CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

This study deals with the equivalence of the logical meanings between Toba-Batak language (TBL) as the source language (SL) and English language as the target language (TL). The research is a case study in the translation of the Toba-Batak wedding speeches (TBWS) as the source text (ST) into English as the target text (TT). The research focuses on the translation of the patterns of the logical meanings of the ST into the TT. This study is conducted based on six reasons which are discussed as in the following.

First, this research is conducted to provide a written document of the ST both in TBL and English. This document is necessary to communicate the value of the local wisdom of Toba-Batak people (TBP) to the international society. It is the transcription of the wedding speeches delivered by the close members of the wed families from both sides of the parents of the bride and the parents of the groom. Traditionally, the TBP use it to communicate a traditional ideology, which is considered as a local wisdoms of the TBP, to set up the conditions of the newly married couple to have a harmonic family as early as from the beginning day of their marriage to the time of having off springs, wealth, power, healthiness, and up to having a long life as a whole. Traditionally, the TBP conform the practice of their daily life to their ancestor maxim as mentioned in Ompunta sijolo-jolo tubu martungkot siala gundi, napinungka ni parjolo siihutonon ni na parpudi which
means that the tradition of the ancestor of the TBP must be transferred to and practiced in the tradition of their latter generation (Siahaan, 2012). Up to the present age this ideology is learned through the spoken tradition in a wedding party speech event. So the findings of this research is expected to be able to offer some contribution to the conceptual development of the translation of the ST into the TT which can be used as a document for the target readers at large both for cultural information exchanges and academic purposes.

Second, this research is conducted to provide a contribution for the development of the technique of the analysis of the ST in order to understand the structure of its logical meanings for the purpose their translation into the TT. An informal preliminary study on the ST, which is conducted for the purpose of this real research, indicates that the ST has lots of patterns of logical meaning which create the difficulties in the translation of the ST into the TT. An analysis on the ST based on Hallidayan Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) shows that the ST contains lots of complicated blocks of logical meanings because they are created by some logico-semantic relations in the clause complexes of the text. It shows that these blocks create some complexities in the interpretation of the message existed in this ST. It shows that the ST contains some elaborations, enhancements, extensions, locutions, ideas, and complex patterns of elaboration, extension, enhancement and locution head. The nature of the language variation used in this TBWS indicates that it is dominated by the logical meanings which are represented by clause complexes. It indicates that it contains some complicated
lexico-grammatical features which need a specific translation strategy to provide an accountable and scientific description of the process of translating them from the ST into the TT.

Third, this research is conducted for the development of the translation concept which is viewed as process of communication in transferring the message of a ST into a functional equivalent TT. This concept is due to one of the translation missions, i.e., the cultural information exchange among the international societies in the world. By this concept the mission can be predicted to be achieved well. House (2001: 247) says that translation is a text which is a representation or reproduction of an original one produced in another language. An original text is a ST in a SL; while its reproduction is a TT in a TL.

Manfredi (2008: 21) says that translation can be analyzed as a process to refer to the activity of turning a ST into a TT, and as a product to refer to a translated text. As a process, translation is an activity to replace a ST into a TT, while as a product translation is a product of a process. Similarly Bell (1991: 13) also differentiates between translating (process) and a translation (product). Translation as a product is the product of translation as a process.

Jakobson (1959/2000: 139) classifies the kinds of translation into intralingual translation or rewording, interlingual or translation proper and intersemiotic translation or transmutation. Translation proper refers to translation as a process for translation as a product from a SL into a TL. Catford (1965: 20) says that translation is the replacement of a textual material in another language
Translation is translation proper to refer to the replacement of a ST into TT from the SL into the TL. Koller (1995: 196) says that the result of a text-processing activity, by means of which a SL text is transposed into a TL text. Further, it is said that between the resultant text in L2 (the TL text) and the ST in L1 (the SL text) there exists a relationship, which can be designated as a translational or equivalence relation. The aim of a good translation is the equivalence between the ST and TT. Halliday (1992: 15) says that in English, translation is a term used to refer to the total process and relationship of equivalence between two languages; then the term translation is distinguished from the term translating (written text) and interpreting (spoken text). So translation is used to cover both written and spoken equivalence; and whether the equivalence is conceived of as a process or relationship. Translation refers to the process of a spoken or written ST into a spoken or written TL. Hatim (2001:10) says that translation is a textual practice and translation as meaningful communicative events. Translation is an activity or a cultural exchange. The term translation is used in this research refers to the process of transferring the meaning of the TBWS as the ST into the equivalent TT.

