CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Research Background

Translation has played a central part in human interaction. Shamsaie and Beiki (2024) stated that the study of translation has developed on different academic disciplines, including Linguistics, Discourse Analysis (DA), Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), Cultural Studies (CS), and Pragmatics. Not only for learning a language, translation is also important in teaching a language. Petrocchi (2014) as cited in Banitz (2022) defined translation as a tool for teaching a foreign language.

Sahebi (2019) explained that translation acts as a valuable pedagogical instrument in foreign language instruction, allowing learners to comprehend, internalize, and develop communication competencies. It facilitates the acquisition of diverse linguistic skills, comprehension of syntactic, semantic, stylistic, and cultural distinctions between L1 and L2, and ultimately enables the contextual application of English. Translation has many benefits because translation itself aims to integrate translation and reading and pronunciation skills, integrate vocabulary practice and writing, raise awareness of context, culture, and meaning, integrate contrastive-comparative analysis between L1 and L2, and raise awareness of the cohesion system, lexical cohesion, and genre types through textual analysis (Sahebi, 2019).

Translation is a process of finding a TL equivalent for a SL utterance, which aims to exchange a written SL text into an optimal equivalent TL text, which also

requires the syntactic, the semantic and the pragmatic understanding and analytical processing of the SL (Pinhhuck, 1977; Wilss, 1982). It can be concluded that translation should be transferred with the equal and natural meaning so it can be understood by the other language users. So, a good translation is one that conveys the original meaning clearly, and makes it easy for others to understand. This ensures that the message in the source language effectively informs the target language reader.

From the explanation above, it could be concluded that translation skills is really important. Even though in this modern era, people can just AI as translation tools, translation results using human translators have better quality compared to AI. This statement is supported by Moneus and Sahari (2024) who state that because of skill and expertise of the translator human translation is often considered to be of higher quality. Yan et al (2024) mentions "qualitative analysis revealed that GPT-4 tends to produce more literal translations compared to human translators but suffers less from imagined information". An experienced human translator has a strong understanding of both the languages and cultures they are working with, allowing them to clearly communicate the original text's meaning and tone. They can identify subtle details and cultural differences that might be missed by other translation methods, using their skills to translate idioms, metaphors, and other unique features of the language. This usually results in a translation that stays true to the original text and fits well with the culture of the target audience (Moneus and Sahari, 2024).

One of the most influential factors in translation is the role of the mother tongue. The mother tongue, or first language, is learned from birth and used for expressing emotions, thoughts, and ideas, significantly shaping cognitive and linguistic abilities

essential in learning and translating into a second language (Language Unlimited, 2024). In the context of translation, the mother tongue serves as a cognitive foundation through which learners interpret and restructure meaning. When translating from a second language (L2) into the first language (L1), students often rely on their intuitive understanding of grammar, idiomatic expressions, and cultural references rooted in their native language. This dependence can be beneficial in producing natural and fluent target texts. However, it can also lead to interference when structural or cultural mismatches occur. Therefore, while the mother tongue helps comprehension and expression, it must be balanced with enough proficiency in the source language and knowledge of the cultural context to ensure accurate and appropriate translation outcomes.

Based on the writer's experience during the translation class in 2024, students made different Indonesian translation about certain English sentence given by the lecturer. For example the sentence "I have made an appointment with the principal" would be translated as "*saya telah membuat perjanjian dengan kepala sekolah*" by one student, and "*saya telah membuat janji temu dengan kepala sekolah*" by another student. It showed that English Education students in Universitas Jambi uses different methods in translating certain text, the first translation is "Literal Translation" because it focuses more on the original form of the source text, meanwhile the second translation is "Semantic Translation" because it is more flexible and pays attention to cultural aspects and the reader's understanding of the context in the target language. In the other hands it also showed that not all of them understand the different context and culture from English Language, for example the sentence "killing two birds with one

stone" would be translated using idiomatic translation by one students "*sekali mendayung dua pulau terlampaui*" and using literal translation by another students "*membunuh dua burung dengan satu batu*".

