

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Background of the Study

In the present time, the role of translation has been widely known as important aspect of communication. Considering western countries have become developed countries, they become dominant countries which hold essential role. It makes western countries which mostly use English which dominant as an international language. Every nation communicates each other using English. With this condition, people need to study English. The English speaker's communities spread out everywhere and it causes global communication. The use of English language occurs in a variety of areas such as politics, economy, technology, and education. On the other hand, Indonesia is a developing country which is also influenced by western. University students need to absorb ideas from developed countries. To get ideas from those countries, they need to understand how they communicate by learning their language. English has been one of the subjects taught from elementary school to tertiary level. But as, a matter of fact, majority of Indonesian people do not speak and even do not know English. Therefore, English, particularly translation work is truly needed. For national interest, translation is used for a tool in order to understand ideas from different language. Considering the weakness, the role of translating is still very important. Besides, our country absorbs ideas from western; we must be able to express our ideas globally by translating them into English. Therefore, in recent years many of Indonesian texts are translated into English in order to circulate them around the world.

Translation work focuses in the area of education, particularly in higher education. Indonesian people absorb knowledge from developed countries and on the other hand institution of tertiary level or university is also committed to do research work. Hence, university students

feel the need of translation work into English in order to inform what they have done. It is a contribution to the development of science. Post Graduate Program State University of Medan, especially educational administration department also takes this role. It makes an attempt to convey the ideas of original text in the thesis to the outside world. An abstract is the important part of a thesis containing the basic ideas of a thesis. By reading the abstract, the reader can decide whether he or she needs to read the whole content of thesis or not. The final step of writing a thesis is abstract writing. In this case, students of Post graduate Program State University of Medan are required to write the thesis abstract in English. In recent years students of Post graduate Program are required to write thesis abstracts in English, although they are not English department students. The post graduate school has given English as subject in the first semester of their study. However not all Post graduate students have good skill in English, particularly in doing translation. Therefore some translation errors still occurred.

Some students could be able to transfer their ideas into English just like what they want to write in abstract, so readers could get the understanding as precisely as the author means. Unfortunately, some others fail in doing translation. They fail in grammatical and content errors; grammatical errors include errors in the production of verb groups, errors in the use of prepositions, Miscellaneous Errors in the Distribution of Verb Groups, etc (Richards ). furthermore content errors include different sense, less precise or less accurate, Misuse of phrases, Misuse of formal or official register and etc. (Newmark, Barnett and Stubbs, 1980)

Here is one of the example of grammatical errors:

*Pengumpulan data penelitian dilakukan dengan teknik observasi dan pengkajian dokumen. (Ngatman, 2005)*

The translation is:

*Data Collecting execute using observation technique and document study*

The translation of English statement in the first example contains grammatical errors. Firstly, the translator makes error in the word execute, it should be is/was executed because it is a passive voice (S+ to be + Verb 3). Secondly is the word observation which should be changed observational as an Adjective because the word technique is a noun which should be followed by the adjective (-al suffix), and thirdly as well as the word document should be changed into documentary.

Here is an example of content error :

*Maka nara sumber dalam penelitian ini mencakup ketua dan pengurus komite sekolah, kepala sekolah, guru, staf tata usaha dan siswa.*

The translation is:

*Hence the guest speakers in this research include chief and official member of committee, school headmaster, student and school administrator. (Ngatman, 2005)*

In this phrase the school headmaster should be written headmaster. Because, for the natives speaker's perspective the word headmaster has the meaning of the leader of school already. So it is no need to put the word “ school” there.

Seeing this condition, the researcher is concerned with those problems in considering that those abstracts would be published globally. Outside world could underestimate the educational quality of post graduate student from seeing the translation abstracts which contain a lot of errors. In addition, they do not pay attention to the technique of translation. In doing a translation, at least the students should master two languages, in this case, Indonesian and English. Unfortunately, by seeing the result of the translation, the students still face an ambiguity of Indonesian word, phrase, and sentence.

Doing translation is not an easy task. The translator should have equal knowledge of the source language (SL) and target language (TL). This requirement must be fulfilled because

translating a text particularly abstract is not just translating the words but also explaining concepts and ideas. Moreover, the the researcher chooses the translated abstracts of Post Graduate theses as a source of investigation to find out the error translation which is from Indonesian text into English.

As a student of linguistics who has learned about theories of translation and also interested in this field, the researcher wants to reveal whether the translation is accurate or not.

## **1.2 The Problems of the Study**

In this study the research problems are common. Translation errors occur in content and grammatical error. Beginner in translating abstracts from Indonesian texts into English may make errors or fails in translating abstract. For this analysis the problems are elaborated by the following:

1. What types of translation errors found in abstracts of educational administration student?
2. What is the dominant type of translation errors found in abstracts?
3. Why do the dominant type of translation errors result occur?

## **1.3 The Objectives of the Study**

This Study attempts:

1. to investigate the types of translation errors in abstracts of educational administration students
2. to ascertain the dominant type in abstract

3. to contextualize why the dominant type of errors in translation result occur

#### **1.4 The Scope of the Study**

The translation field is very wide. Nevertheless, in doing his research, the researcher deals with the error analysis in translation. The researcher wants to reveal content and grammatical errors made by students in translating the abstracts into English, within the scope of translation in semantics and grammar theories. The researcher focuses on content and grammatical errors which occur in the thesis abstracts of educational administration students of post graduate program of State University of Medan . However, spelling errors which do not affect content and grammar of the text are ignored.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The researcher thinks that this analysis can develop the knowledge in translation study, particularly in the pattern of error. Considering that many students make errors in doing translation, the researcher wants to contribute the betterment by showing the common problem. So, the lecturers and the students know and realize that there are many errors English translated abstracts in educational administration department. The researcher hopes that after they know about it, Post graduate program of State University of Medan holds further action, for example by giving training for the student in going translation. So, their English-translated abstracts will be more accurate, correct and understandable.

This study is also necessary to make students more aware and careful in translating the abstract into English and of course to motivate them to study English more, particularly translation

subject in order to make their abstracts good and understandable for those who read abstract in English.



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