AN ANALYSIS OF TRANSLATION WORK OF DESCRIPTIVE TEXT OF THE SEVENTH SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM OF SRIWIJAYA UNIVERSITY

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THESIS DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my mother, father, and brothers, who have endured with patience, understanding and courage
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This thesis was written to fulfill one of the requirements to accomplish S1 degree at the English Education Study Program, Language and Arts Education Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Sriwijaya University. This thesis was written based on the research conducted in December 2017 at English Education Study Program of Sriwijaya University.

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Palembang, October 05th, 2018
The writer,

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An Analysis of Translation Work of Descriptive Text of the Seventh Semester Students of English Education Study Program of Sriwijaya University

ABSTRACT

This study aimed to find out: (1) strategies applied in translating the descriptive text by the seventh semester students of English Education Study Program of Sriwijaya University, (2) difficulties faced in translating the text from English to Bahasa Indonesia. This study was conducted by using descriptive quantitative analysis method. The population and the sample of this study were 46 students. The sample was obtained by employing total sampling. To collect the data, the students were given descriptive text to be translated into Bahasa Indonesia. The data were analyzed by using translation strategy theory proposed by Vinay and Darbelnet in Fawcet (1997), Harvey (2000) and Newmark (1988). The findings reveal that the translation strategies found in students’ translation works were 25% Reduction and Expansion, 22% transposition, 18% naturalization, 13% borrowing, 10% literal translation, 3% modulation, 3% adaptation, 3% synonymy, and 3% recognized translation. The difficulties found by the students in translation were vocabulary, lexeme, and syntax.

Keywords: Students’ translation, translation strategies, translation difficulties

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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the general description of the research, including: (1) the background of the research, (2) the research questions, (3) the objectives of the research, and (4) the significance of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Translation has been a social need and way for making communication and intercommunication possible. Hatim and Munday (2004) also state that translation influences the human’s life enormously. In this globalization era, the international relation in every sector of life is becoming increasingly significant. Good translation products of various fields are highly needed. It means the use of international language, particularly English, has been spread out. For instance, there are a lot of movies, books, journals, websites, electronic equipment even advertisements written in English. It can be inferred that translation skill is necessary for those who do not speak English. To fulfill such needs, the linguists and translators play the most important role in producing reliable translation works in a fastest way (Rogi, 2009).

Translation is the production of a functional target text maintaining a relationship with a given source text that is specified according to the intended or demanded function of the target text (Nord, 2007).

In translating something, the product should be accurate so that the intention of the source language can be accepted. Therefore, translating word to word is not recommended as the readers need the translation product as natural as possible. In accordance with this, Nord points out that translation transfers both culture and language.

Translation is any translational action where a source text is transferred into a target culture and language. According to the form and presentation of the source text and to the correctibility of the target text we distinguish between oral translation (= ‘interpreting’) and written translation (= ‘translation’ in the narrow sense) (Nord, 2007, p. 141).
In addition to this, Hatim and Munday (2004) talk about ‘the ambit of translation’, defined as follows:

1. The process of transferring a written text from SL to TL, conducted by a translator, or translators, in a specific socio-cultural context.
2. The written product, or Target Text (TT), which results from that process and which functions in the socio-cultural context of the Target Language (TL).
3. The cognitive, linguistic, visual, cultural and ideological phenomena which are an integral part of 1 and 2.

Larson (1998) points out that the communication of the meaning of the source-language text is by means of an equivalent TL text, so translation consists of language and culture. Two things are necessary for a good translation - an adequate understanding of the original language (source language) and an adequate command of the language into which one is translating, target language (Abbasi et al., 2012). Ruth, Sullivan, and Lommel (2000) claimed that translation is a complicated process. They state that a translator who is concerned with transferring the meaning will find that the target language has a way in which the desired meaning can be expressed, even though it may be very different from the source language form.

By those definitions, proposed by Nord, Hatim and Munday, Larson, Abbasi et al., Ruth, Sullivan, and Lommel, it can be concluded that translation plays an important role of crossing through different cultures and communication. A translation is also necessary in order to overcome misunderstandings arising from a growing culture and language. Thus, it also can be inferred that translation product can ease those who have no idea about a language, especially English, to acquire the means of the language.

Although translation has the important role, many students cannot translate a text from English into Bahasa Indonesia properly. For instance, the case of the study that was conducted by Surahman (2013) revealed that the translation problems on descriptive text found in students’ translation works were grammatical aspect, Syntactic, word order, and lexical, and vocabulary problem.
Furthermore, similar study done by Nurazizah (2015) showed that the difficulties in translating text that the students faced were vocabulary, lexical, and syntactic. Many reports convinced that foreign language students, especially those who major in English had difficulties in equivalence and variance. Equivalence is associated with the problems with matching the word of a source language and that of a target language that represents an accurate concept. Students commonly get into a real trouble with searching the most appropriate word in the target language. While variance refers to the problems of differences in language aspects which are not solely related to vocabulary, but also the idea of producing system and the way of thinking of in the source language. Except for this, students also had difficulties with grammatical, cultural aspects and idiomatic expressions in translating the texts (Ahmad, 2009).

Unsatisfactory achievement in translation is also faced by students of English Education Study Program of Sriwijaya University. Locally, the writer found out that only 2.1% of the seventh semester students of Indralaya Class in academic year 2015/2016 achieved A grade in translation course with 87.30 as the highest cumulative score for their final assessment with total number 1 out of 46 students, 54% achieved B grade with 71.50 in which the rest of the students only achieved C grade with 56.00 as the lowest cumulative score (Unsri, 2015)

Thus, this research will analyze students’ translation work by considering of the strategies used and the difficulties faced by the students of English Education Study program of Sriwijaya University. The writer is interested in doing the research entitled “An Analysis of Translation Product of Descriptive Text of the Seventh Semester Students of English Education Study Program of Sriwijaya University”

1.2 The Research Questions

There are two research problems discussed in this study:

1. What strategies do the students apply in translating the text?

2. What difficulties do the students face in translating the text from English to Bahasa Indonesia?
1.3 The Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions above, the study aims to find out:

1. The strategies used by the students in translating the text from English to Indonesia.
2. The difficulties faced by the students in their activity.

1.4 Significances of the Study

This research is expected to give significant contribution in the field of translation and education.

Firstly, perceived from theoretical viewpoint, the study can enrich the literature reference in analyzing the skill of English Education Study Program students who acquire translation class.

Secondly, in practical aspect, since the study will observe how students translate the text and what strategies they use, it will reveal some difficulties faced by the students in understanding the text. Thus, the outcomes of the study hopefully give important information for lecturer to conduct the best strategy in helping the students to improve their performance in translation project.
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