

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter reveals the background of the study, research question, purpose of the study, the limitation of the study, and the significance of the study. The explanations of these parts are presented below:

1.1 Background of the Study

In this fast-changing information and technology era, English has become vital as the international or global language. Most countries all over the world are trying to raise the ability of their people to use English effectively. Many information and knowledge that come from many sources in this entire world such as textbook, newspaper and magazine are using English. In order to facilitate the understanding of that information for the target language readers, it needs a process of translating from the source language text into the target language text. Translation is the common way on sharing information all over the world. Through translation activities, many people in many different countries with different language could share the knowledge and the information.

A good quality translation should be able to produce language the closest equivalent in the structure of the target language (Nida and Taber, 1969: 12-32). The translation should also communicate, as much as possible; the same meaning to the

target language readers that was understood by the readers of the source language (Larson, 1998:6). Besides, it needs an assessment from the translation work that has been done by the translators. It is intended to evaluate whether the message contained in a source language text could be well received by the readers of the target language or not. Focus of assessing quality of the translation includes the aspects of clarity, accuracy, and naturalness of the language from the source text to the target text (Larson, 1998:529). However, the specified discussion on the clarity in translation has been rarely done, and then the study about clarity in translation needs to be done. Therefore, the writer chooses this aspect to be discussed in this study.

Clarity in translation is assumed as one of the vital elements in translation to be considered as a good translation. The clarity in translation occurs when a text can be clearly understood by the target text readers (Flood, 1984:236). A translation might be clear if the translator understands the source text correctly and attempts to communicate the understandable message in the target text to make the readers easier to understand the message (Larson, 1988: 531).

The previous related studies concerning in the translation quality assessment have been conducted by two English Department students in State University of Jakarta. The first previous study was conducted by Puspa Mulyaningsih in 2007 with the title “*The Translation Quality of English Department Students of State University of Jakarta*”. The aim of this study was to find out whether the translations of the English Language and Literature students of ED UNJ have fulfilled the aspects of accuracy, clarity, and naturalness. The second study was conducted by Wenny

Afriani in 2010. This study entitled “*Interraters’ Judgement of Clarity, Accuracy, and Naturalness of Google Translate*”. The aim of this study was to analyze how clear, accurate, and natural Google translate is in translating text or document, and to describe the strengths and weaknesses of Google Translate. The results in this two studies showed that sometimes the translators omit some pieces of information and add information which is not related to the source text. Those mistakes could make the translation deliver different meaning with the source text. Because most of translators are possible to make this kind of mistake, checking the clarity in translation is needed. Based on the previous studies, the writer conducted a study with the highlight in the clarity indicators of translation quality assessment.

The position of this research was not to replicate the same exact subject and way of analyzing as in the previous studies, but this research presented different angle in analyzing the indicators of clarity in translations. The writer will choose different corpus from the previous study. The source of the data were taken from *skripsi*, thesis, and dissertation concerning in the clarity of translation quality assessment. Moreover, the study involved five professional translators in collecting the data sources as the respondents of interview to strengthen and support the analysis.

This study only focused on the clarity as one criterion of translation quality assessments beside the accuracy and naturalness. This study is expected to give contribution to the translation study and give guidance to the translators and students of English Department of University of Jakarta as the reference to produce the clear translation products.

1.2 Research Questions

From the background of the study above, the writer proposed a research question as follows:

1.2.1 How do the clarity indicators of translation vary in skripsi, thesis, and dissertation about translation quality assessment?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

Based on the research questions above, the purpose of the study was:

1.3.1 To identify the clarity indicators of translation in skripsi, thesis, and dissertation about translation quality assessment.

1.4 Limitation of the Study

This study only focused in identifying the clarity indicators of translation in skripsi, thesis, and dissertation about translation quality assessment.

1.5 Significances of the Study

Theoretically, the study is expected to give contribution to the translation study, especially referring the clarity assessment in translation. Instead of, this study is hoped to be useful and inspire those who are eager to learn or do similar research related to the clarity in translation quality assessment.

Practically, the findings of this study are expected to give guidance and informative feedback to the translator and students of English Department of State University of Jakarta as the reference for them to improve their ability to produce the clear translation products. Besides, it could be applied in translating a text to make the target reader easily and clearly understand the translation.