

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Background of the Research

Language is an equipment that may be used to express oneself, convey an opinion, solve an issue, and is crucial in the process of verbal and nonverbal communication (Maghfiroh, A. 2016). Translation is an important thing in this world. When interacting with foreigners, going to tourist attractions, and buying things, translation is sure to take an important part there. Therefore, it is very important for everyone to master translation. Translation is the process by which words change or substitution the source language (SL) to the target language (TL). According to Tandikombong (2016) that there is a substitution of TL meanings in translation: not a conversion of TL meanings into SL. In the transference process, SL definitions are implanted into the TL text. In any theory of translation, these two processes should be clearly distinguished. That means that in translating, one should know the methods and theories of translation.

However, EFL students have difficulty in translating text from English to Indonesian or Indonesian to English. According to Hadrus (2017) said that some students think that English is difficult to learn, the definition of the word is difficult for students to grasp, less comprehension of the content, and difficult to translate some text in the English book becomes one of the problems faced by the students and if the students are unable to translate each word, expression, or paragraph in a text,

they can not understand the meaning of the text. People do not always utilize only one language in communication (Mustikawati, DA. 2016).

Translation is one of the courses at the university that should be learnt by English Language students. In the English education study program at Muhammadiyah University of Ponorogo, there are translation courses that should be taken in the fifth semester and elective courses in the sixth and eighth semesters. Each course has two credits. According to Maghfiroh, A. (2016) said that the study of English education, in particular for program students, is the thing that is required to have competence good language skills, focusing primarily on productive skills (speaking and writing), which can only be achieved through practice or by familiarizing students with using English in daily activities or during the learning process. In the Translation on Written text course, the elective course taken in the sixth semester is the activity of translating Indonesian text into English and vice versa. If most of the students translate Indonesian text into English, they will immediately translate with the Indonesian language structure without looking at the context first. Translating Indonesian to English should pay attention to the structure of the sentence to be translated because Indonesian and English have different structures. Students do not think about the grammatical and lexical structures of the sentence. One of the English language lecturers at the English Education study program of Muhammadiyah University of Ponorogo who teaches the translation course explained that most students have difficulty in choosing the right vocabulary according to the context. Students do not understand the Indonesian context so that it

is difficult to choose the right words. Students also have difficulty in distributing syntactic functions, where they have difficulty determining which subject, verb, and object are as well as difficulty in putting the subject or verb position in a sentence. The lecturer also explained that students had difficulty understanding changes in meaning because in English one sentence could have more than one meaning. This makes it difficult for students to understand changes in meaning. Daily language exercises are one method for achieving both competences, particularly communicative competence, in foreign language learning (Maghfiroh, A. 2014).

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that most students still have difficulties in translating text. Here, the researcher willing to conduct a research about the difficulties experienced by seventh semester students of English Education study program of Muhammadiyah University of Ponorogo in translation.

## **1.2. Problem Statements**

Based on the explanation above, this research problem is formulated into two questions as follows:

1.2.1. What are the difficulties faced by students in translation?

1.2.2. What are the students' strategies to overcome the difficulties in translation?

### **1.3. Research Objectives**

The objectives of this research are:

1.3.1. To find out the difficulties faced by students in translation.

1.3.2. To find out the students' strategies to overcome the difficulties in translation.

### **1.4. Research Significance**

This research consists of three significance as follows:

1.4.1. For the students

Researcher hopes that this study can motivate students, especially students of English education, to find out the difficulties when translating text and how the students undertake to overcome the difficulties.

1.4.2. For the lecturers

Researcher hopes that the results of this research can provide information to English lecturers who are directly involved with the English learning process. It is hoped that this research can improve teaching skills and overcome problems in translation.

1.4.3. For the other researchers

The researcher hopes that the findings of this research will be useful for other researchers to research about translation and can use the results of this research as best as possible. This research can be a reference for other researchers to propose techniques and strategies in translation.

## 1.5. Research Scope

The scope based on this research is that the researcher observes the difficulties faced by students in translation. In this study, the researcher will provide questions in the form of questionnaires and interviews about the difficulties experienced by students in translating and the strategies to overcome these difficulties. The researcher refers to translation because most of the 7th semester students of English Language Education study program of Muhammadiyah University of Ponorogo have difficulty translation.

## 1.6. Definition of Key Terms

Researcher need to provide definitions of key terms to make it easier for readers to understand the content of this study.

*Translation* : the process of changing the source language (SL) to the target language (TL) (Catford, 1965).

*Difficulties* : something hard to do by students in learning. According to Hadrus (2017) difficulties are something that is impossible to do in the situation they cause issues. The difficulties include two variables, both linguistic and non-linguistic. In linguistic terms, in lexical, syntactic and textual terms, students are challenging. Non-linguistic considerations include comprehension of philosophy, culture, history, etc