

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The topic of my thesis is “Comparative Analysis of Two Indonesian Translation Texts of Sidney Sheldon’s Windmills of the Gods”. The original novel, the source text, is written in English, while both of the translation texts are written in Indonesian. The first translation text is Embusan Angin Surga, translated by Aranya Darih. It is published by Team Group. The second translation text is Kincir Angin Para Dewa, translated by Irina M. Susetyo and Widya Kirana. It is published by PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama.

I choose this particular topic because I think it important for us as English learners to know more about translation. Translation is important because it carries messages and information from other languages. Through translation, people will understand clearly the message which is given by the writer from another language. Thus, it is essential that the message be transferred to another language containing exactly the same idea. Otherwise, there will be losses and

gains in the content of the message if the translator does not transfer it appropriately from the original novel or the source text.

Some possible problems occur when the target text, Indonesian, does not have the equivalent word to the source text, English. For example, there is no equivalent word in Indonesian to the word *foot*, which actually means ‘the terminal part of the vertebrate leg upon which an individual stands’ (Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary, 1981:443). Indonesian people just generalize the word *foot* and state it as *kaki* (Kamus Lengkap 7.500.000, 1991:68). Another word which has the same translation as the word *foot* is *leg*. *Leg* is also translated as *kaki* (Kamus Lengkap 7.500.000, 1991:95). Actually, *leg* has its own meaning, which is ‘the part of the vertebrate limb between the knee and foot’ (Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary, 1981:650). Therefore, we can see that Indonesian people tend to do the generalization to the things connected to feet.

Another possible problem occurs when there are several words in the target text which can describe the word from the source text. For example, the word *female* has several similar words in Indonesian such as *wanita*, *perempuan*, and *betina* (Kamus Lengkap 7.500.000, 1991:66). In this case, what we need is the right understanding of the context. As Zaky says, ‘A translator must, therefore, look for a target-language utterance that has an equivalent communicative function, regardless of its formal resemblance to original utterance as far as the formal structure is concerned.’ <[http://www accurapid.com/journal/14theory .htm](http://www accurapid.com/journal/14theory.htm)>.

Sidney Sheldon's Windmills of the Gods is translated into two versions in Indonesian and both of them have some differences, especially in diction. The two translation texts become different after I observe them by comparing the meanings of the two translation texts to the source text through referential meaning, which is supported by the contextual meaning.

In this thesis, I would like to observe the two translation texts more deeply in order to know whether the meaning of the source text is lost or not. If the meaning of the source text is lost, the translation text is not equivalent to the source text and the readers may not know what the writer actually wants to say through his or her novel. The ultimate goal of this research is to know which translation text has fewer mistranslated words or which has the more equivalent meaning to what is originally described by the writer. I hope my thesis can serve as a model for translation learners in translating texts. I look for the more equivalent translation text because in translating texts, a translator has several options before deciding to use one word instead of another. He or she may look for the word which has the closest meaning.

This research is significant for translators, translation teachers, and translation learners. It is expected that they will get knowledge and they can see, know, learn, and become aware that a translation text must be equivalent in meaning to the original text both in the referential and in the contextual meanings. Since a writer's message is the most important element in a text, a translator must translate it appropriately so that there will be no losses or gains of meaning.

In doing the research, I use some translation and semantic theories. Translation is ‘...an activity comprising the interpretation of the meaning of a text in one language -the source text- and the production, in another language, of a new, equivalent text -the target text, or translation.’ <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Translation>>; while Semantics is ‘...the study of meaning.’ <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semantics>>. There are two types of meaning, namely the referential and connotative meanings.

For my analysis, I am going to deal with just the referential meaning without including the connotative meaning. Referential meaning, according to Nida, ‘...(otherwise known as denotation) deals with the words as signs or symbols.’ (cited from Hatim and Munday, 2004:35). Besides dealing with the referential meaning theory, I am going to use the contextual meaning theory to get the relation between the elements of the story. Based on Catford’s opinion, ‘The contextual meaning of an item is the groupment of relevant situational features with which it is related.’ (Catford, 1965:36).

Contextual meaning is also particularly used, for example, when there are two possible words in the target text that can describe the word from the source text, such as the word *stoned* which has two possible translations in the Indonesian language, *dilempari batu* and *mabuk* (Kamus Lengkap 7.500.000, 1991:146). In this case, I use contextual meaning in getting the real message from the writer, namely the person is drunk or the person is thrown by stones.

There is also another potential case concerning the two kinds of meaning, the referential and contextual meanings; for example, when the source text states

the phrase *flower of the village* and the Indonesian translator translates the phrase into *gadis tercantik di desa* instead of *kembang desa*. Based on the componential analysis, the phrase *gadis tercantik di desa* does not consist of the same components as the source text, *flower of the village*, while the phrase *kembang desa* has exactly the same components as the source text. Therefore, through the referential analysis we know that the translator here is not accurate in translating the phrase. But, when we see from the contextual meaning, the translation text is not totally wrong because it has the same proposition as the source text. The translator just wants to try another way in explaining the source text by stating the phrase *gadis tercantik di desa*. The translator may think that if he does it in that way, the readers can understand the text more easily.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

1. What are the differences in diction between the two Indonesian translation texts of Sidney Sheldon's Windmills of the Gods?
2. What words are mistranslated in the two Indonesian translation texts of Sidney Sheldon's Windmills of the Gods in terms of referential and contextual meanings?
3. Which translation text contains the more equivalent meaning to the source text in terms of referential and contextual meanings?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

1. To know what the differences in diction between the two Indonesian translation texts of Sidney Sheldon's Windmills of the Gods are.
2. To know what words are mistranslated in the two Indonesian translation texts of Sidney Sheldon's Windmills of the Gods in terms of referential and contextual meanings.
3. To know which translation text contains the more equivalent meaning to the source text in terms of referential and contextual meanings.

1.4 Method of Research

In gathering the data, first I read the two Indonesian translation texts of Sidney Sheldon's Windmills of the Gods, which becomes Embusan Angin Surga, translated by Aranya Darih and Kincir Angin Para Dewa, translated by Irina M. Susetyo and Widya Kirana. Second, I list the differences in diction from the two Indonesian translation texts. Third, I look for the mistranslated words in both of them. Fourth, I analyze the mistranslated words in both of the two Indonesian translation texts and also analyze their differences in diction to know which one has the more equivalent meaning to the original text. In doing the analysis, I get supporting references from books as well as the Internet. Finally, I write the research report.

1.5 Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter One provides an introduction to the subject matter in which it includes Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of Research, and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two presents the theoretical framework underlying the topic of the thesis. It elaborates some theories of translation as well as explaining the things related to the novel as the core of the research. Chapter Three informs the research findings and their analysis. This chapter presents the result of the data analysis in order to answer the research questions. Chapter Four conveys some conclusive points drawn from the previous chapters. This thesis ends with the Bibliography and the Appendices.