

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Subtitles are required when the audience tries to understand a movie, animation, video presentation, or something else that has a different language. (Szarkowska and Jankowska, 2015) argued that subtitles are essential in ensuring accessibility and enhancing comprehension of audiovisual content. They provide a means for individuals with hearing impairments to access spoken dialogue and enable a global audience to enjoy content in languages they may not understand fluently. In addition, (Polcz, 2008) pointed out that subtitles are typically displayed at the bottom of the frame, allowing viewers to comprehend the dialogue, narration, or relevant information in a language they understand.

Subtitling is an important aspect, especially in understanding the movie. Mcclarty (2012) pointed out that subtitling plays an important role through their translation of dialogue, on-screen signs and other written materials, and even the translation of songs. Their legibility is therefore of a certain significance to the film's narrative, and care must be taken to ensure their (linguistic and visual) readability and their on-screen duration. Rhythmically, it would seem important that subtitles follow the rhythm of the film text, mirroring the rushed, unstable effect of fast shot changes or the measured, relaxed effect of slow shot changes. In addition, Malenova, (2015) stated that subtitling as a translation practice that consists of presenting a written text, generally on the lower part of the screen, that endeavors to recount the original dialogue of the speakers, as well as the discursive elements that appear in the image (letters, inserts, graffiti, inscriptions placards, and the like), and the information that is contained on the soundtrack (songs, voices off). This confirms that subtitling is a translation practice that requires attention to various elements in audiovisual content to ensure the original message is maintained and communicated well in the target language.

There are a lot of students who have difficulties in subtitling for animation movies from Indonesian to English. As Furgani (2016) argued that the subtitlers' task is more complicated than the translators', because subtitles are so limited in space and time. The result is that the content of the dialogue has to be cut down to fit in the subtitles size. Not only that, but the content has to be translated, and the subtitles also have to be 'spotted' or timed carefully to match the dialogue. There is a real art to this, and it takes much training and practice. All forms of translation including subtitling face similar challenging areas such as linguistic and cultural problems, with more technical restrictions in audio-visual translation rather than written translation, and this creates additional challenges to the subtitlers. In addition, Amanzhol and Narikbayev, (2023) stated that another important problem in connection with the translation is the difficulty of translating swearword. Indeed, each language has its own layer of invective vocabulary, which cannot be compared to the invectives of another language, or another culture. It shows that teaching animation subtitling from Indonesian to English requires a deep understanding of both languages and their cultures, as well as creative skills in bridging cultural and linguistic differences. This emphasizes the importance of a comprehensive and well-trained approach in dealing with these challenges. Students need to understand that subtitling is an art and science that combines aspects of linguistics, culture and creativity to convey messages accurately and effectively to audiences who speak different languages.

There are some difficulties faced in making subtitle, as Khafik and Dewi Pratama (2022) said that the difficulties are consist of reduction of the text, medium factors, and matching the visual image. Furthermore, in this study, the researcher also found that many student teachers majoring in the English department at one of the universities in Tasikmalaya, who have enrolled in the Translation and Interpreting course in the fourth semester, faced difficulties in creating subtitles from Indonesian to English as their assignment. The subtitling process involves not only translating the spoken dialogue but also condensing the text to fit the screen space, ensuring synchronization with

the visual image, and considering the reading speed of the audience. Unlike the general translation process, which focuses primarily on accurately conveying the meaning of the source text, subtitling requires additional skills to overcome the constraints of timing, screen space, and visual alignment. For that reason, the researcher argued that it is a significant problem to be addressed, as the importance of making good subtitles is essential, especially in the field of education.

There was a study about subtitling that also has been conducted before. For instance, Furgani (2016) has been conducted to explore the main challenges that translators face in the subtitling of English language films into Arabic. The research findings confirmed that the English into Arabic subtitling has three main challenges: linguistic challenges, cultural challenges, and technical challenges. Meanwhile, the researcher wonders if the animation movie brings the same challenges as film to be subtitled into English. Hence, this study will explore what are the students' challenges and solutions in making subtitle of animation movie from Indonesian to English. At the end, this study can be used as a reference for student teachers to have an easy way in subtitling Indonesian to English.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

This study is formulated in a question, "What are the students' challenges and solutions in making subtitle of animation movie from Indonesian to English?"

1.3 Operational Definitions

To avoid misinterpretation, it is necessary to give an explanation on several terms in this research as follows:

1.3.1 Subtitle

Subtitle is a printed statement or fragment of dialogue appearing on the screen between the scenes of a silent motion picture or appearing as a translation at the bottom of the screen during the scenes of a motion

picture or television show in a foreign language. This research examines how to make subtitles in animation movies as an assignment for the translation in interpreting course.

1.3.2 Animation

Animation is a method of photographing successive drawings, models, or even puppets, to create an illusion of movement in a sequence. Because our eyes can only retain an image for approximately 1/10 of a second, when multiple images appear in fast succession, the brain blends them into a single moving image. The animation in this research is an animation movie taken from YouTube as a source for films made in subtitling and as an assignment in the translation in interpreting course.

1.4 Aim of the Research

This study will give empirical insight into the challenges and solutions found by student teachers in making subtitles.

1.5 Significance of the Research

1.5.1 Theoretical Uses

This study will add to the body of translation literature. It can guide how to make the most of the translation feature while subtitling animated videos, offers thorough solutions to problems as well as challenges to expand the scope of translation ideas.

1.5.2 Practical Uses

As a practical contribution, this study can be used as a reference for student-teachers to realize the challenges of translating as a means of

making good subtitles. It can give information to students who will make subtitles about the challenges and how to solve those challenges.

1.5.3 Empirical Uses

This research aims to enhance the researcher's experience in scientific writing by delving into the complexities of translating an animated movie. It seeks to provide valuable information and knowledge about the challenges encountered during the translation process. Additionally, the study explores potential solutions to these challenges that can expand the theory about translation studies.