In order to know kinds translation method used by those students, the writer is interested to analyze how they are used in translating English short story. There are some documented studies about translation methods such as Ramadhan & Wardana, 2021; Shabitah & Hartono, 2020; Yulitha, 2024; Hadianto & Maisarah, 2022; Lubis & Elina, 2020; Sianturi, Marpaung, et all, 2021; Siradjuddin, 2023. However, these studies often focus on professional or literary translations. Particularly, the translation of short stories—a medium rich in linguistic and cultural layers—by students remains underexplored. Additionally, short story is being chosen because of some reasons, such as length; it needs shorter time to translate short story compared to other literary works such as novel and folktale. Besides, short stories provide a rich source of material that combine literary analysis with linguistic and cultural exploration. Furthermore, short story offer insights into the complexities of cross-cultural communication through translation. Pardede (2011) as cited in Rahmawati (2020) stated that short story contains concrete examples of grammatical structures and vocabulary items.

Thus, this research holds significant value for the teaching and learning of translation. By examining the translation methods and challenges faced by students, this study contributes to enhancing translation pedagogy and supporting the development of effective translation skills among future educators. Consequently, the researcher is motivated to conduct this study under the title: "Translation Methods

Used in Translating an English Short Story by the Students of English Education Study Program of Universitas Jambi".

1.2   Research Questions

This study is focusing on finding out and describing the methods used by the students and students' difficulties in translating an English short story into Indonesian. Based on the background of the study, the researcher formulates research questions as follow:

1.   What translation methods are used by Students of English Education Study Program of University of Jambi in translating an English short story into Indonesian?

2.   What the difficulties are faced by Students of English Education Study Program of University of Jambi in translating an English short story into Indonesian?

1.3   Research Purposes

Based on the research questions above, the purpose of this research is:

1.   To find out and describe the translation methods used by Students of English Education Study Program of University of Jambi in translating an English short story into Indonesian.

2.   To find out the difficulties faced by Students of English Education Study Program of University of Jambi in translating an English short story into Indonesian and elaborate them.

1.4   Limitation of the Research

Based on the research question, the researcher limits the research by focusing on the methods formulated by Newmark (1988) which are: word for word translation; literal translation; faithful translation; semantic translation; adaptation translation; free translation; idiomatic translation; communicative translation, that are used in translating short story and their difficulties in translating a short story. In addition, the researcher also limits the research by focusing on the difficulties in translation by Newmark (1988) which are: ecological problem, material culture, social culture, and religious culture.

1.5   Research Significance

This research is expected to give contribution to English Education students, English Education lecturers, and other researchers. Firstly, the result of the study can be used as reference to enrich English Education students' knowledge in term of translating in the field of literature. Secondly, it can be used by the translation lecturers as reference in conducting materials about translation methods by determining the common methods used by the students. Lastly, this research is expected to give a contribution as a reference for further research that conducting related topic about translation fields especially using translation methods in translating a source language text.

1.6   Definition of Key Terms

The following are the keys in this research

1.   Translation

Simply translation is the way of changing meaning or information from one language to another language. Nida (1982) as cited in Mohamed (2022) stated that, "Translation is a means of reproducing the receptor language from the closest natural equivalent of the source-language message, taking the meaning into utmost consideration and secondly in terms of style." In the other hands, Newmark (1988) as cited in Mohamed (2022), stated that translation is a process to replace a written message or statement in one language with the same message or statement in another language. In this research, translation refers to process of changing text from source language (English) into target language (Indonesian) while retaining the original meaning.

2.   Translation methods

Shabitah and Hartono (2020) mentioned that translation method is a method used by the translator in the translation process depends on its purpose. In this research, translation method refer to strategies, techniques or approaches used by translator (English Education students of Universitas Jambi) to convey the meaning and message from the original English text into Indonesian.

3.   Short story

Solikhah and Sari (2022) as cited in Korompot, et al (2022) define a short story as a piece of literature with a shorter length than a novel. In this research, the term "short story" refers to a brief work of fiction that focuses on a single theme, a limited number of character, and a singular event.