

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. The Background of Study

Human beings in this world consist of different races and languages. Besides, humans are social creatures who cannot live alone and need each other for the sake of living. Based on this, humans need to communicate, and the most common way humans use to communicate is through language. According to Wibowo (2001:3), *language is a system of symbols that are meaningful and articulate sound (generated by said tool) which are arbitrary and conventional, which is used as a means of communicating by a group of human beings to give birth to feelings and thoughts.* Today, humans can communicate to others worldwide easily by using internet. However, humans often have miscommunication in their interaction because of the language differences used among the speakers. Some people can speak some languages, but some cannot. Therefore, the role of translation is needed.

Translation is the neutral term used for all tasks where the meaning of expression in one language (the 'source language' is turned into the meaning of another (the 'target language'), whether the medium is spoken, written, or signed (Crystal, 1987:334). As a means of communication, the translation should be accurate, clear and natural. There should be correct equivalence of meaning between source language and target language, and also parallelism in form in order that people can understand the text easily. But sometimes it is hard for the translator to find a suitable word when translating text from source language (SL)

into target language (TL). 'Lontong' in Bahasa Indonesia, for instance, has no lexical item in English. It happens because no words in SL can be translated accurately in TL. Philosophically speaking, there are no two things that are absolutely identical. Indeed, the basic reason why there are some words in SL can't be translated accurately to TL is culture. Nababan (1984:50) states, "*bahasa, sebagai sistem komunikasi, mempunyai makna hanya dalam kebudayaan yang menjadi wadahnya, mengerti sesuatu bahasa tertentu memerlukan sedikit banyak pengertian tentang kebudayaan*".

As Indonesia people have rice as a main course, *lontong* is another form of rice itself. Meanwhile, in foreign country, especially western, they don't eat rice as a main course. Thus, we can't find *lontong* in western countries. Therefore, we can't translate *lontong* accurately in English or any other language. As the way to solve such kind of this issue, translator must modify the translation by using another word in TL that equivalent with the words in SL so the reader of the translation in TL can understand more what the original author want to tell. Translators must have deep knowledge about both language, SL and TL, in order to find the equivalent word. As a result, *lontong* translated as *a food consisting of rice steamed in banana leaves*.

Equivalence translation is the similarity between a word or expression in one language and its translation in another, this similarity results from overlapping. Translation equivalence cannot be considered as the similarity but considered as equal meaning in translating text in source language (SL) into target language (TL). Crystal (1987:334) stated "*translation equivalence refers to the*

*equivalence relationships between target text (TT) and source text (ST)*". Catford also generalize the conditions for translation equivalence as follows: "*translation equivalence occurs when an SL and a TL text or item are relatable to (at least some of) the same features of substances*".

In a text, there is main element called verb. Verb is word that expresses actions, state of being, or relation between two things. It functions as the main elements of a predicate (what is said about the subject) (Manurung, 2007:26). Verb is classified into different type in each language. In English, for instance, verb classified into five (Frank, 1982). And Indonesia, verb classified into four (Kridalaksana, 1990). As the main element in a sentence, verb in an SL must be translated clearly in TL. But, some verbs are untranslatable as shown in example below:

SL : I 'am' beautiful (English)

TL : aku cantik (Indonesia)

'Am' is classified into auxiliary verb to modify 'I' that function as adjective and noun. As 'aku' in Indonesia is clearly act as a first person, no need to modify with any lexical item. Based on this, the writer want to analyze the translation equivalence of verbs using Nida (McGuire, 1991:26) theory that classified translation equivalence into two, they are Formal Equivalence, which focuses attention on the message itself, and Dynamic Equivalence, which is based on principle of equivalence.

Besides, foreign movies nowadays are much published, especially Hollywood movie which use English language. The writer choose Despicable Me

as one of America's film presented by Universal Picture and produced by A Chris Meledandri Production. This film is about Gru, a man that has an ambition to be a greatest villain of all the time by stealing the moon. But, he transforms become a kind man after met Margo, Edith, and Agnes, an orphan that he adopted to help him get a shrink ray to steal the moon. Let us see example of translation equivalence of verbs that the writer found in Despicable Me Movie script both in SL (English) and TL (Indonesian).

SL : I know how you must be feeling. I, too, **have encountered** great disappointment, but in my eyes, you will always be one of the greats.

TL : Aku tahu bagaimana perasaanmu. Aku juga, **mengalami** kegagalan besar. Tapi dimataku, kau selalu yang terbaik. (00:06:52→00:06:55)

'**Have encountered**' in SL is a verb and translated in a verb too in TL as '**mengalami**'. As formal equivalence focuses attention on the message itself, in both form and content, example above has no change in form. It is verb in SL, and it is verb also in TL. Compare with example below:

SL : That **was** you, wasn't it?

TL : Itu **ulah**mu, kan? (00:14:01→00:14:03)

The word '**was**' as auxiliary verb in SL doesn't translate as verb in TL. It is translated as **ulah** that classified into noun in Indonesia. This is what Nida said as Dynamic Equivalence that means as the closest natural equivalent to the source-language message.

From the explanation above, the research is about translation equivalence of verbs found in Despicable Me Movie script and its translation, in Indonesia.

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

Based on background above, the writer tried to get the answers of following questions:

1. What type of equivalences found in English-Indonesia translation of verbs in Despicable Me Script?
2. What type of equivalences dominantly found in English-Indonesia translation of verbs in Despicable Me Script?
3. To what extent the naturalness of expressions in the translation of Despicable Me Movie?

## **C. The Objectives of Study**

The purposes of this research were to find out:

1. The types of equivalence found in English-Indonesia translation of verbs in Despicable Me script.
2. The most dominant type of equivalence found in English-Indonesia translation of verbs in Despicable Me script.
3. The naturalness of expressions in the translation of Despicable Me script.

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

This study was related to translation equivalences of a movie 'Despicable Me'. The translation equivalence was limited on verbs used in the movie script, both English and Indonesia translation.

### **E. The Significances of Study**

The findings of this study were expected to be useful for:

1. Students of English language, who are interested in studying translation, especially translation equivalences.
2. Translators, who'd like to translate the foreign movies, to increase the knowledge about translation equivalence.
3. Researchers, especially a linguistic researcher, to increase the understanding and idea, to conduct further related studies.