

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Background of the Study

Translating from one language into another language is closely related to linguistics. Translation theory derives from comparative linguistics; it is an aspect of semantics. Many translators have translated from source language (SL) into target language (TL) in order to make the readers of TL, especially ones who do not understand the SL can also consume the message of source language text (SLT).

In translating a text, a translator reproduces form of text from SL into TL. It means that the meaning should be transferred and must be consistent and even though sometimes the form may be changed. The form meant is the surface structure like words, phrases, clauses, sentences or paragraphs. In translating, the surface structure may be different but the deep structure (meaning) remains the same.

Since each language has its own rule or structure in stating ideas, translators may not be influenced by their native languages. Translators should be aware that each language possesses certain distinctive characteristics, e.g. word building, pattern of phrase order, and technique for linking clauses into sentences. It is necessary to be considered in order to bear the best translation, i.e. a translation which does not sound like a translation.

A good translation is a translation of which able to convey the messages, thoughts, ideas, and concepts from the source language thoroughly and correctly. In obtaining good translation, translators must understand the source language and target

language as well as the kinds of text in order to find out the appropriate methods to be applied in the translation process.

There are various kinds of text which must be considered by a translator in order to decide what methods will be used in translating process. For the purpose of translation, Newmark (1988: 39) classifies text types, they are:

1. the types of expressive text namely: literally works, authoritative statements, autobiography, essays and personal correspondences;
2. the informative texts namely: textbooks, technical reports, articles, scientific papers, theses, minutes or agenda of a meeting;
3. the vocative texts namely: notices, instructions, propaganda, publicity, and popular fiction.

Every expert of translation categorizes translations into kinds, methods, or techniques, even though they explain them differently. However, this study will adopt the theory of Newmark in categorizing the translation methods.

Based on the definition in Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (2005: 740), method means a systematic way used to do a work in order to obtain the intended desire; a systematic work to make easier an activity in order to obtain the determined intention.

In relating to the term of translation methods, Molina and Albir (2002: 507) mention that translation method refers to the way of a particular translation process that is carried out in terms of the translator's objective, i.e., a global option that affects the whole texts. It can be concluded that translation methods tend to be a way used by translator in the process of translation based on the intention. In this case, the

translation methods will influence the result of the translation itself which means that the result of translation text is determined by the methods used by the translator because the translator's intention and mean will give any influence to the whole result of translation text. This is also supported by Newmark (1988: 81) who states that translation methods relate to whole texts, translation procedures are used for sentences and the smaller units of language.

As conclusion, translation methods which are used by the translator(s) will give any significant influence to the result of the translation text. It means that the translator(s) should be aware of using the appropriate methods to be used in each kind of text which needed to be translated.

Many kinds of English books are translated into Indonesian, technical and even non-technical. If the translation for non-technical books is not giving attention to the accuracy of the message conveyed, but it will be different for technical. It should be translated as accurately as the original.

To arrive at as accurately as the original, there are several requirements that must be met. The following is the process that is usually followed by translators to ensure an accurate translation:

1. The document to be translated is assigned to a person who is familiar with the native language of the document being translated.
2. The document is edited by a person who is fluent in both the target and source languages. Accuracy, grammar, spelling and writing style are all checked in the editing stage.



3. The document is proofread by a person who is fluent in both languages. It is also necessary to check spelling and layout.
4. Finally, before the document goes to the client, the document is further rechecked to ensure that the translation is correct, there are no missing messages and the layout is perfect.

Translating technical text is not like translating literature. There are no cultural cues to preserve, no great literary techniques to convert. What needs to be preserved is the technical content of the text. A technical text is generally understood to contain little or no figurative language, technical texts do not exhibit the problems present in literary translation such as oral and written communication among persons. Moreover, technical texts are 'structurally similar' to prose texts. The text is bifurcated into chapters, sections, paragraphs and sentences. There is an apparent linearity to the text—the development of the text beginning with simple ideas and equations and proceeding to more complex physical (and mathematical, if required) problems and solutions.

Technical translation has long been considered as a field of the pure sciences. Translating technical texts in the professional environment or in scientific communication is more than handling terminology. Texts, as the means of oral and written communication among persons, are carriers of messages. And any message within a technical or scientific field includes both subject-relevant information and some implicit referential meaning.

For a good technical translation it is not enough that the translator masters the target language like a native speaker, though this is obviously essential for a good

translation. The translator must be able to understand the technical terminology of the source language, and use the most suitable technical terminology in the target language. He needs to get inside the technical jargon used by the authors and has to use the technical jargon that the recipients of the target language translation expect, so that the translated text does not sound strange to those who will eventually work with it.

