

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

Verbal communication refers to the use of symbols and sounds to relay messages. These sounds and symbols are called language. Language is a system of symbols and sounds functioning as a tool of communication and used by a group of people in a particular region. Language is also a vehicle for expressing desires, ideas, and concepts. In short, language plays a very important role in human lives.

Leech (1990) states that there are five functions of language. They are informational, expressive, directive, aesthetic, and phatic. First, language is informational. This can be proven by the fact that humans use language to send information. Second, language is expressive. Language is used to express feelings and emotions. Third, language is directive. Humans use language when they aim to influence or persuade others. The simplest examples of this are commands and requests. Fourth, language is aesthetic. This refers to the use of language for the sake of the linguistic artifact.

There are many languages around the world. Simons and Fennig (2018) assert that there are approximately 7,097 languages in the world. According to Luca (2016), although nearly 2/3 of languages in the world are from Africa and Asia, the languages from Europe are still people's favourites and most studied. English ranks first in this scope. Therefore, it is accurate to say that English is an International Language.

However, although English has a far and wide reach today, the barriers caused by the impact of local culture is still very strong. People in England and people in America may use the same language, but they definitely have different culture. Therefore, it is highly possible for them to misunderstand each other even though they communicate using the same language. This case also happens especially to English learners. English learners may be able to familiarize themselves with English words and sentences, but there are still going to be some

parts of the language that they will not understand due to the fact that they are not familiar with the local culture in major English speaking countries. This phenomenon is commonly called language barriers.

Language barriers are the most common communication barriers which may cause misunderstandings and misinterpretations between people. Therefore, there has to be something or someone that can help people communicate, even though they speak different languages. In this case, translation is essential

Translation is the process of transferring the meaning of a text from one language to another. It is believed by many experts that the study of translation have started long before century. Tidey (2017) stated, "... translation was carried out as early as the Mesotamian era when the Sumerian poem, Gilgamesh, was translated into Asian languages." He also mentions that in later periods, Ancient Greek texts were translated by Roman poets and were adapted to create literary works for entertainment.

However, translating is not an easy work. In translating the text, a translator must be able to relay the messages that the authors would like to deliver to the readers without changing the meaning of the original text. It requires deep understanding of relevant theories and broad knowledge of many fields.

One of the most common obstacles that can be found by translators is the English *word combinations*. A word combination or a phrase as described by Antonio (2014) is any group of related words that, unlike a sentence, has no subject-predicate combination. He explains that the words in a phrase act together so that the phrase itself functions as a single part of speech. There are several forms of word combinations, such as phrasal verbs, idioms, and collocation. All of them are similar and connected in a sense, that it can be quite hard to distinct.

According to Cambridge English Dictionary Online, phrasal verb is "... a phrase that consists of a [verb](#) with a [preposition](#) or [adverb](#) or both, the [meaning](#) of which is different from the [meaning](#) of [its separate parts](#)". Idiom is defined by Antonsson (2012) as a combination of words or phrases that mean something different from what the words are literally saying. In idioms, the verb can be changed into past tense, but the quantity of the noun cannot be replaced. We can

say *spill the beans/spilled the beans* or *kick the bucket/kicked the bucket*, but not *spill the bean* or *kick the buckets*. Furthermore, O'Dell and McCarthy (2008) refer to collocation as combinations of two or more words which usually occur together. Additionally, Shammass (2013) refers to collocation as "... the frequent co-occurrence and mutual expectation of some words which appear more often than by chance." In short, collocation is the expectation of combination of words which occur together frequently.

Setiamunadi (2013) conducted a research on collocation and translation errors made by Indonesian learners of English. The result shows that the English learners found 27 out of 57 collocations problematic, as they failed to translate them appropriately due to their lack of knowledge about translation methods. This proves that Collocation present specific problems in translation, especially for English learners. If ignored, collocation may cause misunderstandings and misinterpretations between the writer of the text and the readers, because although some collocation can be translated to Indonesian literally, many of them cannot.

An example of collocation which cannot be translated literally into Indonesian is '*strong coffee*'. *If we try to translate it* literally to Indonesian, we will surely find the result - *kopi kuat*- simply odd, if not bothering. While this unit of words may be common in English speaking country, the literal translation of the phrase will definitely sound awkward for Indonesian people. The problems above show that when translating collocation, a translator need to consider and choose the right method in order to translate the language properly and effectively, and avoid misunderstandings and misinterpretations.

One of the most translated text materials is novels. A novel is a considerably long work of fiction in the form of prose and usually published as a book. There are many novels that become excessively popular for the past decade. The majority of those novels are written in English, as the authors come from English speaking country. To be able to reach a bigger number of readers, some of those novels have been translated to other languages including Indonesian.

Based on the statements above, the writer is interested in doing a research about translation method of collocation in a novel. The writer chose the novel by

Suzanne Collins entitled 'The Hunger Games' as the object of this research. This novel is selected because it is very popular among young generations especially the English learners in many countries. This novel has been translated into twenty six languages, such as French, Spanish, Korean, and Indonesian. This novel has also been adopted into a movie.

This study will investigate the translation methods that are used by the translator in translating English collocation into Indonesian. Therefore, the writer would like to choose the tittle "*Translation Methods of Collocation in the Novel 'The Hunger Games'*"

1.2 Problem Limitation

In this research, the writer will be analyzing and discussing the collocations in the novel 'The Hunger Games'. The collocations that will be studied are limited to only the lexical collocation.

1.3 Problem Formulation

The problem of this research is formulated as: "*What translation methods are used to translate collocation in the novel 'The Hunger Games'?*"

1.4 Research Purpose

The purposes of this research is to find out the translation methods of collocation in the novel 'The Hunger Games'.

1.4 Research Benefit

The result of this research is expected to give information about collocation and its translation methods in the novel 'The Hunger Games'