ABSTRACT

Translation plays a very important role in the process of changing information and invention. In order to introduce Indonesian culture, arts and other interesting things, translation from Indonesian into English is badly needed. However, translation in the fact is a difficult work that can cause the students fail in doing it. The failure in doing translation is usually caused by various problems like lexical, syntactical and cultural problems. This writing was conducted on the seventh semester students of English study program of Tribuana University of Kalabahi in the academic year 2016/2017 to identify the common problems encountered by the students in translating text. This writing aimed to find out the common problems of translation text from Indonesian to English faced by the students and rank the problems based on their frequency to know the percentage of each problem of translation. The method used in this writing was a descriptive qualitative method. This method is used to present the data relating to the fact or the real condition. Data as the result of this research indicated that the seventh semester students of English study program of Tribuana University of Kalabahi had problems in doing translation text. Commonly, the problems encountered by the students were lexical problem, which consists of wrong choose of word, lexical transfer of individual word and confusing word; syntactical problem includes noun phrase omission of capula “be”, tenses marker, and some grammatical aspects; and the cultural problem which is consisting of sociocultural specific word and idiomatic or saying.

Keywords: translating, narrative text

1. Introduction

Language is a unique human inheritance that plays the very important role in human’s life, such as thinking, communicating ideas, and negotiating with each others (Siahaan, 2007 : 1). Beside that, Bambang (2006 :147) said that language is a system for the expression of meaning.

Based on those definitions above, the writer can say that language is the systematic sounds and symbols that produced and used by human to express and convey what they are thinking about. This means that language as a tool for human communication has a system.

As language is a system, every language is unique and it is always different from one and others. There are so many languages in this world and each country has its own language.
We, therefore must need to transfer the meanings of that language into our mother language, to be able in receiving and comprehending the information or the message from that language. For this purpose, translation activity as one of language skills plays an important role.

Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (the source language SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (the target language TL) (Catford, in Widyamartaya, 1989: 12). In other words, it can be said as a process of transfer opinion or ideas of a written language from one foreign language (source language) into another language (mother language), without sacrificing its original meaning and style. Further, translation plays a very important role in the process of changing information and invention. Without translation, the scientists will not be able to follow the development of science and technology as well as possible. So translation is badly needed in order to be able to understand what has been expressed in a foreign language such English.

Crystal (in Indrawan Jendra 2010 : 212) told that there are over two third of the world’s scientific books and three-quarter of the world’s mails are written in English. Moreover he said that English, currently takes a very important position in almost every activity of life, in business and commerce, in academic field, in tourism, and in diplomatic affairs. This means that English has been the international language that spoken by almost millions of people all over the world. Some of them are the native speaker like the people of United states, Canada, Australia, and Britain, and some other use English as their second language, such as, in Malaysia, Brunai, Indonesia, and many others.

In Indonesia, English is chosen to be taught in academic field as the first foreign language as it is the most widely spoken and written language world-wide. It has been taught since junior high school – even from elementary school up to university. However, many academicians are still not able to read and understand English well, so English translation is badly needed.

Further, the reason why English translation is important because it is the key to open the door to the store of the knowledge. Its role as the substitutes of a language can help Indonesian people who do not understand English. In this time we can find many scientific books are written in English, and if we want to gain much information about knowledge, technology, culture and others, we must be able to translate them into Indonesian. On the other hands, if we want to introduce our culture, arts, and other interest things to outsiders, we need English, while not all of Indonesian people can write and understand English. In short, in order to promote the development of regency especially in the field of science and technology, translation from Indonesian into English or vice versa is badly needed.

Realizing the importance of translation, the students of English Study Program of Tribuana University learn translation as a compulsory subject. Even it is a compulsory subject but in fact, the translation still become a difficult subject that can cause the students fail in doing it. It is because translation is not the matter of learning a new or
second language, but in the matter of communicating the meaning of a source language into another mother language.

The failure in doing translation is usually caused by various problems. According to Kian Bera (2000: 11) there are three kinds of common problem in translation text from Indonesian into English, they are lexical problem consists of confusing words, transfer of individual words, and technical terms and acronyms; syntactical problem includes omission of copula ‘be’, tenses, overuse of passive construction, interference of the Indonesian word order, and the interference of the indonesian sentence pattern; and cultural problem consists of cultural specific words, and cultural specific idioms or proverbs.

