

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Translating is a process when a translator transfers a text from Source Language (SL) to Target Language (TL). This process is necessary because it makes the readers are easily to understand the messages from the text of Source Language. Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (Source Language) by equivalent textual material in another language (Target Language), (Catford 1965: 20). It means, translators must have wide knowledge and comprehend in vocabularies, thus they are able to interpret a text from Source Language to Target Language in equivalent words.

There are many types of text which enable to translate, such as legal text, scientific text, literature text, etc. Each types of text in translation have its difficulties. Commonly the translation problems are about the lexical-semantic, grammatical, syntactical, rhetorical, and pragmatic. On the other hand, Larson (1984) states translation is decided to two different types, literal translation and idiomatic translation. Literal translation or commonly known as word-for-word translation is when a translator interpret the text to Target Language without any significant alteration. Almost each word in Source Language is translated literally into Target Language. Meanwhile in idiomatic translation, mostly the meaning has significant alteration.

Idiom is an expression which the meaning is hard to be understood if the translation is translated word by word, though some idioms can be translated by its words. Mostly the idioms are found in literature text, such as novel, poetry, songs, etc. Then this study focuses on translating of idioms in novel, especially in *the Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. It is one of the best classic-romance-novel by Hawthorne. *The Scarlet Letter* is about a woman, named Hester Prynne who is jailed because her fornication. Although the author uses kind of style's language such as simile, metaphor, and personification, he also uses many idioms in the novel.

Then the writer will use the translated version of *the Scarlet Letter* from two publishers. First is the translated version which is published by PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama and secondly is published by Narasi Yogyakarta. The reason of choosing those publishers, they are one of the largest publishers in Indonesia. Besides, range of year those translated novels are published is quite far, PT Gramedia published in 1995 while Narasi in 2015. The writer thinks that range of year will affect the quality of translation.

There are some previous studies related to idioms. In this study, the writer uses three previous studies. The first is "Strategies Used in Translation of English Idioms into Persian in Novels" by Khosravi and Khatib (2012). They highlighted the strategies which used in idiomatic expressions for English into Persian translation in "To Kill a Mockingbird" novel by Harper Lee and "Of Mice and Men" novel by John Steinbeck. They used Baker's theory to analyze them and found 407 idiomatic expressions from those two novels. Then *paraphrase* is the

most common strategies with frequency 290 idioms (71.25%), and the least common strategies is *using idiom of similar meaning and form* with nine idioms (2.21%).

The second is “Idioms and Strategies of Translation in Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows” by Saputro (2012). He also used Baker’s theory to highlight the strategies which used in that novel due to he thought its strategy can be made some modifications without ignoring the norms. Besides, he used Fernando’s theory to classify the idioms types. His finding is (42.58%) idioms found in *transparent idioms* and (23.20%) idioms found in *semi-transparent idioms*. Then most of idioms are translated by *paraphrase*.

The third is a final project by Mabruroh (2015) “An Analysis of Idioms and Their Problems Found in the Novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* by Mark”. Her purpose was to find out the idioms were found in that novel, so she used Makkai’s theory to classify the idioms types. Her finding is there are 796 idioms in that novel and the phrasal verb idioms is the dominant type of idiom. Besides, there are 4 problems existed are found.

In this study, the writer also uses the same theories as the previous studies, such as Baker’s theory (1992) to analyze the strategies used on idioms translation. Then, the writer uses different theory of types of idiom because she thinks Lim’s theory (2004) to analyze the types of English idioms and Khak’s theory (2006) to analyze the types of Indonesian idioms is more specific than theory in previous study. Besides, the writer will use Nababan’s theory (2012) to see the quality of

translation, due to this study also aims to compare two Indonesian translated novels.

This study is expected to give a more knowledge relates to comparative study of two Indonesian translated novels. Then we will know how the translation's strategy of idioms in novel, especially in "The Scarlet Letter" by Nathaniel Hawthorne can impact the quality of the translation, then show us which ones has better quality of translation.

1.2 Research Question

1. What are the similarities and differences on the types of idioms in English and Indonesian translated version of "The Scarlet Letter"?
2. How the idioms in novel "The Scarlet Letter" are translated by translator A and translator B?
3. How the translation of idioms in novel "The Scarlet Letter" affects the quality of the translation?

1.3 Scope of the Study

This study only focuses on translating of idioms in novel "The Scarlet Letter" and its impact on the quality of translation.

1.4 Purpose of the Study

1. To show the similarities and differences on the types of idioms in the Indonesian translated version of "The Scarlet Letter".
2. To analyze the strategy used by Translator in translating idioms.

3. To discuss how the translation of idioms in novel “The Scarlet Letter” affects the quality of the translation and to show which one has better quality between translator A and translator B.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study can give students of English Department a better knowledge about comparison study of translated novel, especially in translating the idioms. Then this study gives the readers especially for novice translators to know a better strategy which can make a good quality of translation.