CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Translation activity has been a primary requirement in bilingual and multilingual communications. It becomes a medium of cross-cultural understanding in societies. They are able to develop their knowledge and ability through translations. Larson (1998:3) states that translation is a process of transferring meaning from texts in the source language into the receptor language. The process must be done by changing the form of the ST to the form of the TT in the semantic structure. The meaning is maintained, only the forms change. It is a problem-solving of language diversities among countries. Through this process, people from different countries who speak different languages are able to communicate with each other.

Translating one language to another is a challenging activity because it should pay attention to the language style of the source language (SL) and target language (TL). It is in line with Guerra's statement (2012: 1) that translation is not an easy work because some words or phrases refer to objects, facts, or phenomena rooted deeply in the source text. The phenomena include cultural aspects, social habits and environmental factors. The translation is not only about altering the language to make it sounds good to hear. It is about how translators convey the messages. In translating texts, the translators should not only focus on a word for word translation. They have to consider

several constraints, such as contexts, grammatical constructions, writing conventions, and cultural aspects of the source and target languages.

The purpose of the translation is to transfer the equivalent meaning of a source language (SL) to a target language (TL) (Budianto and Fardani, 2010: 3). The information delivered from writers can be understood by the readers as a whole. The readers are expected to understand the meanings, values and messages of the ST. In conveying meanings, the preceding activity is to understand the message of the source language. The translators exchange language discourses based on the target language because each language has its own rules or arrangements. In other words, translation consists of transferring meanings but changing the form of language (Catford, 1998: 3).

Since translation is an activity of transposing forms, the procedure is inseparable. Newmark (1988: 81) states that translation methods respect the entire text, while translation procedures are applicable to sentences and smaller units of languages such as clauses, phrases, and words. Many experts such as Nida (1964), Vinay and Dalbernet (1977), Newmark (1988), and Molina and Albir (1998) have explained such kinds of translation procedure. The translation result depends on the procedures used by translators. Hence, the translator knowledge of language aspects also determines the result.

The important thing to become a good translator is having a wide knowledge of source and target languages to obtain the equivalences (Saule and Indre, 2012). One of the materials that need a translator's comprehension

is literary work. Also, literary works have been a part of people's life. It means that literature adheres to their habits. One of the literary works that are closed to social life is novel. The novel contains phenomena commonly happened in the society. It might be beneficial to raise people's awareness of life values. Reading novels helps people to get a new understanding and enhance their insight about themselves and others although it is written in fiction.

In the novel, adding figurative languages is essential because it aims to create certain effects in the expressions (Harya, 2016). Figurative languages have special characteristics in the literature (Teylanyo, 2007: 310). The word choices mostly express connotative meaning instead of denotative meaning. Connotative meaning contains a sense that draws a certain situation. Its function is not only to increase the intensity of meaning but also refine the language. The words sequenced to compile such expressions are not customary words. For this reason, literary works, especially novel, is considered as complex works.

However, the complexities of literary works could be a serious problem for translators. First, every country has its own culture which has a different characteristic in each area. A translator ought to seek for words which have equivalent meaning with the source text. Therefore the readers can gain the idea of the text. If the source language has a term of something that does not exist in the target language, the translator should provide several words that are acquainted among the readers. For example, the word "*ivory*" that indicates a name of color does not have the equivalent word in Bahasa

Indonesia. The translator substitutes it to another term which has a similar meaning, which is "*putih tulang*".

Second, there are many types of figurative language, which have connotative meanings. The readers might have different interpretations in each type. For instances

> ST: She is Cinderella in this real life
> TT: *Dia adalah Cinderella dalam kehidupan nyata*

The example shows sentences containing figurative language placed on the phrase *"she is Cinderella"*. The used figurative language is a metaphor that compares different things implicitly. The writer compares "*she"* with *"Cinderella"*. Its meaning is conspicuously not the actual meaning because Cinderella is a character that only appears in a fairy tale. So the writer creates such a comparison to gain a pictorial effect on the readers. Besides, the sentences below show different kinds of figurative language.

> ST: Flowers teach us that nothing is permanent; not their beauty, not even the fact that they will inevitably wilt, because they will still give new seeds.
> TT: *Bunga mengajarkan kepada kita bahwa tidak ada yang abadi, keindahan mereka, bahkan juga fakta bahwa mereka pasti akan layu, karena mereka pasti akan memberi benih yang baru.*

The sentences above are kind of figurative language that is different from the preceding example. It is indicated as personification. Since there are many kinds of figurative language, translators need to recognize types and characteristics of figurative languages. Nonetheless, the translators do not

4

notice figurative language expressions so that the sense of such expression is not conveyed to the target readers.

Third, many available translation procedures can be used to translate kinds of texts. Yet, few experts explain translation procedures to translate a text that contains figurative language. Figurative language is not able to be translated into literally only but it also should be followed by other procedures to gain the equivalent meaning. It means that some types of figurative languages are restricted by context. In other words, if the source and the target languages have similar systems, literal translation can be applied by adjustment of the target language structure. The following examples will explain how figurative language can be translated literally.