2. **Source text**

2.1. **Definition of Translation**

Such as stated in previous section, there are some definition about translation will be discuss here. To translate means to transfer a message from one language to another mother language.

According to Catford (1965, in Widyamartaya, 1989: 12), translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (the Source Language SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (Target Language TL). Meanwhile Pinchuck (in Rachmadie, 1988: 2) defined that translation is a process of finding a TL equivalent for an SL utterance. In addition, Kian Bera (2000: 4) stated that translation is the process or activity of transferring ideas or messages from one language to another, including also every aspect attached, linguistic system, forms, style, etc., depending on what purpose is meant for.

In spite of those definition are different, they can be synthesized into a simple definition as follows, translation is a process of changing ideas or meanings of the message those are written in one language into another language.

2.2. **The role of translation**

The translation has some roles that are very important for the user. The roles of translation enable everyone to know information of development of knowledge and technology.

Some important roles played by translation according to Kian Bera (2000: 5) are as follows:

1. Translation is the key to open the door to the store of knowledge beyond time and space confines. This means that translation enable one to learn or know anything, even from ancient times or from any other countries.
2. Translation is an aid to language learning. In foreign language teaching and learning, a teacher tries to measure the students’ comprehension by means of translation.
3. Translation is the substitute for the language. One who wants to learn something about the ancient Roman Empire, for example, does not to learn Latin if there is a translated text of this.
4. Translation serves as research tool. A researcher uses translation when the research is conducted for the members of other language or cultural background.
2.3 Four Types of Translation

Cassagrande in Kian Bera (2000:6) defined types of translation as follow

2.3.1. Pragmatic Translation

This type of translation stresses on the accuracy of the information that is meant to be conveyed into the target irrespective of the aspects of the original language version. The application of this type of translation can be found in translating of technical documents. For example important safety instruction:
- “Keep your set away from humid and hot place”
It is translated into Indonesian as follows:
- “Jauhkan barang anda dari tempat panas dan lembab”.

2.3.2. Esthetic-poetic Translation

In order to translate an aesthetic-poetic translation text, a translator should consider the effect of emotion and feeling of the original text. Content and form are equally stressed.

This type of translation is found in translating a literary text such as poems, novels, short stories and song. For example a song which says: “memandang salib rajaku yang mati untuk dunia, ku rasa hancur congkakku dan harta hilang harganya”. It is translated into English as “when I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died, my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride” (Grimmes, et al., 2003 : 14)

2.3.3. Ethnographic Translation

This type of translation is emphasis in the cultural contexts of the source and target language. A translator should know how the word fits into a culture that use the form of the source language and the target language. For example, a Bible word in II Timothy chapter 2 verse 2 which says: "apa yang telah engkau dengar dari padaKu didepan banyak saksi, percayakanlah itu kepada orang-orang yang dapat dipercayai yang juga cakap mengajar orang lain” It is translated into English as: “and the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others” (Grimmes, et al., 2003 : 15).

2.3.4. Linguistic Translation

This type of translation is primarily concerned with equivalent meanings of constituent morphemes and grammatical forms of source and target language. The translation is based on the analysis specifying on the corresponding structures of the language. The word ‘translator’ for example can be explained such as: ‘Translator’ is come from Verb ‘to translate’ that means ‘menerjemahkan’. The word translate added suffix –or- to form a noun; "translator". So a translator means "orang yang menerjemahkan" (Kian Bera, 2000 : 6).

2.4. Commonly Known Type of Translation

2.4.1. Literal or Direct Translation
Literal translation is form of translation which follows by the words and sentence construction of the source language. Form is more important than meaning or message. For example: "we run out of money", literally: ‘kami keluar dari uang’. It should be translated as ‘kami kehabisan uang’ (Kian Bera, 2000: 7).

2.4.2. Free Translation

Free translation is a kind of translation which translates the meaning of the source language. Form is important but meaning is more important, for example: "we went to bed at ten last night", (literal: ‘kami pergi ke tempat tidur jam sepuluh tadi malam’). Free translation: ‘tadi malam kami tidur jam sepuluh’ (Kian Bera, 2000: 7).

