

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

English has become an important language in the world. The different growth of a language makes it the most popular among the other international languages. The importance of English can be seen from other side. Nowadays, many things have been written printed in English such as magazine, newspaper, and scientific book. English is a foreign language for language learners in Indonesia.

Learning a foreign language is different from learning one's mother tongue. A learner will meet a lot of difficulties in learning a foreign (the target language/TL) because each language has its own vocabulary items and unfamiliar ways of arranging the words into sentences. Learning a foreign language means learning about others language. It is means, people learn how to understand what people thought, ideas and expressions in the different language whether in oral or written communication. Translation ability is some unit which cannot be separated in English as foreign language learning. The important of translation as a tool to understand the meaning and message that inform in other language.

It is clearly stated that learning foreign language or English helps us communicate with other people in the world. It is related to what Allah said in the *Holy Qur'an* Al-Kahfi verse 91-93 as follow:

كَذَلِكَ وَقَدْ أَحَطْنَا بِمَا لَدَيْهِ خُبْرًا ﴿٩١﴾ ثُمَّ أَتْبَعَ سَبَبًا ﴿٩٢﴾
 حَتَّىٰ إِذَا بَلَغَ بَيْنَ السَّدَّيْنِ وَجَدَ مِنْ دُونِهِمَا قَوْمًا لَّا يَكَادُونَ
 يَفْقَهُونَ قَوْلًا ﴿٩٣﴾

The verses say Allah the Almighty explained about a religious community that has problem in communicating because they did not understand other language. The varieties of language force people to learn language. Nowadays, to communicate with each other countries is a must. Thus, learning foreign language is not only a kind of obedience to Allah, but also necessity.

Therefore, translation has good position in teaching and learning English as foreign language. As the need for information and knowledge increases, people do not only interact by using the same language but also with other different languages. Each language has different system with one another. Consequently, people sometimes face with a communication gap. To resolve it, they need translation. Translation is considered a very important thing to connect the two different languages by contributing source language (SL) into target language in order to make the information in the source language becomes acceptable and understandable for learners. It is relevant with what Nida and Taber (1969, p.12) in Budianto (2010, p.1) “Translating consists of reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalent of the source language message, first in terms of meaning and secondly in terms of style”.

Translation is not an easy job that can be done by one without knowing the procedures, methods and techniques of translating. The difference between the source language and the target language and the variations of their cultures make the process of translating be a real challenge. Among the problematic factors involved in translation are form, meaning, style, proverbs, idioms, grammar mastery and vocabulary mastery. Translation is one of the very important ability to understand a reading material and understand the meaning of the content contained in a text, in particular, the text in English.

There are four skills in English; listening, speaking, reading and writing and two the important elements are vocabulary and grammar. All of these are very important elements when people learn about English. The writer wants to discuss about one of the four skills in English that is reading.

Reading comprehension ability in the English text is very important for students. Therefore, students must transfer English text into Indonesian to understand what they read. Reading is one of the language skills that cannot be separated from other language skills because the students' ability in one aspect will support their ability in mastering the others. It is an important educational goal, as without reading, one's language would not improve. The ability of students in reading is important because by having the ability to read, students will be able to improve general language skills in English; reading can enlarge the students' English vocabulary and in can help to improve the students' writing or speaking abilities. Therefore, it can be concluded that reading is one of the keys to success for everyone who wants to be an educated person. Reading skills such as

progress from one learning stage to the next. Therefore, before comprehending students should be able to translate English text.

Based on the explanations above, it can be clearly seen that translation as an important thing in learning English as Foreign Language (EFL) is closely related to the students' reading comprehension. Translation activity could be increased the students' reading comprehension. A research that conducted by Elsa Fadica Rahemi (2012) entitled "The Correlation between Reading Comprehension and Translation Ability: A Correlational Study on Fourth Year Students at English Department of UNP" shows that there is a positive correlation between reading comprehension and translation ability. It means the reading comprehension has contribution to their translation ability.

It is predicted that the improvement of reading comprehension will be followed by the improvement of translation. According to Newmark (1988, p.23), the work of translation is started by reading the original text in order to get understanding and ends with rewriting it in the target language. Moreover, explained that translation involves four processes: comprehension of the vocabulary of the original source language text, comprehension of the meaning of the original source language message, reformulation of the message in the target language, and judgment of the adequacy of the target language text. It means that, after reading and comprehending the text, the translator then both reformulate the meaning into the target language equivalently and insert that meaning into an appropriate target language sentence structure to convey the meaning.

Based on this research, reading comprehension influence the students' translation ability. When the students' reading comprehension is good, the translation ability will be follow. Then, it is interesting to know whether this is an interrelationship which English translation also able to influence the students' reading comprehension ability.

The writer chooses translation and reading, because reading is really important for students. It gives knowledge and it makes them think over and over again about many things that they face. By reading the English material the students get a lot of new information and knowledge to broaden their knowledge. In linguistics, giving the students a lot of reading activities is a good way of enlarging their vocabulary. If they find some difficult words they will ask other people who have good English or they can open the dictionary and find the meaning by themselves. By reading the readers can understand what the text tells about. The students need to read the text first before they start translating the text. Translation also important, because translation is ultimately a human activity which enables human being to exchange ideas and thoughts regardless of the different language used. The concrete problem between reading and translating that often happens can be seen in the teaching and learning process. When the students do not read the text better, they will get difficulties in translating.

