

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Conversation refers to the two-ways communication that talks about a lot of things, for instance, the culture, the weather, and the like. Lankes (2007) stated that at least two parties are actively going back and forth in an engaged manner and language is being exchanged. He agrees that there should be at least two parties to conduct a conversation so that reciprocal occur between them.

Furthermore, conversation is divided into two major categories; spoken and written. Conversation in the form of speech involves two parties communicate directly with each other, for instance, over the phone or face to face. While conversation in written form is a communication dialogue of two parties that is written in text book both literary and non-literary. Source of this type of conversation can be derived from the transcription of the dialogue of conversation speech or was written by the author in the form of text. Moreover, there are various vocational or non-vocational text books that have been published by some authors in which the materials among those books are discussing about written conversations. According to Buehl (2007) written conversation is a variation of dialogue journaling and can be applied to both fiction and non-fiction texts.

Written conversation in a book of conversation belongs to non-literary text because the material is so close to the real life context. Furthermore, the materials

that are being discussed in this kind of books are varied including topics in everyday life.

A conversation book is usually written in the mother tongue of the author. Mother tongue refers to the first language that is learned at home in childhood and still understood by the person at the time the data was collected (Canada, 2009). In Indonesia, the native language spoken is Indonesian. Therefore, the mother tongue or the Indonesian is translated into a second language or English.

According to Stewart (2011), he argues that in translating from a second language, the main difficulty is in comprehending the source text. Meanwhile, if the author refers to the mother tongue then s/he will get some ease in the translation process. Furthermore, as proposed by Stewart (2011) in translating into a second language, comprehension of the source text is the easiest aspect; the real difficulty is in the production of target text in a language in which composition does not come naturally.

This study takes a bilingual conversation book entitled *Certain Important English Conversation* that consists of various dialogues in Indonesian and English which we can easily find in daily life. Thus, the aim of this study is to investigate the translation methods of specific terms found in the book written by Dra Grace Widjaja. The writer analyzes the data by using eight methods of translation by Newmark and determines the most likely method of translation used in the book.

Specific term is a term which contains specific definition, information, and purposes. Specific term can be very useful and helpful when people who read it understand the meaning of the term, especially for any specific term in two

different languages or bilingual. Specific term in different languages sometimes does not have similar name even the meaning is similar. The specific term like this can be easily found in a restaurant, airport, hotel, etc. That's why it is important to learn about the translation of specific terms due to its uniqueness.

Translation is a process of adapting source language text to target language text. Translating is not only about changing a text from a language into the other languages. Newmark (1988) argues that translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. Therefore, the author or the translator needs a strategy to translate the meaning of a text into another language in accordance with the author's intention. Strategy in translating a text as a whole is called translation method (*Kirk, Sullivan, and Rasmussen, 2010*).

Translation method is the strategy used to translate a text. In contrast to translation procedures that only use part of text, otherwise the translation method uses the whole text for the benefit of its analysis. As Newmark (1988: p.81) stated while translation methods relate to the whole texts, translation procedures are used for sentences and the smaller units of language. Further, in an article entitled *translation strategies I: methods and procedures* published by *Kirk, Sullivan, and Rasmussen (2010)* translation method is defined as the overall strategy applied to a text as a whole, the primary choice the translator has to make here is how close to the source text s/he wants the target text to be.

In addition, Newmark (1988: p.13) listed four types of texts:

*Narrative is a dynamic sequence of events, which emphasized on verbs.  
Description emphasizes on linking verbs, adjectives, adjectival nouns.*

*Discussion is verbs of thought, mental activity, logical argument and connectives. Dialogue is conversation which emphasize on colloquialisms and phaticisms. (Newmark: 1988, p.13).*

Newmark (1988) affirms further that translation theory is concerned with the translation method appropriately used for a certain type of text, and it is therefore depend on a functional theory of language. It means that in order to analyze a text, we need an appropriate translation theory. In this study, the writer uses Newmark's methods of translation as the most appropriate theory to analyze a text in a non-fiction book because its elements refer to the style of the text itself. Newmark (45-47:1988) defined eight methods of translation those are word-for word, literal, faithful, semantic, communicative, idiomatic, free, and adaptation.