2.5. Some Concept of Meaning and Adjustment in Translation.
Suryawinata and Effendi (1988) in their teaching material for translation defined some concept of meaning as follow:

2.5.1. Lexical meaning.

Lexical meaning is the meaning defined in the dictionary.

For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Indonesian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arm</td>
<td>elengan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cave</td>
<td>gua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden</td>
<td>kebun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is true that translation merely replacing words in one language with words in another language. However, it is not word alone. Even simple word –for word translation can sometime be misleading, as unlike Indonesian, an English word may has more than one meaning. The word glass is for example.

- He is wearing glasses
- My son has broken a glass
- The door is made of glass.

The meaning of the word glass in the three sentences above is determined by the specific context in which it is used being: “kaca mata”, “gelas”, “kaca” respectively (Suryawinata and Effendi, 1988: 2.2).

Thus translation is more than just replacing word in one language with word in another language but it also included some other linguistic consideration. So, the Lexical adjustment must be done.

2.5.2. Grammatical meaning.

Grammatical meaning is the meaning determined by word order (Syntax) and word form (morphology). For example:

- Car factory: pabrik mobil
- Factory car: mobil perusahaan
- Money pocket: kantong uang (dompet)
- Pocket money: uang jajan (saku)
It seemed clearly that the meaning of the pair of words changes whenever the position of the word changes. In this regard, the translation cannot escape from other linguistic components such as, the structure or phrase, position of attributives or modifiers, morphological and categories clause orders and some other related or similar elements (Suryawinata and Effendi, 1988: 4.12)

2.5.3. Textual meaning
The meaning depending on the text or discourse is called textual meaning. For example:
- He has lived here for two years
- What are you waiting for
- This letter is for you
- He didn’t attend the meeting for he was busy

Here we can see that the text determine the meaning of the word “for” can be translated “untuk”. But here a translator has to consider the meaning of “for” in the text. As a result, the translation of the above sentences are as follow:
- Ia telah tinggal disini selama dua tahun;
- Apa yang anda tunggu?; (here the word for belongs to “wait” of the phrasal “wait for.
So the translator need not to translate the word “for”)
- Surat ini untuk anda;
- Ia tidak menghadiri pertemuan karena sibuk. (this “for” is not commonly used) (Suryawinata and Effendi, 1988: 4.25)

2.5.4. Situational meaning
The meaning of a word or phrase can also depends on situation in which the word or phrase is used. The meaning which is determined by a given situation is called situational meaning. A translator should consider this type of meaning and make necessary adjustment in doing translating. Thus he or she has to find the most appropriate words, phrases, or sentences in the target language as the situational requires. For example:
- Fire! (kebakaran)
- Fire? (api?)
- Fire! (tembak)

The first word is used when we see a fire (kebakaran). In the second, the word is used to offer fire to light up a cigarette, whereas the third is an order by a drill instructor to shoot a certain target (Suryawinata and Effendi, 1988: 4.13).

This means that different situations determine the meaning of the same word. So, a translator should make adjustment in the translation.

2.5.5. Socio-cultural meaning.
The meaning of a word, phrase, or sentence which is determined by socio-cultural concept is called socio-cultural meaning. For example:
1. “your coffee is ready, dear”. (“dear” here is used to show affection to someone, say , husband).
2. “oh dear, what a mess!” (here the word dear show the shocking sight seen).

   In Indonesian translation, the closest equivalent of the two sentences are :
   - “Kopinya sudah siap, saying”.
   - “masya Allah, acak-acakan benar!”.

   These examples illustrate that adjustment should also be made according to socio-cultural concepts which are manifested in the convention of the target language (Suryawinata and effendi, 1988: 4.36). This means that in translating, a translator should never fail to recognize any socio-cultural aspect contained in the original discourses and find the closest equivalent in the target language.

   Those concepts above can be understood that, English and Indonesian are two different languages that their languages components to a great extend are also different. This difference would cause problems, therefore a translator should make some adjustment to arrive at the reasonable understanding when he or she is doing translating.

3. Analysis

   In this section, the writer presented the results of data analysing to the students’ work. The writer used descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data and answer the problem of this research. The analysis was began with identifying the problems shown by the students’ result of test, then followed by clasifying these problems into some categories of common problems covering lexical, syntactical and cultural problems.

