

## **CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION**

### **A. The Background of the Study**

Every language in the world has its own characteristics. Therefore, when the source language and the target language are widely different in structure and cultural background, there cannot be an exact equivalent transfer of the source language into the target language. To overcome the differences in characteristics of these languages, translators are required to understand the structure of both the source and target languages. It can be said that translation is a complicated process encompassing both linguistic and non-linguistic problems. One aspect of the linguistic problems to be mastered by a translator is the structure, meaning the sequence of linguistic units that have relationship to each other. A translator who translates English text into Indonesian has to be competent in mastering both English and Indonesian language structure. It will make them capable in grasping the meaning embedded in the text accurately, and will allow them to transfer the same meaning correctly and appropriately using the suitable structure in the target language.

Translation has a very important role in solving communication problems between two different languages. Communication among people from different countries, or even continents, might be intervened because of their language differences, but it can be solved by translating a language into another, so that they can understand each other.

It is stated that translation is basically a change of form. When it is concerned with speaking a language, it refers to the actual words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and paragraphs which are spoken or written. These forms are referred to as the surface structure of a language. Larson (1984: 3).

The term “translation shift” was first introduced by Catford (1965). His definition of this concept relies on his distinction between formal correspondence and textual equivalence: formal correspondence is a relationship that holds between two linguistic categories that occupy approximately the same place in the organization of their respective languages, while textual equivalence holds between two portions of text that are actual translations of each other. When a textual equivalent is not formally correspondent with its source, this is called a translation shift. Catford divided shifts into two major types; they are level shift and category shift. And category shifts is divided into four types, they are structure shifts, class shifts, unit shifts, and intra system shifts.

The shift is done by the translator in order to establish equivalent and the exact meaning or structure in target language so that the translation could be natural and communicative. If the translator does not do the shifts, then he/she preserves the form of the source language, the result or the product of the translation might not be good, rigid, and inflexible, and it will make the readers confused and even the translation would lead them to the wrong understanding.

In this thesis the writer wants to analyze one of the types of category shifts, that is the unit shifts. Unit shifts is also called rank shifts. Catford in (Munday 2001:61) states “Unit shifts or rank shifts are shifts where the translation

equivalent in the TL is at different rank to the SL. ‘Rank’ here refers to the hierarchical linguistic units of sentence, clause, group, word and morpheme”. Unit shifts are done because an idea or expression which is usually conveyed in word level in SL must be conveyed in phrase level in TL. In another word unit shifts deals to the change of rank from the source language to the target language.

This thesis focuses to find out the unit shifts category of English - Indonesian translation in Novel *Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini and its translation by Berliani M. Nugrahani. This is because in translating the text from different languages is very difficult and every language has its own rules. So that to translate the language we use shifts to get the equivalence meaning in order to make the reader understand the product of the translation.

The following are some examples of unit shifts category the writer finds after reading the novel and it’s translation at a glance:

- 1) SL: ... On a frigid overcast day in the *winter* of 1975. (p.1)  
 TL: Pada suatu hari yang beku di *musim dingin* 1975. (p.17)

From the example above, (1) the word *winter* in source text is translated into phrase *musim dingin* in the target text. It means that there is a change of rank from *word to phrase*.

- 2) “Can we *roll down* the window?” *I asked*. (p211)  
 “Bisakah kita *membuka* jendela?” *tanyaku*. (p391)

From the examples above (2), it can be seen there are two changes of rank. The first one is the phrase *roll down* in source text is translated into *membuka* in the target text. It means there is a change of rank from *phrase to word*. The second

one the phrase *I* in source text is translated into morpheme *tanyaku*. It means that there is a shift from *word to morpheme*.

Sometimes, there is no word in English as the source text that can comprise the meaning in the target text like in the example above the word SL (*winter*) translated TL (*musim dingin*). This happened because meaning component package in the lexical items of two languages are different and to keep the meaning conveyed in Indonesia, the form or unit need to be changed.

#### **B. The Problems of the Study**

The problems will be answered in this discussion are formulated through the following questions:

1. What are the unit shift category in Novel *The Kite Runner* by *Khaled Hosseini* and its translation in Indonesia by *Berliani M. Nugrahani*?
2. What are the factors that cause the existence of each unit shift in the unit analysis?

#### **C. The Objective of the Study**

Based on the research questions above, the objective of this research are:

- a. To find out the pattern of the unit shift category in English to Indonesian translation of the novel *Kite Runner*.
- b. To find out the factors that cause or affect each unit shift category in the translation of English to Indonesian.

#### **D. The Scope of the Study**

The writer is aware that it is impossible for him to cope all types of translation shift which are covered in the novel *The Kite Runner* because of his limited capability and knowledge. Hence, The subject of the study is limited to the unit shift category that are covered in the first five pages in each chapter which is taken from Khaled Hosseini's novel *The Kite Runner* and its Indonesian translation.

#### **E. The Significance of the Study**

Theoretically, the significance of this study is to give contribution to the development of linguistic studies, especially for the translation study about some insights of the possible translation English into Indonesian and at once to see the occurrence of unit shift category and the factor that cause the existence of each unit shift category in the unit analysis. Therefore the clearest translation can be done by the translator.

Practically, hopefully the result of this research can be used as a reference in the process of analyzing the unit shift category in the novel. Also, I expect that this research can be used as framework for translating English text into Indonesian, especially in the unit shift category,