

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 . Background Of Problem

Language is a very important aspect in the life of human beings. People all over the world cannot avoid uttering language. Through language, people can communicate and interact with each other within certain communities. The existence of language is also so much helpful for people so that they can express their mind to the others. The human who has been created as his fate needs a media can relate his thought to the others. Than, from interaction of human thought, knowledge can be disseminated in the whole world.

Language marks the very difference of human beings, contrasted to animals. Indeed, such communications in the shape of words and utterance do only belong to human. Otherwise, animals cannot be said to have a system of communication, but they merely interact with each other using basic instinct so as to make relationships. Therefore, language is the answer for these necessities.

Wardhaugh (1972: 3) defined that language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication. It means that the most important part from the definition of language is communication. Communication is always related with language, even it is often considered that language is a tool of communication, because the most principle sign system in human communication is language. Thus, people can communicate with each other. According to Mario Pei and Gaynor (in Alwasilah, 1993: 82), language is system of communication

by sound, that is., through the organ of speech and hearing, among human beings of certain group or community, using vocal symbols possessing arbitrary conventional meanings.

Language differences can become a problem when two or more people with two different languages want to communicate with others in spoken or written form. In order to solve this problem, it can use two means of communication: interpretation and translation. The first is commonly used by people in spoken form, such as in an international seminar or a public gathering. Meanwhile the second one, which is translation, is mainly used in written forms, such as novels, or other books. The role of translation in our daily lives has become more important. than this research can find it in almost every aspect of human life, for instance, in the movies, books, novels, comics, and even in formal agreement letters or treaties. There are actually several kinds of translation. But, the most popular translation would have to be on novel translations, because popular novels mostly come from foreign countries, such as the United States. Thus, translation is needed for the novels, because most Indonesian people cannot speak or understand English well. Therefore, translation can also be said as a means of communication, for it exchanges messages from one language to another. Regarding the definition of translation, Newmark (1988:5) states that translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. Based on the definitions, it can be concluded that translation is basically a process of turning or rendering from the source language (SL) into the target language (TL). But, of course it does not come without any

troubles or hindrances. There are actually so many obstacles encountered by most translators when they are trying to translate SL to TL. Therefore, basic skills of translation should be possessed by all translators, whether he/she is still novice or expert, in order to create a fine and superb translation.

One of the criteria of a good translation is that it must be able to successfully convey the original meaning of SL to TL. As stated by Baker (1992:112), “A translation may be undertaken for a variety of purposes, but the ultimate aim of a translator, in most cases, is to achieve a measure of equivalence”.

In order to become a good translator, he/she must be able to master the ways and methods of translation, so that he/she make a good translation as stated above. Such methods can be found in Peter Newmark’s book entitled “*A Text Book of Translation*”. There, he classified the methods of translating into eight types. Namely: Word-for-word translation, literal translation, faithful translation, semantic translation, adaptation, free translation, idiomatic translation, and communicative translation. In addition to Newmark’s methods of translation, Larson (1984:15), adds two more methods, they are: form-based or literal translation and meaning-based or idiomatic translation.

In Indonesia, there are a lot of well-qualified authors who write great literary works, such as novels. Although many Indonesian novels are available in the market, many interesting foreign books that can be alternatives for Indonesian readers. Unfortunately, it becomes a problem since not all Indonesian people

understand foreign language, in this case English. Therefore, one of the solutions to this problem is by translating the foreign novels into Indonesian.

Unfortunately, sometimes the translated versions from the foreign novels appear to be awkward compared to the original version. It could be caused by several factors, such as, the translator himself or the methods and procedures used for translating them, etc. A good translation must not be read like a translation, but it should be read like a piece of original composition and should express the whole meaning of the original version.

In translating novels, for example, a translator often finds some figurative language within. Figurative language itself is a phenomenon in language. In accordance with translation, figurative language must be translated carefully to avoid misunderstanding. A concise definition regarding figurative language is a non-literal expression in language use. On more complete explanation, Reaske (1966:33) explains that:

Figurative language is language which employs various figures of speech. In general, figurative language is that kind of language which departs from the language employed in the traditional, literal ways of describing persons or objects. Using figurative language is making imaginative descriptions in fresh ways.

Besides figurative language, this research also finds another important element of a novel, which is dialogue. “Dialogue is a reciprocal conversation between two or more entities” (www.wikipedia.com). It can also be said that dialogue is a means of communication, because it exchanges information between two or more persons. Dialogues exist in novels, short stories, etc. The types of dialogues that exist in novels are called writing dialogues. It becomes one of the

most important things in the novel, because without them, the story not be completed.

Based on the observation and good criteria of translation as mentioned above, this present study has chosen the novel entitled *Eldest* by Christopher Paolini to be analysed. This research was interested in this particular novel, because it has an excellent storyline. In addition, this novel uses colloquial/daily English, so it is easier to understand for the readers of non-native speakers.

1.2. Statement of Problem

This research problem is intended to analyze two versions of the novel entitled *Eldest*. The first subject is the English version of the novel as the source language; meanwhile the second subject is the translated version of the novel as the target language. The translated version of this novel is written in Bahasa Indonesia. Based on the above statement, can be formulated into the two research questions are:

- a. What kinds of figurative language are used in the dialogues of the Christopher Paolini's novel *Eldest*?
- b. What kinds of translation methods are used in translating figurative language in dialogues in Christopher Paolini's novel *Eldest* ?

1.3. Purpose and Significance of Research

1.3.1. The purposes of Research

- a. To find kinds of figurative language are used in the dialogues of the Christopher Paolini's novel *Eldest*.
- b. To know kinds of translation methods that are used in translating figurative language in dialogues in Christopher Paolini's novel *Eldest*.

1.3.2. The Significance of Research

The significance of research is intended for anybody who is interested in translation, especially for students who major in the English Department. And also, this research beneficial for instructors or lecturers in choosing the methods that is used in translation course. In addition, it is hoped that it can contribute to the composing of the curriculum.

1.4 The Aim of the Problem

This research was aimed at finding out the kinds of figurative language found in the dialogues within the novel, and to analyze the methods in translating the figurative language in the translated version of the novel *Eldest* by Christopher Paolini.

1.5 The Limitation of Problem

The scope of problem limited to the types of figurative language and translation methods are found in the dialogues of the original version of this novel only.

1.6 Organization of the Paper

This paper is organized into five chapters, namely:

Chapter I

This chapter contains the introduction. It describes the background, and also the general description of the paper.

Chapter II

This chapter talks about the theoretical foundation. It provides the basis in conducting the research problems.

Chapter III

This Chapter explains about the research method. It consists of the methodology of the research, and also the procedures in conducting the research.

Chapter IV

This chapter contains the full report of the research. It explains about the findings and discussion.

Chapter V

This chapter contains the conclusion and suggestions. This last chapter of the paper discuss about the conclusion from this research toward the result of the research, and also the suggestions concerning the research.