In general, to get a good result it is not enough to be a good translator, or to use good bilingual dictionaries, which are often inadequate and out of date. One needs to have sufficient technical skill to understand the meaning – in technical terms – of the source text and understand, or know how to find, the right technical term for the target text because translators are the persons who are responsible for the transfer of meaning as mentioned by Siregar (2003: 8).

Considering the reasons that there are limited studies regarding translation subject, especially the translation methods in a specialized/technical text, then this study of an analysis of translation methods used in translated version in technical text is conducted in order to find out the translation methods used in translating technical text and whether the form in the translated version are acceptable.

This topic is chosen because after reading the source text book and its translation, it is found that there are many technical terms/words used in the text book. The expression of technical terms/words meanings can take quite a different form in each language. There are may be any changes occurred in translating the meanings of technical terms/words. Besides, the translation methods used in translating the original into the translated version also will be analyzed in order to

find out the methods used in translating specialized/technical text, especially digital signal processing text book in this respect.

Due to the reasons, then it is considered to analyze the translation methods used in technical text from English into Indonesian in “Digital Signal Processing: Principles, Algorithms, and Applications” by John G Proakis and Dimitris G Manolakis, and its Indonesian translation “Pemrosesan Sinyal Digital: Prinsip, Algoritma, dan Aplikasi” by Rudy P. Gultom M.T and Nunik Nurida.

Realizing that translation is not easy, then this study is intended to be carried out. It is important to conduct this study since there are not many studies about this kind of topic. Moreover, it is interesting to study translation because translation is not only about changing words from one language to another; in fact it needs special skill so that the translation will sound naturally. Finally, it is hoped that the result of this study can be a guideline for practitioners especially translators and students to translate SL into TL appropriately.

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

The problems of the study in this thesis are as follows:

1. What are the translation methods used in Indonesian translated version of technical text?
2. What translation method is dominantly used by the translators in Indonesian translated version of technical text?
3. Is the form of the Indonesian translated version of technical text acceptable?



### 1.3 The Objectives of the Study

Based on the problems mentioned above, the aims of this study are:

1. To analyze the translation methods used in Indonesian translated version of technical text.
2. To find out the dominant translation method used by the translators in Indonesian translated version of technical text.
3. To analyze whether the form of the Indonesian translated version of technical text is acceptable.

### 1.4 The Scope of the Study

In conducting this study, the scope is the translation methods used in Indonesian translated version in technical text. This study will deal with digital signal processing text book. There are two books to be analyzed i.e. the original and the translated version. They are chosen because digitally is a worldwide matters since everything now comes to be in digital system and it is developed widely at this moment. Besides the translation methods to be analyzed, the form in the translated version will be analyzed and considered based on the concept of equivalency, accuracy, and naturalness of the certain terminology and the specific content in the SL in order to decide whether the TL i.e. the Indonesian translated version in technical text is an acceptable translation. The messages/meanings conveyed in translated version also should be considered to decide that the translated version is acceptable.

### 1.5 The Significance of the Study

Many people still think that translation is just a matter of 'languages' that students who learn and practice translation at school can become a translator and that translating is something rather than easy and straight forward. Languages are essential but insufficient. What is needed beyond absolute linguistic proficiency is a perfect knowledge of the relevant cultural, technical, legal, commercial backgrounds, and full understanding of the subject matter involved. It must be emphasized from the start that a translator is a vital player, both economically and technically and a highly skilled technical expert.

The major concern of this study is to find out the translation methods used in the translated version of technical text. This study attempts to describe and analyze the true of specialized translation, take the diversity of practices, situations and environments into account. Its aim is to describe the queries for those who are thinking of entering the profession of translator. It also will explain the complexity and diversity of the tasks involved in the translator's work and also would like to contribute information to the practitioners, prospective translators, students of translation courses and any other readers who are interested in studying translation especially in technical text from English into Indonesian language.



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## 1.6 The Arrangement of the Contents

The arrangement of the contents in this study is as follows:

1. Chapter I is introduction which consists of the background of study, the problems of the study, the objectives of the study, the scope of the study, the significance of the study, and the arrangement of the contents.
2. Chapter II is underlying the theoretical orientation. This chapter relates to the previous relevant study, the theory of translation, technical translation, and technical text, meaning in translation, consideration of acceptable translation, translation methods and conceptual framework.
3. Chapter III is research plan and implementation. It presents the research design, sources of data, data collection, procedures of data collection and data analysis.
4. Chapter IV is data analysis, findings and discussions. It presents the analysis of translation methods used in the translated version of technical text and the analysis of acceptable translation from SL to TL.
5. Chapter V is conclusions and suggestion. It presents the conclusions as the answer of the problems of study, and suggestions i.e. recommendation to translation classes, translators, and to other researchers.