   The data showed that the seventh semester students of English study program of Tribuana university of Kalabahi had problems in translating Indonesian text into English text. Their prolems covered lexical, syntactical, and cultural problems. Lexical problems consisted of wrong choice of word, lexical transfer of indiviual word, and confusing word. Whereas syntactical problem covered noun phrase, omission of capula ‘be’, tenses marker, and the interference of Inonesian sentence struture. Beside that, based on the result of a free interview with the students, the writer found that the students still had problems with some other grammatical atributives like the comparative degree of adjective and reflexive pronoun. Meanwhile, on the cultural area, the students had problems with the cultural spesific words and idiom or saying.

   This means that the seventh semester students at English study program of Tribuana university in the academic year 2016/2017 had translation problems in all aspects of translation problems, such as lexical, syntactical, and cultural problems. However, the percentage of translation problems for each aspet is different with one another.

   The description of translation problems category as shown by the result of students works, was put in the following table:

   Table 1. List of Problems identification in Translating Text from Indonesian into English.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Problems encountered by students</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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   The description of translation problems category as shown by the result of students works, was put in the following table:

   Table 1. List of Problems identification in Translating Text from Indonesian into English.
Based on the data shown in table 1 above, it seemed clearly that, the most problems of translation that arisen in the students’ works were lexical and syntactical problems. Meanwhile, the cultural problem arisen veryless. It meant that the highest frequency of translation problems encountered by the seventh semester students were lexical and syntactical problems. While the lowest level was cultural problem. The whole percentage of translation problems as shown by the result of students work could be seen in the following table.

**Table 2. General Result of Students Problems in Translating Indonesian Text into English.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Category of problems</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lexical</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>43, 83 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Syntactical</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>42, 78 %</td>
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</tbody>
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<td>42, 78 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
According to the data above, it could be seen that the highest problem in translation text from Indonesian into English encountered by the students were lexical problem (167 cases or 43.83%), and followed by syntactical problem which is 163 cases or 42.78%). Meanwhile, the lowest level of translation problems arose in students works was cultural problem (51 cases or 13.38%).

4. Discussion

Translation plays a very important role in the process of changing information and invention. Without translation the scientists will not be able to follow the development of science and technology as well as possible. However, it is not an easy work. It needs a serious attention and concentration in doing it. Due to this concept, the writer had done an investigation on the common problems in translating an Indonesian text into English encountered by the seventh semester students at English study program of Tribuana university of Kalabahi. In this section of this chapter, the writer would discuss the cases that he found to the students works.

4.2.1. Problems in Translating Text from Indonesian into English Encountered by the Students.

Data, as the results of the research showed that the seventh semester students of English study program of Tribuana university in Kalabahi were able to translate the text from Indonesian into English. However, they still found some difficulties in doing it. The difficulties or problems covered all aspects of translation problems, they are, lexical, syntactical, and cultural problems.

4.2.1.1. Lexical Problems.

The data showed that the students do faced some difficulties in the area of lexicon such as meaning distribution or wrong choice of words, transfer of individual word, and confusing words. It is because they did not consider whether or not translation make sense in the target language.

a. Wrong Choice of Words or Meaning Distribution.

The seventh semester students had problems with the choice of word. It was difficult for them to find out the contextual appropriate Indonesian words which were equivalent in English. They tended to choose the more familiar meaning of words without considering the possibility of other meaning being more suitable to the context. They, for example, could not translate appropriately some words and phrases as “segera melihat”, “besar”, “petik”, “pemilik kebun”, “menolak”, “menegur”, “membentak”, “agak aneh”, “segani” and “nada”.

The sentence were:
1. “Sdr Oei Yong Tjoe yang matanya ‘awas’ segera melihat bahwa….”
Students translation on words *segera melihat* were *directly see, looked* fruits *quickly, and immediately noticed.*
The suggested translation should be *soon saw.*
(Oei Yong Tjioe who was ‘observant’ *soon saw* that.....)

