

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### 2.1 Previous Studies

There are some previous studies which related in English idiom translation: The first is the research from Frennandy(2013) about “*analysis on idiom translation strategies in the rainbow troops*” which focuses in examining the translation strategies in the novel Laskar Pelangi from Indonesian into English using idiom translation strategies proposed by Baker(2007). The result of her research shows that the most common translation strategy used by the translator in translating Indonesian idiom into English is translation by using similar meaning and form, translation by using similar meaning and dissimilar form, and translation by paraphrasing. The difference between this research and her research is the data of source language(SL) & target language(TL), and focus of the research.

The second is the research from Sari Dwi Rahayu(2016) about “*Idiom Translation Strategies in English Version of Hirata’s Edensor*”. She dealt with the idiom translation strategies which concerned on describing the types and the context of idiom translation strategies in Edensor novel. She used observation method as proposed by Sudaryanto(1992) and document analysis method as suggested by Bogdan and Biklen(1982). The result of her research shows that all types of translation strategies was found and the context of prose translation not only preserves the meaning but also the sense of language, stylistic needs and to make his transmitted message effective and convey the same impression of the SL. The difference between this research and her research is the data of SL & TL, the theory, and focused of the research.

The third is Ni Komang Muliанти(2009) entitled “*The Idiom Used In The Novel Hey, Good Looking by Fern Michaels*” about types and meaning of the idiom contextually in which the data were collected by observing and note taking. She also decided to compare the idiomatic meaning with the lexical one. The result of her research shows that the type of verbs with prepositions and adverbial particles is the most constantly used with 109 idiom found, the second one is idiom from special situation and categories with 56 idioms found, and the other types of idioms is found below 30 in the novel. The forms of the idioms are regular. And the meanings

from the context, are also analyzed because they are idioms. The differences of the research is the present study focus on types and translation strategies of the idiom.

## 2.2 Translation

As a matter of fact, translation have becomes frequent activity in our daily life in order to communicate meanings from another language. There are some definitions of translation from several famous researcher, firstly is from Hatim and Munday(2004:3) who state Translation is the process of transferring a written text from SL to TL,conducted by a translator. They also state a specific characteristics that, it is hypothesized, are typical of translated language as distinct from non-translated language. This would be the same whatever the language pair involved and might include greater cohesion and explicitation (with reduced ambiguity) and the fact that a TT is normally longer than a ST. So in simple explanation, translation is the terms for the process of literal rendering of meaning from source language into target language.

Secondly, is from Catford(1965:1) who states that translation is an operation performed on languages: a process of substituting a text in one language for a text in another. He emphasizes more that translation is the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL). Thirdly is from Larson(1998:3) who said that translation is basically a change of form (actual words, phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraph, etc) which means the form of the SL is replaced by the form of TL. Nonetheless in wide explanation he said that translation consists of transferring the meaning of the SL into the TL by going from the form of the first language to the form of second language by way of semantic structure.

## 2.3 Idioms

Carthy and O'Dell(2010:6) state that an idiom is a fixed combination of words whose meaning is often difficult to guess from the meaning of each individual word. It means that idioms are combination of words which cannot be understood literally even if we know the meaning words by words. One idiom might have different understanding in other languages. In addition, we have to know the background culture of English in translating idioms of a source language into a target language. As an example written in Felicity Odell(2010:6) if I say '**I put my foot in it** the other day at Linda's house - I asked her if she was going to marry Simon', what does

it mean? If you do not know that put your foot in it means *say something accidentally which upset or embarrasses someone*, it is difficult to know exactly what the sentence means because it has idiomatic meaning which cannot be translated word by word.

Seidl and Mordie(1988:13) defines an idiom as a number of words which, when taken together, have a different meaning from the individual meaning each word. They also explain that idiom take many different forms or structures. An idiom can have a regular structure, an irregular or even a grammatically incorrect structure. The clarity of meaning is not dependent on the ‘grammatical correctness’.

