

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

Nowadays, for most people, information has become a need. Therefore, information exchanges through global communication are needed among people around the world by using a certain language that can be understood by people from many different countries. English is an international language that is used to transfer information. Therefore, English is used in most mass media as the main source of many kinds of information. However, there are still many people in the world that do not master English. It will be difficult for them to absorb the information in English. In that case, translation is needed to transfer information from foreign languages and in order to make communication among people with various languages possible.

The activity of translating is very complicated, because there are some aspects which have to be considered by a translator. Translation requires a linguistic knowledge, more specifically grammatical knowledge and versatility in semantic analysis. The translator should also understand some aspects which are related to the translation process, because the process of translation is more than translating sentence after sentence, but the meaning must be accurate. Therefore, the translator plays an important role in transferring the information.

Since each language has its own rule or structure in stating ideas, a translator has to be able to find the suitable methods in translating a certain text. Each type of text needs appropriate method related to translation theory, and it also has its own style and difficulties. Besides the whole messages of the source text have to be conveyed naturally and accurately, the translator should also consider the style. In order to get a translation that is not like a translation work, a translator needs some efforts to transfer the information from the source language into the target language.

Nowadays, there are a lot of printed media that are published, such as magazines, novels, newspaper, and many others that are translated into various languages. In studying translation, a translated novel or book becomes important, because it could help students facilitate their studying material. It can also be helpful for the lecturer in teaching translation, because it can be used as a medium of teaching. By reading novels, the readers do not only get entertainment, but also knowledge. As in other literary works, there are social values. A novel also contains messages from the author, which can be learnt by the readers.

Scientific or non-scientific books are important to be translated because people have to get information quickly and easily. Recently, a lot of novels have been translated into Bahasa Indonesia. A novel as one of non-scientific books is one of literary works favored by most people. One of the best fantasy genre novels is *Alice in Wonderland* written by Lewis Carroll. The original version of this novel is written in English. This makes Indonesian people difficult to understand the novel. To overcome this problem, the novel is translated into Bahasa Indonesia.

There are some problematic factors that will be faced by the translator while translating an English text, book or novel, such as style, meaning, proverbs and idioms. Idiomatic expressions are often found in novels, because idiomatic expressions are used in a wide variety of contexts and situations. The translators have to be careful in translating idiomatic expressions, because they need to use some different strategies to translate those expressions.

Idioms, one of those problematic factors stated above are also found in *Alice in Wonderland* novel. A good translated novel should be able to transfer the idiomatic expressions equivalently to maintain the style and naturalness of the original text. Therefore, a translator should determine what kind of translation strategy should be used to translate the idiomatic expressions.

B. Focus of the Research

Translation is not only changing writings from one language to another, words by words, or sentence by sentence, it is also interpreting the cultural differences. Idioms are specific to cultures and customs. In addition, related to the language, there are also some expressions or terms that are specific to the culture that probably have no equivalent in the target language.

The change of form or meaning can cause problems. Loss or change of meaning may happen because the written text cannot transfer all the nuances of the language. Whereas, meaning is important in translation and it must be held constant. The translator should be aware of reproducing the meaning of the text, inaccurate and non equivalent meaning could affect the reader's understanding towards the given meaning.

Ideally, an idiom is translated into an idiom. The way in which idiomatic expressions can be translated depends on many factors, such as the availability of an idiom with equivalent meaning in the target language. The use of certain strategies will depend on the context in which a given idiom is translated. Since it is difficult to translate idiom into idiom, a translator may apply non idiomatic translation in order to maintain the meaning of the translated expression in the target language. Moreover, the translator has a choice not to realize an idiom in the translation since it has no close equivalent in the target language or its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased.

Another difficulty is idiom with variants. Idioms take many different forms or structures. An idiom can have a regular structure, an irregular or even a grammatically incorrect structure. Since there are many problems arising when dealing with idiomatic expressions, delimitation is made by the researcher. This study focuses on analyzing the types of idioms found in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* and their translation in Bahasa Indonesia, analyzing the strategies used to translate idiomatic expressions in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* and it also analyzes the degree of meaning equivalence of the translation of idiomatic expressions in the novel.

It is interesting to analyze the translation of idiomatic expressions because idioms are often found in the novel and it is also used in a wide variety. An idiom consists of two or more words. It is very unique because it cannot be translated word by word, therefore the total meaning of the individual parts of the words cannot be concluded as the meaning of the idiomatic expressions. Thus, idiomatic expressions cannot be literally translated into another language.

There are some reasons why the researcher is interested in this novel. First, it is because the tale plays with logic, giving the popularity with adults and children. It is also considered to be one of the best examples of the literary nonsense genre. Second, this novel contains significant numbers of idiomatic expressions which become the data of this research.

Based on the problems identified above, this study formulates the problems as follows.

1. What types of idioms are found in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* and their translation in Bahasa Indonesia?
2. What are the strategies used by the translator in translating idiomatic expressions in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*?
3. To what degree of meaning equivalence is the translation of idiomatic expressions in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*?

C. Objectives of the Study

Based on the formulations of the problem, the objectives of the study are:

1. describing the types of idioms found in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* and their translation in Bahasa Indonesia,
2. describing the strategies used by the translator in translating idiomatic expressions in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*, and
3. describing the degree of meaning equivalence in the translation of idiomatic expressions in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*.

D. Significances of the Study

This research study could be used as an additional reference for the readers, especially for the students of English department who have the same interest in translation. This study could also give better understanding, especially in understanding the idiomatic expressions found in a novel.