Fourth, this research is conducted to give significant contribution for the conceptual development of the logical meaning which is represented by a clause complex as a text in co-text. According to Halliday (1994) a text can be any meaningful linguistic unit. It can be a word, or a word group, or a clause or one which is bigger than a clause. Manfredi (2008) interprets a meaningful text to
mean full of meanings. It means that it has lots of meanings. Further, it is said that context can be linguistic context and nonlinguistic contexts and a linguistic context is called co-text. According to Halliday (1994) a linguistic unit as a co-text can come before or after the text. It can be a word, or a word group, or a clause or one which is bigger than a clause. Nonlinguistic context can be divided into the context of situation which is called register and the context of culture which is called genre (Halliday, 1994; Manfredi, 2008; Butt et al, 2000). The variables of register are field, tenor, and mode. Field is what is communicated, so it can be a demand or supply of information or service or good; tenor refers to the social relation among the participants involving in a communicative interaction; and mode is the selection of the appropriate lexico-grammatical feature in relation to the social relation among the participants and it also refers to whether it is a spoken or written language and medium of the communication. The variables of genre are text purpose, custom, ideology etc. These variables provide cultural value to the meaning of a text.

Fifth, this research is conducted to provide a contribution for the conceptual development of the revitalization of equivalence to be a functional equivalence as the parameter which is accountable for a good relation between the ST and TT. House (2001: 247) says that, non-linguistically, persons mostly think equivalence as a text which is some sort of reproduction of another text, originally written in another language. Shuttleworth & Cowie (1997: 49) say that basically, it is a term used by many writers to describe the nature and extent of the
relationships which exist between SL and TL text. Nida (1964) says that it refers to formal equivalence i.e. based on the match of element between the ST and TT, and dynamic equivalence i.e. based on the target reader. Manfredi (2008: 36) says that due to the differences among languages, there could never be a full equivalence between code unit between the ST and TT. Nida and Taber (1969: 12) say that translating consists in reproducing in the receptor language the closest natural equivalence of the SL message, the first in terms of meaning and secondly in term of style. Catford (1965: 21) says that the central problem of translation practice is that of finding the translation equivalence and the central task of translation theory is that of defining the nature and conditions of translation equivalence. Baker (1993: 6) proposes the equivalence between the ST and TT at different level i.e. word, phrase, grammar (meaning and syntax), text, and pragmatics. Bell (1991: 7) proposes functional equivalence according to the purpose of translation. Halliday (2001: 15) discusses the centrality of equivalence in translation quality and proposes a categorization according to three parameter i.e. stratification, function, and rank. Steiner (2001) says that for something to count as a translation, it needs not have the same register features as its ST, but register features which functions similarly to those of the original in their context of culture. In this research, the revitalized concept suggested as the parameter of the good translation deals with the functional equivalence which focused on the equivalence of a specific pattern of the logical meaning between the ST and the TT. Such parameter is based on the equivalent function of the clause components
based on the transitivity system and the clauses of a tactic system based on the logico-semantic relation.

In this research, the revitalization of the notion of equivalence is viewed based on the mutual relation between SFG and Translation Studies. The idea begins from the concept saying that SFG is designed to account how language works to make functions or meanings in the contexts where it is used (Halliday, 1994; Manfredi 2008). Here SFG is seen not as a long list of rules of a dead language such as in the prescriptive rules of language which is separated from its environment (Manfredi, 2008). But as the opposite, it is claimed as the power house of language and it is about the living language, spoken or written language, which is used in its context, both in its linguistic and nonlinguistic context (Halliday, 1994). Systemic Functional Linguistics views that SFG is responsible for how language enters into co-text based on word order system. It describes that from a lower level, the lexico-grammatical features of language enter into a higher level based on the syntagmatic relation (Cf. Manfredi, 2008). Here, it is seen that a lexico-grammatical feature of language at a certain level works to function at a higher level. The function is determined by the network system i.e. the syntagmatic relation. SFG also views that register is responsible to describe how language enters into its social context (Halliday, 1994). It describes that the social relationship among the tenors such as the relation between the speaker and listener in accordance with the field being involved to determine the mode which is selected based on the paradigmatic relation of specific lexico-grammatical
features. Here, it is seen that a lexico-grammatical feature functions in register. SFG also views that genre, i.e., the outer context, is responsible to describe how language works to make function or meaning (Halliday & Matthiesen, 2004). It describes that culture variables such as purpose out-goal and out-come, belief, hope, ideology etc. are seen as a set of institutional frames which govern the social behavior of the society in their communicative interaction. Here, it is seen that the lexico-grammatical features function in the institutional frame. The way SFG views a text as a language unit which works to function in context is by viewing how a specific lexico-grammatical feature from a lower level enters into a higher level and function in it as its co-text; then the text enters into register and functions in it as its context of situation; and at last the text enters into genre as an outer context to function in it.