Furthermore Palmer(1976) defines an idiom involves collocation of special kind, not just inform meaning. Consider, for instance *kick the bucket* in here we not only have the collocation of kick and the bucket but also the fact that the meaning of the resultant combination is opaque. it is not related to the meaning of the individual words, but is sometimes nearer to the meaning of a single word(thus, *kick the bucket* equals die). He also makes three classifications of the idiom:

### 1. Phrasal verb

Phrasal verb is a combination of a verb plus an adverb. The phrasal verb is a fixed collocation idiom, in effect of fully fixed expressions that become establish through repeated context-dependent use. Such term as *make up*, *give in*, *put down* are examples of collocated pairs of words. A phrasal verb often has a meaning which is different from the individual verb and adverb, and in many cases there is a single verb with the same or a very close meaning- invent, yield, quell. (Palmer, 1976:98)

### 2. Prepositional verb

Prepositional verb is a combination of a verb plus a preposition, such as *look after*, and *go for*. Beside that, there is also the sequences of verb, adverb and preposition such as *put up with* which means ‘tolerate’ or *do away with* which means ‘kill’. Those words are not fixed collocation idioms so that they cannot stand alone, they need to be followed by a complete sentences. (Palmer, 1976:99)

### 3. Partial idiom

Partial idiom is where one of the words has its usual meaning, the other has a meaning that is peculiar to the particular sequence. The example of the idiom can be found in *red hair* refers to hair which has not red in strict colour terms. In addition Palmer explains that what is and what is not an idiom is, then, often a matter of degree. It is very difficult, moreover, to decide whether a word or a sequence of words is opaque. We could, perhaps, define idioms in term of non-equivalence in other languages, so that *kick the bucket*, *red herring*, etc are idioms since they cannot be directly translated into French or German. (Palmer, 1976:99)

### 2.2.3 Translation of Idioms

Regardless the explanation above, the translators still experience some difficulty in translating English idioms into the target language. Baker, (2011:71-74) state some of these problems include:

- a. An idiom may have no equivalent in the target language. The way a language chooses to express or not express various meanings cannot be predicted and only occasionally matches the way another language chooses to express the same meanings. One language may express a given meaning by means of a single word; another may express it by means of a transparent fixed expression or an idiom.
- b. An idiom may have a similar counterpart in the target language, but its context of use may be different; the two expressions may have different connotation, for instance, or they may not be pragmatically transferable.
- c. An idiom may be used in the source text both its literal and idiomatic sense at the same time. Unless the TL idiom corresponds to the SL idiom both in form and meaning, the play on idiom cannot be successfully reproduced in TL.
- d. The very convention of using idioms in written discourse, the contexts in which they can be used, and their frequency of use may be different in SL and TL.

After describing some problem which have been experienced by translators in translating the source language(SL) into target language(TL) especially in the field of idiom, Baker(2011:75-84) also gives some strategies to help translators face that problem, the strategies include:

- a. Using an idiom of similar meaning and form, this strategy involves using an idiom in a way that the TL idiom conveys exactly the same meaning by the use of the same equivalent lexical items to the SL ones. The point to be mentioned here is that the more two cultures are identical to each other the more cases of such equivalents are possible. For example (English-French)  
 SL: The Sultan's magnificent income was distributed impulsively at his command. **The rain fell on the just and on the unjust.**  
 TL: Le revenu fabuleux du Sultan était distribué sur un simple ordre de sa part. **La pluie tombait aussi bien sur les justes que sur les injustes.** (Baker, 2011:76)
- a. Using an idiom of similar meaning but dissimilar form, this strategy uses an idiom in a way that an idiom or fixed expression in the target language has a meaning similar to that of the source idiom or expression, but consists of different lexical items. This means that the lexical items of the SL idioms are not kept in the TL; instead a semantic equivalent is given in the TL. For example (English-German)  
 SL: **Feel the force of my fist**, frozen fiend!  
 TL: **Dir werde ich einzeihen**, du scheusal! (Baker, 2011:78)
- b. Translation by paraphrase, this is by far the most common way of translating idioms when a match cannot be found in the TL or when it seems inappropriate to use idiomatic language in the TL because of differences in stylistic preferences of the SL and TL. For example (English-French)  
 SL: One frequent criticism of the Manitoba Government throughout the language controversy was that it never seemed to **get a handle** on the issue.  
 TL: Tout au long de la controverse linguistique, on reprocha fréquemment au gouvernement du Manitoba de ne pas réussir, selon toute apparence, à **maîtriser** la situation. (Baker, 2011:80)
- c. Translation by omission, as with single words, an idiom may sometimes be omitted altogether in the TL. This may be because it has no close match in the TL, its meaning cannot be easily paraphrased, or for stylistic reasons. For example (English-Back translation from Arabic)

SL: It was bitter, but funny, to see that Professor Smith had doubled his own salary before recommending the offer from Fayed, and added a pre-dated bonus for **good measure**.

TL: It was regrettable, even funny, that Professor Smith had been able to double his salary twice before offering his recommendation to accept Fayed's offer, and that he added to this a bonus, the date of which had been previously decided on.(Baker, 2011:85)