In this research, the writer chooses English Department students for the subject of the research because in the sixth semester students of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/2016 there are courses translation and reading. The students in the fifth

semester they have taken Translation I and the sixth semester they have Translation II course so that they have knowledge of translation and have to practice how to translate English text into Indonesian, from words, phrase, sentences until paragraph. The previous semester the students not only have taken Intensive Reading I until Intensive Reading III but also have Extensive Reading. The writer wanted to know how the students ability to translate English text and students skill in reading comprehension ability of the sixth semester students of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/2016.

Based on the background above, the writer intended to know whether the students English translation will likely contribute to their reading comprehension ability and English translation also has correlation with reading comprehension ability. So that the writer is interested in getting a systematic research with the title: **"THE CORRELATION BETWEEN ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND READING COMPREHENSION ABILITY OF THE SIXTH SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AT ANTASARI STATE INSTITUTE FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES BANJARMASIN ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/2016."** This research will concern to know the students' English translation and reading comprehension ability, and whether there is correlation of English translation and reading comprehension ability as theory and previous research have explained.

B. Statement of Problem

This research tries to identify the correlation between students' ability in English translation and reading comprehension ability. Concerning with the topic, the problems of the research are formulated below:

1. How is the students' ability in English translation of the sixth semester students of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/ 2016?
2. How is the students' ability in reading comprehension of the sixth semester students of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/ 2016?
3. Is there any significant correlation between English translation and reading comprehension ability of the sixth semester students of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/2016 ?

C. Objective of Study

Regarding the questions above, the purpose of this research is as follows:

1. To know the students' ability in English translation of the sixth semester of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/2016.
2. To know the students' ability in reading comprehension of the sixth semester of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/2016.

3. To find out whether there is a significant correlation between English translation and reading comprehension ability of the sixth semester students of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/2016 or not.

D. Assumption

According to the explanation in the background study, the writers have an assumption in this research. There is any significant correlation between students' ability in English translation and reading comprehension ability.

According to Munday "The gearing of translation to language teaching and learning may partly explain why academia considered it to be of secondary status. Translation exercises were regarded as a kind of learning a new language or of reading a foreign language text until one had the linguistic ability to read the original. Study of a work in translation was generally frowned upon once the student had acquired the necessary skills to read the original" (Munday, 2001, p.8).

Besides that, the role of translation in reading comprehension is important. Newmark (1988, p.23) states that "translation involves four process: comprehension of the vocabulary of the original source language text; comprehension of the meaning of original source message; reformulation of the message in the target language; and judgment of the adequacy of the target language text".

It was naively assumed that by translating the content of the text of the students, they would be able to comprehend better the material and thus have a

better performance in reading comprehension ability test. It means the English translation has contribution to their reading comprehension ability. It is predicted that the improvement of English translation will be followed by the improvement of reading comprehension ability. According to the explanations above, the writer have an assumption in this research, better the students' English translation will be better students' reading comprehension ability.

E. Hypothesis

Hypothesis is statement about relationship between two or more variables that being studied. Based on the research problem and the research objective, there are two hypothesis in this study as follows:

1. H_a (Alternative hypothesis)

There is correlation between English translation and reading comprehension ability of the sixth semester students of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/2016.

2. H_0 (Null hypothesis)

There is no correlation between English translation and reading comprehension ability of the sixth semester students of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/2016.

Both of hypothesis will be used in this research. After finding out the result from hypothesis based on the research, it will show which is more appropriate to draw hypothesis of the research, using null hypothesis or alternative hypothesis.

F. Significance of Study

The research has significance of study as follows:

1. To enrich the writer's knowledge and experience in this specific research.
2. The writer hopes that this research will determine the correlation between students' ability in English translation and reading comprehension ability.
3. To inform consideration and input for educators generally and English lecturer on English Department Tarbiyah and Teachers Training Faculty Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin.

G. Definition of Key Terms

In this research, the writer needs to define some key terms to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation. The definition of terms is provided as follows:

1. Correlation

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's dictionary, "Correlation is a connection between two things in which one thing changes as the other does (2008, p.340)". According to Murdan (2012, p.133) "correlation is relationship between two or more variables". It means the writer wants to know relationship between English translation and reading comprehension ability.

2. Translation

Catford (1965, p.20) in Budianto (2010, p.1) say that Translation is the replacement of textual material in one language by equivalent textual material in another language. In research the writer will be focus with

English translation or translate from English into Indonesia. The replacements of the text from the source language (English), into the target language (Indonesian). It means that, translator will convey the message of source language into easier language (target text) and more meaningful message which it can be understood by the reader. Successful or unsuccessful of translator depend on the translation result.

3. Reading comprehension

Reading comprehension is important for English language learners, especially for students who learn English as a foreign language. Reading comprehension is a process that involves the orchestration of the readers' prior knowledge about the world and about language. It involves such as predicting, questioning, summarizing, determining meaning of vocabulary in context, monitoring one's own comprehension, and reflecting (Weaver, 1994, p.44). Reading comprehension in this research means students' background knowledge and ability to understand the reading texts. In this research, the writer gives tests on sixth semester students to answer multiple choice questions about the text of science that such tests also relates to translate English text.

4. Ability

Ability is the mental or physical capacity, power or skill required to do something (Hornby, 1995, p.2). In this research, the writer focuses of the sixth semester students of English Department ability in English translation into Indonesian and reading comprehension ability, in this

research means students' background knowledge and ability to understand the reading texts.

Based on the definitions of key terms above, this research is intended to know the correlation between students' ability in English translation and reading comprehension ability of the sixth semester students of English Department at Antasari State Institute for Islamic Studies Banjarmasin academic year 2015/2016.