The way the lexico-grammatical features of a text function in context from the view point of SFG can be applied in the revitalization of the concept of equivalence between the ST and TL. In this view, the revitalization of the concept is based on the function of a specific lexico-grammatical feature of a text of lower level in a higher level as the co-text and in register and genre. Here equivalence is defined based on the function of a text in co-text, register and genre and such a kind of equivalence is called functional equivalence. It refers to the same function of a specific lexico-grammatical feature in a co-text, register, and genre between the ST of the SL and the TT of the TL. Accordingly, a part of the study of a translator is grammar to understand how a specific lexico-grammatical feature of
a text enters into its co-text and functions in it (Halliday in Manfredi, 2008) and the other parts of the study of the translator is register to understand how the lexico-grammatical feature in its co-text functions in relation to each of the three variables of register i.e. field, tenor, and mode (Halliday, 1994) and genre to understand how the lexico-grammatical feature both in its context and register functions in relation with the variables of genre i.e. purpose out-goal and outcome, belief, hope, ideology etc. (Halliday & Matthiesen, 2004; Manfredi, 2008; Butt et al, 2000). To produce a functional equivalence translation is to translate the ST into the TT the way the TL functions in the TT as the way the TL functions in the ST.

According to Manfredi (2008) to understand language functions in its context is to view it based on the bottom-up translation approach. Consequently, it is said that any translation process must include a bottom-up translation approach to produce a functional equivalence between the ST and the TL (ibid. 2008). By the functional approach, translators are guided to the meaning of a text by starting to analyze the text from the lower level towards the higher one as the co-text of the text, and from there, translators take real action of translation probability first in register and at last in genre (ibid. 2008). In such a way translators start analyzing the function of a specific text in its co-text first, then do the first translation possibility in register and at last finalize the possibility in genre. It is understood that the lower level of the functional equivalence between the ST and the TT, the lower value of the functional equivalence between the two texts is
achieved. The higher level of the functional equivalence between the ST and the TL, the higher value of the functional equivalence between the two texts is achieved. So it can be concluded that a good translation is the one which includes a Bottom-up translation approach in the process of translating the ST into a functional equivalence TT at any level of the two texts i.e. from the lower level towards the higher level.

Sixth, this research is conducted as a pilot project on the functional equivalence of the logical meaning between the ST and the TT. This research is categorized as an uncovered area in field of translation studies. The characteristics of this research differ from the characteristics of the previous relevant research reports invented not in the area of functional equivalence of the logical meaning between the ST and the TT which are given as in the following. Lubis (2009) conducted a research on the translation of a cultural text based on meaning-based translation method. It is different from the translation of the logical meaning from the ST into the TT since the object of his research is concentrated on the translation of the cultural meaning of a text. Silalahi (2009) conducted a research on the translation of the medical text from English into Indonesian. It is different from the study in this research since it is a translation from English into Indonesian. Johnson’s research (2006) was to examine some particular problems in Indonesian language for translator in the translation of a text from Indonesian to English or from English to Indonesian. It was focused on the historical and political perspective of the problem. Guo’s research (2011) is about the translation
problem of some types of explicitation from Chinese into English in order to meet
the need of the readers. It is focused on the relation between the translation
strategy and the policy used by an institution that creates the ST. Burgos et al’s
research (2007) is an exploration on the significance of the dynamic equivalence
to avoid the cultural problem in the translation of the Mexican cultural text from
English into Spanish and from Spanish into English. It was concentrated on the
competence of different translators. Zhang’s research (2011) focused on the
exploration on CCTV NEWS textual strategies to be adopted to translate domestic
news for English speaking audiences and influences on translation from media
organization and China society. The focus is on the function of the TL for the
target reader. Aghagolzadeh’s research (2012) focused on the application of
meaning-based functional approach as an objective criterion in analyzing error
analysis in the translation of legal document from English into Persian. The
review shows that an exploration on the translation of the logical meanings of a
ST into a TL based on the bottom-up translation approach from the view point of
SFG to have a functional equivalence between the ST and TL can be categorized
as a new area or an uncovered field of research in the translation studies.

Based on the six reasons presented above, it can be concluded that this
study is necessary to be conducted, and the title of this research is as follows:

THE EQUIVALENCE OF THE LOGICAL MEANINGS BETWEEN TOBA-
BATAK LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH

(A CASE STUDY OF THE TOBA-BATAK WEDDING SPEECHES)
1.2 Research Focus

This research is about the equivalence between the patterns of the logical meanings of TBL and English. The study of the patterns of the logical meanings between the ST and TT focuses on the logico-semantic relation theory of SFG. The study of the translation process to represent the patterns of the logical meaning of TBWS as the ST into the patterns of the logical meanings of English as the ST is based on bottom-up translation approach. The study of the functional equivalence between the patterns of the logical meanings of the ST and the TT is focused on the transitivity system and the logico-semantic relation of SFG.

