

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Translating *An Equal Music*

In today's modern era we cannot exclude the existence of foreign languages that we encounter in everyday life. Whether it's a word or sentence that we hear from television (news), movies, songs, or lines of text or foreign language quotes that we find in the literature (books, newspapers, magazines, etc.). In fact, even when we are using a laptop or gadget we are actually dealing with some foreign terms.

Say, maybe the Foreign Language that we often encounter in everyday life is English and Arabic. Just look at the language of the device that is partly in English. Words like: Log in, shut down, stand by, restart, options, settings, insert, wallpaper may sound familiar.

The process of a translation is a process of transferring meaning from the source language (SL) into the target language (TL). Translating a text might be transferring the meaning and the message equally. Nida and Taber (1984: 12) state that “translating consists of reproducing the receptor language to the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in the term of meaning and secondly in the term of style”, Newmark (1988:94) also claims that “the translation itself is not only about finding the equivalent word which is accurate, acceptable and readable but also connecting the word with the culture where the language belongs to”. For that reason, a good translator should be familiar with the culture, customs, and social settings of both in source language and target language, in order to generate a good translation.

As a part of the final assignment to complete the study, the requirement to translate a book is a must. The book entitled “An Equal Music” written by Vikram Seth, MSW is becoming the

object of the translation. It was chosen for the reason that the content of the book in English is considered as meaningful for Indonesian people who know Indonesian Language as a target language. Meanwhile for me as a translator, this project is becoming the practice of translating the book related to improve my knowledge about it.

1.2 Purpose of Translation

The purpose of the translation are:

1. To fulfill the final assignment as an English Vocational Student of UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung.
2. To improve translation skill and enrich vocabulary.
3. To give information about novel translation.
4. To make the book understandable for Indonesian people.

1.3 Significance of Translation

This translation project is expected to be useful and helpful for the readers, and significances below :

1. To Improve the knowledge of the reader and the translator.
2. To make people aware to understanding English language.
3. To Help the people recognizing the translation of novel.
4. To guide the people for learning English language.

1.4 Theory of Translation

In translating a text there are a series of steps in translating a text, to make it natural and acceptable. According to Nida and Taber (1984:33) there are three stages of translation process.

(1) Analysis, in which the surface structure is analyzed in terms of (a) the grammatical relationships and (b) the meaning of the words and combinations of words, (2) transfer, in which the analyzed material is transferred in the mind of the translator from language A to language B, and (3) restructuring, in which the transferred material is restructured in order to make the final message fully acceptable in the target language.

1.4.1 Method of Translation

In general, the purpose of translation is delivering well and appropriately a message from a source language text into target language text. So in order to fulfill it the translator needs a techniques, procedures or methods. In this case Newmark mentions eight methods of translation.

1.4.2 Word-for-word Translation

This is often demonstrated as interlinear translation, with the TL immediately below the SL words. The SL word-order is preserved and the words translated singly by their most common meanings, out of context. Cultural words are translated literally. The main use of word-for-word translation is either to understand the mechanics of the source language or to construe a difficult text as a pretranslation process. (Newmark, 1988:45).

For example:

SL: I love you forever.

TL: aku mencintai kamu selamanya.

1.4.3 Literal Translation

The SL grammatical constructions are converted to their nearest TL equivalents but the lexical words are again translated singly, out of context. As a pre-translation process, this indicates the problems to be solved. (Newmark, 1988:46).

For example:

SL: The Sooner or the later the weather will change

TL: Lebih cepat atau lebih lambat cuaca akan berubah.

1.4.4 Faithful Translation

A faithful translation attempts to reproduce the precise contextual meaning of the original within the constraints of the TL grammatical structures. It 'transfers' cultural words and preserves the degree of grammatical and lexical 'abnormality' (deviation from SL norms) in the translation. It attempts to be completely faithful to the intentions and the text-realisation of the SL writer. (Newmark, 1988:46).

For example:

SL: Ben is too well aware that he is naughty.

TL: Ben menyadari terlalu baik bahwa ia nakal.

1.4.5 Semantic Translation

Semantic translation differs from 'faithful translation' only in as far as it must take more account of the aesthetic value (that is, the beautiful and natural sound) of the SL

text, compromising on 'meaning' where appropriate so that no assonance, word-play or repetition jars in the finished version. Further, it may translate less important cultural words by culturally neutral third or functional terms but not by cultural equivalents - une nonne repassant un corporal may become 'a nun ironing a corporal cloth' - and it may make other small concessions to the readership. The distinction between 'faithful' and 'semantic' translation is that the first is uncompromising and dogmatic, while the second is more flexible, admits the creative exception to 100% fidelity and allows for the translator's intuitive empathy with the original. (Newmark,1988:46).

For example:

SL: Mathematics is a piece of cake

TL: Matematika itu mudah

1.4.6 Adaptation

This is the 'freest' form of translation. It is used mainly for plays (comedies) and poetry; the themes, characters, plots are usually preserved, the SL culture converted to the TL culture and the text rewritten. The deplorable practice of having a play or poem literally translated and then rewritten by an established dramatist or poet has produced many poor adaptations, but other adaptations have 'rescued' period plays (Newmark, 1988:46).

For example:

SL: Like father like son

TL: Buah jatuh tidak jauh dari pohonnya

1.4.7 Free Translation

Free translation reproduces the matter without the manner, or the content without the form of the original. Usually it is a paraphrase much longer than the original, also-called 'intralingual translation', often prolix and pretentious, and not translation at all. (Newmark, 1988:46)

For example:

SL: The flowers in the garden.

TL: Bunga-bunga yang tumbuh di kebun.

1.4.8 Idiomatic Translation

Idiomatic translation reproduces the 'message' of the original but tends to distort nuances of meaning by preferring colloquialisms and idioms where these do not exist in the original. (Authorities as diverse as Seleskovitch and Stuart Gilbert tend to this form of lively, 'natural' translation.)(Newmark, 1988:47)

For example:

SL: He is a thief.

TL: Dia panjang tangan.

1.4.9 Communicative Translation

Communicative translation attempts to render the exact contextual meaning of the original in such a way that both content and language are readily acceptable and comprehensible to the readership.(Newmark, 1988:47)

For example:

SL: What do you mean?

TL: maksud lo?