*Each method has its tendency respectively. Semantic, communicative, faithful, and idiomatic methods have a tendency toward the target language. While word-for-word, literal, free, and adaptation methods are likely having a tendency toward the source language (Newmark: 1988, p. 45-47).*

There are some studies which investigated translation for non-fiction text books. Stewart (2011) studied about translation into English as a foreign language as presented in translation textbooks offering Italian and English as working languages. It provided a distinction between vocational and non-vocational books, by exploring several questions which affect translation on a linguistic-semantic level (for example terminology, context, function, pragmatics) and by analyzing different text types as the guidance of the multiple factors involved in translating process.

A similar study was conducted by Särkkä (2007) who investigated translation of proper names in non-fiction texts. The study was conducted to

delimitate the category of proper names on a linguistic basis and to examine the various strategies of translating proper names. The authors used feature called situational feature to analyze the text. Situational features of interest here include the purpose of the translation, the expected audience, the mutual distance of the source and target cultures, as well as the closeness or lack of it of the languages involved. Through the situational feature above, then the author could decide the translation strategies. After a formal categorization of name types on syntactic grounds, names are differentiated on the basis of their respective referents and the associated translation strategies are discussed.

It is already mentioned that the object of Stewart's study is vocational textbooks. He used a French-language vocational textbook that is then translated into English. On the other hand, the object of the present study is bilingual conversational book entitled *Certain Important English Conversation* and the pair of language is Indonesian - English. Moreover, Särkkä (2007) investigated proper names in non-fiction book in relation to translation strategies. Differ from those previous studies; the writer investigates the translation methods of specific terms in the conversation book. Moreover, both of those previous studies are conducted in foreign country that is France and Finland, while the present study analyzes the dialogues in conversation book entitled *Certain Important English Conversation* which is different from the previous studies.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problems**

From the background of the study, it can be inferred that it is important to learn translation methods applied. In order to ensure the study, there is one research question to answer, that is:

1. What are the translation methods used in translating specific terms in the conversation book titled *Certain Important English Conversation* written by Dra. Grace Widjaja?

## **1.3 Objective of the Study**

The objective of this study is to investigate the translation methods applied in translating specific terms in *Certain Important English Conversation book* which is a bilingual conversation book. Therefore, through this study, it can help readers to find out the translation methods application in translating Indonesia specific terms into English specific terms in bilingual conversation book.

## **1.4 Significance of the Study**

The result of this study is expected to give both theoretical and practical contributions to the translations field. Theoretically, the study may contribute to translations field in relation to application of translation methods in analyzing non-fiction books especially vocational text book. This study may be used as a reference for English Department students who want to conduct study about translation methods in text book.

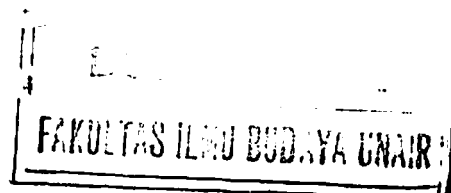
Practically, this study may be useful for students or anyone to be more open and inspired to do research on methods of translating text books, both vocational and non-vocational books. It will be useful for people who often

choose non-text book such as literary works (e.g. prose, poetry, and many others) to be the object of the study. They can decide so that in future studies, they can find and conclude a new theory about the method of translation in text books, both in the book vocational and non-vocational.

### 1.5. Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid the misinterpretation in understanding this study, the writer provides the following key terms:

- Conversation Book:** An account of how conversation works is, therefore essential in the development of pedagogy from second language learning (Thornburry and Slade, 2006)
- Specific Terms:** *Istilah yang pemakaiannya dan/atau maknanya terbatas pada suatu bidang tertentu.*  
A term that the meaning is limited to an apparent field (*Pedoman Umum Pembentukan Istilah, 2004*)
- Translation Method:** The overall strategy you apply to a text as a whole, the primary choice you have to make here is how close to the source text you want your target text to be (Kirk, 2010).
- Vocational book:** Textbook contains material which is used in formal and informal education (Stewart, 2011).



# **CHAPTER 2**

# **LITERATURE REVIEW**