> ST: How many storms must I weather before I understand this?
> TT: *Berapa banyak badai yang harus kulalui sebelum aku memahami ini?*

The source text is translated literally but adjusting the target language structure. It still can be understood when the system of the target language is similar to the source language. The next example is the application of other procedures in figurative language translation.

> ST: My memory may have betrayed me
> TT: *Banyak bagian dalam ingatanku mungkin telah pudar*

The example shows that the figurative language is not translated literally. The translator modifies the source text words to get a natural translation. It is probably caused by the style dissimilarities of the source and the target languages.

5

Fourth, finding exact equivalent words or phrases in the target language is quite difficult in the translation. The translators have to find the sense of the words to get natural meanings in the translation. In some cases, translators frequently find the case when the source language has a specific term for something general in the target language. For example, the target language only has one term for all types of "*cheese*". On the contrary, the source language has more specific terms for such a word. It could increase the problems of translation. Therefore, finding equivalent meaning is important to do to achieve the basic purpose of the translation.

Nonetheless, the needs of novel translation as one of information mediator among countries do not decrease. Reading novels is one of amusement for several people because it provides pleasure stories and life values. Nowadays, the readers' interests do not center only on a local novel (native language novel) but also a translation novel. The translation novel introduces other countries' cultures, genres, and styles of stories. In addition, it could open people's minds and change their point of view of certain phenomena. It is the reason why translating a novel from one language to another is necessary.

Based on the explanation, the researcher is interested in researching the translation of figurative language in *The Spy* which is translated into Indonesia entitled *Mata Hari*. *The Spy* is written by Paulo Coelho, the Brazilian famous writer whose most of his novels have become bestsellers. He is one of renowned writers, whose novels have been translated in many languages, including Bahasa Indonesia. His works are most awaited because of his

talented skills in constructing the stories. *The Spy* is primarily based on real events about a lady who received a death sentence. The main character named Mata Hari was an independent woman who dared to escape from her abusive marriage. She fled to Paris and found her way to survive in a foreign country. She became an oriental famous dancer who lured the prominent citizen in society.

As Coelho's previous works, *The Spy* has been translated into several languages included in Bahasa Indonesia. Although he adopted a historical real story, he could write the story in the form of literary works' style. It consists of many figurative languages. It could be a challenge for the translators to transfer the message of the source language. Therefore the researcher is interested in analyzing types of figurative language used in *The Spy* novel, explaining how the translators translate the figurative languages and assessing the degree of equivalences in the translation.

B. Identifications of the Problems

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher identified the problems as follows:

1. Translating one language to another is a challenging activity because it should pay attention to the language style of the source language (SL) and the target language (TL). In some cases, many translators concern less with the language style so that the translation sounds peculiar to the target readers.

2. Every country has its own culture which has different characteristics in each area. Translators ought to seek for words which have equivalent meaning with source texts. The lack of information about cultural words, such as certain terms that are only found in either source or target language, makes it difficult for the translators to find the equivalences.

3. One of text types that are difficult to translate is the literary text. It is made up of figurative languages. There are many types of figurative languages that have different interpretations in each type. Nonetheless, the translators presumably do not notice figurative language expressions so that the sense of such an expression is not conveyed to the target readers.

4. Many available translation procedures can be used to translate kinds of texts. There are a few experts that explain translation procedures to translate a text with connotative meaning, such as figurative languages.

5. Finding exact equivalent words or phrases in the target language seems to be difficult in the translation. The translators rarely find the sense of the words to get natural meanings in the translation.

C. Limitations of the Problems

According to the identified problems, this research focused on analyzing types of figurative language found in Paulo Coelho's T*he Spy*, procedures of figurative language translation used by Lulu Wijaya in translating *The Spy* to *Mata Hari,* and the degrees of equivalence in the translation.

D. Formulations of the Problems

The problems of this study are formulated as follow.

1. What types of figurative language are found in Paulo Coelho's *The Spy*?

2. What are the procedures of figurative language translation used by Lulu Wijaya in translating Paulo Coelho's *The Spy* to *Mata Hari*?

3. What are the degrees of equivalence of figurative language translation achieved in translating Paulo Coelho's *The Spy* to *Mata Hari*?

E. Objectives of the Research

The objectives of this study are.

1. To identify the types of figurative language found in Paulo Coelho's *The Spy*.

2. To explain the procedures of figurative language translation used by Lulu Wijaya in translating Paulo Coelho's *The Spy* to *Mata Hari*

3. To explain the degree of equivalence of figurative language translation achieved in translating Paulo Coelho's *The Spy* to *Mata Hari*.

F. Significance of the Research

Hopefully, this research can give benefits to the readers.

1. The findings are expected to contribute to the knowledge references dealing with types of figurative language found in the novel, the

procedures used to translate figurative language and the degrees of equivalence in the translation.

2. This research can be used as a reference for further research about types of figurative language, translation procedures to translate figurative language, and the degrees of equivalence in the translation to advance the next research in the same fields.

3. This research is speculated to give additional knowledge to the readers in reading the translation novel to reduce confusion in understanding figurative language meanings.