

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Translated books are one of the most common types of books we find. There are many kinds of translated books, one of them is children's books. Children books are translated because of the consumer's demand and also for enhancing children's knowledge. In 2017, Kaniklidou and House investigate the changes in translated children's literature (TChL), particularly on how the translators manipulate the ideology in the original texts. The researchers mainly use English children's books translated into Greek and German, with additional examples from other languages such as Arabic, Korean, and Spanish. The researchers present the changes made by the translators of children's books in five dimensions. The result shows that the changes in the translation of children's books are centered around the cultural adaptation made by the translators, the ideological tendency of the translators that subtly influence the reader's perspectives, and the adjustments made by the translators to make the translation fit into the societal norms of the target language.

In translating children's books, translators usually use translation techniques for better translation results. There are several studies on translation techniques in children's literature. Research conducted by Permatahati and Rosyidi (2017) analyzed the translation techniques, culture-specific items, and readability in the Indonesian translation of *Alice's Adventure in Wonderland*. The result

shows that there are 16 translation techniques and 413 culture-specific items in Alice's Adventure in Wonderland. The culture-specific items are translated according to the translation techniques proposed by Molina and Albir. Moreover, the Indonesian translation of Alice's Adventure in Wonderland scored 5153 in high in readability, 1744 in medium readability, and 1103 in low readability.

While the work of Permatahati and Rosyidi focuses on identifying all translation techniques, the work of Ulfah (2019) focuses on the pure borrowing techniques in the Indonesian translation of *Does My Head Look Big in This* by Abdel-Fattah. A qualitative approach is used in this study. The result shows that the translator used 85 pure borrowing words. According to the calculation, the majority of the pure borrowing words are nouns, while the rest are adjective, verb, and exclamation.

The translation of children's books also needs to be supervised in order to maintain the quality of the translation. The quality of the translation performed by the translator can be determined by translation quality assessment. There are several research on translation quality assessment. In 2017, Karoubi proposed a model of translation quality assessment that places the assessor at the center of the assessment process. Karoubi performed an experiment in which two groups of assessors were instructed to assess the translation quality of translated three news articles. The assessors were Iranians fluent in Persian, while the news articles were translated from English to Persian. From the experiment, Karoubi concludes that the assessor-centered TQA models give the assessors more freedom during the assessment process but demand more responsibility

from their decisions. On the contrary, Karoubi argues that TQA models with fixed assessment criteria that hinder the assessor from making decisions refuse to admit the pivotal role of the assessor.

Another study conducted by Han (2020) explores the trend of translation quality assessment methods. Tracking down the development of translation quality assessment methods, Han argues that those methods are made to resolve the issue of validity, readability, and practicality. The emergence of various TQA methods indicates that researchers are trying to find the best solution for different cases instead of one-for-all solutions. Besides that, Han also addressed the gap of TQA methods. According to Han, researchers need to have good assessment literacy to be aware of their method's negative aspects and state the correct conclusion. Moreover, Han found flaws in some parts of the assessment methods that give little regard to the issue of validity.

In a study concerning the translation quality of children's book, Rodriguez (2015) focuses on assessing the English translation of the children's version of Don Quixote. Her study aims to examine the main theoretical concepts regarding the assessment of children's literature translation in order to analyze the children's version of Don Quixote in English. Rodriguez sums up that translating a text like Don Quixote is challenging because it must appeal to young readers. She stated that the translators must retain the interest of the young reader until they become adults and can read the full text of Don Quixote.

Many studies of translation have discussed about translation techniques and quality assessment. These studies include literary and non-literary works. Still,

there are only a few studies which delve into both translation techniques and quality assessment.

The writer may have conducted a literature review of research that discusses the translation techniques and quality assessment of literary translation in children's books. However, the writer found that no research regarding translation technique and quality assessment has been published on two different Indonesian translations of children's books titled Charlotte's Web. The writer argues that a comparative-contrastive analysis of translation techniques and quality assessment in two Indonesian translations of a children's book titled Charlotte's Web is needed to see whether the translation techniques used affected the quality of the translation.

Charlotte's Web tells a story about a pig named Wilbur. One day, Wilbur discovered that he would be slaughtered by the farmer in the winter. His friend, Charlotte, managed to save him by weaving praising words about Wilbur into her web. Because of this, Wilbur became famous and was loved by many people. However, as time went on, Charlotte's health gradually declined, and her life will not be long.

## 1.2 Research Questions

The following research questions are:

1. What translation techniques are used in the two Indonesian translations of White's *Charlotte's Web*?
2. What are the similarities and differences in translation techniques between the two Indonesian translations of White's *Charlotte's Web*?
3. How do translation techniques affect the quality of the two Indonesian translations of White's *Charlotte's Web*?

## 1.3 Research Objectives

The purpose of the study is to compare the two Indonesian translations of White's *Charlotte's Web* dealing with their translation qualities.

## 1.4 Scope of the Study

This study focuses on comparing the use of translation techniques of the 1981 and 2020 versions of Indonesian translations of White's *Charlotte's Web* and elaborate the differences between the two translations. After that, a translation quality assessment is conducted to present the translation quality between them.

## 1.5 Significance of the Study

This study will be beneficial to broaden and enrich the study of translation in the English literature study program at the State University of Jakarta, especially regarding the study of translation techniques and quality assessment.