CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Analysis

Before we go on, there are few notes that need to be taken regarding the title to this thesis. First, the “original translator” in the title refers to a translator whose translated text is a published media, of which the source text (ST) is also a published media, i.e. a novel. Next, “Daerah Sumber” refers to the alley that connects USU campus to Jl. Djamin Ginting. Last, “Daerah Sumber translator” is a person initialed OS who does translation work for a given fee for a translating agency in Daerah Sumber, i.e. the ST and translated text go through the agency before they reach the translator and customer.

The foundation of this thesis is translation, and it would only be appropriate to lay out the definition of translation before going any further. There are many definitions to translation, but Catford’s is probably the simplest and more general one. Catford (1965:1), in his A Linguistic Theory of Translation states that translation is an operation on languages: a process of substituting a text in one language (source language = SL) for a text in another (target language = TL). In defining source language (SL) and target language (TL), Muchtar (2007:1) wrote: “The form from which the translation is made will be called source language and the form into which it is to be changed will be called receptor language (target language).”
Today translation has become very significant in our day-to-day life, not only in paperwork — may it be legal or non-legal documents — but also in household products, from the back of shampoo bottles and sachets of lemon tea powder to the instruction manual for a vacuum cleaner. Sometimes the translations are good, sometimes they aren’t.

Example:

1. Good translation:
   
   SL Keep out of reach of children.
   
   TL Jauhkan dari jangkauan anak-anak.

2. Bad translation:
   
   SL The police nailed the convicts.
   
   TL Polisi memaku para penjahat itu.

   The more suitable translation would be:
   
   TL Polisi menangkap para penjahat itu.

This is possibly caused by the translation techniques used in translating the SL text, which some people tend to disregard in their translation.

Translation technique is the main discussion of this thesis, and before we further discuss translation techniques, let’s get a better grasp of what a translation technique is. Munday (2001: 55) defines translation techniques (or translation shifts) as the smallest linguistic changes occurring in translation of ST (source text) to TT (target text). Translation techniques, or what Newmark, Vinay and Darbelnet call translation procedures, are different from methods. Newmark (1988: 81) in A Textbook of Translation explains it as such: “While translation methods relate to whole texts, translation procedures are used for sentences and
the smaller units of language.”

In this thesis, the two languages involved are English and Bahasa Indonesia. The reasons for using these two languages are that English is one of the top 10 languages used worldwide (C.C. Torres: “It [English] is the world's second largest native language, the official language in 70 countries, and English-speaking countries are responsible for about 40% of world's total GNP.”), Bahasa Indonesia is the national language of where this research is to be conducted, and that Daerah Sumber translators generally only provide English-Bahasa Indonesia translations and vice-versa.

The ST used in the analysis is Chapter 10 from Stephenie Meyer’s The Host, which is 2,409 words long. The first 100 sentences (out of all 211 sentences) of the chapter, including the chapter title, become the base for analyzing the translation techniques. The reasons for using this text in the analysis are because it is a contemporary writing and the language used is relatively simple.

The target texts used in the analysis are Chapter 10 (Bab 10) of The Host: Sang Pengelana translated by Nimpoeno and the translation of the ST by a Daerah Sumber translator.

All seven translation techniques will be used as reference in assessing the translation techniques of the translation products:

1. Literal translation: a rendering which preserves surface aspects of the message both semantically and syntactically, adhering close to source text mode of expression. (Hatim and Munday, 2004: 344)
Example:

SL   I wrote a short story.
TL   Saya menulis sebuah cerita pendek.

2. Transference (or loan words): the process of transferring SL word to TL text. (Newmark, 1988: 81)

Example:

SL   We are learning how to make flowchart in computer class.
TL   Kami sedang belajar membuat flowchart di kelas komputer.

3. Transposition (or shift): a translation technique that involves a change in grammar from SL to TL. (Newmark, 1988: 85)

Example:

SL   Do you have a pair of scissors I can borrow?
TL   Apakah kamu mempunyai sebuah gunting yang bisa saya pinjam?

4. Calque: the process whereby the individual elements of SL item are translated literally to produce TL equivalent. (Hatim and Munday, 2004: 335)

Example:

SL   He was the vice president for two years.
TL   Dia menjabat sebagai wakil presiden selama dua tahun.

5. Modulation: a variation through a change of viewpoint, of perspective and very often of category of thought. (Vinay and Darbelnet in Newmark, 1988: 88)
Example: (Machali, 2000: 69)

SL The problem is hard to solve.

TL Masalah itu sukar (untuk) dipecahkan.

6. Equivalence: the translation of fixed expressions such as idioms with an equivalent that is very different in form. (Vinay and Darbelnet in Hatim and Munday, 2004: 339)

Example:

SL They are like two peas in a pod.

TL Mereka bagai pinang dibelah dua.

7. Adaptation: a translation technique that involves modifying a cultural reference for the target text readership (Vinay and Darbelnet in Hatim and Munday, 2004: 334)

Example:

SL Dear sir...

TL Dengan hormat...

Based upon the aforementioned seven translation techniques, a curiosity arises regarding what translation techniques are used by published media translator and Daerah Sumber translator, especially the latter. From that curiosity sparks the idea of conducting a research to find out what translation techniques are being used by these translators.

The translation techniques used in the original translation and Daerah Sumber translator’s translation of the text are determined by analyzing the target texts in accordance with these seven translation techniques.
The reasons for taking Daerah Sumber translator as the sample are quite simple: Daerah Sumber is heaped with translating agencies to which customers take texts to be translated by the translators there, and the area is close to the University of Sumatera Utara campus, where some of the students are dealt with texts in English in their handbooks and assignments in their classes, and they need these texts to be translated so as to make them understand their studies easier. In addition, the particular Daerah Sumber translator, OS, was chosen randomly for translating Chapter 10 of Stephenie Meyer’s The Host.

1.2 Problems of the Analysis

There are few problems being analyzed in this thesis. They are as follows:

1. What are the translation techniques used in the original translation of the text?

2. What are the translation techniques used in the translation by OS, a Daerah Sumber translator?

3. Which translation techniques dominate each of the two TL texts?

1.3 Objectives of the Analysis

The objectives of the analysis in this thesis are as follows:

1. To find out the translation techniques used in the original translation of the text.

2. To find out the translation techniques used in the text translation done by OS, a Daerah Sumber translator.
3. To find out the translation technique mostly used in each of the translations.

1.4 Scope of the Analysis

This thesis focuses on translation techniques found in original translation of the text and the translation done by a Daerah Sumber translator. All seven translation techniques will be used as a reference to assess the translation products.

The SL text used in the analysis is Chapter 10 from the novel The Host by Stephenie Meyer. Only the first 100 sentences of the chapter (out of the whole 211 sentences), this includes the chapter title, will be the base of the translation analysis for the two translations. The two translations are the original translation done by Nimpoeno, and the translation done by OS, a Daerah Sumber translator.

The location in which the field research is to be conducted is only within Daerah Sumber, the alley connecting USU campus to Jl. Djamin Ginting.

1.5 Significance of the Analysis

This thesis is written as a fulfillment to the requirements in acquiring Bachelor’s Degree (gelar sarjana) from English Department of Faculty of Letters of University of Sumatera Utara. Apart from that, this thesis is prepared to be used as a reference in translation studies, particularly in translation techniques, for readers who are interested in translation studies and those who are interested in knowing what to expect from an average Daerah Sumber translator’s translation.