

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of Study

As Catford (1965) emphasizes, one of the main challenges in translation is the issue of transferring meaning from Source Language to Target Language (p.35). Even more so, the act of translating text includes changes in linguistic forms that are known as translation shift (p.73). Translation shift often take form as a change or alternation in the Target Text's structure, word class, and so on, which might alter the text's original context. Thereby, the very act of translating is not only limited to the transference of meaning, but also dealing with the act of transferring other linguistic intricacies from Source Language into the Target Language alongside the problems associated with it.

Within the context of English language, Larson (1998, p.121-122) noted that figurative language is an indirect way for writer to deliver messages through culturally associated connotative. An example of this is the common English Allusion "I read Shakespeare", which is a figurative way for someone to state that he or she has/is reading one or more writing by William Shakespeare. Readers who are not accustomed with these associated meaning would struggle to fully comprehend the figurative language's contextual meaning. This perspective is more or less similar to how Keraf (2019) defines figurative language within the context of Bahasa Indonesia as a way to

express one's emotions and opinion without actually directly expressing it. Rather, figurative languages deliver meanings through playful words and utterances that are culturally relevant (p.113).

Studies done on the subject of translation shift in English-Indonesian translation itself is nothing new at all. However, many of these studies focus on translation shift in general. For example, research done by Dewi et al. (2014) which focus on the translation shift and equivalences of adjective phrases in National Geographies Magazine. In their study, the researchers found out that out of 50 adjective phrases translated from English to Indonesian, 70 percent managed to attain textual equivalence, 2 percent attained dynamic equivalence and only 28 percent of the phrases had translation shift. The conclusion made by the researchers based on this finding is that adjective phrase in English and Indonesian are similar enough in their function to find equivalence and avoid translation shift (p.112-113).

Another interesting aspect of studies done on English Indonesian translation shift could be found in a journal article written by Santiari et all.(2017) which focus on the English-Indonesian translation of noun phrase in John Green's *Let it Snow*. In this study, researcher found that shift occurred when the translator used both meaning-based translation and form-based translation. However the former appear to be more dominant when it comes to occurrences of translation shift in noun phrase (p.239-243).

Meanwhile, an analysis of shift which occurred on the translation of *Pinocchio* done by students could be found in a study by Herman (2017, p.76-77). The study in

question found out that due to the students' tendency to translate words such as "himself" into phrase like *dirinya sendiri*, It is also know that Unit Shifts dominated the data in his study. The study also emphasizes how the Unit Shift mostly occurred from lower unit to higher units, causing an inefficient use of words in the Target Text.

As emphasized before, these studies tend to be focusing on translation shift in general. This is where this Thesis came in, to explore aspects that are left relatively unexplored by previous studies. To analyze translation shifts of figurative languages, rather than the text in general. The Corpus chosen for this research itself is indeed fitting. As *A Study in Scarlet* and *A Sign of Four*, like many other works of Arthur Conan Doyle, are known for their use of a great variety of colorful and diverse figurative languages. Which make it a great object for analyzing translation shifts of figurative languages. In addition to that, many study on English-Indonesian translation shift, focus on more modern 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>th</sup> century's literature. This undergraduate Thesis differs on the fact that it analyze the much more obscure and complex use of figurative languages in late Victorian era literature.

Furthermore, Keller, J., & Klein, K. G (1990, p.47-48) emphasized how the Sherlock Holmes series, flawed as they might be when it comes to actual criminal psychology, is very crucial in establishing the modern detective literature. Therefore, analyzing the translation shift of figurative language would contribute greatly toward the study of detective literature, as Holmes "science of deduction" relies heavily on the analysis of day to day activity, which includes daily conversation that often involves

figurative languages. In order to achieve said goals, Catford's *A Linguistic Theory of Translation* (1965), would be used as this research main theory. Specifically his theory on regards of translation shifts, with the aim to comprehend the various kinds, and variations of translation shifts.

### **1.2 Research Purpose**

To analyze translation shift of figurative languages in two Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's stories.

### **1.3 Research Question**

1. What kind of shifts are found in the translation of figurative language within *A Study in Scarlet* and *A Sign of Four*?
2. How does the shifts affect the translation of figurative languages within *A Study in Scarlet* and *A Sign of Four*?

### **1.4 Scope of Study**

The subject of this research would be limited into the Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *A Study in Scarlet* and *A Sign of the Four* which was published as part of the anthology; *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes Selected Stories*, and their Indonesian translation. As for the discussion's scope itself, it would be focused on analyzing the translation shift of figurative languages.

### **1.5 Significance of Study**

This Thesis could be used as an informal guide for professional and lay translators alike in translating figurative languages. Especially when dealing with figurative languages that are found on classical British or American literature from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century onwards. In terms of pure academic sense, this Thesis could serve as a gateway for further research on the topic of analyzing translation shift of figurative languages.

