

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Every language has its own idioms, which evolve according to the culture of the source language. According to McCarthy and O'Dell (2010, p. 6), idiom is a combination of words that has meaning which is different from the meanings of the individual word themselves. When they are used in daily language, they have a different meaning than what is found in a dictionary.

From that definition, it is possible to define idioms as a collection of words that cannot be translated literally as individual words. Not all idioms in source language can be translated into idioms in the target language. Idioms are set words or expressions with specific meanings and forms. People must understand the true meaning of idioms in the original language while translating them. As a result, to understand the meanings of idiom, they must first understand the background culture of both the source and target languages. This ensures that there are no misunderstandings when learning the meanings of idioms.

It is difficult to transfer the meaning embedded in an English idiom. The meaning contained in the English Idiom cannot be understood simply by knowing the meaning of each word arranged in the idiom. Dealing with English idioms in translation is difficult because the translator must correctly translate the meaning of the English idiom into Bahasa Indonesia. On the

other hand, it is difficult to find an equivalence term in Bahasa Indonesia that has the same meaning as the source text.

Translation has become an activity of enormous importance in nowadays. Translation itself has always been a central part of the communication. It is possible to communicate efficiently between people who speak various languages through translation, such as: transfer of science, culture and another social activity mostly is done through translation.

In translating, the translator sometimes should deal with idiom. The translator must know the characteristic of idiom in Indonesian and English. In order to transfer an idiom into target language the translator must choose the most appropriate strategy, to achieve the good translation.

The researcher would examine idiom translation mechanisms from Indonesian to English in this research. Mona Baker's translation strategy on translating idioms is considered as the subtle theory to analyze how the translator translates idioms on this study. According to Baker (1992, p. 72), idioms can be translated using on an idiom of similar meaning form, using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, translation by paraphrasing, and translation by omission. When translating Indonesian idioms into English, the researcher wants to know if there are any more tactics that can be used in addition to the ones listed above.

The novel is the kind of literary work that is translated the most regularly out of all others. Since they have to create a translation that can provide readers a similar experience to when they read the original novel,

translators regularly view translating novels as a difficult task. Additionally, they may run into a variety of words, phrases, or expressions that neither have an exact translation in the target language (TL) nor make sense when translated literally. These particular words, phrases, or expressions are regularly seen in idioms.

Many novels, books, and poems are written in English. People can learn a lot from them, but some of them who do not understand English require translations of those books into their native language. At the moment, reading a novel is very appealing because it can provide us with numerous benefits in our daily lives. The story of the novel can teach us how to solve our problems or it can be a mirror of our lives.

The subject of analysis for this research is novel *Jejak Langkah*. A large number of novels have been published in Indonesia in every genre. A good way to introduce Indonesian culture and values abroad is to distribute Indonesian novels abroad. *Footsteps* by Pramoedya Ananta Toer is one of the few Indonesian novels or other literary work published abroad currently. *Jejak Langkah* is the first novel of Tetralogy *buru* (*bumi manusia, anak semua bangsa, jejak langkah, rumah kaca*) written by Pramoedya Ananta Toer. This novel became a best seller in Indonesia and was translated into English and a few other languages. It makes the researcher is interested to use the novel as the data source in this research. The data of idiom will be analyzed by using Mona Baker's theory.

The researcher discovered some Indonesian idioms after reading the

novel to give a glance analysis about the data as follow:

SL: “*Tutup mulut! Jangan bawa-bawa nenek moyang.*” (p.18, l.11)

TL: “Shut up! Leave our ancestors out for it.” (p. 23, l. 28)

Based on Kamus Idiom Bahasa Indonesia, “tutup mulut”, means, “tidak bicara”. In this context, “tutup mulut” is translated into shut up. According to The Free Idiom Dictionary, shut up! means be quiet.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher chose Strategies of Translating Idiom Found in "Jejak Langkah" Novel by Pramoedya Ananta Toer.

B. Questions and Scopes of the Research

1. Question of the Research:

Based on the background above, the writer tries to identify the problems into some question, they are:

- a. What types of idioms are found in Pramoedya Ananta Toer novel *Jejak Langkah*?
- b. What translation strategies are used in translation idioms in Pramoedya Ananta Toer novel *Jejak Langkah*?

2. Scopes of the Research

This study focused on idiom translation strategies identified in the *Jejak Langkah* novel and its English translation. Mona Baker's idiom translation strategy theory was applied by the researcher.

C. Objective and Significance of the Research

1. Objective of the Research

Based on the question of the research above, the objective of this research is:

- a. To find out the types of idioms where are applied in *Jejak Langkah*.
- b. To find out the strategies in translating idioms in *Jejak Langkah*.

2. Significance of the Research

Theoretically, the finding of the researcher is expected to give some positive contribution to the study of translation, this study will help readers to understand idioms translating strategies. This research can used of an example of a translation strategy. Practically, this research gives a better explanation to the reader and the researcher herself about the process of translating idioms. The result of the research will be a reference for English learners, especially English literature, to the study of translating idiomatic expressions found in literary words.

D. Operational Definition

1. Translation

Translation is a process of rendering meaning, ideas, or messages of a text from one language to other language.

2. Idiom

Idioms is group of words whose meaning does not relate to the literal meaning of its words.

3. Translation Strategy

A way or method of rendering a certain linguistic unit from one language to another.

4. Novel

A novel is a relatively long work of narrative fiction, typically written in prose and published as a book.

E. Systematization of the Research

In this research, The Systematization of this thesis means to make the writer easier in taking the understanding of this thesis and to make the thesis completed in good composition. The writer divides the writing into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I is Introduction. This chapter provides a general description of the paper including the background of the research, research questions, aims of the research, significance of the research, research methodology, and organization of the research.

Chapter II is Theoretical Description. Theoretical Description in this chapter discuss of the strategies translation of idiom, description about the novel.

Chapter III is Methodology of the Research. This chapter contains the research methodology and procedure applied in the research. It consists of the steps and techniques of collecting and analyzing the data. It also has the clarification of key terms.

Chapter IV is Analysis Data. This chapter deals with the result of the

research which consists of data presentation and then followed by the discussion.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion. Conclusion and Suggestion explain about the summary based on the previous chapter and some suggestion for the next in future.

