

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

The development of technology requires people to master more than one language in order to have relationship with other countries. To make this relationship closer, usually the International language, namely English, is used besides the native language. All books and journals are written in English, and it often happens that most of the people do not understand the English language well. Sadtono (1982:3) states that from all books found in libraries in Indonesia, 75% are written in English and less than 5% of people mastering English are able to understand them. Because of this, translation takes an important role for them to accelerate the relationship. Briefly, translation is really needed.

Catford (1965:vii) in his book "A linguistic Theory of Translation" states:

"translation is an activity of enormous importance in the modern world and it is a subject of interest not only to linguists, professionals and amateur translators and language teachers, but also to electronic engineers and mathematicians, because many books and articles on translation have been written by specialists in all these fields".

Since all books 75% found in libraries in Indonesia, are written in English, people who read these books have to translate them into their native language in order that they can understand them. Prof. Dr. E. Sadtono (1985:vii) states that to translate means to communicate; everything which has to be translated must be understood by the readers. As a conclusion of the previous statement, the replacement of textual material in one language (source language) into another language (target language) must not change the meaning of the source language. In fact, it is difficult to translate well. For example : the translation of "I've got a bad cough" is "Saya sakit batuk yang parah" not "Saya mendapat batuk yang jelek." Therefore, there are only few who do not get difficulty in translating.

It also happens to our English students. Although they have been studying English translation for about two semesters, they can not translate well. They still make many mistakes in their translation. Because of that, the writer wants to know further the students' ability in translation based on Newmark's theory.

According to Newmark (1988:45) there are some types of translation based on the level of freedom and the emphasis (SL emphasis or TL emphasis) : word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation,

semantic translation, adaptation, idiomatic translation, communicative translation.

The writer is then interested in writing this thesis in order to measure the students' ability in translating the English short non-fictional text into Indonesian based on Newmark's theory.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

With reference to the background of the study, the major problem of this study is formulated as follows:

1. What categories of translation are often used by the fifth semester students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University in translating an English non-fictional text into Indonesian?
2. What are the specific causes underlying the above condition?

1.3 The Objective of the Study

By using Newmark's theory this study is intended:

1. To find out types of translation which are often made by the fifth semester students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University when they translate English texts into Indonesian.
2. To describe the specific causes underlying the above condition.

1.4 Significance of the Study

In writing this thesis, the writer wants to give some contribution to the readers, especially to the students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University.

1.5 The Limitation of the Study

In this study, the writer explains the categories of translation that the students usually make in translating the English short non-fiction text into Indonesians using Newmark's theory.

The subject of this study is limited to the fifth semester students of the academic year 1995 of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University. The reason she takes this class (the fifth semester students) is that they have already got vocabulary and translation subjects. Therefore, only the fifth semester students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University are taken as the data.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

For clarity, accuracy and understanding, the following terms are defined:

1. Source language:

It is the language used in the original text. In this study, the source language is English.

2. Target language:

It is the language into which a message is translated from the original or source language (Nida, 1969:207). In this study, the target language is Indonesian.

3. Translation:

It is the replacement of textual material in one language (source language) by equivalent textual material in another language (Catford, 1965:20)

4. Equivalent word:

Equivalent is something which is equal in meaning, value or amount to another thing. Equivalent word is a word in language which has the same meaning in another language, for example : Pen - Pena

'Pen' is the English equivalence of the Indonesian term 'Pena'.

5. Sense:

It is one meaning (among several meanings) of a word. The first sense of "chair" is "a separate seat for one", the second sense is "to lead (a meeting)".

1.8 The Theoretical Framework

This study is based on Newmark's translation theory that categorizes translation into eight types of translation. The eight types of Newmark's theory are word-for-word, literal, faithful, semantic, adaptation, free, idiomatic and communicative translation.

1.9 The Organization of this thesis

This thesis consists of five chapters. Chapter I is introduction. Chapter II concerns with review of related literature. In chapter III, the writer discusses the research methodology. Chapter IV concerns with data analysis and interpretation of findings. Finally, in the last chapter, the writer concludes the whole discussion in the form of summary and suggestion.