1.3 Research Problems

In accordance with the research focus presented above, three research problem formulations are stated as in the followings:

(1) What are the patterns of the logical meanings that occur in the wedding speeches of the TBL text as a ST?

(2) How are the translationally related patterns of the logical meanings that occur in the ST represented in the English language text as a TT?

(3) Why are the patterns of the logical meanings that occur in the wedding speeches of the Toba-Batak language text as a ST represented as they are in the English language text as a TT?

1.4 Research Objectives

In line with the three research formulations stated above, the research
objectives are to describe:

(1) the patterns of the logical meanings that occur in the wedding speeches of the Toba Batak language as a ST.

(2) how the patterns of the logical meanings that occur in the ST are represented in the TT.

(3) why the translationally related patterns of the logical meanings that occur in the ST are represented as they are in the TT

1.5 Research Scope

The scope of the problem investigated in this research is limited to the equivalence between the pattern of the logical meanings of TBWS as a ST and the TT in English as a lingua franca. The study is limited to the ST containing 15 wedding speeches which were delivered in a traditional wedding party of the TBP held in December 19th, 2011 in a public hall in Balige, the capital city of Toba Samosir district, the province of North Sumatera, Indonesia. The study is limited to this The ST because it is considered as an ideal model of TBWS since it was created by all relevant speakers who have the tasks to deliver the speeches in a traditional wedding party according to the sociocultural relation of the speakers to the weds and parents of the weds. The scope of the study is limited to the patterns of the logical meanings that occur in the ST based on Transitivity System and Logico-Semantic Relation theories of SFG (Halliday, 1994), how the patterns of the logical meanings which occur in the ST are represented in the TT based on Bottom-up translation approach (Manfredi, 2008), and why the patterns of the
logical meanings which occur in the ST and TT based as they are based on Transitivity System and Logico-Semantic Relation of Systemic Functional Linguistic theories (Halliday, 1994) and bottom-up translation approach (Manfredi, 2008).

1.6 Key Terms

(1) Logical meaning refers to the logico-semantic relation of clause simplex in clause complexes.

(2) The patterns of the logical meanings refer to the realization of the logico-semantic relation of clause simplex in clause complexes.

(3) Bottom-up translation approach refers to the translation strategy which involve stages in analyzing the patterns of the logical meanings occurring in the ST, realizing how that patterns of the logical meanings in the TT as they are, analyzing why that patterns of the logical meanings which occur in the ST are represented in the target as they are.

(4) Functional equivalence refers to the concept in which the functions of a clause and its lexico-grammatical features in a clause complex are equivalent between the ST and TT.

(5) TBWS refers to the speeches of the parents of a bride and the close relatives of the parents of the bride and the close relatives of the parents of the groom which are delivered in a traditional wedding party of the BTP to the weds to have a harmonic family life in order to have off spring, wealthiness, power, healtiness and long life in the future.
(6) TBP is an ethnic group of Batak people who mainly live around the coast of Toba-Lake in the districts of Toba Samosir and who speak TBL.

(7) English is a lingua franca which is used by the international societies as the tool of a communicative interaction.

1.7 Research Significances

The findings of this research are expected to have two types of significance i.e. theoretical significance and practical significances. Theoretically, the findings of this research may have some significance which can be presented as follows.

1. The findings of this research can offer contribution for the conceptual development of the mutual relation between linguistics and translation studies in general, and specifically the mutual relation between SFG and translation studies.

2. The findings of this research can offer contribution to the conceptual development of the equivalence between the patterns of the logical meanings which occur in the ST of a SL and the patterns of the logical meanings which are represented in the TT as they are.

3. The findings can offer contribution to the conceptual development of the functional equivalence of the patterns of the logical meanings between the ST and TT.

4. The findings can offer contributions for the conceptual development of bottom-up translation approach which is used to analyze the patterns of
the logical meanings which occur in the TT, to represent that patterns of the logical meanings in the TT as they are, and to analyze the functional equivalence of the patterns of the logical meanings between the ST and the TT.

Practically, the findings of this research may have some significance which can be presented as follows.

(1) The findings of this research can offer information to help translators analyze how the patterns of the logical meanings occur in a ST, how to realize that patterns of the logical meaning in the TT, and how to analyze the functional equivalence of the patterns of the logical meanings between the ST and TT.

(2) The finding of this research can offer information for translator to interpret why the patterns of the logical meanings which occur in the ST are represented in the TT as they are.

(3) The findings of this research can offer information for translators to determine what equivalence must be used as the criteria of the intertextual relationship in the translation of the ST into the TT.