2. “Buah-buah yang masih di pohon banyak yang masih lebih besar....”
Students translation on words *besar* were *great, larger, and large*
The suggested translation should be *bigger*  
(*The fruits still on the tree were much bigger*)

3. “Ia petik sendiri”
Students translation in the word *petik* was *take.*
It should be *picked*  
(*He picked them himself*)

4. “Pemilik kebun cuma tersenyum”
Students translation in the word *pemilik kebun* were *possesion, the landlord of the garden, and the property garden.*
The suggested translation should be *the owner*  
(*the owner was simply smiling*)

5. “Dengan tegas Bung Hatta menolak, bahkan menegur perbuatan sdr. Oei Young Tjioe itu”.
Students translation on the words *menolak* and *menegur* were *rejected and rebuked, rejected and advised, refused and gave comment, refused and talk, refused and to admonish.*
The suggested translation should be *refused and repriminded.*
(*Bung Hatta decidedly refused and even reprimanded what Tjioe had done*)

The translation of the word *membentak* written by some students were *shouted* and *said*  
The suggested translation should be *scolded*  
(*Then Bung Hatta scolded, “Tan, why are you laughing?”*)

7. “Bung Hatta ini agak aneh”
Some students translaed the word *aneh* as *strange.*
The suggested translation should be *rediclue*  
(*you are ridiclue*)

8. “Dengan nada sangat serius ....”
Some students translaed the word *nada* as *note, sound, and voice.*
The suggested translation should be *tone*  
(In a very serious *tone ....*)

9. “Inilah Bung Hatta yang saya cintai dan saya segani”
The translation of the word *segani* written by somestudents were*proud* and *reluctant*  
The corect translations should be *respect*
(This was Bung Hatta who I love and respect)

Contextually, the words “segera melihat”, “besar” and “petik” in the sentence numbers 1, 2 and 3 above have equivalent in English as “soon saw”, “bigger”, and “picked”. However, the students tended to choose the more familiar meaning of words without aware the other possible meaning that more suitable to the context. Similarly, the words possession, the land owner, and property garden in the sentence number 4 do not make sense in English as they have meaning as something possessive by some one, while the word pemilik kebun means people who has something (garden). Accordingly, the contextual appropriate English equivalent of pemilik kebun is the owner.

Similarly, the words menolak, and menegur in sentence number 5 do not make sense in English. It is better to translate them as refused, and reprimanded. Also the Indonesian word membentak in sentence number six is more suitable to be translated as scolded then said or shouted. Then, the Indonesian word agak aneh in sentence number seven is better to translate as ridicule than strange. If the students use strange as the possible equivalent of aneh, then the message will be destroyed. Because, the word strange in this sentence could has meaning that Mr. Tan did not known Bung Hatta before or in other word Bung Hatta is a strange man (a new comer). But if the students use “ridicule” as another possible equivalent of “aneh”, the message will not be misleading. Also, the word nada in the sentence number 8 is better to be translated as tone than voice, sound or note. Similarly, the word segani in sentence number 9. Here, the function of segani in this sentence is as the verb. So, it must be translated as respect. But if the students use proud and reluctant then the message will not make sense in English because these two words are coming from adjective.

b. The Transfer of Individual Word.

Another type of translation problems in the area of lexicon that found in the students works is the transfer of individual word. The data showed that the students tended to translate word-for-word. They look up the meaning of Indonesian word in the dictionary, then they translated directly into English without considering whether their translation make sense in English or not.

5. Conclusion

It is clear that translation is very important in the process of changing information and invention. It is the key to open the door of knowledge. However, the translation actually is not an easy work. It needs a full concentration and attention in doing it.

The findings of this research showed that the seventh semester students were able to translate the text from Indonesian into English. Even they could translate the text, they also made some error in translation.

Commonly, there are three types of translation problems that found in the students’ works, they are: lexical problem which consists of wrong choice of word, lexical transfer of individual word, and confusing words; syntactical problems, includes omission of capula ‘be’, tenses, the interference of Indonesian sentence pattern, and some other
syntactical problems like the comparative degree of adjective and reflexive pronoun. Another one is cultural problems that covers cultural specific word and cultural specific idiom or saying.

Beside the common problems stated above, the students also had problem with the concepts of meaning in translation such lexical, grammatical, textual, situational, and socio-cultural meanings. In short, the writer could conclude that the common problems in translating Indonesian text into English faced by the seventh semester students of English study program of Tribuana university of Kalabahi was existing of two main areas, they are linguistic problems which includes grammatical construction, lack of vocabulary, students’ sentence structure; and non linguistic problems those cover the socio-cultural rules.

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