioms

Just like English idioms, Bahasa Indonesia also has its own definition of idiom. According to Abdul Chaer in his dictionary *Kamus Idiom Bahasa Indonesia* (1984:7) “idiom is a fixed expression of words, phrases, or sentence which cannot be defined literally”. He also says that “idiom is the unity of language (words, phrases, and sentence) which meaning cannot be taken from general grammatical rule which is applied in the language, or defined from the lexical items which construct the unity, translated” (Chaer, 1984:7). It can be concluded from his theory that idiom is an expression constructed by words into a phrase or a sentence that has the meaning cannot be defined literally, grammatically, or lexically.

2.2.4. Types of Indonesian Idioms

Much like English idioms, Indonesian idioms are also divided into several types. Abdul Chaer (1993, cited in Riantang, 2010) in his book entitled “*Kamus Idiom Bahasa Indonesia*” has classified the Indonesian idioms into two types idiom penuh (full idiom) and idiom sebahagian (semi idiom), which is almost similar to Fernando’s types of idioms. The first type is full idiom. According to Chaer “full idiom is an idiom in which its constituent elements already constitute a unity of meaning and every element has lost its lexical meaning so that the meaning of the idiom is formed from its constituent elements as a whole” (Chaer, 1993, cited in

Istiqomah, p.12). For example, meja hijau (Court) is on this type of idiom, because the meaning have nothing to do with the word “meja (table)” and “hijau (green)”.

The second type is semi idiom. Chaer says that “semi idiom is considered as an idiom in which one of the constituent elements still remains in its lexical meaning, and another one is not (lost its literal meaning)” (Chaer, 1993, cited in Istiqomah, p.12). For example the Indonesian expression “pasar gelap (black market)” (a market full of illegal transaction). The word “pasar” is used literally, while the word “gelap” is the non-literal part.

2.3. About the Novel

2.3.1. Ernest Hemingway and “The Old Man and The Sea”

Hemingway, born in Oak Park, Illinois, in 1899, was an American novelist, short story writer, and journalist. He published seven novels, six short stories, and two non-fiction works. He volunteered himself as a World War I ambulance driver in Italy, but he was severely wounded in 1918 and returned home. In April 1934 he bought a fishing boat, which he named Pilar, and sailed to Caribbean. In 1935 he took a fishing trip in Bimini, Bahamas, and spent a long holiday there. His trip there became an inspiration for his novel *The Old Man and The Sea*. The genre for this novel is adventure, because the old man went for a quest to capture a fish with many obstacles along the way

The Old Man and The Sea was published by Hemingway in 1952, and in 1953 it won the Pulitzer Prize award. The story of the novel is about the struggle of an old fisherman named Santiago, and his biggest catch of his life. Each day for 84 days, he went fishing to the sea and came home empty handed. He once had a young apprentice named Manolin, who assisted him when he went to the sea. But because of his unlucky streak, Manolin's parents forced him to leave Santiago for more prosperous boat. He deeply cares for Santiago, and even though he could not help the old man in the sea, he still tries his best to help him on land. One day, Santiago felt that his unlucky streak will eventually come to an end, and he promised to sail farther than usual for the next day.

The next day, he did as he promised and sail his boat to the Gulf Stream. He prepared his lines, and casted them to the sea. One of his lines was bitten by what he identified as a really big marlin. So big that it was actually the fish that pulled Santiago and his boat and not the other way around. Fearing for the fish to snap the line, Santiago strained the line on his hands, shoulder, back.

For three days he struggled to catch the marlin to a point of exhaustion. His body was full with cuts from the line, and he himself almost went delirious. For those days he felt admiration for the fish, so far as calling it his brother. Finally the marlin become tired, and Santiago managed to pull the fish close enough to harpoon it. But the struggle was not over yet. On his way home, several sharks tried to eat the marlin. Those sharks were attracted by the marlin's blood. Santiago managed to kill some of

the sharks, but some sharks also managed to take a bite on the marlin. When he finally arrived on the shore, all that was left of the marlin was its head, skeleton, and tail. Feeling very tired, he stumbled back to his shack and slept deeply.

The next morning a crowd of amazed fishermen and tourist gathered around the marlin carcass which was still tied to Santiago's boat, not knowing the old man struggle. Seeing this, Manolin burst into tears, and then went to Santiago's shack bringing him coffee and newspaper. When Santiago woke up, the two promised to go fish together again. The old man returned to sleep, and dreamt his favorite dream of lions playing on African beach.

2.3.2. Translators

This study used two translated novel with different translator. The first translator is Sapardi Djoko Damono. Born 20th March 1940 in Solo, Central Java, he was an Indonesian poet and widely known as the pioneer of lyrical poetry in Indonesia. His career developed alongside his academic, as he began writing poem in high school. After graduating from high school he went to study at Gajah Mada University on English division of Literature Department. Today he is still a professor at University of Indonesia. Through his life, he already published 18 poetries, four fictions, and nine non-fictions. He also won five awards. The second translator is Yuni Kristianingsih Pramudhaningrat.

2.4. Theoretical Framework

This study also used Fernando's theory on types of English idioms and Chaer's theory on types of Indonesian idioms, and lastly this study used Mona Baker's theory to analyze the strategy of translating idiom.